

RPBCWD Staff Report – August 2022

Administration	Description	Update	Partners
Accounting, Audit & Budget	Coordinate with Accountants for the development of financial reports. Coordinate with the Auditor. Continue to work with the Treasurer to maximize on fund investments.	Staff Bakkum compiled the monthly treasurer's report. The preliminary 2023 budget and levy will be presented at a public hearing during the September 14th regular meeting. All funds from Wells Fargo have been successfully transferred to the new US Bank account. Checks will be issued from this account and security measures have been adjusted to prevent returned checks. Old National account remains open while recent outstanding checks remain. Remaining funds will be transferred and account closed within the next month or so. Routine monthly vendors will be moved to ACH payments where possible to alleviate issues with mismatched billing cycles. Examples include monthly rent, health insurance, and energy bills. There was some confusion with the "Positive Pay" setting for the U.S. Bank account which resulted in 17 checks being returned. Those have been reissued.	
Administration	Administrator activities	Administrator Jeffery met with the Personnel Committee to discuss staff organization, duties, and compensation. Administrator Jeffery completed final changes to the Communication Manager and Natural Resources Coordinator position descriptions, incorporating comments from the Personnel Committee. Administrator Jeffery has updated the organization chart for RPBCWD. This will be brought to the Personnel Committee for final review and approval before bringing to the BOM. The resolutions as well as the RPBCWD delegates have been submitted to Jan Voit at MAWD. Administrator Jeffery has begun working with BWSR on the Performance Review and Assessment Program 10-year review.	
Annual Report & Communication	Compile, finalize and submit an annual report to agencies.	No change	
DEI	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	Staff Mahon attended a retreat hosted by CRWD for a DEI workgroup of metro-area watershed districts.	
Human Resources	General Human Resources	No Change. Personnel Committee met July 29 ^{th.}	

Internal Policies	Work with Governance Manual and Personnel Committees to review bylaws and manuals as necessary.	Comments have been received from one CAC member and have been placed in the SharePoint folder to be shared with the Governance Committee.	
Advisory	Engage with the Technical Advisory Committee on water conservation, chloride management and emerging topics. Engage with the Citizen Advisory Committee on water conservation, annual budget, and emerging topics.	The CAC held a regular meeting on Aug 15. The next regular meeting of the CAC will be on Sept 19. Administrator Jeffery and Engineer Sobiech met with TAC members to discuss possible changes to regulatory program and RPBCWD policy to allow for a more creative, cooperative, and holistic approach to stormwater management on linear projects on August 18, 2022. They are going to synthesize the input they received into more defined options and bring back to the TAC on October 18 th .	
Local SWMP		No changes.	
MAWD	Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts	The MAWD Annual Conference and Trade Show is scheduled for November 30, 2022 – December 3, 2022.	
District-Wide	Description	Update	Partners
Regulatory Program	Review regulatory program to maximize efficiency. Engage Technical Advisory Committee and Citizen Advisory Committee on possible rule changes. Implement a regulatory program.	Administrator Jeffery and Engineer Sobiech met with staff for the City of Chanhassen on 9/8 to discuss future road project, RPBCWD capital projects, and how the two might be combined to provide greater resource protection and allow for Chanhassen to meet regulatory requirements. Administrator Jeffery attended a meeting of the West Park Townhome Association to discuss issues and concerns regarding their current reuse system and potential solutions. Administrator Jeffery has been working with staff from Eden Prairie and the DNR to draft a restoration order for the violation on Red Rock Lake. See advisory committee for TAC meeting regarding linear projects.	
Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)	Review AIS monitoring program. Develop and implement Rapid Response Plan as appropriate. Coordinate with LGUs and keep stakeholders aware of AIS management activities. Manage and maintain the aeration system on Rice Marsh Lake. Riley Chain of Lakes Carp Management. Purgatory Chain of Lakes Carp	Staff have been checking/cleaning the barrier once per week. No carp removal events have occurred since the spring spawning run. Regular carp monitoring activities began at the end of July. Every scheduled water body has been electrofished once (LSPP, PCRA, Lucy, Staring), except for Rice Marsh Lake. Rice Marsh may not be sampled this year due to low water levels. Small mesh trap netting has occurred on Lake Ann, Staring, and Lotus. No young of the year carp were captured meaning little/no recruitment occurred. The PCRA will be sampled in September	City of Chanhassen City of Eden Prairie University of Minnesota MN DNR Carver County

Coat Share	Management. Review AIS inspection program. Keep abreast of technology and research in AIS. Zebra mussel adult and veliger monitoring.	Zebra mussel veliger sampling occurred on all regular lakes this past month and samples will be submitted for processing. Samples have been partially processed. Ann and Lotus had no veligers found while Riley had many. EDNA testing occurred last month by Carver County on Lotus, Ann, and Susan. The results were all negative for zebra mussel e-DNA. The samples were taken from the public accesses. This is the first time since 2019 when Lotus Lake was listed that there was not a positive test. The 22 Adopta-Dock volunteers have been checking plates monthly. District staff have not found any new invasive species during their regular boat launch scans. A more in-depth zebra mussel survey occurred on Ann this month and no adults were found. A more comprehensive survey will occur on Lotus this month. Early observations of the Staring Lake Fluridone treatment indicate good control on the Eurasian Watermilfoil.	
Cost-Share	Schedule and coordinate site visits. Review applications and recommend implementation. Evaluate program.	The 2022 Watershed Stewardship Grant (WSG) program currently has a total of 11 active grant projects. Seven projects were completed & inspected in August. Three additional projects are finished pending inspection. Three new projects have been approved by grant review committee and are pending agreements.	Carver County Soil & Water Conservation District
Data Collection	Continue Data Collection at permanent sites. Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program. Identify monitoring sites to assessfuture project sites. Water Level Sensors	Drought conditions persist across the district. Many stream sites are dry or have extremely limited flow compared to normal. Lake levels are very low across all lakes. WOMP stations: samples were collected 3 times this month for the Metropolitan Council. Regular bi-weekly lake and stream sampling resumed in June and will continue through the growing season (September). Zooplankton and Phytoplankton will be collected monthly on Riley, Lotus, Susan, Staring, and Rice Marsh in 2022. Staff have placed and been visiting three auto sampling stations this year: Site LL_3 – West Lotus Lake North Tributary. Site LL_7 - West Lotus Lake North Tributary. Site STL_17 – Purgatory Creek/Staring Lake Parkway. These stations were placed to collect more storm event nutrient and flow data to assess/confirm upstream loading for the proposed upcoming project sites.	Metropolitan Council City of Eden Prairie University of MN City of Chanhassen MN DNR City of Minnetonka Three Rivers Park District

District Hydrology	Coordinate maintenance of Hydrology	Staff will be visiting lake level sensors this month to download data and ensure they are working correctly. Staring Lake sensor had to be resurveyed due to the low water levels and the sensor being out of the water. MN DNR Score Your Shore and Erosion Intensity Worksheet was completed for properties on Silver Lake and Staring Lake this month. This will be used to assess the health of the lake shoreline. Staff visited upper bluff proposed project site, west bluff tributary restoration site, and the hwy 101 upper purgatory creek restoration site and took gopro videos and photos. Administrator Jeffery and Engineer Sobiech met with Eden Prairie	City of Bloomington
& Hydraulics Model	and Hydraulics Model. Coordinate model update with LGUs if additional information is collected. Partner and implement with the City of Bloomington on Flood Evaluation and Water Quality Feasibility.	engineering staff and Barr engineering on 9/13 to review final calibration of the H&H model. Administrator Jeffery would like Barr to present the results of the modeling effort to the BOM in the fall.	City of Minnetonka City of Eden Prairie City of Deephaven City of Shorewood
Education & Outreach	Implement Education & Outreach Plan, review at year end. Manage partnership activities withother organizations. Coordinate Public Engagement with District projects.	Staff Bakkum continues to receive inquiries via the district website "Contact Us" form. Staff Mahon and Staff Forbes met with NMCWD and the City of Eden Prairie to discuss collaborating on educational efforts surrounding chloride and pet waste pollution. Staff Mahon is working with staff at NMCWD and the City of Minnetonka to build a stormwater story-map ahead of a raingarden workshop to be hosted October 25th. New RPBCWD website is ready will be presented to BOM on Sept 14 and released to public pending BOM approval. A Fall 2022 Projects Tour is being planned for Oct. 11. The tour will began at 2 pm and conclude with a meal at 6 pm. Staff has begun planning for the 2022 Cycle the Creek, to be held along Bluff Creek on October 9 th . There has been high demand for the gravel bed tree saplings this year. Staff is planning a tree pickup event for mid-October. Staff Mahon and Staff Maxwell led kindergarteners in the Minnetonka Explorers program through the AIS Jr Inspector activity on Aug 18 & 19.	Adopt-a-drain partners: Cities of Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Bloomington, and Eden Prairie; Hamline University; Nine Mile Creek Watershed District; MPCA; Bolton & Menk Freshwater Society City of Chanhassen City of Minnetonka

		The District has been assigned a Green Corps member to fill the District Green Corps Member position. They will start their assignment September 19 th . Staff Dickhausen, the site supervisor for the member, will attend the MPCA's Green Corps site supervisor training on September 12 th .	
Groundwater Conservation	Work with other LGUs to monitor, assess, and identify gaps. Engage with the Technical Advisory Committee to identify potential projects. Develop a water conservation program (look at Woodbury model).	No updates.	Metropolitan Council City of Eden Prairie City of Shorewood City of Bloomington City of Minnetonka City of Chanhassen
Lake Vegetation Management	Work with the University of Minnesota or Aquatic Plant Biologist, Cities of Chanhassen and Eden Prairie, lake associations, and residents as well as the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources on potential treatments. Implement herbicide treatment as needed. Secure DNR permits and contracts with herbicide applicators. Schedule regularly scheduled point intercept surveys. Work with Three Rivers Park District for Hyland Lake.	University of Minnesota Report (Ray Newman): Biomass samples from June have been processed for Susan, Riley, and Staring. Biomass collection, aquatic plant point intercept surveys, and water quality surveys have been conducted in the first few weeks of August on Staring and Susan. Water quality and light surveys on Riley have also been conducted in July and August. Biomass samples from Staring have been processed and samples for Susan are almost completed. Water levels were quite low in both Susan and Staring. Water clarity was poor in Susan, with Secchi depth of 0.5m, and slightly better in Staring with a Secchi of 0.95m. Plant diversity was lower in August than June for both Susan and Staring, with coontail being the dominant species in both lakes. Lotus and water lilies were common in Susan. Minimal watermilfoil was found in Staring and the fluridone treatment appears to have been effective. Biomass collection and point intercept surveys will be conducted on Riley starting on the 22nd of August. Red Rock and Mitchell Lake Vegetation Management Plan has been finalized and will be available on our website. Both lakes had harvesting occur this past month for navigational channels. BARR has been working on the Lotus Lake Vegetation Management Plan and the draft report is complete. The table below highlights the 2022 aquatic plant surveys and	City of Eden Prairie City of Chanhassen University of Minnesota MN DNR

		includ Lake. ⁻ Eden F aquati treatm and ac	treatments. Rotational point intercept surveys (PI) for 2022 include Lotus Lake, Lake Lucy, Round, Red Rock, and Rice Marsh Lake. They will be conducted by Freshwater Scientific Services and Eden Prairie (consultant). Staff received a MNDNR traditional aquatic plant management grant for the Staring Lake Fluridone treatment. A Lake Vegetation Management Plan was submitted and accepted for Staring Lake and Lake Riley by the MNDNR this spring.				d		
				Delineation	Delineation	Herbicide			
		Lake	PI Surveyor	Туре	Surveyor	Treatment	Acreage		
		Red Rock Mitchell	EP EP	CLP CLP	FWSS District	Aquathol Diquat	13		
		Lotus	FWSS	CLP	FWSS	Diquat	20.8		
		Riley	UMN	CLP	FWSS	Diquat	16.7		
		Riley	UMN	EWM	District	Procellacor	8.1		
		Susan	UMN	CLP	District	Diquat	8.25		
		Staring	UMN	CLP/EWM	FWSS	Fluridone	164		
		Lucy	FWSS	-					
		RML	EP						
		Round	EP	<u> </u>			1		
Opportunity Projects	Assess potential projects as they are presented to the District	Prairi Parks storm	Administrator Jeffery and Engineer Sobiech will be meeting with Eden Prairie Public Schools, Eden Prairie Public Works, and Eden Prairie Parks and Recreation on September 21 to discuss a regional stormwater management plan for the area around Eden Prairie High School.				St Hube Eden P Schoo	Chanhasse ert School rairie Publi ols Eden Prairi	
Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)	Continue working with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency on the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS).	No changes.					MPCA		
Repair & Maintenance Fund	Develop and formalize grant program. Maintenance of RPBCWD BMPs	Recrea Administra Resou	Peterson Construction is coordinating with Chanhassen Parks and Recreation regarding the installation of the SCADA system. Administrator Jeffery and Engineer Sobiech met with the Water Resources Engineer for Chanhassen to discuss maintenance obstacles regarding RPBCWD capital projects turned over to the						

University of Minnesota	Review and monitor progress on University of Minnesota grant. Support Dr. John Gulliver and Dr. Ray Newman research and coordinate with local partners. Keep the manager abreast to progress in the research. Identify next management steps.	A final report was received from the University of Minnesota titled "Assessment of Internal Phosphorus Release and Treatment with Iron Filings in five RPBCWD Ponds. Administrator Jeffery or the UofM researchers will be presenting to the findings and conclusions to the BOM at the October meeting.	Stormwater ponds partners: Cities of Bloomington, Chanhassen, Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Shorewood; U of MN
Watershed Plan	Review and identify needs for amendments.	No changes.	
Wetland Conservation Act (WCA)	Administer WCA within the Cities of Shorewood and Deephaven. Represent the District on Technical Evaluation Panel throughout the District.	No WCA applications have been received in Deephaven or Shorewood. No invitations to attend TEP meetings or site visits pertaining to WCA applications within Bloomington, Chanhassen, Chaska, Eden Prairie, or Minnetonka were received in August. Administrator Jeffery will be meeting with BWSR on September 19 to review WCA administration procedures and record keeping. This is part of the overall PRAP process.	City of Shorewood City of Deephaven City of Chanhassen City of Eden Prairie MCWD BWSR MN DNR ACOE
Wetland Management	Assess known existing wetlands, identify previously unknown wetlands, identify wetlands for potential restoration/rehabilitation and wetlands requiring additional protection.	Staff Dickhausen has continued wetland assessments in Minnetonka/Deephaven/Shorewood area of the district. Administrator Jeffery and Staff Dickhausen continue updating the MNRAM Access database. Numerous requests for MNRAM scores have been made by municipalities and private developers. Staff Dickhausen, Administrator Jeffery, Engineer Sobiech, and Joe Bischoff of Barr Engineering met to discuss progress on Phase 1 of the assessment program and to begin scoping Phase 2. It is anticipated that a soil health action plan will be developed, and this effort will be applicable to the Wetland Assessment Program.	City of Chanhassen City of Eden Prairie Hennepin County Carver County MN DNR BWSR USFWS
Hennepin County Chloride Initiative	Phase 1: Develop a plan to target commercial and association-based sources or chloride pollution — businesses, malls, HOAs, property management companies and the private applicators that they hire. We will hire a consultant to facilitate focus groups with private applicators, as well as those that execute contracts with	The HCCI team continues to develop a package/toolbox that will be available for city and watershed partners to use in their chloride reduction efforts. Testing of the materials will occur by early fall. RPBCWD will host content for the "Low Salt, No Salt Minnesota" initiative on its new website. The large HCCI group next meets on Sept. 8. Administrator Jeffery is updating the eLink grant database hosted by BWSR for reimbursement of funds.	Eleven watershed districts/WMOs Multiple cities MPCA Hennepin County Environmental Services

	private applicators. These focus groups will help identify needs and barriers for our target audience. The consultant will compile information into a plan for implementation.		Board of Water and Soil Resources
Lower Minnesota Chloride Cost- Share Program	The Lower Minnesota River Watersheds are coming together to offer costshare grants.	Chloride Reduction cost-share grant program remains open until the end of 2022. Information is posted on District website and advertised through Fortin Consulting (now Bolton & Menk) and the MPCA. Edina Schools finalized their project in August. With cost-share assistance, they were able to purchase equipment and materials to reduce their chloride use on multiple school properties. One new chloride reduction cost-share application has been reviewed & approved by the committee.	LMRWD RBWMO NMCWD
Bluff Creek Watershed	Description	Update	Partners
Bluff Creek Tributary Restoration	Implement and finalize restoration. Monitor Project.	No new updates.	City of Chanhassen
Bluff Creek Reaches B5 and B6	Develop Feasibility Study regarding potential creek and wetland restoration.	No updates.	
Wetland Restoration at Pioneer Tr and MN TH 101	Remove 3 properties from flood zone, restore a minimum 7 acres and as many as 16 acres of wetlands, connect public with resources, reduction of volume, rate, pollution loads to Bluff Creek.	Davey will begin fall maintenance on the site the week of 9/12 or 9/19. Davey is to provide the district with tree planting schedule for this fall.	City of Chanhassen MN DNR Carver County
Riley Creek Watershed	Description	Update	Partners
Lake Riley Alum Treatment	Continue monitoring of Lake.	Staff will plan to core again in 2023 to assess the second alum dose. Lake Riley water quality remains excellent following the completed alum treatment. A study will be published about the project after the results of the final coring event are received.	
Lake Susan Improvement Phase 2	Complete final site stabilization and spring start up. Finalize and implement E & O for project. Monitor project.	Administrator Jeffery has entered into an agreement with Peterson Construction to install WaterVision. Schedules are being coordinated for installation.	City of Chanhassen Clean Water Legacy Amendment

Lake Susan Spent Lime	2022 startup and monitoring	The Lake Susan Spent Lime Treatment System has been monitored once a week. The drought conditions have eliminated any flow between the wetland and Lake Susan and therefore through the Spent Lime Unit.	City of Chanhassen
Lower Riley Creek Stabilization	Coordinate agreement and acquire easements if needed for the restoration of Lower Riley Creek reach D3 and E. Implement Project. Continue Public Engagement for project and develop signage for restoration.	Maintenance of the site has been turned over to the City of Eden Prairie although District staff will assist with inspections. As-built survey needs to be performed and provided to the City of Eden Prairie.	City of Eden Prairie Lower MN River Watershed District
Rice Marsh Lake Alum Treatment	Continue monitoring of Lake.	Staff conducted sediment core sampling in February to assess treatment effectiveness and prepare for/direct the second dose application.	City of Eden Prairie City of Chanhassen
Rice Marsh Lake Watershed Load Project 1	Install proprietary BMPs. Install soil corrections and plant areas in native vegetation for long-term study of impact on soil health and runoff parameters. Install curb-cut rain garden.	Notice of substantial completion was issued. A maintenance schedule is to be provided to the district from the contractor. Staff Maxwell and Administrator Jeffery will install monitoring equipment in September and the system will be put on-line. Administrator Jeffery met with with the Park and Recreation Director for the City of Chanhassen and the Parks Superintendent to provide screening for the small structure that will house the monitoring equipment. Barr will be making a minor update to the plan to show proposed screening planting.	City of Chanhassen
Upper Riley Creek	Work with city to develop scope of work (in addition to stabilizing the creek can we mitigate climate change). Conduct feasibility. Develop cooperative agreement withthe City of Chanhassen. Order project and begin design.	Plans continue to be developed. Staff Dickhausen conducted a wetland delineation of the NWI labeled wetland area between Park Place and Park Drive, adjacent to the Chanhassen Public Works building in Chanhassen this month. A total of four upland-to-wetland transects were assessed to delineate the boundaries of the wetland. Staff also conducted a survey of the entire boundary using the District's Trimble GPS survey equipment. This, along with a District MnRAM assessment will help inform the design and permitting of the Upper Riley Creek Stabilization project.	City of Chanhassen
Middle Riley Creek	Work with Bearpath HOA/Golf Course to develop scope of work (in addition to stabilizing the creek, can we mitigate climate change and provide for an improved recreational experience).	No change.	Bearpath Neighborhood Association

St Hubert Water Quality Project	Draft feasibility report. Develop cooperative agreement with Bearpath. Repair eroded ravine tributary to RML. Install BMPs to provide water quality and quantity benefits for site. Develop curriculum to be used with teachers and students at St. Hubert. Establish native vegetation and monitor soil development, water quality/quantity benefits, and ecological changes.	The project is substantially complete. Staff Mahon is developing curriculum to go along with project sites. Staff will be working closely with the middle school science teacher to ensure curriculum standards are met. Staff Mahon and Interim Administrator Jeffery are working with the Science Committee to have students plant areas in the prairie restoration that pond water to provide treatment, rate control, and infiltration. One option is to have the 5 th grade class and their kindergarten "buddies" plant and the kindergartners could follow their plot throughout their academic career at the school	City of Eden Prairie MN DNR CCSWCD Metropolitan Council City of Chanhassen
Purgatory Creek Watershed	Description	Update	Partners
PCRA Berm		No change	City of Eden Prairie MN DNR
Duck Lake Water Quality Project	Work with the City to implement neighborhood BMP. Identify neighborhood BMP to help improve water resources to DuckLake. Implement neighborhood BMPs.	No changes	City of Eden Prairie
Lotus Lake Internal Load Control	Continue monitoring the Lake. Plan second alum application.	Barr has prepared a task order for review of sediment release rates from core samples and dosing rates.	
Silver Lake Restoration	Order project. Design Project. Work with the City of Chanhassen for design, cooperative agreement, and implementation.	Prairie Restoration was given the notice to proceed and will be finishing work this fall.	City of Chanhassen
Lotus Lake Watershed Water Quality Improvement Project	Feasibility Study/Preliminary Engineering Report Issue Identification Partnership Opportunities and CIP Alignment	Administrator Jeffery, District Engineer Sobiech, and Project Engineer Jen Koehler met with Chanhassen's, Water Resources Engineer, and Parks and Recreation Director toured the potential locations for the Lotus Lake Watershed water quality improvement project. Administrator Jeffery is particularly excited about the potential to make a creative and unique practice in North Lotus Lake Park where the BMP	City of Chanhassen

is an amenity to the park users.

Professional Development

All permanent staff received CPR/AED/First Aid Training in August.

Staff Forbes registered for an online Facilitation Skills Course on Oct 31-Nov 3 through the MN Office of Management & Budget.

Staff Mahon attended a Project Learning Tree K-8 Workshop hosted by the DNR on August 3rd.

Staff Nicklay is currently taking a course on project management through edX.

Administrator Jeffery completed the LMC seminar on MN Tax Law on Sept 1.

Staff Dickhausen attended a BWSR/Minnesota Wetland Professional Certification Program course on wetland banking and monitoring, delineation report review, reviewing utility projects and replacement plans on August 16th.

Staff Bakkum is enrolled in an Environmental Law course as part of her fall semester which will, in part, cover the Clean Water Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and other various approaches to environmental regulation.