#### **MEETING MINUTES**

## Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek Watershed District

## March 16, 2023, RPBCWD Board of Managers Regular Work Session

PRESENT:

Managers: Jill Crafton, Treasurer

Tom Duevel, Vice President

Larry Koch

Dorothy Pedersen, Secretary

David Ziegler, President

Staff: Amy Bakkum, Administrative Assistant

Zach Dickhausen, Natural Resource Coordinator

Liz Forbes, Communications Manager Terry Jeffery, District Administrator

Josh Maxwell, Water Resources Coordinator

Louis Smith, Attorney, Smith Partners

Scott Sobiech, Engineer, Barr Engineering Company

Other Attendees: Dr. John Gulliver

Judy

Dr. Poornima Natarajan

 $Note: the\ Board\ meeting\ was\ held\ remotely\ via\ meeting\ platform\ Zoom\ because\ it\ was$ 

deemed not prudent to meet in person due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### 1. Call to Order

President David Ziegler called the Board work session to order at 7:00 p.m. He said pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.021, the RPBCWD Board President has determined that because of the Covid-19 pandemic it is not prudent for the Board of Managers to meet in person, so the RPBCWD is conducting this meeting via Zoom.

### 2. Approval of Agenda

Manager Pedersen moved to approve the agenda as presented. Manager Crafton seconded the motion. <u>Upon a roll call vote</u>, the motion carried 5-0 as follows:

Manager	Action
Crafton	Yes

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Duevel	Yes
Koch	Yes
Pedersen	Yes
Ziegler	Yes

# 3. Presentation: Stormwater Pond Maintenance & Wetland Management for Phosphorous Reduction

Administrator Terry Jeffery introduced Dr. John Gulliver and Dr. Poornima Natarajan, who have done a number of research studies on stormwater pond maintenance and their efficacy and cost benefit in terms of load reduction. Administrator Jeffery said the RPBCWD has sponsored some of those research studies and he has invited Dr. Gulliver and Dr. Natarajan to present on their work.

Dr. Gulliver said tonight's presentation is on the study by the University of Minnesota St. Anthony Falls Laboratory and the RPBCWD that was conducted on five ponds between November 2018 and March 2022. Dr. Gulliver shared the PowerPoint presentation "Assessment and Treatment of Internal Phosphorous Loading in Stormwater Ponds: Lessons learned from ponds in RPBCWD and beyond." He said this work and additional work conducted since that time has informed a pond assessment tool. Dr. Gulliver introduced Dr. Natarajan to discuss the study of the five ponds and briefly introduce the pond assessment tool that should be useful to Minnesota stormwater pond managers.

Dr. Natarajan introduced herself, noting she is a research associate at the University of Minnesota St. Anthony Falls Laboratory. She said she will present about the assessment and treatment of internal phosphorous loading in the ponds studied in the District and highlight the other work Dr. Gulliver mentioned.

Dr. Natarajan reminded the group that stormwater ponds are constructed to manage runoff volume for flood mitigation and for water quality benefits. She said the study team's assumptions around pond design is the ponds capture solids and associated phosphorous, are shallow, generally only a few feet deep, and the water column is well mixed and has high dissolved oxygen. Dr. Natarajan reviewed the team's analysis of 2002-2003 RPBCWD data on 98 stormwater ponds. She explained the data showed 32% of the ponds had total phosphorous concentrations exceeding the inflow concnetrations for the Twin Cities Metro area. Dr. Natarajan said this finding led the team to wonder why the ponds have such high concentrations of phosphorous and led to the following research questions:

- Is internal phosphorous release from sediments occurring?
- What are the controlling factors?
- What are the implications for pond phosphorus management?

Dr. Natarajan said the team's study of the RPBCWD ponds focused on assessing the internal phosphorus release and the impact of iron filing treatment of sediments to reduce phosphorous release. She listed the five ponds in the study, noting each is located in a primarily residential area and treats stormwater and some are historic wetlands:

- Aquila pond in Bloomington;
- BC-P4.10C pond in Chanhassen;
- Bren pond in Eden Prairie;
- 849W pond in Minnetonka; and
- Pond 42 in Shorewood.

Dr. Natarajan displayed photographs of the ponds in the peak of growing season, explaining the ponds are green due to free floating vegetation. She pointed out the trees around the ponds can shelter and shade the ponds and impact the water column stratification.

Dr. Natarajan described the research process, including in situ sampling, laboratory study, and in three of the ponds iron filings application by the appropriate city. She reported research found thermal stratification and low dissolved oxygen was prevalent during summertime in all five ponds. Dr. Natarajan stated the research revealed that contrary to the research team's assumption, the ponds are stratified and have more dissolved oxygen than the team originally thought.

Dr. Natarajan said the team's analysis showed a strong correlation between the ponds' coverage by free-floating plants and the anoxic factor. She said the anoxic factor is the extent of sediments that are anoxic. She reported the finding that pond sediments release phosphate under anoxic conditions and some even under oxic conditions, suggesting there is a good potential for internal loading in these ponds. Dr. Natarajan said the phosphorous composition is key to the potential for sediment phosphorous release.

Dr. Natarajan went on to explain that pond stratification means there is a good chance of low dissolved oxygen over the bottom sediments, which impacts the release of phosphorus from the sediments, meaning there is phosphorous input from within the pond, affecting the ponds' phosphorous levels. She said stratified ponds are characteristically the ponds that have dense covers of floating vegetation and trees around the ponds shading them and preventing the water column mixing

Dr. Natarajan explained iron has the ability to bind phosphate, so the study included iron filings treatment in three ponds: Pond BC-P4.10C, Pond 849\_W, and Bren Pond. She said the study showed iron-amended sediments exhibit much lower phosphorous release, even under anoxic conditions. She summarized that after iron filings treatment, a decrease in surface total phosphorous was observed in some but not all of the ponds and there were visible impacts to duckweed cover but the impacts still need to be quantified. Dr. Natarajan noted the variability in total phosphorous concentration in each of the ponds because of the variability of the annual input and seasonal variation.

Dr. Natarajan listed ongoing research the team is conducting including the synthesis, analysis, and interpretation of ponds data from multiple projects, the evaluation of pond remediation techniques, and the development of a pond assessment tool and pond management guide.

Dr. Natarajan reported the team's evaluation of pond remediation techniques showed the most cost-effective techniques include:

- Chemical treatments like alum or iron filings
- Mechanical aeration

• For some ponds, reducing watershed inputs of runoff volume and total phosphorous concentration.

Dr. Natarajan stated a combination of remediation techniques would offer the greatest impacts for the ponds. She said the team thought about how the ponds that are at risk of poor water quality due to phosphorous concentrations could be identified. She said the team has developed a pond assessment tool, currently in spreadsheet form. Dr. Natarajan explained the assessment is a screening tool and a quantitative assessment of risk for poor phosphorous retention. She stated the tool employs a multi-level assessment method to identify and evaluate ponds at risk of high surface total phosphorus levels, persistent low oxygen in water, and high sediment phosphorous release.

Manager Duevel asked if the phosphorous capture by iron is a permanent capture. Dr. Natarajan said no, it is not yet known how long the iron treatment lasts and the team is trying to determine that. She said the capture is not permanent and at some point the phosphorous would be released back into the water column.

Manager Duevel asked if the ponds reach a level of phosphorus saturation. Dr. Natarajan said yes, the capacity can be reached and at that point the sediments are no longer keeping the phosphorous.

Manager Koch asked if these ponds have upflows into creek or lakes. Dr. Natarajan said yes typically the flow ends up in lakes, although she does not know the specific lakes for the studied ponds. Manager Koch asked if the study measured inflows and outflows of phosphorous. Dr. Natarajan said the study did not measure flow as the study focused on understanding what is happening in the ponds. She said the information from the study could be used to determine possible outputs from the ponds that can have an impact on water quality. Manager Koch asked if the study took into account fluctuating water levels and rain events. Dr. Natarajan responded yes.

Dr. Gulliver pointed out the pond assessment tool can help watershed organizations and cities make decisions that can help lakes through information about how much phosphorous is leaving the ponds. He said he thinks the tool will be very powerful and will help pond and lake managers quite a bit. Manager Koch asked if the pond assessment tool is dependent on the District obtaining pond data to input into the tool. Dr. Gulliver said the tool has a lot of levels, and the first level, which Dr. Natarajan presented, does not need any data aside from what the District has on these ponds. Dr. Gulliver said other levels of the tool will require additional data, depending on the level and how far the District wants to go with assessment.

Dr. Gulliver said the first thing to do is to look at aerial photographs and see which ponds have duckweed and floating aquatic vegetation because those ponds are the potential trouble ponds. He said the vegetation gives the District an idea the ponds have a sediment release problem and likely high phosphorous concentrations in that pond. Manager Koch asked if the team has a recommended process for the District for moving through the different assessment tool levels or if the recommended process is to identify a lake and then work upstream with the assessment. Dr. Gulliver said that was not part of the project, but the study has produced work to help District work toward that by figuring out what is going on in the ponds.

Manager Pedersen asked about the impact of the iron filings in the ponds to the wildlife. Dr. Natarajan said at the onset of the study the team did a literature search about possible impacts from iron and did not find any. She added that iron is naturally occurring in sediments and at the levels applied, the team does not expect the concentration to be a toxic level or have impacts to invertebrates or wildlife. Manager Pedersen said phosphorous is just one element in the pond and studying phosphorous in ponds is a start but a lot more needs to be done. Dr. Gulliver said he does not disagree, and Dr. Natarajan referenced ponds studies being conducted regarding chloride.

President Ziegler thanked Dr. Natarajan and Dr. Gulliver for their presentation.

#### 4. Letter to the Court

Mr. Smith said this agenda item concerns the Spring Valley Friends case with the City of Eden Prairie. He said in that case there was a pre-trial conference in which there was a representation made that the District's Board of Managers had decided to acquire the property that was subject to the lawsuit. Mr. Smith said he was concerned that it was not a correct impression to be left with the court. Mr. Smith said the Board did vote at its last meeting to go into closed session to consider the matter but that action is all that is a matter of public record. Mr. Smith said he drafted a letter to the court and circulated the letter to the managers. Mr. Smith said he received comments from Manager Koch concerning more precise language. Mr. Smith said he wants to provide all the managers an opportunity to ask him any questions or offer comments before he sends the letter to the judge. Mr. Smith said his view is the Board and counsel does not need to go back and review the discussion of the closed session but if the Board wants to discuss sensitive matters then the meeting would go into closed session.

Manager Koch said he does not have any problem with Mr. Smith taking the letter and making any changes he thinks helpful and sending the letter to the court. Manager Pedersen agreed with Manager Koch's comment. President Ziegler and Manager Duevel also agreed. Manager Crafton said she is fine with the letter being sent.

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#### 5. District Administrator 2023 Work Plan

Administrator Jeffery shared his screen and presented his workplan. He explained the table is divided into categories of the types of work he performs in the role and within each category, the plan lists goals, action steps, and anticipated date of completion.

Manager Koch said he would like to review the workplan, which will take him some time, and he would like a time set for a discussion about the plan such as at the Board's next work session. He said he is very pleased with the work that went into the plan and he looks forward to reviewing it.

Manager Pedersen suggested the Personnel Committee meet with Administrator Jeffery to go through the work plan and talk about potential training.

Manager Duevel agreed with Manager Pedersen's suggestion and said he thinks the plan has too much detail. He said he thinks from a Board managerial perspective, the Personnel Committee would review the plan in some level of detail and then a couple of broad-block areas would be discussed by the full Board either at a workshop or Board meeting without getting into minutia detail. Manager Duevel said the District has very intelligent staff and consultants and it seems that wherever possible the Board should be trying to consolidate and roll up instead of getting into more and more detail.

President Ziegler said he hopes the work plan is a useful tool for Administrator Jeffery. President Ziegler said he agrees with Manager Duevel about the level of detail. President Ziegler said he does not want to see this level of detail each month.

Manager Koch said the managers that do not want this level of detail can ignore the details and the work plan is a good start to a Standard Operating Procedure/ disaster preparedness plan. Manager Koch asked that the Personnel Committee meeting be recorded so he can have the benefit of that discussion.

Manager Crafton said she sees the workplan as a tool for the annual Administrator review.

Administrator Jeffery said he will work with the Personnel Committee to set up the meeting, notice the meeting, and based on the Committee's recommendation will put the item on an upcoming Board work session or meeting for discussion.

Manager Koch commended Administrator Jeffery for putting the effort into the work plan and stated it is a really great start.

## 6. 2022 Annual Report

Administrator Jeffery said staff has put together the District's 2022 annual report. He said he has received Manager Koch's comments on the report and is waiting on the comments from the other managers. Administrator Jeffery asked the Board to direct him to review, respond, and/or incorporate the comments he receives. He suggested the Board act at its April meeting or work session to direct staff to distribute the annual report.

Manager Koch said he had a lot of comments on the report and suggested the Board direct staff to review and incorporate the comments, re-draft the annual report, and present the new

draft at the April Board workshop. He said he could share his comments with the other managers through the Dropbox link. Manager Koch asked Administrator Jeffery to make the link available to the other managers. Administrator Jeffery said it is available through the SharePoint site.

Managers Pedersen and Crafton commented they would provide comments soon to Administrator Jeffery.

# 7. Project and Program Update

#### eHealth Action Plan

Administrator Jeffery reported there have been a couple of meetings on the eHealth Action Plan (eHAP). He said the group identified the Technical Advisory Panel, which includes Manager Crafton and some of the District's CAC members, among others. Administrator Jeffery said the eHAP technical panel is scheduling a meeting for mid- to late-April. He said there is a draft outline of what District staff anticipate the report will contain based on comments collected and staff will be reviewing this outline.

#### **Purgatory Creek Recreational Area Berm**

Administrator Jeffery talked about the history of the Purgatory Creek Recreational Area berm and the District's project, in response to the City of Eden Prairie's petition to the District in 1999 or 2000, to construct the berm. He said the berm was constructed on City of Eden Prairie land for the purposes of wetland restoration, flood storage, and water quality. He showed an aerial photo of the berm, noting an area of erosion and disrepair. Administrator Jeffery said a benefit of the erosion area is the carp pool there and the District is able to remove the carp. Administrator Jeffery said the District has budget for berm repair in the District's annual budget. He said repair plans include putting in a plunge pool and weir structure, so the District can still perform the carp harvest. He said the City plans to and would be responsible for replacing the pedestrian trail

Administrator Jeffery said he and the City discussed a possible arrangement for the project by which Stantec would be the project engineer and in charge of construction administration, and that cost would be split 50-50 between the District and the City of Eden Prairie. He said the surcharge and repair of the berm would be split 50-50 between the City and the District. He said the plunge pool and carp recruitment area would be the District's responsibility in total, and any trail repair would be the City's responsibility in total. Administrator Jeffery said the Engineer's opinion of cost for the project is approximately \$136,500. Administrator Jeffery said the 50-50 cost split for the berm repair means the City and the District each would pay \$62,245. He said the carp harvest area, which would be the responsibility of the District, would cost \$10,450. He said the contract administration-construction administration is \$41,400 but does not include the District's permit, so with the permit, the cost would be approximately \$45,000. Administrator Jeffery said the 50-50 split of the construction and contract administration means the City and the District would each pay \$22,500. He said the

District's costs would total approximately \$95,195. Administrator Jeffery said the District has budgeted \$134,000 of operations and maintenance funds for the project and those funds are already levied.

Administrator Jeffery said he would like to bring the draft plans to the Board and for the Board to order the project and direct Smith Partners to draft a cooperative agreement that puts forward the details he summarized.

Manager Koch commented he is hesitant to pay 50% of the cost for something the District does not own. He asked if there is an existing maintenance agreement on the original berm project. Administrator Jeffery said there was intended to be a maintenance agreement, but the District, the City, and Barr Engineering have not found such an agreement and there is not a maintenance agreement on record. He noted the District is the permittee on record as far as the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is concerned. Manager Koch suggested a 50-50 split of cost to keep it easy and suggested having Barr do the engineering. Administrator Jeffery said the City has had the design done already, and Barr might not want to take on responsibility for that design.

Manager Crafton commented she likes the proposed project as Administrator Jeffery summarized. Manager Pedersen agreed. President Ziegler asked if the spillway is adequate to keep the berm from washing out again. Mr. Sobiech said that berm is designed to overtop in a larger storm event, and a portion of the berm will overtop in the future. He said it is important the City understand this and design the spillway to prevent berm washout from overtop events.

Manager Koch said the City will need to take responsibility if there is design failure and the design needs to withstand a ten-year event.

Administrator Jeffery said he is hearing from the Board that it directs staff to nail down the 50-50 cost split with the City of Eden Prairie to make it as simple as possible and the Board supports having the City of Eden Prairie taking over the long-term maintenance and assume liability for the engineer plans.

Mr. Smith said he believes the original project was done without a cooperative agreement, so the responsibilities of the parties was left unclear, although the District held a permit that was responsible for maintenance obligations. Mr. Smith said he believes that for some time the City was wanting the District to pay for repairs. He said it sounds like the discussions have evolved and there is more of a sense of shared responsibility and the District has identified its carp initiative. Mr. Sobiech concurred with Mr. Smith's summary.

## **Bluff Creek Galpin Crossing**

Mr. Sobiech shared a PowerPoint presentation "Galpin Boulevard Bluff Creek Culvert Replacement Concepts." He reminded the Board about how during the District's fall tour he had mentioned the possibility of the District cooperating with the City of Chanhassen as part of its street reconstruction project around Galpin Boulevard to potentially replace the existing culvert under Galpin Boulevard at Bluff Creek.

263 culvert under Galpin Boulevard at B

Mr. Sobiech described the existing 42-inch circular culvert, its elevation, and the issues with its slope, connectivity to the stream, the high potential for undercutting and scour, as well as erosion in upstream and downstream segments. He said several months ago the Board directed him to investigate what could be done, and since that time, several scenarios have been investigated. Mr. Sobiech said the primary design goal is to reduce velocities through the culvert, and he said design considerations also include goals to encourage aquatic growth and improve ecological function.

Mr. Sobiech reviewed the four design alternatives. He recommended Alternative 3, which includes installing a box culvert six-feet high by five-feet wide, embedded into the Bluff Creek bottom by roughly a foot to naturalize the creek bed. Mr. Sobiech noted concrete costs are really expensive right now and the proposed design requires a lot of excavation that the City of Chanhassen is not currently planning.

Mr. Sobiech presented the Engineer's Opinion of Probable Cost for Alternative 3 as \$491,000, with the estimate range from the low estimate at \$393,000 to the high estimate at \$737,000.

He reviewed the project benefits in terms of hydrology and ecological factors as well as reduction in sediments and phosphorous due to the reduction in velocities. Mr. Sobiech said he is drafting a memo that he will present to the Board after the Administrator reviews it.

Manager Koch said he believes the costs will come down in the near term and demand for supplies like concrete will likely come down, so timing of this project is key. He said he is not sure if a box culvert is really needed at this point of the stream and said he would like to discuss at the next Board workshop alternatives to the recommended design. Manager Koch asked if there is county road funding available for the project or other funds or grants. He said this project is a benefit to the City and asked if there could be more funding from the City for this project. Manager Koch said he is not opposed to fixing the culvert but his question is at what cost.

Administrator Jeffery recommended the District not spend more time evaluating this project at this time, if the Board does not want to spend the almost \$500,000 on Alternative 3.

Mr. Sobiech noted the long lead time in ordering the box culvert. Administrator Jeffery noted the City plans to start the Galpin road reconstruction in late 2023, starting with the north end. Manager Duevel asked if the District has funds budgeted for this project. Administrator Jeffery said the District has funds budgeted for the reach of Bluff Creek from the downstream side of the culvert to Highway 5, but not for the culvert.

Manager Duevel said this might be a project to pass over at this time and the District could relook at it in a couple of years and see if prices come down. Mr. Sobiech said an alternative construction is jacking the culvert in place, so that way if the District wants to do this project in the future, less excavation is needed and the new roadway would not be disturbed or closed during construction. Manager Crafton asked if the alternative construction would result in all the same benefits. She also suggested exploring funding sources for wildlife habitat.

Mr. Sobiech said he believes the alternative construction would realize most of the same benefits, depending on the size of the pipe that could be jacked in. Manager Crafton said she would like the District to explore funding options. Administrator Jeffery said funding from the City is a non-starter, and the culvert is not in a deteriorated state, so it does not meet that qualification for state funding. He recommended the District pump the brakes on this project and wait for prices to come down. Manager Pedersen agreed the cost is high and there are other projects for which the District could get more bang for its dollar.

Mr. Sobiech said he thinks the project would score at least in the mid to high 20s using the District's project scoring methodology. He said there are other projects with higher scores. Manager Koch said he thinks the project should be scored to help inform the Board. Administrator Jeffery said staff can score it as that work does not take much time. Manager Crafton commented about ecological benefits of project and said she thinks it would be valuable to incorporate more ecological benefits into District projects.

Administrator Jeffery said staff will score the project and bring the information to the Board at its April 5th meeting.

## 8. Manager Reports

#### a. Report - Manager Koch

Administrator Jeffery said he forwarded to the Board earlier this week Manager Koch's bullet list of items in his manager report.

Manager Koch said he thinks it is important to share his views and that he thinks putting together a report was the way to appropriately do so. He said he thinks it is important to reiterate what he thinks the District should be focusing on.

Manager Koch said he thought the Board workshop and presentation on what the District has done toward its work set out in the 10-Year Plan was a good start, but he would like a better, more detailed report on where the District stands in relation to its 10-Year Plan. He said he wants to make sure the District does its review of its 10-Year Plan.

Manager Koch said he submitted a lot of comments on the draft annual report, which is a good start but needs significant work in terms of prose and organization. He recommended considering hiring a proofreader or hiring a professional writer to read through it.

Manager Koch raised the issue that as far as he knows the District has not adopted the financial policies recited in the last audit and he hopes that is corrected before the next audit is issued.

Manager Koch said he would like to hear an update on staffing at each meeting until the District has hired somebody.

Manager Koch reiterated his concern about the agreement with the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District. He said he thinks it is problematic to have District legal counsel represent both sides of a contact. He said it is not a best practice.

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342 Manager Koch said he thinks the District needs an HR professional at the very least 343 to look at the organization, employee handbook, and policies and share professional recommendations. He said none of the managers or staff has the requisite experience. 344 He said he thinks it is important the District's policies and personnel handbook are 345 346 reviewed and updated. 347 Manager Koch said regarding IT issues, it would be a best practice to have a consultant come in and review the District's systems and advise the District on 348 349 systems and protocols. 350 Manager Koch said regarding document management he has not seen any reports or 351 developments, and the District needs to come up with a proper system for managing 352 documents. 353 Manager Koch said as he stated previously he thinks the District should have an IT 354 committee to go over IT issues. Manager Koch said as far as he knows, the District has not done any work on a 355 disaster preparedness plan. He said maybe Smith Partners has a template or maybe 356 357 some of the other districts have one. He said coming up with a template could be a good project for the Minnesota Waters or the Association of Administrators or maybe 358 359 the League of Minnesota Cities has one. Manager Koch said he has not received any response to the comments he made about 360 361 the District's website. He said he thinks everything should be improved to be the best, and he does not believe in being the one-eyed giant in the land of the blind, and 362 the website has room for improvement, and he is willing to put in the time and show 363 where things could be better. 364 365 Manager Koch said he has not heard a response regarding a consultant to advise on interactions between staff and managers, and he thought that was a grant the District 366 367 should be able to get, and he thinks the Board should be given an update on this item. Manager Koch said he thinks staff should provide workshop materials to the Board in 368 369 the same amount of time in advance that managers receive the Board meeting materials. He said his understanding of the Open Meeting Law is at least one copy 370 371 should be available to the public and he thinks the materials should be posted on the website in advance of the meeting. 372 373 Manager Koch said he thinks there are obvious District rules deficiencies such as 374 regarding steep slopes, shorelines, lake bottom protections, requirements for local ordinances, and fragile habitats, and he thinks the Board needs to move forward with 375 these rules. He said he would like to have the District's rules in place before 376 Chanhassen's local plans is up for District review in 2025. 377 378 Manager Koch said regarding the street sweeping and tree plans information 379 presented at the MAWD annual meeting he thinks the District should be looking at 380 integrating those into the District's rules.

381 Manager Koch said he thinks the Board should have a process to address the CAC's 382 motions. Manager Koch said he wants to bring to the attention of the Audit and Finance 383 384 Committee that he thinks the funds due from St. Hubert and due to Eden Prairie are 385 huge amounts that are not reflected in District financial statements but should be per 386 Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). 387 Manager Koch said his understanding is the District is still WCA authority for two or 388 three cities. He said he would like to see a year-end report and would like a summary 389 report to be provided to those cities. 390 Manager Koch said the District has a significant amount of money dedicated to 391 Education and Outreach but he has not seen a detailed plan, and he would like to see 392 a plan for the upcoming year and what the costs are. 393 Manager Koch said regarding contract retainage, the motion to adopt a policy was 394 not approved, so now his interpretation is that each time a contact is in front of the Board, the Board will have to decide what the retainage is and approve it separately, 395 396 which he believes is foolish. He said he thinks the Board should revisit this. 397 Manager Koch said regarding Lotus Lake violations, he believes the items should 398 stay on the agenda as old business or as follow-up business and he has not seen any 399 update on the violations. He said he believes managers should be apprised at each 400 meeting about the status of the violations or at least in the staff report. 401 Manager Koch said regarding Covid planning, he would like to know the District's 402 plan for going back to in person and he wants to know what is being done with the current HVAC system and if it is being upgraded to being compliant. He said the 403 404 District should require the HVAC system to be compliant and the District should 405 have a sanitation plan. 406 Manager Koch said regarding meetings, he thinks every meeting should be recorded 407 and there should be minutes for every meeting, and minutes should be available on 408 the website. He said to save time at Board meetings he would hope that each manager reviews the draft minutes circulated by Administrator Jeffery in advance of the 409 410 meetings and provides comments to staff to consolidate. 411 Manager Koch said the District's Governance Manual states the District will have a 412 resolution for every item staff has put on the meeting agendas, with the exception that 413 staff can draft resolutions after the fact and he thinks such resolutions should then be 414 put into the minutes. 415 Manager Koch said he thinks it would behoove staff to use dictation software as a time saver, and he uses it and recommends staff consider using it, especially if one is 416 417 not a fast or proficient typist. 418 Manager Koch said regarding the topic of the Noble Hills project, he directed 419 everybody to Minnesota Statute Section 13D.05, Subdivision 3, paragraph C3, which 420 has a pretty detailed recitation of the procedures the Board is supposed to go through

if it is going to have a closed meeting regarding land. He said he is not sure the Board exactly followed that required process at the last Board meeting. Manager Koch said he thinks going forward the Board needs to follow those specific requirements.

Manager Koch said regarding the Data Practices Act, he still has a number of requests outstanding that have not been addressed for several weeks. He said he thinks it is an ongoing issue that needs to be addressed. He the District Administrator is the designated authority and data practices compliance official. Manager Koch said the District needs to make sure to follow those rules and requirements.

Manager Koch said his last item on his report he wants to reserve for a closed session at the April meeting. President Ziegler asked if Manager Koch is assuming the Board will have a closed session. Manager Koch said the Board does not have to but he guesses people will prefer to have a closed session at the next meeting. President Ziegler said for a closed session, the Board needs a reason. Manager Koch said he would like to discuss Administrator Jeffery's recent activities.

# 9. Adjournment

Manager Koch moved to adjourn the workshop. Manager Ziegler seconded the motion. <u>Upon a roll call vote</u>, the motion carried 5-0 as follows:

ManagerActionCraftonYesDuevelYesKochYesPedersenYesZieglerYes

The workshop adjourned at 9:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy Pedersen, Secretary