



DATE: May 13, 2013
 TO: Board of Water and Soil Resources' Members, Advisors, and Staff
 FROM: John Jaschke, Executive Director *JA.*
 SUBJECT: BWSR Board Meeting Notice – May 22, 2013

The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) will meet on Wednesday, May 22, 2013, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will be held in the lower level Board Room at 520 Lafayette Road N., St. Paul. Parking is available in the lot directly in front of the building (see hooded parking area).

The following information pertains to agenda items:

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Metro Water Planning Committee

1. **Mississippi WMO Plan 2013 Amendment** - The final draft 2013 Amendment to the Mississippi WMO Watershed Management Plan was filed with the Board on March 13, 2013. The draft Order contains a summary of the changes and the reviewing agencies' comments. No comments were received during the public hearing. The Metro Water Planning Committee recommends approval of the Plan Amendment per the attached draft Order. **DECISION ITEM**

Northern Water Planning Committee

1. **Beltrami County Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) Extension Request** – Beltrami County has a Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (Plan) that will expire May 28, 2013. On March 19, 2013, the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) received a request for an extension of the Plan from Beltrami County. On March 27, 2013, the Board's Northern Water Planning Committee, chaired by Brian Napstad, met to discuss the extension request. The Committee's recommendation will be presented to the full Board for review and action. The state's expectations for the extension request must be sent to Beltrami County. **DECISION ITEM**
2. **Lake of the Woods County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Nomination District Boundary Change** - The Lake of the Woods County SWCD approved a Nomination Districts Resolution on March 14, 2013, which proposed to change nomination districts for the Lake of the Woods County SWCD supervisor seats. The proposed Nomination Districts will align the districts with the recently revised County Commissioner Districts. The Northern Water Planning Committee met on March 27, 2013, and unanimously recommends approval of the Lake of the Woods County SWCD Nomination Districts Resolution. **DECISION ITEM**
3. **Marshall County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Nomination District Boundary Change** - The Marshall County SWCD approved a Nomination Districts Resolution on December 20, 2012, which proposed to change nomination districts for the Marshall County SWCD supervisor

<i>Bemidji</i>	<i>Brainerd</i>	<i>Duluth</i>	<i>Fergus Falls</i>	<i>Mankato</i>	<i>Marshall</i>	<i>New Ulm</i>	<i>Rochester</i>
403 Fourth Street NW Suite 200 Bemidji, MN 56601 (218) 755-2600	1601 Minnesota Drive Brainerd, MN 56401 (218) 828-2383	394 S. Lake Avenue Suite 403 Duluth, MN 55802 (218) 723-4752	1004 Frontier Drive Fergus Falls, MN 56537 (218) 736-5445	12 Civic Center Plaza Suite 3000B Mankato, MN 56001 (507) 344-2821	1400 East Lyon Street Marshall, MN 56258 (507) 537-6060	261 Highway 15 South New Ulm, MN 56073 (507) 359-6074	3555 9 th Street NW Suite 350 Rochester, MN 55901 (507) 206-2889

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seats. The proposed Nomination Districts will provide consistent and equal distribution of township representation in the County. The Northern Water Planning Committee met on March 27, 2013, and unanimously recommends approval of the Marshall County SWCD Nomination Districts Resolution. **DECISION ITEM**

Southern Water Planning Committee

1. **Kandiyohi County Local Water Management Plan Update** - On January 22, 2013, the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) received the Kandiyohi County Local Water Management Plan Update (Plan Update), a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the Plan Update for final State review. On March 7, 2013, the Board's Southern Water Planning Committee (Committee) met with representatives of Kandiyohi County to discuss recommendations of the state review agencies regarding final approval as well as the Board's concern for the Plan Update not fully complying with language in MN Statutes 103B314. Subd. 3, which speaks to measureable goals, objectives and actions. The Plan Update was sent back to Kandiyohi County to address the concern. On May 2, 2013, the Committee met to review the revised Plan Update submitted by Kandiyohi County. The Committee recommends approval. The Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order are drafted for the Board's review and action. **DECISION ITEM**
2. **McLeod County Local Water Management Plan Update** - On December 28, 2012, the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) received the McLeod County Local Water Management Plan Update, a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the Plan Update for final State review. On March 7, 2013, the Board's Southern Water Planning Committee (Committee) met with representatives of McLeod County to discuss recommendations of the state review agencies regarding final approval as well as the Board's concern for the Plan Update not fully complying with language in MN Statutes 103B314. Subd. 3, which speaks to measureable goals, objectives and actions. The Plan Update was sent back to McLeod County to address the concern. On May 2, 2013, the Committee met to review the revised Plan Update submitted by McLeod County. The Committee recommends approval. The Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order are drafted for the Board's review and action. **DECISION ITEM**
3. **Meeker County Local Water Management Plan Update** - On January 7, 2013, the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) received the Meeker County Local Water Management Plan Update (Plan Update), a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the Plan Update for final State review. On March 7, 2013, the Board's Southern Water Planning Committee (Committee) met with representatives of Meeker County to discuss recommendations of the state review agencies regarding final approval as well as the Board's concern for the Plan Update not fully complying with language in MN Statutes 103B314. Subd. 3, which speaks to measureable goals, objectives and actions. The Plan Update was sent back to Meeker County to address the concern. On May 2, 2013, the Committee met to review the revised Plan Update submitted by Meeker County. The Committee recommends approval. The Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order are drafted for the Board's review and action. **DECISION ITEM**

RIM Reserve Management Planning Committee

1. **2013 RIM-WRP Partnership Rates** – The RIM Reserve Management Planning Committee (RRMPC) recommends approval to authorize the 2013 RIM-WRP Partnership easement payment rates. Board Resolution 13-25, approved March 27, 2013, directed staff to develop RIM-WRP Partnership eligibility and sign-up procedures. ***DECISION ITEM***

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Legislative Update** – John Jaschke will present a legislative update prepared by Sarah Strommen. The agency members of the Board will provide a summary of legislative decisions affecting their programs and responsibilities. ***INFORMATION ITEM***
2. **Environmental Quality Board (EQB) Frac Sand Summary and Status** – EQB staff will provide an overview of past and future actions related to frac sand mining in Minnesota. ***INFORMATION ITEM***

If you have any questions regarding the agenda, please feel free to give me a call at 651-296-0878. The Board meeting is expected to adjourn about noon. I look forward to seeing you on May 22nd!

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
520 LAFAYETTE ROAD N.
LOWER LEVEL CONFERENCE ROOM
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55155
WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2013

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

9:00 AM CALL MEETING TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MINUTES OF MARCH 27, 2013 BOARD MEETING

PUBLIC ACCESS FORUM (10-minute agenda time, two-minute limit/person)

INTRODUCTION OF NEW BWSR EMPLOYEES

- Doug Thomas, Senior Policy & Program Advisor
- Bill Penning, Conservation Easement Section Manager
- Barbie Hogan, Office & Administrative Specialist
- Elizabeth Zuehlke, Accounting Officer

REPORTS

- Chair – Brian Napstad
- Administrative Advisory Committee – Brian Napstad
- Executive Director – John Jaschke
- Dispute Resolution Committee – Gerald Van Amburg
- Wetlands Committee – Gerald Van Amburg
- Grants Program & Policy Committee – Paul Langseth
- Public Relations, Outreach & Strategic Planning Committee – Keith Mykleseth
- RIM Reserve Management Planning Committee – Gene Tiedemann
- Drainage Work Group – Tom Loveall

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Metro Water Planning Committee

1. Mississippi WMO Plan 2013 Amendment – Bob Burandt – ***DECISION ITEM***

Northern Water Planning Committee

1. Beltrami County Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) Extension Request – Gerald Van Amburg – ***DECISION ITEM***
2. Lake of the Woods County SWCD Supervisor Nomination Districts Boundary Change – Keith Mykleseth – ***DECISION ITEM***
3. Marshall County SWCD Supervisor Nomination Districts Boundary Change – Gene Tiedemann – ***DECISION ITEM***

Southern Water Planning Committee

1. Kandiyohi County Local Water Management Plan Update – Paul Langseth – ***DECISION ITEM***
2. McLeod County Local Water Management Plan Update – Paul Langseth – ***DECISION ITEM***
3. Meeker County Local Water Management Plan Update – Paul Langseth – ***DECISION ITEM***

RIM Reserve Management Planning Committee

1. 2013 RIM-WRP Partnership Rates – Tim Koehler and Bill Penning – ***DECISION ITEM***

NEW BUSINESS

1. Legislative Update – Sarah Strommen/John Jaschke - ***INFORMATION ITEM***
2. Environmental Quality Board (EQB) Frac Sand Summary and Status – Bob Patton, EQB Staff – ***INFORMATION ITEM***

AGENCY REPORTS

- Minnesota Department of Agriculture – Matthew Wohlman
- Minnesota Department of Health – Chris Elvrum
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources – Tom Landwehr
- Minnesota Extension Service – Faye Sleeper
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency – Rebecca Flood

ADVISORY COMMENTS

- Association of Minnesota Counties – Annalee Garletz
- Minnesota Association of Conservation District Employees – Ed Lenz
- Minnesota Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts – LeAnn Buck
- Minnesota Association of Townships – Sandy Hooker
- Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts – Ray Bohn
- Natural Resources Conservation Service – Joel Curran

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Next BWSR Board Meeting – June 26, 2013

Noon **ADJOURN**

**BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
520 LAFAYETTE ROAD N.
LOWER LEVEL CONFERENCE ROOM
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55155
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2013**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bob Burandt, Joe Collins, Jack Ditmore, Chris Elvrum, MDH; Rebecca Flood, MPCA; Christy Jo Fogarty, Sandy Hooker, Tom Landwehr, DNR; Paul Langseth, Tom Loveall, Keith Mykleseth, Brian Napstad, Steve Sunderland, Gene Tiedemann, Gerald Van Amburg, Matt Wohlman, MDA

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Faye Sleeper, MES

STAFF PRESENT:

Mary Jo Anderson, Donna Caughey, Jim Haertel, John Jaschke, Al Kean, Tim Koehler, Ron Shelito, Sarah Strommen, Steve Weirens, Marcey Westrick, Steve Woods

OTHERS:

LeAnn Buck, MASWCD
Gaylen Reetz, MPCA
Doug Wetzstein, MPCA
Joel Curran, NRCS

CALL MEETING TO ORDER - Chair Napstad called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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13-10 **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Sandy Hooker to adopt the agenda as presented. *Motion passed on a voice vote.*

**
13-11 **MINUTES OF JANUARY 27, 2013 BOARD MEETING** – Moved by Matt Wohlman, seconded by Jack Ditmore, to approve the minutes of January 27, 2013, as circulated. *Motion passed on a voice vote.*

REPORTS

Chair's Report – Brian Napstad reported on the Environmental Congress hosted by the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) on March 15 at the Ramada Inn in Bloomington. Chair Napstad reported that Governor Dayton welcomed nearly 400 participants with great participation from BWSR staff and board members. Featured speakers included Will Steger, Senator Amy Klobuchar, and young college students presented their perspectives on the environment. The Environmental Congress focused on Minnesota's Environment and Energy Report Card. EQB will compile and prioritize guidance topics from the Environmental Congress to assist the Governor in setting environmental goals for the State. Chair Napstad stated that this is a continued work in progress, he will keep the Board updated.

Chair Napstad reported that he attended the EQB meeting on February 21, discussion included the request for a bible camp in Itasca County. The EQB declined to re-designate the RGU and orders Itasca County complete the environmental review.

Chair Napstad reported that the EQB has a whitepaper regarding the silica sand report, more information is available on EQB's website. EQB received a request by Freeborn County in conjunction with Houston and Fillmore Counties, regarding silica sand mines, requesting re-designation of Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU) for environmental review. EQB data and information for EIS is beyond the county level, to be designated to state agency level, RGU re-designated to EQB to do EIS. Chair Napstad reported that he attended a legislative hearing on silica sand mining. Discussion followed.

Chair Napstad reported that he attended the AMC legislative conference on March 21, in St. Paul, he appreciated all those in attendance including John Jaschke and Sarah Strommen.

Chair Napstad reported that the Administrative Advisory Committee (AAC) met this morning. The AAC decided to cancel the April 24th BWSR Board meeting as agenda items will be covered at the March and May meetings.

Administrative Advisory Committee – Chair Napstad thanked board members for reviewing John's performance evaluation. In addition to board members review, a 360 evaluation process is being conducted by 45 people (staff, LGUs), soliciting feedback to supplement John's performance review. Chair Napstad expects to report on the executive director's performance review at the May Board meeting. Chair Napstad reported that the Governor's Appointments Office has not yet made new board members appointments. Chair Napstad reported that the BWSR Board tour will be in Two Harbors, August 28, hosted by Lake County.

Executive Director's Report – John Jaschke reported that the Legislature is in recess for Easter break this week, they will reconvene on April 2. John reported that MAWD held their Legislative Day at the Capitol on March 14; and MASWCD held their Legislative Day at the Capitol on February 26.

John reported that the Red River Valley anticipates flooding this spring. John reported that BWSR, DNR, and the City of Duluth held a joint news conference in Duluth on March 26 regarding BWSR's \$3.2 million flood relief grants to the City of Duluth and South St. Louis SWCD. Landowners and local communities still have great needs to fix damages caused by last year's storms. In addition to BWSR funding, DNR will award \$650,000 grant to the City of Duluth for debris and sediment removal projects in fourteen trout streams.

John distributed a summary report of the June 2012 flood recovery effort progress to date in northeast Minnesota. John stated that federal funding is needed before allocations can be made on the highest level priority projects. John stated that it's good to see conservation projects in Lake County and St. Louis County that withstood the 2012 floods.

John reviewed information in board members' packets. John provided a brief report on the only active PRAP assistance grant to Pope SWCD, for contracting services for organizational strategic planning, staff realignment, and partnerships.

Dispute Resolution Committee – John Jaschke reported that Travis Germundson is on vacation this week; John provided a brief status report on the appeals.

Wetlands Committee – Gerald Van Amburg reported that the Wetlands Committee has not met; a meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 24.

Grants Program & Policy Committee – Paul Langseth reported that the Grants Program & Policy Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 24 – notice of date will be sent next week.

Public Relations, Outreach & Strategic Planning Committee – Keith Mykleseth reported that the Public Relations, Outreach & Strategic Planning Committee has a meeting tentatively scheduled for April 24; topics of discussion will be communications and outreach.

RIM Reserve Management Planning Committee – Gene Tiedemann reported that the RIM Reserve Management Planning Committee met yesterday, the Committee has a recommendation on the agenda later today.

Drainage Work Group – Tom Loveall reported that the Drainage Work Group has not met since December. Al Kean reported that several bills were introduced this legislative session. HF66/SF113, which carried the 2012 DWG consensus recommendations to further update Chapter 103E Drainage Law, passed the House and Senate unanimously, the bill was signed by Governor Dayton, the statute revisions become effective August 1, 2013. Al provided a brief update on HF1021, which proposes to exempt minor ditch repairs from the MN Environmental Rights Act (Chapter 116B); HF949/SF1496 which proposes to require DNR to participate in drainage projects involving Consolidated Conservation lands; and HF971/SF1244, which proposes

to appropriate \$235,000 of Clean Water Funds to BWSR to update the Minnesota Public Drainage Manual. The next meeting of the Drainage Work Group is April 5, 2013. Commissioner Tom Landwehr stated that DNR requests time to be on the DWG agenda to discuss the controversial issue of concon lands. Discussion followed. Chair Napstad thanked Al and Tom for their report.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Metro Water Planning Committee

Shingle Creek & West Mississippi Watershed Management Commissions' Plan Revision -

Jim Haertel reported that this is a unique Watershed Management Plan compared to others in the metro area because two separate, politically distinct organizations share the same plan, yet have unique implementation programs tailored to each. The Shingle Creek and West Mississippi Watershed Management Organizations were formally established via joint powers agreements in 1984 under the Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act of 1982. The Watershed Management Plan final draft was filed with the Board on January 17, 2013. The attached draft Order contains a summary of the plan, planning process, and the reviewing agencies' comments. The Commissions offered stakeholders and state agencies ample opportunities to provide input via an effective Technical Advisory Committee input process, city advisory committee meetings, an online survey, and releasing an informal draft for review. Few comments were received during the formal review process and at the public hearings resulting in relatively minor changes to the Plan. The Metro Water Planning Committee met on March 7, 2013, and was presented a history of the District, the planning process, and highlights of the implementation section of the revised Plan. After review of the information, the Committee unanimously voted to recommend approval of the Plan. Moved by Bob Burandt, seconded by Sandy Hooker, to approve the Shingle Creek & West Mississippi Watershed Management Commissions' Plan Revision. *Motion passed on a voice vote.*

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13-12

Southern Water Planning Committee

Jackson County Local Water Management Plan Amendment – Paul Langseth reported that BWSR approved the Jackson County 2008 - 2018 Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (Plan) on March 26, 2008. The Board Order required Jackson County to update the Plan's implementation section by March 26, 2013. Jackson County followed the amendment process guidelines established by the Board and submitted their 2013 - 2018 Local Water Management Plan Amendment on February 6, 2013. The Southern Water Planning Committee met on March 7, 2013 and recommends approval of the Jackson County 2013 - 2018 Local Water Management Plan Amendment. Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Sandy Hooker, to approve the Jackson County Local Water Management Plan Amendment. *Motion passed on a voice vote.*

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13-13

Big Stone County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – Paul Langseth reported that Big Stone County submitted the Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) for state agency review and comment. The Southern Water Planning Committee met with Big Stone County on March 7, 2013, to discuss the content of the PCSD; state agency review comments on the PCSD; and recommends approval of the Big Stone County PCSD. Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Chris Elvrum, to approve the Big Stone County Priority Concerns Scoping Document. *Motion passed on a voice vote.*

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13-14

Chippewa County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – Paul Langseth reported that Chippewa County submitted the Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) for state agency review and comment. The Southern Water Planning Committee met with Chippewa County on March 7, 2013, and recommends approval of the Chippewa County PCSD. The state's expectations for the final plan must be sent to Chippewa County. Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Matt Wohlman, to approve the Chippewa County Priority Concerns Scoping Document. *Motion passed on a voice vote.*

Lac qui Parle County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – Paul Langseth reported that Lac qui Parle County submitted the Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) for state agency review and comment. The Southern Water Planning Committee met with Lac qui Parle County on March 7, 2013, and recommends approval of the Lac qui Parle County PCSD. Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Sandy Hooker, to approve the Lac qui Parle County Priority Concerns Scoping Document. *Motion passed on a voice vote.*

Swift County Priority Concerns Scoping Document - Swift County submitted the Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) for state agency review and comment. The Southern Water Planning Committee met with Swift County on March 7, 2013 and recommends approval of the Swift County PCSD. Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Matt Wohlman, to approve the Swift County Priority Concerns Scoping Document. *Motion passed on a voice vote.*

Paul Langseth reported that three county water plan extension requests were rejected by the Southern Water Planning Committee (not on the agenda today). Those extension requests were returned to the county to complete their plans. Counties are ineligible for grants if comprehensive local water plans are not approved by BWSR. It is in the best interest for counties to complete a good plan. Discussion followed. The start date of each plan will be included in future Orders.

Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Bob Burandt, to approve the Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan extension requests for Big Stone County, Blue Earth County, Chippewa County, Lac qui Parle County, and Swift County; the extension requests will be approved with one resolution, Chair Napstad will sign individual Orders for each county. Discussion followed. Jack Ditmore made a motion to vote on each county plan individually. Paul Langseth and Bob Burandt withdrew the motion for one resolution approving the extension requests, and agreed to vote on each individual extension request. *Motion passed on a voice vote.*

Big Stone County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Extension Request – Paul Langseth reported that Big Stone County's Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (Plan) will expire May 28, 2013. On March 7, 2013, the Southern Water Planning Committee met with Big Stone County and recommends approval of the Big Stone County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Extension. Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Bob Burandt, to approve the Big Stone County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Extension Request. *Motion passed on a voice vote.*

Blue Earth County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Extension Request – Paul Langseth reported that Blue Earth County's five-year Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan will expire June 30, 2013. On March 7, 2013, the Southern Water Planning Committee met and recommends approval of the Blue Earth County Comprehensive Local

- ** 13-20 Water Management Plan Extension. Blue Earth County is working on incorporating a green print. Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Sandy Hooker, to approve the Blue Earth County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan extension request. *Motion passed on a voice vote.* Joe Collins commends the county for including mining in their plan.

Chippewa County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Extension Request –

- Paul Langseth reported that Chippewa County's Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (Plan) will expire May 28, 2013. On March 7, 2013, the Southern Water Planning Committee met with Chippewa County and recommends approval of the Chippewa County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Extension. Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Sandy Hooker, to approve the Chippewa County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan extension request. Discussion followed. Keith Mykleseth stated that the water plans are an evolving process statewide. Tom Loveall stated that more details on the plans leads to accountability. Jack Ditmore stated that the message is being sent to complete a plan. *Motion passed on a voice vote.*
- ** 13-21

Lac qui Parle County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Extension Request –

- Paul Langseth reported that Lac qui Parle County's Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan will expire May 28, 2013. On March 7, 2013, the Southern Water Planning Committee met with Lac qui Parle County and recommends approval of the Lac qui Parle County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Extension. Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Chris Elvrum, to approve Lac qui Parle County Comprehensive Local Water Plan extension request. *Motion passed on a voice vote.*
- ** 13-22

Swift County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Extension Request –

- Paul Langseth reported that Swift County's Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan will expire May 28, 2013. On March 7, 2013, the Southern Water Planning Committee met with Swift County and recommends approval of the Swift County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Extension. Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Sandy Hooker, to approve the Swift County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan extension request. *Motion passed on a voice vote.*
- ** 13-23

Chair Napstad called for a break in the meeting at 11:00 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 11:13 a.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM) Reserve –Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) 2013 –

Gene Tiedemann reported that the RIM Committee met yesterday, no quorum present, the Committee's consensus was to move this forward. Tim Koehler reported that the RIM-WRP Partnership has received recommendations from the Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Council and legislative appropriations from the Outdoor Heritage Fund in 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 totaling \$42.76 million to leverage federal WRP funds totaling over \$68 million. In addition, a fifth year of funding is currently being considered by the MN Legislature for \$13.39 million from the

Outdoor Heritage Fund which will leverage \$21.5 million of federal WRP funds. Tim reported that the Committee's consensus authorizes staff to:

1. Utilize existing and anticipated Outdoor Heritage Funds for the 2013 RIM-WRP Partnership; and
2. Target expiring CRP contracts with critical wetland restoration practices for enrollment in the RIM-WRP Partnership; and

3. Work with MN NRCS to develop RIM-WRP Partnership eligibility and sign-up procedures for the 2013 RIM-WRP Partnership.

Tim introduced Joel Curran, NRCS. Joel reported that \$7M is allocated to WRP; request for 8,000 acres to enroll in WRP; awaiting an answer from Washington within a month.

Tom Landwehr stated that RIM-WRP is a critical component in the Prairie Plan. Tom proposed adding new language to the resolution as follows:

#3. Prioritize projects consistent with the priorities in the MN Conservation Prairie Plan and subsequent conservation implementation guidance.

#4. Work with MN NRCS to develop RIM-WRP Partnership eligibility and sign-up procedures for the 2013 RIM-WRP Partnership.

** Moved by Tom Landwehr, seconded by Paul Langseth, to amend the resolution to include the proposed new language.

Matt Wohlman recommends scoring based on multiple benefits of prairies and wetlands. Tim Koehler explained that scoring points could also be consistent with other prairie pothole plans. Paul stated that his second to the motion would add a target to the partnership. Keith stated that it's good to work together; accountability is important. Matt stated that MDA has not signed off on the Plan, there were no agriculture stakeholders involved in the plan. Tom Landwehr stated that the key is to target outcomes consistent with WRP with a focus on specific outcomes. Gene Tiedemann suggests this going through the Committee to allow time to review. Discussion followed. Gerry Van Amburg supports the amendment as he's for more grassland preservation and restoration.

Tim Koehler stated that the Prairie Plan areas have been identified to focus on working lands, grazing, water quality, CRP, grasslands, and prairie. LeAnn Buck stated that LGUs don't know what the prairie plan details are, it would be helpful to have good conversation at the local level so they understand. Bob Burandt stated that naming the area looks like RIM is singled-out, he doesn't support the amendment, the Committee will review this. Chair Napstad clarified that the Board is voting on the amendment at this time, not the Resolution. The proposed amendment adds: **#3. Prioritize projects consistent with the priorities in the MN Conservation Prairie Plan and subsequent conservation implementation guidance; with #3 now #4.** Chair Napstad called for a roll call vote. Affirmative: Joe Collins, Jack Ditmore, Christy Jo Fogarty, Tom Landwehr, Paul Langseth, Tom Loveall, Keith Mykleseth, Gerald Van Amburg, Brian Napstad. Opposed: Bob Burandt, Chris Elvrum, Rebecca Flood, Sandy Hooker, Steve Sunderland, Gene Tiedemann, Matt Wohlman. *The amendment to the Resolution was approved.*

13-24

** Moved by Gene Tiedeman, seconded by Jack Ditmore, to approve the Resolution as amended. – authorizing staff to move forward on the voluntary sign-up application process. Tim Koehler explained that the current process is in place, using last years payment rates and scoring rates; work with landowners to explain the basics to landowners; the Committee will bring this voluntary program before the Board in May. Discussion followed. *Motion passed on a voice vote.*

13-25

Watershed Protection & Restoration Strategies –Gaylen Reetz, MPCA, presented background information on the Clean Water Act. Steve Woods explained that the Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment funding has allowed the executive branch agencies to systematically re-think how to best produce cleaner water. Input from the Clean Water Council, listening sessions around the state,

and inter-agency teams resulted in a system that meshes a predictable 10-year water monitoring cycle with local water planning processes. Throughout 2013, BWSR will sponsor a stakeholder process that aligns local water plan expectations with the Board's approval process. Steve stated that Doug Thomas, newly hired Policy Advisor, starts with BWSR on April 15, he will work on the "One Watershed" policy. Chair Napstad stated that this looks to be a driver for incentives. John Jaschke stated that BWSR will work with MPCA to get information out. Discussion followed. Matt Wohlman thanked Steve and Gaylen for their informative presentation, asked about parcel levels. Gaylen stated that the intent is so local resource managers can utilize this information. LeAnn Buck appreciated the presentation, need to coordinate allocation. Tom Landwehr stated this is a great piece of information, need to think about implementation, a challenge for entities, BWSR's key role is to implement soon; promote the message, need coordination of agencies to get this on the ground. Chair Napstad thanked Steve and Gaylen for the informative presentation. John acknowledged MPCA for developing a more useful, better, cheaper, and faster process.

Legislative Update – Sarah Strommen presented a brief legislative overview and update for the Board's information. Chair Napstad thanked Sarah for her update.

AGENCY REPORTS

Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) – Matt Wohlman reported that last month MDA Commissioner Frederickson proposed the MDA Advisory Committee score pilot areas for MAWD. Matt reported that MDA hired RESPECT Consulting Company (former BWSR employee Julie Blackburn) to help develop a measurement tool for certifiable determinations.

ADVISORY COMMENTS

Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT) – Sandy Hooker reported that MAT staff are concluding a three-week-training for nearly 7,000 township officers. MAT will be going to Washington, D.C. in April to lobby.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Next BWSR Board Meeting - May 22, 2013
- Grants Program & Policy Committee will meet April 24

**
13-26 Moved by Keith Mykleseth, seconded by Sandy Hooker, to adjourn the meeting at 1:05 p.m.
Motion passed on a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jo Anderson
Recorder



BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Dispute Resolution Committee Report^L

Meeting Date: May 22, 2013

Agenda Category: Committee Recommendation New Business Old Business

Item Type: Decision Discussion Information

Section/Region: Land and Water Section

Contact: Travis Germundson

Prepared by: Travis Germundson

Reviewed by: _____ Committee(s)

Presented by: Gerald Van Amburg/Travis Germundson

Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation

Attachments: Resolution Order Map Other Supporting Information

Fiscal/Policy Impact

- None
- Amended Policy Requested
- New Policy Requested
- Other: _____
- General Fund Budget
- Capital Budget
- Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget
- Clean Water Fund Budget

ACTION REQUESTED

None

SUMMARY (Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation)

Dispute Resolution Committee Report. The report provides a monthly update on the number of appeals filed with the BWSR.

Dispute Resolution Report

May 10, 2013

By: Travis Germundson

There are presently **12** appeals pending. All of the appeals involve WCA except File 10-10. There have been **no** new appeals filed since the last report (March 27, 2013 Board Meeting).

Format note: New appeals that have been filed since last report to the Board.
~~Appeals that have been decided since last report to the Board.~~

File 13-3 (3-19-13) This is an appeal of a restoration order in Big Stone County. The appeal regards impacts to DNR Public Waters and WCA wetlands on state property associated with an agricultural drainage project. *The appeal has been placed in abeyance and the restoration order stayed until there is a final decision on an after-the-fact wetland application.*

File 13-1 (1-9-13) This is an appeal of a restoration order in Swift County. The appeal regards drainage impacts to multiple wetlands associated with an agricultural drain tile project. The appeal has been placed in abeyance and the restoration order stayed until there is a final decision on an after-the fact wetland application.

File 12-19 (12-27-12) This is an appeal of a wetland replacement plan decision in Stearns County. The appeal regards the approval of a wetland replacement plan application for a tenth of an acre of impact to a Type 3 wetland. A previous appeal of a restoration order involving the same wetland impacts (File 12-10) was dismissed. The appeal has been remanded for further technical work.

File 12-16 (11-16-12). This is an appeal of a wetland banking credit deposit request in Stearns County. The appeal regards the approval of a wetland banking plan request to deposit 9.9 acres of credit. A previous appeal (File 12-13) was remanded for the LGU to develop an adequate record, and now that new decision is being appealed. At issue are the eligibility requirements for banking credits. The appeal has been accepted and the briefing and hearing schedule stayed by mutual agreement to allow time for settlement discussions to continue.

File 12-12 (7-16-12) This is an appeal of an exemption determination in Renville County. The appeal regards the denial of an agricultural drainage exemption associated with a 1.5 acre wetland. At issue is the wetland type determination. A previous appeal (File 12-5) was remanded for further technical evaluation and administrative proceedings, and now the current approval is being appealed. A verbal settlement agreement has since been reached that includes submittal of a replacement plan application. The appeal has been placed in abeyance by mutual agreement to determine the viability of a wetland replacement plan application.

File 11-1 (1-20-11) This is an appeal of a restoration order in Hennepin County. The appeal regards the filling of approximately 1.77 acres of wetland and 0.69 acres of excavation. The appeal has been placed in abeyance and the restoration order stayed until there is a final decision on an after-the-fact wetland application and confirmation of required mitigation.

File 10-10 (6-10-10) This is an appeal filed under Minn. Stat. 103D.535 regarding an order of the managers of the Wild Rice Watershed District not to go forward with the Upper Becker Dam Enhancement Project as proposed. Appeals filed under 103D.535 require that the Board follow the Administrative Procedures Act. The Act requires that the hearing be conducted by an Administrative Laws Judge through the Office of Administrative Hearings. A mediated settlement agreement was reached with the condition that if the watershed district fails to carry out Option D the appeal shall go forward. The appeal has been placed in abeyance.

File 10-7 (2-19-10) This is an appeal of a restoration order in Stearns County. The appeal regards draining and filling impacts to approximately 18.44 acres of Type2/3 wetland and 3.06 acres of Type 2 wetland. The appeal has been placed in abeyance and the restoration order stayed for submittal of "as built" or project information pertaining to a public drainage system. The landowner has committed to restoring the site and the TEP plans to conduct a site visit in the spring of 2013 to verify that restoration has occurred.

File 09-10 (7-9-09) This is an appeal of a banking plan application in Aitkin County. The appeal regards the LGU's denial of a banking plan application to restore 427.5 acres of wetlands through the use of exceptional natural resource value. The appeal has been accepted and pre-hearing conferences convened on October 13 and 30, and December 14, 2009. Settlement discussions are on hold while the appellant addresses permitting issues with the Corps of Engineers. The appeal has been placed in abeyance by mutual agreement on determining the viability of a new wetland banking plan application.

File 08-9. (03/06/08) This is an appeal of a replacement order in Pine County. The appeal regards impacts to approximately 11.26 acres of wetland. The replacement order has been stayed and the appeal has been placed in abeyance pending disposition with the U.S. Dept of Justice.

File 06-23. (05/19/06) This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision in Kanabec County. The LGU denied the wetland replacement plan application. A previous denial of the same replacement plan application had been appealed, the appeal was remanded for a hearing, and now the current denial has been appealed. The appeal has been placed in abeyance pending the outcome of a lawsuit between the landowner and the county. The lawsuit concerns the county's possible noncompliance with the 60-day rule. The county prevailed in district court; however the decision was appealed to the Court of Appeals where the county again prevailed. An appeal to the Minnesota Supreme Court was denied review.

File 05-1. (01/13/05) This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision by the Rice Creek Watershed District. The District previously made a decision that was appealed which resulted in a remand for an expanded TEP. Now there is an appeal of the decision made under remand since the decision differed from the TEP report. At issue are wetland delineation and the Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan that BWSR approved. After a hearing before the DRC, the board remanded the matter for new wetland delineation and for submission on an updated, complete replacement plan application. On 12-9-09 the District made a new wetland delineation decision. The applicant has not yet submitted an updated replacement plan application.

Summary Table

Type of Decision	Total for Calendar Year 2012	Total for Calendar Year 2013
Order in favor of appellant	1	
Order not in favor of appellant	5	1
Order Modified		
Order Remanded	4	
Order Place Appeal in Abeyance	1	
Negotiated Settlement		
Withdrawn/Dismissed	4	

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Metro Water Planning Committee

1. Mississippi WMO Plan 2013 Amendment – Bob Burandt – ***DECISION ITEM***



BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Mississippi WMO Plan Amendment^L

Meeting Date: May 22, 2013
Agenda Category: [X] Committee Recommendation [] New Business [] Old Business
Item Type: [X] Decision [] Discussion [] Information
Section/Region: Metro
Contact: Brad Wozney, Board Conservationist
Prepared by: Brad Wozney, Board Conservationist
Reviewed by: Metro Water Planning Committee(s)
Presented by: Bob Burandt

[] Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation

Attachments: [] Resolution [X] Order [X] Map [X] Other Supporting Information

Fiscal/Policy Impact

- [X] None [] General Fund Budget
[] Amended Policy Requested [] Capital Budget
[] New Policy Requested [] Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget
[] Clean Water Fund Budget
[] Other:

ACTION REQUESTED

Approval of Plan Amendment to the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization's Watershed Management Plan

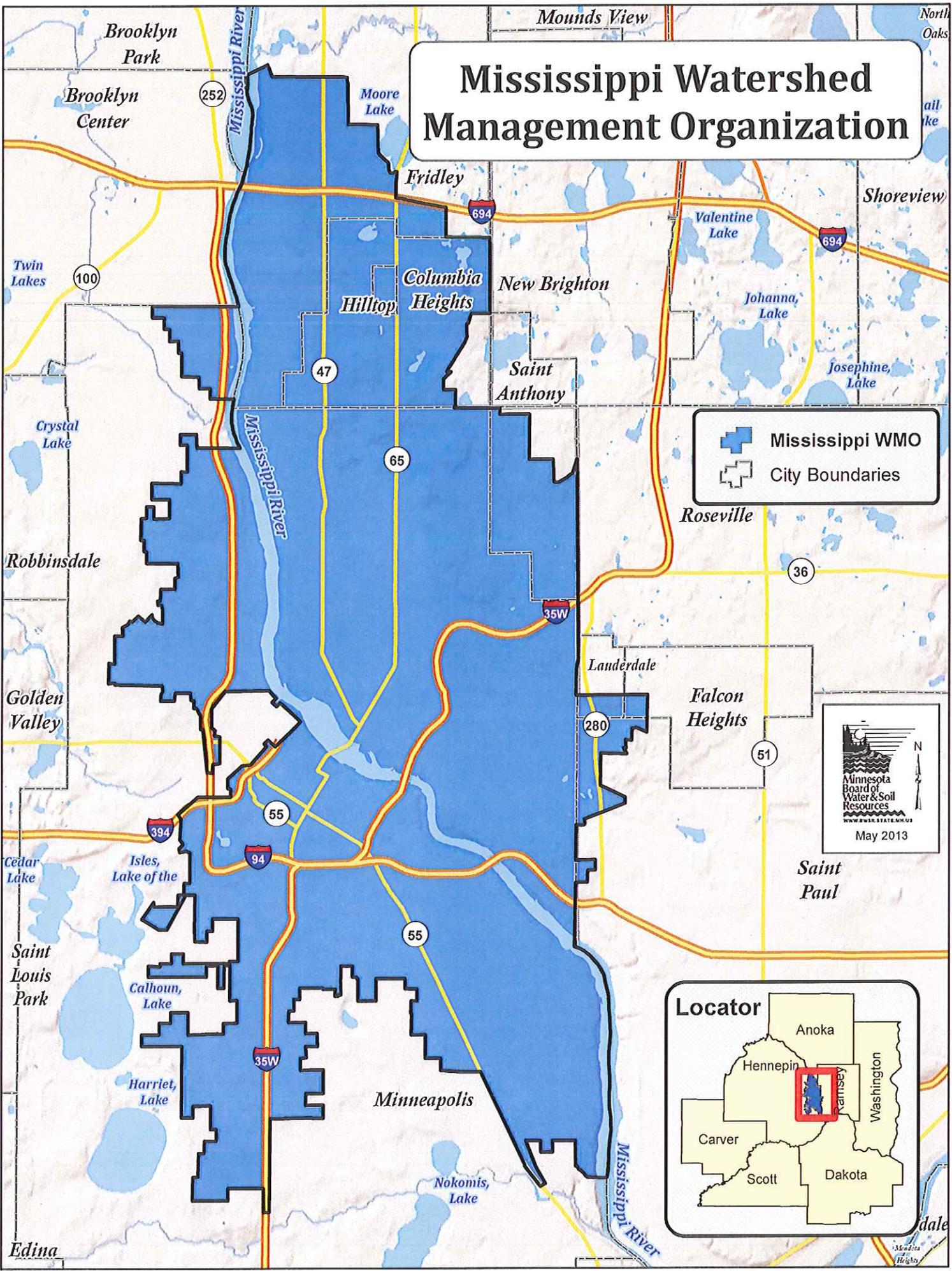
SUMMARY (Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation)
The Middle Mississippi WMO was established in 1985 and included the University of Minnesota. The first Watershed Management Plan was published in December 1986. In 1997, a Joint and Cooperative Agreement, more commonly entitled "Joint Powers Agreement" across the metro region, was entered into by the Cities of Minneapolis, St. Paul, Lauderdale, Falcon Heights, St. Anthony, and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. The agreement changed the name to Mississippi WMO (MWMO) and replaced the agreement executed in 1985 that created the original organization. In 1999, the MWMO's legal boundary was redrawn to exclude the city of Falcon Heights, which is now a part of the Capitol Region Watershed District. The second Watershed Management Plan was approved by the Board in 2000. In 2001 the legislature granted MWMO the authority as a "special purpose taxing district" under MN Statutes § 275.066. Their current plan was approved by the Board in April 2011.

The MWMO is located in Hennepin and Ramsey Counties in the heart of the Minneapolis – St. Paul seven county metropolitan area. It is bound by the recently dissolved Six Cities Watershed Management Organization to the north, on the west by the West Mississippi / Shingle Creek Watershed Management Organizations and Bassett Creek Watershed Management Organization, on the south by Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, and on the east by the Capitol Region and Rice Creek Watershed Districts. The MWMO encompasses 13,602 acres (31.5 square miles) of fully developed urban lands (90%), parks and open space (7%), and open water (3.6%). It is important to note that 95% of the watershed is within the City of Minneapolis. The Mississippi River is the primary water resource in the MWMO, but other water resources include Loring Park Pond – an eight acre, annually stocked recreational fishing lake, and Mallard Marsh and Kasota Ponds. There are three dams with navigation locks on the Mississippi River within the MWMO. Subwatersheds in the region that were historically defined by topography are now defined by extensive networks of stormwater tunnels and pipes. Bassett Creek flows by way of a tunnel through the MWMO.

The MWMO 2013 Amendment proposes to revise the implementation program by clarifying the schedule for two existing capital improvement projects, addressing the newly added areas of Fridley, Hilltop, and Columbia Heights to the MWMO that were in the former Six Cities WMO, and adding seven new capital improvement projects.

The Metro Water Planning Committee met on May 8, 2013. After review of the information, BWSR staff was in favor of, and the Committee unanimously voted to, recommend approval of the Plan Amendment dated March 13, 2013, to the full Board per the attached draft Order.

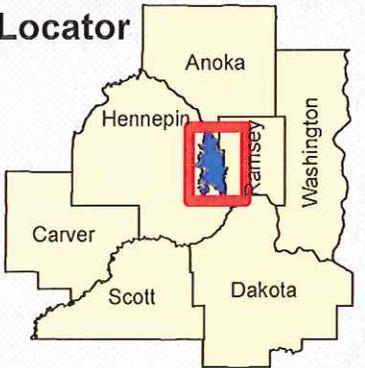
Mississippi Watershed Management Organization



 Mississippi WMO
 City Boundaries


Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources
www.mnwr.state.mn.us
May 2013

Locator



Anoka
Hennepin
Ramsey
Washington
Carver
Scott
Dakota

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of the review of the
Amendment to the Watershed Management
Plan for the **Mississippi Watershed
Management Organization**, pursuant to
Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.231,
Subdivision 11.

**ORDER
APPROVING
AMENDMENT TO
WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Whereas, the Board of Commissioners of the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization (MWMO) submitted an Amendment to the Watershed Management Plan (Amendment) dated March 13, 2013, to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.231, Subd. 11, and;

Whereas, the Board has completed its review of the Amendment;

Now Therefore, the Board hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. **Watershed Management Organization Establishment.** The Middle Mississippi WMO was established in 1985 and included the University of Minnesota. The first watershed management plan was published in December 1986. In 1997, a Joint and Cooperative Agreement, more commonly entitled "Joint Powers Agreement" across the metropolitan area, was entered into by the Cities of Minneapolis, St. Paul, Lauderdale, Falcon Heights, St. Anthony, and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. The agreement changed the name to Mississippi WMO and replaced the agreement executed in 1985 that created the original organization. In 1999, the MWMO's legal boundary was redrawn to exclude the city of Falcon Heights, which is now a part of the Capitol Region Watershed District. The second watershed management plan was approved by the Board in 2000. In 2001 the legislature granted MWMO the authority as a "special purpose taxing district" under MN Statutes § 275.066.
2. **Authority to Plan.** The Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act requires the preparation of a watershed management plan for the subject watershed area which meets the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Sections 103B.201 to 103B.251. The watershed management plan may be amended according to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.231, Subd. 11.
3. **Nature of the Watershed.** The MWMO is located in Hennepin and Ramsey Counties in the heart of the Minneapolis – St. Paul seven county metropolitan area. It is bound by

the recently dissolved Six Cities Watershed Management Organization to the north, on the west by the West Mississippi / Shingle Creek Watershed Management Organizations and Bassett Creek Watershed Management Organization, on the south by Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, and on the east by the Capitol Region and Rice Creek Watershed Districts. The MWMO encompasses 13,602 acres (31.5 square miles) of fully developed urban lands (90%), parks and open space (7%), and open water (3.6%). The MWMO consists of portions of the Cities of Lauderdale, St. Paul, St. Anthony, and Minneapolis including property owned by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. It is important to note that 95% of the watershed is within the City of Minneapolis. As of 2010 the population within MWMO was over 236,000 and projected to be over 248,000 by 2020. Over the course of the next ten years Minneapolis is proposing significant redevelopment around "growth centers" which are characterized by a concentration of employment-generating development. The Mississippi River is the primary water resource in the MWMO, but other water resources include Loring Park Pond – an eight acre, annually stocked recreational fishing lake, and Mallard Marsh and Kasota Ponds. There are three dams with navigational locks on the Mississippi River within the MWMO. Subwatersheds in the region that were historically defined by topography are now defined by extensive networks of stormwater tunnels and pipes. Bassett Creek flows by way of a tunnel through the MWMO.

4. **Amendment Development and Review.** The draft Amendment was submitted to the Board, other state agencies, and local governments for the required 60-day review on December 17, 2012. The Amendment proposes to add capital improvement projects, add detail to two existing capital projects, and address the newly added areas to the MWMO from the dissolved Six Cities WMO. The MWMO held a public hearing on March 12, 2013. No revisions to the Amendment were made as a result of comments received at the hearing. The final draft Amendment was submitted to the Board and plan review agencies on March 13, 2013, for final review and approval.
5. **Local Review.** The MWMO circulated a copy of the draft Amendment to local units of government for their review pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.231, Subd. 7, and received comments from the Anoka Conservation District. All comments were fully addressed.
6. **Metropolitan Council Review.** The Metropolitan Council was supportive of the amendment stating it is consistent with the Council's *Water Resources Management Policy Plan*.
7. **Department of Agriculture Review.** The MDA did not comment on the Amendment.
8. **Department of Health Review.** The MDH did not comment on the Amendment.
9. **Department of Natural Resources Review.** The DNR did not comment on the Amendment.

10. **Pollution Control Agency Review.** The PCA stated they had no comments.
11. **Department of Transportation Review.** The DOT did not comment on the Amendment.
12. **Board Review.** Board staff commended the MWMO for maintaining a current capital improvement program and had no other comments on the Amendment. The Joint and Cooperative Agreement is compliant and fully executed to reflect the newly added member cities.
13. **Amendment Summary.** The Amendment proposes to revise the implementation program by adding seven new capital improvement projects, clarifying details to two existing capital improvement projects, and addressing the newly added areas in Fridley, Hilltop, and Columbia Heights to the MWMO that were formerly in the Six Cities WMO.
14. **Metro Water Planning Committee Meeting.** On May 8, 2013, the Board's Metro Water Planning Committee and staff met in St. Paul to review and discuss the Amendment. Those in attendance from the Board's Committee were Joe Collins, Jack Ditmore, Rebecca Flood, Faye Sleeper, and Robert Burandt as chair. Board staff in attendance were Metro Region Supervisor Jim Haertel and Board Conservationist Brad Wozney. Board staff recommended approval of the Amendment. After discussion, the Committee unanimously voted to recommend approval of the Amendment to the full Board.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant substantive and procedural requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled.
2. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving an Amendment to the Watershed Management Plan for the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.231, Subd. 11.
3. The attached Amendment is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Sections 103B.201 to 103B.251.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the attached Amendment dated March 13, 2013, to the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization Watershed Management Plan.

Dated at Saint Paul, Minnesota this 22nd day of May 2013.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BY: Brian Napstad, Chair

1.0 Introduction

The Mississippi Watershed Management Organization (MWMO) is committed to protecting, managing, and improving the water resources within its boundaries. The MWMO Board of Commissioners has directed staff to lead efforts to accomplish the mission by assisting, educating, supporting, and cooperating with its member organizations, other units of government, nonprofit agencies, and a variety of community groups to achieve a diverse, functional urban river ecosystem.

Mission Statement articulates why the organization exists:

To lead, and to foster stewardship of the watershed and its waters with actions that promote civic ownership and responsibility and through measures that achieve diverse and functional ecosystems.

Vision statement describes what the organization hopes to achieve by 2020:

To lead, to inspire, to act, to educate, and to create a shared vision for a river system with ecological integrity.

2.0 Executive Summary

2.1 History

Today's organization began as the Middle Mississippi River Watershed Management Organization in 1985 with a joint powers agreement executed by the Cities of Minneapolis, Saint Paul, Lauderdale, Falcon Heights, Saint Anthony Village, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, and the University of Minnesota. For business purposes, the organization shortened its name to the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization. The current joint cooperative agreement, [bylaws and legal description are included in Appendix A](#).

The First Generation Watershed Management Plan (Plan), published in December of 1986, was never officially approved, resulting in no projects being implemented. In January 1997, the University of Minnesota left the organization and a Second Generation planning effort was initiated. In 1998 the Capitol Region Watershed District was formed adjacent to the MWMO. A geographically small community, Falcon Heights chose to remove itself and its accompanying land area from the MWMO, thus stewarding its watershed solely within the Capitol Region Watershed District. In 2000, the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission, MWMO, and the City of Minneapolis entered into a joint and cooperative agreement, which resulted in a boundary change that transferred 1,002 acres from the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission to the MWMO to address the completion of the new Bassett Creek tunnel ([Appendix M](#)).

In 2000, the MWMO Second Generation Plan was approved. In 2006, the Plan was amended to add the Greening Program and clarify existing programmatic efforts. [The MWMO's Third Generation Plan](#) was adopted by the MWMO Board of Commissioners on May 10, 2011. An amendment to the Plan's Capital Improvement Schedule to add additional member projects was adopted by the MWMO Board of Commissioners on May 8, 2012.

[In 2011 the Six Cities WMO was dissolved, by August 21, 2012 the cities of Columbia Heights, Fridley and Hilltop past members of Six Cities WMO became members of the MWMO. Projects in the cities of Columbia Heights, Fridley and Hilltop related to stormwater management were identified and added to the MWMO Plan's Capital Improvement Schedule via a 2013 plan amendment.](#)

2.2 Accomplishments

When the 2000 Watershed Management Plan (Plan) was adopted, the MWMO consisted of a five-member Board with staffing provided by the City of Minneapolis Environmental Services. In the fall of 2002, the MWMO Board hired an administrator and program manager to build an organization capable of

implementing the goals and activities outlined in the 2000 Plan. Since then, the MWMO has established its own offices and added new staff members to develop the programmatic areas needed to successfully implement goals and activities found in the 2000 Plan. A few of these successes include: the Heritage Park Capitol Improvement Project, the Stewardship Grant Fund, the Hmong Community Project, a study on the Historic Waters of the MWMO and the establishment of a monitoring network for the Watershed.

In the Heritage Park Capitol Improvement Project, the MWMO worked with the City of Minneapolis to incorporate new and innovative stormwater management systems into a city-led neighborhood redevelopment project. This is the first effort within the Watershed to demonstrate the benefits that an integrated stormwater management effort can make in a land use redevelopment project, providing water quality and quantity improvement and quality of life enhancement.

The Stewardship Fund Program awards grants and provides technical assistance and information to community organizations within the Watershed. Since 2003, the Stewardship Fund Program has supported the installation of stormwater management practices to improve water quality as well as the implementation of water quality education and outreach activities.

The MWMO's Education and Outreach Program, in partnership with the City of Minneapolis, is leading the way to a better understanding of the cultural connections the Hmong community has with water resources. This allows the MWMO to provide relevant information using appropriate, meaningful methods.

The MWMO study, *Historic Waters of the MWMO* (MWMO, 2011) is exemplary of the scientific approach the MWMO is taking to better understand historic and present day water, land, and geological characteristics that influence water resources.

The MWMO also partnered with its member organizations to initiate a monitoring network. The MWMO currently monitors several parameters of water quality and river stage at six locations in the Mississippi River as well as the quality and amount of water that flows from five stormwater outfalls draining into the river. This is the beginning of a comprehensive monitoring network that will provide the MWMO the data needed to evaluate its progress in managing the water resources within the Watershed.

Through these and other accomplishments, the MWMO has proven to be an effective and motivated organization. Through this Third Generation Plan the MWMO lays out an implementation schedule which requires the continued growth and leadership of the organization to achieve its stated goals. In 2008, the organization allocated funds necessary to develop a site and facility that will meet future organizational needs.

2.3 Statutory Background

The 1972 Federal Clean Water Act authorized the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to “protect . . . rights of States to prevent, reduce, and eliminate pollution of . . . land and water resources” (Sec 101, b). The EPA transferred portions of this authority to state legislative bodies. In 1982, the legislature approved the Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act. It was later recodified as M.S. 103B (See Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103B).

Since passage of the act, all local units of government in the seven-county metropolitan area have been involved in the preparation and implementation of comprehensive surface water management plans through membership in a watershed management organization based on natural watershed boundaries.

These first plans resulted in two key advances in comprehensive surface water resource management. First, the plans required the adoption, amendment, or update of a variety of local controls to reduce erosion and sedimentation, establish stormwater design standards, and protect wetlands. Second, during the planning and implementation of the plans, communities within the watersheds developed stronger working relationships.

In 1992, the Board of Water and Soil Resources developed rules (Minnesota Rules Chapter 8410) for plan content. WMOs used these rules in plan revisions, which are required every 5 to 10 years. The rules require, among other items, more specificity in citizen participation, control of erosion and sedimentation, wetland assessment, and the design of new stormwater conveyance and treatment systems.

The Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act lists a number of responsibilities watershed management organizations can elect to accept and carry out (see Appendix D). The MWMO has the authority to protect, to preserve, and to improve surface and groundwater systems; to establish more uniform local policies and official controls for surface and groundwater management; to prevent erosion of soil; and to protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat and water recreational facilities. These responsibilities affect more than just water resource management; they impact land use, habitat and ecosystem planning, and management connected to water resources.

Additionally, in 2001 the legislature granted the authority of a Special Purpose Taxing District under Minnesota Statute Section 275.066 to the MWMO. This authority continues to be vital to implementing plans and goals of the MWMO.

2.4 Present Day Jurisdictional Area

The MWMO's jurisdictional area includes portions of the Cities of Columbia Heights, Fridley, Hilltop, Lauderdale, Minneapolis, Saint Anthony Village, and Saint Paul, as well as, lands owned by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. The MWMO's legal boundary is shown in Figure 1.

Table 1. Percent coverage of member organizations within the MWMO

Municipality	Percent Area of MWMO	Acres within MWMO	Square Miles
Columbia Heights	7.92%	2025.04	3.16
Fridley	9.51%	2431.89	3.80
Hilltop	0.32%	81.57	0.13
Lauderdale	0.16%	40.46	0.06
Minneapolis	73.26%	18729.70	29.27
MPRB	5.42%	1386.50	2.17
Saint Anthony Village	2.55%	653.13	1.02
Saint Paul	0.85%	217.34	0.34
Totals	100.00%	25565.63	39.95

2.5 Board of Commissioners

The MWMOs governing Board of Commissioners consists of seven commissioners. There is one commissioner appointed by each member organization with the exception of a shared seat for the cities of Columbia Heights and Hilltop.

Table 2. 2012 Board of Commissioners of the MWMO*

Member	Position	Member Community
Kevin Reich	Chair	City of Minneapolis
Scott Vreeland	Vice-chair	Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
Karen Gill-Gerbig	Treasurer	City of Lauderdale
Jerry Faust	Commissioner	City of Saint Anthony Village
Matt Hass	Commissioner	City of Saint Paul
James Saefke	Commissioner	City of Fridley
Donna Schmitt	Commissioner	City of Columbia Heights / Hilltop

* Note: see www.mwmo.org for a current list of commissioners and alternates

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Northern Water Planning Committee

1. Beltrami County Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) Extension Request –
Gerald VanAmburg – ***DECISION ITEM***

2. Lake of the Woods County SWCD Supervisor Nomination Districts Boundary Change –
Keith Mykleseth – ***DECISION ITEM***

3. Marshall County SWCD Supervisor Nomination Districts Boundary Change –
Gene Tiedemann – ***DECISION ITEM***



BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Beltrami County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Extension Approval

Meeting Date: May 22, 2013
Agenda Category: [X] Committee Recommendation [] New Business [] Old Business
Item Type: [X] Decision [] Discussion [] Information
Section/Region: North Region
Contact: Ron Shelito
Prepared by: Chad Severts
Reviewed by: Northern Water Planning Committee(s)
Presented by: Gerald Van Amburg

[] Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation

Attachments: [X] Resolution [] Order [X] Map [] Other Supporting Information

Fiscal/Policy Impact

- [X] None [] General Fund Budget
[] Amended Policy Requested [] Capital Budget
[] New Policy Requested [] Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget
[] Clean Water Fund Budget
[] Other:

ACTION REQUESTED

Approval of the Beltrami County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan extension request.

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

SUMMARY (Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation)
Beltrami County has a Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (Plan) that will expire May 28, 2013. On March 19, 2013, the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) received a request for an extension of the Plan from Beltrami County. BWSR staff has reviewed and recommend approval of the request.

On March 27, 2013, the Board's Northern Water Planning Committee, chaired by Brian Napstad, met to discuss the extension request. After discussion, the Committee decided with a unanimous vote to recommend approval of the Beltrami County extension request and bring this recommendation forward to the full BWSR Board for review and action. The state's expectations for the extension request must be sent to Beltrami County.



Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of Extending the Local Water Management Plan Update
for Beltrami County (Minnesota Statutes, Section 103B.311,
Subdivision 4, authorizing BWSR to grant extensions.)

ORDER EXTENDING
LOCAL WATER
MANAGEMENT PLAN

Whereas, Beltrami County has a state approved Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) that is effective until May 28, 2013, pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.301, and

Whereas, Beltrami County has submitted a resolution requesting an extension of its Plan; and

Whereas, the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) has the authorization to grant extensions with or without conditions pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.3367.

Now therefore, the Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On March 19, 2013, Beltrami County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution requesting an extension of their Comprehensive Local Water Plan to May 28, 2015.
2. On March 27, 2013, Board of Water and Soil Resources Northern Water Planning Committee reviewed and recommended approval of the extension request by Beltrami County.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled. The Board of Water and Soil Resources has proper jurisdiction in the matter of extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan of Beltrami County pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.311, Subd. 4.

ORDER

The Board of Water and Soil resources hereby approves the extension of the Beltrami County Comprehensive Local Water Plan until May 28, 2015. Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this 22th day of May 2013.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BY: Brian Napstad, Chair

RECEIVED

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS APR 02 2013
BELTRAMI COUNTY, MINNESOTA

BD OF WATER & SOIL
RESOURCES-BEMIDJI

DATE: 03-19-2013

RESOLUTION #13-03-15

MOTION OF COMMISSIONER: Frost SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER: Lucachick

THE BOARD, BY ADOPTION OF ITS REGULAR AGENDA, APPROVED THE TAX
COMPREHENSIVE WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN EXTENSION RESOLUTION, AS
SUBMITTED

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.301, Comprehensive Local Water Management Act, authorizes Minnesota Counties to develop and implement a local water management plan, and

WHEREAS, the Act requires that a county update and revise their local water management plan on a periodic basis, and

WHEREAS, Beltrami County currently has an approved Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (the Plan) which is due to expire on May 13, 2013, and

WHEREAS, 1995 amendments to the Comprehensive Local Water Planning Act, M.S. 103B.301 gave the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) authority to extend the ending date of local water plans for a period of not to exceed two (2) years, and

WHEREAS, the Act encourages that a county coordinate its planning with contiguous counties, and solicit input from local governmental units and state review agencies, and

WHEREAS, the Act requires that plans an official control of other local governmental units be consistent with the local water management plan, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Beltrami Board of Commissioners requests an extension, in accordance with the BWSR Local Water Management Plan Update Guidance, for a period of two (2) years. This extension would allow the county adequate time to be spent on each of the phases of the update process. Specifically, the reasons for the county's extension request are: 1). on-going update of SSTS, Shoreland Management, & WCA ordinances; 2). collection of additional water quality sampling data to determine which county lakes are impaired; and 3). changes to ESD/SWCD staffing during the past year.



BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Lake Of The Woods County SWCD Supervisor Nomination District Boundary Change

Meeting Date: May 22, 2013
Agenda Category: [X] Committee Recommendation [] New Business [] Old Business
Item Type: [X] Decision [] Discussion [] Information
Section/Region: Northern Region
Contact: Chad Severts
Prepared by: Chad Severts
Reviewed by: Northern Water Planning Committee(s)
Presented by: Keith Mykleseth

[] Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation

Attachments: [] Resolution [] Order [] Map [] Other Supporting Information

Fiscal/Policy Impact

- [X] None [] General Fund Budget
[] Amended Policy Requested [] Capital Budget
[] New Policy Requested [] Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget
[] Clean Water Fund Budget
[] Other:

ACTION REQUESTED

Decision on Lake of the Woods County SWCD Nomination Districts Boundary Change

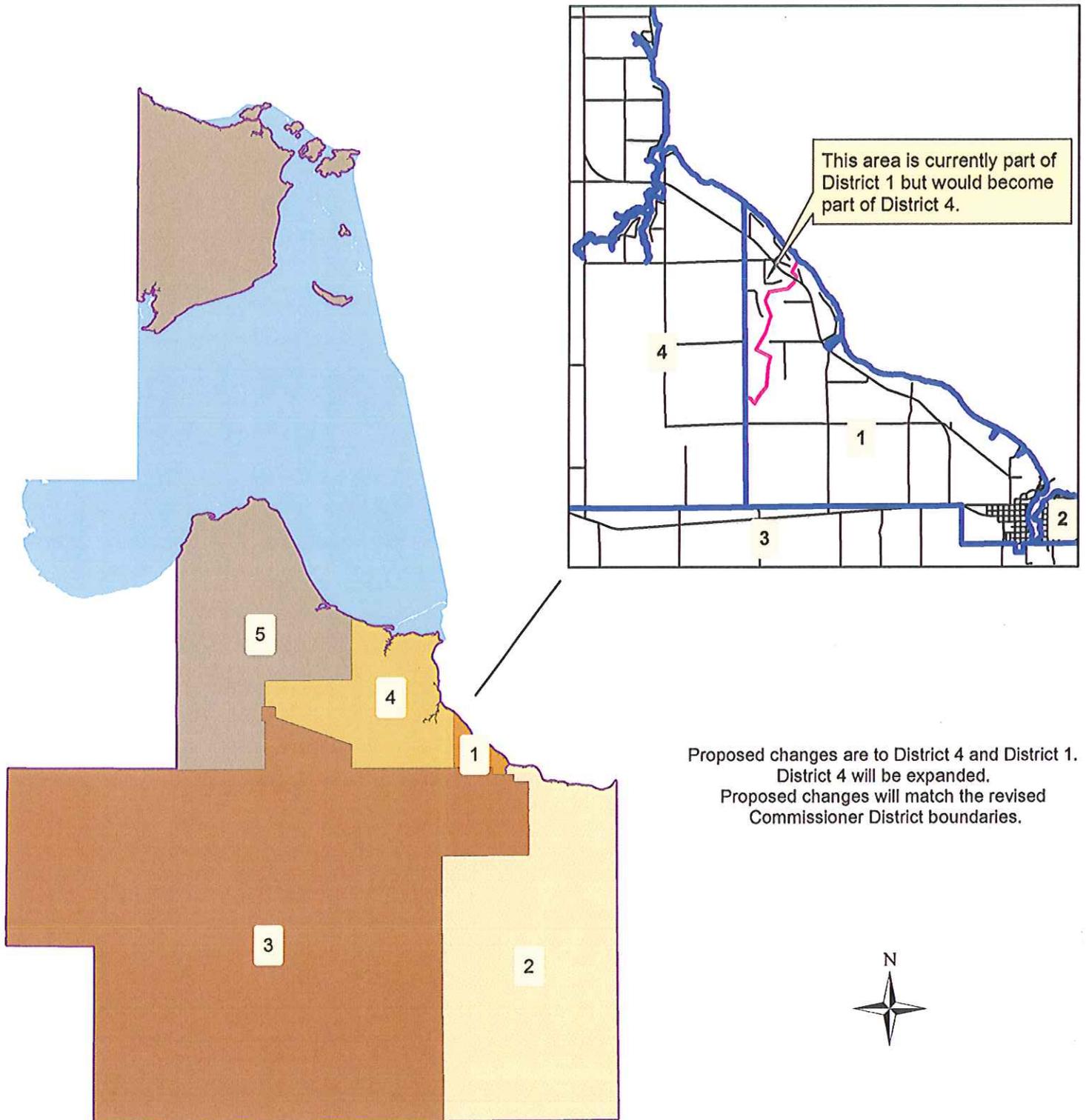
LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

SUMMARY (Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation)
The Lake of the Woods County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) approved a Nomination Districts Resolution on March 14, 2013. The reason for this resolution is to align the SWCD Nomination Districts with the County Commissioner District Boundaries. The County Commissioner Districts were recently redistricted following the results of the 2010 Census. The revised boundaries will not change the representation for the current SWCD supervisors.

On March 27, 2013, the BWSR Northern Water Planning Committee met to discuss the resolution. After discussion, the Committee decided with a unanimous vote to recommend approval of the nomination boundary changes as listed in the SWCD resolution to the full BWSR Board.

Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Supervisor Districts

Proposed Revisions - 2013



Proposed changes are to District 4 and District 1.
District 4 will be expanded.
Proposed changes will match the revised
Commissioner District boundaries.



**Lake of the Woods
Soil and Water
Conservation District**

P.O. Box 217
Baudette, Minnesota 56623
Telephone: (218) 634-2757

To: Board of Water and Soil Resources
From: Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation District
Date: March 14th, 2013
Re: Revised supervisor nomination district boundaries

To whom it may concern:

The Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation District has passed a resolution to revise the Nomination Districts for SWCD supervisors in Lake of the Woods County.

Lake of the Woods County recently underwent redistricting for Commissioner Districts following the 2010 Census. To reduce confusion and maintain consistency with the County Board, the SWCD would like to change current boundaries to match the new Commissioner District boundaries. This will not create any changes in representation for the current SWCD supervisors. We have discussed the proposed changes with our BWSR Board Conservationist, Chad Severts.

Please see the attached resolution for revised boundary descriptions. If you have any questions, please contact Josh Stromlund at 218-634-4536.

Sincerely,

Russel Hansen
Secretary

Nomination Districts Resolution - Revised

Be it resolved by the Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors that pursuant to M.S. 103C.311, the district be divided into five areas for nominating candidates for the positions of Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors to be elected at large as follows:

District 1 – West Baudette and that portion of Baudette Township lying East of Winter Road River and East of County Road 75, south of where it intersects with the Winter Road River;

District 2 – East Baudette, Gudrid Township, Rapid River Township, Unorganized Township 157-30, Unorganized Township 158-30, Boone Township, Swiftwater Township, Kiel Township

District 3 – Walhalla Township, Potamo Township, Rulien Township, Victory Township, Forest Area, Spooner Township and that portion of McDougald Township lying South of State Trunk Highway #11

District 4 – Wheeler Township, Wabanica Township, that portion of McDougald Township lying North of State Trunk Highway #11 and that portion of Baudette Township lying West of County Road #75 and west of the Winter Road River;

District 5 – Lakewood Township, Prosper Township, Zippel Township, Myhre Township, Chilgren Township, Northwest Angle and Islands, City of Roosevelt

I, Russel Hansen, Secretary of the Soil and Water Conservation District, do hereby certify that the above resolution relating to the division of the Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation District into five nominating areas was adopted by the said District Supervisors at a regular meeting held on March 14, 2013, that I have compared the above copy with the original resolution as set forth in the minutes of said meeting, and it is a true and correct copy of and transcript from said original and the whole thereof. I further certify that said meeting of the Board was duly called and held, that a quorum of members of said Board was present thereat, and that said resolution was duly adopted thereat by a vote of 3 to 3 of the members present.

Signed: Russel Hansen
Secretary
Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation District

Be it resolved by the Board of Water and Soil Resources that the division of the Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation District into five nominating areas as set forth in the above resolution adopted by the supervisors of said district on _____, 20____, is hereby approved.

I, _____, Executive Director of the Board of Water and Soil Resources, do hereby certify that I have compared the above copy of resolution relating to the division of the Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation District into five nominating areas adopted by said Board at a regular meeting held on _____, 20____, with the original as set forth in the minutes of said meeting, and that said copy is a true and correct copy of and transcript from said original and the whole thereof. I further certify that said meeting of said Board was duly called and held, that a quorum of members of said Board was present thereat, and that said resolution was duly adopted thereat by a vote of _____ to _____ of the members present.

Signed: _____
Executive Director
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Filed _____ day of _____, 20_____.

Signed: _____
County Auditor
Lake of the Woods County



BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Marshall County SWCD Supervisor Nomination Districts Boundary Change

Meeting Date: May 22, 2013
Agenda Category: [X] Committee Recommendation [] New Business [] Old Business
Item Type: [X] Decision [] Discussion [] Information
Section/Region: North Region
Contact: Chad Severts
Prepared by: Chad Severts
Reviewed by: Northern Water Planning Committee(s)
Presented by: Gene Teidemann

[] Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation

Attachments: [X] Resolution [] Order [X] Map [] Other Supporting Information

Fiscal/Policy Impact

- [X] None [] General Fund Budget
[] Amended Policy Requested [] Capital Budget
[] New Policy Requested [] Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget
[] Other: [] Clean Water Fund Budget

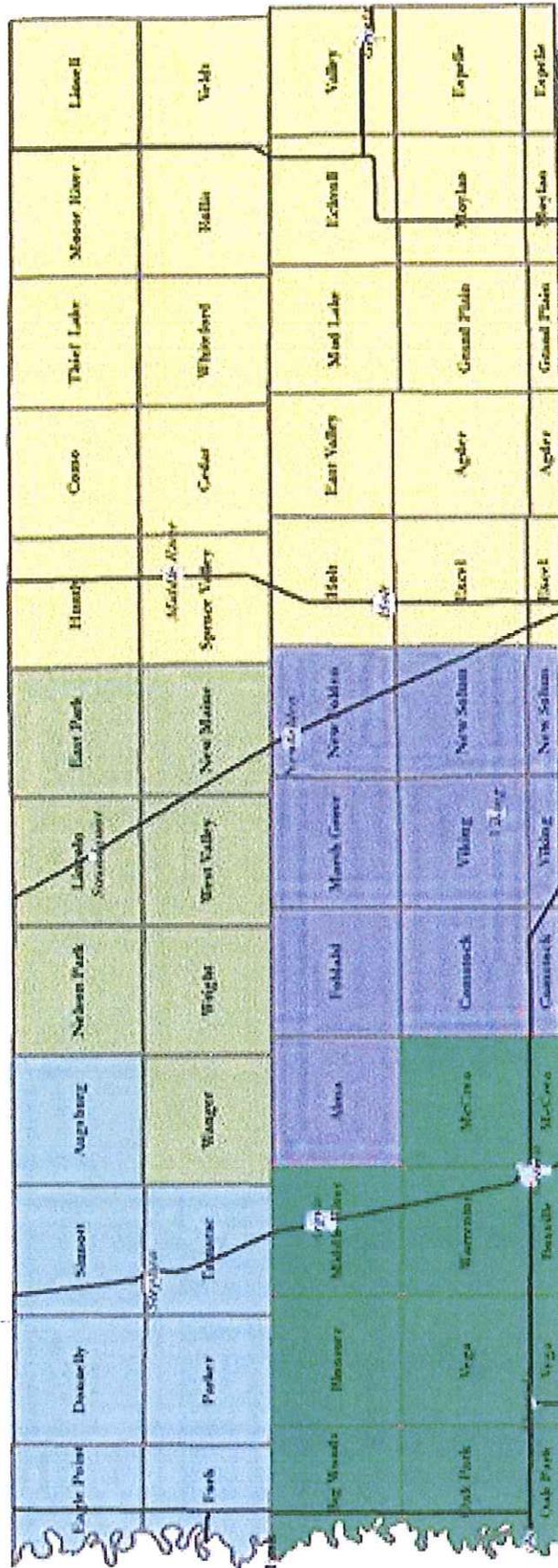
ACTION REQUESTED

Decision on Marshall SWCD Nomination Districts Changes

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

SUMMARY (Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation)
The Marshall County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) approved a Nomination Districts Resolution on December 20, 2012. The reason for this resolution is to more equally distribute the areas represented by the Nomination District boundaries in Marshall County. In March of 2010, the BWSR dissolved the Marshall-Beltrami SWCD and consolidated the ten townships what were contained within Marshall County with the Marshall SWCD. The process added those townships to the Supervisor District #2 for a total of 20 townships. The proposed Nomination Districts will provide more equal distribution of township representation in the County.

On March 27, 2013, the BWSR Northern Water Planning Committee met to discuss the resolution. After discussion, the Committee decided with a unanimous vote to recommend approval of the nomination boundary changes as listed in the SWCD resolution to the full BWSR Board.



Districts

- 1 - Stuart Harding
- 2 - Wallace Bengtson
- 3 - Leif Aakre
- 4 - Deane Potoušek
- 5 - Carl Green



**MINNESOTA
SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

**MARSHALL COUNTY SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

105 S. Division
P.O. Box 74
Warren, Minnesota 56762
Telephone (218) 745-5010

March 25, 2013

John Jaschke
Executive Director
Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul MN 55155

Dear Mr. Jaschke:

In March of 2010, the BWSR dissolved the Marshall-Beltrami SWCD and consolidated the ten townships that were contained within Marshall County with the Marshall SWCD. During that process, the Board added the townships to the Supervisor District #2 for a total of 20 townships. The Board also required the SWCD to examine the supervisor nominating districts to ensure equitable representation for all areas of the District.

The Marshall County SWCD Board approved a Nomination Districts Resolution on December 20, 2012. The resolution will revise the supervisor district boundaries to represent the County on a geographic basis. The supervisors have determined that this will provide the best representation to the landowners of Marshall County.

The supervisors will serve out their elected terms. The new boundaries for District 1 include two current supervisors, Stuart Nordling and Leif Aakre. The District 5 supervisor position will remain represented by the two supervisors in District 1. If a vacancy occurs in District 1, the appropriate appointment process will then fill the District 5 position; otherwise all positions will be filled on the regular general election schedule.

District	Expires Election Year
1	2016
2	2016
3	2014
4	2014
5	2014

Please consider approving this Nomination Districts Resolution (enclosed) to provide the Marshall County landowners with a more consistent and equal distribution of township representation in our County.

Sincerely,

Stuart Nordling
Stuart Nordling

Secretary
Marshall SWCD Board of Supervisors

Enclosure

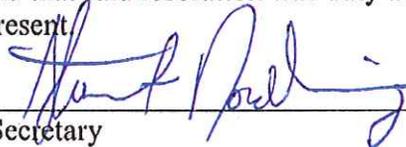
NOMINATION DISTRICTS RESOLUTION

REVISED

Be it resolved by the Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors that pursuant to M.S. 103C.311, the district be divided into five areas for nominating candidates for the positions of Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors to be elected at large as follows:

<u>District</u>	<u>Description of Boundaries</u>
I	Eagle Point, Donnelly, Fork, Parker, Big Woods, Bloomer, Middle River, Warrenton, Vega and Vega Strip, Oak Park and Oak Park Strip, Boxville
II	Sinnott, Augsburg, Nelson Park, Lincoln, East Park, Tamarac, Wanger, Wright, West Valley and New Maine
III	Alma, Foldahl, Marsh Grove, New Folden, McCrea and McCrea Strip, Comstock and Comstock Strip, Viking and Viking Strip, New Solum and New Solum Strip
IV	Huntly, Como, Spruce Valley, Cedar, Holt, East Valley, Mud Lake, Excel and Excel Strip, Agder and Agder Strip, Grand Plain and Grand Plain Strip
V	Thief Lake, Moose River, Linsell, Whiteford, Rollis, Veldt, Eckvoll, Valley, Moylan and Moylan Strip, Espelie and Espelie Strip

I, Stuart Nordling, Secretary of the Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District, do hereby certify that the above resolution relating to the division of the Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District into five nominating areas was adopted by the said District Supervisors at a regular meeting held on December 20, 2012, that I have compared the above copy with the original resolution as set forth in the minutes of said meeting, and it is a true and correct copy of and transcript from said original and the whole thereof. I further certify that said meeting of the Board was duly called and held, that a quorum of members of said Board was present thereat, and that said resolution was duly adopted thereat by a vote of 5 to 0 of the members present.

Signed: 
Secretary

Marshall Co Soil and Water Conservation District

Be it resolved by the Board of Water and Soil Resources that the division of the Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District into five nominating areas as set forth in the above resolution adopted by the supervisors of said district on _____, 20____, is hereby approved.

I, _____, Executive Director of the Board of Water and Soil Resources, do hereby certify that I have compared the above copy of resolution relating to the division of the Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District into five nominating areas adopted by said Board at a regular meeting held on _____, 20____, with the original as set forth in the minutes of said meeting, and that said copy is a true and correct copy of and transcript from said original and the whole thereof. I further certify that said meeting of said Board was duly called and held, that a quorum of members of said Board was present thereat, and that said resolution was duly adopted thereat by a vote of _____ to _____ of the members present.

Signed: _____
Executive Director
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Filed this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Signed: _____
County Auditor
_____ County

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Southern Water Planning Committee

1. Kandiyohi County Local Water Management Plan Update – Paul Langseth – ***DECISION ITEM***
2. McLeod County Local Water Management Plan Update – Paul Langseth – ***DECISION ITEM***
3. Meeker County Local Water Management Plan Update – Paul Langseth – ***DECISION ITEM***



BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Kandiyohi County Local Water Management Plan Update

Meeting Date: May 22, 2013
Agenda Category: [X] Committee Recommendation [] New Business [] Old Business
Item Type: [X] Decision [] Discussion [] Information
Section/Region: Southern Region
Contact: Jeff Nielsen, Regional Supervisor
Prepared by: Thomas Fischer, Board Conservationist
Reviewed by: Southern Water Planning Committee(s)
Presented by: Paul Langseth

[] Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation

Attachments: [] Resolution [X] Order [] Map [X] Other Supporting Information

Fiscal/Policy Impact

- [X] None [] General Fund Budget
[] Amended Policy Requested [] Capital Budget
[] New Policy Requested [] Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget
[] Clean Water Fund Budget
[] Other:

ACTION REQUESTED

Decision

SUMMARY (Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation)

On December 12, 2012, the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) provided official State comments pertaining to the priority concerns identified in the Kandiyohi County Priority Concerns Scoping Document.

On December 12, 2012, the Board officially approved Kandiyohi County's request for an extension of the end date of their current local water management plan, which would have expired on December 31, 2012. The end date was extended to May 30, 2013.

On January 22, 2013, the Board received the Kandiyohi County Local Water Management Plan Update (Plan Update), a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the Plan Update for final State review.

On March 7, 2013, the Southern Water Planning Committee (Committee) of the Board met with representatives of Kandiyohi County to review state agencies review recommendations and comments. At this meeting, the Committee discussed its concern for the Plan Update not fully meeting MN Statutes 103B.314, Subd. 3, which speaks to specific measurable goals and objectives. The Committee's decision was to send back the Plan Update to Kandiyohi County to revise the goals, objectives and actions section in order to comply with the Statute.

On May 2, 2013, the Committee met to review the revisions submitted by Kandiyohi County. The Committee recommends approval of the Kandiyohi County Plan Update.



In the Matter of Reviewing the Local Water Management Plan Update
for Kandiyohi County (Minnesota Statutes, Section 103B.311,
Subdivision 4 and Section 103B.315, Subdivision 5.)

ORDER
APPROVING
LOCAL
WATER MANAGEMENT
PLAN UPDATE

Whereas, the Kandiyohi County (County) Board of Commissioners submitted a Local Water Management Plan Update (Plan Update) to the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) on January 22, 2013 pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.315, Subd. 5, and

Whereas, the Board has completed its review of the Plan Update;

Now Therefore, the Board hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On September 4, 2012, the Board received a Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) from the County, pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.312.
2. On October 5, 2012, the Board received a written request (resolution) from the County for an extension of their current local water management plan.
3. On December 12, 2012, the Board approved official comments on the County PCSD, which were mailed to the county on December 12, 2012. The priority concerns the PCSD and Plan Update addresses include:
 - Protect and Improve Surface Water Quality – Reduce Priority Pollutants
 - Surface Water Management
 - Groundwater Quality & Quantity
 - Plan Administration and Coordination
4. On December 12, 2012, the Board approved the extension request made by the County. The end date of the current local water management plan was extended to May 30, 2013. This approval was mailed to the County on December 12, 2012.
5. On January 22, 2013, the Board received the County Plan Update, a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the Plan Update for final State review pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.315, Subd. 5.

6. On March 7, 2013, the Southern Region Water Planning Committee of the Board met with representatives of the County to review the following state agency comments, commendations and approval recommendations regarding the final approval of the County Plan Update:
 - Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) noted Plan Update does not violate any statutory or rule requirement administered by the MPCA and recommends approval of the entire Plan Update.
 - Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) noted Plan Update does not violate any statutory or rule requirement administered by the MDH and recommends approval of the entire Plan Update.
 - Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) noted Plan Update does not violate any statutory or rule requirement administered by MDNR and recommends approval of the entire Plan Update.
 - Minnesota Department of Agriculture provided no comments.
 - Minnesota Environmental Quality Board provided no comments.
 - Board regional staff recommends requiring Kandiyohi County to revisit and improve their plan Update's Chapter Three: Goals, Objectives and Action Steps in order to meet M.S 103B.314, Subd. 3.

After review and discussion, the decision of the Southern Region Water Planning Committee of the Board was to send the Plan Update back to the County for revision, adding more specific measurable objectives and actions to Chapter Three, and have the revisions returned to Board staff by April 10, 2013.

7. On April 5, 2013, the Board received the revised Chapter Three from the County.
8. On May 2, 2013, the Southern Region Water Planning Committee of the Board met to review the revisions submitted by the County. The Committee's decision was to present a recommendation of approval of the Plan Update to the Board at the Board's May 22, 2013 meeting.
9. On May 22, 2013, the Southern Region Water Planning Committee of the Board presented its recommendation of approval of the Kandiyohi County Local Water Management Plan Update to the Board. The Board adopted the Committee's recommendation.
10. This Plan Update will be in effect for a ten-year period until May 22, 2023, with the Goals, Objectives and Action items amended by May 22, 2018.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law have been fulfilled. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Local Water Management Plan Update of Kandiyohi County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, 103B.315, Subd. 5.
2. The Kandiyohi County Plan Update states water and water-related problems within the county; possible solutions; goals, objectives, and actions of the county; and an implementation program. The Plan Update is in conformance with the requirements of M.S. Section 103B.301.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the update of the Kandiyohi County Local Water Management Plan 2013-2023 with a required update of the Implementation section (Goals, Objectives, and Action) to be completed by May 22, 2018.

Dated at St Paul, Minnesota this May 22, 2013.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BY: Brian Napstad, Chair

DRAFT

Kandiyohi County

Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan:

Executive Summary

This Kandiyohi County Water Plan follows the provisions set forth in Minnesota State Statutes 103B.314 - Contents of [Water] Plan.

A. Purpose of the Local Water Management Plan

According to Minnesota Statute 103B, each county is encouraged to develop and implement a local water management plan with the authority to:

- Prepare and adopt a local water management plan that meets the requirements of this section and section 103B.315;
- Review water and related land resources plans and official controls submitted by local units of government to assure consistency with the local water management plan; and
- Exercise any and all powers necessary to assure implementation of local water management plans.

Pursuant to the requirements of the law, this Kandiyohi County Water Plan:

- Covers the entire area of Kandiyohi County;
- Addresses water problems in the context of watershed units and groundwater systems;
- Is based upon principles of sound hydrologic management of water, effective environmental protection and efficient management;
- Is consistent with comprehensive water plans prepared by counties and watershed management organizations wholly or partially within a single watershed unit or groundwater system; and
- Will serve as a 10-year water plan (2013-2023), with a 5-year implementation plan (2013-2018). In 2018, the implementation plan will be updated.

In addition, this Water Plan will also serve as the Kandiyohi County Soil and Water Conservation District's overall plan.

B. A Description of Kandiyohi County’s Priority Concerns

Chapter Two provides a detailed assessment of the priority concerns. Based upon the Kandiyohi County Water Plan Survey, comments received during the water plan public informational meeting, and the comments received by the various water plan stakeholders, the Water Plan Task Force identified the following Kandiyohi County priority water planning issues (**note: these issues are not ranked**):

1. Protect and Improve Surface Water Quality ~ Reducing Priority Pollutants
 - A. Soil Erosion and Sedimentation
 - B. Proactively work to get waters off the MPCA’s 303(d) List of Impaired Waters (TMDLs)
 - C. Feedlots and Nutrient Management
 - D. Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (SSTS)
 - E. Aquatic Invasive Species and Lake Management
 - F. Land and Wastewater Management

2. Surface Water Management
 - A. Agricultural Drainage
 - B. Stormwater Management
 - C. Wetlands and Water Storage/Retention

3. Groundwater Quality & Quantity
 - A. Wellhead Protection Areas
 - B. Drinking Water Quality
 - C. Groundwater Monitoring

4. Plan Administration and Coordination
 - A. Watershed Focus
 - B. Stakeholder Cooperation
 - C. Raising Public Awareness

C. Summary of Goals, Objectives, Action Steps, and Estimated Costs

To address the priority concerns identified in the scoping process, the Kandiyohi County Water Plan Task Force met and developed four goal areas. These four goal areas are further broken down into interrelated objectives that deal with each of the priority concerns. Most importantly, each objective has a series of action steps identified which are designed to help achieve the goal area if implemented properly.

A summary of the County's Water Plan Goals, Objectives and Action Steps are provided below. Collectively they form the County's Water Implementation Plan. In addition, a summary of their annual estimated costs is provided. These are separated into Overall Costs and County Only Costs. The County Only costs include funds spent and activities performed by the Kandiyohi County SWCD. Please keep in mind that not all of the identified Action Items will be accomplished over the course of the Water Plan. It is, however, the intent of this Water Plan to accomplish as many implementation activities as both money and time allows. **Also keep in mind the cost identified are only estimates, and the actual direct and/or indirect costs may be more or less than indicated.** A better detailed description of the County's Goals, Objectives, and Action Steps is contained in Chapter Three of this Water Plan. Likewise, Chapter Four provides more details on administering the Water Plan.

GOAL 1: PROTECT AND IMPROVE SURFACE WATER QUALITY

Objective A: Implement BMPs to reduce erosion and sediment loading of surface water resources.

- Erodible Land. Target 200 acres annually of highly erodible land for enrollment in conservation easement programs, such as CRP and RIM.
- BMP Cost-Share. Pursue funding to provide technical and financial assistance to landowners, such as CRP, EQIP, and similar BMP programs. Establish a minimum of \$100,000 annually to implement.
- BMP Program. Provide educational, technical, and financial assistance, as available, to landowners for the implementation of water quality-related BMPs, such as stormwater retention practices, lake-scaping, vegetative buffer strips, grassed waterways, windbreaks, and living snow fences. Implement 25 projects annually.
- Conservation Tillage. Increase educational, technical and financial assistance to landowners for conservation tillage. Increase by 500 acres annually.

- Control Standards. Biannually review erosion control and storm water control standards to ensure water quality is protected during and after development (2014, 2016).
- Hawk Creek Alternative Intakes. The Hawk Creek Watershed Project will cost-share up to 75% (not to exceed \$500) for alternative tile intakes, including rock or blind intakes, hickenbottom intakes, and replacing open intakes with pattern tile. Implement 5 projects annually.
- Chippewa River Alternative Intakes. The Chippewa River Watershed Project will cost-share up to 75% of the cost on eligible alternative tile intakes. Implement 5 sites annually.
- Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District Alternative Intakes. The MFCRWD will cost-share up to 75% (not to exceed \$500) for alternative tile intakes, including rock or blind intakes, hickenbottom intakes, and replacing open intakes with pattern tile. Implement 5 projects annually.
- Hawk Creek Buffer Strips. The Hawk Creek Watershed Project will provide \$100/acre for 10-year contract and \$150/acre for 15-year contract for the establishment of Buffer Strips. If using a perpetual conservation easement, and additional \$500/acre incentive will be paid. Implement 5 sites annually.
- Chippewa River Watershed Ag BMPs. Reduce sediment by promoting and providing cost-share, when available, for terraces, contour farming, grassed waterways, conservation tillage, buffer strips, and streambank restorations. Prioritize the Shakopee Creek Sub-Watershed and implement 2 sites annually.
- NFCRWD Ag Drainage BMPs. Promote the use of Ag Drainage BMPS to reduce nutrients, sediment, and water volume being transported by field tile into the North Fork of the Crow River. Implement 1 site annually.

Objective A estimated Overall Costs = \$407,500; County Only Costs = \$87,000

Objective B: Proactively work to delist all of Kandiyohi County's water bodies off the MPCA's 303d List of Impaired Waters

- TMDL Studies. Cooperatively work with partners to coordinate the preparation and implementation of TMDL studies for impaired waters. Target and implement 20 BMP projects in impaired waters.
- SWCD TMDL. Provide education, technical, and financial assistance to landowners and stakeholders on BMPs to protect water resources. Priority areas include impaired waters. Implement 5 projects annually.
- Clean Water Funds. Prioritize local projects and needs and apply for clean water legacy funding to implement projects to protect and improve surface water quality. Create applications for each funding cycle.
- Watershed Approach. Participate in the watershed approach to identify and address issues and help prevent future impairment designations.
- Hawk Creek Watershed Project. Partner with the Hawk Creek Watershed Project on securing proper funding to implement TMDL BMPs on Long and Ringo Lakes. Implement five (5) projects annually.

Objective B estimated Overall Costs = \$256,000; County Only Costs = \$38,500

Objective C: Reduce or minimize the negative impacts of animal manure and fertilizers

- Feedlot Program. Continue to locally administer the County Feedlot Program to assist feedlot operators in obtaining and maintaining compliance with State regulations. Target impaired waters and inspect a minimum of 7% annually.
- Feedlot Operator Meeting. Sponsor an annual educational meeting with feedlot operators focusing on pertinent topics, including regulations and manure management.
- Cost-Share. Provide implementing funding through EQIP & State Cost Share for Ag waste systems & nutrient management. Implement 5 projects annually.
- Nutrient Management Guidelines. Educate landowners to follow the University of Minnesota's nutrient management guidelines. Target impaired waters and annually include information in newsletters.

- Lake Wakanda. Continue with the Gorans nutrient reduction project on Lake Wakanda.
- Low Interest Loans. Provide low interest loans to repair non complying feedlots. Implement two (2) feedlot upgrades annually.
- Feedlot BMPS. Promote BMPs around feedlots and provide technical and financial assistance, when available. Target impaired waters and implement 2 projects annually.
- Lawn Fertilizers. Promote the use of lawn BMPs, including the proper use of fertilizers and disposal of lawn clippings. Include annually in newsletters and informational meetings.
- Hawk Creek Feedlot BMPs. The Watershed Project can provide cost-share on eligible ag-waste feedlot upgrades and certain livestock exclusions. Implement 2 projects annually.
- Chippewa River Watershed Feedlot BMPs. Manage viable livestock operations with: Fencing and alternative water sources for pastures (2); Rotational Grazing (2); Agricultural Waste System Upgrades (1); and Nutrient and Manure Management Planning for Economic and Environmental Goals (3) annually (# of projects).

Objective C estimated Overall Costs = \$310,000; County Only Costs = \$92,000

Objective D: Work with landowners on properly implementing the County's Subsurface Sewage Treatment System Ordinance and other wastewater initiatives.

- SSTS Program. Continue to provide compliance services as part of the County's SSTS Program.
- SSTS Training Program. Continue ongoing training programs for SSTS installers and septage haulers. Host a regular meeting annually.
- Noncompliant SSTSs. Provide educational and financial assistance, as available, to homeowners to upgrade noncompliant SSTSs. Target impaired waters and upgrade a minimum of 20 systems annually.
- SSTS Loans. Administer low interest loans for septic improvements. Provide assistance to 20 homeowners annually.

- SSTS BMPs. Provide SSTS education and outreach on to inspectors, contractors, and landowners. Target 2,500 households annually.

Objective D estimated Overall Costs = \$903,200; County Only Costs = \$143,000

Objective E: Enhance shoreland and lake management efforts

- In-Lake Management. Conduct and/or provide technical and financial assistance for the implementation of in-lake management efforts, when feasible. Target impaired waters and implement 2 projects annually.
- Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Management. Conduct and/or provide technical and financial assistance, as available, to lake associations and other groups/organizations for the implementation of invasive aquatic species prevention and/or control efforts. Assist with signage on accesses (in 2013) and annual enforcement, as feasible.
- Land Use Controls. Biannually review land use plans and ordinances to ensure minimal development impacts on surface waters.
- Shoreland Restoration. Promote natural shorelands by providing education, technical, and financial assistance to landowners for shoreland restoration. Implement 5 projects annually.
- Grants. Annually seek grants for shoreland restoration.
 - The SWCD will apply for grants for shoreland restoration in the SFCRW.
 - The MFCRWD will apply for grants for shoreland restoration for the MFCRW.
- Lake Levels. Assist as needed with lake level control structures and outlet structure improvement.
 - The MFCRWD will continue to seek funding and work with Ducks Unlimited and landowners on the Hubbard-Shultz-Wheeler Chain of Lakes drawdown project, which is anticipated to take two years to complete (by 2015).
- Chippewa River Watershed Shoreline Restorations. Keep lakes usable by promoting and providing cost-share, when available, to naturalize shorelines. Implement 2 projects annually.

- Middle Fork Crow River Watershed. Promote Best Management Practices (BMPs) and provide cost-share, when available, to naturalize shorelines. Implement 5 projects annually.

Objective E estimated Overall Costs = \$172,500; County Only Costs = \$68,500

Objective F: Administer initiatives that will enhance sustainable land management activities

- Wastewater Treatment. Cooperatively work with partners to address wastewater treatment issues associated with unsewered communities, including riparian developments.
- Hazardous Waste Program. Continue the County's Hazardous Waste Program. Annually review the program and make changes accordingly.
- Habitat Corridors Partnership. Support efforts to conserve, enhance and restore wildlife habitat, when feasible. Implement 1 project annually.
- GIS Datasets. Annually invest in the acquisition, development, and maintenance of GIS datasets, including the digital soil survey and parcel map. Utilize these datasets to make informed decisions regarding land use planning and water resource management. Use LiDAR to identify target areas.
- Land Use Management. Continue to implement the County's adopted land use controls, including the floodplain, SSTS, shoreland, and solid waste ordinances. Annually review/revise language.

Objective F estimated Overall Costs = \$450,000; County Only Costs = \$372,500

GOAL 2: ENHANCE SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT

Objective G: Ensure long-term agricultural production by maintaining and improving the public drainage system.

- Public Drainage Systems. Ensure that public drainage systems are operated and maintained in accordance with the State Drainage Law (M.S. Chapter 103E) and other applicable regulations.

- Alternative Drainage Practices. Provide educational, technical, and financial assistance, as available, to landowners for the demonstration of alternative drainage practices. Implement 2 projects annually.
- Redetermination of Benefits. Continue the redetermination of benefits on all public ditches, as requested. Implement 2 systems annually.
- Drainage Buffers. Promote CRP & RIM for drainage buffers and promote the use of native prairie seeding. Target 100 acres annually.
- Conservation Drainage. Promote conservation drainage practices and provide technical and financial assistance, when available. Establish 2 demonstration sites.
 - The SWCD will target the SFCRW.
 - The MFCRWD will target the MFCRW.
- Flow Restoration. Assist with restoring proper flows where needed. Identify needed projects on an annual basis.

Objective G estimated Overall Costs = \$355,000; County Only Costs = \$147,500

Objective H: Manage surface waters to minimize Stormwater pollution and runoff.

- Stormwater Management Plans. Participate in the development and implementation of Comprehensive Stormwater Management Plans. These Plans should prescribe BMPs, including potential retrofit opportunities, provide recommendations for coordinating stormwater management among local units of government, and identify potential funding options. Implement 2 plans.
- Rain Gardens. Promote the use of rain gardens as storm water management. Provide grants and technical support. Design and install a minimum of 5 rain gardens per year.
- Semi-Permeable Surfaces. Encourage and implement the use of semi permeable surfaces in urban areas. Target impaired waters and implement 3 projects.
- Stormwater Basins. Encourage the use of storm water retention areas. Target projects to assist with the Grass Lake project and implement 3 projects.
- Stormwater Education. Annually provide education which emphasizes Urban Best Management practices through informational booths at the Kandiyohi County Fair, the

West Central Ag Sale Farm Show, and the Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center.

Objective H estimated Overall Costs = \$211,000; County Only Costs = \$93,000

Objective I: Preserve and Restore Wetlands and other Water Retention Opportunities

- Lake Level Conflicts. Work with the DNR and other stakeholders to resolve lake level conflicts. Annually review concerns.
- Halvorson Dam. Cooperatively work with partners to resolve issues related to the maintenance and operation of the Halvorson Dam.
- WCA Administration. Continue to locally administer the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act, with the entire County being designated for high priority restorations.
- Wetland Restorations. Actively pursue preserving and restoring wetlands, where appropriate. Target impaired waters and implement 5 projects.
- Preservation and Restoration Programs. Provide educational and technical assistance to landowners regarding State and Federal programs to preserve and restore wetlands, including drained lakebeds. Implement two (2) projects annually.
- Wetland Banking. Provide information to landowners who inquire about the State wetland-banking program. Annually include in newsletters and informational meetings.
- Grass Lake Project. Cooperatively work with partners to complete the Grass Lake wetland restoration project.
- Ag Wetland Banking. Provide information to landowners who inquire about the state agriculture banking program. Annually include in newsletters and informational meetings.

Objective I estimated Overall Costs = \$250,000; County Only Costs = \$100,000

GOAL 3: PROTECT GROUNDWATER SUPPLIES

Objective J: Protect and Improve Groundwater Quality and Quantity

- BMP Program. Provide educational, technical and financial assistance, as available, to landowners for the implementation of groundwater protection BMPs. Prioritize sensitive groundwater recharge areas and implement 2 projects annually.
- Wellhead Protection. Participate in the preparation and implementation of wellhead protection plans for public water suppliers. Prioritize BMPs in Wellhead Protection Areas.
- Pesticide Container Collection. Continue an empty pesticide container collection day, contingent upon the availability of funding.
- Solid Waste Management. Provide educational assistance to landowners to discourage the burning and burying of solid waste. Target 2,000 households annually.
- Groundwater Monitoring. Assist with groundwater monitoring efforts, and proactively enact measures to protect and study water supplies, when appropriate. Annually review data and prioritize BMPs accordingly.
- Well Sealing. Provide technical and financial assistance when available, to assist with properly sealing abandoned wells. Target 5 abandoned wells annually.

Objective J estimated Overall Costs = \$308,500; County Only Costs = \$210,500

GOAL 4: EFFECTIVELY ADMINISTER THE WATER PLAN WITH CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND STRONG STAKEHOLDER COORDINATION

Objective K: Expand our knowledge and partnerships on identifying and addressing key water planning issues.

- Water Quality Monitoring. Cooperatively work with partners and provide funding assistance, when available, to continue and expand surface and ground water quality monitoring efforts. Annually review data and prioritize BMPs accordingly.
- Surface Water Flow Monitoring. Cooperatively work with partners to continue surface water flow monitoring efforts. Annually review data and prioritize BMPs accordingly.

- Water Quality Studies. Conduct and/or provide technical and financial assistance, as available, to partners for the completion of water quality studies. Annually review data and prioritize BMPs accordingly.

Objective K estimated Overall Costs = \$85,000; County Only Costs = \$18,000

Objective L: Engage the public on key water planning issues and implementation activities.

- Funding Sources. Provide information to landowners and stakeholders on available funding sources for water resource management activities and projects. Annually review available information and programs.
- Environmental Education. Promote environmental and conservation education at local schools and help fund Earth Day activities. Publish newsletters and keep websites updated with current information.
- Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center. Annually provide financial assistance, as available, to the Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center for agricultural and environmental education.
- Outreach. Utilize available outreach tools, including the Internet and newsletters, to disseminate information to the public regarding water resource management activities and issues. Annually review materials and priorities.
- Recreation. Protect and improve the public's water-based recreational opportunities, when feasible. Implement 2 projects annually, such as improving public accesses, enhancing fishing piers, etc.

Objective L estimated Overall Costs = \$242,000; County Only Costs = \$190,000

Objective M: Coordinate implementation efforts with key water plan stakeholders.

- Grant Assistance. Work with stakeholders to continue to secure grant money to implement water plan initiatives (i.e., Clean Water Funds, 319 Funds, etc.). Annually prioritize projects and seek funds accordingly.

- Watershed Cooperation. Continue the participation with watershed management projects & groups to pool financial and technical resources. Attend watershed meetings and participate in key activities.
- Partner Meetings. Annually hold and/or attend meetings with partners to discuss water resource management issues and potential partnership opportunities.
- Joint Powers Board Membership. Continue membership in water plan stakeholder's Joint Powers Boards.
- Local Water Management Coordinator. Maintain the County Local Water Management Coordinator position.
- Water Planning Taskforce Meetings. Hold quarterly Water Planning Taskforce meetings to discuss issues and review funding requests. Annually review the Water Plan.
- Water Plan Update. Update the Goals, Objectives, and action Steps prior to 2018 when the County's five-year implementation plan expires (in 2018).

Objective M estimated Overall Costs = \$35,500; County Only Costs = \$21,000

*Approximate Total Estimated Overall Annual Costs = \$3,986,000**

*Approximate Total Estimated County Only Annual Costs = \$1,582,000**

***Note:** Please refer to Chapters Three and Four of this Water Plan for a more detailed description of the estimated costs overall and to Kandiyohi County. Although these costs may seem exaggerated at first, there are numerous stakeholders involved with their corresponding activities and budgets. For example, the County's estimated costs also includes the SWCD's budget and programs. In addition, many of the Action Steps identified overlap with other Action Steps with their scope and functionality. Furthermore, this Water Plan is intended to set high water resource planning goals, with the realization that it may not be feasible to accomplish everything that has been identified.

D. Relationship to other Plans

The Kandiyohi County Water Plan Task Force represents a diverse group of people representing a number of key water plan stakeholders (the members are listed on the inside cover page). This helped to ensure the Water Plan, and its corresponding Goals, Objectives and Action Steps, was developed to be consistent with existing plans and official land use controls. In addition, many of the identified Action Items were simply revised from previous versions of the Kandiyohi County Water Plan. **As a result, this updated Kandiyohi County Water Plan is believed to be consistent with the plans and official controls of the other pertinent local, State and regional plans and controls.** This should be confirmed by the vast amount of stakeholders who participated throughout the planning process. **In conclusion, there are no recommended amendments to other plans and official controls to achieve consistency with this Water Plan.**



BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: McLeod County Local Water Management Plan Update

Meeting Date: May 22, 2013
Agenda Category: [X] Committee Recommendation [] New Business [] Old Business
Item Type: [X] Decision [] Discussion [] Information
Section/Region: Southern Region
Contact: Jeff Nielsen, Regional Supervisor
Prepared by: Thomas Fischer, Board Conservationist
Reviewed by: Southern Water Planning Committee(s)
Presented by: Paul Langseth

[] Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation

Attachments: [] Resolution [X] Order [] Map [X] Other Supporting Information

Fiscal/Policy Impact

- [X] None [] General Fund Budget
[] Amended Policy Requested [] Capital Budget
[] New Policy Requested [] Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget
[] Clean Water Fund Budget
[] Other:

ACTION REQUESTED

Decision

SUMMARY (Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation)

On December 12, 2012, the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) provided official State comments pertaining to the priority concerns identified in the McLeod County Priority Concerns Scoping Document.

On December 12, 2012, the Board officially approved McLeod County's request for an extension of the end date of their current local water management plan, which would have expired on December 31, 2012. The end date was extended to May 30, 2013.

On December 28, 2012, the Board received the McLeod County Local Water Management Plan Update (Plan Update), a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the Plan Update for final State review.

On March 7, 2013, the Southern Water Planning Committee (Committee) of the Board met with representatives of McLeod County to review state agencies review recommendations and comments. At this meeting, the Committee discussed its concern for the Plan Update not fully meeting MN Statutes 103B.314, Subd. 3, which speaks to specific measurable goals and objectives. The Committee's decision was to send back the Plan Update to McLeod County to revise the goals, objectives and actions section in order to comply with the Statute.

On May 2, 2013, the Committee met to review the revisions submitted by McLeod County. The Committee recommends approval of the McLeod County Plan Update.



Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of Reviewing the Local Water Management Plan Update
for McLeod County (Minnesota Statutes, Section 103B.311,
Subdivision 4 and Section 103B.315, Subdivision 5.)

ORDER
APPROVING
LOCAL
WATER MANAGEMENT
PLAN UPDATE

Whereas, the McLeod County (County) Board of Commissioners submitted a Local Water Management Plan Update (Plan Update) to the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) on December 28, 2012 pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.315, Subd. 5, and

Whereas, the Board has completed its review of the Plan Update;

Now Therefore, the Board hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On August 20, 2012, the Board received a Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) from the County, pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.312.
2. On September 24, 2012, the Board received a written request (resolution) from the County for an extension of their current local water management plan.
3. On December 12, 2012, the Board approved official comments on the County PCSD, which were mailed to the county on December 12, 2012. The priority concerns the PCSD and Plan Update addresses include:
 - Surface Water Quantity – Management
 - Surface Water Quality – Reduce Priority Pollutants
 - Groundwater Quality & Quantity
 - Plan Administration and Coordination
4. On December 12, 2012, the Board approved the extension request made by the County. The end date of the current local water management plan was extended to May 30, 2013. This approval was mailed to the County on December 12, 2012.
5. On December 28, 2012, the Board received the County Plan Update, a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the Plan Update for final State review pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.315, Subd. 5.

6. On March 7, 2013, the Southern Region Water Planning Committee of the Board met with representatives of the County to review the following state agency comments, commendations and approval recommendations regarding the final approval of the County Plan Update:
 - Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) noted Plan Update does not violate any statutory or rule requirement administered by the MPCA and recommends approval of the entire Plan Update.
 - Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) noted Plan Update does not violate any statutory or rule requirement administered by the MDA and recommends approval of the entire Plan Update.
 - Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) noted Plan Update does not violate any statutory or rule requirement administered by the MDH and recommends approval of the entire Plan Update.
 - Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) noted Plan Update does not violate any statutory or rule requirement administered by MDNR and recommends approval of the entire Plan Update.
 - Minnesota Environmental Quality Board provided no comments.
 - Board regional staff recommends requiring McLeod County to revisit and improve their plan Update's Chapter Three: Goals, Objectives and Action Steps in order to meet M.S 103B.314, Subd. 3.

After review and discussion, the decision of the Southern Region Water Planning Committee of the Board was to send the Plan Update back to the County for revision, adding more specific measurable objectives and actions to Chapter Three, and have the revisions returned to Board staff by April 10, 2013.

7. On April 5, 2013, the Board received the revised Chapter Three from the County.
8. On May 2, 2013, the Southern Region Water Planning Committee of the Board met to review the revisions submitted by the County. The Committee's decision was to present a recommendation of approval of the Plan Update to the Board at the Board's May 22, 2013 meeting.
9. On May 22, 2013, the Southern Region Water Planning Committee of the Board presented its recommendation of approval of the McLeod County Local Water Management Plan Update to the Board. The Board adopted the Committee's recommendation.
10. This Plan Update will be in effect for a ten-year period until May 22, 2023, with the Goals, Objectives and Action items amended by May 22, 2018.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law have been fulfilled. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Local Water Management Plan Update of McLeod County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, 103B.315, Subd. 5.
2. The McLeod County Plan Update states water and water-related problems within the county; possible solutions; goals, objectives, and actions of the county; and an implementation program. The Plan Update is in conformance with the requirements of M.S. Section 103B.301.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the update of the McLeod County Local Water Management Plan 2013-2023 with a required update of the Implementation section (Goals, Objectives, and Action) to be completed by May 22, 2018.

Dated at St Paul, Minnesota this May 22, 2013.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BY: Brian Napstad, Chair

DRAFT

McLeod County

Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan:

Executive Summary

This McLeod County Water Plan follows the provisions set forth in Minnesota State Statutes 103B.314 - Contents of [Water] Plan.

A. Purpose of the Local Water Management Plan

According to Minnesota Statute 103B, each county is encouraged to develop and implement a local water management plan with the authority to:

- Prepare and adopt a local water management plan that meets the requirements of this section and section 103B.315;
- Review water and related land resources plans and official controls submitted by local units of government to assure consistency with the local water management plan; and
- Exercise any and all powers necessary to assure implementation of local water management plans.

Pursuant to the requirements of the law, this McLeod County Water Plan:

- Covers the entire area of McLeod County;
- Addresses water problems in the context of watershed units and groundwater systems;
- Is based upon principles of sound hydrologic management of water, effective environmental protection and efficient management;
- Is consistent with comprehensive water plans prepared by counties and watershed management organizations wholly or partially within a single watershed unit or groundwater system; and
- Will serve as a 10-year water plan (2013-2023), with a 5-year implementation plan (2013-2018). In 2018, the implementation plan will be updated.

B. A Description of McLeod County’s Priority Concerns

Chapter Two provides a detailed assessment of the priority concerns. Based upon the McLeod County Water Plan Survey, comments received during the water plan public informational meeting, and the comments received by the various water plan stakeholders, the Water Plan Task Force identified the following McLeod County priority water planning issues (**note: these issues are not ranked**):

1. Surface Water Quality ~ Reducing Priority Pollutants
 - a. Erosion & Sediment Control
 - b. TMDL Implementation
 - c. Feedlot/Livestock Management
 - d. Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems
 - e. Aquatic Invasive Species

2. Surface Water Quantity ~ Management
 - a. Agricultural Drainage
 - b. Stormwater Management
 - c. Wetland Restorations

3. Groundwater Quality & Quantity
 - a. Wellhead Protection Areas
 - b. Drinking Water Quality

4. Plan Administration
 - a. Watershed Focus
 - b. Raising Public Awareness

C. Summary of Goals, Objectives, Action Steps, and Estimated Costs

To address the priority concerns identified in the scoping process, the McLeod County Water Plan Task Force met and developed four goal areas. These four goal areas are further broken down into interrelated objectives that deal with each of the priority concerns. Most importantly, each objective has a series of action steps identified which are designed to help achieve the goal area if implemented properly. A summary of the County’s Water Plan Goals, Objectives and Action Steps are provided in this section. Collectively they form the County’s Water Implementation Plan. **In addition, a summary of their annual estimated costs is provided** separated into Overall Costs and County Only Costs (the later includes funds spent by both

McLeod County and the McLeod County SWCD). To Be Determined (TBD) amounts and one-time cost estimates (versus ongoing annual cost estimates) *are not included in the estimated overall costs, since the numbers presented in the summary represent potential estimated annual expenditures.* The intent of this section of the Executive Summary is merely to provide a brief summary of the initiatives and their estimated costs, not a comprehensive description. A full description of the Goals, Objectives, and Action Steps is contained in Chapter Three of this Water Plan. Likewise, Chapter Four provides details on administering the Water Plan. Please keep in mind that not all of the identified Action Items will be accomplished over the duration of the Water Plan. **The Action Steps are estimates of potential implementation activities that can change due to work loads, available project funding, or a re-determination of priorities in the water plan. Furthermore, many of the Action Steps represent commitments on behalf of the various water plan stakeholders and can only be accomplished if funding is available.**

GOAL 1: PROTECT AND IMPROVE SURFACE WATER QUALITY

Objective A: Implement BMPs to reduce erosion and sediment loading of surface water resources.

- Erodible Land. Annually target 500 acres of highly erodible land for enrollment in conservation easement programs, such as CRP and RIM.
- BMP Program. Provide educational, technical, and financial assistance, as available, to landowners for the implementation of water quality-related BMPs. Implement a minimum of five projects annually.
- Cost-Share. Seek financial aid in the form of State cost-share, Federal EQIP, and Clean Water Funds for the installation of BMPs. Establish a minimum of \$100,000 in cost-share funds annually.
- Site Inspections. Conduct site inspections and provide technical assistance to interested landowners. Target 25 inspections annually.
- SWCD Wind Erosion. Establish 1 mile of field windbreaks and five acres of shelterbelts annually.
- SWCD Water Erosion. Reduce sediment loading and erosion into surface waters by installing BMPs. Implement five projects annually.

Objective A Estimated Overall Costs = \$500,000; County Only Costs = \$160,000

Objective B: Proactively work to delist all of McLeod County's water bodies off the MPCA's 303d List of Impaired Waters.

- Water Quality Monitoring. Cooperatively work with partners to continue water quality monitoring efforts. Annually review the data and adjust BMP programs accordingly. Continue to weekly monitor the Crow River and High Island Creek for water clarity using a turbidity tube (except when frozen).
- TMDL Studies. Cooperatively work with partners to coordinate the preparation and implementation of TMDL studies and plans for Impaired Waters. Biannually review and target the impaired waters for BMP implementation (2014 & 2016).
- Watershed Approach. Partner in MPCA's watershed approach to identifying and addressing water quality problems. Annually review and target key subwatersheds for BMP implementation and Civic Engagement Activities with stakeholders.
- Stressor IDs. Assist with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) efforts in the development of stressor identification in aquatic ecosystems. Once the stressors are identified, target BMPs accordingly.

Objective B Estimated Overall Costs = \$170,000; County Only Costs = \$17,000

Objective C: Reduce or minimize the negative impacts of animal manure/lawn fertilizers.

- Feedlot Program. Continue to locally administer the County Feedlot Program to assist feedlot operators in obtaining and maintaining compliance with State regulations. Annually inspect 10% of the feedlots in the County.
- Noncompliant Feedlots. Provide educational, technical, and financial assistance, as available, to landowners/producers to upgrade noncompliant feedlots. Implement one feedlot upgrade annually.
- SWCD Feedlot Assistance. Assist the County with Feedlot site evaluations, planning, design, and overall general technical assistance. Complete MINNFARM evaluations for potential pollution problems and assist with fixing problems, when necessary. Target impaired waters and implement 5 projects annually.
- Nutrient Management Meeting. Sponsor an annual meeting to provide information on proper nutrient management.

- Manure and Nutrient Management. Provide educational and technical assistance, as available, to landowners/producers on proper manure and nutrient management. Target impaired waters.
- High Island Creek Watershed Initiative. Work with High Island Watershed to reduce Fecal coliform and E. coli levels through the implementation of manure management and feedlot BMPS.

Objective C Estimated Overall Costs = \$292,500; County Only Costs = \$137,500

Objective D: Work with landowners on properly implementing the County's Subsurface Sewage Treatment System Ordinance and other wastewater initiatives.

- SSTS Program. Continue to provide compliance and inspection services as part of the County's SSTS Program. Permit and inspect 100 new septic systems annually.
- Noncompliant SSTSs. Provide educational and financial assistance, as available, to homeowners to upgrade noncompliant SSTSs. Target impaired waters and upgrade 10 systems annually.
- Improper SSTS Discharge. Investigate and initiate corrective measures for SSTS improperly discharging into drainage ditches, lakes, and rivers when reported.
- Industrial Development. Encourage industrial development to be located where appropriate public services are located, such as municipal sewer service. Biannually review development ordinances to ensure proper language (2013, 2015, 2017).
- Shoreland Development. Provide technical and financial assistance, when available, to assist lake associations and shoreland residents with the installation of cluster sewer systems.
- BCWD SSTS Incentive. Provide \$500 incentive to replace 5 failing septic systems, according to BCWD criteria.
- HICWD SSTS Incentive. Provide \$500 incentive to replace 5 failing septic systems, according to HICWD criteria.
- Wastewater Treatment. Cooperatively work with partners to address wastewater treatment issues. Assist with securing funds with one project annually or as needed.

- City of Biscay. Complete work on Biscay in upgrading their septic system with the construction of the cluster system in 2013 and finish construction of sewer lines and tank installation in 2014.

Objective D Estimated Overall Costs = \$466,000; County Only Costs = \$67,500

Objective E: Enhance shoreland and lake management efforts.

- Lake Management. Conduct and/or provide technical and financial assistance, as available, to partners for the implementation of lake management efforts, when appropriate. Target impaired waters and implement two projects annually.
- Aquatic Invasive Species Management. Conduct and/or provide technical and financial assistance, as available, to lake associations and other groups/organizations for the implementation of invasive aquatic species prevention and/or control efforts. Host one meeting annually.
- Lake Level Conflicts. Work with the DNR and other stakeholders to resolve lake level conflicts.
- Watercourse Management. Proactively cleanout debris from water resources. Implement one project annually.
- Shoreland Ordinance. Continue to implement the County's Shoreland zoning standards. Biannually review (2014, 2016).
- City of Lester Prairie. Support the City of Lester Prairie's efforts to obtain Clean Water Funding for shoreland restorations along the Crow River.

Objective E Estimated Overall Costs = \$115,000; County Only Costs = \$20,000

Objective F: Administer initiatives that will enhance sustainable land management activities.

- Hazardous Waste Program. Continue the County's Hazardous Waste Program. Biannually review the program.
- Habitat Corridors. Support efforts to conserve, enhance and restore fish and wildlife habitat, when feasible. Implement one or more projects annually.
- GIS Datasets. Annually invest in the acquisition, development, and maintenance of GIS datasets, including the digital soil survey and parcel map. Utilize these datasets

to make informed decisions regarding land use planning and water resource management.

- Land Use Management. Continue to implement the County's adopted land use controls, including the Comprehensive Plan, floodplain, SSTS, shoreland, and solid waste ordinances. Biannually review language.
- Land Use Decisions and Ordinance Amendments. Work with the Planning Commission and Board of Commissioners to ensure that land use decisions and ordinances are consistent with the Water Plan. Identify inconsistencies and update documents accordingly.

Objective F Estimated Overall Costs = \$1,060,000; County Only Costs = \$670,000

GOAL 2: ENHANCE SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT

Objective G: Ensure long-term agricultural production by maintaining and improving the public drainage system.

- Public Drainage Systems. Ensure that public drainage systems are operated and maintained in accordance with the State Drainage Law (M.S. Chapter 103E) and other applicable regulations, such as WCA. Continue to inspect and perform brush control on ditches once every three years.
- Comprehensive Drainage Management Plan. Pursue the development of a comprehensive drainage management plan for public drainage systems.
- Redetermination of Benefits. Redetermine the benefits on drainage systems as requested.
- Agricultural Studies. Support studies related to agricultural impacts on water quantity and quality. Establish two local test sites.
- Drainage Systems. Work with the County Drainage Authority on abandoning or relocating public drainage systems in conjunction with wetland restorations. Target impaired waters.
- Drainage BMPs. Cooperatively work with the Drainage Authority to incorporate water quantity/quality-related BMPs into the operation of public drainage systems. For example, work to establish/enhance five side inlets annually.

- Alternative Drainage Practices. Provide educational, technical, and financial assistance, as available, to landowners for the demonstration of alternative drainage practices, such as blind intakes, that replace conventional open tile intakes. Establish two demonstration sites.
- Pattern Tiling. Better understand the effects of pattern tiling on surface water management. Work to establish a research/demonstration site.
- BCWD Filtering Inlet Incentive. Provide financial assistance, as available, for establishing filtering inlets. Implement five sites.

Objective G Estimated Overall Costs = \$523,000; County Only Costs = \$118,500

Objective H: Manage surface waters to minimize Stormwater pollution and runoff.

- Stormwater Management Plans. Participate in the development and implementation of Comprehensive Stormwater Management Plans, identifying BMPs, potential retrofit opportunities, providing recommendations for coordination among LGUs, and identifying potential funding options.
- NPDES Stormwater Permit Requirements. Provide educational assistance to landowners and contractors on NPDES stormwater permit requirements for construction activity. Update educational materials as they become available.
- SWCD Stormwater Initiatives. Provide technical and financial assistance to citizens on stormwater BMPs (i.e., rain gardens, bio-retention, etc.), and assist with proper implementation. Implement five projects annually.
- Stormwater Storage. Work with municipalities to utilize storage basins and holding ponds for runoff retention and water quality treatment.
- Marsh Water Project. Work with the City of Glencoe and the Buffalo Creek Watershed District to implement the Marsh Water Project to mitigate stormwater flooding.
- City of Lester Prairie. Support the City of Lester Prairie's efforts to obtain Clean Water Funding for stormwater treatment and/or surface water management projects.

Objective H Estimated Overall Costs = \$480,000; County Only Costs = \$43,500

Objective I: Preserve and Restore Wetlands and other Water Retention Opportunities.

- WCA Administration. Continue to locally administer the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act. The entire County shall be identified as a high priority area for wetland restorations.
- Wetland Restorations. Assess the potential for wetland restoration. Pursue installation with voluntary landowners, target impaired waters, and implement one project annually.
- Preservation and Restoration Programs. Provide educational and technical assistance to landowners regarding State and Federal programs to preserve and restore wetlands, including drained lakebeds. Target landowners near impaired waters.
- Wetland Banking. Provide information to landowners who inquire about the State wetland-banking program. Annually review the State's requirements.
- SWCD Wetland Initiative. Assist the USDA with the wetland provisions within the Farm Bill, including Swampbuster and 1026 drainage requests.

Objective I Estimated Overall Costs = \$117,000; County Only Costs = \$51,000

GOAL 3: PROTECT GROUNDWATER SUPPLIES

Objective J: Protect Groundwater from Contamination by implementing Best Management Practices.

- BMP Program. Provide educational, technical and financial assistance, as available, to landowners for the implementation of groundwater protection BMPs, including the proper decommissioning of wells and storage tanks and correct application of pesticides and other chemicals. Implement two projects annually.
- Wellhead Protection. Participate in the preparation and implementation of wellhead protection plans for public water suppliers.
- Pesticide Container Collection. Continue an empty pesticide container collection day, contingent upon the availability of funding.
- Solid Waste Management. Provide educational assistance to landowners to discourage the burning and burying of solid waste. Review educational materials annually and target 5,000 households.

- Abandoned Wells. Continue to provide information to the public on how to identify, locate and seal abandoned wells. Provide financial assistance and create an abandoned well inventory, as funds are available. Target sealing five abandoned wells annually.

Objective J Estimated Overall Costs = \$160,000; County Only Costs = \$23,000

Objective K: Ensure Adequate Groundwater Supplies for Multiple Uses.

- Precipitation Monitoring. Continue monitoring and increase the number of volunteer rain gauge readers that report to the State Climatology Office to one per township.
- Ground Water Level Monitoring. Cooperatively work with partners on groundwater permitting and monitoring efforts. Annually review data and adjust BMP programs accordingly.
- Hydrogeologic Atlas. Learn how to best use hydrogeologic information for the County to evaluate the impact of land use activities on ground water supplies. Biannually host a workshop (2014, 2016).
- Water Conservation Program. Apply for funds to assist with creating a Water Conservation Program, with low-flow conservation kits and establishing a county-wide Drought Contingency Plan (by 2015).

Objective K Estimated Overall Costs = \$18,500; County Only Costs = \$6,000

GOAL 4: EFFECTIVE PLAN ADMINISTRATION & COORDINATION

Objective L: Expand our knowledge and partnerships on identifying and addressing key water planning issues.

- Water Quality Monitoring/Studies. Cooperatively work with partners to continue and expand surface and ground water quality monitoring and studies. Annually review the data and adjust BMP programs accordingly.
- Surface Water Flow Monitoring. Cooperatively work with partners to continue and expand surface water flow monitoring efforts. Annually review the data and adjust BMP programs accordingly.

- CROW BMP Implementation and Education Initiatives. Cooperatively work with the Crow River Organization of Waters (CROW) to implement BMP implementation and education initiatives to reduce Fecal coliform, E.coli, turbidity, dissolved oxygen and chloride in North and South Fork Crow River Watersheds. Projects include: Lakeshore/Streambank Stabilization, Wetland Restorations, Rain Gardens, Lakeshore Naturalizations, Filterstrip/Grass/Riparian Buffers, Windbreaks, Sediment Basins, Grass Waterways, CRP/RIM Incentive Payments, Social Media, Newsletters and workshops – Implement six projects annually, create quarterly electronic newsletters, update website/facebook page weekly and provide annual workshop.

Objective L Estimated Overall Costs = \$225,000; County Only Costs = \$7,000

Objective M: Provide and participate in Outreach and Educational efforts on key water planning issues.

- Partner Meetings. Hold and/or attend meetings with partners to discuss water resource management issues and potential partnership opportunities. Annually invite key stakeholders to a water plan meeting.
- Joint Powers Board Membership. Continue membership in water plan stakeholder’s Joint Powers Boards.
- Runoff Education. Implement educational efforts to control or reduce the effects of accelerated runoff from urban, industrial and agricultural areas. Include in newsletters twice a year.
- SSTS Education. Provide information to the public on proper SSTS design, installation, operation, and maintenance. Include information in annual workshops, news articles, and stakeholder mailings.
- SWCD Outreach Initiatives. Assist the County with providing the educational components of the Water Plan by providing one-on-one education, developing E-newsletters, and coordinating the 4th Grade Nature Field Day event.
- Water Conservation. Locate and provide water conservation-related educational materials to industry, homeowners and schools. Target one topic and media source annually.
- High Island Creek Watershed Education. Create quarterly newsletters, assist with manure management workshops and host manure management field days.

Objective M Estimated Overall Costs = \$124,000; County Only Costs = \$78,250

Objective N: Properly Administer the Water Plan to help ensure it achieves success.

- Local Water Management Coordinator. Maintain the County Local Water Management Coordinator position.
- Additional Funding Sources. Pursue additional funding sources, such as grants, in order to fund the implementation of initiatives. Seek partnerships and cooperative agreements to finance initiatives, when appropriate. Annually review projects and funding needs.
- Funding Opportunities. Provide information to landowners on available funding sources for water resource management activities and projects. Include on website, news articles, and newsletters.
- Water Planning Taskforce Meetings. Hold semi-annual Water Planning Taskforce meetings to discuss issues, review funding requests, and implement the Water Plan.
- SWCD Administration. Continue to be fiscally responsible while providing quality service to McLeod County's citizens; work with the County to ensure the County's General Levy adequately supports conservation needs; seek grants, partnerships, and provide adequate staffing. Quarterly review efforts and make adjustments accordingly.
- Water Plan Update. Update the County's water plan action steps prior to the County's water plan expiring in 2018.

Objective N Estimated Overall Costs = \$68,500; County Only Costs = \$60,000

Summary of Estimated Annual Overall and County Only Costs

Objective A Estimated Overall Costs = \$500,000; County Only Costs = \$160,000
Objective B Estimated Overall Costs = \$170,000; County Only Costs = \$17,000
Objective C Estimated Overall Costs = \$292,500; County Only Costs = \$137,500
Objective D Estimated Overall Costs = \$466,000; County Only Costs = \$67,500
Objective E Estimated Overall Costs = \$115,000; County Only Costs = \$20,000
Objective F Estimated Overall Costs = \$1,060,000; County Only Costs = \$670,000
Objective G Estimated Overall Costs = \$523,000; County Only Costs = \$118,500
Objective H Estimated Overall Costs = \$480,000; County Only Costs = \$43,500
Objective I Estimated Overall Costs = \$117,000; County Only Costs = \$51,000
Objective J Estimated Overall Costs = \$160,000; County Only Costs = \$23,000

Objective K Estimated Overall Costs = \$18,500; County Only Costs = \$6,000
Objective L Estimated Overall Costs = \$225,000; County Only Costs = \$7,000
Objective M Estimated Overall Costs = \$124,000; County Only Costs = \$78,250
Objective N Estimated Overall Costs = \$68,500; County Only Costs = \$60,000

*Total Estimated Overall Costs = \$4,379,500**

*Estimated County Only Costs = \$1,459,250**

***Note:** Please refer to Chapters Three and Four of this Water Plan for a more detailed description of the estimated costs overall and to McLeod County. Although these costs may seem exaggerated at first, there are numerous stakeholders involved with their corresponding activities and budgets. In addition, many of the Action Steps identified overlap with multiple other Action Steps with their scope and functionality. Furthermore, this Water Plan is intended to set high water resource planning goals, with the realization that it may not be feasible to accomplish everything that has been identified.

D. Relationship to other Plans

The McLeod County Water Plan Task Force represents a diverse group of people representing a number of key water plan stakeholders (the members are listed on the inside cover page). This helped to ensure the Water Plan, and its corresponding Goals, Objectives and Action Steps, was developed to be consistent with existing plans and official land use controls. In addition, many of the identified Action Items were simply revised from previous versions of the McLeod County Water Plan. **As a result, this updated McLeod County Water Plan is believed to be consistent with the plans and official controls of the other pertinent local, State and regional plans and controls. In conclusion, there are no recommended amendments to other plans and official controls to achieve consistency with this Water Plan.**



BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE:

Meeker County Local Water Management Plan Update

Meeting Date: May 22, 2013
Agenda Category: [X] Committee Recommendation [] New Business [] Old Business
Item Type: [X] Decision [] Discussion [] Information
Section/Region: Southern Region
Contact: Jeff Nielsen, Regional Supervisor
Prepared by: Thomas Fischer, Board Conservationist
Reviewed by: Southern Water Planning Committee(s)
Presented by: Paul Langseth

[] Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation

Attachments: [] Resolution [X] Order [] Map [X] Other Supporting Information

Fiscal/Policy Impact

- [X] None [] General Fund Budget
[] Amended Policy Requested [] Capital Budget
[] New Policy Requested [] Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget
[] Clean Water Fund Budget
[] Other:

ACTION REQUESTED

Decision

SUMMARY (Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation)

On December 12, 2012, the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) provided official State comments pertaining to the priority concerns identified in the Meeker County Priority Concerns Scoping Document.

On December 12, 2012, the Board officially approved Meeker County's request for an extension of the end date of their current local water management plan, which would have expired on December 31, 2012. The end date was extended to May 30, 2013.

On January 7, 2013, the Board received the Meeker County Local Water Management Plan Update (Plan Update), a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the Plan Update for final State review.

On March 7, 2013, the Southern Water Planning Committee (Committee) of the Board met with representatives of Meeker County to review state agencies review recommendations and comments. At this meeting, the Committee discussed its concern for the Plan Update not fully meeting MN Statutes 103B.314, Subd. 3, which speaks to specific measurable goals and objectives. The Committee's decision was to send back the Plan Update to Meeker County to revise the goals, objectives and actions section in order to comply with the Statute.

On May 2, 2013, the Committee met to review the revisions submitted by Meeker County. The Committee recommends approval of the Meeker County Plan Update.



Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of Reviewing the Local Water Management Plan Update
for Meeker County (Minnesota Statutes, Section 103B.311,
Subdivision 4 and Section 103B.315, Subdivision 5.)

ORDER
APPROVING
LOCAL
WATER MANAGEMENT
PLAN UPDATE

Whereas, the Meeker County (County) Board of Commissioners submitted a Local Water Management Plan Update (Plan Update) to the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) on January 7, 2013 pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.315, Subd. 5, and

Whereas, the Board has completed its review of the Plan Update;

Now Therefore, the Board hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On September 10, 2012, the Board received a Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) from the County, pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.312.
2. On October 9, 2012, the Board received a written request (resolution) from the County for an extension of their current local water management plan.
3. On December 12, 2012, the Board approved official comments on the County PCSD, which were mailed to the county on December 12, 2012. The priority concerns the PCSD and Plan Update addresses include:
 - Protect and Improve Surface Water Quality – Reduce Priority Pollutants
 - Erosion and Sediment Control
 - Surface Water Management
 - Groundwater Quality & Quantity
 - Plan Administration and Coordination
4. On December 12, 2012, the Board approved the extension request made by the County. The end date of the current local water management plan was extended to May 30, 2013. This approval was mailed to the County on December 12, 2012.
5. On January 7, 2013, the Board received the County Plan Update, a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the Plan Update for final State review pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.315, Subd. 5.

6. On March 7, 2013, the Southern Region Water Planning Committee of the Board met with representatives of the County to review the following state agency comments, commendations and approval recommendations regarding the final approval of the County Plan Update:
 - Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) noted Plan Update does not violate any statutory or rule requirement administered by the MPCA and recommends approval of the entire Plan Update.
 - Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) noted Plan Update does not violate any statutory or rule requirement administered by the MDA and recommends approval of the entire Plan Update.
 - Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) noted Plan Update does not violate any statutory or rule requirement administered by the MDH and recommends approval of the entire Plan Update.
 - Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) noted Plan Update does not violate any statutory or rule requirement administered by MDNR and recommends approval of the entire Plan Update.
 - Minnesota Environmental Quality Board provided no comments.
 - Board regional staff recommends requiring Meeker County to revisit and improve their plan Update's Chapter Three: Goals, Objectives and Action Steps in order to meet M.S 103B.314, Subd. 3.

After review and discussion, the decision of the Southern Region Water Planning Committee of the Board was to send the Plan Update back to the County for revision, adding more specific measurable objectives and actions to Chapter Three, and have the revisions returned to Board staff by April 10, 2013.

7. On April 8, 2013, the Board received the revised Chapter Three from the County.
8. On May 2, 2013, the Southern Region Water Planning Committee of the Board met to review the revisions submitted by the County. The Committee's decision was to present a recommendation of approval of the Plan Update to the Board at the Board's May 22, 2013 meeting.
9. On May 22, 2013, the Southern Region Water Planning Committee of the Board presented its recommendation of approval of the Meeker County Local Water Management Plan Update to the Board. The Board adopted the Committee's recommendation.
10. This Plan Update will be in effect for a ten-year period until May 22, 2023, with the Goals, Objectives and Action items amended by May 22, 2018.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law have been fulfilled. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Local Water Management Plan Update of Meeker County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, 103B.315, Subd. 5.
2. The Meeker County Plan Update states water and water-related problems within the county; possible solutions; goals, objectives, and actions of the county; and an implementation program. The Plan Update is in conformance with the requirements of M.S. Section 103B.301.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the update of the Meeker County Local Water Management Plan 2013-2023 with a required update of the Implementation section (Goals, Objectives, and Action) to be completed by May 22, 2018.

Dated at St Paul, Minnesota this May 22, 2013.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BY: Brian Napstad, Chair

DRAFT

Meeker County

Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan:

Executive Summary

This Meeker County Water Plan follows the provisions set forth in Minnesota State Statutes 103B.314 - Contents of Plan.

A. Purpose of the Local Water Management Plan

According to Minnesota Statute 103B, each county is encouraged to develop and implement a local water management plan with the authority to:

- Prepare and adopt a local water management plan that meets the requirements of this section and section 103B.315;
- Review water and related land resources plans and official controls submitted by local units of government to assure consistency with the local water management plan; and
- Exercise any and all powers necessary to assure implementation of local water management plans.

Pursuant to the requirements of the law, this Meeker County Water Plan:

- Covers the entire area of Meeker County;
- Addresses water problems in the context of watershed units and groundwater systems;
- Is based upon principles of sound hydrologic management of water, effective environmental protection and efficient management;
- Is consistent with comprehensive water plans prepared by counties and watershed management organizations wholly or partially within a single watershed unit or groundwater system; and
- Will serve as a 10-year water plan (2013-2023), with a 5-year implementation plan (2013-2018). In 2018, the implementation plan will be updated.

B. A Description of Meeker County's Priority Concerns

Chapter Two provides a detailed assessment of the priority concerns. Based upon the Meeker County Water Plan Survey, comments received during the water plan public informational meeting, and the comments received by the various water plan stakeholders, the Water Plan Task Force identified the following Meeker County priority water planning issues (**note: these issues are not ranked**):

1. Protect and Improve Surface Water Quality ~ Reducing Priority Pollutants
 - a. Proactively work to get waters off the MPCA's 303(d) list of Impaired Waters (TMDLs)
 - b. Feedlots and Nutrient Management
 - c. Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (SSTS) & Wastewater Management
 - d. Shoreland and Lake Management
 - e. Land Management
2. Erosion and Sediment Control
3. Surface Water Management
 - a. Agricultural Drainage
 - b. Stormwater Management
 - c. Wetlands and Water Storage/Retention
4. Groundwater Quality & Quantity
 - a. Wellhead Protection Areas
 - b. Drinking Water Quality
 - c. Groundwater Monitoring
5. Plan Administration and Coordination
 - a. Watershed Focus
 - b. Stakeholder Cooperation
 - c. Raising Public Awareness

C. Summary of Goals, Objectives, Action Steps, and Estimated Costs

To address the priority concerns identified in the scoping process, the Meeker County Water Plan Task Force met and developed four goal areas. These four goal areas are further broken down into interrelated objectives that deal with each of the priority concerns. Most importantly, each objective has a series of action steps identified which are designed to help achieve the goal area if implemented properly.

A summary of the County's Water Plan Goals, Objectives and Action Steps are provided below. Collectively they form the County's Water Implementation Plan. In addition, a summary of their annual estimated costs is provided (separated into Overall Costs and County Only Costs, which includes funds spent by the Meeker County SWCD). Please keep in mind that not all of the identified Action Items will be accomplished over the course of the Water Plan, but it is the intent to attempt to accomplish as much as money and time allows. A better detailed description of the County's Goals, Objectives, and Action Steps is contained in Chapter Three of this Water Plan. Likewise, Chapter Four provides more details on administering the Water Plan.

GOAL 1: PROTECT AND IMPROVE SURFACE WATER QUALITY

Objective A: Proactively work to delist all of Meeker County's water bodies off the MPCA's 303d List of Impaired Waters (TMDLs).

- Water Quality Monitoring. Cooperatively work with partners to continue water quality monitoring efforts. Annually review data and prioritize BMPs accordingly.
- TMDL Studies. Cooperatively work with partners to coordinate the preparation and implementation of TMDL studies and plans for impaired waters. Target impaired waters with BMP program implementation.
- Watershed Approach. Partner in MPCA's watershed approach to identifying and addressing water quality problems. Annually target BMP programs and Civic Engagement Activities with stakeholders on priority subwatersheds.
- Stressor IDs. Assist with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) efforts in the development of stressor identification in aquatic ecosystems. Target BMP programs to properly mitigate the identified stressors.
- TMDL/Watershed Approach Outreach. Cooperatively work with stakeholders through educational meetings, events and social media to update citizens on the TMDL process and Watershed Approach initiatives. Target subwatersheds annually.

Objective A estimated annual Overall Costs = \$140,000; County Only Costs = \$10,000

Objective B: Work with the farming community on manure and nutrient management Best Management Practices.

- Feedlot Program. Continue to locally administer the County Feedlot Program to assist feedlot operators in obtaining and maintaining compliance with State regulations. Assist with Feedlot site evaluations, planning, design, and overall general technical assistance. Annually inspect a minimum 7% of feedlots.
- Noncompliant Feedlots. Provide educational, technical, and financial assistance, as available, to landowners/producers to upgrade noncompliant feedlots. Target impaired waters and implement one (1) priority upgrades annually.
- Manure/Nutrient Management Meeting. Sponsor annual educational meetings with the farming community, focusing on pertinent topics, including regulations and manure/nutrient management Best Management Practices (BMPs).
- Manure and Nutrient Management. Provide educational and technical assistance, as available, to landowners and producers on proper manure and nutrient management. Target impaired waters and implement two (2) projects annually.

Objective B estimated annual Overall Costs = \$167,500; County Only Costs = \$61,000

Objective C: Work with landowners on properly implementing the County's Subsurface Sewage Treatment System Ordinance and other wastewater initiatives.

- SSTS Program. Continue to provide compliance and inspection services as part of the County's SSTS Program. Target inspections in impaired waters.
- SSTS Training Program. Continue annual training for SSTS installers and septage haulers.
- Maintenance and Noncompliant SSTSs. Provide educational and financial assistance, as available, to homeowners to properly maintain and upgrade noncompliant SSTSs. Target 15 system upgrades annually.
- SSTS Database. Maintain the database of inspected and/or installed SSTSs.
- Upgrading SSTSs. Apply for and administer the MDA State Revolving Fund program and other related programs for upgrading SSTSs. Target 11 systems annually.

Objective C estimated annual Overall Costs = \$179,500; County Only Costs = \$63,500

Objective D: Enhance shoreland and lake management efforts.

- Lake Management. Conduct and/or provide technical and financial assistance, as available, to partners for the implementation of lake management efforts. Prioritize impaired waters and implement two (2) BMP projects annually.
- Aquatic Invasive Species Management. Conduct and/or provide technical and financial assistance, as available, to lake associations and other groups/organizations for the implementation of invasive aquatic species prevention and/or control efforts. Invite the DNR to host an AIS meeting annually.
- BMP Program. Provide technical and financial assistance, as available, to landowners for the implementation of shoreland BMPs, including lakescaping and the proper usage of pesticides and other chemicals. Implement two (2) projects annually.
- Shoreland Ordinance. Revise the County Shoreland Ordinance, as necessary, to ensure consistent and sustainable development. Review all Shoreland alteration projects requiring County and/or DNR approval.
- CRWD Shoreline Buffer Incentive. Provide a one-time incentive of 20% of the total cost (up to \$750) for buffering shorelines. Implement one (1) project annually.

Objective D estimated annual Overall Costs = \$130,000; County Only Costs = \$41,750

Objective E: Properly Manage Land/Wastewater Activities.

- Wastewater Treatment. Cooperatively work with partners to address wastewater treatment issues associated with unsewered communities, including lakeshore residents. Prioritize impaired waters and assist with securing funds for implementation when requested.
- Hazardous Waste Program. Hold annual Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection days for residents of Meeker County.
- Habitat Corridors. Support efforts to conserve, enhance and restore wildlife habitat. Secure funding to implement two (2) projects annually.
- GIS Datasets. Annually invest in the acquisition, development, and maintenance of GIS datasets, including the digital soil survey and parcel map. Utilize these datasets to make informed decisions regarding land use planning and water resource management.

- Land Use Management. Continue to implement the County’s adopted land use controls, including the floodplain, SSTS, shoreland, solid waste, and zoning ordinances. Annually review the language and make revisions accordingly.

Objective E estimated annual Overall Costs = \$325,000; County Only Costs = \$152,000

GOAL 2: PROMOTE EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL ACTIVITIES

Objective F: Implement BMPs to reduce erosion and sediment loading of surface waters.

- ✓ Erodible Land. Target 75 acres of highly erodible land annually for enrollment in conservation easement programs, such as CRP, and easements as part of upland buffers under RIM and USFWS programs.
- ✓ BMP Program. Provide educational, technical, and financial assistance, as available, to landowners for the implementation of water quality-related BMPs. Target impaired subwatersheds and implement five (5) projects annually.
- ✓ Cost-Share. Seek funding in the form of State cost-share, Federal EQIP, and Clean Water Funds for the installation of BMPs. Prioritize impaired subwatersheds.
- ✓ BMP Site Evaluations. Conduct site inspections and provide technical assistance to interested landowners. Target 25 evaluations annually.
- ✓ Clearwater River Watershed District (CRWD) CRP Incentive. Provide a one-time incentive of \$200/acre on new CRP enrollments. Implement 80 acres annually.
- ✓ CRWD Seeded Buffer. Provide a one-time payment of \$350/acre for the establishment of a buffer that can be harvested for hay along rivers, streams, and county ditches. Implement 40 acres annually.
- ✓ CRWD Tile Intakes. Provide an incentive to establish a grass buffer around tile intakes, or replace open intakes with underground rock inlets. Assist with identifying two (2) projects annually.
- ✓ Sauk River Watershed District (SRWD) BMP Incentive. Promote the use of BMPs through SRWD’s incentive program. Implement one (1) project annually.
- ✓ CROW BMP Implementation and Education Initiatives. Cooperatively work with CROW to implement BMP implementation and education initiatives to reduce Fecal coliform, E.coli, turbidity, dissolved oxygen and chloride.

Objective F estimated annual Overall Costs = \$310,000; County Only Costs = \$64,500

GOAL 3: ENHANCE SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT

Objective G: Ensure long-term agricultural production by maintaining and improving the public drainage system.

- Public Drainage Systems. Ensure that public drainage systems are operated and maintained in accordance with the State Drainage Law (M.S. Chapter 103E) and other applicable regulations, such as WCA.
- Comprehensive Drainage Management Plan. Pursue funding to develop a comprehensive drainage management plan for two (2) public drainage systems (2015).
- Redetermination of Benefits. Redetermine the benefits on drainage systems as requested.
- Conservation Drainage Practices. Provide educational, technical, and financial assistance, as available, to landowners for the demonstration of conservation drainage practices. Establish two (2) demonstrations sites.
- Drainage Workshop. Host a workshop to proactively educate stakeholders on drainage management issues and regulations (2015).
- Two-Stage Ditch Systems. Examine the use of two-stage ditch systems. Apply for funding to assist with problem areas. Establish a research/demonstration site (2014).

Objective G estimated annual Overall Costs = \$302,500; County Only Costs = \$42,500

Objective H: Manage surface waters to minimize Stormwater pollution and runoff.

- Stormwater Management Plans. Participate in the development and implementation of Comprehensive Stormwater Management Plans. Target 2 plans annually.
- Stormwater/Wastewater Discharges. Regulate stormwater and wastewater discharges into water resources. Annually review ordinance language.
- Stormwater BMPs. Provide technical assistance to citizens on stormwater BMPs (i.e., rain gardens, bio-retention, etc.), and assist with proper implementation. Implement five (5) projects annually.
- Stormwater Storage. Work with municipalities to utilize storage basins and holding ponds for runoff retention and water quality treatment. Implement two (2) projects annually.

- Drainage Plans. Continue to require surface water drainage plans on development in rural areas (i.e., feedlots, gravel pits, etc.). Annually review ordinance provisions.
- CRWD Rain Gardens. Provide a one-time \$2.50 per square foot incentive for installation and maintenance of a rain garden on private property where installation will provide a benefit to cleaner water. Assist with identifying two (2) project sites annually.

Objective H estimated annual Overall Costs = \$215,000; County Only Costs = \$15,250

Objective I: Preserve and Restore Wetlands and other Water Retention Opportunities.

- WCA Administration. Continue to locally administer the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act.
- Public Drainage Systems. In conjunction with wetland restorations, examine opportunities to abandon or relocate public drainage systems.
- Preservation and Restoration Programs. Provide educational, financial, and technical assistance to landowners regarding State and Federal programs to preserve and restore wetlands, including drained lakebeds. The entire County shall be identified as a high priority area for wetland restorations. Pursue funding to implement one wetland restoration annually.
- Wetland Banking. Provide information to landowners who inquire about the State wetland-banking program.
- Lake Level Conflicts. Work with the DNR and other stakeholders to resolve lake level conflicts. Annually review concerns.

Objective I estimated annual Overall Costs = \$134,500; County Only Costs = \$36,500

GOAL 4: PROTECT GROUNDWATER SUPPLIES

Objective J: Protect Groundwater from Contamination by implementing Best Management Practices.

- BMP Program. Provide educational, technical and financial assistance, as available, to landowners for the implementation of groundwater protection BMPs, including the

proper decommissioning of wells and storage tanks and correct application of pesticides and other chemicals. Prioritize sensitive recharge areas and pursue funds to implement two (2) projects annually.

- Wellhead Protection. Participate in the preparation and implementation of wellhead protection plans for public water suppliers. Prioritize BMPs in Wellhead Protection Areas.
- Solid Waste Management. Provide educational assistance to landowners to discourage the burning and burying of solid waste. Annually publish information in local newspapers.
- Abandoned Wells. Provide educational, technical, and financial assistance, as available, to landowners on the importance of properly sealing abandoned wells. Assist with sealing three (3) abandoned wells annually.

Objective J estimated annual Overall Costs = \$50,500; County Only Costs = \$7,000

Objective K: Ensure Adequate Groundwater Supplies for Multiple Uses.

- Ground Water Level Monitoring. Cooperatively work with partners on groundwater permitting, monitoring, and testing efforts. Annually review data and prioritize BMPs accordingly.
- Hydrogeologic Atlas. Learn how to best use hydrogeologic information for the County to evaluate the impact of land use activities on ground water supplies. Host a groundwater workshop with key stakeholders (2015).
- Water Conservation Program. Consider creating a Water Conservation Program, with low-flow conservation kits and a Drought Contingency Plan. Pursue funding to establish the program (2016).
- Conservation Irrigation. Promote the use of conservation irrigation practices and provide cost-share incentives, when feasible. Convert one conventional system annually.

Objective K estimated annual Overall Costs = \$85,000; County Only Costs = \$11,500

GOAL 4: EFFECTIVE PLAN ADMINISTRATION & COORDINATION

Objective L: Expand our knowledge and partnerships on identifying and addressing key water planning issues.

- Water Quality Monitoring. Cooperatively work with partners to continue and expand surface and ground water quality monitoring efforts. Annually review data and prioritize BMPs accordingly.
- Surface Water Flow Monitoring. Cooperatively work with partners to continue and expand surface water flow monitoring efforts. Annually review data and prioritize BMPs accordingly.
- Water Quality Studies. Conduct and/or provide technical and financial assistance, as available, to partners for the completion of water quality studies. Annually review data and prioritize subwatersheds and BMPs accordingly.

Objective L estimated annual Overall Costs = \$205,000; County Only Costs = \$11,000

Objective M: Provide and participate in Outreach and Educational efforts on key water planning issues.

- Stakeholder Meetings. Hold and/or attend annual meetings with stakeholders to discuss water resource management issues and potential partnership opportunities.
- Meeker County Water Plan Stakeholder Workshop. Organize and host a workshop for the County's key water plan stakeholders. Discuss local issues, current activities, and potential projects (years 2014, 2016).
- Outreach. Use available outreach tools, including the Internet, to disseminate information to the public regarding water resource management activities and issues. Annually publish information in local newspapers.
- Runoff Education. Implement educational efforts to control or reduce the effects of accelerated runoff from urban, industrial and agricultural areas. Establish two (2) demonstration sites.
- Greenleaf Recreation Area. Support the Greenleaf Recreation Area and Greenleaf, Cedar, and Sioux Lakes Recreation Complex and similar recreational opportunities.

- Aquatic Invasive Species. Work with State and local efforts to raise awareness aquatic invasive species. Invite the DNR to host an AIS public meeting (2014).
- Funding Opportunities. Provide information to landowners on available funding sources for water resource management activities and projects. Annually review funding sources and educational materials.

Objective M estimated annual Overall Costs = \$74,900; County Only Costs = \$20,900

Objective N: Properly Administer the Water Plan to help ensure it achieves success.

- Plan Administration. Continue to administer the County’s Water Plan initiatives. Annually review and prioritize projects.
- Funding Sources. Pursue additional funding sources, such as the Clean Water Legacy Act, in order to fund the implementation of initiatives. Seek partnerships and cooperative agreements to finance initiatives, when appropriate. Annually prioritize projects and apply for available funds.
- Joint Powers Board Membership. Continue active membership in water plan stakeholder’s Joint Powers Boards.
- Water Planning Taskforce Meetings. Hold annual Water Planning Taskforce meetings to discuss issues, review funding requests, and implement the Water Plan.
- Update Water Plan Action Steps. This Chapter of the Water Plan identifies Action Steps for the years 2013-2018. In 2018, the Water Plan Task Force will identify new Action Steps for the years 2018-2023.

Objective N estimated annual Overall Costs = \$17,300; County Only Costs = \$14,800

*Total Estimated annual Overall Costs = \$2,336,700**

*Estimated County Only Costs = \$552,200**

***Note:** Please refer to Chapters Three and Four of this Water Plan for a more detailed description of the estimated costs overall and to Meeker County. Although these costs may seem exaggerated at first, there are numerous stakeholders involved with their corresponding activities and budgets. In addition, many of the Action Steps identified overlap with multiple other Action Steps with their scope and functionality. Furthermore, this Water Plan is intended to set high water resource planning goals, with the realization that it may not be feasible to accomplish everything that has been identified.

D. Relationship to other Plans

The Meeker County Water Plan Task Force represents a diverse group of people representing a number of key water plan stakeholders (the members are listed on the inside cover page). This helped to ensure the Water Plan, and its corresponding Goals, Objectives and Action Steps, was developed to be consistent with existing plans and official land use controls. In addition, many of the identified Action Items were simply revised from previous versions of the Meeker County Water Plan. **As a result, this updated Meeker County Water Plan is believed to be consistent with the plans and official controls of the other pertinent local, State and regional plans and controls.** This should be confirmed by the vast amount of stakeholders who participated throughout the planning process. **In conclusion, there are no recommended amendments to other plans and official controls to achieve consistency with this Water Plan.**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

RIM Reserve Management Planning Committee

1. 2013 RIM-WRP Partnership Rates – Tim Koehler and Bill Penning – ***DECISION ITEM***



BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: 2013 RIM-WRP Partnership Rates^L

Meeting Date: May 22, 2013
Agenda Category: [X] Committee Recommendation [X] New Business [] Old Business
Item Type: [X] Decision [] Discussion [] Information
Section/Region: Conservation Easements
Contact: Bill Penning
Prepared by: Tim Koehler
Reviewed by: RIM Reserve Management Planning Committee(s)
Presented by: Bill Penning and Tim Koehler

[] Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation

Attachments: [X] Resolution [] Order [] Map [] Other Supporting Information

Fiscal/Policy Impact

- [] None [] General Fund Budget
[] Amended Policy Requested [X] Capital Budget
[X] New Policy Requested [X] Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget
[] Other: [] Clean Water Fund Budget

ACTION REQUESTED

The Board is requested to approve the recommendation of the RRMPC to authorize the 2013 RIM-WRP Partnership easement payment rates. Board Resolution 13-25, approved March 27, 2013, directed staff to develop RIM-WRP Partnership eligibility and sign-up procedures.

The RIM-WRP Partnership, the premier private lands wetland restoration program in the nation, is a state-federal partnership delivered locally by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs), the Board of Water and Soil Resources and numerous other partners.

SUMMARY (Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation)

BWSR staff have worked with Dr. Steve Taff, U of M, and NRCS to develop easement payment rates to be used for the RIM-WRP Partnership. The rates utilize data collected by Dr. Taff and will be adjusted to ensure payment rates that are approximately 90% of the land value for cropland and 60% of the land value for non-cropland.

Board Resolution # _____

**Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) Reserve - Wetlands Reserve Program (RIM-WRP)
Partnership Program
FY13 Easement Payment Rates**

WHEREAS the Minnesota State Legislature appropriated Outdoor Heritage Funds (OHF) and Capital Investment funds to the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) for the Reinvest in Minnesota – Wetlands Reserve Program Partnership to acquire permanent conservation easements and restore wetlands and associated upland habitat, in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Wetlands Reserve Program; and

WHEREAS the RIM-WRP Partnership, the premier private lands wetland restoration program in the nation, is a local-state-federal partnership delivered locally by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) the Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) and the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR); and

WHEREAS the RIM-WRP Partnership is enhanced via collaboration with other partners including Ducks Unlimited, (DU), the Minnesota Waterfowl Association (MWA), Pheasants Forever (PF), the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR), and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS); and

WHEREAS the RIM-WRP Partnership permanently protects and restores previously drained wetland and adjacent native grasslands to achieve the greatest wetland functions and values, while optimizing wildlife habitat on private lands enrolled in the Partnership; and

WHEREAS the RIM Reserve Conservation Easement Program is administered by the BWSR in cooperation with local Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs); and

WHEREAS SWCDs will be reimbursed for their services using the current RIM Reserve services rate; and

WHEREAS NRCS National Headquarters has requested Minnesota NRCS to develop a process which allows for continuous enrollment of RIM-WRP Partnership easement applications and the necessary obligation of federal WRP funds with eligible Minnesota landowners; and

WHEREAS the Board authorized staff via Resolution 13-25, dated March 27, 2013, to work with Minnesota NRCS to develop RIM-WRP Partnership eligibility and sign-up procedures for the RIM-WRP Partnership; and

WHEREAS the Board, BWSR staff and NRCS staff, in consultation with the University of Minnesota Applied Economics Department, have determined that the most recent Township Land Values as

established by the Department of Revenue and posted on the Minnesota Land Economics Website is the most relevant, consistent and available land value data to use as a basis for easement payment rates; and

WHEREAS the Board of Water and Soil Resources RIM Reserve Management Planning Committee met on May 21, 2013 and unanimously recommend the following payment rate provisions to successfully implement the RIM-WRP Partnership.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources authorizes staff to:

Establish RIM-WRP Partnership payment rates that best approximate 90% of land value for permanent easements on land with cropping history and 60% of land value for permanent easements on lands without cropping history, subject to the following factors:

1. The township land values as established by the Department of Revenue and posted on the University of Minnesota Land Economics website shall be used as the basis;
2. The payment rate maximum in Hennepin and Ramsey Counties will not exceed the highest average township rate from any of the other surrounding seven metro counties due to a limited number of tillable land acres, and values that are influenced by development potential;
3. The payment rate maximum for the other five Twin Cities metro counties (Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Scott and Washington) will not exceed the average Scott County rate to more accurately reflect tillable values.

Dated at Saint Paul, Minnesota this 22th day of May, 2013.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

By: _____

Brian Napstad, Chair

NEW BUSINESS

1. Legislative Update – Sarah Strommen/John Jaschke - ***INFORMATION ITEM***
2. Environmental Quality Board (EQB) Frac Sand Summary and Status – Bob Patton, EQB Staff – ***INFORMATION ITEM***



BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: _____

Legislative Update

Meeting Date: May 22, 2013

Agenda Category: Committee Recommendation New Business Old Business

Item Type: Decision Discussion Information

Section/Region: _____

Contact: _____

Prepared by: Sarah Strommen

Reviewed by: Sarah Strommen/John Jaschke Committee(s)

Presented by: Sarah Strommen/John Jaschke

Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation

Attachments: Resolution Order Map Other Supporting Information

Fiscal/Policy Impact

- None
- Amended Policy Requested
- New Policy Requested
- Other: _____
- General Fund Budget
- Capital Budget
- Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget
- Clean Water Fund Budget

ACTION REQUESTED

Information Item

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

SUMMARY (*Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation*)

The agency members of the Board will provide a summary of legislative decisions affecting their programs and responsibilities.



BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE:

Environmental Quality Board Frac Sand Summary And Status

Meeting Date: May 22, 2013

Agenda Category: [] Committee Recommendation [x] New Business [] Old Business

Item Type: [] Decision [] Discussion [x] Information

Section/Region:

Contact: John Jaschke

Prepared by:

Reviewed by: John Jaschke Committee(s)

Presented by: Bob Patton, EQB Staff

[] Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation

Attachments: [] Resolution [] Order [] Map [] Other Supporting Information

Fiscal/Policy Impact

- [x] None [] General Fund Budget
[] Amended Policy Requested [] Capital Budget
[] New Policy Requested [] Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget
[] Other: [] Clean Water Fund Budget

ACTION REQUESTED

Information Item

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

SUMMARY (Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation) EQB staff will provide an overview of past and future actions related to frac sand mining in Minnesota.