Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

DATE: December 5, 2016

TO: Board of Water and Soil Resources' Members, Advisors, and Staff

FROM: John Jaschke, Executive Director

SUBJECT: BWSR Board Meeting Notice – December 14, 2016

The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) will meet on Wednesday, December 14, 2016, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will be held in the lower level Board Room, at 520 Lafayette Road, Saint Paul. Parking is available in the lot directly in front of the building (see hooded parking area).

The following information pertains to agenda items:

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Recognition of Brian Napstad and Doug Erickson, Departing Board Members - *INFORMATION ITEM***

2. **Election of Vice-Chair** – A transition to a new BWSR Board Chair will begin next month as Chair Brian Napstad (who has served in that capacity since 2010) was not re-elected and will be ending his term as Aitkin County Commissioner in January. Per BWSR Bylaws, the Vice-Chair (Gerry VanAmburg) will become the Acting Chair and election by majority vote of an Acting Vice-Chair. The Acting Chair will serve in that capacity until a new Chair is appointed by the Governor. The Acting Vice-Chair will serve in that capacity until the Acting Chair role expires. ***DECISION ITEM***

3. **Root River One Watershed, One Plan Presentation** – Members of the Root River One Watershed, One Plan Planning Workgroup will discuss the plan development process, measurable goals, partnerships, and future implementation. ***INFORMATION ITEM***

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Southern Region Committee

1. **Root River One Watershed, One Plan** – The Root River Watershed was selected by BWSR as one of the five pilot areas for the One Watershed, One Plan program. Beginning in fall 2014, Policy Committee and Planning Workgroup members have attended regularly scheduled meetings and submitted the Root River One Watershed, One Plan final draft plan to BWSR on October 4, 2016 for approval. The Southern Regional Committee (Committee) met on November 4, 2016, to review the content of the Plan, State agency comments on the Plan, and recommends approval by the full Board. ***DECISION ITEM***

2. **Faribault County Priority Concerns Scoping Document** – Faribault County submitted the Priority Concerns Scoping Document for State review and comment as part of updating their Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. The Southern Regional Committee (Committee) met November 4, 2016, after the State agencies comment period ended. The Committee concurred with the selected priority concerns and recommended comments in a letter for the full Board to review. The State's expectations of the final Plan must be sent to Faribault County. ***DECISION ITEM***

3. **Martin County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Update** – Martin County submitted their Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Update, a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the Update to the Board for final State review on September 21, 2016. On November 4, 2016, the Southern Regional Committee (Committee) of the Board reviewed the recommendation of the State review agencies regarding final approval of the Martin County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Update. The Committee recommended approval. The Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order are drafted for the full Board's review and action. ***DECISION ITEM***

4. **Murray County Priority Concerns Scoping Document** – Murray County submitted the Priority Concerns Scoping Document for State review and comment as part of updating their Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. The Southern Regional Committee (Committee) met November 4, 2016, after the State agencies comment period ended. The Committee concurred with the selected priority concerns and recommended comments in a letter for the full Board to review. The State's expectations of the final Plan must be sent to Murray County. ***DECISION ITEM***

5. **Yellow Medicine River One Watershed, One Plan** – On September 19, 2016, the Board received the final draft Yellow Medicine River One Watershed, One Plan; a record of the public hearing; and copies of all written comments pertaining to the Plan for final State review. The Southern Regional Committee met November 4, 2016 to review the content of the plan, state agency comments to the plan, and recommends approval by the full Board. ***DECISION ITEM***

Buffers, Soils, and Drainage Committee

1. **Minnesota Public Drainage Manual Acceptance** – In the FY14-15 biennium, BWSR received a Clean Water Fund appropriation ($235,000) and direction to update the Minnesota Public Drainage Manual (MPDM) and the Understanding Minnesota Public Drainage Law (UMPDL) document. The MPDM has been updated by BWSR staff in coordination with the contracted team of Houston Engineering and Rinke Noonan Attorneys at Law. MPDM content went through multiple review and comment periods by a broad Project Advisory Committee including drainage authorities, their engineers, attorneys and inspectors; regulatory agencies; and other interested parties. An overview of the MPDM update process and product was presented to the Board at its September 28, 2016 meeting. After review of remaining issues by BWSR executive staff and final placement of content edits by the contractor, the MPDM was published in wiki format to the BWSR website on October 31, 2016. This item is coming to the Board for acceptance of the updated Minnesota Public Drainage Manual and approval of an ongoing maintenance plan for the MPDM into the future. ***DECISION ITEM***

Grants Program and Policy Committee

1. **One Watershed, One Plan FY17 Policy and Request for Proposals** – Clean Water Funds were appropriated to BWSR in Laws of Minnesota 2015, 1st Special Session, Chapter 2, Article 2, Sec. 7(j) for assistance, oversight, and grants to local governments to transition local water management plans to a watershed approach, also known as the One Watershed, One Plan Program. The proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Grant Policy is unchanged and only the dates and timeline were changed in the Request for Proposals from the FY16 documents. The Grants Program and Policy Committee recommends approval of both documents. ***DECISION ITEM***

2. **FY2017 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants** – The Board adopted resolution #16-52 on June 24, 2016, authorizing staff to conduct a request for proposals from eligible local governments for Clean Water Fund projects in four program categories: Projects and Practices, Accelerated Implementation, Community Partners and Multipurpose Drainage. Applications for the FY2017 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants were accepted from June 27 through August 28, 2016. Local governments submitted 171 applications requesting $34,414,783 in Clean Water Funds. BWSR staff conducted multiple processes to review and score applications, involved staff of other agencies, and developed recommendations for grant awards per the attached spreadsheets. The BWSR Senior Management Team reviewed the funding recommendations on November 8th and made the recommendation to the Grants Program and Policy Committee. The BWSR Grants Program and Policy Committee reviewed the recommendations on November 10th; a resolution is attached based on the recommendations of the Grants Program and Policy Committee. ***DECISION ITEM***

If you have any questions regarding the agenda, please feel free to call me at 651-296-0878. The Board meeting will adjourn about noon. We look forward to seeing you on December 14th!

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
520 LAFAYETTE ROAD N.
LOWER LEVEL BOARD ROOM
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55155
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2016

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

9:00 AM CALL MEETING TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 27, 2016 BOARD MEETING

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

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

- FY2017 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

- Suzanne Rhees, Conservation Projects Coordinator

REPORTS

- Chair & Administrative Advisory Committee – Brian Napstad
- Audit & Oversight Committee – Brian Napstad
- Executive Director – John Jaschke
- Dispute Resolution Committee – Gerald Van Amburg
- Grants Program & Policy Committee – Steve Sunderland
- RIM Reserve Committee – Gene Tiedemann
- Water Management & Strategic Planning Committee – Jack Ditmore
- Wetland Conservation Committee – Gerald Van Amburg
- Buffers, Soils & Drainage Committee – Brian Napstad
- Drainage Work Group – Tom Loveall/Al Kean

NEW BUSINESS

1. Recognition of Departing Board Members – ***INFORMATION ITEM***
   - Brian Napstad
   - Doug Erickson

2. Election of Vice-Chair – ***DECISION ITEM***

3. Root River One Watershed, One Plan Pilot Presentation – Donna Rasmussen and Jennifer Ronnenberg - ***INFORMATION ITEM***

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Southern Region Committee

1. Root River One Watershed, One Plan – Kathryn Kelly - ***DECISION ITEM***

2. Faribault County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – Kathryn Kelly - ***DECISION ITEM***

3. Martin County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Update – Kathryn Kelly - ***DECISION ITEM***

4. Murray County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – Kathryn Kelly - ***DECISION ITEM***

5. Yellow Medicine River One Watershed, One Plan – Kathryn Kelly - ***DECISION ITEM***

Buffers, Soils, and Drainage Committee

1. Minnesota Public Drainage Manual Acceptance – Tim Gillette – ***DECISION ITEM***

Grants Program and Policy Committee

1. One Watershed, One Plan FY17 Policy and Request for Proposals – Melissa Lewis – ***DECISION ITEM***

2. FY2017 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants – Marcey Westrick – ***DECISION ITEM***

AGENCY REPORTS

- Minnesota Department of Agriculture – Matt 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 – Jennifer Berquam
- Minnesota Association of Conservation District Employees – Tiffany Determan
- Minnesota Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts – LeAnn Buck
- Minnesota Association of Townships – Nathan Redalen
- Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts – Ray Bohn
- Natural Resources Conservation Service – Cathee Pullman

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- BWSR Strategic Planning Workshop, December 14, 12:30 – 2:00 PM
- Next BWSR Meeting, January 25, 2017, St. Paul

Noon **ADJOURN**

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
520 LAFAYETTE ROAD N., LOWER LEVEL BOARD ROOM
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55155
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2016

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
Patty Acomb, Joe Collins, Jill Crafton, Jack Ditmore, Chris Elvrum, MDH; Doug Erickson, Tom Landwehr, DNR; Tom Loveall, Terry McDill, MPCA; Brian Napstad, Neil Peterson, Nathan Redalen, Tom Schulz, Rob Sip, MDA; Steve Sunderland, Gerald VanAmburg, Paige Winebarger

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:
Faye Sleeper, MES; Kathryn Kelly, Gene Tiedemann

STAFF PRESENT:
Angie Becker Kudelka, Jason Beckler, Kevin Bigalke, Steve Christopher, Dan Fabian, Elsa Flage, Travis Germundson, Doug Goodrich, Ryan Hughes, John Jaschke, Al Kean, Kari Keating, Les Lemm, Ed Lenz, Melissa Lewis, Erin Loeffler, Tara Ostendorf, Jill Sacket-Eberhart, Tim Smith, Sarma Straumanus, Doug Thomas, Dave Weirens, Julie Westerlund

OTHERS PRESENT:
Keith Carlson
Dan Schutte, Lake SWCD; Ilena Berg, Cook SWCD; and Paul Radomski, DNR
Kerry Netzke, Emily Javens, Pauline VanOverbeke, Rodney Stensrud, Gary Crowley
LeAnn Buck, MASWCD
Jack Lavold, Brian Johnson, John Loomis, and Matt Moore (SWWD)
Chris Pence and Tony Bauer (TLWD)
Barb Huberty (LWL)
Jennifer Berquam (AMC)

DRAFT

Chair Napstad called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

** 16-76 **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Moved by Patty Acomb, seconded by Doug Erickson, to adopt the agenda as presented. ***Motion passed on a voice vote.***

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 28, 2016 BOARD MEETING – Jill Crafton noted an error on page four, under the SWCD Technology Capacity Survey & Report Grant, second line, the word *approved* should be *approval.*

** 16-77 Moved by Tom Landwehr, seconded by Terry McDill, to approve the minutes of September 28, 2016 as corrected. ***Motion passed on a voice vote.***

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

- Tara Ostendorf, Board Conservationist, Waite Park
- Elsa Flage, Wetland Mitigation Program Assistant, St. Paul
- Tim Smith, Wetland Banking Coordinator, St. Paul
- Jill Sacket-Eberhart, Board Conservationist, New Ulm
- Doug Goodrich, Board Conservationist, Marshall
- Erin Loeffler, Board Conservationist, Duluth

REPORTS

Chair & Administrative Advisory Committee – Chair Napstad overviewed the recent EQB meeting and noted an upcoming Environmental Congress event in February 2017.

Executive Director's Report – John Jaschke reviewed the materials in the packet and noted some of the work started to be ready for 2017 Legislative session.

Dispute Resolution Committee (DRC) – Travis Germundson reported there are 15 pending appeals and 2 new appeals. He thanked the DRC for a job well done on the hearing held in September.

Wetland Conservation Committee – Gerald VanAmburg reported that the committee met with three items to discuss. Two of the items are on the board agenda. The third item is in regards to the 404 Assumption study that BWSR and the DNR are required by law to do. The study is nearly complete and the information is on BWSR's website.

Buffers, Soils & Drainage Committee – Chair Napstad reported the committee met after the last board meeting. They were able to take a look at the new BuffCAT program that will assist in reporting on buffers. The committee also discussed enforcement and compliance procedures.

Drainage Work Group – Tom Loveall/Al Kean reported on the most recent Drainage Work Group meeting. A written summary was provided to the Board members.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Central Region Committee

Sherburne County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – Kevin Bigalke reported that on May 23, 2007, BWSR approved Sherburne County's Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan for a ten year period ending January 31, 2017, which was extended to February 28, 2018. On July 7, 2015, the County passed a resolution to begin the plan update process. On August 28, 2016, the Sherburne County Water Planner submitted the priority concerns scoping document to the state agencies for review. The BWSR Central

Region Committee met on October 6, 2016, reviewed the Sherburne County Comprehensive Local Water Management Priority Concerns Scoping Document and recommend approval; finding the priority concerns
** identified to be appropriate and for the County to continue working on the development of the Plan. Moved
16-78 by Joe Collins, seconded by Jill Crafton, to approve the Sherburne County Priority Concerns Scoping Document. ***Motion passed on a voice vote.***

South Washington Watershed District 2016-2026 Watershed Management Plan – Dan Fabian reported that on August 22, 2016, the South Washington Watershed District (SWWD) filed with the Board, the final draft 10-year plan amendment of its Watershed Management Plan. The SWWD is located exclusively in southern Washington County in the eastern portion of the metropolitan area encompassing portions of the Cities of Afton, Lake Elmo, Oakdale, Woodbury, Cottage Grove and Denmark Township. The area is a highly desirable place to live and the remaining rural areas continue to be quickly developing in an organized manner. The SWWD covers 110 square miles (70,000 acres) at the confluence of the Mississippi and St. Croix Rivers, includes 12 lakes, over 120 miles of piped and natural streams, and over 2,400 acres of wetlands. The Board's Central Region Committee met on October 6, 2016, reviewed the Plan; and unanimously recommend
** approval of the Plan. Moved by Joe Collins, seconded by Patty Acomb, to approve the South Washington
16-79 Watershed District Watershed Management Plan. ***Motion passed on a voice vote.***

Northern Region Committee

Thirty Lakes Watershed District Termination Petition – Ryan Hughes and Travis Germundson provided an overview. The Thirty Lakes Watershed District (TLWD) was established on May 18, 1971, by Order of the Minnesota Water Resources Board, which is now the Board of Water and Soil Resources. The TLWD was established to address lake water quality concerns, increased lakeshore development, stormwater management, septic system regulations, prevalence of swimmer's itch and garbage in lakes. Reasons for the termination include; the original water resource management purposes of the TLWD are currently being adequately addressed by other government agencies; the residents of the district are being served well by the other government agencies and this additional level of government is duplicative; and, the TLWD has not taxed property owners since 2012 due to lack of projects and excess funds. Resolutions supporting the termination of the TLWD have been adopted by Crow Wing County, Lake Edward Township and the TLWD Board. A public hearing was held by the Northern Region Committee on August 16, 2016 and the Order was reviewed by the Committee on October 12, 2016. The Committee had a unanimous decision to recommend
** approval of the Order by the full Board. Moved by Tom Schulz, seconded by Neil Peterson, to approve the
16-80 Thirty Lakes Watershed Order for Termination. ***Motion passed on a voice vote.***

Wadena County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan – Tom Schulz reported that Wadena County has submitted their Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan for State review. The Northern Region Committee met October 12, 2016 to review the content of the plan, state agency comments to the plan and
** to make recommendations for approval. The Committee recommends approval by the full Board. Moved by
16-81 Tom Schulz, seconded by Paige Winebarger, to approve the Wadena County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. ***Motion passed on a voice vote.***

Clay County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – Gerald VanAmburg reported that Clay County has submitted their Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) as part of the update to their Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. Their current plan expires December 31, 2016. Clay County presented their PCSD to the Northern Region Committee on October 12, 2016, and the Committee reviewed the document, concurred with the priority concerns selected and recommended approval of the Clay County PCSD by the
** full Board. Moved by Gerald VanAmburg, seconded by Tom Landwehr, to approve the Clay County Priority Concerns Scoping Document. Discussion followed.

** Moved by Jack Ditmore, seconded by Gerald VanAmburg, that the wording of the supporting letter be amended to reflect the language on climate change be added as shown in Sherburne County letter (Res
16-82 #16-79). ***Motion passed on a voice vote.***

** Further moved by Tom Landwehr, seconded by Terry McDill, that the letter should also reflect that the DNR
16-83 did provide comments, but that they were not submitted within the time period. ***Motion passed on a voice vote.***

16-84 The original motion -- to approve the Clay County Priority Concerns Scoping Document with approved edits. ***Motion passed on a voice vote.***

Norman County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – Neil Peterson reported that Norman County has submitted their Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) as part of the process to update their Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. The current plan expires December 31, 2016. Agency comments were received as part of the PCSD process and were considered for inclusion in the comprehensive local water management plan. Norman County presented their PCSD to the Northern Region Committee and the Committee concurred with the selected priority concerns and recommended approval of
** the Norman County PCSD by the full BWSR Board. Moved by Neil Peterson, seconded by Paige Winebarger, to approve the Norman County Priority Concerns Scoping Document with an amended letter to reflect
16-85 climate change language. ***Motion passed on a voice vote.***

NEW BUSINESS

Lake Superior North Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (One Watershed, One Plan) - Dan Schutte, Lake SWCD; Ilena Berg, Cook SWCD; and Paul Radomski, DNR (Members of the Lake Superior North Watershed (LSNW) Advisory Committee) presented the progress of developing their comprehensive watershed management plan. In October 2014, Cook and Lake County Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) were notified that LSNW had been selected as a pilot watershed for the One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P). Since this time, a Policy Committee comprised of elected officials and an Advisory Committee comprised of federal, state, and local agencies and groups have been meeting to develop the LSNW Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (Plan). The Plan has been prioritized and targeted with measurable outcomes identified. To achieve this, Zonation modelling was utilized and will be discussed with the Board. There is a focus within the Plan of both protection and restoration tailored to the unique resources of the watershed. The plan is organized by prioritized resource areas and priorities for work identified within the Plan. Project leads, estimated budgets, and project partners have also been identified. After the public hearings are held for the Plan it will be submitted for review and consideration by the Board.

Yellow Medicine River One Watershed, One Plan - Kerry Netzke, Emily Javens, Pauline VanOverbeke, Rodney Stensrud, Gary Crowley (planning committee and workgroup members) - The Yellow Medicine River Watershed was selected by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) as one of the five pilot areas for the One Watershed, One Plan program. Beginning in September 2014, planning committee and workgroup members have attended regularly scheduled meetings and submitted the Yellow Medicine River 1W1P final draft plan to BWSR on September 19, 2016 for approval. Pending Southern Region Committee and BWSR Board approval, the Yellow Medicine River 1W1P will be approved and locally adopted in early 2017. Members of the Yellow Medicine River One Watershed, One Plan Policy and Advisory Committee presented the Yellow Medicine River One Watershed, One Plan development process, measureable goals, partnerships, and future implementation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Wetland Conservation Committee

Local Road Wetland Replacement Program: Status and Management Plan – Dave Weirens and Tim Smith reported that BWSR has been providing wetland replacement since 1996 for certain county, city and township road projects. Due to persistent underfunding of this Program, we are now faced with the prospect of being unable to provide wetland replacement on a statewide basis as provided by statute. The Wetland Conservation Committee recommendation to adopt the Local Road Wetland Replacement Program Status and Management Plan will establish a process to manage remaining and anticipated future wetland credits

** the Program will realize. Moved by Jack Ditmore to change the resolution to read that the Executive Director will make decisions on BSA closure only after all credits are exhausted statewide. There was no second.

** Moved by Gerald VanAmburg, seconded by Steve Sunderland, to approve the Local Road Wetland

16-86 Replacement Programs Status and Management Plan. ***Motion passed on a voice vote.***

Wetland Mitigation Fee Policy Update – Les Lemm and Tim Smith reported the Board last took action on the wetland mitigation fee policy in January of 2013 (Board Resolution #11-98). Since that time BWSR has gained additional experience with the assessment and collection of fees for wetland mitigation and also received additional fee authority in 2015 for easement acquisition and stewardship. In 2016, staff completed an evaluation of the existing fee policy structure and completed the necessary research and analysis to develop a structure for the new fee authorities. These efforts resulted in an updated wetland mitigation fee policy. The Wetland Conservation Committee recommendation to adopt the updated wetland mitigation fee policy will implement the new fee authorities and update our existing wetland mitigation fee structure.

** Moved by Gerald VanAmburg, seconded by Joe Collins, to approve the Wetland Mitigation Fee Policy Update, with an edit to the final sentence of the resolution, where "transaction" should be "transactions".

16-87 ***Motion passed on a voice vote.***

NEW BUSINESS

2017 Proposed BWSR Board Meeting Schedule – John Jaschke reported that the Board meets the fourth

** Wednesday of the month unless noted; he presented the proposed meeting dates for 2017. Moved by Joe Collins, seconded by Patty Acomb, to approve the 2017 proposed BWSR Board meeting schedule.

16-88 ***Motion passed on a voice vote.***

ADVISORY COMMENTS

Minnesota Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts – LeAnn Buck applauded the milestone of the One Watershed, One Plan pilots.

Minnesota Association of Townships – Nathan Redalen reported that the Minnesota Association of Townships annual meeting will be held on November 17th and that Dave Weirens is a speaker.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- MAWD Annual Convention, December 1-3, Arrowwood, Alexandria
- MASWCD Annual Convention, December 4-6, Double Tree Hotel, Bloomington
- AMC Annual Convention, December 5-6, Hyatt Regency, Minneapolis
- Next BWSR Meeting, Wednesday, December 14, St. Paul

Chair Napstad adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Kari Keating, Recorder

Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form
for Board Members

Grant Program: FY2017 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants

Name of Review Group: Board of Water and Soil Resources

Before any review of grant applications, the chair of the meeting shall make this statement about conflict of interest:

Chair Statement: *"A conflict of interest, whether actual, potential, or perceived, occurs when someone in a position of trust has competing professional or personal interests and these competing interests make it difficult to fulfill professional duties impartially. At this time, members are requested to declare conflicts of interest they may have regarding today's business."*

This form gives grant application reviewers an opportunity to disclose any actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest that may exist during a grant review process. It is the grant reviewer's obligation to be familiar with the Office of Grants Management (OGM) Policy 08-01, Conflict of Interest Policy for State Grant-Making, and to disclose any conflicts of interest accordingly. All grant reviewers *must* complete and sign a conflict of interest disclosure form. On the form, the grant reviewer must identify any grant applicant with which they have an actual, potential or perceived conflict, although they do not need to provide the reason for the conflict on the disclosure form.

A disclosure does not automatically result in the grant application reviewer being removed from the review process.

Please read the definitions of conflict of interest below and mark the appropriate boxes that pertain to you and your status as a reviewer of applications for this grant program.

Conflicts of interest may be actual, potential, or perceived:

ACTUAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST:
An actual conflict of interest occurs when a decision or action would compromise a duty to a party without taking immediate appropriate action to eliminate the conflict.

POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST:
A potential conflict of interest may exist if a grant reviewer has a relationship, affiliation, or other interest that could create an inappropriate influence if the person is called on to make a decision or recommendation that would affect one or more of those relationships, affiliations, or interests.

PERCEIVED CONFLICT OF INTEREST:
A perceived conflict of interest is any situation in which a reasonable third party would conclude that conflicting duties or loyalties exist.

At a minimum, all internal parties who are involved in the grant review or grant management process must be made aware that an actual, potential, or perceived conflict has been disclosed and evaluated, even if it is not serious enough to remove or reassign the employee or grant reviewer. After reviewers have signed the conflict of interest form, therefore, the conflicts--if any--that have been disclosed shall be announced to the reviewing body as a whole. Disclosed conflicts and their resolution will also be noted in the meeting minutes, and the forms will be kept as documentation of the grant review.

As a grant reviewer, I certify that I have read and understand the descriptions of conflict of interest explained above and in OGM Policy 08-01. Check either box 1a or 1b **and** either box 2a or 2b.

☐ 1a. I have reviewed the list of applicants, and I do not have any conflicts of interest relating to this program's grant applicants or proposed projects.

☐ 1b. I have an ACTUAL, POTENTIAL, or PERCEIVED conflict of interest with the applicant(s) listed below. (Note: If you disclose a conflict, you must identify the applicant on this form, but a description is discretionary. Under Minnesota Statute 13.599, this form is considered public data.)

Applicant	Type of Conflict (ACTUAL, POTENTIAL, or PERCEIVED)	Description of Conflict (optional)

☐ 2a. After reviewing this form and OGM Policy 08-01, I CHOOSE to participate in this review process.

☐ 2b. After reviewing this form and OGM Policy 08-01, I CHOOSE NOT to participate in this review process. I will avoid discussing the applicant and/or applications from organizations with which I have disclosed a conflict of interest with other reviewers.

Reviewer's printed name: _____

Reviewer's signature: _____

Date: _____

Reviewer's Organization/Agency: _____

Revised, 5/13

BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Dispute Resolution Committee Report

Meeting Date: December 14, 2016

Agenda Category: ☐ Committee Recommendation ☐ New Business ☐ Old Business

Item Type: ☐ Decision ☐ Discussion ☒ Information

Section/Region: Central Office

Contact: Travis Germundson

Prepared by: Travis Germundson

Reviewed by: _____ Committee(s)

Presented by: Travis Germundson/Gerald VanAmburg

☐ **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

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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

The report provides a monthly update on the number of appeals filed with BWSR.

Dispute Resolution Report
November 30, 2016
By: Travis Germundson

There are presently **15** appeals pending. All of the appeals involve WCA. There has been **1** new appeal filed since the last report (October 27th 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 16-13 (10-31-16) This is an appeal of two restoration orders in Stearns County. The appeal regards the unauthorized drainage impacts to wetlands associated with the placement of agricultural drain tile on multiple parcels. *No decision has been made on the appeal.*

File 16-12 (9-30-16) This is an appeal of a restoration order in Nicollet County. The appeal regards the unauthorized impacts to 11.2 acres of wetland associated with the installation of agricultural drain tile. *The appeal has been placed in abeyance for submittal of additional documentation and for the TEP to convene onsite and develop written findings of fact.*

File 16-11 (9-27-16) This is an appeal of a restoration order in Waseca County. The appeal regards the unauthorized placement of 4,300 sq. ft. of fill in a wetland to create additional parking area. *The appeal has been placed in abeyance for submittal of additional information and for the TEP to convene on site and develop written findings of fact.*

File 16-10 (9-12-16) This is an appeal of an exemption decision in Sibley County. The appeal regards the denial of an agricultural drainage exemption associated with 8.5 acres of wetland. The appeal has been remanded back to the LGU for completion of technical work and administrative proceedings.

File 16-9 (8-15-16) This is an appeal of a restoration order in Todd County. The appeal regards the unauthorized impacts to approximately 19.9 acres of wetland associated with the placement of agricultural drain tile. The appeal has been placed in abeyance until the LGU makes a final decision on the applications for exemption and no-loss.

File 16-8 (8-9-16) This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision in St. Louis County. The appeal regards the denial of a replacement plan application for wetland impacts associated with the construction of a new high school. A decision was made on August 30, 2016 to grant and hear the appeal. *Subsequently a citizen petition was filed requesting a discretionary Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) be conducted on the proposed project. As such, the administrative appeal proceedings are on hold by mutual agreement until the environmental review process is completed.*

File 16-7 (7-7-16) This is an appeal of a restoration order in Morrison County. The appeal regards the unauthorized impacts to approximately 3.6 acres of wetland associated with an agricultural drainage project. The appeal has been placed in abeyance until the LGU makes a final decision on the applications for exemption, no-loss and a replacement plan.

File 16-6 (5-27-16) This is an appeal of a restoration order in Wabasha County. The appeal regards the unauthorized impacts to approximately 61 acres of wetland associated with the placement of agricultural drain tile. The appeal has been placed in abeyance for the Technical Evaluation Panel to convene onsite and develop written findings of fact.

File 16-5 (4-28-16) This is an appeal of an exemption and no-loss decision in Olmsted County. The appeal regards the denial of an exemption and no-loss application for agricultural activities resulting in 4.6 acres of wetland impact. The applications were submitted in conjunction with an appeal of a restoration order (File 15-7). The appeal has been placed in abeyance pending the outcome of a local appeal proceedings.

File 16-4 (4-18-16) This is an appeal of an exemption decision in Wright County. The appeal regards the denial of an exemption application for repair of a pre-existing drain tile system that could partially drain 5-10 acres of wetland. A decision was been made to grant and hear the appeal. A pre-hearing conference took place on September 15, 2016 and both parties mutually agreed to postpone scheduling filing of written briefs in order to continue to investigate potential settlement options.

File 15-10 (10-14-15). This is an appeal of a restoration order in Chisago County. The appeal regards the unauthorized placement of fill in a wetland resulting in approximately 1.5 acres of impact. The alleged impacts are associated with the construction of motor cross/ATV track. The appeal has been placed in abeyance and the restoration order stayed for the Technical Evaluation Plan to convene on site and develop written findings of fact on the area of impact.

File 15-7 (7-20-15) This is an appeal of a Restoration Order in Olmsted County. The appeal regards the unauthorized placement of drain tile in a purported wetland. Applications for exemption and no-loss determinations have been submitted to the local unit of government concurrently with the appeal. The appeal has been placed in abeyance until the LGU makes a final decision on the applications for exemption and no-loss. That decision has been appealed (File 16-5). The appeal will remain in abeyance until there is a final decision on the exemption and no-loss appeal.

File 14-6 (5-28-14) This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision by DNR Land and Minerals involving the Hibbing Taconite Mine and Stockpile Progression and Williams Creek Wetland Mitigation. The appeal regards the approval of a wetland replacement plan application for mining related activities. A similar appeal was also filed simultaneously with DNR under procedures required for permit to mine. The appeal has been placed in abeyance for completion of DNR's contested case proceedings. DNR's February 11, 2016 final decision has been appealed to the Court of Appeals. The appeal will remain in abeyance pending judicial review.

~~File 14-4 (4-28-14) This is an appeal of a restoration and replacement order in McLeod County. The appeal regards alleged drainage improvements associated with the excavation of a private drainage system. At issue is a prior exemption determination. The appeal was placed in abeyance and the restoration and replacement orders stayed for the LGU to make a final decision on the after-the-fact wetland applications. The applications were determined to be approved by operation of law under Minn. Stat. §15.99. That decision has been appealed (File 14-9). The appeal will continue to be held in abeyance until there is a final decision by the Court of Appeals on File 14-9. The Court of Appeals issued an Opinion on August 8, 2016 affirming BWSR's decision. However, appeal will remain in abeyance for additional 60 days in case the decision is appealed to the State Supreme Court.~~ *The petition has been denied and the restoration and replacement orders affirmed.*

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. Site certification is scheduled to take place during the 2016.

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 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. A revised wetland bank plan application has been approved with conditions. Those conditions require the approval of partial ditch abandonment along with a Conditional Use Permit for alterations in the floodplain.

Summary Table

Type of Decision	Total for Calendar Year 2015	Total for Calendar Year 2016
Order in favor of appellant		
Order not in favor of appellant	5	1
Order Modified		
Order Remanded	1	1
Order Place Appeal in Abeyance	4	7
Negotiated Settlement		1
Withdrawn/Dismissed	2	1

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Southern Region Committee

1. Root River One Watershed, One Plan – Kathryn Kelly - ***DECISION ITEM***

2. Faribault County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – Kathryn Kelly - ***DECISION ITEM***

3. Martin County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Update – Kathryn Kelly - ***DECISION ITEM***

4. Murray County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – Kathryn Kelly - ***DECISION ITEM***

5. Yellow Medicine River One Watershed, One Plan – Kathryn Kelly - ***DECISION ITEM***

BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **Root River One Watershed, One Plan Presentation and Approval**

Meeting Date: December 14, 2016

Agenda Category: ☒ Committee Recommendation ☐ New Business ☐ Old Business

Item Type: ☒ Decision ☐ Discussion ☐ Information

Section/Region: Southern Region

Contact: Adam Beilke

Prepared by: Adam Beilke

Reviewed by: Southern Region Committee(s)

Presented by: Kathryn Kelly, Donna Rasmussen, Jennifer Ronnenberg

☒ **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

Approval of the Root River 2016-2026 One Watershed, One Plan as recommended by the Southern Regional Committee.

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Plan and appendix located on Fillmore SWCD website:

http://www.fillmoreswcd.org/documents/RootRiver1W1P_FinalDraft_PolicyCommitteeApproved_09262016_reduced.pdf
http://www.fillmoreswcd.org/documents/Appendices_05252016_2_004.pdf

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

The Root River One Watershed, One Plan includes portions of Dodge, Fillmore, Houston, Mower, Olmsted, and Winona counties in SE MN. This Plan was developed as part of the pilot One Watershed, One Plan program. Donna Rasmussen and Jennifer Ronnenberg, Fillmore SWCD, are the local lead staff responsible for development of the Plan and will be presenting and discussing the development of the prioritized, targeted, and measurable components of the Plan. This will include discussion on the use of the Prioritize, Target, and Measure Application (PTMApp) in the planning process. PTMApp uses water quality related products derived from high resolution topographic data collected using LiDAR technology to inform the prioritization of resource concerns and target specific fields for the implementation of nonpoint source BMPs. PTMApp can also measure the effectiveness of BMPs by cost and expected load reduction benefits at the resource of concern within the watershed. There will be time for questions with Donna and Jennifer.

On October 3, 2016, BWSR received the Plan, a record of the public hearings and copies of all written comments pertaining to the Plan for final State review pursuant to Board Resolution #14-46. State agency review comments were received from MDA, MDH, DNR and MPCA. The partnership has responded to all comments received and incorporated appropriate revisions to the final draft. The State agencies recommended that BWSR approve the Plan as submitted.

Resource concerns that were given an "A" priority level include the following:

1. Drinking Water Supplies (public and private)
2. Streams and Rivers
3. Landowner and Producer Engagement in Watershed Management
4. Livability

The partnership actively engaged citizens, partners and agency representatives in the development of the Plan and included measurable and targeted goals and strategies in their implementation schedule.

BWSR staff completed its review and required additions and modifications to a few areas of the Plan to meet the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, 103B.101, Subdivision 14 and Board Resolutions $14-46 and 14-68. The draft Plan was edited and subsequently found to meet the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, 103B.101.

On November 4, 2016, the Southern Regional Committee (Committee) met to review and discuss the Plan. The Committee's decision was to recommend approval of the Root River One Watershed, One Plan to the full Board per the attached draft Order.

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

In the Matter of the review of the Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan for the Root River One Watershed, One Plan, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.101, Subdivision 14.

ORDER APPROVING COMPREHENSIVE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

Whereas, the Policy Committee of the Root River One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P) submitted a Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (Plan) to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) on October 3, 2016 pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.101, Subdivision 14 and Board Resolutions #14-46 and 14-68, and;

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

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. **Partnership Establishment.** The Partnership was established in 2014 through adoption of a Memorandum of Agreement for the purposes of developing a Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. The membership of the Partnership includes: Dodge County, Dodge SWCD, Fillmore County, Fillmore SWCD, Mower County, Mower SWCD, Olmsted County, Olmsted SWCD, Houston County, Root River SWCD, Winona County, Winona SWCD, and Crooked Creek WD.

2. **Authority to Plan.** Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.101, Subdivision 14 allows the Board to adopt resolutions, policies, or orders that allow a comprehensive plan, local water management plan, or watershed management plan, developed or amended, approved and adopted, according to Chapter 103B, 103C, or 103D to be replaced with a comprehensive watershed management plan. And, Board Resolutions #14-46 and 14-68 adopted the One Watershed, One Plan Operating Procedures and Plan Content Requirements for Pilots policies.

3. **Nature of the Watershed.** Approximately 1,659 square miles of the total plan area is comprised of the Root River watershed. Both the Mississippi River – Reno watershed (184 square miles) and Upper Iowa River watershed (217 square miles) were included in the plan area. The Root River plan area is characterized by productive agricultural land, considerable amounts of habitat for game and nongame wildlife, unique karst topography, and an aesthetically pleasing landscape.

4. **Plan Development.** The Partnership initiated the plan development process for the One Watershed, One Plan on January 9, 2015 by notifying the designated state plan review agencies, local government units, and other identified stakeholders that it was starting the planning process and soliciting each

plan review agency's priority issues, summaries of relevant water management goals, and water resource information. The stakeholder and public involvement effort was officially kicked off on April 8, 2015 during an open house where citizens, stakeholders, elected and appointed officials, and staff were given the opportunity to share information, identify priority concerns, and provide comments for the planning process. The engagement efforts continued with the development of a Stakeholder Involvement Plan which helped ensure an open process for soliciting input and obtaining comments from all stakeholders during plan development. This input was used in the development and prioritization of resource concerns, as well as strategies and actions to address these concerns and achieve measurability. Once measurable goals were set for these resource concerns, the Prioritize, Target, and Measure Application (PTMApp) was used to identify the magnitude and distribution of potential pollution sources across the planning area, along with targeting locations for implementing practices to address issues impacting the resources of concern. Planning partners were then able to select specific practices based on pollutant reduction estimates and cost effectiveness. The reduction estimates from the targeted implementation schedule, along with the measurable goals established for the watershed, provided an estimated pace of progress that can be expected over the next ten years. Implementation categories and initiatives were then detailed to identify where funds will be utilized to accomplish the strategies and actions from the targeted implementation schedule. The draft Plan was approved by the Policy Committee and then distributed to individuals, communities, Plan Review Authorities, and other stakeholders on June 23, 2016 for the required 60-day review and comment period. Written comments were received, considered, and responded to by the Partnership and approved by the Policy Committee. The Policy Committee held public hearings in Stewartville on September 7, 2016 and Caledonia on September 8, 2016 where additional comments were brought forth by the public. The final draft Plan and all required materials were submitted and officially received by the Board on October 3, 2016.

5. **Plan Review.** On October 3, 2016, the Board received the Plan, a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the Plan for final State review pursuant to Board Resolution #14-46. State agency representatives attended and provided input at Advisory Committee meetings during development of the Plan. The following state review comments were received during the comment period.

   A. Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA): MDA provided early input to the planning process and participated in Advisory Committee meetings. During the 60-day review, MDA provided comments on technical language used in the Plan and additional information needed in the Executive Summary. MDA also requested clarification on how high priority areas would be addressed and landowners engaged. Several comments were based on the use of measurable goals from the Nutrient Reduction Strategy. Clarification was requested on the use of PTMApp during the planning process. The Partnership responded to all comments received. MDA did not provide additional comments to BWSR during the 90-day review period.

   B. Minnesota Department of Health (MDH): MDH provided early input to the planning process and participated in Advisory Committee meetings. During the 60-day review, MDH commended the Partnership for listing "drinking water supplies" as an "A" level resource concern. MDH provided several comments on technical language used in the Plan. Comments were also provided on the tracking and measurement of nitrate concentrations in drinking water supplies. Similarly, comments were made on the measurement and management of bacteria in drinking water supplies. The Partnership responded to all comments received. MDH notified BWSR during the 90-day review period that they look forward to offering technical assistance in developing projects to protect drinking water resources within the Plan area.

C. Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR): DNR provided early input to the planning process and participated in Advisory Committee meetings. During the 60-day review, DNR noted that many comments and concerns presented by the DNR had been incorporated into the Plan. DNR did have questions on the use of PTMApp in targeting BMPs in the watershed and the potential for other models and studies to be used for targeting in the future. Additional comments focused on technical language used in the Plan and also specified the potential impacts of climate change on streamflow and groundwater recharge as an issue that needed to be addressed. The Partnership responded to all comments received. DNR notified BWSR during the 90-day review period that they have concerns regarding PTMApp, altered hydrology, and surface water-groundwater interactions, which they look forward to working with the Partnership on during plan implementation.

D. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA): MPCA provided early input to the planning process and participated in Advisory Committee meetings. During the 60-day review, MPCA provided several comments with concern over the use of goals from the Nutrient Reduction Strategy. MPCA saw limitations in the use of PTMApp regarding channel sources of sediment and the loss of nitrate in groundwater. MPCA also commented on bacteria data and impairments that they felt should be incorporated into the Plan. Additional comments addressed technical language used in the Plan. The Partnership responded to all comments received. MPCA notified BWSR during the 90-day review period that they look forward to working with the Partnership on efforts to mitigate the vertical transport of nitrate to groundwater and the continued efforts to reduce bacteria levels in the watershed.

E. Minnesota Environmental Quality Board: No comments were received from the Environmental Quality Board.

F. Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) regional staff: BWSR staff provided early input to the planning process, participated in the Advisory Committee meetings, and provided assistance to the Planning Work Group during the plan development process. BWSR staff also took advantage of the opportunity to attend the public involvement activities held by the Partnership during the planning process. During the 60-day review, BWSR staff commended the Partnership for collaborating together and participating as a pilot in the development of the One Watershed, One Plan program. The Partnership was specifically acknowledged for the public engagement campaign that was implemented throughout the planning process. BWSR staff comments included request for additional detail on how the annual work planning would take place and a commitment to incorporating Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS) and Sediment Budget information into future updates of the Plan. Additionally, BWSR staff asked for more information on the Crooked Creek Watershed District (WD) in order to meet WD planning requirements. The Partnership responded to all comments received. BWSR staff recommends approval of the plan.

G. Local Review: The Partnership sought input from local units of government throughout the plan development process. No comments were received.

6. **Plan Highlights.** The highlights of the plan include:
   - The Executive Summary is concise, but informative, and also works as a separate handout on the Plan for target audiences, such as elected officials and the general public. It includes the required information, nicely summarizing the resource concerns and issues, measurable goals, and the resulting strategies and actions in the Plan.
   - Resource concerns given an "A" priority level include: Drinking Water Supplies (public and private), Streams and Rivers, Landowner and Producer Engagement in Watershed Management, and Livability. "B" level priorities include: Surficial-Subsurface Hydrologic Connections, Flooding,

Wetlands, Riparian Corridors, Public Knowledge of and Behavior Relative to Water Issues, Drainage Systems, and Water Retention Systems.

- Planning partners identified 39 strategies to address each resource concerns and a total of 211 actions were developed to achieve these strategies and gauge measurability.
- PTMApp was used through several stages of the planning process, including the identification of potential pollutant sources, targeting locations for implementing practices, and the selection of practices based on pollutant reduction estimates and cost effectiveness.
- An estimated $19,405,000 is needed to fully fund the Plan over its 10-year lifespan, with $14,650,000 anticipated to come in the form of 1W1P implementation block grants from the State.

7. **South Regional Committee.** On November 4, 2016, the Southern Region Committee met to review and discuss the Plan. Those in attendance from the Board's Committee were Kathryn Kelly, Doug Erickson, Nathan Redalen, Tom Loveall, and Steve Sunderland. Board staff in attendance were Southern Region Manager Ed Lenz, and Board Conservationist Adam Beilke. The representatives from the Partnership were Donna Rasmussen and Jennifer Ronnenberg. Board regional staff provided its recommendation of Plan approval to the Committee. After discussion, the Committee's decision was to present a recommendation of approval of the Plan to the full Board.

8. This Plan will be in effect for a ten-year period until December 31, 2026.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant substantive and procedural requirements of law have been fulfilled.
2. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan for the Root River One Watershed, One Plan pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.101, Subd. 14 and Board Resolutions #14-46 and 14-68.
3. The Root River One Watershed, One Plan attached to this Order states water and water-related problems within the planning area; priority resource issues and possible solutions thereto; goals, objectives, and actions of the Partnership; and an implementation program.
4. The attached Plan is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.101, Subd. 14 Board Resolutions #14-46 and 14-68.
5. The attached plan when adopted through local resolution by the members of the Partnership will serve as a replacement for the comprehensive plan, local water management plan, or watershed management plan, developed or amended, approved and adopted, according to Chapter 103B, 103C, or 103D, but only to the geographic area of the Plan and consistent with the One Watershed, One Plan Suggested Boundary Map.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the attached Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan of the Root River One Watershed, One Plan, dated October 3, 2016.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this 14th of December, 2016.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

_____

BY: Brian Napstad, Chair

Root River Watershed
ONE WATERSHED ONE PLAN

Root River Watershed
One Watershed, One Plan

Prepared for:
Root River One Watershed, One Plan,
900 Washington St. NW, Preston, MN

Prepared by:
Houston Engineering, Inc.
6901 East Fish Lake Road, Suite 150, Maple Grove, MN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Root River Watershed One Watershed, One Plan is a coalition of Counties, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and the Crooked Creek Watershed District within southeast Minnesota. The formation of the coalition signifies an important step in local efforts to manage, restore, and protect water and natural resources in southeastern Minnesota. In order to be an effective entity for the management, restoration, and protection of resources within the Root River plan area, the Root River One Watershed, One Plan developed this pilot One Watershed, One Plan to focus on implementation strategies that are prioritized, targeted, and result in measurable resource improvements. The strategies to maintain, restore, and protect resources within the plan are aimed at achieving lasting conservation, while considering the needs, rights, and interests of the local community, residents and stakeholders.

The Root River plan area is part of the Lower Mississippi River Basin, and is located in the most southeastern corner of Minnesota (**Plan Section 1.2 and 1.3; Pg. 1-1**). Six counties are located within the plan area boundaries. Those counties, and the proportion of each county making up the plan area, include Fillmore (41.8%), Houston (26.2%), Mower (14.5%), Winona (9.7%), Olmsted (7.5%), and Dodge (0.3%). The Root River plan area can generally be divided into broad regions defined as "planning regions." **Figure ES-1** shows the boundaries for the planning regions within the plan area. The boundaries generally correspond with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) 10-digit Hydrologic Unit Codes (HUCs) from the Watershed Boundary Dataset. Separate planning regions were established for those portions of the plan watershed draining directly to the Mississippi River and south into Iowa.

In recognition that not all identified issues can be addressed in the timeframe of a ten-year plan, planning partners developed a process to reach an agreed-upon list of the watershed issues and priorities that will be addressed within the lifespan of the plan (**Plan Section 2; Pg. 2-1**). Resources, resource concerns, and issues were identified prior to prioritization. Prioritization of resources, resource concerns, and issues was accomplished through soliciting and tabulating preferences expressed by the public, advising committees, and planning partners. Resources based on the expression of preference were then categorized as an A, B, or C priority level. Expectations are that the resource concerns with the "A" and "B" level designations are likely to be implemented concurrently, with "C" level priority designations reviewed annually for implementation. Resource concerns that are "A" level priorities include: Drinking Water Supplies (public and private); Streams and Rivers; Landowner and Producer Engagement in Watershed Management; and Livability (**Plan Section 2.4.1; Pg. 2-14**). Resource concerns that are "B" level priorities include: Surficial-Subsurface Hydrologic Connections; Flooding; Wetlands; Riparian Corridors; Public Knowledge of and Behavior Relative to Water Issues; Drainage System; and Water Retention Systems (**Plan Section 2.4.2; Pg. 2-18**). Resource concerns that are "C" level priorities include: Springsheds; Aquatic Habitat for Fish, Macroinvertebrates, and Aquatic Life; Trout Streams; Areas of Moderate and High Biodiversity; Karst Formations; Connecting Water and the Business Community; Technology, Tools and Existing Capabilities; Rural Environmental Health; Urban Environmental Health; Land Use; and Point Sources (**Plan Section 2.4.3; Pg. 2-26**).

The targeted implementation schedule is intended to address specific issues impacting each "A" or "B" resource concern (**Plan Section 4; Pg. 4-1**). As such, a series of measurable goals were established for each "A" and "B" level resource concerns. Each goal was made "measurable" through implementation of strategies and actions for addressing the issues impacting a priority resource concern and assessing progress through a metric. Defined goals are either quantitative measurable goals (i.e. pollutant load reduction) or reporting measurable goals (i.e. number of outreach contacts made, number of BMPs implemented). These goals, strategies, metrics, and actions for the priority concerns create the foundation for the targeted implementation schedule. As "C" level priority resource concerns are not addressed in the targeted implementation schedule, measurable goals for "C" level priorities were not developed. However, the issues impacting "C" level priority resource concerns will in part be accomplished by working towards other measurable goals for "A" and "B" level priority resource concerns.

Within the targeted implementation schedule (**Plan Section 4.8; Pg. 4-25**), resource concerns are prescribed a set of strategies to address the issues impacting the resource of concern. A set of implementation actions are prescribed in order to accomplish each strategy. Within the implementation table, each action is then described and assigned to a "management category." Four different management categories are included in the table: 1) field practice, 2) statutory/ordinance, 3) research, and 4) education and outreach. The management category generally relates to the specific initiative which will be used to accomplish the action. Initiatives are focused on a specific resource category, which are used as a means of executing strategies to achieve measurable goals. Each initiative is assigned a source of the funding used to implement and administer the action. These initiatives are presented in **Table ES- 1**, and are further defined and discussed in **Section 5 (Pg. 5-1).** As local approvals and ordinances are already a component of local government budgets, actions in the statutory/ordinance management category are not assigned a specific initiative. Plan components are summarized in **Figure ES-2**.

Table ES-1: Management category and associated incentive based initiative for implementation program

Management Category	Incentive Based Initiative
Field Practice	Groundwater Initiative
	Surface Water Initiative
	Landscape Features Initiative
	Social Capacity Initiative
	Sustainability of Communities Initiative
	Water Resources Infrastructure Initiative
Research	Research Initiative
	Data Development and Management Initiative
Education and Outreach	Education and Outreach Initiative

The targeted implementation schedule also defines the roles and responsibilities for completing each action item within a strategy (**Section 4.5; Pg. 4-15**). The targeted implementation schedule includes strategies and actions intended to be completed by others, including state agencies, federal agencies, and non-governmental organizations. The roles and responsibilities for implementation are identified by assigning a "lead" (local, state, or federal), a "lead entity," and "partners" to each action. The "lead" designation indicates whether the responsibility for completion of an action is at the local government or some other level (i.e., by a state agency, federal agency or Non-Governmental Organization [NGO] collaborator). The designation of the "lead entity" is the specific agency or local governmental unit responsible for facilitating the action item to its completion. "Partners" are also assigned to each action to recognize collaborative efforts in order to implement some actions within the targeted implementation schedule.

Field practices may address multiple issues impacting priority resource concerns. To facilitate implementation, prescribed field practices within strategies and actions are organized by planning regions within the plan area (**Section 4.9; Pg. 4-38; Table 4-7**). For each planning region the number and type of field practices by treatment group is shown based on issues impacting priority resources in the planning region and based on field practice suitability in the planning region. Field practice treatment groups lump best management practices (BMPs) into categories based on the processes by which they remove sediment, total nitrogen, total phosphorus, and reduce peak discharge. Four different treatment groups are described (i.e., storage, filtration, infiltration, and source reduction). The total cost for the aggregated number of field practices is also shown.

Next, the anticipated progress towards quantitative measurable goals (i.e. pollutant load reduction) made through implementation of the prescribed field practices is assessed. As field practices commonly produce benefits for multiple issues impacting priority resources, all quantitative water quality issues are evaluated: Sediment, Total Nitrogen, Total Phosphorus, and Excess Runoff. Using the Prioritize, Target, and Measure Application (PTMApp), each issue is assigned an existing condition (load or runoff volume), the target measurable goal, and the anticipated load reduction that is generated by the implementation of the prescribed field practices. **Table ES-2** summarizes the field practices for all planning regions within the Root River One Watershed, One Plan Area, separated into the planning regions which drain to the Mississippi River, and the planning regions that drain south into Iowa.

An annual work plan will be developed by the Planning Work Group based on the targeted implementation schedule and any adjustments made through self-assessments (**Section 5.4.4; Pg. 5-33**). The annual work plan will then be presented to the Policy Committee, who will ultimately be responsible for approval. The intent of these annual work plans will be to maintain collaborative progress towards completing the targeted implementation schedule. The framework for prioritizing and aiming to complete the targeted implementation schedule during the annual planning will include a variety of factors and criteria, including, but not limited to:

- Streams that are nearly or barely impaired and have a high probability of staying unimpaired or becoming unimpaired with relatively small protection or restoration efforts;
- Potential for voluntary participation by landowners and residents;
- PTMApp pollutant load reductions;
- Available funding;
- Partnerships;
- Practices/projects ready to implement (overlay these with field practices identified by PTMApp); and
- Opportunities for civic engagement, education and outreach, and research.

Figure ES-2: Components of the Root River One Watershed, One Plan.

Table ES-2: Summary of existing loads, target measurable goals, and anticipated load reductions generated by the implementation of the prescribed field practices for the Root River One Watershed, One Plan plan area.

Drainage	Treatment Group Type & Number of BMPs	Cost	Issue	Unit	Existing Conditions	Quantitative Measurable Goal				PTMApp Scenario Reduction	5 year Load Reduction Goal	10 year Load Reduction Goal	10 yr. Progress towards Measurable Goal (%)
						Metric	Amount (%)*	Target Load Reduction	Year				
Drainage to Mississippi River	Storage (244) Filtration (78) Infiltration (3) Source Reduction (812)	$6,437,605	Sediment	tons/yr	116,416	Annual Load (mass/yr.)	45	52,387	2025	14,488	7,244	14,488	28
			Nutrients: Total Nitrogen	lbs/yr	10,848	Annual Load (mass/yr.)	45	4,882	2040	112	56	112	2
			Nutrients: Total Phosphorus	lbs/yr	134	Annual Load (mass/yr.)	45	60	2025	12	6	12	20
			Excess Runoff: 2 Year	acre feet	71,177	2-Yr. Runoff Volume	25	17,794	2030	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
			Excess Runoff: 10 Year	acre feet	167,868	2-Yr. Runoff Volume	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Drainage to Upper Iowa River	Storage (44) Filtration (15) Source Reduction (268)	$1,410,038	Sediment	tons/yr	112,249	Annual Load (mass/yr.)	45	50,512	2025	27,776	13,888	27,776	55
			Nutrients: Total Nitrogen	lbs/yr	32,828	Annual Load (mass/yr.)	45	14,773	2040	3,285	1,642	3,285	22
			Nutrients: Total Phosphorus	lbs/yr	2,024	Annual Load (mass/yr.)	45	911	2025	360	180	360	40
			Excess Runoff: 2 Year	acre feet	7,781	2-Yr. Runoff Volume	25	1,945	2030	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
			Excess Runoff: 10 Year	acre feet	17,036	2-Yr. Runoff Volume	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

* Nutrients and Sediment percent reductions related to Minnesota Nutrient Reduction Strategy for Mississippi River Basin (45% reduction of nitrogen by 2040, 45% reduction of phosphorus [surrogate for sediment] by 2025). Excess Runoff percent reductions related to Sediment Reduction Strategy for the Minnesota River Basin and South Metro Mississippi River (25% reduction of two-year peak discharge by 2030).

This table quantifies the amount of progress that can be made within the Root One Watershed, One Plan area if recommended field practices are implemented within the 10-year life of the watershed plan. This summary includes anticipated reductions for the following: Sediment, Total Nitrogen, Total Phosphorus and Excess Runoff. The top portion of the table refers to the portion of the Root One Watershed, One Plan area that drains directly to the Mississippi River; the lower portion refers to the portion of the planning area that drains south into Iowa.

Table Interpretation (top row): The existing amount, or annual load, of sediment reaching the outlet of all planning regions draining to the Mississippi River equals 116,416 tons per year. In order to reach the goal of reducing the existing annual load of sediment by 45% (by year 2025, based on the Minnesota Nutrient Reduction Strategy), the amount of sediment reaching the outlet of all planning regions draining to the Mississippi River needs to be reduced by 52,387 tons per year. If 244 storage practices, 78 filtration practices, 3 infiltration practices, and 812 source reduction practices are implemented within the planning regions draining to the Mississippi River, PTMApp estimates that 14,488 tons/year of sediment can be reduced after 10 years. At the end of the 10-year plan, PTMApp estimates that 28% of the total target load reduction goal of 52,387 tons/year will be reached. PTMApp does not project that the goal of a 45% reduction (by year 2025) will be met unless additional practices and actions are implemented.

Data derived from the Prioritize, Target, and Measure Application (PTMApp) was used to inform decisions and tables through several stages of the One Watershed, One Plan process (**Figure ES-3**). PTMApp leveraged base products to identify and describe important resources, features, and factors (i.e. socioeconomics) associated with the Root River One Watershed, One Plan area (**Figure ES-3: Describe Your Watershed**), and prioritize resources of concern based on issues impacting them, such as the delivery of pollutant loads to surface water resources of concern (**Figure ES-3: Prioritize Resource Concerns**). PTMApp was then used to identify the magnitude and spatial distribution of potential pollution sources across the landscape (**Figure ES-3: Complete Source Assessment**). Following the source assessment, PTMApp was used to identify locations within the Root River One Watershed, One Plan area that are feasible candidates for implementing practices aimed to address issues impacting resources of concern (**Figure ES-3: Evaluate Practice Feasibility**). From this list of feasible practices, planning partners used PTMApp to select specific practices based on their probable benefits, ranging from pollutants removed to related cost (**Figure ES-3: Estimate Individual Practice WQ Benefits**). Potential locations were then evaluated for their combined effectiveness (**Figure ES-3: Target Preferred Practice Locations**).

The data developed through PTMApp for this plan can continue to be used to develop and refine numerous BMP implementation scenarios. Specific locations to place practices must be targeted based on practical and social factors, and PTMApp data can incorporate additional information to refine the practices targeted (**Figure ES-3: Develop Targeted Implementation Plan**). Use of PTMApp in the Root River plan area was then used to evaluate the combined benefits of implementation scenarios, expressed as the amount of load reduction at the resource location being restored or protected, as compared to a measurable goal (**Figure ES-3: Estimate Benefits/Targeted Implementation Plan**). Lastly, the benefits of the implementation plan were compared to the measurable goals at one or more locations within the Root plan area (**Figure ES-3: Measure: Assess Feasibility of Measurable Goals, Table ES-3**).

Figure ES-3: Use of PTMApp in Root River 1W1P plan development

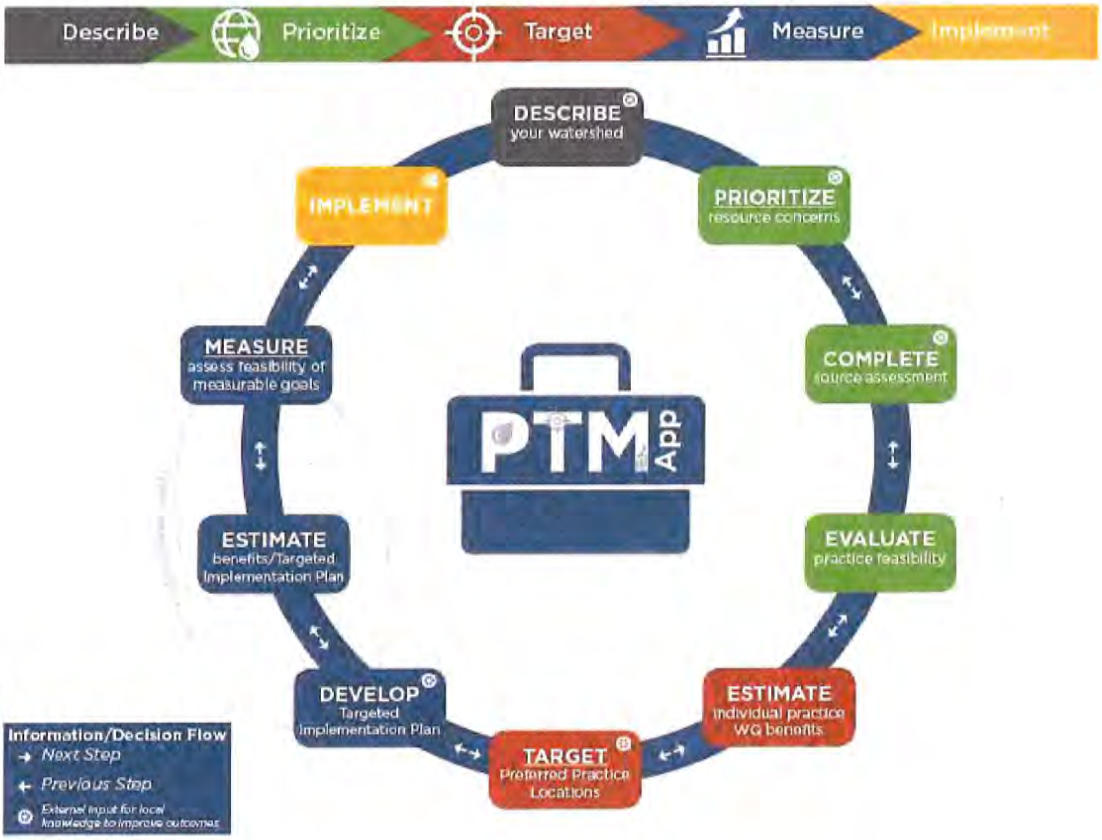

Table ES-3: PTMApp scenario of sediment reduction goal, **using the outlet of the South Fork Root River subwatershed as an example.**

At Impaired Water	Sediment (tons/yr)	Total Phosphorus (lb/yr)	Total Nitrogen (lb/yr)
Current Estimated Load	69,602	293	4,504
Estimated Load Reduction for Plan	6,440	29	337
Estimated Load with Plan	63,162	264	4,167
Goal (% reduction)	45%	45%	45%
Goal Load Reduction (mass)	31,321	132	2,027
Plan Percent of Goal	21%	22%	16%

Goals are annual values from the Minnesota Nutrient Reduction Strategy for Mississippi River Basin for TP and TN. Sediment percentage equal to TP reduction goal within the Minnesota Nutrient Reduction Strategy for Mississippi River Basin.

Estimated funding needs for implementation of the Root River One Watershed, One Plan for the 10-year lifespan of the plan is provided in **Table ES-4**. This includes the estimated cost of each action addressing "A" and "B" level resource concerns, as classified by management category: 1) field practice, 2) statutory/ordinance, 3) research, and 4) education and outreach. Actions in the statutory/ordinance management category are not assigned an additional cost, as local approvals and ordinances are already a component of local government budgets (**Section 5.4; Pg. 5-30**). Additional funding needs for implementation of this plan are also included within **Table ES-4**, including plan administration and capital improvement projects.

Table ES- 4: Estimated total funding needs for implementation of the Root River One Watershed, One Plan for the 10-year period.

Management Category	Total Funding Needs (over 10 years)
Field Practice [1]	$8,800,000
Statutory Obligations / Ordinances[2]	$2,000,000
Research[3]	$1,000,000
Education & Outreach[4]	$825,000
Additional Expenses	**Total Funding Needs (over 10 years)**
Plan Administration[5]	$1,780,000
Capital Improvements (2 during plan period)	$5,000,000
Total Estimated Funding Needs	**$19,405,000[6]**

[1] Based on field practice numbers and types in PTMApp using EQIP payment rates. Includes staffing time to implement field practices
[2] Based on estimated costs in existing local government unit budgets
[3] Based on one $100,000 research project per year
[4] Estimated $75,000 per year for watershed wide activities plus upfront cost to develop campaigns
[5] Plan administration and coordination staffing estimated at 1.75 full-time equivalent
[6] Plan area is 1.3 million acres. Total estimated funding need corresponds to average of $14.73 / acre over 10 years

The Root River One Watershed, One Plan parties previously entered into a formal agreement through a Memorandum of Agreement for the purpose of planning the One Watershed, One Plan for the Root River Watershed. The parties have drafted a Joint Powers Agreement for the specific goal of implementing the One Watershed, One Plan for the Root River Watershed (Draft). The drafted Joint Powers Agreement reflects the various roles for plan implementation (**Table ES-5**). Plan implementation will remain centrally administered, wherein the responsibility of administering the water plan is assigned to the Root River Watershed One Watershed, One Plan. Root River Watershed One Watershed, One Plan will continue coordination and cooperation with other governmental units at all levels. Plan partners also expect to continue collaboration with others, including non-governmental organizations.

Table ES-5. Anticipated roles for plan implementation to be incorporated into a Joint Powers Agreement.

Committee Name	Primary Implementation Role / Functions
Policy Committee	• Local funding commitments for implementation • Approving the annual work plan • Approving annual fiscal reports • Approving annual reports submitted to BWSR • Annual review and confirmation of Planning Work Group priority resource concerns recommendations • Direction to Planning Work Group on addressing emerging issues • Approve plan amendments • Implement county ordinances and state statutory responsibilities separately from plan implementation • Approve grant applications • Approve annual assessment
Advisory Committee	• Review of and input on annual work plan • Identification of collaborative funding opportunities • Recommendations to Planning Work Group on program adjustments • Assist with execution of the targeted implementation schedule
Planning Work Group	• Identify local funding needs for implementation • Prepare the annual work plan • Prepare annual fiscal reports • Prepare annual reports submitted to BWSR • Annual review and confirmation of priority resource concerns • Evaluate and recommend response to emerging issues • Prepare plan amendments • Prepare and submit grant applications • Implement the targeted implementation schedule • Complete annual assessment

BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Faribault County Priority Concerns Scoping Document

Meeting Date: December 14, 2016

Agenda Category: ☒ Committee Recommendation ☐ New Business ☐ Old Business

Item Type: ☒ Decision ☐ Discussion ☐ Information

Section/Region: Southern

Contact: Ed Lenz

Prepared by: Jill Sackett Eberhart

Reviewed by: Southern Regional Committee(s)

Presented by: Kathryn Kelly

☐ **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

Approval of the Faribault County Priority Concerns Scoping Document

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/boardpackets/2016/FaribaultPCSD.pdf

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

The Faribault County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan is due to expire on December 31, 2017. The County passed a resolution to begin the Plan update process on January 19, 2016. The initial step in the update process, the Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD), was developed by the County and routed to the State review agencies on July 20, 2016. The BWSR Southern Regional Committee (Committee) met on November 4, 2016, to discuss the content of the PSCD and the State agency comments and recommendations received for the final Plan.

All required components of the PCSD have been covered and the priority concerns identified to be addressed are deemed appropriate. The Committee voted unanimously to recommend the draft official State comment letter to the full board.

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

December 14, 2016

Faribault County Commissioners
c/o Michele Stindtman, Water Plan Coordinator
415 South Grove Street, Suite 8
Blue Earth, MN 56013

RE: Official Comments Pertaining to the State Review of the Faribault County Priority Concerns Scoping Document for the Local Water Management Plan Update

Dear Faribault County Commissioners:

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §103B.313, subdivision 5, this letter communicates the official comments of the State of Minnesota pertaining to the priority concerns Faribault County has chosen to address in the update of the County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (Plan).

The Faribault County Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) provides information about the County, summarizes the priority concerns development process, and provides the following priority concerns for inclusion in the Plan update:

- Blue Earth Watershed
  - Altered Hydrology
  - Sediment and nutrient transport
  - Ground Water (water quality and water quantity/drinking water supply)
- Le Sueur Watershed
  - Altered Hydrology
  - Sediment and nutrient transport
  - Ground Water (water quality and water quantity/drinking water supply)

The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), along with the State review agencies, received the PCSD on July 20, 2016. Comments were received from the BWSR staff and the Department of Agriculture (MDA). The Department of Health (MDH), the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and the Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) did not provide comments on the PCSD.

The BWSR and MDA concurred with the priority concerns identified and the process used to identify the concerns. In addition, MDA included a reminder in regard to nitrogen issues and Minnesota Agriculture Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP).

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The BWSR Southern Regional Committee (Committee) met on November 4, 2016, to discuss comments received from State review agencies and others, discuss the content of the PCSD, and make recommendations for the content of the final Plan. The Committee's findings were presented to the BWSR Board at its meeting on December 14, 2016.

The BWSR Board has deemed the priority concerns to be addressed in the Plan are appropriate; no changes are recommended or required to the PCSD as drafted. Please proceed with the development of your Plan. During the development of the goals and action items, the County should include a discussion on climate change and how that may influence water management within the County. The BWSR Board encourages the County to continue to engage in a process that includes a broad range of citizens and interest groups, in addition to local government officials, and State and federal resource managers during the development of goals, objectives, and an implementation plan.

We look forward to the completion of your Plan and its implementation.

Sincerely,

Brian Napstad, Chair
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

cc: Michele Stindtman, County Water Plan Coordinator
Rob Sib, MDA (via email)
Amanda Strommer, MDH (via email)
Catherine Fouchi, DNR (via email)
Juline Holleran, MPCA (via email)
Ed Lenz, BWSR Regional Manager (via email)
Jill Sackett Eberhart, BWSR Board Conservationist (via email)
Mary Jo Anderson, BWSR (file copy)

BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **Martin County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Update**

Meeting Date: December 14, 2016

Agenda Category: ☒ Committee Recommendation ☐ New Business ☐ Old Business

Item Type: ☒ Decision ☐ Discussion ☐ Information

Section/Region: Southern

Contact: Ed Lenz

Prepared by: Jill Sackett Eberhart

Reviewed by: Southern Regional Committee(s)

Presented by: Kathryn Kelly

☐ **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

Approval of the Martin County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan update.

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/boardpackets/2016/Final_MartinCountyLocalWaterPlan2016.pdf

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

The Martin County Comprehensive Local Water Plan is due to expire on December 31, 2016. The County passed a resolution to begin the Plan update process on November 3, 2015. The initial step in the update process, the Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD), was developed by the County and routed to the State review agencies on March 9, 2016. BWSR communicated the State's official comments pertaining to the priority concerns in a letter dated May 25, 2016. The required public hearing was held on September 6, 2016, as part of a regular County Board meeting.

The final draft of the updated Plan was submitted to the required parties on September 21, 2016. Written comments were received from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Minnesota Department of Health, and BWSR. The duration of the Plan will be from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2026. The Plan includes the priority concerns of: surface water (quality, quantity, and drinking water supply) and ground water (quality, quantity, and drinking water supply).

On November 4, 2016, the Southern Regional Committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of the Plan to the full Board.

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

In the Matter of the review of the Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan for Martin County, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 103B.311, Subdivision 4 and Section 103B.315, Subdivision 5.

ORDER APPROVING COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

Whereas, the Board of Commissioners of Martin County (County) submitted a Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (Plan) to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) on September 21, 2016 pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 103B.315, Subdivision 5, and;

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

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On March 9, 2016, the Board received a Priority Concerns Scoping Document from Martin County, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 103B.312.

2. On May 25, 2016, the Board approved official comments on Martin County's Priority Concerns Scoping Document. The approval was mailed to the County on May 25, 2016.

3. The Plan focuses on the following priority concerns:
   A. Surface Water – Quality, Quantity and Drinking Water Supply
   B. Ground Water – Quantity, Quantity and Drinking Water Supply

4. On September 21, 2016, the Board received the Plan, a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the Plan for final State review pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 103B.315, Subd. 5. State agency representatives attended and provided input at advisory committee meetings during development of the Plan. The following State review comments were received during the comment period.

   A. Minnesota Department of Agriculture: No further comments and recommended approval of the Plan.
   B. Minnesota Department of Health: Noted that the Plan does not violate any statute or rule of the Minnesota Department of Health and recommended approval of the Plan as submitted.
   C. Minnesota Department of Natural Resources: No comments received.
   D. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency: No comments received.

E. Minnesota Environmental Quality Board: No comments received.
F. Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources regional staff: Recommended approval of the Plan.

5. **Southern Regional Committee.** On November 4, 2016, the Southern Regional Committee (Committee) of the Board reviewed the recommendation of the State review agencies regarding final approval of the Plan. Those in attendance from the Board's Committee were Committee Chair Kathryn Kelly, Doug Erickson, Tom Loveall, Nathan Redalen, and Steve Sunderland. Board staff in attendance were Southern Regional Manager Ed Lenz and Board Conservationist Jill Sackett Eberhart. The representatives from the County were Water Plan Coordinator Rich Perrine and Soil and Water Conservation District Manager Ashley Brenke. Board regional staff provided its recommendation of Plan approval to the Committee. After discussion, the Committee's decision was to present a recommendation of approval of the Plan to the full Board.

6. This Plan will be in effect for a ten-year period until December 31, 2026.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant substantive and procedural requirements of law have been fulfilled. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan for Martin County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 103B.315, Subd. 5.

2. The Martin County Plan attached to this Order states water and water-related problems within the County; priority resource issues and possible solutions thereto; goals, objectives, and actions of the County; and an implementation program. The attached Plan is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.301.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the attached update of the Martin Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan 2017 – 2026.

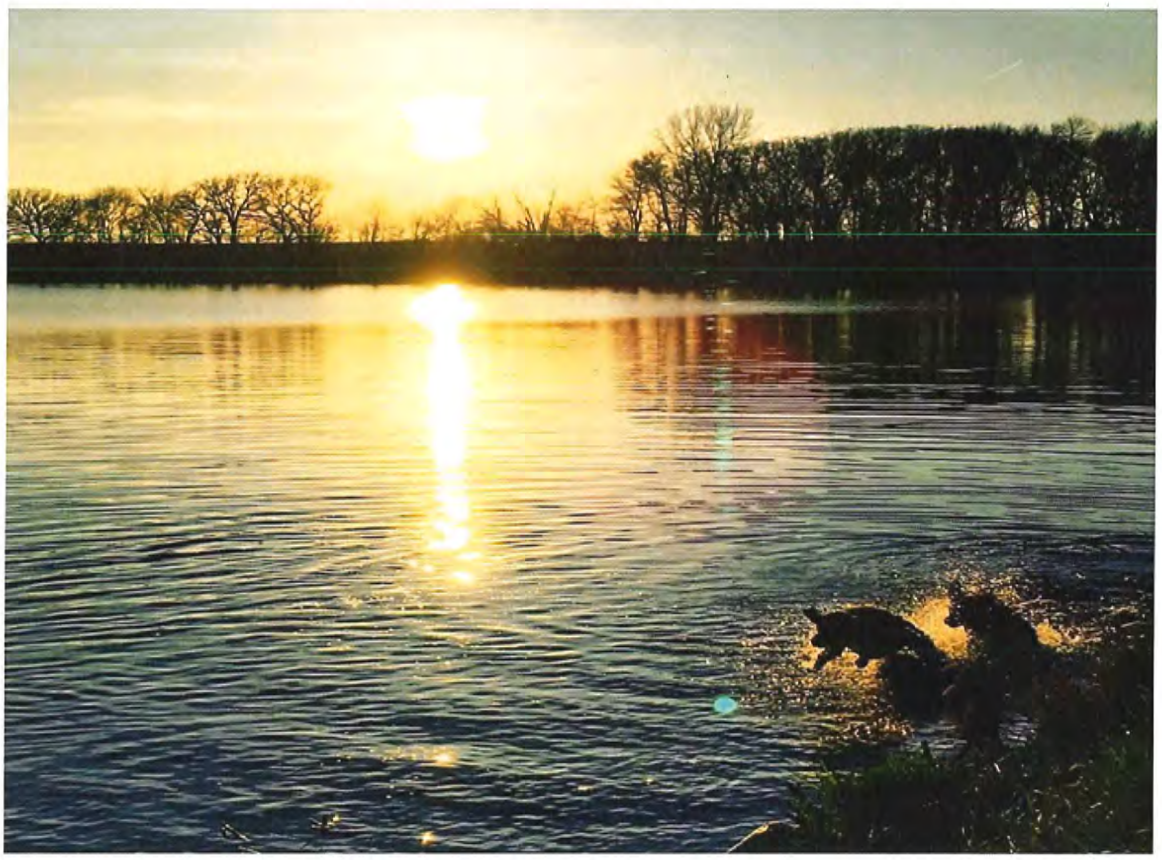
Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this 14th of December 2016.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

_____

BY: Brian Napstad, Chair

MARTIN COUNTY
LOCAL WATER PLAN 2017 – 2026



Martin County Water Planning
C/O Martin SWCD
923 North State Street, Suite 110
Fairmont, Minnesota 56031
507-235-6680

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Executive Summary

Purpose

Quality water resources are important to Martin County and the State of Minnesota. Martin County is blessed to have abundant water resources above what is typical for a southern Minnesota county. The County feels it is important, and has made it a priority, to protect those resources to maintain and enhance the quality of life, productivity of agriculture, recreation and business climate it now enjoys.

This is the fourth edition of the Martin County Water Plan. The first edition was adopted in 1989 and was revised in 1995 and 2006. This 2017 plan is aimed at continuing to protect and enhance the water resources in our county. Over the years we have experienced an extensive number of accomplishments driven by the Water Plan. Those accomplishments will be summarized in the "Martin County Water Plan Accomplishments" section of this plan.

This plan is intended to be shorter and more user friendly than previous plans. Priority concerns, goals, and objectives of previous plans are still relevant and will continue to be implemented under this plan. While this plan is focused on just two priority concerns, it will take a broad range of actions to fully address these concerns. The last plan focused on precision conservation. This plan will further the effort to identify and prioritize the areas and specific sites that are having the greatest impact on water and target financial resources as efficiently as possible to effectively correct the identified issues on these areas and sites.

The 2017 to 2026 Martin County Local Water Plan was developed in accordance with the Comprehensive Local Water Management Act: Minnesota Statute 103B.

The Martin County Local Water Plan Advisory Committee has remained active, holding quarterly meetings and recommending actions on issues as they arise. Educational programming, planning as well as review of past projects and accomplishments are important components of the committee's efforts.

The Water Plan Committee has made a recommendation to the County Drainage Authority to require a reduction in peak flows when planning and implementing improvements to public drainage systems.

The Martin County Conservation Alliance has become a major source of water plan implementation support. The conservation organizations individually and as a group, "the alliance" have provided cash and in-kind match to numerous grant projects. With the recent decline in BWSR easement program funding, marginal land acquisition has played a role in setting land aside for habitat, water quality enhancement and water quantity management. Conservation Alliance partners have completed several land acquisitions, have projects in the works and plan to continue to utilize LSOHC and LCCMR funds for targeted high priority

projects. Alliance members have suggested that setting aside marginal land for habitat will help address all of the priority concerns identified in the Water Plan Scoping Document. Therefore a separate section of plan has been reserved to address Habitat, outlining priorities based on adding to existing habitat and maximizing habitat value when addressing surface and ground water goals. Although some species benefit from large blocks of habitat, other species can be accommodated on smaller tracts. In addressing water issues in local areas (minor watersheds) the habitat needs of the immediate area must be considered and addressed.

Terrestrial and Aquatic Invasive Species will continue to impact our natural resources and will continue to be major factors to be incorporated into all of our natural resources planning and implementation strategies. Preventing the introduction of new invasive species and targeting existing species/populations for control and/or eradication will continue to be important for us to address in the water plan. Maintaining healthy diverse native plant populations and restoring diverse native plant populations help resist invasion by unwanted species on the landscape. Education and vigilance continue to be top priority for keeping new invasive species, terrestrial and aquatic from being introduced or becoming established.

Partnerships organized by watershed continue to be extremely important as we work efficiently to address issues across jurisdictional boundaries.

The WRAPS process will continue to be used to identify priority funding needs and drive implementation activities.

This plan builds upon a strong background, past research and the ongoing research and monitoring that has been the basis of water plans and plan implementation in the past. "Precision Conservation, which is installing highly effective conservation practices (BMPs) designed specifically for each of the most vulnerable, sensitive areas that are causing significant impacts to water quality/quantity, will continue to be important in implementing this plan. See the Addendum - 2011 Water plan update for a definition of precision conservation and how the BMPs are applied. BMPs must be planned in conjunction with any large developments or land use changes. LiDAR and other mapping tools including newly developed modeling software will improve the ability to target structural practices to the sites where they are most needed.

Climate change, in particular larger and more frequent rain events, will continue to be a driving force in developing drainage management strategies. The strategy must take drought periods into consideration if we are going to continue to develop high yielding production agriculture.

Keeping the raindrop where it falls is expected to be the highest priority strategy for the life of this water plan. With the tools available today, farmers can maintain high levels of residue on the soil surface to protect the soil without a negative impact to their bottom line. Some land may require additional tile drainage in critical locations to make it work and each farmer will need to determine what they need to do to make a transition to a no-till annual cropping system that will work for them. Continued research and on farm trials will be key to the adoption of effective soil health techniques across the watershed.

"Continuous Living Cover" is a strategy in annual crop production where no-till or strip-till systems have been adopted by the producer. Keeping living roots in the ground year round is needed to hold vital nutrients in the soil to build more healthy soil and improve soil productivity. This strategy addresses both priority concerns and is needed on all annually cropped acres.

Water planning goals cannot be achieved while bare soil is left exposed for months at a time. Exposed soils are responsible for most of our wind erosion, water erosion, sedimentation and are the largest single contributor to higher peak flows during runoff events. Exposed soil releases carbon dioxide to the atmosphere at a much higher rate than soil covered with natural vegetation or crop residue. Everyone who is responsible for managing soil plays a huge role in mitigating the effects of climate change.

Accomplishments

Some of the major accomplishments under previous Martin County Local Water Management Plans include:

- Securing competitive funding to do streambank restorations in the Elm Creek Watershed
- Partnering with local lake associations through a Clean Water Fund Accelerated Implementation grant
- Providing funding to plant trees in field windbreaks
- Implementation of conservation easements through the RIM program
- Receiving Surface Water Assessment Grant funding as part of the East Fork Des Moines River Watershed assessment
- Providing funding to seal abandoned wells, particularly wells in Drinking Water Source Management Areas

Plan Update

On November 3, 2015 the Martin County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution to update the Martin County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan and delegated authority to Martin SWCD to coordinate, assemble, write, and implement the revised Plan. Martin SWCD convened the Martin County Water Plan Advisory Committee multiple times during the updating of the Plan. Committee members include:

- Gary Schaub – Planning Commission
- Guy Beemer – Well Drillers
- Bryan Gregor – Health Field
- Philip Bettin (Galena) – Township
- Leeann Steen – Education
- Bruce Moore – Conservation Club
- Wayne Sommer – Lake Association Member

- Darwin Roberts – Agriculture
- Duane Rosburg (Rosburg Construction) – Drainage/Conservation Contractor
- Jeff Ziemer (3M) – Large Business
- Clair Schmidt, Jr. – Small Business
- Max Longley – Small City
- Tonya Klunder (Valero) – Bio-fuels Industry
- Layne Ebeling – Agriculture

Other Participants:

- Linda Meschke – Martin SWCD Board
- Judy Beckman – Martin SWCD Board
- Kathy Smith – County Commissioner
- Steve Flohrs – County Commissioner
- Tyler Cowing – City of Fairmont
- Deb Mosloski – Ditch Administration
- Mike Forstner – Ditch Administration
- Pam Flitter – Planning and Zoning
- Wendy Chirpich – Planning and Zoning
- Billeye Rabbe – Solid Waste
- Tim Langer – Sanitarian
- Rich Perrine – SWCD Staff
- Ashley Brenke – SWCD Staff
- Jesse Walters – SWCD Staff
- Reggie Liddell – Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Mark Hiles – Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR)
- Bryan Spindler – Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)
- Nate Hodgins – Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
- Amanda Strommer – Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)
- Les Anderson – Red Rock Rural Water

The following meetings and outreach events were held to provide public input:

November 3, 2015 – Martin County Commissioners pass a resolution to update the Martin County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan

December 17, 2015 – Martin County Water Plan Advisory Committee meeting (Attendance 13)

January 15, 2016 – Notice of Decision to Revise and Update the Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan sent out

January 27, 2016 – Fairmont Photo Press newspaper ran article requesting public input

January 28, 29 & 30, 2016 – Open House
February 10, 2016 – Gave radio interview on KSUM requesting public input

February 24, 2016 – Gave radio interview on KSUM requesting public input

February 25, 2016 – Fairmont Photo Press newspaper and Truman Tribune newspaper ran ads requesting public input

February 25, 2016 – Martin County Water Plan Advisory Committee meeting (Attendance 12)

February 29, 2016 – Public Meeting (Attendance 4)

April 7, 2016 – BWSR Southern Regional Meeting to review Priority Concerns Scoping Document

June 23, 2016 – Martin County Water Plan Advisory Committee meeting

July 6, 2016 – Provided update information on the Water Plan to the Martin County Board of Commissioners

August 2, 2016 – Set Public Hearing date at Martin County Board of Commissioners meeting

August 16, 2016 – Reviewed draft Water Plan at Martin County Board of Commissioners meeting

August 17, 2016 – Public notice ran in the Truman Tribune newspaper (2016 Martin County Legal Newspaper)

August 24, 2016 – Public notice ran in the Truman Tribune newspaper (2016 Martin County Legal Newspaper)

August 25, 2016 – Martin County Water Plan Advisory Committee meeting

September 1, 2016 – Sent out updated Water Plan to Committee members and other interested individuals for review

September 6, 2016 – Public Hearing before the Martin County Board of Commissioners

Priority Concerns

In March of 2016 The Martin County Local Water Management Committee developed the Priority Concern Scoping Document in accordance with the changes to the Comprehensive Local Water Management Act; Statutes 103B.304 – 103B.355. The scoping document identified two priority water resource concerns to be addressed in this Martin County Comprehensive Local Water Plan document. The two priority concerns are as follows:

Priority Concern #1: Surface Water (water quality and water quantity/drinking water supply).

Priority Concern #2: Groundwater (water quality and water quantity/drinking water supply).

A copy of the Priority Concerns Scoping Document is an appendix to this document.

Summary of Goals, Action and Costs

This Martin County Water Plan is designed to address the water resource issues within the county. It is intended to be progressive and forward thinking in order to improve the quality of life for area residents. The County Commissioners have been supportive of the Water Plan and intend to continue their support. The implementation plan indicates an annual need of approximately twice what is currently being spent in the county for all water resource related work. The goals/ objectives outlined in this plan should be considered when shaping ordinances, programs and planning documents within the county. The need to address agricultural nonpoint source pollution in order to meet TMDL goals will be one of the biggest challenges during this ten year plan.

The goals, objectives and actions identified in this plan address ongoing cooperative efforts by a variety of county and city departments and they include new goals that will require the county and cities to stretch and grow their current programming. All activities identified are voluntary. Some activities will require the county to acquire incentive funds to encourage landowner participation. Martin SWCD and conservation partners have been successful in the past in securing a significant amount of incentive dollars and they need to continue to apply for additional funds and work with multiple partners as opportunities arise. Implementation dollars and in-kind contributions from all partners will be needed to accomplish plan objectives, goals and action items. Grant writing has become a necessity, as grants continue to provide funding for a larger portion of the specific projects needed to implement conservation needs. This plan was developed to efficiently and effectively implement the programs and practices that will maximize the benefits from the conservation funding that is available.

Addressing agricultural nonpoint source pollution will be the biggest challenge facing the county during the next decade. Because the county has highly productive soils there is intense row crop and livestock farming with an extensive drainage infrastructure. Martin County has

98% of its tillable acres in annual row crops. The challenge is to adequately address the environmental concerns while retaining the integrity of production agriculture.

Implementation Budget Overview:

Water planning partners will work to secure funding for water plan implementation from all traditional sources and seek funding from new sources where funders share the goals and objectives outlined in the local water plan. The following budget identifies the annual cost to implement this water plan and realize measurable results. This budget assumes adequate staffing and funding to implement all action items. This budget does not include special funding for accelerated implementation.

Priority Concern	Annual Need
Surface Water (water quality and water quantity/drinking water supply)	**$ 945,000**
Groundwater (water quality and water quantity/drinking water supply)	**$ 80,000**
Ongoing Implementation	**$ 450,000**
Total Annual Need	**$ 1,475,000**

Statement of Consistency

The 2017 – 2026 Martin County Local Water Plan is consistent with local, state and federal rules and regulations.

Summary of Recommendations to Other Plans

A significant amount of research and input have gone into the development of this local water plan. Please pay close attention to the recommendations within this plan when updating and/or developing plans for other purposes. Future needs, multiple use and the protection and enhancement of our natural resources for future generations have been carefully considered in the planning and writing of this plan.

BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Murray County Priority Concerns Scoping Document

Meeting Date: December 14, 2016

Agenda Category: ☒ Committee Recommendation ☐ New Business ☐ Old Business

Item Type: ☒ Decision ☐ Discussion ☐ Information

Section/Region: Southern

Contact: Douglas Goodrich

Prepared by: Douglas Goodrich

Reviewed by: Southern Regional Committee(s)

Presented by: Kathryn Kelly

☐ **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

Approval of the Murray County Priority Concerns Scoping Document

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

http://murray-countymn.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/11-04-16-BWSR-Southern-Region-Approved-Murray-County-Priority-Concerns-Scoping-Document.doc.pdf

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

The Murray County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan is due to expire on July 1, 2017. The County passed a resolution to begin the Plan update process on January 19, 2016. The initial step in the update process, the Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD), was developed by the County and routed to the State review agencies on September 1, 2016. The BWSR Southern Regional Committee (Committee) met on November 4, 2016 to discuss the content of the PSCD and the State agency comments and recommendations received for the final Plan.

All required components of the PCSD have been covered and the priority concerns identified to be addressed are deemed appropriate. The Committee voted unanimously to recommend the draft official State comment letter to the full Board.

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

December 14, 2016

Murray County Commissioners
c/o Jean Christoffels, Zoning Administrator
2500 28th Street
Slayton, MN 56172

RE: Official Comments Pertaining to the State Review of the Murray County Priority Concerns Scoping Document for the Local Water Management Plan Update

Dear Murray County Commissioners:

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §103B.313, subdivision 5, this letter communicates the official comments of the State of Minnesota pertaining to the priority concerns Murray County has chosen to address in the update of the County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (Plan).

The Murray County Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) provides information about the County, summarizes the priority concerns development process, and provides the following priority concerns for inclusion in the Plan update:

- Improve Surface Water Quality and Quantity
- Improve Groundwater Quality and Quantity
- Drainage Water Management
- SSTS/Feedlots

The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), along with the State review agencies, received the PCSD on September 1, 2016. Comments were received from BWRS staff, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), and Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA). The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) did not provide comments on the PCSD.

The BWSR, MDA, and MDH concurred with the priority concerns identified and noted they felt the process to identify the concerns was commendable. The priority concerns identified in the Murray County PCSD took all the agency comments into consideration and addresses identified agency priorities.

Bemidji	Brainerd	Detroit Lakes	Duluth	Mankato	Marshall	New Ulm	Rochester
403 Fourth Street NW Suite 200 Bemidji, MN 56601 (218) 755-2600	1601 Minnesota Drive Brainerd, MN 56401 (218) 203-4470	26624 N. Tower Road Detroit Lakes, MN 56501 (218) 846-8400	394 S. Lake Avenue Suite 403 Duluth, MN 55802 (218) 723-4752	12 Civic Center Plaza Suite 3000B Mankato, MN 56001 (507) 344-2821	1400 East Lyon Street Marshall, MN 56258 (507) 537-6060	21371 State Hwy 15 New Ulm, MN 56073 (507) 359-6074	3555 9th Street NW Suite 350 Rochester, MN 55901 (507) 206-2889

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www.bwsr.state.mn.us TTY: (800) 627-3529 An equal opportunity employer

The BWSR Southern Regional Committee (Committee) met on November4, 2016, to discuss comments received from State review agencies and others, discuss the content of the PCSD, and recommendations for the content of the final Plan. The Committee's findings were presented to the BWSR Board at its meeting on December 14, 2016.

The BWSR Board has deemed the priority concerns to be addressed in the Plan are appropriate; no changes are recommended or required to the PCSD as drafted. Please proceed with the development of your Plan. During the development of the goals and action items, the County should include a discussion on climate change and how that may influence water management within the County. The BWSR Board encourages the County to continue to engage in a process that includes a broad range of citizens and interest groups, in addition to local government officials, and State and federal resource managers during the development of goals, objectives, and an implementation plan.
We look forward to the completion of your Plan and its implementation.

Sincerely,

Brian Napstad, Chair
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

cc: Jean Christoffels, Zoning Administrator
Robert I. Sip, MDA (via email)
Amanda Strommer, MDH (via email)
Catherine Fouchi, DNR (via email)
Juline Holleran, MPCA (via email)
Ed Lenz, BWSR Regional Manager (via email)
Douglas Goodrich, BWSR Board Conservationist (via email)
Mary Jo Anderson, BWSR (file copy)

BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Yellow Medicine River One Watershed, One Plan Approval

Meeting Date: December 14, 2016

Agenda Category: ☒ Committee Recommendation ☒ New Business ☐ Old Business

Item Type: ☒ Decision ☐ Discussion ☐ Information

Section/Region: Southern Region

Contact: Jason Beckler

Prepared by: Jason Beckler

Reviewed by: Southern Regional Committee(s)

Presented by: Kathryn Kelly

☐ **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

Approval of the Yellow Medicine River one Watershed, One Plan 2017-2026 as recommended by the Southern Regional Committee.

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

http://www.area2.org/index.php/one-watershed-one-plan

http://www.area2.org/index.php/one-watershed-one-plan-decision-making-maps

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

The Yellow Medicine River Watershed was selected by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) as one of the five pilot areas for the One Watershed, One Plan program. This program allows counties to transition from county-based water management planning to watershed-based planning. The planning area for the Yellow Medicine River One Watershed, One Plan includes a drainage area of over 438,400 acres. The Lac qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, and Yellow Medicine County Boards of Commissioners and their respective SWCD Boards of Managers, along with the Yellow Medicine River Watershed District and Area II Minnesota River Basin Projects, have all given their support to the development and implementation of the plan.

Policy Committee selected three priority concerns: (1) mitigate altered hydrology and minimize flooding; (2) minimize the transport of sediment, excess nutrients, and bacteria; and (3) protect and preserve groundwater quantity and quality. Implementation priorities focus on projects that offer multiple benefits that are also cost effective. While focusing on practices that provide multiple benefits, it was determined that implementation efforts that address mitigating altered hydrology and minimizing flooding would address the other priorities as well. A majority of implementation priorities will be targeted to seven high

priority subwatersheds, with exception to watershed wide action items.

The Partnership held a 60-day review process that ended on July 15, 2016 and the required public hearing on August 1, 2016. On September 19, 2016, the Board received the Plan, a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the Plan for final State review pursuant to Board Resolution #16-17. State agency representatives attended and provided input at Advisory Committee meetings during development of the Plan. The Partnership has incorporated the majority of the agency and public comments received throughout the Plan development process.

BWSR staff completed its review and required additions and amendments to the Plan to meet the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, 103B.101, Subdivision 14 and Board Resolutions #14-46 and 14-68. The draft Plan was edited and subsequently found to meet the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, 103B.101.

On November 4, 2016, the Southern Regional Committee met with Yellow Medicine River One Watershed, One Plan partners and BWSR staff to review and discuss the Plan. The Committee's decision was to recommend approval of the Yellow Medicine River One Watershed, One Plan to the full Board per the attached draft Order.

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

In the Matter of the review of the Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan for Yellow Medicine River One Watershed, One Plan, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.101, Subdivision 14 and 103B.801.

ORDER APPROVING COMPREHENSIVE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

Whereas, the Policy Committee of the Yellow Medicine River One Watershed, One Plan submitted a Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (Plan) to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) on September 19, 2016 pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.101, Subdivision 14 and 103B.801 and Board Resolution #16-17, and;

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

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. **Partnership Establishment.** The Partnership was established in 2014 through adoption of a Memorandum of Agreement for the purposes of developing a Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. The membership of the Partnership includes: Lac qui Parle County, Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District, Lincoln County, Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District, Lyon County, Lyon Soil and Water Conservation District, Yellow Medicine County, Yellow Medicine Soil and Water Conservation District, Yellow Medicine River Watershed District, and Area II Minnesota River Basin Projects.

2. **Authority to Plan.** Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.101, Subdivision 14 allows the Board to adopt resolutions, policies, or orders that allow a comprehensive plan, local water management plan, or watershed management plan, developed or amended, approved and adopted, according to Chapter 103B, 103C, or 103D to serve as substitutes for one another or be replaced with a comprehensive watershed management plan. Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.801 established the Comprehensive Watershed Management Planning Program; also known as One Watershed, One Plan. And, Board Resolution #16-17 adopted the One Watershed, One Plan Operating Procedures and Plan Content Requirements policies.

3. **Nature of the Watershed.** The Yellow Medicine Plan boundary encompasses 438,400 acres, of which a majority is highly productive agricultural land. Included in the Plan boundary is approximately 1,700 miles of watercourses and 16,000 acres of lakes. The watershed characteristics are shaped by the sharp changes in elevation. From the top of the watershed to the Minnesota River Valley, a distance of 60 miles, is 1,125 feet of fall.

4. **Plan Development.** The Policy Committee selected three priority concerns: (1) mitigate altered hydrology and minimize flooding; (2) minimize the transport of sediment, excess nutrients, and bacteria; and (3) protect and preserve groundwater quantity and quality. A majority of implementation priorities will be targeted to seven high priority subwatersheds, with exception to watershed wide action items.

   Through targeted implementation of the action items detailed in Tables 4-1 through 4-7 the watershed will achieve all of the measureable goals outlined in Table 3-1 as measured by The Scenario Application Manager (SAM). Completion of the measureable goals listed below will restore all waterbodies contained within the watershed to a state that meets the ten-year target goals for aquatic recreation and habitat:

   - Add 1,000 acre-feet of new stormwater storage
   - No net increase in highest annual peak flows
   - 3% increase in dry season base flow
   - 10% decrease in total suspended solids
   - 10% decrease in total phosphorus
   - 8% decrease in total nitrogen
   - Seal 25 unused wells per year
   - Begin hydrogeologic atlas process
   - Maintain fewer than 10% of private wells failing to meet 10 mg/L nitrate water quality standard

5. **Plan Review.** On September 19, 2016, the Board received the Plan, a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the Plan for final State review pursuant to Board Resolution #16-17. State agency representatives attended and provided input at Advisory Committee meetings during development of the Plan. The following state review comments were received during the comment period.

   a. Minnesota Department of Agriculture:

      a. Section 3.1.3, page 29, 3rd ¶ -- Correct the number of private wells tested statewide to 70,000 instead of 900.
      b. Section 4.1.3, page 34, Priority Concern 3: Protect and Preserve Groundwater Quantity and Quality, 3rd bullet -- The statement assumes that over 10% of the wells fail to meet the 10 mg/L nitrate standard. Revise language to "maintain fewer than 10%..."
      c. Tables 4-1 and 4-2, pages 36-45 – MDA is not included in these tables as many actions could be funded through the AgBMP Program and/or MAWQCP.
      d. Table 4-3, pages 46-47 – MDA is referenced, but not included in the acronyms table. Correct the language of the 3rd bullet at the top of the table as noted in Comment #2.
      e. Section 5.3.2, page 56, "BMP Implementation Goals at a Glance" figure, 1st bullet -- Define the target nitrogen rate to clarify if the Maximum Return to Nitrogen (MRTN) rate is based on crop price and fertilizer nitrogen price, or the midpoint of those rate ranges. Insert reference to clarify.
      f. Table 6-5, page 99 – correct Nitrogen Fertilizer Testing Program to "Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan"

   <u>The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) was pleased to see that the Yellow Medicine River 1W1P addressed each comment submitted by MDA thoroughly and recommended that the Yellow Medicine River 1W1P proceed through the BWSR process for approval.</u>

b. Minnesota Department of Health:

   a. Section 3.1.3, page 29, 3rd ¶ -- this paragraph regarding MDA's
   b. NFMP is inserted between 2 paragraphs about public water suppliers. Recommend rearranging the paragraphs to flow better. Tables 4-1 to 4-7, pages 36-52 – suggest moving the repetitive acronym boxes at the top of each table to the beginning or end of the set of tables. Not all acronyms in the table are listed.
   c. Section 5.3.4, page 58 – Remove Belview as it is outside the 1W1P boundary.
   d. Section 5.4.4, page 61 – It will be important to consider groundwater quantity and quality in many of the proposed projects, other than capital improvement projects, to avoid adverse impacts to groundwater.
   e. Section 5.8.1.7, page 80 – Seeking funding for SSTS compliance surveys and inspections is not listed as a measurable goal in the Section 4 tables. Recommend adding this activity as a measure.
   f. Section 5.9.7, pages 86-87 – Consider adding irrigation management for ag producers, educating elected officials about drinking water protection, and/or providing groundwater resource education to middle and senior high school students to the list of education programs.
   g. Table C-3, page C-19 – Table headings are cut off.

   The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) was pleased with the revisions made to the final Plan in response to MDH's comments. MDH recommends BWSR approve the Yellow Medicine River 1W1P final Plan.

c. Minnesota Department of Natural Resources:

   a. DNR encourages a higher priority for protection efforts. Rare, threatened, and high quality resources should continue to be considered in targeting protection.
   b. Priority should be given to actions providing multiple benefits.
   c. DNR recommends more emphasis on multiple benefit BMPs in the agricultural landscape than capital improvement projects.
   d. DNR recommends expanding the focus on lakes including adding priorities and action items for lakes and their watersheds.
   e. The Plan identified transport of bacteria to surface waters as a priority concern, however no issue or measurable goal is developed.
   f. DNR encourages referencing other plans and teams with shared goals, specifically, the Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan Upper Minnesota Valley Prairie Core Area, and the Minnesota River Valley Local Technical Team.
   g. Table 5-6, page 62 – DNR finds the cost of creating dams is table seems to assign more benefits to dams than other options, although the Plan does prioritize implementing a suite of BMPs including natural flood storage options.
   h. Figure 2-7, page 26 – Consider replacing the key with permit locations, not MDH located/unlocated well locations.

   Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) was pleased to see all the comments offered during the 60-day comment period were satisfactorily addressed in the final Plan. DNR recommends BWSR approve the Plan.

d. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency:

   a. Executive Summary, page 2 – recommend adding the link https://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/watersheds/minnesota-river-yellow-medicine-river after "WRAPS report".
   b. Section 3.2, Page 31, top ¶ -- recommend replacing part of the last sentence to read: "...that meets the 10-year target goals..." instead of "...that meet water quality standards..."
   c. Section 3.2, Page 31, top ¶ -- "The current monitoring plan is discussed in Section 5.7.2." It should read, "The current monitoring plan is discussed in Section 5.8.2 and Table 5-10."
   d. Table 4-1 and 4-2, Page 36 – MPCA could be listed as a source of funding for administration of Section 319 Funds.
   e. Table 4-2, page 42 – MPCA is listed as source of funding for SSTS upgrades, but is not listed in the acronyms table.
   f. Table 4-3, page 46 – MDA is listed in the table but not included in the acronym table. MDA is missing from Tables 4-1 and 4-2.
   g. Table 5-6, page 62 – the Plan symbols identify two levels of effectiveness: High or Low/Medium. MPCA would like some clarification added to the narrative as to how the effectiveness parameters were derived.
   h. Section 5.7.3.5, page 76 – MPCA suggests the following wording: "The MPCA implements NPDES permits, such as stormwater (construction, industrial, and MS4), concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs), and municipal and industrial wastewater discharges. Specific information on NPDES permits and process can be found at https://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/water-permits-and-forms".
   i. Table 5-10, page 81 – MPCA recommends replacing "Stream Flow Monitoring" title from the table with "Watershed Pollutant Load Monitoring Network".
   j. Section 5.9.7, pages 86-87 – The Plan could provide a link to MPCA's website for Volunteer Monitoring Programs: https://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/citizen-water-monitoring
   k. Table 6-5, page 100 – last entry in the table, recommend changing "State Revolving Fund" to "Section 319", and "loan" to "grant".

   Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) stated they were satisfied with the changes made in addressing the MPCA comments. MPCA recommended that BWSR approve the final Plan.

e. Minnesota Environmental Quality Board: No comments were received.

f. Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources regional staff:

   a. Section 5.3.3, page 58, The Scenario Application Manager (SAM) Tool measures P and N in lbs/year. The table for "Priority Concern 1 and Priority Concern 2 Along With Implementing Buffers" lists P and N reductions in tons/yr. These units need to be changed for consistency.
   b. Appendix D, MOU – the original MOU is included and must be replaced with the current MOU.
   c. Tables 4-1 to 4-7, pages 36-52 – Plan needs to better describe the outcomes of annually established activities. Activities requiring annual re-establishment need clarification if results are intended to measure annually. Example language offered.
   d. Plan must provide language regarding the measurement standard of 1,000 acre-feet of storage. Example language offered.
   e. Section 6.7.1, page 90 -- Plan must describe an annual commitment to collaborate review and submittal to BWSR statutory and policy requirements as provided by Level 1 PRAP. Example language offered.

f. All references should be checked. The following sections are incorrectly referenced:
g. Table 4-4, page 48, references Section 5.5; correct Section is 5.6;
h. Table 4-5, page 49, reference Section 5.6; correct Section is 5.7;
i. Table 4-6, page 50, references Section 5.8; correct Section is 5.9; Table 4-7, page 52, references Section 5.7.2; correct Section is 5.8.2.
j. Section 5.7.3, page 69 and Table 5-9, page 74 – Plan must describe rules and associated permit programs of watershed districts. A link to the YMRWD rules must be provided in Section 5.7.3.
k. Describe opportunities for permanent land protection necessary to meet the resource needs and achieve the goals for the watershed. Example language offered.
l. Plan should consider describing and spatially providing a sampling of specific BMPs found in each of the 4 management zones.
m. Plan should consider a statement of how MSU Terrain Analysis will be part of the biennial summit and how it may be used to target field scale implementation projects. Example schematic provided.
n. Plan should consider some narrative of how the recommended monitoring plan will be implemented in addition to the existing monitoring plan.
o. Section 6.9.4, page 98 -- The Plan should strongly consider the state's Nonpoint Priority Funding Plan (NPFP) criteria used to prioritize Clean Water Fund funding. Add NPFP reference to Section 6.9.4.

Board of Water and Soil Resources was pleased with revisions made to the Yellow Medicine River 1W1P based on the comments received, including BWSR. All comments received were addressed in the Plan to BWSR's satisfaction. BWSR was pleased with the coordination and commitment of the local partners during the development of the Yellow Medicine 1W1P. BWSR Regional Staff recommend approval of the Yellow Medicine River One Watershed, One Plan.

g. Local Review:

a. Lower Minnesota River Watershed District:

i. Management Zones – LMRWD questions why topographic and soils maps were not judged sufficient to delineate management zones instead of watershed model and professional judgment.
ii. Priority subwatersheds – LMRWD questions if a subwatershed that covers two management zones is a priority for the entire subwatershed, or only that part within the zone.
iii. Targeting – Plan does not include targeting within priority subwatersheds. The same BMPs are distributed among the six priority subwatersheds, except that larger subwatersheds have more BMPs than the smaller subwatersheds.
iv. Modeling – LMRWD questions the stream buffer compliance percentages used in the HSPF and SAM models, and resulting sediment reduction goals.
v. Modeling – LMRWD questions the WRAPS report Appendix 4.11 data with HSPF data pertaining to the partitioning of sediment load into cropland surface runoff and near-channel erosion.
vi. Modeling – Incorrect assumptions to estimate "detached sediment storage" lead to exaggerated estimates of cropland erosion. Evidence suggests that HSPF overestimates surface sediment loading. Near channel erosion is underestimated. LMRWD urges YM1W1P to engage MPCA in addressing the modeling-related questions raised.

b. Ed Laleman, landowner, provided the following comment:
   a. Streambank stabilizations should be higher priority. Tiling is out of control and largely unregulated by a watershed district that fails to turn down anyone who requests a permit. DNR is unresponsive and unwilling to assist him with his streambank destruction problem.

6. **Plan Summary and Highlights.** The highlights of the Plan include:
   - The implementation actions identified in the Plan include the best management practices (BMPs) that were evaluated using SAM. The Plan is flexible in that adjustments to the BMPs selected for implementation can be evaluated using SAM to ensure measurable goals will be obtained.
   - The Yellow Medicine River One Watershed, One Plan measurable goals and priority subwatersheds were selected based on the monitoring information and Watershed Modeling outputs established in MPCA's Yellow Medicine Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) report.
   - The Plan prescribes the approaches needed to restore and protect priority resources on a watershed scale.
   - The SAM software was used to identify BMPs that offer multiple benefits with cost effectiveness for each of the Priority Concerns; it calculated the impacts field-scale BMPs will have in priority subwatersheds.
   - The Plan is well written and easy for the general public to read and understand.
   - The Plan estimates that $96,000,000 is needed to fully fund the Plan.
   - Partners will utilize the Agricultural Conservation Planning Framework (ACPF) Tool to identify field scale priority locations for outreach and implementation.
   - Implementation of the Yellow Medicine River One Watershed, One Plan will be done under a signed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). The MOA will identify roles and responsibilities of each of the Plan members. MOA members will hold a biennial summit with Advisory Committee and Planning Workgroup members to review Plan progress, track measurable progress towards ten-year goals, recommend changes to the Plan, and review implementation priorities.

7. **Southern Regional Committee.** On November 4, 2016, the Southern Regional Committee met to review and discuss the Plan. Those in attendance from the Board's Committee were Kathryn Kelly, Doug Erickson, Nathan Redalen, Tom Loveall, and Steve Sunderland. Board staff in attendance were Southern Regional Manager Ed Lenz, and Board Conservationist Jason Beckler. The representatives from the Partnership were Emily Javens, Yellow Medicine River Watershed District Administrator and Kerry Netzke, Area II Minnesota River Basin Projects Executive Director. Board regional staff provided its recommendation of Plan approval to the Committee. After discussion, the Committee's decision was to present a recommendation of approval of the Plan to the full Board.

8. This Plan will be in effect for a ten-year period until December 31, 2026.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant substantive and procedural requirements of law have been fulfilled.
2. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan for the Yellow Medicine River One Watershed, One Plan pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.101, Subdivision 14 and 103B.801 and Board Resolution #16-17.

3. The Yellow Medicine River One Watershed, One Plan attached to this Order states water and water-related problems within the planning area; priority resource issues and possible solutions thereto; goals, objectives, and actions of the Partnership; and an implementation program.
4. The attached Plan is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.101, Subdivision 14 and 103B.801 and Board Resolution #16-17.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the attached Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan of the Yellow Medicine River, dated September 19, 2016.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this 14th of December, 2016.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

_____

BY: Brian Napstad, Chair

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Yellow Medicine One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) was developed as one of five pilot "One Watershed One Plan" projects in Minnesota as a result of legislation passed in 2012 that authorized the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) to align local planning on watershed boundaries.

The nine-county partnership of Area II Minnesota River Basin Projects (Area II) has been working cooperatively since its inception in 1978 to address water quality and quantity issues in southwestern Minnesota. The soil and water conservation districts (SWCDs) within Area II recognized the need to increase coordination and provide greater assurances for meeting resources management goals and measurable outcomes. Because four of the five counties in the Yellow Medicine Watershed had plans that were expiring as early as 2016 and a Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) was being completed for the watershed, SWCD members determined that the 1W1P pilot project was consistent with their goals and that the Yellow Medicine Watershed was the best candidate for the pilot project. Area II members envision that this pilot project will be adopted throughout the rest of the Area II planning area and a regional approach for watershed-based management will be embraced.

Ten local governments entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to develop the YM1W1P and include representatives from Area II, Lincoln County and SWCD, Lac qui Parle County and SWCD, Lyon County and SWCD, Yellow Medicine County and SWCD, and the Yellow Medicine River Watershed District (YMRWD). The mission of these organizations, along with the state agencies that cooperated in developing this plan, is to work together with citizens to restore and protect the water resources of the Yellow Medicine Watershed.

The Yellow Medicine plan boundary, as approved by the BWSR, drains approximately 665,073 acres of primarily highly productive agricultural land in southwest Minnesota and includes nearly 1,700 miles of streams and ditches as well as 16,000 acres of lakes. The boundary for this project includes drainage to the Yellow Medicine River and several tributaries that drain directly to the Minnesota River. A defining feature in the project area is the Coteau des Prairies, which is a plateau that was left untouched by the glaciers that scraped and flattened much of the rest of Minnesota. The southeast portion of the Coteau des Prairies, partially located in the southwest of the Yellow Medicine Watershed, comprises one of the distinct regions in Minnesota, known as the Buffalo Ridge. From the Coteau region, the watershed drains to the northeast with 1,125 feet of elevation change to the lower region, called the Flatland region. The Transitional region in between these two regions is where the elevation changes are the greatest, at approximately 45 feet per mile. The drainage from the Coteau through the steep elevation change causes erosion in the Transitional region and flooding in the Flatlands. The topography in the Minnesota River Valley region is extreme with elevation changes of approximately 57 feet per mile. These four regions—Coteau, Transition, Flatland, and Minnesota River Valley—were established as management zones for the YM1W1P to better address the unique characteristics and resource challenges of each area. In addition to establishing the four management zones, priority subwatersheds were selected to focus implementation efforts and maximize results. These subwatersheds were determined by using a combination of information generated from a calibrated Hydrologic Simulation Program-Fortran (HSPF) model and other

factors including likelihood of success. The priority subwatersheds will change throughout the 10-year plan as progress is made and new opportunities arise.

This plan addresses three priority concerns: (1) mitigate altered hydrology and minimize flooding; (2) minimize the transport of sediment, excess nutrients, and bacteria; and (3) protect and preserve groundwater quantity and quality. These priorities were established as the result of an extensive process in which stakeholders identified their priority concerns and the potential threats to the resource if these three goals were not addressed. In addition, prioritizing implementation efforts was determined to be based on projects that offer multiple benefits and that are cost effective. It was also determined that implementation efforts that address mitigating altered hydrology and minimizing flooding will address the other priorities as well.

The YM1W1P measurable goals are based on those established in the Yellow Medicine WRAPS report (https://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/watersheds/minnesota-river-yellow-medicine-river) after those goals were reviewed and revised. The HSPF Scenario Application Manager (SAM) tool was used to evaluate draft implementation plans that were developed by the Plan Work Group (PWG). Using this tool, the PWG could evaluate various implementation plan scenarios on the basis of cost and ability to meet measurable goals. This evaluation led to adjustments to the WRAPS goals and represents a viable implementation plan that is expected to meet or exceed measurable goals for minimizing flooding in addition to reducing the transport of sediment, nutrients, and bacteria. The measurable goals established for protecting and preserving groundwater quantity and quality largely address continuing well-sealing efforts and filling in data gaps by developing a geologic atlas that will be used to revise implementation activities.

The implementation actions identified in the plan include the best management practices (BMPs) that were evaluated using SAM, which contains a suite of BMPs typically implemented in this watershed. The plan is flexible in that adjustments to the BMPs selected for implementation can be evaluated using SAM to ensure measurable goals will be obtained. Other actions and programs include acquiring monitoring and study data, conducting an education and outreach program to targeted audiences, implementing regulatory and land use management programs, and developing and implementing capital improvement projects that focus on retaining water on the land to reduce flooding and minimize pollutant transport.

The execution of all of the plan elements will be based on a signed MOA that emphasizes shared responsibility for all elements. The PWG, which consists of staff representatives from each of the MOA members, will continue the long history of successful collaboration by coordinating the implementation plan activities and collaborating on the pursuit of grants and funding for implementing all aspects of the plan. The MOA members will hold a biennial summit with Advisory Committee and PWG members providing recommendations for changes to the plan, which may include governance, implementation, or funding concerns.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Buffers, Soils, and Drainage Committee

1. Minnesota Public Drainage Manual Acceptance – Tim Gillette – ***DECISION ITEM***

BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **Minnesota Public Drainage Manual Acceptance**

Meeting Date: December 14, 2016

Agenda Category: X Committee Recommendation ☐ New Business ☐ Old Business

Item Type: X Decision ☐ Discussion ☐ Information

Section/Region: Technical Services

Contact: Tim Gillette

Prepared by: Tim Gillette

Reviewed by: Buffer Soil and Drainage Committee(s)

Presented by: Tim Gillette

☐ **Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation**

Attachments: X Resolution ☐ Order ☐ Map ☐ Other Supporting Information

Fiscal/Policy Impact

X None
☐ Amended Policy Requested
☐ New Policy Requested
☐ Other:

☐ General Fund Budget
☐ Capital Budget
☐ Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget
☐ Clean Water Fund Budget

ACTION REQUESTED

Accept the Minnesota Public Drainage Manual and the plan for updating the MPDM.

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

http://drainage.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/Main_Page

MPDM Fact Sheet
Updating Process going forward.

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

In the FY14-15 biennium, BWSR received a Clean Water Fund appropriation ($235,000) and direction to update the Minnesota Public Drainage Manual (MPDM) and the Understanding Minnesota Public Drainage Law (UMPDL) document.

The MPDM was first developed in 1991 to provide guidance to drainage authorities as they administer Chapter 103E drainage systems. The MPDM has multiple audiences: drainage authorities, their engineers, attorneys and inspectors; landowner's; regulatory agencies; and other interested parties. It is a guidance document and is not rule or law.

An overview of the MPDM update process and product was presented to the Board at its September 28, 2016 meeting.

After review of the wiki for functionality and usability by the Project Advisory Committee during September, review of remaining issues by BWSR executive staff, and final placement of content edits by the contractor, the MPDM was published to the BWSR website on October 31, 2016.

This item is coming to the Board for acceptance of the updated Minnesota Public Drainage Manual and approval of an ongoing maintenance plan for the MPDM into the future.

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

Board Resolution # 16-

UPDATED MINNESOTA PUBLIC DRAINAGE MANUAL ACCEPTANCE AND ADOPTION OF ONGOING MAINTENANCE PLAN

WHEREAS, the Clean Water Fund (CWF) is established in M.S. 114D.50; and,

WHEREAS, Clean Water Funds were appropriated to BWSR in Laws of Minnesota 2013, Chapter 137, Article 2, Section 7(e) to update the *Minnesota Public Drainage Manual* and the *Minnesota Public Drainage Law Overview for Decision Makers* and to provide outreach to users; and

WHEREAS, BWSR implementation of appropriated CWF funds is based on the Minnesota Constitution, Article XI, Section 15 which provides that funds may be "spent only to protect, enhance, and restore water quality in lakes, rivers, and streams and to protect groundwater from degradation", and that "dedicated money under this section must supplement traditional sources of funding for these purposes and may not be used as a substitute"; and

WHEREAS, the team of Houston Engineering, Inc. and Rinke Noonan, Attorneys at Law were contracted to provide project writing and editing of content for the *Minnesota Public Drainage Manual* (MPDM) Update Project on September 1, 2014; and,

WHEREAS, the contractor in coordination with BWSR staff held four focus group meetings, and created a 38 member MPDM Project Advisory Committee (PAC); and,

WHEREAS, the PAC provided comments via multiple reviews of the draft content provided by the contractor via email and three in-person PAC meetings; and,

WHEREAS, the contractor in coordination with BWSR staff edited the text in response to all comments received as appropriate; and,

WHEREAS, BWSR executive staff reviewed all known major content issues and their proposed resolution with BWSR project staff and agreed with the resolution of those issues provided in the MPDM; and,

WHEREAS, the team of Houston Engineering, Inc. and Rinke Noonan, Attorneys at Law were contracted to provide an updated *Minnesota Public Drainage Manual* (MPDM) on September 1, 2014; and,

WHEREAS, the BWSR executive staff reviewed and approved the updating process for the MPDM going forward and recommended its inclusion in the Manual; and,

WHEREAS, the Buffer, Soil and Drainage Committee reviewed this resolution, it's supporting documents, and the updating process for the MPDM going forward on December 9, 2016.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby:

Accepts the updated *Minnesota Public Drainage Manual* (MPDM) for publication on the BWSR website and adopts the defined future updating process included in the Manual.

_____ Date: _____

Brian Napstad, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Attachment: *Minnesota Public Drainage Manual* Fact Sheet including the defined future updating process.

Minnesota Public Drainage Manual (MPDM)
Maintenance Plan
Board of Water and Soil Resources
Draft, 11-16-16

Summary of Pertinent Background Information

1) The Minnesota Public Drainage Manual (MPDM) was first published in September 1991 as a hard copy document in a 3-ring binder.
2) The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) received a legislative appropriation in 2014 to update the MPDM. The project team included Houston Engineering, Inc. and Rinke Noonan Attorneys at Law. A stakeholder Project Advisory Committee (PAC) assisted the MPDM update.
3) The updated MPDM was published in a Wiki format in October 2016 on the BWSR website to better enable periodic revision.
4) The stakeholder Drainage Work Group (DWG) had a number of members serve on the PAC for the MPDM update. The DWG will serve as a standing stakeholder advisory group for periodic revision of the MPDM, as appropriate.
5) BWSR Executive Staff will oversee any major revision content issues not resolved through DWG advisory review and discussion.

Guiding Principles

1) Maintain the Minnesota Public Drainage Manual into the future to keep it current.
2) Provide for timely revisions.
3) Utilize an efficient process, with stakeholder advisory input, as appropriate.

Roles and Coordination

	Category of Revision		
Involved Entity and Role	**Grammar, spelling, and other Minor Revisions**	**Major Revisions based on comments received in the Wiki, new information, etc.**	**Major Revisions based on changes in Chapter 103E Drainage or other pertinent law or rule**
BWSR Drainage Staff: Lead revisions and coordination	✓	✓	✓
Drainage Work Group: Stakeholder advisory review and discussion		✓	✓
BWSR Executive Staff: Oversee resolution of any content issues not resolved by advisory review and discussion		✓	✓

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Grants Program and Policy Committee

1. One Watershed, One Plan FY17 Policy and Request for Proposals – Melissa Lewis – ***DECISION ITEM***

2. FY2017 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants – Marcey Westrick – ***DECISION ITEM***

BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: One Watershed, One Plan FY17 Policy and RFP

Meeting Date:

Agenda Category: ☒ Committee Recommendation ☐ New Business ☐ Old Business

Item Type: ☒ Decision ☐ Discussion ☐ Information

Section/Region: Statewide

Contact: Julie Westerlund

Prepared by: Melissa Lewis

Reviewed by: Grants Program and Policy Committee(s)

Presented by: Melissa Lewis

☐ **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

Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2017 Grant Policy for One Watershed, One Plan Planning Grants and authorization to finalize, distribute and promote a request for Proposals for the One Watershed, One Plan Program.

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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

Clean Water Funds were appropriated to BWSR in Laws of Minnesota 2015, 1st Special Session, Chapter 2, Article 2, Sec. 7(j) for assistance, oversight, and grants to local governments to transition local water management plans to a watershed approach, also known as the One Watershed, One Plan Program. The proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Grant Policy is unchanged from the FY 2016 policy. Only the dates and timeline were changed in the FY 2017 proposed Request for Proposals from FY 2016. The Grants Program and Policy Committee met on November 10 and recommended approval of both documents.

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

Board Resolution # 16-

COMPREHENSIVE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLANNING PROGRAM / ONE WATERSHED, ONE PLAN
Planning Grants Policy and Request for Proposal

WHEREAS, the Clean Water Fund was established in Minnesota Statutes §114D.50; and

WHEREAS, Clean Water Funds have been appropriated to BWSR in Laws of Minnesota 2015, 1st Special Session, Chapter 2, Article 2, Sec. 7(j) for assistance, oversight, and grants to local governments to transition local water management plans to a watershed approach as provided for in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 103B, 103C, 103D, and 114D; and

WHEREAS, the Board has authority under Minnesota Statutes §103B.3369 to make grants to cities, townships, counties, soil and water conservation districts, watershed districts, joint powers organizations, and other special purpose districts or authorities with jurisdiction in water and related land resources management when a proposed project, practice or activity implements a county water plan, watershed management plan, or county groundwater plan; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Watershed Management Planning Program authority, also known as One Watershed, One Plan, is established in Minnesota Statutes §103B.801; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2016 the Board adopted the One Watershed, One Plan Operating Procedures and Plan Content Requirements; and

WHEREAS, on November 10, 2016 the Grants Program and Policy Committee reviewed and recommended approval of the Fiscal Year 2017 Grant Policy for One Watershed, One Plan Grants Planning Grants and the One Watershed, One Plan Request for Proposals.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby:

1) Adopts the Fiscal Year 2017 Grant Policy for One Watershed, One Plan Planning Grants.

2) Authorize staff to finalize, distribute and promote a Request for Proposals for the One Watershed, One Plan Program.

_____ Date: _____

Brian Napstad, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Attachments:

FY2017 Grants Policy - One Watershed, One Plan Planning Grants
FY2017 One Watershed, One Plan Planning Grants - Request for Proposal

FY 2017 Grants Policy
One Watershed, One Plan Planning Grants

Purpose

The Clean Water Fund was established to implement part of Article XI, Section 15, of the Minnesota Constitution, with the purpose of protecting, enhancing, and restoring water quality in lakes, rivers, and streams and to protect groundwater and drinking water sources from degradation. The purpose of this policy is to provide expectations for One Watershed, One Plan Planning Grants conducted via the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Clean Water Fund (CWF) grants to facilitate development and writing of Comprehensive Watershed Management Plans consistent with Minnesota Statutes §103B.801.

BWSR will use grant agreements for assurance of deliverables and compliance with appropriate statutes, rules and established policies. Willful or negligent disregard of relevant statutes, rules and policies may lead to imposition of financial penalties or future sanctions on the grant recipient.

1.0 Applicant Eligibility Requirements

Eligible applicants include counties, watershed districts, watershed management organizations, and soil and water conservation districts working in partnership within a single One Watershed, One Plan planning boundary, meeting the participation requirements outlined in the One Watershed, One Plan Operating Procedures. Application for these funds is considered a joint application between participating local governments and may be submitted by a joint powers organization on behalf of local government members (partners). Formal agreement between the partners, consistent with the One Watershed, One Plan Operating Procedures, is required prior to execution of a grant agreement.

2.0 Match Requirements

No match will be required of the grantees. Grantees will be required to document local involvement in the plan development process.

3.0 Eligible Activities

Eligible activities must be directly for the purposes of providing services to the plan development effort and may include activities such as: contracts and/or staff reimbursement for plan writing; technical services; preparation of policy committee, advisory committee, or public meeting agendas and notices; taking meeting minutes; facilitate and prepare/plan for facilitation of policy or advisory committee meetings, or public meetings; grant reporting and administration, including fiscal administration; facility rental for public or committee meetings; materials and supplies for facilitating meetings; reasonable food costs (e.g. coffee and cookies) for public meetings; publishing meeting notices; and other activities which directly support or supplement the goals and outcomes expected with development of a comprehensive watershed management plan.

4.0 Ineligible Expenses

Ineligible expenses include staff time to participate in committee meetings specifically representing an individual's local government unit; staff time for an individual, regularly scheduled, county water plan

task force meeting where One Watershed, One Plan will be discussed as part of the meeting; and stipends for attendance at meetings.

5.0 Grantee Administration of Clean Water Fund Grants

The grantee for these funds includes the partners identified in the formal agreement establishing the partnership, consistent with the One Watershed, One Plan Operating Procedures. Grant reporting, fiscal management, and administration requirements are the responsibility of the grantee. All grantees must follow the Grants Administration Manual policy and guidance.

a. Formal agreement between partners is required prior to execution of a grant agreement and must identify the single local government unit which will act as the fiscal agent for the grant and which will act as a grantee authorized representative. Grant reporting, fiscal management, and administration requirements are the responsibility of the grantee.

b. All grantees are required to report on the outcomes, activities, and accomplishments of Clean Water Fund grants.

c. Grantees have the responsibility to approve the expenditure of funds within their partnership. The local government unit fiscal agent administering the grant must approve or deny expenditure of funds and the action taken must be documented in the governing body's meeting minutes prior to beginning the funded activity. This responsibility may be designated to a policy committee if specifically identified in the formal agreement establishing the partnership.

d. BWSR recommends all contracts be reviewed by the grantee's legal counsel. All contracts must be consistent with Minnesota statute and rule.

e. Grantees are required to document local involvement in the plan development process in order to demonstrate that the grant is supplementing/enhancing water resource restoration and protection activities.

6.0 BWSR Grant Administration Requirements

BWSR staff is authorized to develop grant agreements, including requirements and processes for project outcomes reporting, closeouts, and fiscal reconciliations.

In the event there is a violation of the terms of the grant agreement, BWSR will enforce the grant agreement and evaluate appropriate actions, up to and including repayment of grant funds at a rate up to 150% of the grant agreement.

One Watershed, One Plan Planning Grants

FY 2017 Request for Proposal December 14, 2017

Request for Proposal (RFP) General Information

The Clean Water Fund was established to implement part of Article XI, Section 15, of the Minnesota Constitution, with the purpose of protecting, enhancing, and restoring water quality in lakes, rivers, and streams in addition to protecting ground water and drinking water sources from degradation. The appropriation language governing the use of these funds is in Laws of Minnesota 2016, 1ST Special Session, Chapter 2. These funds must supplement traditional sources of funding and may not be used as a substitute to fund activities or programs. Final funding decisions will be dependent on the actual funds available. Up to $1,500,000 is available.

Application Guidelines

- Applications must be in PDF format and will be submitted electronically via: BWSR.Grants@state.mn.us.
- Applications are subject to a five-page limit, minimum font size 11 pt.
- Applications must include a one page map of the watershed (maps are not included in the page limit) in PDF format. The map may be letter, legal, or ledger size and should identify the planning boundary, the boundaries of the planning partners, and any requested changes to the boundary. The One Watershed, One Plan Suggested Planning Boundaries, including a geodatabase, can be found at: www.bwsr.state.mn.us/planning/1W1P/index.html.
- Applications may be submitted by one or more of the eligible local governments on behalf of others in the watershed area. Applicants should demonstrate that a sufficient commitment exists to implement the project through a supporting motion or resolution from the board of each identified participant. A formal agreement between participants establishing a partnership to develop a plan will be required prior to execution of the grant agreement. If a formal agreement is unable to be established within six months of successful grant notification, the grant may be rescinded and funds redistributed.
- Applicants who were previously awarded Clean Water Funds and have expended less than 50% of previous award(s) at the time of this application may need to demonstrate organizational capacity to finalize current projects and complete new project concurrently.
- Applicants are required to submit an estimated budget for the project. The final grant amount for successful applicants will be determined upon completion of a grant work plan. No cash match will be required of grant recipients.

Project Period

The project period starts when the grant agreement is executed, meaning all required signatures have been obtained. Work that occurs before this date is not eligible for reimbursement with grant funds. All grants must be completed by December 31, 2020.

Payment Schedule

Grant payments will be distributed in three installments to the grantee. The first payment of 50% of the grant amount will be paid after work plan approval and execution of the grant agreement provided the grant applicants are in compliance with all BWSR website and eLINK reporting requirements for previously awarded BWSR grants. The second payment of 40% of the grant amount will be paid once the grantee has provided BWSR with notification and BWSR has reconciled expenditures of the initial payment. The last 10% will be paid after all final reporting

requirements are met, the grantee has provided BWSR with a final financial report, and BWSR has reconciled these expenditures.

Incomplete Applications

Applications that do not comply with all application requirements, including incomplete or missing application components, will not be considered for funding.

CWF Project Reporting Requirements

- All grantees are required to report on the outcomes, activities, and accomplishments of Clean Water Fund grants. All BWSR funded projects will be required to develop a work plan, including detail relating to the outcome(s) of the proposed project. All activities will be reported via the eLINK reporting system. Grant funds may be used for local grant management and reporting that are directly related to and necessary for implementing this activity. For more information go to www.bwsr.state.mn.us/outreach/eLINK/index.html.
- BWSR Clean Water Funds will be administered via a standard grant agreement. BWSR will use grant agreements as contracts for assurance of deliverables and compliance with appropriate statutes, rules and established policies. Willful or negligent disregard of relevant statutes, rules and policies may lead to imposition of financial penalties on the grant recipient.
- When practicable, grantees shall prominently display on their website the legacy logo. Grant recipients must display on their website either a link to their project from the Legislative Coordinating Commission Legacy Site (http://legacy.leg.mn) or a clean water project summary that includes a description of the grant activities, including expenditure of grant funds and measurable outcomes (www.bwsr.state.mn.us/cleanwaterfund/stories/)
- When practicable, grantees must display the Legacy Logo on printed and other materials funded with money from the Clean Water Fund. The logo and specifications can be found at http://www.legacy.leg.mn/legacy-logo
- Grantees will be required to document local involvement in the plan development process in order to demonstrate that the grant is supplementing/enhancing water resource restoration and protection activities and not supplanting.

Grants and Public Information

Under Minnesota Statute 13.599, responses to an RFP are nonpublic until the application deadline is reached. At that time, the name and address of the grantee, and the amount requested becomes public. All other data is nonpublic until the negotiation of the grant agreement with the selected grantee is completed. After the application evaluation process is completed, all data (except trade secret data) becomes public. Data created during the evaluation process is nonpublic until the negotiation of the grant agreement with the selected grantee(s) is completed.

Conflict of Interest

State Grant Policy 08-01, (see http://www.admin.state.mn.us/ogm_policies_and_statute.html) Conflict of Interest for State Grant-Making, also applies to BWSR grantees. Grantees' conflicts of interest are generally considered organizational conflicts of interest. Organizational conflicts of interest occur when:

1. A grantee is unable or potentially unable to render impartial assistance or advice due to competing duties or loyalties,
2. A grantee's objectivity in carrying out the grant is or might be otherwise impaired due to competing duties or loyalties, or

3. A grantee or potential grantee has an unfair competitive advantage through being furnished unauthorized proprietary information or source selection information that is not available to all competitors.

Submittal

All responses must be electronically delivered to: BWSR.Grants@state.mn.us and must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on April 19, 2017. Late responses will not be considered. The burden of proving timely receipt is upon the responder.

Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan Development Proposals

To propose a watershed area, provide a written response to the following questions.

1. Describe and provide a general watershed map of the proposed planning boundary (map may be separate from the written information). If the proposed planning boundary deviates significantly from the draft planning boundaries being considered by BWSR, provide a brief narrative of the reasons for the deviation.
2. In consideration of the local government units (LGUs) within the boundary, provide a table with:
    a. A list of all counties, soils and water conservation districts, watershed districts, and watershed management organizations; and whether the LGU has expressed interest in participation in the planning effort;
    b. Level of interest of each LGU (e.g. verbal, letter, resolution, etc.) or why a given LGU is not interested (e.g. haven't had opportunity to respond, unwilling to commit until the LGU has more information, not willing to participate at all, may participate on limited basis but area too small to be a required participant, etc.); and
    c. Identification and contact information for a lead staff person(s) and/or primary contact(s) for each LGU.
3. Briefly describe at what point the planning boundary is in strategy development for the MPCA's ten year water approach. List and provide a brief description of any other TMDLs, diagnostic studies, and/or local studies and plans have been completed that will help inform the development of the Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan.
4. Briefly describe how comprehensive watershed management planning is anticipated to benefit the participating LGUs.
5. Briefly describe how a comprehensive watershed management plan is anticipated to benefit resource management within the planning area.
6. Briefly describe how a comprehensive watershed management plan might be used to develop collaborative implementation approaches, sharing of services, and developing and submitting requests for Clean Water Funds.
7. Provide a generalized outline of the approach the participating organizations will take in:
    a. The development of the required formal agreement; and
    b. Development of the plan, including anticipated major steps or milestones (see the One Watershed, One Plan Operating Procedures and Plan Content Requirements).
8. Provide an anticipated budget for development of a comprehensive watershed management plan. Be sure to include anticipated local activities as well as potential contract expenses for activities consistent with the eligible activities outlined in the Program Policy.

Selection Criteria

All complete applications submitted by the deadline will be reviewed by BWSR staff, with assistance from an inter-agency review committee. The successful watershed areas will be selected by the Board of Water and Soil Resources on:

- One Watershed, One Plan Transition Plan;
- Status of the WRAPS Report development (overlapping development of the WRAPS Report and the comprehensive watershed management plan is not desired).
- Recommendation of the BWSR staff and inter-agency review committee; and
- Responses to questions in this RFP will be considered as follows:
  - Inclusion of general watershed map and description of any boundary changes consistent with question 1. (Not including a map will be considered an incomplete application.)
  - Inclusion of a table of local government information consistent with question 2. (Not including this table will be considered an incomplete application. The level of interest indicated of the required partners, consistent with Operating Procedures, is the primary consideration.)
  - Pertinence of existing studies, plans, and information consistent with question 3 to the development of the comprehensive watershed management plan.
  - Demonstration of understanding of the multiple benefits of developing a comprehensive watershed management plan consistent with questions 4, 5, and 6.
  - Demonstration of understanding of the scope of work required for development of a comprehensive watershed management plan, consistent with question 7.
  - Demonstration of realistic approach and estimate of needed grant funds, what the funds will be used for, and that the funds will not supplant existing funds for similar activities, consistent with question 8.

BWSR Grant Administration

BWSR reserves the right to partially fund any and all applications based on the number of eligible applications submitted, anticipated staff time requirements, and the amount of funding available.

Timeline

- January 2, 2017 – Application period begins
- April 19, 2017 – Application deadline at 4:30 PM
- May - June, 2017 - Review of applications
- June 28, 2017 - BWSR Board approval of planning grant recipients
- November 1, 2017 – Work plan submittal deadline
- December 1, 2017 – Grant execution deadline. Formal agreement between the partners, consistent with the One Watershed, One Plan Operating Procedures, is required prior to execution of a grant agreement.

Questions

Question concerning the request for proposal may be submitted to Julie Westerlund, julie.westerlund@state.mn.us or 651-297-5617.

BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: FY 17 CWF Competitive Grant Program Awards

Meeting Date: December 14, 2016

Agenda Category: ☒ Committee Recommendation ☐ New Business ☐ Old Business

Item Type: ☒ Decision ☐ Discussion ☐ Information

Section/Region: Central Region

Contact: Marcey Westrick

Prepared by: Marcey Westrick

Reviewed by: Grants Program and Policy Committee Committee(s)

Presented by: Marcey Westrick

☐ **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

Approval of the FY17 CWF Competitive Grants Program Awards

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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

On June 24, 2016 the Board adopted resolution #16-52 which authorized staff to conduct a request for proposals from eligible local governments for Clean Water Fund projects in four program categories: Projects and Practices, Accelerated Implementation, Community Partners and Multipurpose Drainage. Applications for the FY2017 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants were accepted from June 27 through August 28, 2016. Local governments submitted 171 applications requesting $34,414,783 in Clean Water Funds. BWSR staff conducted multiple processes to review and score applications, involved staff of other agencies, and developed recommendations for grant awards per the attached spreadsheets. The BWSR Senior Management Team reviewed the funding recommendations on November 8th and made the recommendation to the Grants Program and Policy Committee. The BWSR Grants Program and Policy Committee reviewed the recommendations on November 10th, and made a recommendation to the full Board. A Resolution is attached based on the recommendations of the Grants Program and Policy Committee.

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

Board Resolution # 16-

FY 2017 CLEAN WATER FUND COMPETITIVE GRANT AWARDS

WHEREAS, the Clean Water Fund is established in Minn. Stat. § 114D.50; and,

WHEREAS, Clean Water Funds have been appropriated to the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) in Laws of Minnesota 2015, First Special Session, Chapter 2; and,

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture is contributing Agricultural Best Management Practices Loan Program funds; and,

WHEREAS, the Board has authority under Minn. Stat. § 103B.3369 to make grants to cities, townships, counties, soil and water conservation districts, watershed districts, joint powers organizations, and other special purpose districts or authorities with jurisdiction in water and related land resources management when a proposed project, practice or activity implements a comprehensive plan, local water management plan, watershed management plan, or comprehensive watershed management plan; and,

WHEREAS, implementation of appropriated Clean Water Funds by the Board is based on the Minnesota Constitution, Article XI, Section 15 which provides that funds may be "spent only to protect, enhance, and restore water quality in lakes, rivers, and streams and to protect groundwater from degradation", and that "dedicated money under this section must supplement traditional sources of funding for these purposes and may not be used as a substitute"; and,

WHEREAS, the Clean Water Fund implementation strategy recognizes that funding decisions should be based on the best available scientific information and directed to where clean water protection, enhancement and restoration work is most needed and most effective; and,

WHEREAS, the Clean Water Fund implementation strategy incorporates the purpose of Minn. Stat. § 114D.20 which directs the implementation of Clean Water Funds to be coordinated with existing authorities and program infrastructure; and,

WHEREAS, the Board has previously endorsed an inter-agency granting strategy that coordinated with the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Natural Resources, the Pollution Control Agency, and the Department of Health with the goal of effectively coordinating water quality projects or practices funded by the Clean Water Fund; and,

WHEREAS, on June 24, 2016 by Resolution # 16-52 the Board:

1. Authorized staff to finalize, distribute and promote a Request For Proposals (RFP) for the FY2017 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Program consistent with the provisions of appropriations enacted in 2015, Minn. Stat. § 103B.3369 and this Board resolution; and,

2. Adopted the FY2017 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Policy; and,

WHEREAS, FY2017 Clean Water Fund competitive grant funds in the following amounts were made available to local governments through the RFP process that was open for applications from June 27 to August 28, 2016:

A. $13,544,105 from the Clean Water Fund appropriated to the Board, in the following categories:
   1. $8,400,000 for Projects and Practices Grants;
   2. $3,500,000 for Accelerated Implementation Grants;
   3. $765,000 for Community Partners Conservation Program Grants;
B. $112,000 from the Clean Water Fund appropriated to the Minnesota Department of Health for well sealing grants;
C. Up to $1,500,000 of Agricultural Best Management Practices Loan Program Clean Water Funds appropriated to the Minnesota Department of Agriculture; and,

WHEREAS, Board staff implemented a communication effort that included:

- email notification to eligible grantees on June 27, 2016 of the available Clean Water Fund grants;
- video instruction to review the grant programs were made available on the Board's website; and
- a question and answer document on the Board's website to provide an accessible information outlet; and,

WHEREAS, local governments throughout the state submitted 91 applications that requested $25,609,764 in funds for Projects and Practices projects that were initially assessed by Board staff and subsequently evaluated by an interagency team consisting of staff from the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Natural Resources, the Pollution Control Agency, the Department of Health, and the Board based on the following criteria:

Ranking Criteria	Maximum Points Possible
Proposal Description: The proposal description succinctly describes what results the applicant is trying to achieve and how they intend to achieve those results.	5
Relationship to the Plan: The proposal is based on priority protection or restoration actions listed in or derived from an approved local water management plan.	15
Targeting: The proposal addresses identified critical pollution sources impacting the water resource identified in the application.	25
Measurable Outcomes: The project or practice has a quantifiable reduction in pollution and directly addresses the water quality concern identified in the application.	35
Project or Practice Readiness: The proposal has a set of specific initiatives that can be implemented soon after grant award.	10
Cost Effectiveness: The application identifies a cost effective solution to address the non-point pollution concern(s).	5

Biennial Budget Request (BBR): A BBR was submitted by the applicant organization in 2014.	5
Total Points Available	**100**

WHEREAS, local governments throughout the state submitted 47 applications that requested $5,409,022 in funds for Accelerated Implementation projects that were initially assessed by Board staff and subsequently evaluated by an interagency team consisting of staff from the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Natural Resources, the Pollution Control Agency, the Department of Health, and the Board based on the following criteria:

Ranking Criteria	Maximum Points Possible
Clarity of the proposal's goals, standards addressed and projected impact on land and water management and enhanced effectiveness of future implementation projects or practices.	40
Relationship to Plan: The proposal is based on priority protection or restoration actions listed in or derived from an approved local water management plan.	25
Means and measures for assessing performance, milestones for success, and capacity to measure outcomes.	20
Timeline for implementation.	15
Total Points Available	**100**

WHEREAS, local governments throughout the state submitted 18 applications that requested $1,901,850 in funds for Community Partners Conservation Program projects that were assessed by Board staff based on the following criteria:

Ranking Criteria	Maximum Points Possible
Clarity of the application's goals, projected impact, and involvement with community partners.	40
Relationship to Plan: The proposal is based on priority protection or restoration actions listed in or derived from an approved local water management plan.	30
Plan for assessing the proposal's impact and capacity to measure project or practice outcomes.	20
LGU capacity to implement local grant program processes and protocols.	10
Total Points Available	**100**

WHEREAS, local governments throughout the state submitted 9 applications that requested $1,401,322 in funds for Multipurpose Drainage Management projects that were initially assessed by Board staff and subsequently evaluated by an interagency team consisting of staff from the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Natural Resources, the Pollution Control Agency, the Department of Health, and the Board based on the following criteria:

Ranking Criteria	Maximum Points Possible
Project Description: The project description succinctly describes what results the applicant is trying to achieve and how they intend to achieve those results.	5
Prioritization: The proposal is based on priority protection or restoration actions associated with a "Priority Chapter 103E Drainage System" (as defined in this RFP) and is consistent with a watershed management plan that has been state approved and locally adopted or an approved total maximum daily load study (TMDL), Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS), surface water intake plan, or well head protection plan.	20
Targeting: The proposed project addresses identified critical pollution sources or risks impacting the water resource identified in the application.	20
Measurable Outcomes: The proposed project has a quantifiable reduction in pollution and directly addresses the water quality concern identified in the application.	20
Project Readiness: The application has a set of specific activities that can be implemented soon after grant award.	10
Cost Effectiveness: The application identifies a cost effective solution to address the non-point pollution concern(s).	15
Effective Combination of Practices: Use of a combination of eligible activities that increase the overall effectiveness of the implemented practices/activities.	10
Total Points Available	**100**

WHEREAS, local governments throughout the state submitted 9 applications that requested $92,825 in funds for well sealing projects that were assessed by the Department of Health;

WHEREAS, the Board's Senior Management Team reviewed the proposed FY2017 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant proposals developed by staff on November 8, 2016, and made no recommendations for changes; and

WHEREAS, the Grants Program and Policy Committee reviewed the FY2017 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Program proposals developed by staff on November 10, 2016 and recommended the Board approve the grants per this resolution and the attached funding recommendations spreadsheets and the attached scoring results and funding recommendations document; and,

WHEREAS, a technical correction is required in Board Resolution #15-63, FY 2016 Clean Water Fund Non-Competitive Grants to SWCDs for Buffer Law and Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program Implementation; and,

WHEREAS, a technical correction is required in Board Resolution #16-45, FY 2017 Clean Water Fund Non-Competitive Grants to SWCDs for Buffer Law Implementation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby:

1) Approves allocations to implement the FY2017 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Program according to the attached funding recommendations spreadsheets and the attached scoring results and funding recommendations document for the following programs and recommended allocation amounts shown below:

Grant Program	Allocated Funds
A. Projects and Practices Grants	$8,371,511
B. Accelerated Implementation Grants	$3,383,882
C. Community Partners Grants	$ 765,000
D. Multipurpose Drainage Management	$ 879,109

2) Authorizes staff to:

A. Approve project work plans.

B. Enter into grant agreements consistent with this resolution and Legislative Appropriations.

C. Reallocate funds in (1), unless superseded by a future Board resolution, to first fully fund Community Partners project C17-7939, and then, unfunded FY 2017 Projects and Practices applications in rank order, if funds become available due to:

1. Funded projects being withdrawn or modified to reduce funding needed; or,
2. Work Plan approvals not received by March 13, 2017, unless extended for cause; or,
3. Prior unused CWF competitive grant allocations returned to BWSR and becoming available.

3) Makes technical corrections to Board Resolutions #15-63 and #16-45 as follows and as indicated in Attachment 6:

A. #15-63; in the second and eighth "**WHEREAS**", change "7(d)" to "7(e)"; and,

B. #16-45; in the second "**WHEREAS**", change "7(d)" to "7(e)"; and, in the fifth "**WHEREAS**", change "7(d)" to "7(e)" and delete "and Section 3(g)" .

_____ Date: _____

Brian Napstad, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Attachments:

1. FY2017 Projects and Practices Grant Recommendations
2. FY2017 Accelerated Implementation Grant Recommendations
3. FY2017 Community Partner Conservation Program Grant Recommendations
4. FY2017 Multipurpose Drainage Management Grant Recommendations

5. FY2017 Clean Water Fund: Background on Scoring Results and Funding Recommendations
6. Technical Corrections to Board Resolutions #15-63 and #16-45

Attachment #6

Board Resolution # 15- 63

FY 2016 CLEAN WATER FUND NON-COMPETITIVE GRANTS TO SWCDs FOR BUFFER LAW AND AGRICULTURAL WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

WHEREAS, the Clean Water Fund (CWF) is established in M.S. section 114D.50; and,

WHEREAS, Clean Water Funds have been appropriated to BWSR in Laws of Minnesota 2015, 1st Special Session, Chapter 2, Article 2, Section 7(e) for grants to local units of government to enhance compliance with riparian buffer or alternative practice requirements; and

WHEREAS, Clean Water Funds have been appropriated to MDA in Laws of Minnesota 2015, 1st Special Session, Chapter 2, Article 2, Section 3(g) to implement the Minnesota agricultural water quality certification program statewide; and

WHEREAS, the Board has authority under M. S. section 103B.3369 to make grants to cities, townships, counties, soil and water conservation districts, watershed districts, joint powers organizations, and other special purpose districts or authorities with jurisdiction in water and related land resources management when a proposed project, practice or activity implements a county water plan, watershed management plan, or county groundwater plan; and

WHEREAS, MDA and BWSR have the authority to enter into interagency agreement to facilitate implementation of their respective authorities; and

WHEREAS, BWSR implementation of appropriated and transferred CWF funds is based on the Minnesota Constitution, Article XI, Section 15 which provides that funds may be "spent only to protect, enhance, and restore water quality in lakes, rivers, and streams and to protect groundwater from degradation", and that "dedicated money under this section must supplement traditional sources of funding for these purposes and may not be used as a substitute"; and

WHEREAS, the CWF implementation strategy incorporates the purpose of M.S. section 114D.20 which directs the implementation of Clean Water Funds to be coordinated with existing authorities and program infrastructure.; and

WHEREAS, requests for Buffer Implementation and MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program implementation with funds appropriated in Laws of Minnesota 2015, 1st Special Session, Chapter 2, Article 2, Section 7(e), and Section 3(g) will be awarded on a non-competitive formula basis; and

WHEREAS, the Grants Program and Policy Committee reviewed the proposed non-competitive Buffer Law and MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification grant allocations and proposed Board resolution developed by staff, on August 10, 2015.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby:

Establishes the following Buffer Implementation and MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program implementation allocations as follows:

FY 2016 SWCD MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program Funding Allocations

Group 1 - $2,000 grant allocation (Ramsey, South St. Louis, North St. Louis, Lake and Cook)

Group 2 - $4,000 grant allocation (Carlton, Pine, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Aitkin, Crow Wing, Cass, Hubbard, Itasca, Clearwater, Beltrami, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods)

Group 3 - $6,000 grant allocation (covers remaining 72 SWCDs)

FY 2016 SWCD Buffer Implementation Funding Allocations

Category 1 - $3,000 (Lake, Cook and Ramsey)

Category 2 - $5,000 (South St. Louis, Koochiching, Itasca, North St. Louis and Carlton)

Category 3 - $10,000 (Anoka, Hennepin, Aitkin, Hubbard, Crow Wing, Scott, Cass, Kanabec, Washington, Lake of the Woods, Mille Lacs, Pine, Sherburne, Isanti, Chisago and Wadena)

Category 4 - $20,000 (Clearwater, Benton, Carver, Beltrami, Wright, Mahnomen, Root River, Winona, Rice, McLeod, Dakota, Todd, Douglas, Nicollet, Wabasha, Waseca and Red Lake)

Category 5 - $25,000 (Morrison, Steele, Dodge, Big Stone, Pipestone, Meeker, Watonwan, Le Sueur, Becker, East Otter Tail, Olmsted, Rock, Sibley, Pope, Lincoln, Grant, Pennington, West Otter Tail, East Polk and Goodhue)

Category 6 – $30,000 (Chippewa, Traverse, Stevens, Brown, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Freeborn, Fillmore, Swift, Cottonwood, Mower, Lyon, Blue Earth, Faribault, Lac Qui Parle and Murray)

Category 7 - $35,000 (Nobles, Martin, Yellow Medicine, Wilkin, Roseau, Clay, Stearns, Kittson, Redwood and Norman)

Category 8 - $45,000 (Renville, West Polk and Marshall)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board hereby:

Approves the non-competitive grant allocations as described in this resolution, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board hereby:

Establishes that grants awarded pursuant to this resolution will conform to the BWSR FY 2016 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Policy except that 1) no match will be required, 2) grants will be awarded as a lump sum up-front payment, and 3) only annual and final eLINK reporting will be required; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board hereby:

Authorizes staff to finalize, distribute and promote a SWCD request for funding to implement the FY2016 Buffer Law and MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification program consistent with the provisions of appropriations enacted in 2015, Minn. Stat. 103B.3369, and this Board resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board hereby:

Authorizes staff to execute grant agreements with individual SWCDs after receipt and approval of a request for funding not to exceed grant allocation amounts identified in this resolution.

Date: 8/27/15

Brian Napstad, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Attachments: MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program- SWCD Funding Allocations 8-10-15
Proposed SWCD Buffer Implementation Funding Formula & Allocation 8-11-15

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

Board Resolution # 16-45

FY 2017 CLEAN WATER FUND NON-COMPETITIVE GRANTS TO SWCDs FOR BUFFER LAW IMPLEMENTATION

WHEREAS, the Clean Water Fund (CWF) is established in M.S. 114D.50; and

WHEREAS, Clean Water Funds have been appropriated to BWSR in Laws of Minnesota 2015, 1st Special Session, Chapter 2, Article 2, Section 7(~~d~~ (e)) for grants to local units of government to enhance compliance with riparian buffer or alternative practice requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Board has authority under Minn. Stat. section 103B.3369 to make grants to cities, townships, counties, soil and water conservation districts, watershed districts, joint powers organizations, and other special purpose districts or authorities with jurisdiction in water and related land resources management when a proposed project, practice or activity implements a county water plan, watershed management plan, or county groundwater plan; and

WHEREAS, the CWF implementation strategy incorporates the purpose of Minn. Stat. section 114D.20 which directs the implementation of Clean Water Funds to be coordinated with existing authorities and program infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, requests for Buffer Implementation with funds appropriated in Laws of Minnesota 2015, 1st Special Session, Chapter 2, Article 2, Section 7(~~d~~ (e)), ~~and Section~~ 3(g) will be awarded on a non-competitive formula basis; and

WHEREAS, the Grants Program and Policy Committee reviewed the proposed non-competitive Buffer Law grant allocations and proposed Board resolution developed by staff on May 20, 2016.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby:

Establishes the following Buffer implementation allocations as follows:

FY 2017 SWCD Buffer Implementation Funding Allocations

Category 1 - $3,000 (Lake, Cook and Ramsey)

Category 2 - $5,000 (South St. Louis, Koochiching, Itasca, North St. Louis and Carlton)

Category 3 - $10,000 (Anoka, Hennepin, Aitkin, Hubbard, Crow Wing, Scott, Cass, Kanabec, Washington, Lake of the Woods, Mille Lacs, Pine, Sherburne, Isanti, Chisago and Wadena)

Category 4 - $20,000 (Clearwater, Benton, Carver, Beltrami, Wright, Mahnomen, Root River, Winona, Rice, McLeod, Dakota, Todd, Douglas, Nicollet, Wabasha, Waseca and Red Lake)

Category 5 - $25,000 (Morrison, Steele, Dodge, Big Stone, Pipestone, Meeker, Watonwan, Le Sueur, Becker, East Otter Tail, Olmsted, Rock, Sibley, Pope, Lincoln, Grant, Pennington, West Otter Tail, East Polk and Goodhue)

Category 6 – $30,000 (Chippewa, Traverse, Stevens, Brown, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Freeborn, Fillmore, Swift, Cottonwood, Mower, Lyon, Blue Earth, Faribault, Lac Qui Parle and Murray)

Category 7 - $35,000 (Nobles, Martin, Yellow Medicine, Wilkin, Roseau, Clay, Stearns, Kittson, Redwood and Norman)

Category 8 - $45,000 (Renville, West Polk and Marshall)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board hereby:

Approves the non-competitive grant allocations as described in this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board hereby:

Establishes that grants awarded pursuant to this resolution will conform to the BWSR FY 2017 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Policy except that 1) no match will be required, 2) grants will be awarded as a lump sum up-front payment, and 3) only annual and final eLINK reporting will be required; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board hereby:

Authorizes staff to finalize, distribute and promote a SWCD request for funding to implement the FY2017 Buffer Law program consistent with the provisions of appropriations enacted in 2015, Minn. Stat. 103B.3369, and this Board resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board hereby:

Authorizes staff to execute grant agreements with individual SWCDs after receipt and approval of a request for funding not to exceed grant allocation amounts identified in this resolution.

Date: 6/22/16

Brian Napstad, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Attachment: FY 2017 SWCD Buffer Implementation Funding Allocations by Category 5-20-16

FY 2017 SWCD Buffer Implementation Funding Allocations by Category
5/20/16
(Total Allocation = $1,999,000)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$3,000	**$5,000**	**$10,000**	**$20,000**	**$25,000**	**$30,000**	**$35,000**	**$45,000**
Lake	South St. Louis	Anoka	Clearwater	Morrison	Chippewa	Nobles	Renville
Cook	Koochiching	Hennepin	Benton	Steele	Traverse	Martin	West Polk
Ramsey	Itasca	Aitkin	Carver	Dodge	Stevens	Yellow Medicine	Marshall
	North St. Louis	Hubbard	Beltrami	Big Stone	Brown	Wilkin	
	Carlton	Crow Wing	Wright	Pipestone	Jackson	Roseau	
		Scott	Mahnomen	Meeker	Kandiyohi	Clay	
		Cass	Root River	Watonwan	Freeborn	Stearns	
		Kanabec	Winona	Le Sueur	Fillmore	Kittson	
		Washington	Rice	Becker	Swift	Redwood	
		Lake of the Woods	Mc Leod	East Otter Tail	Cottonwood	Norman	
		Mille Lacs	Dakota	Olmsted	Mower		
		Pine	Todd	Rock	Lyon		
		Sherburne	Douglas	Sibley	Blue Earth		
		Isanti	Nicollet	Pope	Faribault		
		Chisago	Wabasha	Lincoln	Lac Qui Parle		
		Wadena	Waseca	Grant	Murray		
			Red Lake	Pennington			
				West Otter Tail			
				East Polk			
				Goodhue			

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

FY2017 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants
November 10, 2016

Applications for the FY2017 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants were accepted from June 27 through August 28, 2016. Local governments submitted 171 applications requesting $34,414,783 in Clean Water Funds. For purposes of reviewing and scoring the applications, they were divided into the following categories:

- **CWF Competitive Grants:** Projects and Practices; Accelerated Implementation; Community Partners; Multipurpose Drainage Management; and Minnesota Department of Health Well Sealing

The Interagency Scoring Team consisting of staff from BWSR, DNR, MDA, MDH, and MPCA met on October 17 to score the CWF Competitive Grants with the exception of the Minnesota Department of Health Well Sealing grants. Well Sealing grants were reviewed and ranked by MDH staff only.

The resulting funding recommendations were reviewed by the BWSR Senior Management Team on November 8 and the Grants Program and Policy Committee on November 10.

CWF Competitive Grants.

The FY2017 CWF Competitive Grants consists of 5 separate funds, as shown below:

FY2017 Competitive CWF Competitive Grant Categories	FY17 Available Funds	Requested Funds
Projects and Practices	$8,400,000	$25,609,764
Accelerated Implementation	$3,500,000	$5,409,022
Community Partners	$765,000	$1,901,850
Multipurpose Drainage Management	$879,105	1,401,322
Minnesota Department of Health Well Sealing	$112,000	$92,825
Total	**$13,656,105**	**$34,414,783**

Projects and Practices:

Funds used to make investments in on-the-ground projects and practices that will protect or restore water quality in lakes, rivers or streams, or will protect groundwater or drinking water. Examples include stormwater practices, agricultural conservation, livestock waste management, lakeshore and stream bank stabilization, stream restoration, and SSTS upgrades.

A total of 91 applications for Projects and Practices Grant Funds were received. Of this total, 70 applications were scored. Twenty one applications were assessed as low (20 applications) by BWSR staff or determined to be ineligible (1 application). The criteria used in the BWSR assessments and interagency scoring is shown below.

Projects and Practices Ranking Criteria	
Ranking Criteria	**Maximum Points Possible**
Project Description: The project description succinctly describes what results the applicant is trying to achieve and how they intend to achieve those results.	5
Relationship to the Plan: The proposal is based on priority protection or restoration actions listed in or derived from an approved local water management plan.	15
Targeting: The proposed project addresses identified critical pollution sources impacting the water resource identified in the application.	25
Measurable Outcomes: The proposed project has a quantifiable reduction in pollution and directly addresses the water quality concern identified in the application.	35
Project Readiness: The application has a set of specific activities that can be implemented soon after grant award.	10
Cost Effectiveness: The application identifies a cost effective solution to address the non-point pollution concern(s).	5
Biennial Budget Request (BBR): A BBR was submitted by the applicant organization in 2014.	5
Total Points Available	**100**

Recommendation:

1. Fully fund the highest scoring 36 applications

Accelerated Implementation Grants:

Before on-the-ground clean water projects get implemented, there is the need for pre-project identification, planning and design. This grant invests in building capacity for local governments to accelerate on-the-ground projects that improve or protect water quality and perform above and beyond existing standards. Whether it is conducting inventories of potential pollutant sites, developing and using analytical targeting tools, providing technical assistance or increasing citizen interaction, local governments will be better prepared to increase the installation of water quality projects and practices after receiving these grants.

A total of 47 applications for Accelerated Implementation Grant Funds were received. Of this total, 35 applications were scored. Twelve applications were assessed as low (9 applications) by BWSR staff or determined to be ineligible (3 applications). The criteria used in the BWSR assessments and interagency scoring is shown below.

Clean Water Accelerated Implementation Grants Ranking Criteria	
Ranking Criteria	**Maximum Points Possible**
Clarity of project's goals, standards addressed and projected impact on land and water management and enhanced effectiveness of future implementation projects.	40
Prioritization and Relationship to Plan: The proposal is based on priority protection or restoration actions listed in or derived from an approved local water management plan or address pollutant load reductions prescribed in an approved TMDL.	25
Means and measures for assessing the program's impact and capacity to measure project outcomes.	20
Timeline for implementation.	15
Total Points Available	**100**

Recommendation:

1. Fully fund the 31 highest scored applications

Community Partners Grants:

These sub-grant funds leverage the interest of non-governmental partners such as faith organizations, lake and river associations, boy/girl scout troops, and other civic groups, to install on-the ground projects that reduce runoff and keep water on the land. Examples include: rain gardens and shoreline restorations.

A total of 18 applications for Community Partner Grant Funds were received. Of this total, 14 applications were scored by only BWSR staff. Four applications were assessed as low (3 applications) by BWSR staff or determined to be ineligible (1 application). The criteria used in the BWSR assessments are shown below.

Community Partners Grant Ranking Criteria	
Ranking Criteria	**Maximum Points Possible**
Clarity of project goals, projected impact, and involvement with community partners.	40
Prioritization and Relationship to Plan: The proposal is based on priority protection or restoration actions listed in or derived from an approved local water management plan or address pollutant load reductions prescribed in an approved TMDL.	30
Plan for assessing the programs impact and capacity to measure project outcomes.	20
LGU capacity to implement the local grant program processes and protocols.	10
Total Points Available	**100**

Recommendation:

1. Fully fund the 5 highest applications and partially fund the 6th.

Multipurpose Drainage Management Grants:

The purpose of this program is to facilitate multipurpose drainage management practices to reduce erosion and sedimentation, reduce peak flows and flooding, and improve water quality, while protecting drainage system efficiency and reducing drainage system maintenance for priority Chapter 103E drainage systems. Practices include eligible on-field, on-farm, and on-drainage system practices within the benefited area or the watershed of a priority Chapter 103E drainage system.

A total of 9 applications for Multipurpose Drainage Management Grants were received. Two applications were assessed as low (1 application) or determined to be ineligible (1 application) by BWSR staff. Of the total, 7 applications were scored. The criteria used in the BWSR assessments and interagency scoring is shown below.

Multipurpose Drainage Management Grant Ranking Criteria	
Ranking Criteria	**Maximum Points Possible**
Project Description: The project description succinctly describes what results the applicant is trying to achieve and how they intend to achieve those results.	5
Prioritization: The proposal is based on priority protection or restoration actions associated with a "Priority Chapter 103E Drainage System" (as defined in this RFP) and is consistent with a watershed management plan that has been state approved and locally adopted or an approved total maximum daily load study (TMDL), Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS), surface water intake plan, or well head protection plan.	20
Targeting: The proposed project addresses identified critical pollution sources or risks impacting the water resource identified in the application.	20
Measurable Outcomes: The proposed project has a quantifiable reduction in pollution and directly addresses the water quality concern identified in the application.	20
Project Readiness: The application has a set of specific activities that can be implemented soon after grant award.	10
Cost Effectiveness: The application identifies a cost effective solution to address the non-point pollution concern(s).	15
Effective Combination of Practices: Use of a combination of eligible activities that increase the overall effectiveness of the implemented practices/activities.	10
Total Points Available	**100**

Recommendation:

1. Provide full funding for 5 of the 6 applications that scored 70 or above.
2. Provide partial funding for the Sauk River Watershed District application. This application was ranked in a medium position by the interagency ranking team according to the above criteria and associated guidance. The application involves a well-documented priority Chapter 103E drainage system, targeted practices, and the required drainage authority / SWCD partnership. However, based on the required budget worksheet with the application, the cost-effectiveness appeared to be quite poor compared to other applications (high costs of practices, including very high technical assistance costs). The ranking team liked the project and ranked it relatively high for all criteria except cost-effectiveness. Therefore, the ranking team recommended that this project receive partial funding using the last increment of available program funding. This recommendation would fund $210,570 of the $438,500 grant request (48%). It was also recommended that BWSR work with the grant applicant during the work plan development process to clarify and agree to reasonable costs and outcomes in the work plan.
3. The ranking team also recommended that BWSR coordinate with the Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance during the grant work plan development process to ensure clarity of priority Chapter 103E drainage systems.

Row	ID #	Applicant	County	Grant Title	Grant Abstract	Grant Request	Grant Recommendation	Total Score
1	C17-4111	Dakota Soil and Water Conservation District	Dakota	Trout Brook Watershed Initiative	This project will improve surface water quality within the sediment degraded Trout Brook, a designated trout stream and tributary to the Cannon River. The project will focus on the installation of best management practices that will reduce the amount of sediment transport within the watershed. Approximately 20 practices will be installed through this project which will reduce an estimated 2,000 tons of sediment per year. Installation of the highest impact and most cost effective practices will result in a quantifiable reduction of sediment that reaches Trout Brook and will directly address the turbidity impairment identified within Trout Brook and the Cannon River.	$ 200,000	$ 200,000	93.00
2	C17-1177	Becker Soil and Water Conservation District	Becker	Upper Buffalo River Sediment Reduction Project	The Upper Buffalo River Sediment Reduction Project area lies in the first major landuse transition within the buffalo's flowage, where intact forests and modestly developed lakes give way to altered hydrology and tilled fields of highly productive soils near the top of the Red River Basin. This abrupt change in landuse within the watershed is directly linked to stream impairments within the project area. The project will result in two grade stabilization structures, 26 water and sediment control basins, 3 grassed waterways and roughly 25 acres of filter strips and/or critical area plantings that will yield an estimated 44% reduction of sediment loading, surpassing the established 41% sediment reduction goals for the Upper Buffalo River watershed.	$ 328,159	$ 328,159	92.50
3	C17-1501	Elm Creek Water Management Commission	Hennepin	Elm Creek WMC Internal Phosphorus Loading Control: Fish Lake, Hennepin County	Fish Lake is 238 acres and impaired for excessive nutrients. Through the Total Maximum Daily Load study, in-lake phosphorus loading was identified as comprising 70% of the total phosphorus load affecting surface water quality. The study included a recommendation to treat the lake with alum to achieve the state's water quality standards. The goal of this project is to reduce the phosphorus load by 310 pounds per year and meet the necessary phosphorus reduction. The project will be completed as a partnership between the Elm Creek Water Management Commission, Three Rivers Park District, the City of Maple Grove, and The Fish Lake Area Resident's Association.	$ 200,000	$ 200,000	91.92
4	C17-7270	Pomme de Terre River Association Joint Powers Board	Multiple Counties	2017 - Pomme de Terre WRAPS Implementation Plan	The purpose of this project is to strategically work towards a 53% sediment reduction goal at the mouth of the Pomme de Terre River. Activities have been targeted. The JPB has targeted with specific priority areas and include 24 Water and Sediment Control Basins, 35 Rain Gardens, 2 Shoreline stabilization, 5 Agricultural Waste Pit Closures, 28 Alternative Tile Intakes, 1 Livestock Exclusion, 1 grassed waterway, and the enrollment of 2,065 acres into conservation practices. These practices will result in edge of field reductions of 15,000 tons of sediment and 15,011 pounds of phosphorous from entering surface waters yearly in the watershed.	$ 431,587	$ 431,587	91.92
5	C17-7163	City of Forest Lake	Washington	Forest Lake High School Stormwater Reuse Project	Forest Lake Area Schools, the Rice Creek Watershed District and the City of Forest Lake have partnered to develop the first phase of a long-term stormwater reuse and education program starting. This project will result in stormwater pond retrofits and construction of new irrigation infrastructure to reduce potable groundwater usage by over 4 million gallons per year. Further, educational curriculum will be developed to integrate the reuse technology and water conservation concepts. Clear Lake is an important regional resource and boasts a very active lake association. The stormwater reuse project will reduce the pollutant load to Clear Lake, including reductions in sediment by 2 tons and total phosphorus by 20 pounds annually.	$ 505,000	$ 505,000	91.42

Row	ID #	Applicant	County	Grant Title	Grant Abstract	Grant Request	Grant Recommendation	Total Score
6	C17-9476	Stearns Soil and Water Conservation District	Stearns	2017 Sauk River Targeted Feedlot Water Quality Reduction Project	This grant application will address nutrient impairments of the Sauk River and Sauk River Chain of Lakes (SRCL) through the installation of highly prioritized feedlot runoff corrections. Funds from this application will be used to eliminate all contaminated runoff from 5 non-compliant feedlots sites upstream of the SRCL. The goal of this project is to implement feedlot improvements on 5 of the 40 highest ranked sites based on the Minnesota Feedlot Annualized Runoff Model index ratings and the location of these feedlots within a Drinking Water Supply Management Areas. A Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan will also be completed prior to construction to help identify sensitive features and proper manure application.	$ 392,500	$ 392,500	90.83
7	C17-8256	Middle St. Croix River Water Management Organization	Washington	Perro Creek Urban Stormater Quality Improvements	This project focuses on landowner outreach, design and installation of up to 10 bioinfiltration best management practices to reduce at least 6 pounds of phosphorous; 1 ton of sediment and 2 acre feet of annual stormwater runoff from 85 acres of urban land draining directly into Perro Creek, then into Lake St. Croix with no water quality treatment. The installation of these practices will not only reduce stormwater volumes, but also the nutrients that are the root cause of the nutrient impairment in Lake St. Croix as well as the stormwater bacteria contributions to Perro Creek.	$ 63,000	$ 63,000	90.33
8	C17-7822	Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization	Dakota	2017 CWF South Branch Vermillion River Nitrate Treatment Project	As part of the Dakota County Transportation Department's highway 78 road reconstruction project, the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization is partnering with Dakota County to install a nitrate treatment practice on a tributary to the South Branch Vermillion River adjacent to the road. The South Branch Vermillion River subwatershed is the highest nitrate loading subwatershed in the Vermillion River Watershed and is a significant contributor to contaminated drinking water in the eastern portion of the watershed. The project will result in the installation of a constructed wetland with enhanced soil media adjacent to County Road 78.	$ 412,200	$ 412,200	89.08
9	C17-7955	Wright Soil and Water Conservation District	Wright	Crow River Gully Stabilization to Reduce Turbidity Phase Three	The Wright Soil and Water Conservation District has partnered with the Crow River Organization of Water and the Natural Resources Conservation Service on phase three of this comprehensive sediment reduction project to focus on stabilizing seven of the most active gully erosion sites on the North Fork Crow River, and to help promote future conservation practices. These particular areas were chosen due to the high level of turbidity and low dissolved oxygen within that stretch of the North Fork Crow River, which has led to biological and turbidity impairments. This project will drastically reduce the amount of sediment (315 tons per year) and phosphorus (350 pounds per year) being exported from the targeted stretch of the Crow River.	$ 189,750	$ 189,750	89.08
10	C17-9813	Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization	Dakota	2017 CWF South Creek Temperature Reduction Project	South Creek, a tributary to the Vermillion River and a DNR-designated trout stream, currently flows through a large stormwater basin in Lakeville. The VRWJPO and City of Lakeville propose to create a new channel for the creek in order to separate it from the pond. The result would be significantly cooler temperatures, increased dissolved oxygen, and less sediment-laden water in South Creek.	$ 194,800	$ 194,800	89.08
11	C17-4636	Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District	Chisago; Washington	Bone Lake Partially Drained Wetland Restorations	Bone Lake and upstream Moody Lake are the headwaters of the Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District northern flow network, and as such, their water quality sets the stage for downstream waters, particularly Comfort Lake, the Sunrise River, and ultimately Lake St. Croix. This project proposes the implementation of six wetland restorations located along the tributary identified as the single highest source of phosphorus loading to Bone Lake. These wetland restorations are estimated to reduce watershed phosphorus loads to Bone Lake by 50 pounds per year.	$ 88,000	$ 88,000	89.00

Row	ID #	Applicant	County	Grant Title	Grant Abstract	Grant Request	Grant Recommendation	Total Score
12	C17-3029	Anoka Conservation District	Anoka	Targeted Mississippi River Bank Stabilization with a Focus on Bioengineering	The Mississippi River is currently listed as impaired for turbidity. Eroding riverbanks are one of the causes of this impairment. An inventory was completed in 2016 of riverbank condition along 5.8-miles of the Mississippi River that is within the City of Ramsey. In this inventory, ten severe to very severe eroding stretches spanning 27 private properties and 6,550 linear feet were identified. Cumulatively, these sites contribute 5,148 tons of sediment per year to the river. This project will stabilize approximately 500 linear feet of Mississippi River bank using bioengineering approaches wherever possible and will deliver reductions of up to 1,250 tons of sediment and 1,250 pounds of phosphorus annually over the ten-year lifespan of the projects.	$ 236,000	$ 236,000	88.92
13	C17-2953	Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District	Washington	Shields Lake Stormwater Harvest and Irrigation Reuse System and Alum Treatment	Forest Lake is one of the top recreational lakes in the metro area and protecting its water quality is a top priority. While not currently on the impaired waters list, the water quality of Forest Lake is very near the water quality standard. Shields Lake has been identified as the single largest pollutant contributor to Forest Lake. This project proposes to impound water from a tributary to Shields Lake for golf course irrigation reuse, reducing watershed phosphorus loads to Shields Lake by 77 pounds per year. A whole-lake alum treatment will also be applied to Shields Lake. The irrigation reuse system coupled with the alum treatment are expected to reduce phosphorus loads to Forest Lake by up to 250 pounds per year.	$ 824,000	$ 824,000	88.42
16	C17-7873	Benton Soil and Water Conservation District	Benton; Sherburne	2017 - Big Elk - Mayhew Lakes Tier 1 and 2 BMP Implementation	The Benton SWCD is applying to use Clean Water funds to work with farmers in implementing a variety of conservation practices including, but not limited to cropland erosion control projects, riparian pasture management, nutrient management and feedlot pollution control systems. Our goal is to reduce runoff from these sites and improve water quality within the Mayhew Lake and Big Elk Lake watersheds. It is estimated these projects will reduce phosphorus by 926 pounds per year, which is 7% of the 12,334 pound TMDL identified phosphorus reduction goal.	$ 200,000	$ 200,000	88.33
15	C17-3550	Anoka CD	Anoka	Pump-controlled iron enhanced sand filter basin at the Golden Lake Stormwater Treatment Pond	This pump-controlled iron enhanced sand filter (IESF) basin is estimated to remove 40-60 pounds of phosphorus each year from entering into Golden Lake. This project, paired with two previously installed upstream BMPs, will achieve on average, 84% of the total external TP load reduction identified in the approved Total Maximum Daily Load. The proposed IESF basin was identified in the Golden Lake Subwatershed Stormwater Retrofit Analysis to be one of the most cost effective remaining practices for reducing external phosphorus loads to Golden Lake.	$ 467,968	$ 467,968	88.08
16	C17-3626	Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District	Nobles	Prairie View Golf Course Pond Modification	Lake Okabena requires a 70% reduction in nutrient loading from the watershed to meet water quality standards. 59 percent of the watershed phosphorus is conveyed by Okabena Creek, making the reduction goal from Okabena Creek 1,867 pounds annually. This project will modify three ponds to increase storage and removal efficiency, and add an iron-enhanced filter bench to enhance soluble phosphorus removal. These modifications will remove an additional estimated 945 pounds of phosphorus annually, accomplishing about 30 percent of the total watershed load reduction needed.	$ 428,000	$ 428,000	87.92
17	C17-0252	Benton Soil and Water Conservation District	Benton; Morrison	2017 - Little Rock Lake TMDL Implementation Plan	Little Rock Lake experiences severe algae blooms due to excess phosphorus and these blooms are the worst known regionally. The goal of this project is to reduce algae blooms, improve water clarity, and avoid risk of drinking water contamination. The project will result in installing one farmer nutrient management project , four cover crops, two lakeshore buffer strips, six septic systems that also demonstrated an imminent threat to public health, six erosion control projects , one wetland restored, and one feedlot runoff control system. It is estimated these practices will achieve a 6% reduction in watershed phosphorus runoff.	$ 200,000	$ 200,000	87.83

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18	C17-2428	Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization	Dakota	2017 CWF Phosphorus Treatment Enhancements at County Road 50	The Vermillion River Watershed JPO is partnering with Dakota County and the City of Lakeville to enhance stormwater management along County Road 50. A treatment train approach with an iron-enhanced sand filter at the tail end to remove dissolved phosphorus will be implemented to treat a drainage area including a portion of the upstream neighborhoods that currently receive little to no stormwater treatment. The practice is anticipated to reduce 20 pounds of phosphorus annually from reaching Lake Marion, a water resource targeted for	$ 127,500	$ 127,500	87.08
19	C17-5165	Ramsey Conservation District	Ramsey	Ramsey Conservation District Well Sealing Cost-Share Program	Ramsey County, the most densely populated county in Minnesota, generates high levels of contaminated runoff from its impervious surfaces. When contaminants drain into abandoned and unused wells, it threatens the health of Ramsey County citizens who depend on groundwater as their main potable water source. The Ramsey Conservation District is applying to continue the implementation of its popular and successful well sealing cost-share program to help protect the groundwater, especially in drinking water supply/wellhead protection areas, by permanently and professionally sealing between 100 and 150 abandoned wells in Ramsey County.	$ 108,000	$ 108,000	87.08
20	C17-8299	Pope Soil and Water Conservation District	Pope	2017 Lake Emily Watershed BMP Targeted Implementation Project II	The Lake Emily Watershed BMP Targeted Implementation Project will provide funding for 26 water and sediment control projects with potential shoreline and riparian restoration projects. This work will address surface water quality sources including direct drainage from the Lake Emily subwatersheds and the Little Chippewa and from upstream discharge between Lake Emily and Lake Minnewaska. These projects have the potential to annually reduce the sediment leaving the field by 607 tons and reduce phosphorus by 520 pounds which will directly address 15% of Lake Emily's phosphorus reduction goal for direct drainage from stormwater runoff.	$ 162,500	$ 162,500	86.58
21	C17-9115	and Water Conservation District	Polk	Red Lake Watershed District Project 134, Polk County Ditch 63	The project will install one grade stabilization structure within the channel which outlets into the Burnham Creek channel and two side water inlets with buffers. The proposed erosion control project will stabilize the existing main channel and reduce sediment loading into Burnham Creek by 31 tons per year.	$ 103,000	$ 103,000	85.92
22	C17-8124	Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization	Dakota	2017 CWF Lakeville Stormwater Hydrodynamic Separator Retrofit	The Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization and the City of Lakeville propose to retrofit an existing stormwater pipe with a hydrodynamic separator to reduce the sediment load reaching South Creek and the Vermillion River. One hydrodynamic separator will be installed and is estimated to reduce sediment loads to South Creek and the Vermillion River by 4 tons per year.	$ 116,000	$ 116,000	85.83
23	C17-5029	Bassett Creek WMC	Hennepin	BCWMC Plymouth Creek Restoration	The Plymouth Creek Restoration Project will stabilize and restore streambanks along both sides of Plymouth Creek for a total of 2,800 feet including 1,700 feet within Plymouth Creek Park (including through an active disc golf course) and 1,100 feet between Fernbrook Lane and Annapolis Lane in the City of Plymouth. The BCMWC's March 2016 feasibility study estimated the project will reduce total phosphorus and suspended sediment loading to the creek by 52 pounds and 45 tons per year, respectively.	$ 400,000	$ 400,000	85.58
24	C17-8696	Browns Creek Watershed District	Washington	McKusick Road Improvement Sediment Reduction Project	Brown's Creek Watershed District and Washington County will work together to retrofit McKusick Road during a 2017 road improvement project. The project will install seven catch basin retrofits with separation devices, and three 40 foot x 5 foot diameter underground water quality tanks to trap sediment and floatables from the roadway. The primary goal is to provide water quality treatment for sediment reducing it by approximately 2 tons each year; however, the project also provides for future thermal reduction projects without future roadway disturbance by including the necessary connecting infrastructure stubbed to adjacent public land.	$ 274,250	$ 274,250	85.58

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25	C17-3217	Ramsey Conservation District	Ramsey	Sucker Lake Channel Restoration Project	The Ramsey Conservation District is partnering with the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization, St. Paul Regional Water Service, and Ramsey County Parks and Recreation to restore and stabilize approximately 550 linear feet of streambank along the Sucker Lake Channel in northeastern Ramsey County with a cost effective critical area planting, replacing the existing mix of turf grass and asphalt streambank with a native vegetation planting. The Sucker Lake Channel is part of the Vadnais Chain of Lakes, which is the drinking supply for over 400,000 people being wholly located within a designated Drinking Water Supply Management Area. This project will reduce phosphorus by 8 pounds and sediment by 6 tons annually.	$ 60,500	$ 60,500	85.33
26	C17-5391	Carlton Soil and Water Conservation District	Carlton	Red Clay Dam Phase III: Stream Restoration at Failed Red Clay Dam and Partner Prioritization	This project will restore the stream and stabilize the bank where a 30 year old sediment retention structure failed, releasing 1,333 cubic yards of sediment into the Nemadji Watershed. It will also fund prioritization of the remaining structures and start a discussion between land owners and permitting organizations. This project will prevent an estimated 80 cubic tons of sediment pollution annually in the Nemadji Watershed.	$ 95,773	$ 95,773	85.17
27	C17-5735	Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization	Dakota	2017 CWF Alimagnet Lake Stormwater Improvement Projects	The VRWJPO, in partnership with the City of Burnsville, is planning an overall improvement in the Alimagnet Lake subwatershed in Burnsville, MN, that consists of four individual projects that will reduce phosphorus in water reaching the lake. The overall project will retrofit two existing stormwater ponds that drain to Alimagnet Lake, a nutrient impaired water, with iron-enhanced sand filter benches. Alum treatments within both ponds designed to reduce the amount of internal phosphorus load being released by the pond sediments and contributing to the impairment on Alimagnet Lake are also planned. It is estimated that a significant amount of phosphorus reduction (62 pounds per year) will be achieved by implementing this project, bringing Alimagnet Lake closer to impaired waters delisting.	$ 216,450	$ 216,450	85.17
28	C17-2042	Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District	Chisago	Water Quality Improvements on the Mallery Jersey Dairy Farm	This project targets one of Chisago County's few remaining large dairy operations. It is situated on the top of the St. Croix River escarpment and drains over the bluff to the St. Croix River. This project includes installation of several practices in the feedlot area, including heavy use protection, use exclusion, underground outlet, and critical area planting to help stabilize a gully formed through the feedlot due to overtopping of a pond. There are also two other gullies located at the edge of fields or pasture areas that will be stabilized using water and sediment control structures, grade stabilization practices, or diversions. Together, these practices will reduce the amount of phosphorus and sediment loading to the St. Croix River by 18 pounds per year and 18 tons per year, respectively.	$ 60,000	$ 60,000	85.00
29	C17-6950	Todd County	Todd	City of Long Prairie DWSMA Septic Cost Share	Previous work funded through an Accelerated Implementation Grant worked to document the compliance level of septic systems in the highly vulnerable area. At least a dozen septic systems that have deficient soil drain fields have already been found in this area and more are expected before completion of the work this summer. Based on field observation, many of the failed systems occur in an area with low income households. It is proposed to cost share 12 replacement systems that have been documented as failing to protect groundwater within the Long Prairie Drinking Water Supply Management Area.	$ 79,054	$ 79,054	84.75
30	C17-1253	Scott Soil and Water Conservation District	Scott	2017 Lower MN River Targeted Water Quality Practices Installation	This project builds on the momentum and success of previous CWF grants in making significant NPS pollution reductions that address state-identified turbidity, excess nutrient and dissolved oxygen impairments of the Lower Minnesota River and points downstream. Practices are anticipated to include: grade control structures, waterways, water and sediment control basins, filter strips, native grasses/prairie, and stream/channel stabilization. Anticipated outcomes are an estimated 20 projects yielding an estimated reduction of 7,250 tons of sediment and 6670 pounds of phosphorus pollution over a minimum 10 year period.	$ 201,000	$ 201,000	84.67

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31	C17-3907	Minnehaha Creek Watershed District	Carver	Six Mile Creek - East Auburn Stormwater Enhancement Project	This project will enhance two existing ponds receiving stormwater from 22 acres of downtown Victoria to enhance treatment of phosphorus from downtown as well as incorporate treatment of the Church Lake outlet, a lake which routinely fails to meet state water quality standards and contributes to the impairment of East Auburn. The retrofits will include the addition of both a filtration bench and an iron enhanced filtration bench. These improvements will not only enhance phosphorus removal, but also will target dissolved phosphorus, which is rarely accounted for in stormwater BMP application and is a significant driver of the impairment in Lake Auburn. The two retrofits will result in an estimated 39 pounds per year reduction of phosphorus and 2 tons of per year of sediment.	$ 262,520	$ 262,520	84.58
32	C17-9442	Lake Soil and Water Conservation District	Lake	Landscape-scale forest stand improvements for water quality	This project will implement timber stand improvement activities on over 300 acres of private forest land within the Knife River and Skunk Creek watershed; both are impaired for turbidity. Through this project, significant areas of the Knife River and Skunk Creek watersheds will have a patchwork of seed sources that will naturally expand the footprint of a healthier forest. This targeted forest management effort is a low-cost investment in improving the forest conditions that are the root cause of riparian erosion issues on north shore streams. This effort would pilot a process that could be replicated moving forward at making economical investments in regional water quality and forest health improvements. T	$ 114,000	$ 114,000	84.58
33	C17-8732	Rice Creek Watershed District	Ramsey	Oasis Pond Iron-Enhanced Sand Filter Project	The RCWD is proposing to improve the water quality of stormwater runoff to Little Lake Johanna through installation of an iron-enhanced sand filter, in conjunction with the City of Roseville. The proposed design for this project will pump water from Oasis Pond to a pair of IESF trenches located parallel to and elevated above RCD4 just downstream from the outlet of Oasis Pond. The Oasis Pond Iron-Enhanced Sand Filter Project will remove approximately 34 pounds of phosphorus from runoff to Little Lake Johanna annually. This is equal to nearly 20% of the MS4 wasteload allocation for the lake, as established by the Southwest Urban Lakes TMDL Study completed by MPCA that was approved in 2015.	$ 280,000	$ 280,000	83.83
34	C17-4172	Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District	Chisago	2017 Rush Lake/Goose Lake TMDL Implementation Program	The goal of this grant application is to reduce watershed runoff phosphorus loading to Goose, East Rush, and West Rush Lakes by at least 20 pounds per year by implementing 20 best management practices. East Rush Lake, West Rush Lake, and Goose Lake are three of the worst lakes in Chisago County in terms of water quality, yet also some of the most heavily used lakes for recreation. The Goose Creek Watershed Total Maximum Daily Load Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy , which includes Goose Lake and East and Rush Lakes, and the Rush Lake Rural Subwatershed Assessment have identified hundreds of potential projects within the watersheds of these three lakes.	$ 250,000	$ 250,000	83.33
35	C17-9441	Wadena Soil and Water Conservation District	Wadena	Forestry Conservation Incentives to Protect the Crow Wing River	The Crow Wing River is a valuable natural resource and forested regions in the watershed are at risk from conversion to cropland and clearing for other uses. In order to maintain the high quality upland that protects the water quality, forestry practices are being encouraged with cost-sharing and education in an effort to manage, protect, and improve existing forest stands. This includes cost sharing for forestry management plans, training on tree thinning and planting, and encouraging participation in the Sustainable Forest Incentive Act (SFIA).The measureable goal for this project is to complete 45 Forest Stewardship Plans and enroll those lands in SFIA or the managed class 2c tax reduction in order to increase the percent of protected acres for minor watersheds with a high risk for private land conversion.	$ 100,000	$ 100,000	83.17

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36	C17-0272	Capitol Region Watershed District	Ramsey	Lauderdale Stormwater Improvement Project	Capitol Region Watershed District, the City of Lauderdale and Ramsey County seek to improve the water quality and flood control functions of Seminary Pond in Lauderdale. Seminary Pond is a regional stormwater pond receiving runoff from a 128-acre subwatershed in Lauderdale, Falcon Heights and Saint Paul. The project proposes improvements to the pond to enhance its performance including: 1) expansion of the storage area and 2) construction of an iron-enhanced sand filter. These improvements were identified as being most cost-effective compared to other alternatives considered. It is estimated that an additional 2 tons of sediment and 17 pounds of phosphorus will be removed annually, which will increase the performance of the pond by at least 40%.	$300,000	$ -	83.08
37	C17-9880	Red Lake Soil and Water Conservation District	Red Lake	2017 Red Lake County JCD 66 - Water Quality Improvement Projects	Red Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District has targeted twenty two sites on JCD 66 which outlets into Cyr Creek subwatershed in Red Lake County. Projects, which include but are not limited to, grade stabilization structures, grassed waterways, and water and sediment basins, will be implemented to correct the erosion that is occurring at these site locations. The twenty two proposed installed practices are estimated to result in a reduction of 640 tons of sediment and 588 pounds of phosphorus each year.	$42,600	$ -	83.08
38	C17-0356	Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District	Washington	Marine on St. Croix Stormwater, Phase 2	This grant will continue the enthusiasm generated in this small river town under a current BWSR Clean Water Fund grant by offering rain garden projects to those residents that did not fit within the parameters of Phase 1 of our project as well as to others in the City. In addition, a larger scale biofiltration basin will be built in partnership with Washington County, MN DOT and the City of Marine. Overall this project is estimated to reduce stormwater volume by 4 acre-feet, sediment by 5 tons and phosphorus by 20 pounds per year.	$200,000	$ -	82.92
39	C17-2847	Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District	Washington	Forest Lake South BMPs	This project includes three proposed stormwater best management practices (iron-enhanced sand filter, dry swale and rain garden) designed to reduce 6 pounds of phosphorus and 1 ton of sediment from entering Forest Lake. All three practices will be located within the City on the southern edge of the lake. The measurable water quality outcomes include a reduction of sediment by 2282 tons and phosphorus by 2610 pounds per year.	$105,949	$ -	82.83
40	C17-4537	Le Sueur County	Le Sueur	Jefferson German Lake Chain Targeted Watershed Restoration	The goal of the Jefferson German Targeted Watershed Restoration project is to improve water quality draining to the watershed and continue protection of Roemhildt Lake, identified as a lake with outstanding biodiversity. Using Terrain Analysis an PTMapp, 22 priority sites were identified. This project will install up to 25 management practices.	$498,560	$ -	82.83
41	C17-1630	Lower Mississippi River Watershed Management Organization	Ramsey	Upper Cherokee Heights Ravine Stabilization Project	The objective of the proposed project is to prevent continued erosion and pollutant loading by stabilizing the approximately 300 feet long Upper Cherokee Heights Ravine. The proposed project will use engineered and bioengineered techniques to raise portions of the channel bottom to create a more consistent channel slope, armor the channel, regrade the channel side-slopes and re-vegetate to improve stability. The project will result in a decrease in sediment of 16 tons and phosphorus of 16 pounds per year from entering Pickerel Lake and ultimately the Mississippi River.	$498,400	$ -	82.75
42	C17-4771	Sherburne Soil and Water Conservation District	Sherburne	Lake Orono Stormwater BMP Implementation	The purpose of this project is reduce phosphorus from entering Lake Orono by retrofitting a stormwater pond in the City of Elk river. Installing an iron-enhanced sand filter is estimated to reduce phosphorus by 28 pounds per year.	$291,724	$ -	82.25
43	C17-1534	St. Louis County	St. Louis	St Louis County ITPH SSTS Abatement Program 2017T	The Program will provide funding to 12 low income homeowners to repair or replace Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems identified as Imminent Threat to Public Health in the eight watersheds within St. Louis County. Those systems identified as straight-piping or surface discharging will receive higher Program priority status, thereby eliminating direct sewage discharge to adjacent water bodies; wetlands, lakes, streams, rivers or	$200,000	$ -	81.75

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44	C17-3133	Morrison Soil and Water Conservation District	Morrison	2017 - Clean Water Fund City of Little Falls Storm Water Implementation Project	This proposed project will help achieve clean water goals by installing rain gardens in the City of Little Falls on city owned properties. Furthermore, educational flyers will be mailed out to landowners in the watershed to educate them about this project and activities they can do to keep the Mississippi River healthy and protected.	$40,000	$ -	81
45	C17-4398	Cedar River Watershed District	Mower	Dobbins Watershed Restoration and Capital Improvement Plan Implementation	Cedar River Watershed District proposes to construct a series of best management practices and detainment structures in the headwaters of the Dobbins Creek Watershed, a priority tributary of the Cedar River with two branches that converge in the City of Austin's nature center. Our projects primary focus is treating the Dobbins headwaters and addressing the turbidity impairment at the source by installing two structures. These efforts will trap and store stormwater flows as well as reduce the amount of sediment entering streams by 93 tons per year.	$971,000	$ -	80.67
46	C17-4578	Vermillion River Watershed JPO	Dakota	2017 CWF Dakota County Western Service Center Stormwater Retrofit Project	This project proposes to retrofit the Dakota County Western Service Center in Apple Valley with one stormwater hydrodynamic separator and bioretention area. The Center falls within the East Lake subwatershed of the Vermillion River Watershed. East Lake is a 43-acre, nutrient impaired shallow lake in the City of Lakeville. The project would reduce total phosphorus by 2 pounds, sediment by 1 ton, and storm water volume by 3 acre-feet per year.	$129,800	$ -	80.58
47	C17-8034	Pipestone Soil and Water Conservation District	Pipestone	Nitrogen Reduction Groundwater	The goal of this project is to implement nitrogen reducing Best Management Practices on agricultural land to reduce groundwater contamination of nitrate-nitrogen in vulnerable wellhead areas in Southwest Minnesota. The project area will include 9 highly vulnerable wellhead protection areas approved by the Minnesota Department of Health for public water suppliers in Nobles, Pipestone, Rock and Lincoln Counties.	$228,900	$ -	80.42
48	C17-3864	Otter Tail, West Soil and Water Conservation District	Otter Tail	Lake Alice Watershed Improvements	Lake Alice is an impaired shallow lake in Fergus Falls. The target of this application is to provide improvements in the watershed to reduce sediment and phosphorus loads currently entering Lake Alice. Rain gardens, replacing existing catch basins with sump catch basins that collect sediment, and sediment traps are proposed to address pollutant loads and are estimated to reduce 12 tons of sediment and 64 pounds of phosphorus from entering the lake.	$429,000	$ -	80.33
49	C17-7127	Nicollet Soil and Water Conservation District	Nicollet	Nitrate Source Reduction in the Saint Peter Drinking Water Supply Management Area	This project will work with urban and rural land managers to reduce the overall amount of and improve management practices related to nitrogen fertilizer use. The goal is to improve agricultural N management on 1000 acres and sign 150 residents of Saint Peter up for a Groundwater-Friendly Yard campaign. Cover crops, CRP and structural practices will be promoted to filter nitrate-N out of surface water that eventually infiltrates through sand plains to the Jordan aquifer. These activities will reduce nitrate-N reaching the City's drinking water supply by 22%.	$441,536	$ -	79.82
50	C17-6636	Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District	Olmsted	Wetland Creation for Water Quality Improvement and the Protection and Enhancement of the South Branch Cascade Creek	The South Branch of Cascade Creek is impaired for turbidity. The purpose of this project is to construct four wetland basins within an 40 acre easement and establish diverse native prairie throughout the remaining upland areas to enhance water quality improvement and protect the function and value of the current stream channel restoration project.	$183,750	$ -	79.5

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51	C17-0291	Pipestone Soil and Water Conservation District	Pipestone	City of Edgerton-Rock River Sub-Watershed Erosion Control Project	The goal of this project is to implement appropriate conservation practices on agricultural land that has been identified as being prone to high levels of erosion. The areas of greatest concern have been identified and land owners have been contacted about the potential for erosion of their property. The project area consists of the City of Edgerton-Rock River Sub-Watershed within the boundaries of Pipestone County. Currently, 11 projects have been targeted and have project plans in place to be completed.	$363,367	$ -	79.25
52	C17-9000	Isanti Soil and Water Conservation District	Isanti	Blue Lake Proactive Protection Program	This project is part of a proactive plan to reverse the threat of impairment of Blue Lake located in Isanti County. A Stormwater Retrofit Assessment was completed and this application focuses on projects that were ranked highest for cost effectiveness in relation to phosphorus reduction. The goal of this application is to install 6,800 square feet of stormwater treatment (approximately 11 projects) including lakeshore restorations, swales, berms and raingardens at locations that have excessive erosion or areas of concentrated overland flow. By targeting areas of concentrated overland flow sediment will be reduced by 3 tons, phosphorus by 5 pounds and volume by 1 acre-feet annually.	$41,079	$ -	79.25
53	C17-6712	Pipestone Soil and Water Conservation District	Pipestone	Poplar Creek- Rock River Sub-Watershed Erosion Control	The goal of this project is to implement appropriate conservation practices on agricultural land that has been identified as being prone to high levels of erosion. The areas of greatest concern have been identified and land owners have been contacted about the potential for erosion of their property. The project area consists of the Poplar Creek-Rock River Sub-Watershed within the boundaries of Pipestone County. Currently, 8 projects have been targeted and have project plans in place to be completed.	$272,777	$ -	79.17
54	C17-0051	Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance	Multiple Counties	Greater Blue Earth River Ravines and Gullies: Targeting, Methodology, and Treatment	Funds from this project will go toward stabilizing ravines and gullies that contribute sediment directly to water resources in the Greater Blue Earth River Basin and ultimately the Minnesota River. It is expected that 15-20 projects will be implemented preventing 120 pounds of phosphorus and 120 tons of sediment pollution per year from ravine and gully sites by installing upstream practices or by stabilizing the ravine itself. Best management practices will be used including but not limited to, water and sediment control basins, terraces, waterways, drop structures, and drainage manipulation.	$375,000	$ -	78.92
55	C17-3563	Rice Creek Watershed District	Anoka	Fridley Civic Center Complex Redevelopment Project	In the fall of 2015 the Fridley City Council selected the site of the former Columbia Ice Area for the home of the future Fridley Civic Center Complex, to include a new city hall, police and fire departments, and public works facility. This redevelopment presents an opportunity to make stormwater a focal point of City services by integrating advanced stormwater management into the site. This project will be a living example of promoting best management practices to protect an important regional water resource. Untreated runoff currently drains directly to Rice Creek. The site design incorporates stormwater treatment in excess of RCWD standards, reducing nutrients, sediment, and bacteria to the stream as well as reducing runoff volumes and peak runoff rates.	$600,000	$ -	78.67
56	C17-2822	Carver County WMO	Carver	City of Norwood Young America Stormwater Retention and Reuse Retrofit	The City of Norwood Young America has an opportunity to add a large stormwater treatment practice at its Friendship Park location. The treatment practice would incorporate retention, filtration, and stormwater reuse, providing treatment to runoff from approximately 584 acres of agricultural land and existing residential development and ultimately reduce the loading of sediment and nutrients to Bevens Creek downstream. The retention/filtration area will remove roughly 21 tons of sediment and 81 pounds of phosphorus on an annual basis.	$125,000	$ -	78.55
57	C17-6351	Buffalo-Red River Watershed District	Wilkin	South Branch Buffalo River BMPs - Part 3	This project is anticipated to result in the restoration of a portion of the South Branch of the Buffalo River historic channel. The total project will restore over 5 miles of river. An estimated 100+ acres of permanent vegetation will be established through the project. An estimated 120 acres of conservation cover and or grassed waterways or similar BMPs will be marketed. In addition, 12 side inlets will be designed along the restored channel reaches where concentrated flow enters.	$380,000	$ -	78.25

Row	ID #	Applicant	County	Grant Title	Grant Abstract	Grant Request	Grant Recommendation	Total Score
58	C17-3849	St Louis, South Soil and Water Conservation District	St. Louis	St. Louis River Corridor Neighborhood Parks Water Quality Improvement Projects	The City of Duluth will use stormwater best management practices and streambank stabilization measures to reduce sediment and runoff from discharging into the 82 Ave West Creek, Merritt Creek, and a tributary to Miller Creek, which are all tributaries to the heavily impacted St. Louis River. Efforts will be focused in three neighborhood parks within the St. Louis River Corridor, which is receiving an abundance of attention and funding under the City of Duluth's new St. Louis River Corridor Initiative. This Initiative brings a comprehensive vision to restore natural resources, reconnect people to the river, and promote sustainable economic development in the St. Louis River lower watershed.	$268,238	$ -	77.25
59	C17-2400	Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District	Douglas	Chippewa River Bank Stabilization Project	The Chippewa River Bank Stabilization project will use natural channel design and a toe wood-sod mat to restore a severe erosion issue on an impaired reach of the Chippewa River. It appears an improperly placed and sized culvert is the principal root cause of excess sediment being delivered to the river due to a scoured and eroding bank. By targeting the bank erosion, an estimated 44 tons of sediment and 37 pounds of phosphorus reduction should occur annually within the reach while enhancing habitat both riparian and in-stream.	$87,250	$ -	77.08
60	C17-7596	Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District	Polk	Conservation Practices to Improve JD 75	The Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District is seeking funding for a water quality project to control the ditch grade and stabilization of the outlet of Judicial Ditch #75, which outlets directly into the Red River of the North. The total project length is two miles of channel. This project is the furthest downstream leg of a protection strategy for JD 75 to keep it from becoming impaired for turbidity before it outlets directly into the Red River. This project will aid in working towards protecting the water quality of JD 75 by completing the multipurpose drainage management strategy. With the entire multipurpose drainage management strategy for JD 75 constructed and in place, JD 75 should reduce its sediment deposit into the Red River of the North by approximately 2,000 tons per year and will also reduce the phosphorus.	$355,000	$ -	77
61	C17-1659	Shorewood, City of	Hennepin	Shorewood Lane Ravine and Wetland Enhancements	The Shorewood Lane Ravine is experiencing severe erosion problems that are contributing to both sediment and phosphorus loading to Gideon Bay, a bay that makes up a portion of Lake Minnetonka. To address this issue, the City of Shorewood proposes to make improvements to the ravine by reshaping the open channel, stabilizing critical areas using stone toes at outside bends, installing grade control structures to control the profile and reduce velocities, and establishing vegetation adjacent to the channel.	$232,500	$ -	75.42
62	C17-9161	Big Stone Soil and Water Conservation District	Big Stone	Stony Run Watershed Reclamation	This project has the goal of restoring several highly eroding tributaries that negatively impact the Stony Run Watershed. Our goal is to reduce the transportation of sediment and farm field run off from entering downstream water bodies and then into the Minnesota River. This application involves eleven landowners with seven separate projects, constructing 31 water and sediment control basins. These 7 projects combined are estimated to save 103 tons of sediment and 103 pounds of phosphorus each year.	$317,550	$ -	75.42
63	C17-0482	Yellow Medicine River Watershed District	Multiple Counties	2017 - Yellow Med 1W1P BMPs (Upper Yellow and JD24)	The purpose of this project is to assist with achieving the measurable goals identified in the Yellow Medicine One Watershed One Plan for the Upper Yellow Medicine and JD24 / Cottonwood Lake subwatersheds. The plan sets out a path that will yield a 10% reduction in both total suspended solids and total phosphorus if implemented. One of the components necessary to meet those goals is to treat 2.5% of cropland with concentrated flow practices such as a grade stabilizations, water and sediment control basins, and grassed waterways. This grant request will result in the installation of 50% of the 150 practices needed and identified in the plan. At the field scale, this will save 550 tons of soil and 360 pounds of phosphorus annually.	$462,652	$ -	74.92

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64	C17-1888	City of Eagan	Dakota	Fitz Lake Water Quality Improvements and TMDL Implementation	Fitz Lake is a small, shallow lake that is not meeting state water quality standards. The purpose of this project is to achieve the needed phosphorus reduction through improvements to three stormwater basins, including outlet modifications and iron enhanced sand filters, as well as an aluminum sulfate application in Fitz Lake to control internal loading. The three pond modifications will result in a 10 pound reduction in phosphorus and the alum treatment is estimated to reduce internal phosphorus loading by 19 pounds per year.	$675,000	$ -	74.92
65	C17-9273	Todd Soil and Water Conservation District	Todd	Drinking Water Protection in Todd County's Sensitive Soil Areas – Follow up to MDA's Nitrate Township Testing Program	The primary goal of the projects funded will be to lower nitrate levels in private drinking water to <3 mg/L. This would be accomplished by funding approximately 25% of the non-compliant farmsteads within townships that were evaluated by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture Township Testing Program. These areas were selected due to their highly course soil type and the susceptibility to drinking water contamination. Corrective measures would include the Best Management Practices deemed necessary by SWCD technical staff for the site including collection basins, filter strips, vegetated treatment areas, updates to manure pits and the closure of manure pits.	$245,000	$ -	74.08
66	C17-9807	Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area	Multiple Counties	Redwood and Cottonwood Rivers Holistic Watershed Management Project	The purpose of this project is to assist landowners with the installation of conservation practices within the two watersheds through planning, technical assistance, and up to 75% cost-share funding with 25% landowner match. Implementing new groundwater infiltration and phosphorus-reducing conservation practices will help achieve reductions necessary to meet goals identified by local, watershed-wide, and Minnesota Basin water management plans. This project's anticipated goals are to annually reduce 2,000 pounds of phosphorus and 4,060 tons of sediment reaching the Minnesota River annually.	$290,805	$ -	72.92
67	C17-2614	Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance	Multiple Counties	Cover Crops and Land Management Practices in the Greater Blue Earth River Basin	The Greater Blue Earth River Basin in Minnesota consists of 2.05 million acres of which 88% in dedicated to row crop agriculture. The need is great to continue the support of landowners trying to protect their ground with management practices such as cover crops, nutrient management, strip-till, and no-till. This project when complete will prevent 1,347 tons of sediment per year from leaving farms and entering waters in the watershed.	$344,000	$ -	72
68	C17-5241	Otter Tail, West Soil and Water Conservation District	Otter Tail	Streambank Stabilization on the Otter Tail River	The proposed project will require the installation of toe wood-sod mats at 2 locations along the Otter Tail River adjacent to Aurdal River Road. Aurdal River Road is a high traffic township road which is a main connection between County Hwy 1 and State Hwy 210. Over the past few years, the river has slowly eroded the outside bank adjacent to Aurdal River Road. The installation of this project will reduce sediment loading by 120 tons and phosphorus by 100 pounds per year and will provide future protection for the township road.	$222,500	$ -	71.42
69	C17-6547	Martin Soil and Water Conservation District	Martin	2017 Fairmont Chain of Lakes Watershed	Martin SWCD aims to improve water quality in the Fairmont Chain of Lakes by installing projects funded through this application. All five lakes are currently listed as impaired for nutrients. This application will work to delist these waters by installing both urban and rural conservation practices. Alternative tile intakes and cover crops are two of the main items to be installed. There are also targeted locations where structural practices will be installed. It is estimated that approximately 150 pounds of phosphorus and 250 tons of sediment will be reduced annually.	$220,000	$ -	69.08
70	C17-7623	Morrison Soil and Water Conservation District	Morrison	2017-CWF TMDL Implementation Swan River Feedlot and Sedimentation Reduction Project	The Swan River was declared unimpaired in 2009 but was recently listed as impaired in 2016 for dissolved oxygen. The purpose of this project is to work with feedlot owners and other landowners in the watershed to reduce erosion. It is estimated 7 projects will be completed reducing sediment by 231 tons per year while also removing bacteria and chemical and biological oxygen demand.	$511,000	$ -	69.08

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71	C17-9203	Morrison Soil and Water Conservation District	Morrison	2017-CWF TMDL Implementation Rum River Feedlot and Sedimentation Reduction Project	This project will focus on feedlot abatement projects and stream bank erosion projects within the Rum River watershed. This application is requesting $500,000 to complete 5-8 projects and it is estimated that nitrogen will be reduced by 245 pounds, phosphorus reduced by 85 pound annually.	$490,000	$ -	65.33
72	C17-3470	Martin Soil and Water Conservation District	Martin	2017 Soil Health Initiatives in Targeted Locations	Martin County residents are currently interested in seeding cover crops, especially after canning crops such as sweet corn and peas. Producers want to try cover crops on one of their own fields to see how it impacts their operation. Through this grant, incentives will be provided to individuals to try cover crops for the first time. The goal of the project is to install cover crops on 1,500 - 2,000 acres. Areas of highest soil degradation potential will be targeted.	$92,000	$ -	64.67
						Total	**$ 8,371,511**	

FY 2017 Clean Water Fund

Projects and Practices Grant Recommended Funding

Total OutstateRecommended Funding: $3,134,323

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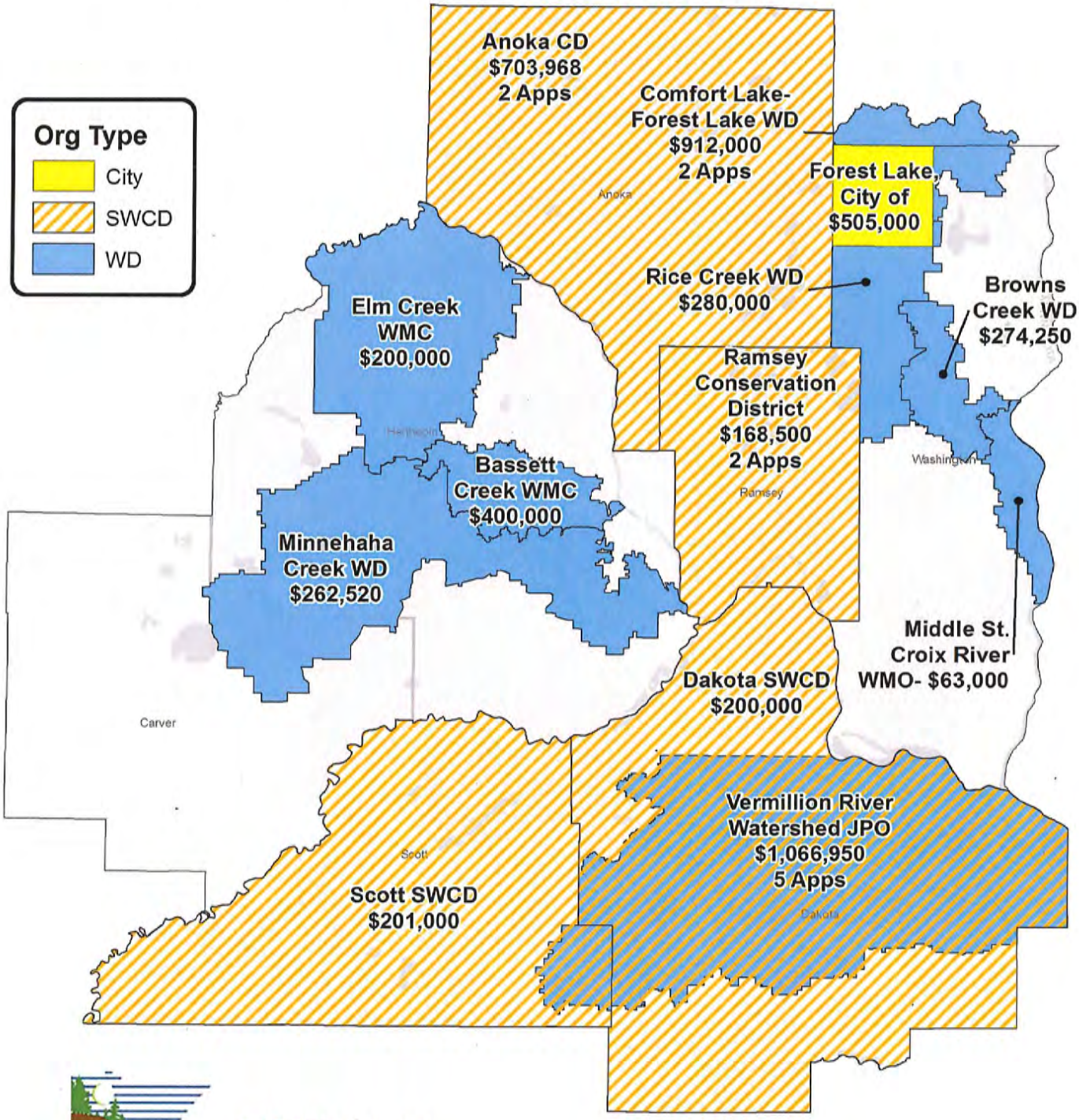

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY AMENDMENT

November 2016

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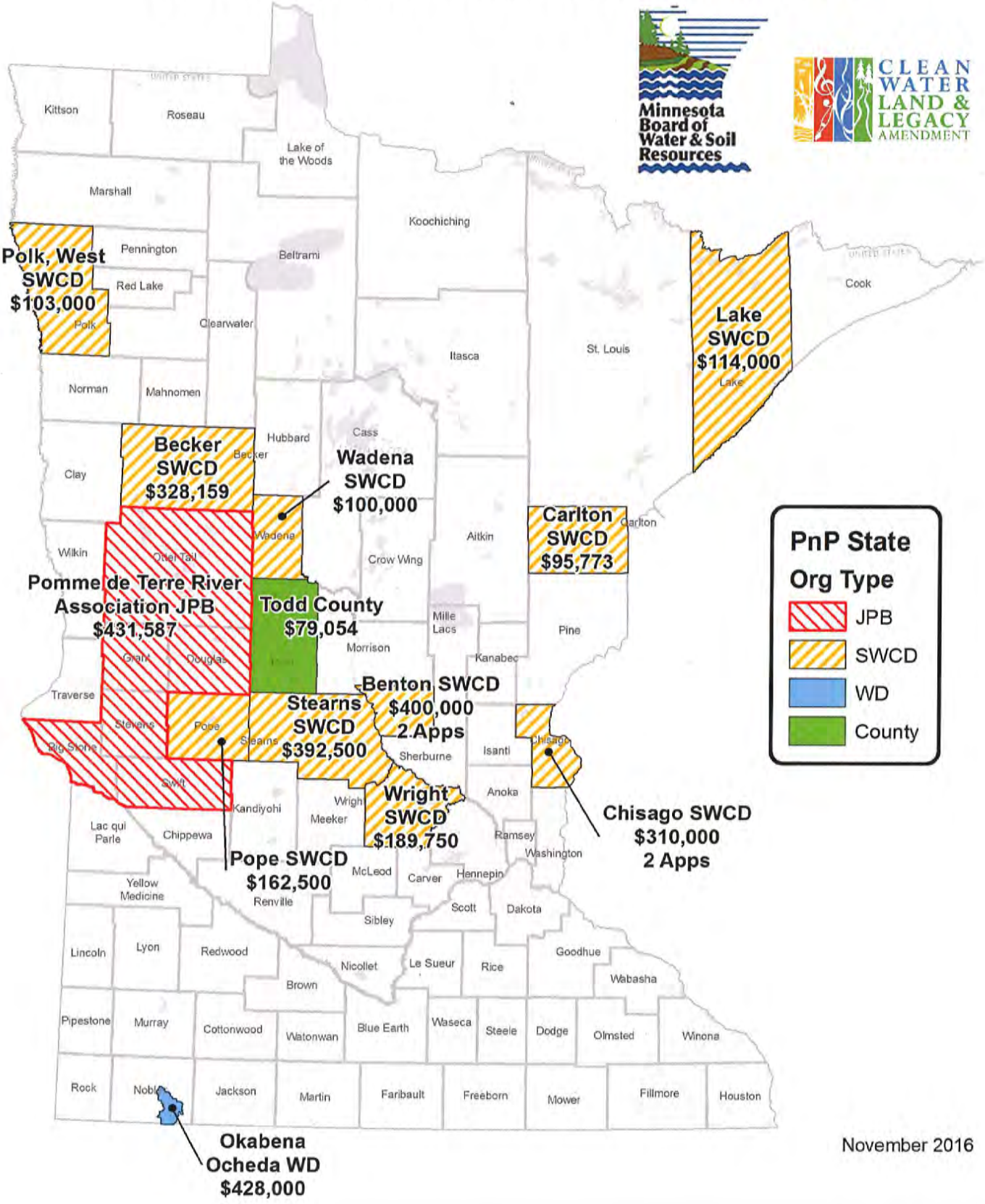

November 2016

Row	ID #	Applicant	County	Grant Title	Grant Abstract	Grant Request	Grant Recommendation	Total Score
1	C17-6520	Pennington Soil and Water Conservation District	Pennington	Thief River Watershed PTMApp	The goal of the project is to identify priority locations for project implementation using the Prioritize, Targeting, and Measuring Application (PTMApp) in the Thief River Watershed. The PTMApp will be used to identify and evaluate the suitability and effectiveness of best management practices including treatment scenarios, and provide estimates of sediment, nitrogen, and phosphorus delivered to various pour points within the Thief River Watershed.	$ 60,560	$ 60,560	92.92
2	C17-1924	Middle St. Croix River Watershed Management Organization	Washington	Lily Lake Storm water Retrofit Feasibility and Design to Achieve State Water Quality Standards	After nearly a decade of intensive targeting, design and installation of water quality improvement practices, Lily Lake has an improving trend in long-term summer total phosphorous concentrations for the first time since monitoring began in 1985. To date, 36 storm water quality improvement projects have reduced 100 pounds of annual phosphorous discharging to Lily Lake. This project will engage residents and stakeholders in the targeting and design of the final water quality practices to complete the final 45 pounds annual phosphorous reduction necessary to remove Lily Lake from the State of Minnesota impaired waters list.	$ 58,000	$ 58,000	92.33
3	C17-0395	Browns Creek Watershed District	Washington	Brown's Creek Riparian Shading Study – Assessment of Stream Shade Provided by Unforested Riparian Buffer Vegetation	The purpose of the project is to target the type and location of riparian vegetation restoration needed to shade three miles of unforested buffer on Brown's Creek, a metro area trout stream impaired for thermal and sediment loading. The project will conduct a riparian shading analysis, cost-benefit analysis, and modeling of restoration scenarios based on field measurements of shade in the unforested buffer of Brown's Creek. The study will accelerate the implementation of the 13,155 feet of thermal buffer improvement projects by targeting where shade mitigation is needed most and identifying the best-suited vegetation for shading at each site.	$ 51,525	$ 51,525	91.75
4	C17-1393	Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District	Chisago; Washington	Forest Lake Enhanced Street Sweeping Plan	This project will develop an enhanced street sweeping plan for the City of Forest Lake that optimizes phosphorus removal from increasing sweeping frequency with the cost of additional sweeps. In addition, this project will identify road-specific street sweeping timing and frequency, quantify expected phosphorus load reductions, itemize costs of enhanced street sweeping , and recommend funding options to the City of Forest Lake. The goal of this project is develop a formal agreement between the Comfort Lake Forest Lake Watershed District and the City of Forest Lake to implement enhanced street sweeping for at least 10 years.	$ 36,000	$ 36,000	91.67
5	C17-9608	Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission	Hennepin	Minneapolis Subwatershed Assessment	The proposed project is a subwatershed assessment of that part of the City of Minneapolis that is within the Shingle Creek watershed. This subwatershed drains to three Impaired Waters: Crystal Lake, Ryan Lake, and Shingle Creek. The assessment will identify the most feasible and cost-effective best management practices for retrofit in this densely urban, fully developed subwatershed. The project includes workshops with neighborhood organizations to help them educate residents and organize implementation projects. It also includes a survey to identify barriers to implementation and will	$ 38,000	$ 38,000	89.58
6	C17-6651	Washington County	Washington	SSTS Records Catalog	The Washington County Department of Public Health and Environment is seeking funds to conduct countywide records catalog and subsequent risk analysis of subsurface sewage treatment systems, or septic systems, in the county. The records catalog will involve the collection, digitization and review of historical permit records from 1972-2004. The risk analysis will utilize information from the historical review, in addition to other pertinent available data. This will assist the county and local partners in identifying problem areas, as well as continue discussion on seeking additional resources to assist	$ 100,000	$ 100,000	89.08

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7	C17-6898	Nine Mile Creek Watershed District	Hennepin	Targeting BMPS on Lands Owned by Nonprofits	The objective of the project is to develop a targeted storm water Best Management Practice implementation and outreach program focused on non-profit partners. This project will lead to more effective implementation of practices on private, non-profit sites by providing these organizations with education and technical assistance to conceptualize and design storm water management practices on their site(s) in prioritized subwatersheds.	$ 83,339	$ 83,339	88.17
8	C17-9721	Mille Lacs Soil and Water Conservation District	Multiple Counties	Mille Lacs Lake Watershed and Upper Rum River Watershed Coordinator	This grant will fund the creation of a new Coordinator position with a primary focus on the Mille Lacs Lake subwatershed. Although not currently impaired, the Lake faces increasing development and land use pressure. Implementation of protection strategies is essential to the Lake's long-term health but current staffing does not allow sufficient time to be spent on project development and outreach to identify interested landowners. The Coordinator's principle activity will be implementation of the Mille Lacs Lake Watershed Management Group's Lake Stewardship Program which incentivizes increased water quality protection using recognition and financial assistance.	$ 268,747	$ 268,747	88.00
9	C17-9328	Dakota Soil and Water Conservation District	Dakota	Vermillion River Upper Mainstem, Pine Creek, and Lake Byllesby Sub-watershed Assessments	The purpose of this project is to complete subwatershed analysis for Cannon River and Vermillion River sub-watersheds to prioritize and target Best Management Practices based on cost-effectiveness with regard to pollutant reduction. This process is intended to proactively assist local water management and partner agencies in maximizing the value of each dollar spent to improve water quality in the respective rivers. Each subwatershed is primarily agricultural and rural practices will be evaluated through the subwatershed analysis process resulting in specific practices being identified and prioritized based on the cost effectiveness to remove pollutants.	$ 40,000	$ 40,000	87.75
10	C17-6760	Washington Conservation District	Chisago;Washington	Expanding Master Water Stewards' programming to engage citizens and catalyze clean water projects in exurban and rural communities	The goal of this project is to adapt and expand the existing successful Master Water Stewards program to engage citizens and catalyze clean water projects in suburban, exurban and rural communities of Washington and southern Chisago Counties. As part of this project, 20 citizens stewards will be recruited and trained to work in partnership with the Washington Conservation District and area watershed management organizations to implement clean water projects in identified priority areas. Stewards will complete a total of 10 water quality improvement projects in addition to participating in and providing support for education and civic engagement activities, such as community clean-ups.	$ 81,000	$ 81,000	87.67
11	C17-6089	Buffalo-Red River Watershed District	Multiple Counties	Prioritizing and Targeting Conservation in the Buffalo-Red: PTMApp and Geomorphic Assessment	This project will result in the development of three critical pieces of information. They include: 1. Development of restoration and protection strategies for all waterbodies in the district relative to the State's Non-point Source Funding plan 2. Use of PTMApp to tie the WRAPs implementation tables from the Buffalo and Red River Watersheds to targeted on-the-ground projects and practices that will provide measurable water quality improvements, and 3. Conduct a geomorphic assessment of the districts streams to target practices that improve the geomorphic stability of waterways within the District.	$ 168,000	$ 168,000	87.67
12	C17-7482	Winona County	Winona	Lake Winona-Gilmore Creek Watershed Targeted Implementation Assessment	The purpose of this project is to develop a Lake Winona Water Quality Improvement Report that will include a prioritized, targeted, and measurable implementation plan. This plan can be used to effectively restore Lake Winona and its watershed.	$ 99,600	$ 99,600	86.58

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13	C17-7645	City of Apple Valley	Dakota	Keller Lake Subwatershed Assessment	The City proposes to conduct a subwatershed assessment on the sections of Apple Valley draining to Keller Lake to target potential projects. The goal is to identify potential cost effective retrofit projects and operations improvements capable of fulfilling needed phosphorus reductions ahead of a number of planned infrastructure projects tentatively scheduled for 2018-2022. The information gathered will be used to explore which efforts are worth pursuing further and will provide some cost efficiencies by having potential projects identified ahead of infrastructure improvement project feasibility studies, design and installation.	$ 30,000	$ 30,000	86.50
14	C17-5813	Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District	Douglas	Soil Investigations for Liquid Manure Storage Areas in Hydrologically Vulnerable Townships in Douglas County	This project seeks to inventory twenty registered feedlots identified as having an Unpermitted Liquid Manure Storage Area. Specifically, this inventory would include offering cost-share for soils investigations. These feedlots are located in three townships that have also been identified as having groundwater that is vulnerable to nutrient pollution, necessitating a need for nitrate testing per MN Department of Agriculture. These townships also house the vast majority of remaining unpermitted Liquid Manure Storage Areas in the County.	$ 93,000	$ 93,000	86.33
15	C17-0056	Lake Soil and Water Conservation District	Lake	Urban Storm water Assessment	This project will include mapping urban surface and sub-surface storm water flow to determine flow paths, pour points, and areas of limited storm water infrastructural capacity. The results of this assessment will be an assessment with prioritized and targeted opportunities for municipal infrastructure retrofits or best management practice installation on both public and private land. This project will serve to identify and delineate sub-watersheds on the urban landscape of both Two Harbors and Silver Bay, quantify and assess the capacity of the existing storm water infrastructure, and provide targeted and prioritized recommendations to City governments to guide future storm water retrofits and upgrades.	$ 71,000	$ 71,000	86.17
16	C17-2231	Minnehaha Creek Watershed District	Hennepin	Minnehaha Creek Storm water Management	In 2014, the District experienced record flooding resulting in substantial erosion and tree loss along Minnehaha Creek. In 2015, the District completed an assessment of flood damage and received FEMA funding for bank repair at 31 sites along the Creek within Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board property. Before moving forward with stream restoration, the District would like to explore opportunities to align these improvements with storm water management opportunities in the area. Receipt of an Accelerated Implementation Grant would allow MCWD to implement these two complementary water quality practices simultaneously and efficiently.	$ 35,952	$ 35,952	85.67
17	C17-0564	Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission	Hennepin	Rush Creek Headwaters Subwatersheds Assessment	Seven lakes and four streams in the Elm Creek watershed are impaired by excess nutrients, bacteria, low oxygen, and unhealthy biotic communities. Modeling completed for the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy identified areas that contribute high loads of sediment and nutrients to the streams and lakes in the watershed, however, the scale of that modeling was not sufficient to pinpoint to the field level where BMPs would be most effective. The Rush Creek Headwaters Subwatershed Assessment will evaluate four high pollutant loading catchments. The proposed subwatershed assessment will undertake much finer-scaled modeling using PTMApp and additional analyses to develop a prioritized map and list of potential projects and practices and their cost/benefit so load reduction actions and proactive outreach can begin immediately.	$ 50,280	$ 50,280	83.67

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18	C17-4810	North Fork Crow River Watershed District	Pope;Stearns	NFCRWD - JD1 Subwatershed Analysis for Targeted Implementation	The District is seeking to further its goals of meeting multipurpose drainage management requirements under its obligations as a 103E drainage authority. Judicial Ditch 1 is the largest system in the District, and proportionally one of the largest contributors of sediment and nutrients to the downstream reaches of the North Fork Crow River. The goal of this project is to target opportunities for projects and practices in the Judicial Ditch 1 watershed that provide measurable improvements to the public drainage system management by reducing peak flows, erosion and sediment, and nutrient loading.	$ 48,500	$ 48,500	83.58
19	C17-0535	Pennington Soil and Water Conservation District	Pennington	Drainage System Outlet Analysis	Numerous County ditch systems in Pennington County end at a natural drainage prior to outleting into a river or other watercourse and these outlets can be in a very erosive state. The goal of this project is to inventory these systems to determine needs and prioritize projects for implementation. In cooperation with the Northland Aerospace Foundation and the Northland Community and Technical College, our inventory will be accomplished utilizing the small Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) to collect the data needed to analyze the condition of these areas and use LiDAR to create maps that are georeferenced to find erosion and bank failures. By having a complete inventory, the legal ditch authority can be informed of the ditch system outlet conditions.	$ 332,749	$ 332,749	83.17
20	C17-3891	North Fork Crow River Watershed District	Stearns	NFCRWD Subwatershed Assessment	This Subwatershed Assessment study will evaluate three high loading subwatershed catchments in the North Fork Crow River Watershed. This study will use finer-scaled models (such as PTMApp) and additional subwatershed analyses to develop prioritized maps and an itemized list of potential projects and practices with cost/benefit analyses, expected load reductions.	$ 50,000	$ 50,000	82.50
21	C17-8483	Otter Tail, East Soil and Water Conservation District	Multiple Counties	Identifying Best Management Practices and Barriers to Adoption	The purpose of this project is to identify effective irrigation and nutrient management best management practices and technologies and the barriers that prevent irrigators, producers, and other agricultural partners from adopting them. The goal is to reduce nitrate in areas where groundwater is susceptible to contamination as mapped by The Minnesota Department of Health by identifying effective BMPs and addressing the barriers to their adoption.	$ 58,000	$ 58,000	82.08
22	C17-5153	St. Louis County	St. Louis	Middle St. Louis River Watershed Culvert Inventory	This project will create a culvert inventory database for county and township roads in the southwest portion of the county that contains the St. Louis River watershed .Data will be used by the County Public Works Department to identify and prioritize stream crossings in need of replacement or increasing upstream storm water retention to reduce the potential for culvert failure during large runoff events, factoring in stream health (fish habitat and passage, sediment transport and hydrologic connection) while protecting infrastructure.	$ 205,000	$ 205,000	80.83
23	C17-7804	Beltrami Soil and Water Conservation District	Beltrami	Beltrami County lake screening for future protection efforts	In 2012, Beltrami County completed screening on 19 of our large lakes with heavy land use development. What we found was that none of the lakes had enough chemical data for a trend analysis. Since that time, we have been sampling a large number of lakes for water quality and now have the data available for trend analysis on those lakes and would like to update our lake reports and add 20 additional lakes to our list of lakes with in-depth reports completed.	$ 37,000	$ 37,000	80.83

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24	C17-8442	Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance	Multiple Counties	Watonwan Watershed Resource Specialist - Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance	GBERBA first received funding for a Watonwan Watershed Resource Specialist from the Clean Water Fund in FY2012. Since then, the Watonwan Watershed Resource Specialist has been a crucial connector between landowners and natural resource professionals in the Watonwan Watershed. As the technical ability and responsibilities of the WWRS expands, the need and urgency to secure extended funding becomes a priority. This project will fund half of the Watonwan Watershed Research Specialist position through year 2020.	$ 99,000	$ 99,000	80.75
25	C17-6943	Otter Tail, East Soil and Water Conservation District	Becker; Otter Tail	Otter Tail and Becker County PTM App	The purpose of this project is to develop a detailed tool that can be used in all watersheds within the Otter Tail and Becker counties to prioritize, target, and measure implementation practices at the field scale. The PTM App will significantly increase the targeting capabilities in Otter Tail and Becker Counties. The Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy has not been completed for Otter Tail County, yet, and the PTM App will be able to assist targeting and prioritizing when those documents are created.	$ 471,000	$ 471,000	80.00
26	C17-7416	Elk River Watershed Association	Benton; Sherburne	2017 Elk River Watershed Strategic BMP Assessments	A completed Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study has identified mid to late summer phosphorus loading as a significant stressor to lakes and streams within the Big Elk Lake watershed. While this comprehensive study serves its role as the unifying document that identifies pollutants and sources, further work is required in order to develop site-specific Best Management Practices, design these practices, and oversee their implementation in order to reach clean water goals. The proposed work in this application includes hiring technical staff to develop relationships with watershed landowners and ultimately carry out the recommendations and strategies set forth by the Big Elk Lake Nutrient TMDL.	$ 182,500	$ 182,500	79.42
27	C17-6916	Nobles Soil and Water Conservation District	Nobles	Missouri River Basin Hydro Conditioning, BMP Targeting Analysis and 1W1P Acceleration	The partners within the Missouri River Basin are asking for financial assistance to complete Intensive Hydraulic Conditioning on the remaining 60% of the watershed to be able to utilize the Prioritize, Target, and Measure application (PTMApp). The basin has 1.1 million acres of drainage with approximately 630,000 acres remaining to be hydro conditioned. With the advancement in targeting pollution sources within the watershed and state, the partners intend to be able to more accurately target conservation practices with the hydraulic conditioning completed.	$ 102,500	$ 102,500	79.25
28	C17-1029	Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District	Douglas	Lake Ida & Ditch 23 Wetland Project	The Lake Ida & Ditch 23 Wetland Project will investigate and review the phosphorus loading of Lake Ida and design a project by to protect Lake Ida water quality. Lake Ida is a 'high quality, unimpaired lake at the highest risk of becoming impaired' according to MPCA's Lakes of Phosphorus Sensitivity Significance. With the County Ditch 23 inlet identified as a priority area to reduce phosphorous, a professional engineering firm will explore the best solution to reduce phosphorus.	$ 227,430	$ 227,430	75.50
29	C17-9194	Blue Earth County Soil and Water Conservation District	Blue Earth	Targeted Implementation within the LeSueur River Watershed	The LeSueur River Watershed is one of the highest nutrient loading watersheds for both phosphorus and nitrogen in the State of Minnesota. The LeSueur River Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS) Report was completed in August 2015 and further identifies pollutant sources and reduction goals within the LeSueur River Watershed. The WRAPS report highlights the Beauford Ditch watershed and the Madison Lake watershed area amongst the highest sources of nutrient loading to the LeSueur River. This project will target these high loading watersheds to prioritize and implement the most cost-effective best management practices to meet the nutrient reduction goals.	$ 60,000	$ 60,000	75.50

Row	ID #	Applicant	County	Grant Title	Grant Abstract	Grant Request	Grant Recommendation	Total Score
30	C17-2408	Nicollet Soil and Water Conservation District	Nicollet	From PTMApp to Projects - project scale prioritization and planning for ravine stabilization in Nicollet County	This project will layer hydrologic, hydraulic, geomorphic, and pollutant loading analysis with existing countywide PTMApp outputs to identify the four highest priority areas for BMP implementation in an eastern Nicollet County ravine system experiencing dramatic mass wasting events. Three alternatives for each priority site will be presented, including an evaluation of water quality benefit, construction costs, and a cost-benefit summary.	$ 90,400	$ 90,400	74.58
31	C17-6201	Otter Tail, West Soil and Water Conservation District	Becker; Otter Tail	Purchase of Survey Grade Equipment to Accelerate Survey, Design, and Installation of BMPs	Realizing the need for increased technical capacity in the field offices, the Becker, East Otter Tail and West Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation Districts have developed an agreement that will increase technical capacity while minimizing costs to each district. The first step was taken in this agreement through the recent hire of an engineer in the Becker SWCD office. Currently, minimal survey grade equipment is owned by the districts. This grant would be used to purchase an integrated survey system.	$ 54,800	$ 54,800	74.00
32	C17-1326	Pennington Soil and Water Conservation District	Pennington	CD 21 Soil Health Inventory	The purpose of this project is to target one subwatershed in Pennington County in which each field will be monitored to document tillage practices, amount of cover and determine which landowners could use soil health practices to preserve valuable topsoil, improve productivity, infiltration, soil organic matter, and nutrient holding capabilities. In cooperation with the Northland Aerospace Foundation and the Northland Community and Technical College, our transect survey will be accomplished utilizing the small Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) to collect the data needed to analyze the soil health condition.	$260,482	$ -	73.25
33	C17-8083	Carlton Soil and Water Conservation District	Carlton	Resources Assessment Reports for Lake Association, Watershed Groups, and Water Plan Task Force Engagement	This goal of this project is to produce Lake Assessment Reports for 98 Carlton County lakes and Stream Assessment Reports for the primary rivers and streams from the 117 identified in the Carlton County Water Plan. Using summary information from theses reports, the Carlton SWCD will re-engage the Water Plan Task Force to solicit input on priority water resources and water quality issues for future program and project funding.	$50,778	$ -	72.75
34	C17-8581	Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance	Multiple Counties	Le Sueur Watershed Technician - Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance	The Le Sueur Watershed Technician will provide highly focused targeting of conservation programs and practices in this key watershed. The technician will implement 50 projects/practices over a three year period. The Le Sueur watershed is largely agricultural based and contributes high amounts of sediment and nutrients to the Minnesota River. The MPCA has completed its assessment of the Le Sueur River making this an ideal time to work with landowners in the watershed and to provide engagement and outreach to residents.	$147,400	$ -	72.75
35	C17-4599	Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District	Chisago	2017 Targeted Road Ditch Inventory	Noticeable roadside erosion has been occurring in many locations throughout Chisago County, but especially along the escarpment of the St. Croix River. Along many of the gravel roads, erosion of the road itself is also occurring. The proposal is to do an inventory of the roads and ditches within 3 miles of the St. Croix River to gain a better understanding of how much sediment and phosphorus they may contribute to the St. Croix River.	$30,000	$ -	72.25
36	C17-8261	Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance	Multiple Counties	Blue Earth Watershed Resource Specialist - Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance	A Resource Specialist will be hired to assist local and county elected officials, technicians and land use professionals with coordinated, watershed-based efforts to 1) target subwatersheds and County drainage systems using the best available targeting tools and information, 2) identify practices to reduce the magnitude and duration of peak flows, reduce nitrogen transport to surface and groundwater, and reduce upland erosion and phosphorus transport to surface water, 3) conduct civic engagement and outreach activities at the local and watershed scale.	$192,500	$ -	71

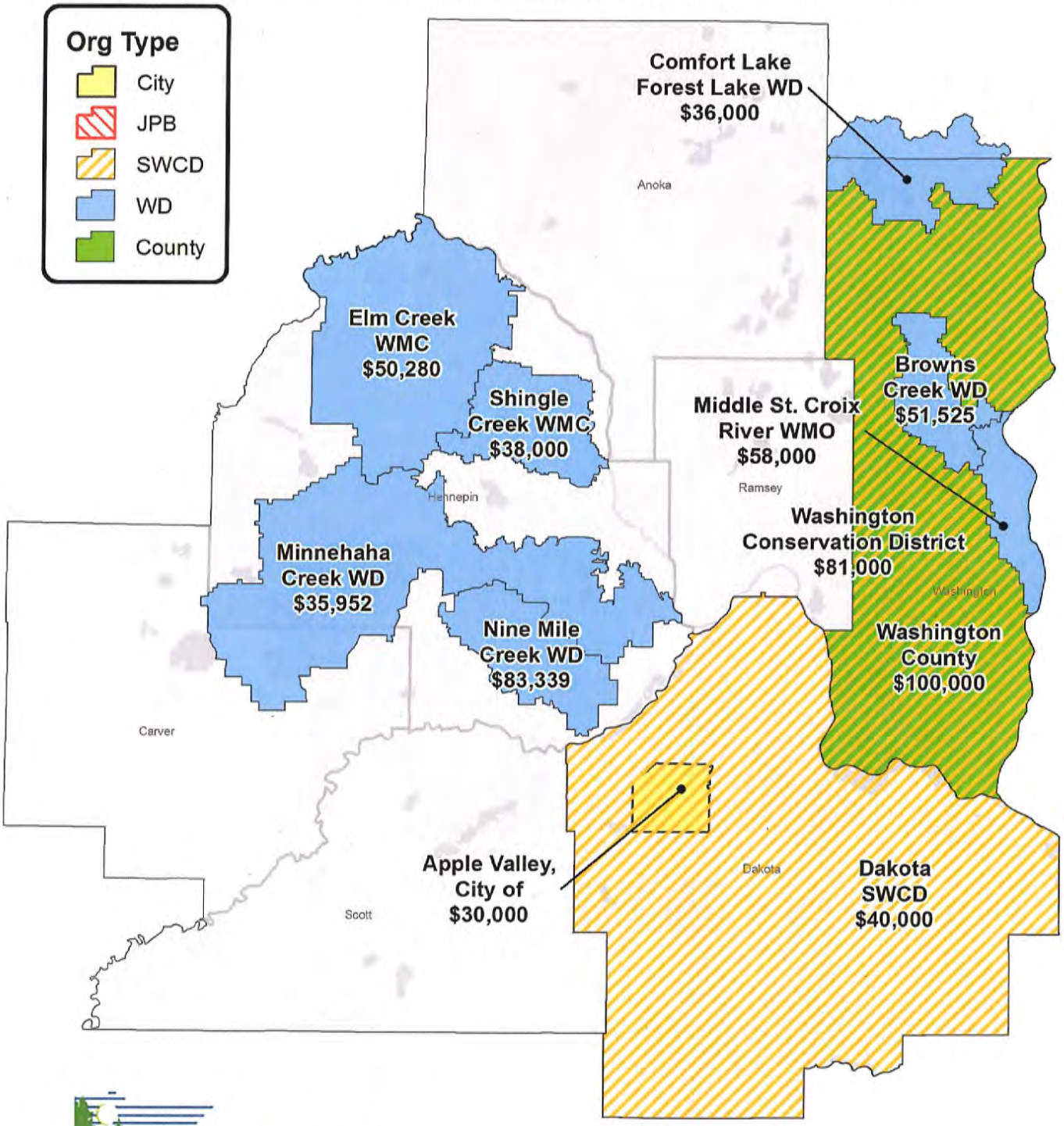
Row	ID #	Applicant	County	Grant Title	Grant Abstract	Grant Request	Grant Recommendation	Total Score
37	C17-8573	Minnesota River Headwaters and Whetstone River Restoration Project	Multiple Counties	Minnesota River Headwaters and Whetstone River Restoration Project	The project will be a cooperative effort to restore the historic Whetstone River channel between Big Stone Lake and Minnesota River. The restoration will improve ecological integrity and water quality on Big Stone Lake, and the headwaters of the Minnesota River, which is the major subject of the Lake Pepin Total Maximum Daily Load.	$243,000	$ -	63.1
						Total	**$ 3,383,882**	

FY 2017 Clean Water Fund

Accelerated Implementation Grant Recommended Funding

Total Outstate Recommended Funding: $2,779,786

Total Metro Recommended Funding:$604,096



Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY AMENDMENT

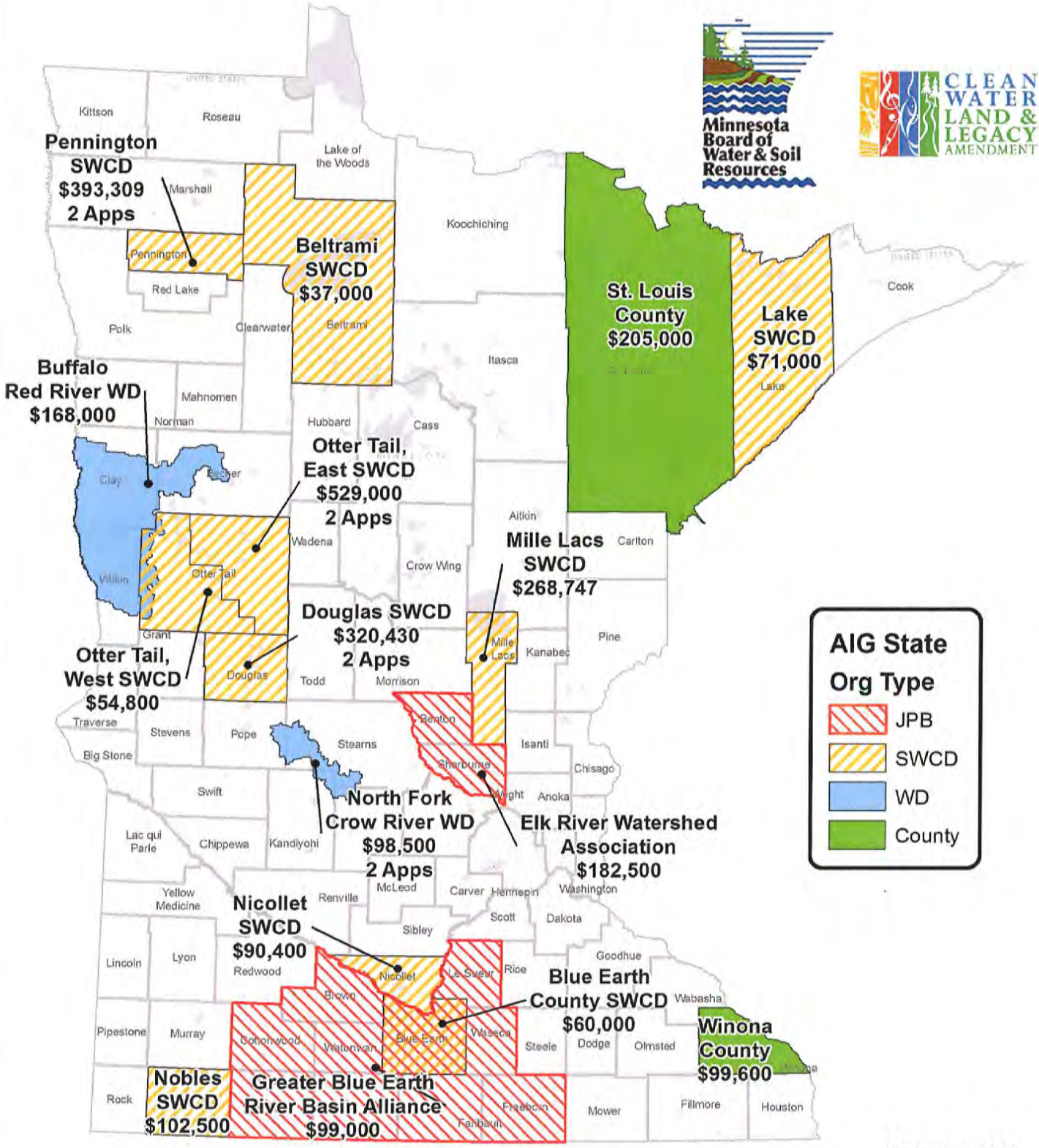
November 2016

FY 2017 Clean Water Fund

Accelerated Implementation Grant Recommended Funding

Total Outstate Recommended Funding: $2,779,786

Total Metro Recommended Funding:$604,096



November 2016

Row	ID #	Applicant	County	Grant Title	Grant Abstract	Grant Request	Grant Recommendation	Total Score
1	C17-0563	Isanti Soil and Water Conservation District	Isanti	Long Lake Shore Rehabilitation and Stormwater Treatment 2.0	This grant is the second community partner's grant for the Long Lake Improvement Association and Lake District (LLIA and LLID). The funds from this grant are helping the groups rebuild member support and culture change of an eight-year old water quality restoration program. The LLID and LLIA will use this grant to continue to provide incentive funds for installation of near-lake storm water reduction practices such as lakeshore restorations, vegetated swales and raingardens. This project will result in the installation of 5 water quality practices that will reduce sediment by a minimum of three tons and phosphorus by one pound per year.	$ 30,405	$ 30,405	94.3
2	C17-3275	Mississippi Watershed Management Organization	Hennepin	Stormwater BMPs for Commerical Properties along Targeted Commerical Corridors in NE Minneapolis	In partnership with Metro Blooms, the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization is requesting funding to implement storm water Best Management Practices at a minimum of six properties along commercial nodes targeted for re-investment by the City's Business District Support program. BWSR Community Partners funds will be used to implement BMPs at these sites that will result in a reduction of 4 acre-feet of runoff, three pounds of phosphorus and approximately one ton of sediment from entering the Mississippi River.	$ 150,000	$ 150,000	94.3
3	C17-6241	Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District	Crow Wing	Brainerd Lakes Targeted Community Centered Runoff Mini Grant Program 4	The Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District proposes to partner with citizen groups and nonprofit groups to complete projects that will reduce polluted runoff and keep water on the land. To do this, a mini grant program will be implemented and provide competitive grant funds to an anticipated 12 groups and estimated to reduce of sediment by 30 tons and phosphorus by 10 pounds per year.	$ 150,000	$ 150,000	92.8
4	C17-6422	Ramsey Conservation District	Ramsey	2017 Ramsey Conservation District Community Partners	The purpose of this program is to engage community groups for the installation of community accessible rain gardens and other water quality best management practices in Ramsey County. The goal is to install 6-12 storm water best management projects that will help protect and improve water quality of surrounding lakes. The installed practices will reduce an estimated 10 acre-feet of storm water runoff, 9 pounds of phosphorous, and 3 tons of sediment annually. Significant measurable outputs, with development of long-term partnerships, are primary objectives for this program.	$ 150,000	$ 150,000	89.5
5	C17-8601	Stearns Soil and Water Conservation District	Stearns	Sauk River Chain of Lakes Community Partnership	The Sauk River Chain of Lakes Community Partners Area has many lakes that are impaired or are in jeopardy of becoming impaired for excessive nutrients and are in desperate need of runoff reduction strategies. Stearns County Soil and Water Conservation District will work with the project sponsors to develop an outreach program that results in overall education and awareness as well as implementation of approximately 12 identified priority runoff retention practices to improve and protect water quality.	$ 150,000	$ 150,000	89.5
6	C17-7939	Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission	Hennepin	BCWMC Harrison Neighborhood Project	This project engages private property owners including non-profits, businesses, and institutions, in the Harrison Neighborhood of Near North Minneapolis to install storm water best management practices. The BMPs will reduce pollution in Bassett Creek including chlorides and bacteria, for which the creek is impaired. The primary focus is on Glenwood Avenue, a focal point in the community and a highly impervious area. We plan to engage a minimum of six property owners to install practices that filter/infiltrate storm water runoff, diminish localized flooding, create native habitat, and beautify the neighborhood.	$ 150,000	$ 134,595	88.0

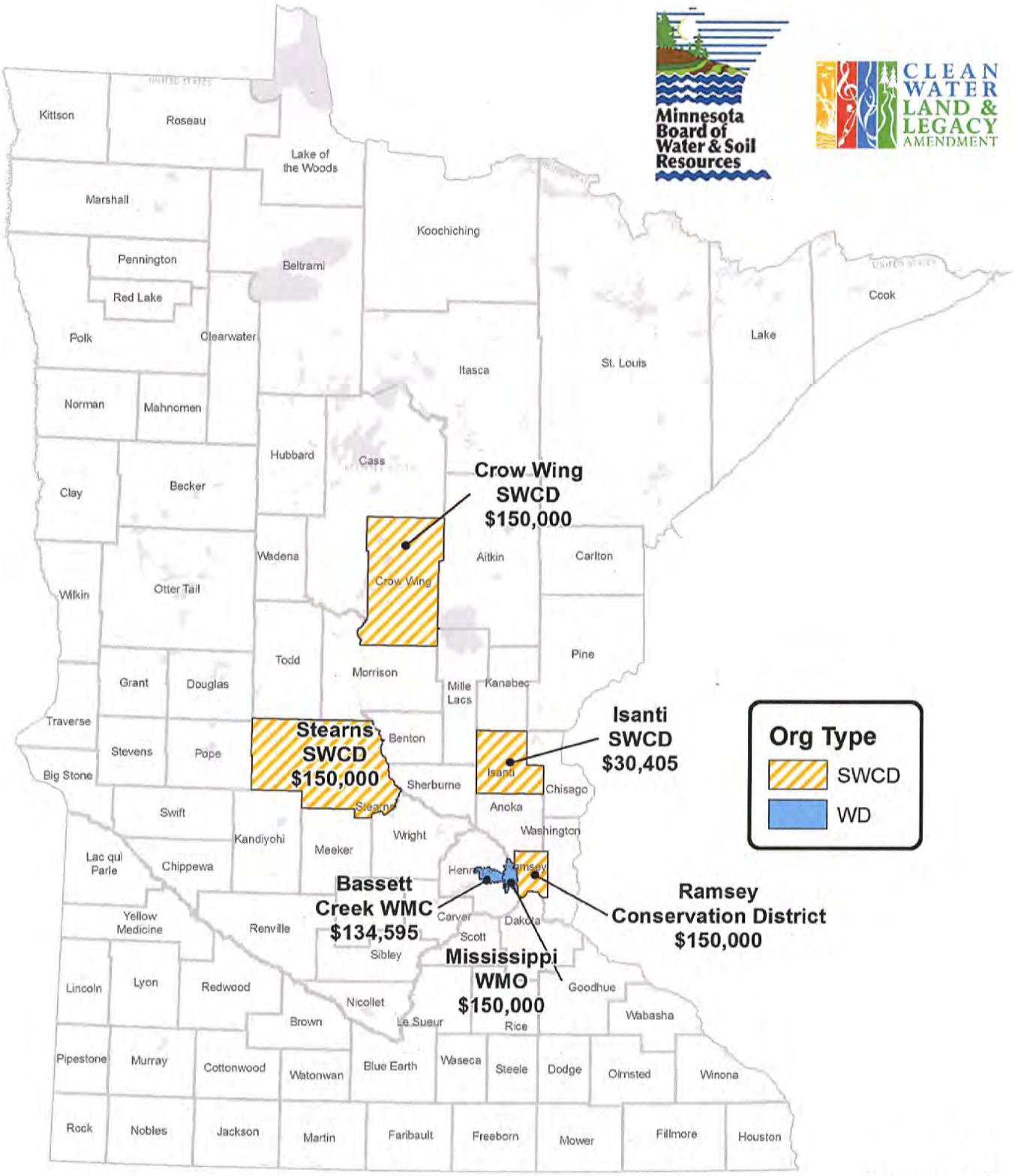
Row	ID #	Applicant	County	Grant Title	Grant Abstract	Grant Request	Grant Recommendation	Total Score
7	C17-9747	Otter Tail, West Soil and Water Conservation District	Otter Tail	A Community Approach to Addressing Ag Runoff	Through this grant the Soil and Water Conservation Districts are proposing to work primarily with farm groups to provide financial assistance to landowners interested in installing erosion control practices in high priority areas. Areas identified as having the highest threat and impact will be the primary focus. In addition, lake associations will also be included on those lakes that have identified erosion issues within their lakeshed. With the funds requested, it is estimated that 25 erosion control practices could be installed resulting in an estimated reduction of 650 pounds of phosphorus and 1,300 tons of sediment entering priority waterbodies.	$ 150,000	$ -	85.0
8	C17-3925	Otter Tail, West Soil and Water Conservation District	Otter Tail	Landowners, SWCDs, & Farm Groups: An Inevitable Partnership for Successful Implementation	In 2014, Otter Tail County and East and West Otter Tail SWCD developed the Otter Tail County Buffer Initiative, a 3 phase approach to inventorying required buffers and assisting landowners with coming into compliance. The initial inventory has recently been completed and identified 1,080 acres requiring buffers on over 1,000 parcels. Funds received through this grant will be utilized by partners that include the Farm Bureau and Crop Improvement Association to assist landowners in establishing buffers that are above the minimum requirements. Successful completion of this grant would result in 200 acres or 18% of the required buffers identified installed resulting in an estimated reduction of 200 pounds of phosphorus and 400 tons of sediment per year.	$ 33,000	$ -	84.5
9	C17-4588	Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District	Douglas	Partners for Clean Water - Douglas County Phase 3	Douglas SWCD has received past CWF grants for Partners for Clean Water Phase 1 and Phase 2. The Douglas County Partners for Clean Water - Phase 3 will continue efforts to reduce surface pollutants and erosion through the implementation of projects including raingardens, shoreland restoration, and various erosion control practices. The Douglas County Partners for Clean Water program enables community groups to take action on improving their water resources. Directly engaging citizens in project development and installation efforts, a community of active stewardship is formed while producing immediate water quality benefits.	$ 74,440	$ -	84.3
10	C17-7893	Otter Tail, East Soil and Water Conservation District	Otter Tail	Otter Tail Community Partners Conservation Sub-Grant Phase 3	The Otter Tail Shoreland Conservation Program will provide community groups with the means to make positive improvements on sensitive or degrading shoreline within their community. This grant will engage local community members and water resource organizations to grow local knowledge and expertise in the ability to identify water protection opportunities. Shoreline projects will foster community stewardship and interest in local water quality. This program aims to reduce erosion, prevent nutrients from entering water bodies, and provide education to local property owners. It is projected that this project will reduce phosphorus by an average of .5 pounds per acre, decrease sediment an average of .2 tons per acre and retain almost 3 acre-feet of water each year.	$ 150,000	$ -	84.0
11	C17-9981	Sherburne Soil and Water Conservation District	Sherburne	Briggs Lake Chain Water Quality Partnership	This grant is intended to expand upon an existing partnership grant between the Sherburne SWCD and the Briggs Lake Chain Association to improve water quality and reduce storm water runoff. There are 2 major storm water runoff control projects already identified that would reduce a significant amount of runoff on a peninsula between two of the lakes. There are 7 other smaller projects identified that include practices such as rain gardens, shoreline buffers, French drains, berms, gutters, and dry swales. It is estimated that this project would reduce phosphorus by 15 pounds per year.	$ 37,450	$ -	84.0

Row	ID #	Applicant	County	Grant Title	Grant Abstract	Grant Request	Grant Recommendation	Total Score
12	C17-6465	Benton Soil and Water Conservation District	Benton	2017 - Little Rock Lake Backyard Challenge	Little Rock Lake has been on Minnesota's Impaired Waters List for nutrients since 2008. The Benton Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) in collaboration with the Little Rock Lake Association would like to introduce a new program called "The Backyard Challenge." The Benton SWCD staff and Little Rock Lake Association volunteers will help individuals in need of assistance to assess their property, give recommendations and designs on different best management practices, and also be available for any questions that participants may have. Based on similar programs that have been done by other organizations in the past, we anticipate about 25 projects to arise out of the 300+ parcels surrounding Little Rock Lake.	$ 25,000	$ -	83.3
13	C17-7972	Aitkin Soil and Water Conservation District	Multiple Counties	Protecting Water Quality Through Community Partnerships	The Aitkin County Soil and Water Conservation District will partner with local lake associations and other eligible community partners to protect water quality by implementing a mini-grant program that will install native vegetation buffers and rain gardens, stabilize eroding soil, and reduce nutrients reaching surface waters. Waters that are currently in good health will be protected and impaired waters will be helped. It is estimated that this project would reduce phosphorus by 53 pounds and sediment by 38 tons per year.	$ 61,405	$ -	80.5
14	C17-4268	Itasca Soil and Water Conservation District	Itasca	Mississippi Basin Community Partners Storm-water Management Grant.	The Itasca SWCD regularly works with Itasca County communities and groups on water and soil saving projects, and one of the primary focus areas is storm-water management. This grant will focus on those groups implementing storm water management and result in less nutrients and sediment reaching the headwaters of the Mississippi River.	$ 56,000	$ -	68.5
						Total	**$ 765,000**	

FY 2017 Clean Water Fund

Community Partners Grant Recommended Funding

Total Recommended Funding: $765,000



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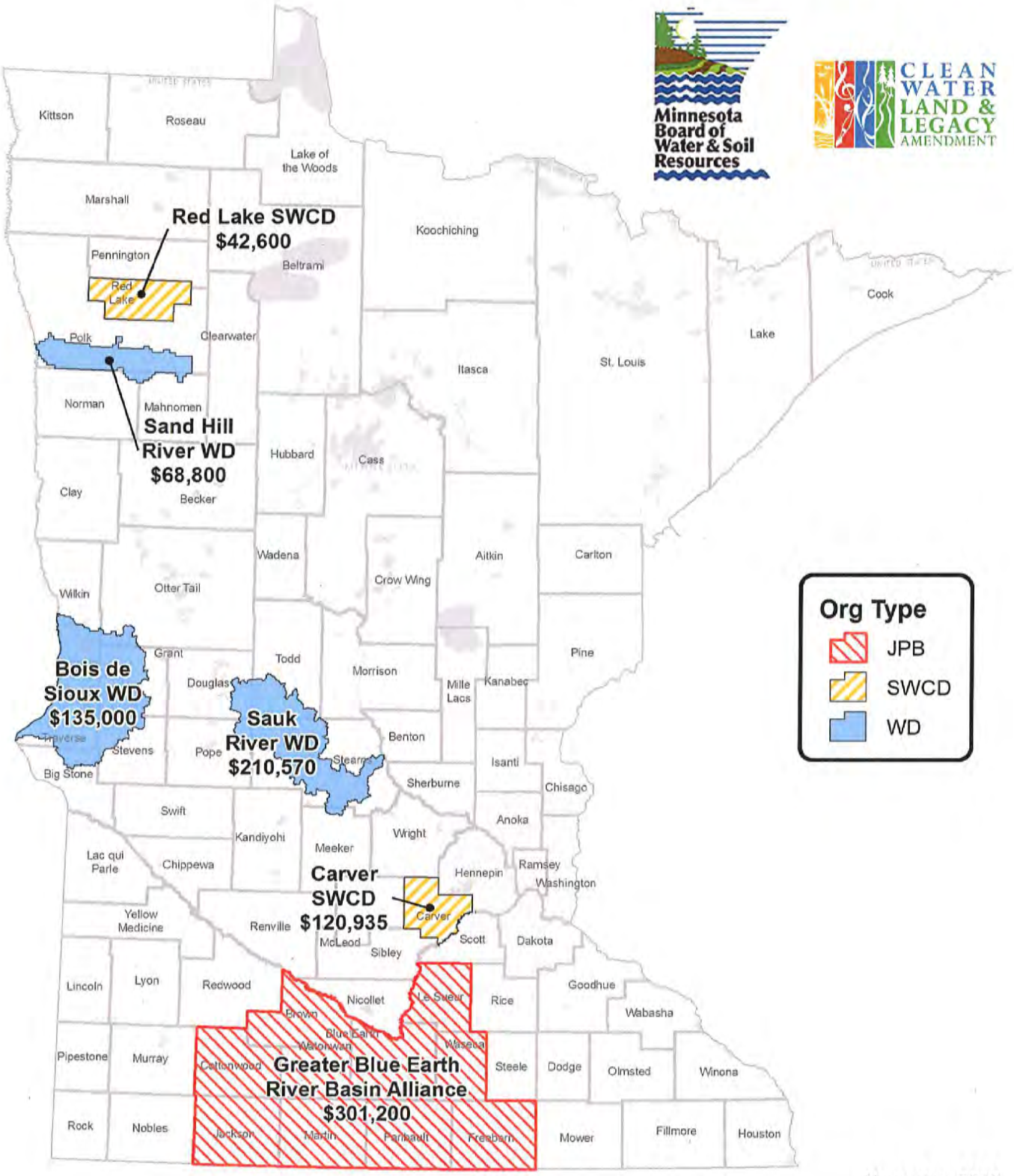
Row	ID #	Applicant	County	Grant Title	Grant Abstract	Grant Request	Grant Recommendation	Total Score
1	C17-3197	Red Lake Soil and Water Conservation District	Red Lake	2017 Red Lake County Multipurpose Drainage Management Grant	Red Lake County SWCD will continue to work cooperatively with the Red Lake County Ditch Authority, and the landowners to reduce erosion and sedimentation into Judicial County Ditch 66. Judicial County Ditch 66 outlets into Cyr Creek which outlets directly into the Red Lake River which is impaired for turbidity. This project targets 22 sites for grade stabilizations or grassed waterway implementation and will result in a reduction of 640 tons of sediment being delivered to the Red Lake River.	$42,600	$42,600	86
2	C17-9776	Sand Hill River Watershed District	Polk	Polk County Ditch No 80	The proposed project will install 30 grade stabilization structures along Polk County Ditch 80 to reduce sediment loading by 270 tons per year. Polk County Ditch 80 contributes a large amount of sediment to an impaired reach of the Sand Hill River. The project is consistent with recommendations within the TMDL and WRAPS documents, and will work towards improving turbidity within the Sand Hill River.	$68,800	$68,800	81
3	C17-5923	Sauk River Watershed District	Pope	Pope County Ditch 6 Drainage Management	Pope County Ditch 6 (CD 6) is an 18 mile channelized watershed and a primary tributary to Ashley Creek. CD6 and Ashley Creek are impaired for E.coli, dissolved oxygen and aquatic macro invertebrate bio-assessment. This project will address the storm water runoff concerns identified within this public drainage system in conjunction with repairs scheduled for 2017-2018. Alternative intake structures to manage nutrients and mitigative measures, such as water and sediment control basins, will be taken to retain water on the upland properties and minimize flow rate and velocity. By addressing the top priority sites, an estimated 19 tons of sediment, 75 pounds of phosphorous and 1,085 pounds of nitrogen will be reduced per year.	$438,500	$210,570	78
4	C17-7810	Bois de Sioux Watershed District	Traverse	103E Legal Ditch BMPs	Through the Mustinka River Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy high priority locations have been identified as critical areas to reduce agricultural field sediment loads. The goal of this project is to target one of the areas that is of high concern, the watershed of Traverse County Ditch 37. This effort intends to begin a program to install side inlets and erosion control berms along the ditch with the goal of reducing the sediment load by 340 tons of sediment per year.	$135,000	$135,000	75.8
5	C17-2876	Carver Soil and Water Conservation District	Carver	County Ditch #6 BMPs	This grant application is for prioritized and targeted best management practices on the Carver County Ditch #6 drainage system that drains directly into Bevens Creek. Grant funds will be used to install 6 grade stabilization structures, 5 grassed waterways, and 2 water and sediment control basins that have been identified through GIS LIDAR applications and field verified along with landowner support. The project is estimated to reduce sediment loading by 43 tons and phosphorus loading by 20 pounds per year.	$120,935	$120,935	75.8
6	C17-3714	Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance	Multiple Counties	Multipurpose Drainage Management - Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance	The Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance (GBERBA) along with SWCD's, Counties, landowners, and drainage authorities in the ten member counties will install conservation drainage practices to improve water quality. 103E drainage systems with documented sediment or water quality issues are the focus with the goal of installing 52 practices such as improved side inlets (grade stabilization structures), alternative tile inlets, denitrifying bioreactors, saturated buffers, storage wetlands and others. The estimated benefit of these practices are reducing 69 tons of sediment, 84 pounds of phosphorus, and 1,820 pounds of nitrogen per year.	$301,200	$301,200	70
7	C17-1445	Heron Lake Watershed District	Jackson	County Ditch 3 Nutrient Reduction Projects	A Multipurpose Drainage Management Plan was developed for County Ditch (CD) 3. The plan identifies targeted locations for best management practices implementation in the CD 3 watershed. The Heron Lake Watershed District will partner with CD 3 landowners to implement a combination of two saturated buffers and one denitrifying bioreactor. It is estimated that the annual nitrate removal for the woodchip bioreactor will be 300 to 500 pounds per year and the annual nitrate removal for each saturated buffer will be 100 to 200 pounds per year.	$99,603	$ -	64.4
8	C17-8703	Rice Soil and Water Conservation District	Rice	Saturated Buffers for Nitrate Removal	Nitrates in surface waters are a significant health threat in Minnesota and beyond. This project proposes to install a saturated buffer for nitrate removal, and also expect reductions in dissolved phosphorus. The resource of concern is the upper portion of the Little Cannon River, which is impaired for several pollutants including nitrates. The benefits of the project include an estimated reduction of nitrate by 450 pounds per year.	$30,850	$ -	56.8
						Total	**$879,105**	

FY 2017 Clean Water Fund

Multipurpose Drainage Management Grant Recommended Funding

Total Recommended Funding: $879,105



November 2016