

RPBCWD Staff Report – April 2022

Administration	Description	Update	Partners
Accounting, Audit & Budget	<p>Coordinate with Accountants for the development of financial reports.</p> <p>Coordinate with the Auditor.</p> <p>Continue to work with the Treasurer to maximize on fund investments.</p>	<p>Staff Bakkum compiled the monthly treasurer’s report.</p> <p>Interim Administrator Jeffery, Staff Bakkum, and Red Path staff have compiled the materials requested by Abdo to begin their audit of the RPBCWD finances in 2021.</p> <p>Interim Administrator Jeffery met virtually with Andy Berg of Abdo on April 11, 2022 and Justin Nilson on April 29, 2022 to kick off the audit and make certain all efforts are coordinated.</p>	
Administration	<p>Administrator activities</p>	<p>Staff have been in contact with Imagine IT and continue to work to resolve issues with manager’s district email accounts</p> <p>Interim Administrator Jeffery has been working with ImagineIT to address the WiFi and firewall. Two options will be made available for board consideration at the June meeting. These include a subscription based firewall utilizing the existing WiFi system and adding a “Hardware as a Service” option with a monthly subscription or replacing hardware with a three year subscription. More details will be provided.</p> <p>Interim Administrator Jeffery has reached out to the City Manager for Chanhassen to discuss potential CIP project and opportunities to collaborate. Examples include the Lake Ann Preserve and the downtown reconstruction project. It is the intent to identify projects with a further horizon to improve coordination and efficiency and to have added value on future projects. Interim Administrator Jeffery will be reaching out to Community Development Directors and Public Works Directors in the coming month to identify more opportunities for plan and project alignment.</p> <p>Interim Administrator Jeffery has reached out to two firms that specialize in office space utilization and furniture to inquire as to tables for the board and staff with data ports and charging stations for board meetings, conferences, trainings, etc.</p>	
Annual Report & Communication	<p>Compile, finalize and submit an annual report to agencies.</p>	<p>The final draft of the 2021 Annual Report was submitted to the agencies on April 30, 2022.</p> <p>The final draft of the 2021 Annual Report is available on the RPBCWD website.</p>	

DEI	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	Staff met on April 7th for a discussion on implicit bias. Staff Mahon Attended a monthly DEI Workgroup session on April 20 th hosted by CRWD for watershed districts to work together on their DEI goals.	
Human Resources	General Human Resources	Interim Administrator Jeffery is working with staff to develop a database of trainings and professional development activities. Ken Carlson from North Risk Partners presented to staff an overview of benefits available to RPBCWD employees on April 19, 2022.	
Internal Policies	Work with Governance Manual and Personnel Committees to review bylaws and manuals as necessary.	Interim Administrator Jeffery has disseminated a request to staff to review Governance Manual and offer any suggestions they may have. He emphasized this is voluntary and, if they prefer, can be anonymous. Interim Administrator Jeffery will present the Governance Manual to the CAC at their May 16, 2022 meeting and request they offer suggestions they may have. As with staff, the CAC participation is voluntary.	
Advisory	Engage with the Technical Advisory Committee on water conservation, chloride management and emerging topics. Engage with the Citizen Advisory Committee on water conservation, annual budget, and emerging topics.	The CAC held a regular meeting on April 18. The next regular meeting of the CAC will be on May 16. A TAC meeting will be held on June 16, 2022 to discuss regulatory program. City planners will also be invited to this meeting. The objective is to have a high-level discussion of existing program, current inefficiencies and identify long-term and regional solutions to surface water management an infrastructure maintenance.	
Local SWMP		No changes.	
MAWD	Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts	At the Metro MAWD meeting, discussion was had around the updated impaired waters list. No new listings or delistings have occurred within the RPBCWD area.	
District-Wide	Description	Update	Partners
Regulatory Program	Review regulatory program to maximize efficiency. Engage Technical Advisory Committee and Citizen Advisory Committee on possible rule changes. Implement a regulatory program.	Staff and consultants will present on the current regulatory program purpose as well as possible changes to provide a more efficient process for submittal, review, and administration. Interim Administrator Jeffery and Staff Nicklay will be meeting with the Water Resources Engineer and Natural Resources Technician for Chanhassen to coordinate construction site inspections.	
Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)	Review AIS monitoring program. Develop and implement Rapid Response Plan as appropriate. Coordinate with LGUs and keep stakeholders aware of AIS	The Rice Marsh Lake aeration unit was turned off the 1 st of this month and two additional pups were purchased. Staff will be retrieving thin ice signs next month. The carp barrier was pulled this month due to clogging occurring at the barrier. The barrier will be put back in place on April 14 th . On April 22 nd staff noticed carp below	City of Chanhassen City of Eden Prairie University of Minnesota

	<p>management activities. Manage and maintain the aeration system on Rice Marsh Lake. Riley Chain of Lakes Carp Management. Purgatory Chain of Lakes Carp Management. Review AIS inspection program. Keep abreast of technology and research in AIS. Zebra mussel adult and veliger monitoring.</p>	<p>the Purgatory Creek fish barrier and deployed an upstream and downstream block net. Backpack electrofishing removed 262 fish which were all mainly from the 2015-year class. Staff will continue to monitor the barrier and conduct removal events as needed. Staff finalized the 2022 AIS vegetation treatments and delineations (see vegetation management). The District received approved 2022 MNDNR Scientific Permits. Approval will allow the District to conduct common carp management and monitoring this year. In 2021, staff found or were directed to multiple established goldfish populations within the District. This month staff visited these sites and found goldfish grouped up in Kerber Pond West of Lotus Lake. Staff deployed a large beach seine and were able to surround many of the fish. An electrofishing backpack was used to stun the fish once surrounded for removal. In total, an estimated 23,310 goldfish were removed from Kerber Pond. Staff will continue to monitor previously known goldfish sites. Smith Partners has drafted an agreement for the Carver County inspection program. This has been sent to Carver County for their review and execution. Per board direction, Interim Administrator Jeffery has reached out to the Water Resources Coordinator for Eden Prairie to request a more detailed scope. Upon receipt, Smith Partners will draft an agreement to be sent to Eden Prairie for execution.</p>	<p>MN DNR Carver County</p>
<p>Cost-Share</p>	<p>Schedule and coordinate site visits. Review applications and recommend implementation. Evaluate program.</p>	<p>The 2022 Watershed Stewardship Grant (WSG) program is underway. Site visits and review of applications has begun. Staff Forbes met with legal counsel to review and amend agreement templates. With permission, Houston Engineering (HEI) shared a copy of the Capitol Region WD's MS4Front grant module for review by RPBCWD. We would like to proceed with a similar module for our cost-share programs to allow for streamlined management of applications and project reporting including post-installation follow-up. An addendum to the existing HEI service agreement was drafted by Smith Partners and is included in this month's packet for consideration by the board. This addendum will allow for HEI to fully develop the Watershed Stewardship Grant program, develop reports and letters that can be generated directly</p>	<p>Carver County Soil & Water Conservation District</p>

		from the permit and WSG platforms, and will include the annual license agreement.	
Data Collection	<p>Continue Data Collection at permanent sites.</p> <p>Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program. Identify monitoring sites to assess future project sites.</p> <p>Water Level Sensors</p>	<p>WOMP stations: samples were collected 3 times this month for the Metropolitan Council. District met with Metropolitan Council staff this month to be refreshed on the station details. This is in preparation for staff to take over the station in 2022.</p> <p>Staff posted the temporary 2022 Water Quality Assistant /Internship and sent offer letters to two candidates who have accepted. Start dates are 5/16/22 and 6/15/22.</p> <p>Staff have begun prepping equipment for the 2022 field season. Lake level sensors have been prepped and will be deployed at the end of this month or early next month.</p> <p>Staff Dickhausen has been consulting with Frontier Precision concerning the different drones, their capabilities, and their costs.</p>	<p>Metropolitan Council</p> <p>City of Eden Prairie</p> <p>University of MN</p> <p>City of Chanhassen</p> <p>MN DNR</p> <p>City of Minnetonka</p> <p>Three Rivers Park District</p>
District Hydrology & Hydraulics Model	<p>Coordinate maintenance of Hydrology and Hydraulics Model.</p> <p>Coordinate model update with LGUs if additional information is collected.</p> <p>Partner and implement with the City of Bloomington on Flood Evaluation and Water Quality Feasibility.</p>	<p>District Staff, Barr Engineering, and Eden Prairie is in the process of updating the District's stormwater model for both Purgatory Creek and Riley Creek. Staff submitted water elevation data for Upper Purgatory Creek Recreational Area, Bren Pond, Eden Lake, three purgatory creek sites, and three additional ponds and has been working with Barr to complete this task.</p> <p>Barr Engineering has been providing model assumptions and parameters to Eden Prairie engineering for review and confirmation. Task 1 of 3, Modeling and Evaluation, will continue well into 2022.</p>	<p>City of Bloomington</p> <p>City of Minnetonka</p> <p>City of Eden Prairie</p> <p>City of Deephaven</p> <p>City of Shorewood</p>
Education & Outreach	<p>Implement Education & Outreach Plan, review at year end.</p> <p>Manage partnership activities with other organizations.</p> <p>Coordinate Public Engagement with District projects.</p>	<p>Staff Bakkum continues to receive inquiries via the district website "Contact Us" form.</p> <p>Staff Mahon is working with staff at NMCWD and the City of Minnetonka to build a stormwater story-map ahead of a raingarden workshop to be hosted October 11th.</p> <p>Staff Forbes, Bakkum and Mahon are reviewing comments received on the rough draft of the new website.</p> <p>The Minnesota Water Stewards 2022 cohort had its April meeting which covered any questions arising from the 'Urban Rainscaping' chapter of the course, and have begun brainstorming capstone projects.</p> <p>Staff Mahon tabled at the Eden Prairie Eco Expo on April 3rd.</p>	<p>Adopt-a-drain partners: Cities of Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Bloomington, and Eden Prairie; Hamline University; Nine Mile Creek Watershed District; MPCA; Bolton & Menk</p> <p>Freshwater Society</p> <p>City of Chanhassen</p>

		<p>A Turfgrass Maintenance for Reduced Environmental Impacts training through the MPCA was held on April 28th in collaboration with NMCWD.</p> <p>Staff received 125 tree saplings from Carver SWCD to be planted in the gravel beds outside our office, as well as native seed mixes for shorelines and pollinator prairies to offer to community members.</p> <p>Staff Forbes has completed design of new lake and creek fact sheets with 2021 water quality data. Printed copies are available in the foyer and upon request. PDFs of fact sheets are on the District website on individual waterbody webpages, rpbcwd.org/fact-sheets, and on the annual report page: rpbcwd.org/annualreport.</p> <p>Interim Administrator Jeffery and Staff Mahon met with the Science Committee for St Hubert School to give a tour of the BMPs constructed at St Hubert and to begin the process of curriculum development. This partnership has great potential to provide long-term data regarding BMP functionality, soil development, and ecological benefits of the prairie restoration areas.</p>	City of Minnetonka
Groundwater Conservation	<p>Work with other LGUs to monitor, assess, and identify gaps.</p> <p>Engage with the Technical Advisory Committee to identify potential projects.</p> <p>Develop a water conservation program (look at Woodbury model).</p>	The City of Bloomington has concluded their project and submitted a request for reimbursement for their Groundwater Conservation Grant.	Metropolitan Council City of Eden Prairie City of Shorewood City of Bloomington City of Minnetonka City of Chanhassen
Lake Vegetation Management	<p>Work with the University of Minnesota or Aquatic Plant Biologist, Cities of Chanhassen and Eden Prairie, lake associations, and residents as well as the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources on potential treatments.</p> <p>Implement herbicide treatment as needed.</p> <p>Secure DNR permits and contracts with</p>	<p>Smith Partners provided comments on the agreement to the University of MN. Their legal counsel responded and there exists a disparity regarding liability assumed by both entities. As such, the agreement has not been executed and will not be until these disparities are resolved.</p> <p>Wenck/Stantec have been updating the Red Rock and Mitchell Lake Vegetation Management Plan with comments submitted by the City of Eden Prairie and staff.</p> <p>The table below highlights the 2022 aquatic plant surveys and</p>	City of Eden Prairie City of Chanhassen University of Minnesota MN DNR

	<p>herbicide applicators. Schedule regularly scheduled point intercept surveys. Work with Three Rivers Park District for Hyland Lake.</p>	<p>treatments. The MNDNR aquatic vegetation herbicide applications are waiting to be finalized pending spring delineations. Herbicide treatment delineations will be completed by staff and Freshwater Scientific Services starting in May. Rotational point intercept surveys (PI) for 2022 include Lotus Lake, Lake Lucy, Round, Red Rock, and Rice Marsh Lake. They will be conducted by Freshwater Scientific Services and Eden Prairie (consultant). Staff received a MNDNR traditional aquatic plant management grant for the Staring Lake Fluridone treatment. A Lake Vegetation Management Plan was submitted and accepted for Staring Lake and Lake Riley by the MNDNR.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="884 492 1665 989"> <thead> <tr> <th>Lake</th> <th>PI Surveyor</th> <th>Delineation Type</th> <th>Delineation Surveyor</th> <th>Herbicide Treatment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Red Rock</td> <td>EP</td> <td>CLP</td> <td>FWSS</td> <td>Aquathol</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mitchell</td> <td>EP</td> <td>CLP</td> <td>District</td> <td>Diquat</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lotus</td> <td>FWSS</td> <td>CLP</td> <td>FWSS</td> <td>Diquat</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Riley</td> <td>?</td> <td>CLP</td> <td>FWSS</td> <td>Diquat</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Riley</td> <td></td> <td>EWM</td> <td>District</td> <td>Procellacor</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Susan</td> <td>?</td> <td>CLP</td> <td>District</td> <td>Diquat</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Staring</td> <td>?</td> <td>CLP/EWM</td> <td>FWSS</td> <td>Fluridone</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lucy</td> <td>FWSS</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>RML</td> <td>EP</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round</td> <td>EP</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Lake	PI Surveyor	Delineation Type	Delineation Surveyor	Herbicide Treatment	Red Rock	EP	CLP	FWSS	Aquathol	Mitchell	EP	CLP	District	Diquat	Lotus	FWSS	CLP	FWSS	Diquat	Riley	?	CLP	FWSS	Diquat	Riley		EWM	District	Procellacor	Susan	?	CLP	District	Diquat	Staring	?	CLP/EWM	FWSS	Fluridone	Lucy	FWSS				RML	EP				Round	EP				
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<p>Opportunity Projects</p>	<p>Assess potential projects as they are presented to the District</p>	<p>Interim Administrator Jeffery and Engineer Sobiech met with Eden Prairie Public Schools to discuss long-term planning for stormwater management. The discussion was positive and there is a high likelihood that a re-use project on the high school campus will come to fruition. All will work on putting together a term sheet so a cooperative agreement can be entered into for memorialization of the project. The board will be apprised of all developments throughout.</p>	<p>City of Chanhassen St Hubert School Eden Prairie Public Schools</p>																																																							
<p>Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)</p>	<p>Continue working with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency on the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS).</p>	<p>The new impaired waters list was released by the MPCA. No new listings or de-listings occurred within the RPBCWD boundaries.</p>	<p>MPCA</p>																																																							

Repair & Maintenance Fund	Develop and formalize grant program. Maintenance of RPBCWD BMPs	Engineer Sobiech and other Barr engineers met with Peterson Contracting to discuss SCADA equipment and troubleshooting of the Lake Susan Park Pond pump system. This is included in the packet for consideration by the board.	
University of Minnesota	Review and monitor progress on University of Minnesota grant. Support Dr. John Gulliver and Dr. Ray Newman research and coordinate with local partners. Keep the manager abreast to progress in the research. Identify next management steps.	Along with completing an additional year of monitoring on the iron filing ponds (deadline extended), the U of MN has a new project funded by the Local Road Research Board to study wetlands (historic/converted to pond) and have been conducting in situ monitoring and laboratory studies with sediment cores on a pond in Shorewood and Chanhassen. The district submitted the second round of data to the U of MN with regards to a new urban long-term ecological research (LTER) program in the Twin Cities. This study will investigate how urban stressors – climate change, pollutants, invasive species, habitat fragmentation – affect the ecological structure and functioning of urban nature, including pollinators, forests, watersheds, and lakes and streams. It will also address how diverse residents interact with and experience the benefits and burdens of urban nature. The aim is to better understand urban nature and related policies and practices, to improve environmental outcomes for all residents.	Stormwater ponds partners: Cities of Bloomington, Chanhassen, Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Shorewood; U of MN
Watershed Plan	Review and identify needs for amendments.	No changes.	
Wetland Conservation Act (WCA)	Administer WCA within the Cities of Shorewood and Deephaven. Represent the District on Technical Evaluation Panel throughout the District.	No WCA applications have been received in Deephaven. Staff received a wetland type confirmation/delineation concurrence application April 13 from a property/site in Shorewood. A notice of application was sent out. Staff conducted a site visit with a TEP panel on April 27 to review the proposed wetland boundaries with members of the TEP. Time for comment by the TEP has been posted and will end May 13. The District will have a decision on the application w/in 60 business days of the receipt of the application. There have been no TEP meetings in the District that staff has been a part of this month.	City of Shorewood City of Deephaven City of Chanhassen City of Eden Prairie MCWD BWSR MN DNR ACOE
Wetland Management	Assess known existing wetlands, identify previously unknown wetlands, identify wetlands for potential restoration/rehabilitation and wetlands requiring additional protection.	Staff Dickhausen will resume wetland assessments in Minnetonka/Deephaven/Shorewood area of the district starting in May. Interim Administrator Jeffery, Staff Dickhausen and Staff Nicklay continue updating the MNRAM Access database. Staff Dickhausen and Interim Administrator Jeffery are continuing to develop biological assessment metrics of wetlands with Barr	City of Chanhassen City of Eden Prairie Hennepin County Carver County

		Engineering staff to supplement District MNRAM assessments. Interim Administrator Jeffery has been in communication with Jenny Skancke of the MN DNR regarding their joint efforts with BWSR and WI DNR to develop a wetland assessment methodology.	MN DNR BWSR USFWS
Hennepin County Chloride Initiative	Phase 1: Develop a plan to target commercial and association-based sources or chloride pollution - businesses, malls, HOAs, property management companies and the private applicators that they hire. We will hire a consultant to facilitate focus groups with private applicators, as well as those that execute contracts with private applicators. These focus groups will help identify needs and barriers for our target audience. The consultant will compile information into a plan for implementation.	The marketing firm is developing messaging and branding and will present to the HCCL in May. Interim Administrator Jeffery is updating the eLink grant database hosted by BWSR for reimbursement of funds.	Eleven watershed districts/WMOs Multiple cities MPCA Hennepin County Environmental Services Board of Water and Soil Resources
Lower Minnesota Chloride Cost-Share Program	The Lower Minnesota River Watersheds are coming together to offer cost-share grants.	Chloride Reduction cost-share grant program remains open until the end of 2022. Information is posted on District website and advertised through Fortin Consulting (now Bolton & Menk) and the MPCA.	LMRWD RBWMO NMCWD
Bluff Creek Watershed	Description	Update	Partners
Bluff Creek Tributary Restoration	Implement and finalize restoration. Monitor Project.	No new updates.	City of Chanhassen
Bluff Creek Reaches B5 and B6	Develop Feasibility Study regarding potential creek and wetland restoration.	Barr Engineering has completed a draft of the feasibility study. This is being reviewed by Interim Administrator Jeffery and will be brought forward at the June meeting for consideration by the Board.	
Wetland Restoration at Pioneer Tr and MN TH 101	Remove 3 properties from flood zone, restore a minimum 7 acres and as many as 16 acres of wetlands, connect public with resources, reduction of volume, rate, pollution loads to Bluff Creek.	Sunram and Davey Resource Group submitted their proposed schedule for plant establishment. They will begin early May with soil preparation occurring early to mid-May and seeding to follow shortly after. Bare root and live stake planting will occur in the fall as early spring summer plantings have less success in establishing. Sunram will be making some modifications on the outlet structure for the wetland.	City of Chanhassen MN DNR Carver County

Riley Creek Watershed	Description	Update	Partners
Lake Riley Alum Treatment	Continue monitoring of Lake.	Sediment coring occurred in October 2021. Staff will plan to core again in 2023 to assess the second alum dose.	
Lake Susan Improvement Phase 2	Complete final site stabilization and spring start up. Finalize and implement E & O for project. Monitor project.	Peterson Construction has provided a quote to install SCADA equipment to monitor the pump and to install the system and troubleshoot why the system is losing its prime.	City of Chanhassen Clean Water Legacy Amendment
Lake Susan Spent Lime	2021 startup and monitoring	No new updates.	City of Chanhassen
Lower Riley Creek Stabilization	Coordinate agreement and acquire easements if needed for the restoration of Lower Riley Creek reach D3 and E. Implement Project. Continue Public Engagement for project and develop signage for restoration.	Maintenance of the site has been turned over to the City of Eden Prairie although District staff will assist with inspections. As-built survey needs to be performed and provided to the City of Eden Prairie. Temporary sediment control practices need to be removed from the project area.	City of Eden Prairie Lower MN River Watershed District
Rice Marsh Lake Alum Treatment	Continue monitoring of Lake.	Staff conducted sediment core sampling in February to assess treatment effectiveness and prepare for/direct the second dose application.	City of Eden Prairie City of Chanhassen
Rice Marsh Lake Watershed Load Project 1	Install proprietary BMPs. Install soil corrections and plant areas in native vegetation for long-term study of impact on soil health and runoff parameters. Install curb-cut rain garden.	No new updates.	City of Chanhassen
Upper Riley Creek	Work with city to develop scope of work (in addition to stabilizing the creek can we mitigate climate change). Conduct feasibility. Develop cooperative agreement with the City of Chanhassen. Order project and begin design.	Interim Administrator Jeffery is working with Counselor Welch to develop the term sheet and subsequent cooperative agreement with Chanhassen. An Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) was completed by Barr Engineering. Interim Administrator Jeffery is currently reviewing the EAW.	City of Chanhassen
Middle Riley Creek	Work with Bearpath HOA/Golf Course to develop scope of work (in addition to stabilizing the creek, can we mitigate climate change and provide for an	We are awaiting Sunram's schedule.	Bearpath Neighborhood Association

	improved recreational experience). Draft feasibility report. Develop cooperative agreement with Bearpath.		City of Eden Prairie MN DNR
St Hubert Water Quality Project	Repair eroded ravine tributary to RML. Install BMPs to provide water quality and quantity benefits for site. Develop curriculum to be used with teachers and students at St. Hubert. Establish native vegetation and monitor soil development, water quality/quantity benefits, and ecological changes.	The project is substantially complete. Staff Mahon is developing curriculum to go along with project sites. Staff will be working closely with the middle school science teacher to ensure curriculum standards are met. Staff Mahon and Interim Administrator Jeffery walked St. Huberts science teachers through the features of the site.	CCSWCD Metropolitan Council City of Chanhassen
Purgatory Creek Watershed	Description	Update	Partners
PCRA Berm		No change	City of Eden Prairie MN DNR
Duck Lake Water Quality Project	Work with the City to implement neighborhood BMP. Identify neighborhood BMP to help improve water resources to DuckLake. Implement neighborhood BMPs.	No changes	City of Eden Prairie
Lotus Lake Internal Load Control	Continue monitoring the Lake. Plan second alum application.	For the second dose of alum application, treatment areas will likely shift to 15-foot contours to account for high release rates at those shallower depths in the central and northern portions of the lake.	
Silver Lake Restoration	Order project. Design Project. Work with the City of Chanhassen for design, cooperative agreement, and implementation.	No change.	City of Chanhassen

Professional Development

Staff Dickhausen and Interim Administrator Jeffery have registered for a course in wetland hydrology through BWSR. This will also meet their requirements for continuing education.

Staff Nicklay has registered for courses on Regulatory Enforcement and Permeable Pavement Inspection Testing and Maintenance.

Interim Administrator Jeffery completed a course on staff management through HR Train Online.