

## RPBCWD Staff Report – May 2022

Administration	Description	Update	Partners
Accounting, Audit & Budget	Coordinate with Accountants for the development of financial reports.	Staff Bakkum compiled the monthly treasurer's report.	
	Coordinate with the Auditor. Continue to work with the Treasurer to maximize on fund investments.	Interim Administrator Jeffery, Staff Bakkum, and Redpath staff has provided the majority of items requested by Abdo. They continue to provide requested materials to Abdo to assist them with their audit of RPBCWD's 2021 finances. This includes items related to payroll, capital projects, assets, taxes, and accounts payable and receivable.  Interim Administrator Jeffery and Staff Bakkum met with Justin Nilson of Abdo on May 24th, 2022 to receive an update on Abdo's progress.  Interim Administrator Jeffery, Staff Bakkum, and Engineer Sobiech will begin work on the 2023 budget and levy to be presented in a preliminary form at the July meeting.  The account with US Bank has been set up and is ready for the transfer of funds. The 4M account is also set up and will begin investing upon transfer of funds to the account. Interim Administrator Jeffery is working with Manager Crafton, Staff Bakkum, Counselor Welch, and Jennifer Vuccinovich from US Bank to facilitate this.	
Administration	Administrator activities	Interim Administrator Jeffery continues working with Imagine IT to work out bugs with MS365.  Interim Administrator Jeffery continues to work with Imagine IT to address the WiFi, firewall, and cybersecurity. Imagine IT will prepare a report or present to the Board this summer.  Interim Administrator Jeffery is working with North Risk Partners, legal counsel, and the League of MN Cities Insurance Trust to update and renew the RPBCWD workers' compensation and common coverage. Current policy is set to expire the end of August.  Interim Administrator Jeffery is continuing to work on office configuration for meetings and hybrid readiness.	
Annual Report & Communication	Compile, finalize and submit an annual report to agencies.	The 2021 Annual Report is completed and submitted. Upon completion of the 2021 financial audit, this will be submitted as well.	

DEI	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	Staff Mahon, Staff Dickhausen, and Manager Crafton met on May 12 <sup>th</sup>	
		to discuss goals and a workplan for the newly formed District DEI	
		Committee. Staff Mahon Attended a monthly DEI Workgroup	
		session on May 27th hosted by CRWD for watershed districts to	
		work together on their DEI goals.	
<b>Human Resources</b>	General Human Resources	Interim Administrator Jeffery has developed a log of professional	
		development and training activities undertaken by staff.	
		Olivia Holstine has returned to work for the RPBCWD on a part time	
		basis. She is assisting Staff Bakkum and Interim Administrator	
		Jeffery with various database management activities and	
		accounting activities.	
		Margaret "Maggie" Stahley has begun working as a data collection	
		intern. She recently graduated from the University of MN – Duluth	
		and worked for Carp Solutions before joining us.	
		Aimi Dickel will be returning to RPBCWD after she finished up her year	
		at St Olaf. She will be assisting Staff Forbes and Staff Mahon with	
		Education and Outreach.	
		Lillian "Lilly" Ehrke will be joining the RPBCWD as a Data Collection	
		intern in mid-June upon completion of her school year at	
		University of Washington.	
Internal Policies	Work with Governance Manual and	Interim Administrator Jeffery has disseminated a request to staff to	
	Personnel Committees to review	review Governance Manual and offer any suggestions they may	
	bylaws and manuals as necessary.	have. He emphasized this is voluntary and, if they prefer, can be anonymous.	
		Interim Administrator Jeffery presented a request to the CAC to offer	
		thoughts and edits to the Governance Manual. As with staff, the	
		CAC participation is voluntary. Several members expressed an	
		interest in participating.	
Advisory	Engage with the Technical Advisory	The CAC held a regular meeting on May 16. The	
	Committee on water conservation,	next regular meeting of the CAC will be on June 20. The CAC	
	chloride management and emerging	expressed their anticipation for the joint meeting in July.	
	topics.	Interim Administrator Jeffery and Engineer Sobiech will be meeting	
	Engage with the Citizen Advisory  Committee on water conservation,	with local road authorities to discuss possible changes to regulatory program and RPBCWD policy to allow for a more	
	annual budget, and emerging topics.	creative, cooperative, and holistic approach to stormwater	
	annual budget, and emerging topics.	management on linear projects. This meeting will be held on June	
		management on intear projects. This meeting will be new on June	

		23, 2022. A subsequent meeting will be held with the entire TAC and Community Development staff at a date to be determined.	
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.	Interim Administrator Jeffery and Engineer Sobiech will be meeting with local road authorities to discuss ways in which regulations and policy can be tailored to provide for more efficiency, cooperation, and creativity in addressing water resource management.  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. Chanhassen is coordinating the meeting.  There have been 46 applications received in 2022. Of these, six have been submitted since the May 4th meeting.	
Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)	Review AIS monitoring program.  Develop and implement Rapid Response Plan as appropriate.  Coordinate with LGUs and keep stakeholders aware of AIS management activities.  Manage and maintain the aeration system on Rice Marsh Lake.  Riley Chain of Lakes Carp Management.  Purgatory Chain of Lakes Carp Management.  Review AIS inspection program.  Keep abreast of technology and research in AIS.  Zebra mussel adult and veliger monitoring.	The Rice Marsh Lake aeration thin ice signs will be collected next month.  The carp barrier was pulled in April due to clogging and was put back in place on April 14th. The barrier was not flush with the bottom of the culvert when reinstalled and about a 3-inch gap may have allowed fish to shift upstream. Eden Prairie did come back out at correct the issue. Staff will add more permanent markings to the barrier to ensure this does not occur again. Backpack electrofishing and block netting below the fish barrier have removed 315 fish this spring 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 and has overseen most of the treatments (see vegetation management).  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	City of Chanhassen City of Eden Prairie University of Minnesota MN DNR Carver County

		estimated 23,310 goldfish were removed from Kerber Pond. Staff will continue to monitor previously known goldfish sites.  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.  Adopt-a-Dock volunteers have received their plates and will begin making bimonthly observations monitoring for zebra mussels. 22 volunteers are participating this year.	
Cost-Share	Schedule and coordinate site visits. Review applications and recommend implementation. Evaluate program.	The 2022 Watershed Stewardship Grant (WSG) program is underway.  Five new grant agreements have a been added for a total of 17 active grant projects. Three agreements are pending.  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 from the permit and WSG platforms, and will include the annual license agreement.  Staff Forbes met with the NMWD grant coordinator to collaborate on the use of MS4Front for program coordination.  Staff Forbes is seeking three quotes from local vendors to purchase additional signage to post at cost share projects.  Staff Forbes is scheduled June 23 to give a virtual presentation about the District and cost share program to Cherry Creek Association in Minnetonka. The homeowners group is interested in implementing BMPs on their property.	Carver County Soil & Water Conservation District
Data Collection	Continue Data Collection at permanent sites.  Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program. Identify monitoring sites to assessfuture project sites.  Water Level Sensors	WOMP stations: samples were collected 3 times this month for the Metropolitan Council.Staff posted the temporary 2022 Water Quality Assistant /Internship and sent offer letters to two candidates who have accepted. Maggie Stahley started on 5/16/22 and Lillian Ehrke will start on 6/15/22.  Staff have installed most of the monitoring equipment for the 2022 field season. All equiment will be deployed by mid next month. Staff	Metropolitan Council City of Eden Prairie University of MN City of Chanhassen MN DNR

		Dickhausen has been consulting with Frontier Precision concerning the different drones, their capabilities, and their costs. On May 13, representatives from Frontier Precision came to the District office and put on a demonstration and overview of several drone models and their capabilities, their packages and accessories, and the software and support available for maintaining the drones and processing data. Interim Administrator Jeffery will budget for a 2023 purchase.	City of Minnetonka Three Rivers Park District
District Hydrology & Hydraulics Model	Coordinate maintenance of Hydrology and Hydraulics Model. Coordinate model update with LGUs if additional information is collected. Partner and implement with the City of Bloomington on Flood Evaluation and Water Quality Feasibility.	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. 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.	City of Bloomington City of Minnetonka City of Eden Prairie City of Deephaven City of Shorewood
Education & Outreach	Implement Education & Outreach Plan, review at year end.  Manage partnership activities withother organizations.  Coordinate Public Engagement with District projects.	Staff Bakkum continues to receive inquiries via the district website "Contact Us" form.  Staff Mahon 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.  Staff Forbes has begun the next round of edits on new draft website. The Minnesota Water Stewards 2022 cohort had its final workshop with Freshwater Society on May 10 <sup>th</sup> .  Staff Mahon, Dickhausen and Maxwell spent 2 days with 118 4 <sup>th</sup> graders from Prairie View Elementary at the Eden Prairie Outdoor Center taking spring measurements of the dissolved oxygen and chloride levels of Staring Lake.  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.	Adopt-a-drain partners: Cities of Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Bloomington, and Eden Prairie; Hamline University; Nine Mile Creek Watershed District; MPCA; Bolton & Menk Freshwater Society City of Chanhassen City of Minnetonka
Groundwater Conservation	Work with other LGUs to monitor, assess, and identify gaps. Engage with the Technical Advisory Committee to identify potential projects.	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

Lake Vegetation Management	Develop a water conservation program (look at Woodbury model).  Work with the University of Minnesota or Aquatic Plant Biologist, Cities of Chanhassen and Eden Prairie, lake associations, and residents as well as the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources on potential treatments. Implement herbicide treatment as needed.  Secure DNR permits and contracts with herbicide applicators.  Schedule regularly scheduled point intercept surveys.  Work with Three Rivers Park District for Hyland Lake.	University a dispatch of the addispatch of the control of the cont	eners provided ersity of MN. parity regardi greement has rities are reso antec have be tation Manag of Eden Prairie Lake Vegeta below highlig nents. All Curl urasian Wate will occur in J s (PI) for 202 and Rice Mar ific Services a IR traditional g Lake Flurido gement Plan v ke Riley by th	Their legal cong liability as not been ed lived. The ement Plan e and staff. Estion Manage hts the 2022 y leaf Pondvermilfoil treaune or early 2 include Lorent Eden Praaquatic plar was submitted.	ounsel responsumed by lower and general Red	onded and and anoth entitle d will not be ock and Mittents submitten working ant surveys nents have coccur on Rional point in ke Lucy, Ronducted by eant). Staff reent grant for egetation	there exists. As such, a until these chell Lake ted by the on the and occurred. ley and ontercept und, Red Freshwate received a pr the	City of Chanhassen University of Minnesota MN DNR
		Lake	PI Surveyor	Delineation Type	Delineation Surveyor	Herbicide Treatment	Acreage	
		Red Rock	EP	CLP	FWSS	Aquathol	13	
		Mitchell	EP	CLP	District	Diquat	12.85	
		Lotus	FWSS	CLP	FWSS	Diquat	20.8	
		Riley	?	CLP	FWSS District	Diquat Procellacor	16.7 ?	
		Riley	?	EWM CLP	District	Diquat	8.25	
		Staring	?	CLP/EWM	FWSS	Fluridone	164	
		Lucy	FWSS			,		
		RML	EP					
		Round	EP					

Opportunity Projects	Assess potential projects as they are presented to the District	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.	City of Chanhassen St Hubert School Eden Prairie Public Schools
Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)	Continue working with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency on the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS).	The new impaired waters list was released by the MPCA. No new listings or de-listings occurred within the RPBCWD boundaries.	MPCA
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.	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	City of Shorewood City of Deephaven City of Chanhassen

	Represent the District on Technical Evaluation Panel throughout the District.	panel on April 27 to review the proposed wetland boundaries with members of the TEP. It was determined that the delineated boundary within the report met the characteristics of an ephemeral stream channel and was found not to meet the hydrology criteria of a wetland. The TEP also reviewed an area within the property that was determined to be wetland and needed to be surveyed/delineated. Time for comment by the TEP ] ended May 13. The District approved the application/boundary determination May 24 on the condition that the report and boundary was updated in a manner consistent with the findings/changes of staff and members of the TEP. The applicant did met these conditions.  There have been no TEP meetings in the District that staff has been a part of this month.	City of Eden Prairie MCWD BWSR MN DNR ACOE
Wetland Management	Assess known existing wetlands, identify previously unknown wetlands, identify wetlands for potential restoration/ rehabilitation and wetlands requiring additional protection.	Staff Dickhausen has begun wetland assessments in Minnetonka/Deephaven/Shorewood area of the district. 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 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.	City of Chanhassen City of Eden Prairie Hennepin County Carver County MN DNR BWSR USFWS
Hennepin County Chloride Initiative	Phase 1: Develop a plan to target commercial and association-based sources or chloride pollution - businesses, malls, HOAs, property management companies and the private applicators that they hire. We will hire a consultant to facilitate focus groups with private applicators, as well as those that execute contracts with 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 met with the HCCI small group in May. They are working on finalizing the logomark and additional branding.  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.  The City of Edina and Edina Public Schools were awarded grants in May.	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 Will be presented to the Board of Managers at the July meeting.	
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. The emerging invasive vegetation was treated the week of May 23 <sup>rd</sup> .  Sunram will be making some modifications on the outlet structure for the wetland.  Interim Administrator Jeffery will update the eLink grant database hosted by BWSR for reimbursement of funds.	City of Chanhassen MN DNR Carver County
Riley Creek Watershed	Description	Update	Partners
Lake Riley Alum Treatment	Continue monitoring of Lake.	Staff will plan to core again in 2023 to assess the second alum dose.	
Lake 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 it's prime.	City of Chanhassen Clean Water Legacy Amendment
Lake Susan Spent Lime	2022 startup and monitoring	The Lake Susan Spent Lime Treatment System was mixed via garden tiller and turned on at the end of this month. Staff will mix the material multiple times during the summer to ensure no compaction and preferential flow paths occur. Staff will monitor the unit up to once a week throughout the summer.	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.	Maintenance of the site has been turned over to the City of Eden Prairie although District staff will assist with inspections.  As-built survey needs to be performed and provided to the City of Eden Prairie.	City of Eden Prairie Lower MN River Watershed District

	Implement Project.	The contractor will be out to the site to inspect and manage	
	Continue Public Engagement for project	vegetation and remove the temporary sediment control	
	and develop signage for restoration.	practices.	
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. The second dose will likely occur in 2023.	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 withthe City of Chanhassen. Order project and begin design.	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 improved recreational experience).  Draft feasibility report.  Develop cooperative agreement with Bearpath.	Sunram's subcontractor has mobilized onto the site to finish restoration of the site.	Bearpath Neighborhood Association 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 will work with Science Committee to have students plant to areas in the prairie restoration that pond water to provide treatment, rate control, and infiltration.	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. This treatment would likely occur in 2023.	
Silver Lake Restoration	Order project. Design Project. Work with the City of Chanhassen for design, cooperative agreement, and implementation.	Interim Administrator Jeffery is working with Barr Engineering to prepare a scope of services for MN Native Landscapes, the restoration sub-contractor for Molnau, to complete the remaining restoration work on-site.	City of Chanhassen

## **Professional Development**

Staff Dickhausen and Interim Administrator Jeffery have registered for a course in wetland hydrology through BWSR. Staff Dickhausen has also registered for a course in wetland banking and monitoring. These 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 is currently taking a course on public financial management and another on project management life cycle through edX.