Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission
MEMO

Date: October 9, 2025
From: Laura Jester, Administrator
To: BCWMC Commissioners
RE: Administrator's Report

Aside from this month's agenda items, the Commission Engineers, city staff, committee members, and I continue to work on the following Commission projects and issues.

CIP Projects (more resources at http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects.)

2019 Medicine Lake Road and Winnetka Avenue Area Long Term Flood Mitigation Plan Implementation Phase I: DeCola Ponds B & C Improvement Project (BC-2, BC-3 & BC-8) Golden Valley (See Item 4D): A feasibility study for this project was completed in May 2018 after months of study, development of concepts and input from residents at two public open houses. At the May 2018 meeting, the Commission approved Concept 3 and set a maximum 2019 levy. Also in May 2018, the Minnesota Legislature passed the bonding bill and the MDNR has since committed $2.3M for the project. The Hennepin County Board approved a maximum 2019 levy request at their meeting in July 2018. A BCWMC public hearing on this project was held on August 16, 2018 with no comments being received. Also at that meeting the Commission officially ordered the project and entered an agreement with the City of GoldenValley to design and construct the project. In September 2018, the City of Golden Valley approved the agreement with the BCWMC. The Sun Post ran an article on this project October 2018. Another public open house and presentation of 50% designs was held February 6, 2019. An EAW report was completed and available for public review and comment December 17 – January 16, 2019. At their meeting in February 2019, the Commission approved the 50% design plans. Another public open house was held April 10th and a public hearing on the water level drawdown was held April 16th. 90% Design Plans were approved at the April Commission meeting. It was determined a Phase 1 investigation of the site is not required. The City awarded a contract to Dahn Construction for the first phase of the project, which involves earthwork, utilities, and trail paving and extends through June 2020. Dewatering began late summer 2019. Tree removal was completed in early winter; excavation was ongoing through the winter. As of early June 2020, earth work and infrastructure work by Dahn Construction is nearly complete and trail paving is complete. Vegetative restoration by AES is underway including soil prep and seeding. Plants, shrubs, and trees will begin soon along with placement to goose protection fencing to help ensure successful restoration. The construction phase of this project was completed in June with minor punch list items completed in September. The restoration and planting phase is complete except for minor punch list items and monitoring and establishment of vegetation over three growing seasons. A final grant report for BWSR's Watershed Based Implementation Funding was submitted at the end of January 2021. City staff completed a site walk through to document dead or dying trees and shrubs in need of replacement (under warranty). This project (along with Golden Valley's Liberty Crossing Project) received the award for "Project of the Year" from the Minnesota Association of Floodplain Managers in 2021. A reimbursement request for Restoration, planting, and vegetation establishment completed in 2023 and tree replanting in 2024 was approved for payment at the April 2025 meeting. A final project report is presented in Item 4D. Project website: http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?cID=433 .

2020 Bryn Mawr Meadows Water Quality Improvement Project (BC-5), Minneapolis (No change since August 2024): A feasibility study by the Commission Engineer was developed in 2018 and approved in January 2019. The study included wetland delineations, soil borings, public open houses held in conjunction with MPRB's Bryn Mawr Meadows Park improvement project, and input from MPRB's staff and design consultants. Project construction year was revised from 2020 and 2022 to better coincide with the MPRB's planning and implementation of significant improvements and redevelopment Bryn Mawr Meadows Park where the project will be located. A public hearing for this project was held September 19, 2019. The project was officially ordered at that meeting. In January 2020 this project was awarded a $400,000 Clean Water Fund grant from BWSR; a grant work plan was completed and the grant with BWSR was fully executed in early May 2020. The project and the grant award was the subject of an article in the Southwest Journal in

February: https://www.southwestjournal.com/voices/green-digest/2020/02/state-awards-grant-to-bryn-mawr-runoff-project/. In September 2020, Minneapolis and MPRB staff met to review the implementation agreement and maintenance roles. BCWMC developed options for contracting and implementation which were presented at the November meeting. At that meeting staff was directed to develop a memorandum of understanding or agreement among BCWMC, MPRB, and city of Minneapolis to recognize and assign roles and responsibilities for implementation more formally. The draft agreement was developed over several months and multiple conversations among the parties. At the May 2021 meeting the Commission approved to waiver potential conflict of the Commission legalcounsel and reviewed a proposal for project design by the Commission Engineer. The updated design proposal and the design agreement among all three parties were approved at the June 2021 meeting. Four public open houses were held in the park in 2021 to gather input on park concepts. Project partners met regularly throughout design to discuss schedules, planning and design components, and next steps. Concept designs were approved by the MRPB Board in late 2021. Staff met with MnDOT regarding clean out of Penn Pond and continue discussions. 50% design plans were approved by the Commission at the January 2022 meeting; 90% design plans were approved at the March 2022 meeting along with an agreement with MPRB and Minneapolis for construction. The agreement was approved by all three bodies. Commission Engineers finalized designs and assisted with bidding documents. Bids were returned in early August. At the meeting in August, the Commission approved moving forward with project construction (through MPRB), and approved a construction budget (higher than previously budgeted) and an amended engineering services budget. MPRB awarded the construction contract. In late November the contractor began the initial earthwork and started on portions of the stormwater pond excavations. By late December the 1st phase of construction was complete with the ponds formed and constructed. The contractor began driving piles in late January and began installing underground piping in early February. At the March meeting, the Commission approved an increase to the engineering services budget and learned the construction budget is currently tracking well under budget. The change order resulting from the City of Minneapolis' request to replace a city sewer pipe resulted in extra design/engineering costs that were approved by the Administrator so work could continue without delays. The MPRB will reimburse the Commission for those extra costs and will, in-turn, be paid by the city. In early May construction was focused in the Morgan / Laurel intersection. The right-of-way storm sewer work is complete including the rerouting of some of the existing storm infrastructure and installation of the stormwater diversion structures. Construction of the ponds is complete and stormwater from the neighborhood to the west is now being routed through new storm sewers to the ponds. Vegetation is currently being established around the ponds. At the October 2023 meeting the Commission approved an amendment to the agreement with MPRB and Minneapolis in order to facilitate grant closeout. At the December 2023 meeting the Commission approved a partial reimbursement to MPRB for $400,000. Corrections to a weir that was installed at the wrong elevation were made in spring 2024. A final grant report was submitted to the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources in late January 2024 and the final grant payment was recently received. Project as-built drawings were recently completed and an operations and maintenance plan is being developed. Final reimbursement requests from MPRB and Minneapolis are expected in 2015. August 2025 update: St. Anthony Falls Lab is using the new ponds as part of a study to understand how stormwater pond plant communities affect functioning of stormwater ponds, and how pond design, maintenance and management can be adapted to promote conditions that maximize water quality benefits in urban and road-impacted areas. Project website: http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/bryn-mawr-meadows-water-quality-improvement-project

2020 Jevne Park Stormwater Improvement Project (ML-21) Medicine Lake (No change since July 2023): At their meeting in July 2018, the Commission approved a proposal from the Commission Engineer to prepare a feasibility study for this project. The study got underway last fall and the city's project team met on multiple occasions with the Administrator and Commission Engineer. The Administrator and Engineer also presented the draft feasibility study to the Medicine Lake City Council on February 4, 2019 and a public open house was held on February 28th. The feasibility study was approved at the April Commission meeting with intent to move forward with option 1. The city's project team is continuing to assess the project and understand its implications on city finances, infrastructure, and future management. The city received proposals from 3 engineering firms for project design and construction. At their meeting on August 5th, the Medicine Lake City Council voted to continue moving forward with the project and negotiating the terms of the agreement with BCWMC. Staff was directed to continue negotiations on the agreement and plan to order the project pending a public hearing at this meeting. Staff continues to correspond with the city's project team and city consultants regarding language in the agreement. The BCWMC held a public hearing on this project on September 19, 2019 and received comments from residents both in favor and opposed to the project. The project was officially ordered on September 19, 2019. On October 4, 2019, the Medicine Lake City Council took action not to move forward with the project. At their meeting in October 2019, the Commission moved to table discussion on the project. The project remains on the 2020 CIP list. In a letter dated January 3, 2022, the city of Medicine Lake requested that the Commission direct its engineer to analyze alternatives to the

Jevne Park Project that could result in the same or similar pollutant removals and/or stormwater storage capacity. At the March meeting, the Commission directed the Commission Engineer to prepare a scope and budget for the alternatives analysis which were presented and discussed at the April 2022 meeting. No action was taken at that meeting to move forward with alternatives analysis. In May and June 2023, Commission staff discussed the possibility of incorporating stormwater management features into a redevelopment of Jevne Park currently being considered by the City of Medicine Lake. After review of the preliminary park design plans, the Commission Engineer and I recommended implementation of the original CIP Project to the City. Project webpage: http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?cID=467.

2014 Schaper Pond Diversion Project and Carp Management, Golden Valley (SL-3) (See Item 5B): Repairs to the baffle structure were made in 2017 after anchor weights pulled away from the bottom of the pond and some vandalism occurred in 2016. The city continues to monitor the baffle and check the anchors, as needed. Vegetation around the pond was planted in 2016 and a final inspection of the vegetation was completed last fall. Once final vegetation has been completed, erosion control will be pulled and the contract will be closed. The Commission Engineer began the Schaper Pond Effectiveness Monitoring Project last summer and presented results and recommendations at the May 2018 meeting. Additional effectiveness monitoring is being performed this summer. At the July meeting the Commission Engineer reported that over 200 carp were discovered in the pond during a recent carp survey. At the September meeting the Commission approved the Engineer's recommendation to perform a more in-depth survey of carp including transmitters to learn where and when carp are moving through the system. At the October 2020 meeting, the Commission received a report on the carp surveys and recommendations for carp removal and management. Carp removals were performed through the Sweeney Lake Water Quality Improvement Project. Results were presented at the February 2021 meeting along with a list of options for long term carp control. Commission took action approving evaluation of the long-term options to be paid from this Schaper Pond Project. Commission and Golden Valley staff met in March 2021 to further discuss pros and cons of various options. At the September 2021 meeting, the Commission approved utilizing an adaptive management approach to carp management in the pond ($8,000) and directed staff to discuss use of stocking panfish to predate carp eggs. Commission Engineers will survey the carp in 2022. At the April meeting, the Commission approved panfish stocking in Schaper Pond along with a scope and budget for carp removals to be implemented later in 2022 if needed. Commission staff informed lake association and city about summer activities and plans for a fall alum treatment. Approximately 1,000 bluegills were released into Schaper Pond in late May. Carp population assessments by electroshocking in Sweeney Lake and Schaper Pond were completed last summer. A report on the carp assessment was presented in January. Monitoring in Schaper Pond in 2023 and a reassessment of carp populations in 2024 were approved in early 2023. Carp box netting in 2024 is also approved, as needed. A carp survey of Schaper Pond and Sweeney Lake were recently completed which found higher than expected carp numbers in Sweeney Lake. Carp Solutions completed box netting in Sweeney Lake in late September 2024. At the October meeting the Commission Engineer reported that 191 carp were removed bringing the carp density to about 31.3 kg/hectare, less than the 100 kg/hectare threshold for water quality problems. A more detailed report on carp population status and recommendations for further monitoring in Schaper Pond was presented and approved at the January 2025 meeting. Monitoring on the pond got underway earlier this summer. Challenges have included heavy rains and impacts to a city manhole that house monitoring equipment which had to be removed. Commission Engineers are proposing an amendment to the effectiveness monitoring budget to account for increased coordination and other unexpected activities this year. See Item 5B. Project webpage: http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?cID=277.

2014 Twin Lake In-lake Alum Treatment, Golden Valley (TW-2) (No changes since August 2024): At their March 2015 meeting, the Commission approved the project specifications and directed the city to finalize specifications and solicit bids for the project. The contract was awarded to HAB Aquatic Solutions. The alum treatment spanned two days: May 18- 19, 2015 with 15,070 gallons being applied. Water temperatures and water pH stayed within the desired ranges for the treatment. Early transparency data from before and after the treatment indicates a change in Secchi depth from 1.2 meters before the treatment to 4.8 meters.

Water monitoring continues to determine if/when a second alum treatment is necessary. Monitoring results from 2023 were presented at the July 2024 meeting. Results show continued excellent water quality. The CIP funding remains in place for this project as a 2nd treatment may be needed in the future. Project webpage: http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?cID=278.

2013 Four Seasons Area Water Quality Project (NL-2) (no change since July): At their meeting in December 2016, the Commission took action to contribute up to $830,000 of Four Seasons CIP funds for stormwater management at the Agora development on the old Four Seasons Mall location. At their February 2017 meeting the Commission approved an agreement with Rock Hill Management (RHM) and an agreement with the City of Plymouth allowing the developer access to a city-owned parcel to construct a wetland restoration project and to ensure ongoing maintenance of the CIP project components. At the August 2017 meeting, the Commission approved the 90% design plans for the CIP portion of the project. At the April 2018 meeting, Commissioner Prom notified the Commission that RHM recently disbanded its efforts to purchase the property for redevelopment. In 2019, a new potential buyer/developer (Dominium) began preparing plans for redevelopment at the site. City staff, the Commission Engineer and I have met on numerous occasions with the developer and their consulting engineers to discuss stormwater management and opportunities with "above and beyond" pollutant reductions. Concurrently, the Commission attorney has been working to draft an agreement to transfer BCWMC CIP funds for the above and beyond treatment. At their meeting in December, Dominium shared preliminary project plans and the Commission discussed the redevelopment and potential "above and beyond" stormwater management techniques. At the April 2020 meeting, the Commission conditionally approved the 90% project plans. The agreements with Dominium and the city of Plymouth to construct the project were approved May 2020 and project designers coordinated with Commission Engineers to finalize plans per conditions. In June 2021, the City of Plymouth purchased the property from Walmart. The TAC discussed a potential plan for timing of construction of the stormwater management BMPs by the city in advance of full redevelopment. At the August 2021 meeting, the Commission approved development of an agreement per TAC recommendations. The city recently demolished the mall building and removed much of the parking lot. At the December meeting the Commission approved the 90% design plans and a concept for the city to build the CIP project ahead of development and allow the future developer to take credit for the total phosphorus removal over and above 100 pounds. At the July meeting, the Commission approved an agreement with the city to design, construct, and maintain the CIP project components and allow a future developer to use pollutant removal capacity above 100 pounds of total phosphorus. A fully executed agreement is now filed. The updated 90% project plans were approved at the September 2023 meeting. Changes to those plans were needed to address permitting requirements resulted. Those changes were presented at the November 2024 meeting and were administratively approved by the Commission Engineers. Construction of the wetland restoration is complete (see photo). Project webpage: http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?cID=282.

2021 Parkers Lake Chloride Reduction Project (PL-7) (no change since August): The feasibility study for this project was approved in May 2020 with Alternative 3 being approved for the drainage improvement work. After a public hearing was held with no public in attendance, the Commission ordered the project on September 17, 2020 and entered an agreement with the city of Plymouth to implement the project in coordination with commission staff. City staff and I have had an initial conversation about thisproject. The city plans to collect additional chloride data this winter in order to better pinpoint the source of high chlorides loads within the subwatershed. Partners involved in the Hennepin County Chloride Initiative (HCCI) are interested in collaborating on this project. A proposal from Plymouth and BCWMC for the "Parkers Lake Chloride Project Facilitation Plan" was approved for $20,750 in funding by the HCCI at their meeting in March. The project will 1) Compile available land use data and chloride concentrations, 2) Develop consensus on the chloride sources to Parkers Lake and potential projects to address these sources, and 3) Develop a recommendation for a future pilot project to reduce chloride concentrations in Parkers Lake, which may be able to be replicated in other areas of Hennepin County, and 4) help target education and training needs by landuse. A series of technical stakeholder meetings were held last fall and winter to develop recommendations on BMPs. A technical findings report was presented at the July 2022 meeting. At the September 2022 meeting, the Commission approved a scope and budget for a study of the feasibility of in-lake chloride reduction activities which was presented at the November meeting. The Commission directed staff to develop a scope for a holistic plan for addressing chloride runoff from the most highly contributing subwatershed. Commission and Plymouth staff continue to work on outreach and engagement with properties in the subwatershed, primarily through activities by WMWA's coordinator position. At the March meeting the Commission approved a contract with Bolton and Menk for assessment of salt storage and other practices at 4 properties. In April, Bolton and Menk staff met owners/operators of Brightview and submitted a report on their visit. I met with city and county staff to review the report and discuss next steps. We've asked Bolton & Menk to follow up on some specific recommendations with Brightview including tailored training, improvements to salt storage and equipment calibration. In July, a virtual meeting was held with a separate winter maintenance contractor, Twin Cities Outdoors. A site visit is planned for during winter operations. Visits to two additional properties will take place in early winter. Project website: www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/parkers-lake-drainage-improvement-project

2022 Medley Park Stormwater Treatment Facility (ML-12) (No change since June): The feasibility study for this project is complete after the Commission Engineer's scope of work was approved last August. City staff, Commission Engineers and I collaborated on developing materials for public engagement over the fall/early winter. A project kick-off meeting was held in September, an internal public engagement planning meeting was held in October, and a Technical Stakeholder meeting with state agencies was held in November. A story map of the project was created and a survey to gather input from residents closed in December. Commission Engineers reviewed concepts and cost estimates have been reviewed by city staff and me. Another public engagement session was held in April to showcase and receive feedback on concept designs. The feasibility report was approved at the June meeting with a decision to implement Concept #3. At the July meeting the Commission directed staff to submit a Clean Water Fund grant application, if warranted. A grant application was developed and submitted. Funding decisions are expected in early December. A public hearing on this project was held in September with no members of the public attending. In September, a resolution was approved to officially order the project, submit levy amounts to the county, and enter an agreement with the city to design and construct the project. The city hired Barr Engineering to develop the project designs which are now underway. The BCWMC received a $300,000 Clean Water Fund grant from BWSR in December 2021 and the grant agreement approved in March 2022. 50% design plans were approved in February 2022 and 90% plans were approved at the May 2022 meeting. Final plans and bid documents were developed by the city's consultation (Barr Engineering). Construction began in November 2022 and winter construction was finished in late January 2023. Activities in spring 2023 included completing grading (topsoil adjustments); paving (concrete, bituminous); light pole and fixture install; benches install; site clean up and prep for restoration contractor. In late May 2023, Peterson Companies completed their construction tasks and the project transitioned to Traverse de Sioux for site restoration and planting. A small area of unexpected disturbance from construction was added to the overall area to be restored with native plants through a minor change order. Site restoration, planting, and seeding was completed in late June 2023. A final grant report was submitted to the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources in late January 2025 and all grant funds were received. The Commission approved reimbursement requests from Golden Valley at their October 2024 and March 2025 meetings. The project was recently featured in the "Snap Shots" newsletter from the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources. A final reimbursement request and report will be submitted after final vegetation establishment. www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/medley-park-stormwater-treatment-facility

2022 SEA School-Wildwood Park Flood Reduction Project (BC-2, 3, 8, 10) (No change since December 2023): The feasibility study for this project is complete after the Commission Engineer's scope of work was approved last August. A project kick-off meeting with city staff was held in late November. Meetings with city staff, Robbinsdale Area School representatives, and technical stakeholders were held in December, along with a public input planning meeting. A virtual open house video andcomment form were offered to the public including live chat sessions on April 8th. The feasibility study report was approved in June with a decision to implement Concept #3. A public hearing on this project was held in September with no members of the public attending. In September, a resolution was approved to officially order the project, submit levy amounts to the county, and enter an agreement with the city to design and construct the project. The city hired Barr Engineering to develop the project designs which are now underway. A virtual public open house was held February 3rd. 50% Design Plans were approved at the January meeting. A public open house was held September 29th. 90% were approved at the October Commission meeting. Six construction bids were received in late February with several of them under engineer's estimates. The city contracted with Rachel Contracting and construction got underway earlier this spring. By late June excavation was completed and the playground area was prepped and ready for concrete work to begin on July 5. Bids were open for the SEA School/Wildwood Park restoration project on June 20. Three bids were received and two came in right around our estimate. The city is recommending the low bidder (Landbridge Ecological). At the end of July utility crews lowered the watermain and installed the storm sewer diversions into the park from along Duluth Street. The hydrodynamic separator was also set (with a crane). Crews also worked on the iron-enhanced sand filter and the outlet installation, stone work on the steepened slopes, trail prep, bituminous paving, and concrete work (curb and gutter, pads, and ADA ramps). The preconstruction meeting for the restoration work was held with work to begin late August or early September. The city awarded the contract for the DeCola Pond D outlet work to Bituminous Roadways Inc. in August. The SEA School site construction is complete and restoration work is complete for the season. The DeCola Pond D outlet replacement and site restoration is also now complete.

Project webpage: www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all- projects/sea-school-wildwood-park-flood-reduction-project.

Bassett Creek Restoration Project: Regent Ave. to Golden Valley Rd. (2024 CR-M), Golden Valley:

A feasibility study for this project got underway in fall 2022. A public open house was held March 1st with 30 residents attending. The draft feasibility report was presented at the April meeting. A final feasibility report was presented at the June

meeting where the Commission approved the implementation of Alternative 3: to restore all high, medium, and low priority sites. A Clean Water Fund grant application for $350,000 was recently developed and submitted to BWSR. The Commission held a public hearing on this project at its September meeting and officially ordered the project and set the final levy. An agreement with the city of Golden Valley for design and construction was approved at the November 2024 Commission meeting. The Commission (Commission Engineers) will design the project and provide engineering services. A scope of work for engineering services was approved at the March meeting. A drone survey of the entire stretch was completed in early April. A project kick-off meeting was held with city and commission staff on April 9th. Field and desktop surveys are continuing. Meetings regarding utility easements and communications planning were recently held. A public open house on the project was held on June 5th. At the June meeting the Commission approved a scope and budget for a wetland delineation and architectural survey which are unexpected requirements for a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. That work is getting underway. Additionally, Administrator Jester approved a scope and budget for an archeological survey that was included in the original engineering services scope as a contingency task with approval delegated to the Administrator. Commission Engineers presented the 50% designs at the July meeting. At the August meeting, commissioners reviewed a reprioritization of eroded sites and discussed cost saving and implementation options. Commissioners approved a new project budget to accommodate repair of new and expanded erosion and vegetation restoration on public and private properties along the project corridor. A public open house is scheduled for Thursday, October 30th at Brookview. Letters to residents along the project were recently sent by Golden Valley requesting temporary easements for the project. 90% plans are expected at the November Commission meeting. Project website: https://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/bassett-creek-restoration-project-regent-ave-golden-valley-r

Ponderosa Woods Stream Restoration Project, Plymouth (ML-22) (no change since July): A feasibility study for this project got underway in fall 2022. A public open house was held February 13th with 3 residents attending. The draft feasibility report was presented at the May meeting and additional information was presented at the June meeting where the Commission approved implementing Alternative 1.5. The Commission held a public hearing on this project at its September meeting and officially ordered the project, set the final levy, and approved an agreement with the City of Plymouth for project implementation. Plymouth hired Midwest Wetland Improvements to design the project. 60% designs were conditionally approved at the October meeting. A public open house was held on October 23rd. 90% design plans were approved at the November 2024 meeting. The city received favorable bids for the project and construction began in December. Tree removals and channel restoration is continuing and should be completed soon. Outreach and communication to impacted property owners has been thorough. Construction of the project is complete and vegetation establishment will continue into this year. Project website: www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/ponderosa-woods-stream-restoration-project.

Sochacki Park Water Quality Improvement Project (BC-14) (no change since August 2024): This project is proposed to be added to the CIP through a minor plan amendment as approved at the March Commission meeting with CIP funding set at $600,000. The project involves a suite of projects totaling an estimated $2.3M aimed improving the water quality in three ponds and Bassett Creek based on a subwatershed analysis by Three Rivers Park District (TRPD). A memorandum of understanding about the implementation process, schedules, and procedural requirements for the project was executed in April among BCWMC, TRPD, and the cities of Golden Valley and Robbinsdale. A feasibility study is underway for the project and is being funded by TRPD. The feasibility study kick off meeting was held June 5th. Information on the project and an update on the feasibility study was presented at the June meeting. A technical stakeholder meeting was held July 10th. A public open house was held July 26th and a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment was recently completed. The draft feasibility study was presented at the August meeting and the final feasibility study was approved at the September meeting. The Commission held a public hearing on this project at its September meeting and officially ordered the project and set the final levy. Project partners recently met to review a scope and budget for design and discuss construction sequencing, funding availability, and cooperative agreement provisions. TRPD was recently awarded $1.6M in federal funding for this project and other facility investments in Sochacki Park. Staff provided a project update at the March meeting. A cooperative agreement with TRPD and Robbinsdale was approved at the April meeting. Three Rivers Park District contracted with Barr Engineering to develop project designs. A Phase II Environmental Assessment was completed last year. Soil contamination (including PCBs) was found in some areas to be above MPCA action levels.

The following are recent (2025) updates for the project: MPCA approved the response action plan; TRPD cleared the federal environmental review requirements for the project and were issued a release of funds for the HUD grant; additional test pits were completed for soil pre-characterization, and the extent of contaminants is less than anticipated, especially with regards to PCBs; Hennepin County ERF grant for $447,000 was recently awarded for remediation efforts; Barr Engineering is adjusting the project cost estimates to reflect the recent soil testing work; public-facing information will be updated soon; project

team meetings will resume soon to help guide the implementation process. Project webpage: https://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/sochacki-park-water-quality-improvement-project.

Plymouth Creek Restoration Project Dunkirk Lane to 38th Ave. North (2026 CR-P) (See Item 5A): A scope and budget for a feasibility study was approved at the October meeting. A project kick off meeting was held November 3rd and a technical stakeholder meeting was held December 5th. Field investigations and desktop analyses are complete. Site prioritization ranking criteria are being developed and concept designs are being developed. A public open house was held on March 11th. Residents who attended are in favor of the project and had questions about impacts to trees, potential construction activities in specific reaches, and buckthorn removal. The feasibility study was approved at the May meeting with Option 3a being approved for implementation. At the June meeting the Commission approved a maximum levy for 2025 that includes funding for this project which was approved by the Hennepin County Board August 6th At its September meeting, the Commission held a public hearing on this project and approved a resolution officially ordering the project, setting the 2025 levy, and entering an agreement with the City of Plymouth for design and construction. The city will hold a public open house on this project in spring 2025 after the city contracts with an engineering firm. A Clean Water Fund grant for $400,000 was awarded by BWSR. The grant agreement and sub-grant agreement were approved at the April meeting. The City of Plymouth hired Moore Engineering for project designs. Commission Engineers sent requested data, surveys, and models to Moore Engineers at the request of the City of Plymouth. A public meeting will be scheduled for later this year. A pre-permitting meeting was held with permitting agencies on September 2nd. Commission Engineer's review and comments on 60% designs will be presented at this meeting. Project webpage: https://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/plymouth-creek-restoration-dunkirk-lane-38th-ave-n.

Crane Lake Chloride Reduction Demonstration Project, Minnetonka (CL-4) (No change since September): At the meeting in July, the Commission approved a scope and budget for the feasibility study for this project. The Commission Engineer is gathering background information. A project kick off meeting was held in September 2024. In summer 2025, water quality sampling and continuous chloride monitoring at the five pond monitoring sites was completed. In August, Commission Engineers began the process of compiling and analyzing the field and laboratory monitoring results. They have also developed watershed chloride load assessment modeling, which will be calibrated based on the water quality monitoring data. The City of Minnetonka is currently surveying landowners about deicing practices. Survey results will be used to inform the feasibility study. Project webpage: https://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/crane-lake-chloride-reduction-demonstration-project.

Administrator Activities September 11 – October 8, 2025

Subject	Work Progress
CIP and Technical Projects	• Main Stem Bassett Creek Restoration Project: Project coordination meeting with Commission Engineer and city staff; reviewed/commented on letter to residents; reviewed wetland delineation report • Street Sweeping Prioritization Analysis: Finalized executive summary for final report; reviewed presentation for Commission meeting • Plymouth Creek Restoration Project: Reviewed Commission Engineer memo on 60% design review • Bassett Creek Valley Study Update Project: Met with potential developers of former Pioneer Paper site in Bassett Creek Valley and spoke with Wellington Management about property ownership and future plans; reviewed presentation for project kick off meeting with partners; participated in meeting and reviewed meeting notes • Lost and Northwood Lake TMDL Study: Reviewed status updates, corresponded and coordinated with partners and lake residents to set meeting with residents • DeCola Ponds B&C Improvement Project: Drafted final report • Fruen Mill Redevelopment: Coordinated and participated in tour of Fruen Mill; corresponded with developer re: buffer requirements and future site visits; met with Commission Engineer and city staff on current project submittal
Education and Outreach	• Participated in Watershed Partners Chloride subcommittee meeting • Participated in WMWA Strategic Planning Subcommittee meeting and arranged speaker for meeting of MS4s in November; set next committee meeting • Reviewed WMWA meeting notes and upcoming agenda

	• Reviewed/commented on MOU with WMWA partners for website update project and discussed with Commission Attorney Anderson • Refined presentation for St. Louis Park Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission (further refined and given by Alt. Commissioner Johnston) and delivered outreach materials • Reviewed updates to website by consultants; corresponded with consultants • Correspondence re: tabling at Water Blessing event • Corresponded with Utepils owner re: signs along creek in their backyard; re-engaged with graphic designer with their feedback • Corresponded with teacher re: using watershed map in classroom project; delivered maps • Updated Sweeney Lake webpage with recent information
Administration	• Developed agenda; reviewed invoices and submitted expenses spreadsheet to Plymouth; reviewed financial report; drafted September meeting minutes; reviewed memos, reports, and documents for Commission meeting; printed and disseminated meeting information to commissioners, staff, and TAC; updated online calendar; drafted meeting follow up email; ordered catering for October Commission meeting; updated meeting notice • Participated in pre-meeting call with Commission Engineer and Chair Cesnik • Document filing, mailing checks and agreements and updating website calendar • Correspondence re: blue green algae bloom on Medicine Lake • Correspondence and coordination of data request for Hollydale development groundwater/water table data • Participated in Met Council Metro Subregion coordination meeting • Invoiced Plymouth for blue-green algae sampling and analysis per protocol • Met with new Minneapolis Alternate Commissioner and updated commission rosters • Certified 2026 final levy for Hennepin County • Participated in meeting with MPRB, BWSR, graduate students, and Friends of Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden on restoration projects (wetlands and uplands) and hydrology study • Reviewed correspondence on FEMA-requested updates to grant application for hydrologic and hydraulic model update and conversion project; met with State representatives •
MN Watersheds	• Drafted meeting notes for July Metro Watersheds meeting • Reviewed abstracts for MN Watersheds conference re: Watershed Equity Alliance and Chloride Legislation next steps • Reserved lodging for MN Watersheds conference
2025 Watershed Management Plan	• Reviewed comments on 60-day plan; collated and prioritized comments • Created spreadsheet table with all 10-year goals • Met with Commission Engineers to discuss comments and potential responses • Drafted Plan Steering Committee meeting agenda and July meeting notes; updated Plan Progress Tracker • Arranged for and noticed 10/15 Plan Steering Committee meeting • Updated goals revision table and sent to committee members