

BOARD ORDER

FY 2023 Habitat Enhancement Landscape Pilot Grant Awards

PURPOSE

Authorize the grant awards for the Habitat Enhancement Landscape Pilot.

FINDINGS OF FACT / RECITALS

- A. The Laws of Minnesota 2021, 1st Special Session, Chapter 6, Article 5, Section 2, Subd. 8(b) appropriated \$750,000 from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund to the Board for building a new initiative to strategically restore and enhance approximately 1,000 acres of diverse native habitat to benefit multiple insects through grants, cost-share, and outreach.
- B. On October 26, 2022, by Board Order #22-48, the Board authorized staff to complete and open the Habitat Enhancement Landscape Pilot (HELP) RFP to provide grants through a competitive process.
- C. The HELP RFP opened on November 3, 2022 and applications were accepted through February 23, 2023.
- D. A total of 12 applications requesting \$503,180 were received.
- E. Board staff reviewed applications for eligibility for this Program. Based on this review, 12 applications were determined to be eligible.
- F. An inter-agency review team ranked the eligible applications on March 13, 2023 and recommended applications for funding.
- G. The BWSR Senior Management Team, at their March 14, 2023 meeting, reviewed the proposed grant awards and recommended approval to the Grants Program and Policy Committee.
- H. The Grants Program and Policy Committee, at their March 27, 2023 meeting, reviewed the proposed grant awards and recommended approval to the Board.

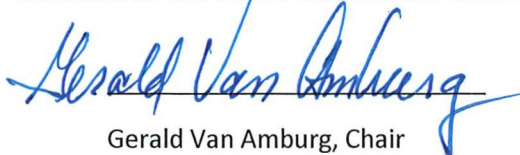
ORDER

The Board hereby:

- 1. Approves the allocation of funds to each eligible applicant in the amounts listed in the attached table FY 2023 *Habitat Enhancement Landscape Pilot Funding Recommendations*.
- 2. Authorizes staff to enter into individual grant agreements for these funds.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this April 26, 2023.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES



Gerald Van Amburg, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date: 4-26-2023

**FY2023 Habitat Enhancement Landscape Pilot (HELP) Program
Funding Recommendations**

Applicant	Recommended Award
Anoka Conservation District	\$20,000
Washington Conservation District	\$59,915
Stearns Soil and Water Conservation District	\$60,000
Beltrami Soil and Water Conservation District	\$45,150
Winona Soil and Water Conservation District	\$46,000
Lyon Soil and Water Conservation District	\$28,725
Lake Soil and Water Conservation District	\$13,950
Total	\$273,740



BOARD ORDER

Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Clean Water Legacy Partners Pilot Grants

PURPOSE

Authorize Fiscal Year (FY) 22/23 Clean Water Legacy Partners Pilot Grants Program Awards.

FINDINGS OF FACT / RECITALS

- A. The Laws of Minnesota 2021, 1st Special Session, Chapter 1, Article 2, Section 6 (n) appropriated \$400,000 in fiscal year 2022 and \$600,000 in fiscal year 2023 from the Clean Water Fund “for developing and implementing a water legacy grant program to expand partnerships for clean water.”
- B. The Laws of Minnesota 2015 1st Special Session, Chapter 2, Article 2, Section 7(c).
- C. On October 26, 2022, the Board authorized staff to distribute and promote a request for proposals (RFP) for Clean Water Legacy Partners Pilot Grants (Board order #22-49).
- D. The request for proposals was noticed on November 17, 2022 with a submittal deadline of February 15, 2023.
- E. Applications were scored and ranked by the interagency committees on March 10, 2023.
- F. The Grants Program and Policy Committee, at their March 27, 2023 meeting, reviewed the proposed allocations and recommended approval to the Board.

ORDER

The Board hereby:

1. Authorizes staff to allocate the balance of \$56,374 in returned grant funds from previous years to completely fund projects C23-3738 and C23-7261.
2. Approves the allocation of funds to each applicant in the amounts listed in Table 1.
3. Authorizes staff to approve work plans and enter into grant agreements for these funds.
4. Establishes that the grants awarded pursuant to this order will conform to FY 2022/2023 Clean Water Legacy Partners Pilot Grants Policy

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this April 26, 2023.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

Gerald Van Amburg, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date: 4-26-2023

Table 1. FY2022-23 Clean Water Fund Legacy Partners Pilot Funding Recommendations	
Applicant (Grant ID)	Recommended Award
Red Lake Nation (C23-9360)	\$250,000
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe (C23-6013)	\$30,000
Upper Sioux Community (C23-3738)	\$250,000
Clean River Partners (C23-0771)	\$128,519
Upper Red Lake Area Association (C23-7512)	\$92,600
Spark-Y: Youth Action Labs (C23-2704)	\$249,965
Briggs Lake Chain Association (C23-7261)	\$55,290
Total	\$1,056,374



BOARD ORDER

Authorizing the Rural Investment to Protect Our Environment (RIPE) 100 Partnership Program

PURPOSE

Authorize staff to enter into agreements necessary to carry out the Board of Water and Soil Resources' responsibilities under the United States Department of Agriculture funded RIPE100 Partnership Program.

RECITALS /FINDINGS OF FACT

- A. BWSR staff have worked with Virginia Tech, RIPE, the States of Arkansas, North Dakota, Virginia and other national, regional and state partners on an application in 2022 to the USDA Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities Program.
- B. The application, "Rural Investment to Protect our Environment (RIPE) Partnership: Supporting Agricultural Producers at All Scales to Deliver Productivity, Market Opportunities, and Enhanced Soil, Water, and Climate Benefits" was selected for funding in October 2022, for an amount of approximately \$ 17 million allocated to Minnesota.
- C. The RIPE100 Program will pay farmers and ranchers who voluntarily implement conservation practices to earn payments that reflect the benefits they deliver to soil health, water, air and climate combined, with payments above implementation costs, economic losses during transition to new practices, and future climate policy costs.
- D. BWSR's responsibilities under this USDA-funded Program are to:
 1. Manage all pilot funds and sub-grants or contracts to the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts to act as project facilitator and technical assistance provider and Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) to act as producer enrollers and technical assistance providers;
 2. Refine the pilot program design, including establishing parameters for Soil and Water Conservation District participation and working with researchers and local partners on GHG-reducing practices for Animal Feeding Operations.
 3. Identify the best suited regions for pilot implementation, working with local partners and advisors; and
 4. Disburse funds to selected SWCDs to implement the pilot;
- E. BWSR is committed to providing \$2,700,000 in match for additional technical and financial assistance as part of the USDA award.
- F. The Board has authorities under Minnesota Statutes §103B.3369 and 103B.101 to award grants and contracts to accomplish water and related land resources management.
- G. The Grants Program and Policy Committee, at their March 27, 2023 meeting, reviewed the RIPE100 Partnership program authorization, and recommended approval to the Board.

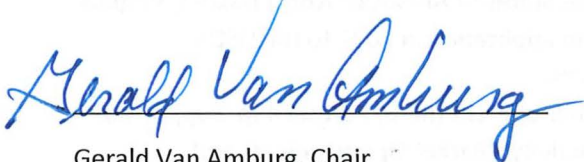
ORDER

The Board hereby authorizes staff:

1. To finalize and issue a solicitation consistent with the USDA-approved RIPE proposal to select participating local governments and technical assistance providers, including selection criteria;
2. To select participating SWCDs and/or other partners;
3. To identify existing or anticipated state funding sources to provide the required matching funds;
4. To enter into agreements with SWCDs and/or other partners to secure their participation in the RIPE100 program; and
5. To report to the Board on program implementation.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this April 26, 2023.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES



Gerald Van Amburg, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date: 4-26-2023



BOARD ORDER

Conservation Reserve Program State Incentives Pilot Program

PURPOSE

Authorize a fiscal year 2023 Conservation Reserve Program State Incentive Pilot Program and adopt the *Conservation Reserve Program State Incentive Pilot Program Policy*.

RECITALS /FINDINGS OF FACT

- A. Laws of Minnesota 2022, Regular Session, Chapter 94, Section 2, Subdivision 10(e) appropriated funds to provide onetime state incentive payments to enrollees in the federal Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) during the continuous enrollment period and to enroll land in conservation easements consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 103F.515.
- B. The BWSR Senior Management Team (SMT) met on March 14, 2023 and discussed recommendations from BWSR staff on the *Conservation Reserve Program State Incentive Pilot Program Policy* and providing Conservation Reserve Program State Incentive Pilot grants to eligible watersheds with greater than 40% cropland that have approved and locally adopted watershed plans to provide onetime incentive payments to landowners enrolling or re-enrolling into the Continuous Conservation Reserve Program.
- C. The Grants Program and Policy Committee, at their March 27, 2023 meeting, discussed the recommendations from the BWSR Senior Management Team and recommended approval to the Board.

ORDER

The Board hereby:

- 1. Adopts the attached *Conservation Reserve Program State Incentives Pilot Program Policy*.
- 2. Approves the allocation of up to \$650,000 to eligible watersheds, up to the amount listed in the attached allocation table.
- 3. Authorizes staff to reallocate funds to eligible watersheds utilizing a predetermined process should a grant award not be accepted, or full grant awards not expended.
- 4. Authorizes staff to enter into a grant agreement for this purpose.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this April 26, 2023.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

Gerald Van Amburg, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date: 4-26-2023

FY23 Conservation Reserve Program State Incentive Pilot Program Allocations

Watershed	FY24 Grant Amount
Missouri River Basin	\$53,000
Mustinka/Bois de Sioux River	\$53,000
Two Rivers Plus	\$53,000
Middle Snake-Tamarac Rivers	\$53,000
Hawk Creek-Middle Minnesota	\$53,000
Yellow Medicine River	\$53,000
North Fork Crow River	\$30,000
Cannon River	\$30,000
Red Lake River	\$30,000
Buffalo-Red River	\$30,000
Root River	\$30,000
Pomme de Terre River	\$30,000
Watonwan River	\$30,000
Greater Zumbro River	\$30,000
Wild Rice-Marsh	\$30,000
Sauk River	\$30,000
Shell Rock River and Winnebago	\$16,000
Cedar River	\$16,000
TOTAL	\$650,000

Conservation Reserve Program State Incentives Pilot Program Policy

From the Board of Water and Soil Resources, State of Minnesota

Version: 1.00

Effective Date: 04/26/2023

Approval: Board Order #23-23

Policy Statement

This policy provides expectations for implementation activities conducted via the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Conservation Reserve Program State Incentives Pilot Program as defined in the appropriation under Laws of Minnesota 2022, Chapter 94, Section 2, Subdivision 10e. This grant program is made possible through an appropriation from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF).

Reason for the policy

The purpose of this policy is to provide specific requirements for the implementation of the Conservation Reserve Program State Incentives Pilot Program as defined in the appropriation under Laws of Minnesota 2022, Chapter 94, Section 2, Subdivision 10e.

BWSR will use grant agreements for assurance of deliverables and compliance with appropriate statutes, rules and established policies. Willful or negligent disregard of relevant statutes, rules and policies may lead to imposition of financial penalties or future sanctions on the grant recipient. BWSR's Grants Administration Manual (<https://bwsr.state.mn.us/gam>) provides the primary framework for local management of all state grants administered by BWSR.

Eligible Activities and Program Requirements

1. Local Governmental Unit Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible, local governments must have a current state approved and locally adopted comprehensive watershed management plan authorized under Minnesota statutes §103B.801 and have entered into an implementation agreement with other members of the planning partnership. If a local government within the geographic area of the plan has not adopted the plan, these funds can still be spent on implementation in that area by another eligible local government.

2. Eligible and Ineligible Activities

Conservation Reserve Program State Incentives Pilot Program provides eligible local government units with funds to incentivize landowner enrollment and re-enrollment into the federal Continuous Conservation Reserve Program (CCRP) and associated administrative and project development responsibilities. Funds used from this policy for cost share must follow the BWSR Watershed-Based Implementation Funding Policy (FY22-23) with the following exceptions.

- 2.1 **Administrative and Project Development Expenses.** A maximum of up to 10 percent (10%) of the total grant may be used for administrative and project development expenses.
Billing rates charged to these grants may only include the employee's base hourly rate plus benefits.
- 2.2 **Eligible Activities.** Incentive payments are only allowed for practices available through a Continuous CRP enrollment period.
- 2.3 **Effective Life.** Conservation practice lifespan must be equal to the length of the Continuous CRP contract.
- 2.4 **Practice Standards.** All practices must be consistent with the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG). Vegetative practices must follow the BWSR Board adopted [Native Vegetation Establishment and Enhancement Guidelines](#).
- 2.5 **Incentive Payments to Land Occupiers.** Incentives to install or adopt CCRP practices that improve or protect water quality and/or provide pollinator and wildlife benefits are an eligible use of funds. Incentive payments should be reasonable and justifiable, supported by grant recipient policy, consistent with prevailing local conditions, and must be based on established FOTG standards. BWSR reserves the right to review and approve incentive payment rates established by grant recipient policy.
- 2.6 **Failure to Maintain Practices.** Funds repaid to a district from a landowner who has failed to maintain a practice, must be reallocated to the local cost share program according to this policy, less the administrative cost of the district.
- 2.7 **Ineligible Activities.** The following is considered ineligible:
 - a. Equipment purchases.
 - b. Facilities Expenses.
 - Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) funding cannot be used to pay for space and other associated overhead costs. Billing rates charged to these grants may include the employee's base hourly rate plus benefits.

3. Match Requirements

Match is not required.

4. Grant Work Plan

Work Plans are required for the Conservation Reserve Program State Incentives Pilot Program. Work plans shall be developed in eLINK and must be approved before execution of the grant agreement and before work can begin or grant funds spent. Work plans shall reflect each eligible activity that will be implemented, a description of the anticipated activity outcomes or accomplishments, how the activity achieves the goals of the comprehensive watershed management plan authorized under Minnesota statutes §103B.801 and grant funding amounts to accomplish each of the activities.

Board Resolution # 23-24

Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) Reserve Riparian and Floodplain Restoration Program

WHEREAS, Board Resolution # 21-45, Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) Reserve Riparian Programs Authorization: OHF Riparian Buffer Conservation Easement Program and CWF Pilot Working Lands Floodplain Program, authorized staff to:

- Utilize ML 2021 Outdoor Heritage Funds and Clean Water Funds to implement the OHF Riparian Buffer Conservation Easement Program and the CWF Pilot Working Lands Floodplain Program;
- Work with partners to develop program guidelines and outreach efforts focused in priority areas;
- Utilize RIM easement payment rates as established for permanent easements;
- Utilize a modified RIM easement payment rate structure for limited duration and/or working lands easements;
- Conduct landowner sign-ups and select applications using available funding; and,

WHEREAS, the OHF Riparian Buffer Conservation Easement Program and CWF Pilot Working Lands Floodplain Program authorized under Board Resolution # 21-45, Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) Reserve Riparian Programs Authorization: OHF Riparian Buffer Conservation Easement Program and CWF Pilot Working Lands Floodplain Program, will be combined into the RIM Riparian and Floodplain Restoration Program; and

WHEREAS, ML 2022 Chapter 77, Article 1, Section 2, Subd. 2(f) designated funds “to acquire permanent conservation easements and restore habitat under Minnesota Statutes, section 103F.515, to protect, restore, and enhance habitat by expanding the riparian buffer program under the clean water fund for additional wildlife benefits from buffers on private land”; and,

WHEREAS, future funds appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature would be used consistent with the appropriation language to acquire and restore Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) conservation easements under the RIM Reserve Riparian and Floodplain Restoration Program; and,

WHEREAS, this resolution is supplemental to previously approved BWSR Board resolutions; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Water and Soil Resources RIM Reserve Committee met on January 18, 2023, and unanimously recommends the following provisions.

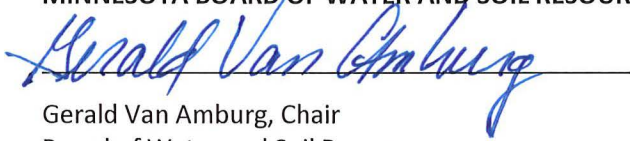
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources authorizes staff to:

1. Utilize existing and future appropriated funds of similar purpose to implement the RIM Riparian and Floodplain Restoration Program.
2. Conduct landowner sign-ups and select applications using available funding for the RIM Riparian and Floodplain Restoration Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, this resolution will remain in effect, as funding is available, until material changes in the program warrant an amendment.

Dated at Saint Paul, Minnesota this 26th day of April 2023.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES



Gerald Van Amburg, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date: 4-26-2023

Board Resolution # 23-25

Easement Alteration Request for Public Road Project – RIM Easement #07-17-01-01

WHEREAS, BWSR acquired a 5.9 acre CREP Easement adjacent to CSAH 16 in Rapidan Township, Blue Earth County on 1/22/2002; and

WHEREAS, the Blue Earth County Highway Department will be undertaking reconstruction of the segment of CSAH 16 adjacent to the RIM easement, to correct deficiencies and address significant safety and maintenance concerns; and

WHEREAS, road safety improvements will include widening of lanes and shoulders and flattening backslopes, requiring acquisition of additional right-of-way lands adjacent to the highway; and

WHEREAS, the County Highway Department is requesting the release of 0.16 acres from the RIM easement to accommodate the expanded road right-of-way; and

WHEREAS MN Rule 8400.3610 states that the board may alter or release an easement only if the state board determines that the public interests and general welfare are better served by the alteration; and

WHEREAS the public interest and general welfare will be better served by correcting poor sight distances, steep vertical curves and narrow shoulders along the highway, resulting in improved public safety; and

WHEREAS the BWSR Easement Alteration Policy for public benefitted projects allows for the release of easement lands when the public entity compensates BWSR at 2x the current RIM rate for the township where the land is located, per acre released; and

WHEREAS Blue Earth County Highway department has agreed to pay BWSR the amount of \$2285.02, in accordance with the policy, for the release of the 0.16 acres, and has submitted all required materials and the \$500 application fee for the board to consider the alteration; and

WHEREAS the RIM Reserve Committee voted in favor of the proposal at their meeting held 4/14/23 and is recommending approval to the board

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) approves the alteration of RIM Easement #07-17-01-01, as proposed, releasing the 0.16 acres identified for public road right-of-way purposes; and authorizes staff to work with Blue Earth SWCD staff to officially amend the necessary RIM easement documents.

Dated at Saint Paul, Minnesota this 26th day of April, 2023

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES


Gerald Van Amburg, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date: 4-26-2023

Board Resolution # 23-26

Easement Alteration Request - RIM Easement #86-06-91-01

WHEREAS, BWSR acquired the 30.3-acre RIM Reserve Easement in Corinna Township, Wright County on September 9, 1993; and

WHEREAS, the current landowners, Eric and Michelle Chlan, purchased the property in September 2012; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, Wright SWCD reported on the RIM site inspection form that a house had been built within the easement area and that the easement area was being utilized as pasture for livestock; and

WHEREAS, Mr. & Mrs. Chlan responded that they had been unaware of the Perpetual RIM Easement when they purchased the property and subsequently constructed their home, and implemented an NRCS-approved grazing plan on the land; and

WHEREAS, upon learning of the violation, Mr. & Mrs. Chlan then ceased all grazing activity on the RIM easement; and

WHEREAS, to resolve the easement violation and avoid potential enforcement action, Mr. & Mrs. Chlan have agreed to the proposed easement alteration scenario to mitigate for the impacts of the easement violation, and add additional value to the easement; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Chlan are requesting to release 3.2 acres from the easement containing the house, driveway and yard, and are proposing to add 11.2 acres to the easement in return, as identified in the supporting documents; and

WHEREAS, the proposed replacement areas consist of 3.2 acres with crop history, 6.5 acres of woodland, and 1.5 acres of wetland. The proposed replacement area meets the minimum required replacement ratio in BWSR's Easement Alteration Policy; and

WHEREAS, MN Rule 8400.3610 states that the board may alter an easement only if the state board determines that the public interests and general welfare are better served by the alteration; and

WHEREAS, the State's natural resource interest would be benefitted by the easement alteration by not only replacing the acres impacted by the violation, but also adding 8 additional acres of non-cropland to the easement, significantly increasing the size of wetland buffer areas and protecting wildlife habitat corridors between the existing RIM easement and other permanently protected lands; and

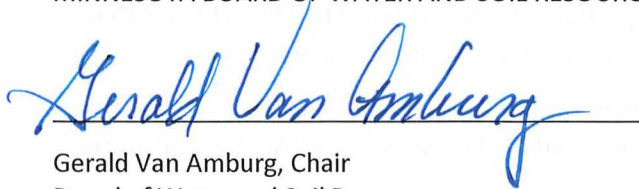
WHEREAS, the Wright SWCD Board and DNR Area Wildlife Supervisor have both submitted letters in support of the easement alteration, and the request meets all other requirements and conditions of the Easement Alteration Policy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) approves the alteration of RIM Easement #86-06-91-01, as proposed, releasing the 3.2 acres identified and adding 11.2 acres to the easement; and authorizes staff to work with Waseca SWCD staff to officially amend the necessary RIM easement documents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, Mr. and Mrs. Chlan shall be responsible for removing or correcting any objectionable title defects, liens, or encumbrances, as specified by BWSR, prior to amending this easement; and agree to pay any necessary title insurance, recording fees and restoration costs, if any, within the replacement areas.

Dated at Saint Paul, Minnesota this 26th day of April, 2023

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gerald Van Amburg". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Gerald Van Amburg, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date: 4-26-2023

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

In the Matter of the review of the Watershed Management Plan for the Shingle Creek and West Mississippi Watershed Management Commissions, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.231, Subdivision 9.

**ORDER
APPROVING
A WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Whereas, the Board of Commissioners of the Shingle Creek and the West Mississippi Watershed Management Commissions submitted a Watershed Management Plan (Plan) dated February 14, 2023 to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.231, Subd. 9, and;

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

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

- A. **Watershed Management Organization Establishment.** Joint Powers Agreements established the Shingle Creek and the West Mississippi Watershed Management Commissions (SCWM WMC) in 1984. Each Commission is comprised of one member appointed from each community by their respective city council. The first Watershed Management Plan was published in April 1990. During the development process of the second-generation plan, both Commissions agreed upon merging the plan preparation, operating policies, and administration for efficiency purposes, but remain separate, politically distinct Watershed Management Organizations. Four out of the five member cities of the West Mississippi Watershed Management Commission are also members of the Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission. The third-generation watershed management plan was approved by the Board in March 2013. The Plan has also been amended nearly annually to maintain a current Capital Improvement Program.
- B. **Authority of Plan.** The Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act requires the preparation of a watershed management plan for the subject watershed area which meets the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Sections 103B.201 to 103B.251.
- C. **Nature of the Watershed.** The Shingle Creek and the West Mississippi Watershed Management Organizations are located exclusively in Hennepin County in the northwest portion of the Minneapolis – St. Paul seven county metropolitan area. They are bound by the Mississippi River to the north and east, on the southeast by the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization, on the south by Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission and on the west by the Elm Creek Watershed Management Organization. Both watersheds encompass all or part of the following ten municipalities: Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park, Champlin, Crystal, Maple Grove, Minneapolis, New Hope, Osseo, Plymouth, and Robbinsdale. The Shingle Creek and West Mississippi watersheds cover 44.5 square miles and 23 square miles respectively. There are sixteen lakes in the

Shingle Creek watershed, and none in West Mississippi. Combined, the watersheds have approximately 20.5 miles of stream. Both watersheds are predominantly fully developed, with the remaining land being currently developed.

- D. **Plan Development and Review.** The SCWM WMC initiated the planning process for the 2023-2033 Plan in Fall 2021. As required by Minnesota Rules (MR) 8410, a specific process was followed to identify and assess priority issues. Stakeholders were identified, notices were sent to municipal, regional, and state agencies to solicit input for the upcoming Plan. The SCWM WMC also held a joint workshop with the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission addressing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and how it could be considered for the respective watersheds. The SCWM WMC utilized their existing Technical Advisory Committee and each of the member cities designated a representative from its citizen's advisory commission to provide input on the Plan. The Plan was submitted for formal 60-day review on November 16, 2022. The SCWM WMC received 44 comments on the 60-day draft Plan. All comments on the draft Plan were addressed in writing. After formal review of the Plan, the SCWM WMC held a public hearing on the draft Plan on February 9, 2023. The final draft Plan and all required materials were submitted and officially received by the Board on February 22, 2023.
- E. **Local Review.** The SCWM WMC distributed copies of the draft Plan to local units of government for their review pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.231, Subd. 7. Responses were received from the City of Minneapolis, Minneapolis Parks & Recreation Board, Hennepin County, and the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission. The City of Minneapolis requested clarification on several items as well as suggested additional information for inclusion. The Minneapolis Parks & Recreation Board made several editorial comments as well as provide suggested edits to the text. Hennepin County provided suggested edits to the text of the Plan. The SCWM WMC accepted the comments and made the suggested changes and additions to the Plan.
- F. **Metropolitan Council Review.** The Council suggested adding in a numeric goal for the improvement in water clarity for the lakes. Additionally, they supported and commended the SCWM WMC on their development process and Plan. The SCWM WMC revised the Plan to include the proposed addition.
- G. **Department of Agriculture (MDA) Review.** The MDA did not have any comments.
- H. **Department of Health (MDH) Review.** The MDH did not have any comments.
- I. **Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Review.** The DNR provided a letter that commended the SCWM WMC on their Plan.
- J. **Pollution Control Agency (PCA) Review.** PCA provided a letter that commended the SCWM WMC on their Plan.
- K. **Department of Transportation (DOT) Review.** The DOT did not have any comments.
- L. **Board Review.** Board staff commended the SCWM WMC for their well written plan that includes addressing communities that are often underserved as well as a high level of importance on dealing with climate resiliency. Board staff requested updating the Plan to include a numeric goal for water clarity in lakes and to define a quantifiable goal for Education & Outreach. The SCWM WMC made revisions to the Plan and provided responses to all items.
- M. **Plan Summary.** The SCWM WMC has identified four main priorities within its Plan. They include 1) Achieve lake and stream goals, 2) Stimulate implementation, 3) Engage and educate, and 4) Develop climate resiliency and sustainability. The Plan accompanies those priorities with measurable goals for the two watersheds to strive for. Both the Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission and the West Mississippi Watershed Management Commission have been successful in the implementation of water resource improvement projects since establishment and have dovetailed their efforts seamlessly with the interests of their member cities. The SCWM

WMC has made considerable progress on the Total Maximum Daily Load studies and this new Plan should continue that advancement.

- N. **Central Region Committee Meeting.** On April 6, 2023, the Board's Central Region Committee and staff met in St. Paul and via teleconference to review and discuss the final Plan. Those in attendance from the Board's committee were Joe Collins (chair), Jill Crafton, Jayne Hager Dee, Mark Zabel, Heather Johnson, Joel Larson, and Grant Wilson. Board staff in attendance were Marcey Westrick, Anne Sawyer, Cecelia Rost, and Steve Christopher. Also in attendance virtually were SCWM WMC Plan Consultants Katie Kemmitt and Diane Spector. Katie Kemmitt and Diane Spector provided highlights of the Plan and process. Board staff recommended approval of the Plan. After presentation and discussion, the committee unanimously voted to recommend the approval of the Plan to the full board.

CONCLUSIONS

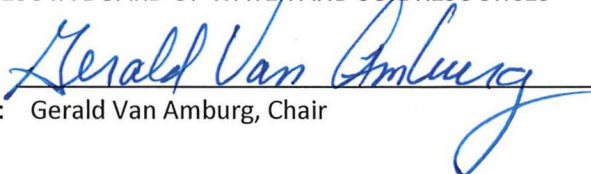
1. All relevant substantive and procedural requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled.
2. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving the Watershed Management Plan for the Shingle Creek and West Mississippi Watershed Management Commissions (SCWM WMC) pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.231, Subd. 9.
3. The SCWM WMC Watershed Management Plan, attached to this Order, defines the water and water-related problems within the SCWM WMC's boundaries, possible solutions thereto, and an implementation program through 2033.
4. The SCWM WMC Watershed Management Plan will be effective April 26, 2023, through April 26, 2033.
5. The attached Plan is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Sections 103B.201 to 103B.251.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the attached Shingle Creek and West Mississippi Watershed Management Commissions Watershed Management Plan dated February 2023.

Dated at Saint Paul, Minnesota this 26th day of April 2023.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES


BY: Gerald Van Amburg, Chair



April 26, 2023

Shingle Creek and West Mississippi Watershed Management Commissions
c/o Judie Anderson
3235 Fernbrook Lane North
Plymouth, MN 55447

Dear Chairs and Board Members:

I am pleased to inform you that the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) has approved the Shingle Creek and West Mississippi Watershed Management Commissions (SCWM WMC) revised Watershed Management Plan (Plan) at its regular meeting held on April 26, 2023. For your records, I have enclosed a copy of the signed Board Order that documents approval of the Plan. Please be advised that the SCWM WMCs must adopt and implement the Plan within 120 days of the date of the Order, in accordance with MN Statutes 103B.231, Subd. 10.

The board members, staff, consultants, advisory committee members, and all others involved in the planning process are to be commended for developing a plan that clearly presents water management goals, actions, and priorities of the watershed. With continued implementation of your Plan, the protection and management of the water resources within the watershed will be greatly enhanced to the benefit of the residents. The Board looks forward to working with you as you implement this Plan and document its outcomes.

Please contact Steve Christopher of our staff at 651-249-7519, or at the central office address for further assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Gerald Van Amburg
Chair

Enclosure

Cc: Megan Moore, DNR (via email)
Jeff Risberg, MPCA (via email)
Mark Wettlaufer, MDH (via email)
Jeff Berg, MDA (via email)
Maureen Hoffman, Met Council (via email)
Jason Swenson, MN DOT (via email)
Marcey Westrick, BWSR (via email)
Steve Christopher, BWSR (via email)
File Copy

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

In the Matter of the review of the Watershed Management Plan for the North Cannon River Watershed Management Organization, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.231, Subdivision 9.

ORDER
APPROVING
A WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT PLAN

Whereas, the Board of Managers of the North Cannon River Watershed Management Organization (NCRWMO) submitted a Watershed Management Plan (Plan) dated February 2023 to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.231, Subd. 9, and;

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

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

- A. **Watershed Management Organization Establishment.** The NCRWMO was established in 1983. The mission of the NCRWMO is "Managing groundwater and surface water to prevent property damage, maintain hydrologic balance, and protect water quality for the safety and enjoyment of citizens and the preservation and enhancement of wildlife habitat through collaboration among member communities." (Adopted July 18, 2012) The current plan was approved by the Board in August 2013.
- B. **Authority of Plan.** The Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act requires the preparation of a watershed management plan for the subject watershed area which meets the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Sections 103B.201 to 103B.251.
- C. **Nature of the Watershed.** The NCRWMO lies within the southern third of Dakota County, along the southernmost edge of the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. Although Dakota County is considered a metropolitan county, the 150 square miles encompassed by the NCRWMO is rural in nature, with a population of 5,624 (2022) and agriculture as the predominant land use. The NCRWMO is bound by Rice County to the south and west, the Cannon River and Goodhue County to the south and east, and the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization to the north. The NCRWMO as a unit of government is composed of eight townships (Castle Rock, Douglas, Eureka, Greenvale, Hampton, Randolph, Sciota, and Waterford) and three small cities (Miesville, New Trier and Randolph).
- D. **Plan Development and Review.** The NCRWMO initiated the planning process for the 4th Generation (2023-2033) Plan in mid-2021. As required by Minnesota Rules (MR) 8410, a specific process was followed to identify and assess priority issues. Stakeholders were identified, and notices were sent to municipal, regional, and state agencies to solicit input for the upcoming Plan. The NCRWMO engaged with the public, an Advisory Committee, and a Technical Committee for input throughout the planning process. A virtual open house was available in the fall of 2021 and an in person open house was held on November 10, 2021. Priority Issues, Resources and Concerns were developed based on the existing plans, studies and public input that was then validated by the committees and approved by the NCRWMO Board in January 2022. The goals, strategies and policies went through a similar development and validation process and were approved by the NCRWMO Board in July 2022. The Plan was submitted for formal 60-day review on November 17, 2022. The NCRWMO received 51 comments on the 60-day draft Plan. All comments on the draft Plan were addressed in writing. After formal review of the

Plan, the NCRWMO held a public hearing on the draft Plan on February 1, 2023. The final draft Plan and all required materials were submitted and officially received by the Board on February 13, 2023.

- E. **Local Review.** The NCRWMO distributed copies of the draft Plan to local units of government for their review pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B132, Subd. 7. While no formal responses were received, the Dakota Soil and Water Conservation District provided informal feedback throughout the Plan development process.
- F. **Metropolitan Council Review.** During the 60-day review, the Council commented that having two prioritization schemes, one based on culturally-important resources and one based on the drainage areas with the greatest opportunity for measurable improvements, were confusing. They suggested using only the drainage area rankings for prioritization and include a narrative that describes why culturally-important resources are ranked lower on the list. They also commented that the implementation table lacks prioritization and should be revised to clearly identify actions targeted to each subwatershed based on the resource needs of the subwatershed. In response, the NCRWMO revised the resource rankings, added a corresponding narrative, and significantly revised the implementation table with improved prioritization and targeting.
- G. **Department of Agriculture (MDA) Review.** The MDA also commented on the overall lack of prioritization and targeting in the implementation table. NCRWMO revised the implementation table accordingly. The MDA also requested greater inclusion of information about several of their priority policies and programs, including the Groundwater Protection Rule and the Minnesota Ag Water Quality Certification Program. NCRWMO responded by including information and resources for all of MDA's cited programs, either in the Plan language or as part of the outreach and education program.
- H. **Department of Health (MDH) Review.** No comments were received by the MDH on the Plan.
- I. **Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Review.** The DNR also commented on the conflicting resource prioritization scheme as well as the rotating priorities and lack of targeting in the implementation table. They commended the WMO for the breadth and depth of Best Management Practices (BMPs) in the implementation table and suggested several additional activities that the WMO could include to better protect trout streams in the watershed. The NCRWMO responded with an update to both the resource prioritization and the implementation table, but opted not to include the specific trout stream implementation activities in the table. Instead, the WMO would prefer to pursue large (<400 linear ft.) trout stream restoration activities as part of a potential capital improvement project.
- J. **Pollution Control Agency (PCA) Review.** The PCA similarly commented that the resource and drainage area rankings were confusing, and that the implementation table should be revised to clearly prioritize and identify targeted actions based on the needs of each subwatershed. The PCA also requested that the modeled pollutant reductions in the implementation table be summarized and included in the surface water priority issues table, enabling evaluation of progress towards measurable goals based on reductions outlined in the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) and Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) goals. In response, the NCRWMO revised the resource rankings and implementation table, as well as clarified and summarized pollutant reductions for measurable goals within the Plan.

The PCA also had comments related to specific resources, such as addressing the perched culvert on Trout Brook and adding data related to the Wild Rice water body classification for Chub Lake. They also recommended continued and increased monitoring on certain water bodies. The NCRWMO responded to all comments, and they incorporated resource-specific suggestions into the Plan. They did not add additional monitoring activity; rather, they incorporated language to include monitoring as a component of evaluating Plan progress and adjusting as needed.
- K. **Department of Transportation (DOT) Review.** DOT recommended removal of MnDOT from the acronym table since it did not appear anywhere in the main text of the Plan. They also commented on specific stormwater infrastructure associated with roadways within the NCRWMO and provided clarification of storm sewer system data availability to the NCRWMO. The NCRWMO updated the acronym table and included reference to the stormwater infrastructure.

- L. **Board Review.** Similar to comments from other agency reviewers, Board staff expressed concerns with conflicting resource rankings and lack of prioritization and targeting, both in the Plan overall and in the implementation table, in particular. Board staff also had several comments related to statutory requirements that were missing from the Plan and requested clarification of items such as measurable goals, plan evaluation, and outreach and education programming. NCRWMO made appropriate revisions to the Plan, including significant revisions to the implementation table, updated the Plan to meet statutory requirements, and provided responses to all comments.
- M. **Plan Summary.** The NCRWMO has identified surface water, groundwater, policy & regulation, and outreach & education as its highest priorities. Other priority issues include habitat, data & studies, and emerging issues such as chloride pollution and climate change. Targeted surface water improvements will be focused on water bodies where the NCRWMO feels measurable improvements in land protection, erosion mitigation, and water quality can be made.
- N. **Central Region Committee Meeting.** On April 6, 2023, the Board's Central Region Committee and staff met in St. Paul and via teleconference to review and discuss the final Plan. Those in attendance from the Board's committee were Joe Collins (chair), Jill Crafton, Jayne Hager Dee, Mark Zabel, Heather Johnson, Joel Larson, and Grant Wilson. Board staff in attendance were Marcey Westrick, Anne Sawyer, and Steve Christopher. NCRWMO Administrator Ashley Gallagher and NCRWMO Plan Consultant Paul Marston were also in attendance. Ashley Gallagher and Paul Marston provided highlights of the Plan and process. Board staff recommended approval of the Plan. After presentation and discussion, the committee unanimously voted to recommend the approval of the Plan to the full board, with Board member Hager Dee abstaining.

CONCLUSIONS

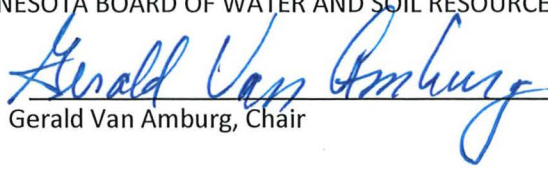
- 1. All relevant substantive and procedural requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled.
- 2. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving the 4th Generation Watershed Management Plan for the North Cannon River Watershed Management Organization (NCRWMO) pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.231, Subd. 9.
- 3. The NCRWMO 4th Generation Watershed Management Plan, attached to this Order, defines the water and water-related problems within the NCRWMO's boundaries, possible solutions thereto, and an implementation program through 2033.
- 4. The NCRWMO 4th Generation Watershed Management Plan will be effective April 26, 2023, through April 26, 2033.
- 5. The attached Plan is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Sections 103B.201 to 103B.251.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the attached North Cannon River Watershed Management Organization's 4th Generation Watershed Management Plan dated February 2023.

Dated at Saint Paul, Minnesota this 26th day of April 2023.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BY:  Gerald Van Amburg, Chair



April 26, 2023

North Cannon River Watershed Management Organization
c/o Ashley Gallagher
Dakota County SWCD
4100 220th St. West, Suite 102
Farmington, MN 55024

Dear Chair and Board Members:

I am pleased to inform you that the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) has approved the North Cannon River Watershed Management Organization (NCRWMO) 4th Generation Watershed Management Plan (Plan) at its regular meeting held on April 26, 2023. For your records, I have enclosed a copy of the signed Board Order that documents approval of the Plan. Please be advised that the NCRWMO must adopt and implement the Plan within 120 days of the date of the Order, in accordance with MN Statutes 103B.231, Subd. 10.

The board members, staff, consultants, advisory committee members, and all others involved in the planning process are to be commended for developing a plan that clearly presents water management goals, actions, and priorities of the watershed. With continued implementation of your Plan, the protection and management of the water resources within the watershed will be greatly enhanced to the benefit of the residents. The Board looks forward to working with you as you implement this Plan and document its outcomes.

Please contact Anne Sawyer, Board Conservationist, at 651-392-5064 or at the St. Paul office address for further assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Gerald Van Amburg'.

Gerald Van Amburg
Chair

Enclosure

CC: Megan Moore, DNR (via email)
Jeff Risberg, MPCA (via email)
Mark Wettlaufer, MDH (via email)
Jeff Berg, MDA (via email)
Maureen Hoffman, Met Council (via email)
Jason Swenson, MN DOT (via email)
Marcey Westrick, BWSR (via email)
Anne Sawyer, BWSR (via email)
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In the Matter of the review of the Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan for the Roseau River Watershed, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.101, Subdivision 14 and 103B.801.

**ORDER
APPROVING
COMPREHENSIVE
WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Whereas, the Policy Committee of the Roseau River Watershed submitted a Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (Plan) to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) on March 20, 2023, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.101, Subdivision 14 and 103B.801 and Board Decision #21-08, and;

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

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

- A. **Partnership Establishment.** The Partnership was established in May of 2021 through adoption of a Memorandum of Agreement for the purposes of developing a Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. The membership of the Partnership includes Roseau County, Roseau Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), and Roseau River Watershed District.
- B. **Authority to Plan.** Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.101, Subdivision 14 allows the Board to adopt resolutions, policies or orders that allow a comprehensive plan, local water management plan, or watershed management plan, developed or amended, approved and adopted, according to Chapter 103B, 103C, or 103D to serve as substitutes for one another or be replaced with a comprehensive watershed management plan. Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.801 established the Comprehensive Watershed Management Planning Program; also known as One Watershed, One Plan. And, Board Decision #21-08 adopted the One Watershed, One Plan Operating Procedures Version 2.1 and Board Decision #19-41 adopted the One Watershed, One Plan Plan Content Requirements Version 2.1 policies.
- C. **Nature of the Watershed.** The Roseau River Watershed is a flat, diverse landscape of peatlands, wetlands, forests, croplands, pasturelands, beach ridges, and watercourses. The watershed planning area includes the United States portion of the Roseau River Basin in the northwestern corner of Minnesota covering 671,000 acres within sections of Beltrami, Kittson, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, and Roseau Counties.
- D. **Plan Development.** The Plan was developed as a single, concise, and coordinated approach to watershed management for the purpose of guiding watershed managers as they work with landowners and communities to protect and restore the watershed's resources. The Plan consolidates policies, programs, and implementation strategies from existing data, studies, and plans, and incorporates input from multiple planning partners to provide a single plan for management of the watershed. The Plan focuses on prioritized, targeted, and measurable implementation efforts and lays out specific actions to manage water quantity, protect and restore water quality, natural habitat, and drinking water sources in the watershed.

- E. **Plan Review.** On March 10, 2023, the Board received a draft Plan, a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the Plan for final State review pursuant to Board Decision #21-08. State agency representatives attended and provided input at advisory committee meetings during development of the Plan. On March 20, 2023, the Board received the final draft Plan that included minor revisions to the Landfill language in Section 3 of the Plan based on communication between the Partnership and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency during the final review. The following state review comments were received during the comment period.
1. Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA): MDA did not provide any comments.
 2. Minnesota Department of Health (MDH): MDH confirmed receipt of the Plan and commented that previously submitted comments appear to be carefully considered, tracked and used for draft plan modification. MDH further commented that the Plan appears to be aligned with statute and rule requirements and recommended approval of the Plan.
 3. Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR): DNR confirmed receipt of the Plan. DNR is satisfied with the responses to issues raised during the 60-day review, had no additional comments, and recommended approval of the Plan.
 4. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA): MPCA confirmed receipt of the Plan. MPCA appreciated the opportunity to provide input throughout the Plan development process, is satisfied with how the Plan addressed the comment they submitted in their 60-day review letter. The MPCA letter requested that the Landfill language in Section 3 of the Plan be revised as agreed upon at the March 20, 2023, meeting between representatives of the Partnership, MPCA, and BWSR. These revisions are included in the Plan received on March 20, 2023, reviewed by the Northern Regional Committee on April 5, 2023, and provided to the full BWSR Board for consideration.
 5. Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB): EQB did not provide any comments.
 6. Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources Regional Staff: All comments submitted throughout the planning process were adequately addressed in the final Plan and BWSR staff recommended approval of the Plan.
- F. **Plan Summary and Highlights.** The highlights of the plan include:
- The Plan identifies six different planning regions which are based around a primary river or stream and similar land use. The six planning regions are Big Swamp, Lake Bottom, Stafford, Hay Creek/Norland, South Branch, and North Branch.
 - The Plan development process generated 18 issues, organized under four resource categories, using existing plans, studies, and stakeholder input. Each issue was assigned as one of three priority levels within each planning region. Nine issues were identified as Priority A for having a “high” priority ranking in at least one planning region and will be the focus of initial implementation efforts. Seven issues were identified as Priority B for having only “medium” priority or “as opportunities arise” rankings and will be addressed during the Plan, likely with additional funding and/or with partners. The remaining two issues were identified as “As Opportunities Arise” and are not a priority for Plan partners but could be addressed in the future.
 - The Plan details ten measurable goals that collectively address the 16 Priority A and B issues. Each measurable goal has a short-term and long-term goal. Short-term goals are intended to identify the progress that will be made during the 10-year lifespan of the Plan and long-term goals are a desired future condition. The Plan identifies primary issues that will be addressed with each goal as well as secondary issues that will benefit from the goal with the intent to highlight multiple benefits that can be achieved through making progress towards each measurable goal.
 - Separate targeted implementation tables were created for each planning region that include actions within the Projects and Practices and Capital Improvement Projects implementation programs.

Watershed-wide implementation tables were created for actions within the Regulation and Enforcement, Education and Outreach, and Data Collection, Monitoring, and Analysis implementation programs.

- The Plan leverages PTMAApp to target the most effective conservation practices to the most effective places. PTMAApp provides information about where new conservation practices are feasible, how much implementation will cost, what the estimated water quality benefit is, and how much progress implementation of that action can make toward goals.
- The Plan recognizes three funding levels for implementation. Level 1 Current Funding, Level 2 Current Funding + WBIF and 319, and Level 3 Partner and Other Funding. Actions pursued under Funding Level 2 are the focus of the Plan and have an estimated annual cost of \$1.2 million.

G. **Planning Boundary Adjustment.** The Board adopted the One Watershed, One Plan Suggested Boundary Map on April 23, 2014. The map established suggested planning boundaries for plans developed through the One Watershed, One Plan program. The suggested boundary for the Roseau River watershed was adjusted along the eastern boundary through the approval of the Lake of the Woods Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan on September 25, 2019. The Partnership requested a minor boundary adjustment to use the Roseau River Watershed District boundary as the planning boundary between all neighboring planning areas except for the Thief River watershed to the south. The boundary between the Roseau River and Thief River watersheds will remain the HUC8 boundary. The Partnership provided documentation for local concurrence, rationale, and justification of the adjusted boundary. The adjusted boundary was approved by Board staff per the One Watershed, One Plan Operating Procedures. The adjusted boundary is included as Figure 1.1 on page 2 in the Plan.

H. **Northern Regional Committee.** On April 5, 2023, the Northern Regional Committee met to review and discuss the Plan. Those in attendance from the Board's Committee were Committee Chair Rich Sve, Neil Peterson, Ron Staples, Gerald Van Amburg, Todd Holman, LeRoy Ose, Kurt Beckstrom, Jeff Berg, Nathan Kestner, and Theresa Haugen. Board staff in attendance for the agenda item were Northern Regional Manager Ryan Hughes and Clean Water Specialist Henry Van Offelen. The representatives from the Partnership were Tracy Halstensgard, Roseau River Watershed District; Janine Lovold, Roseau SWCD; and Laverne Voll, Roseau River Watershed District. Board regional staff provided its recommendation of Plan approval to the Committee. After discussion, the Committee's decision was to present a recommendation of approval of the Plan to the full Board.

I. This Plan will be in effect for a ten-year period until April 26, 2033.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant substantive and procedural requirements of law have been fulfilled.
2. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan for the Roseau River Watershed pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.101, Subd. 14 and 103B.801 and Board Resolution #21-08.
3. The Roseau River Watershed Plan attached to this Order states water and water-related problems within the planning area; priority resource issues and possible solutions thereto; goals, objectives, and actions of the Partnership; and an implementation program.
4. The attached Plan is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.101, Subd. 14 and 103B.801 and Board Resolution #21-08.
5. The attached Plan, when adopted through local resolution by the members of the Partnership, will serve as a replacement for the comprehensive plan, local water management plan, or watershed management plan, developed or amended, approved and adopted, according to Chapter 103B, 103C, or 103D, but only to the geographic area of the Plan and consistent with the One Watershed, One Plan Suggested Boundary Map.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the attached Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan of the Roseau River Watershed, dated 2023-2033.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this twenty-sixth of April, 2023.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Gerald Van Amburg", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and extends slightly above and below the line.

BY: Gerald Van Amburg, Chair

April 26, 2023

Roseau River Watershed Planning Partnership
c/o Tracy Halstensgard, Roseau River Watershed District Administrator
714 6th St. SW
Roseau, MN 56751

RE: Approval of the Roseau River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan

Dear Roseau River Watershed Planning Partnership:

The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) is pleased to inform you the Roseau River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (Plan) was approved at its regular meeting held on April 26, 2023. Attached is the signed Board Order that documents approval of the Plan and indicates the Plan meets all relevant requirements of law, rule, and policy.

This Plan is effective for a ten-year period until April 26, 2033. Please be advised, the partners must adopt and begin implementing the plan within 120 days of the date of the Order in accordance with Minnesota Statutes §103B.101, Subd. 14, and the One Watershed, One Plan Operating Procedures. Per the One Watershed, One Plan Operating Procedures please provide a copy of resolutions to adopt the Plan to your Board Conservationist to be eligible for grants.

The members of the partnership and participants in the plan development process are to be commended for writing a plan that clearly presents water management goals, actions, and priorities of the Partnership, and for participating in the One Watershed, One Plan program. The BWSR looks forward to working with you as you implement this Plan and document its outcomes.

Please contact Board Conservationist Matt Fischer of our staff at 218-766-6496 or matt.fischer@state.mn.us for further assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,



Gerald Van Amburg, Chair
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

Enclosure: BWSR Board Order

CC: Listed on next page.

CC: Janine Lovold, Roseau SWCD (via email)
Margaret Wagner, MDA (via email)
Carrie Raber, MDH (via email)
Dan Disrud, MDH (via email)
Stephanie Klamm, DNR (via email)
Nathan Kestner, DNR (via email)
Barbara Weisman, DNR (via email)
Cary Hernandez, MPCA (via email)
Jeff Risberg, MPCA (via email)
Catherine Neuschler, EQB (via email)
Ryan Hughes, BWSR (via email)
Matt Fischer, BWSR (via email)
Julie Westerlund, BWSR (via email)
Rachel Mueller, BWSR (file copy)

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