



LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

Executive Summary for Action

Lower Minnesota River Watershed District Board of Managers Meeting
Wednesday, March 19, 2025

Agenda Item

Item 9. D. – Municipal Coordination Meeting Summaries

Prepared By

Linda Loomis, Administrator

Summary

The LMRWD conducted Municipal Coordination meetings with its municipal partners in December 2024 and January 2025. These annual meetings provide a platform for the LMRWD and its partner municipalities to discuss topics of mutual interest and share updates on their activities. They also offer an opportunity to evaluate what is working well and identify areas that need improvement, allowing partners to highlight aspects of the LMRWD's operations that require strengthening.

Summaries of the meetings are attached for the Board information.

Attachments

Municipal Coordination Meeting Summaries with Bloomington, Burnsville, Carver, Chanhassen, Chaska, Eagan, Eden Prairie, Lilydale, Mendota, Mendota Heights, Savage, Shakopee and the Metropolitan Airport Commission

Recommended Action

No action recommended – for information only

Summary



PROJECT NAME: Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (LMRWD) Municipal Coordination – City of Bloomington

Date: Wednesday, December 18, 2024
Start Time: 3:00 p.m.
End Time: ~~3:30~~ 3:43 p.m.
Location: Virtual meeting using Teams

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

- To continue the established collaboration and information sharing framework
- To review recent and upcoming LMRWD and City projects and programs
- To assess resources and discuss opportunities for partnership

INVITEES: Jack Distel, Steve Gurney, and Bryan Gruidl – City of Bloomington

HOSTS: Linda Loomis – Naiad Consulting and Lower Minnesota River Watershed District
Della Schall Young and Jenny Mocol-Johnson – Young Environmental Consulting Group

AGENDA:

1. **Welcome** (Linda)
 - i. The LMRWD Board is currently looking for Linda's replacement as she will be retiring sometime in 2025.
2. **Agenda Overview** (Della)
 - a. Purpose and intent
 - i. The focus of the meeting is to maintain collaboration, chat about additional opportunities for partnership, continue those efforts that are successful and correct items that are identified as needing improvement.
3. **General Collaboration Discussion** (Della)
 - a. Listening session– [January 8, 2025 \(1-4pm\)](#)
 - i. The listening session is scheduled for January 8th. The session is an opportunity to share if there is anything the city would like the LMRWD to know. The LMRWD is interested in hearing about challenges and where the city could use assistance. Because the district manages dredge material, they have a legislative liaison that goes to the legislature for dollars, so if there's anything the city would like the LMRWD to support at the state capitol it is important to pass that forward. The information provided can be shared and read into record or individuals can show up or send a quick summary of comments. The information will also be used in the water management plan

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update process.

- b. Watershed management plan update
 - i. The LMRWD watershed management plan update process is slated to begin this year with internal visioning with the Board. The external process, involving the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), will follow.
- c. Best Management Practice (BMP) Management - effectiveness and agreements monitoring
 - i. Managing BMPs is a work in progress for the city. The city stated they are good until construction is completed. The city holds an erosion control surety with the applicant. During the remodeling process, the city is careful to make sure applicants are clear as to the requirements. The surety tends to be the “carrot” for getting things done. As far as ongoing maintenance and inspections, the city does not have a solid plan. They are working to determine the best time to do inspections, and when to reach out to property owners (when properties change ownership). While agreements are recorded, it is still difficult. Overall, the process is staff intensive, and the city is working on navigating it.
- d. Chloride or other emerging concerns
 - i. Within the city, the appropriate staff are fully trained in smart salting and attend the annual refresher at the Annual Snow Meeting. All trucks are outfitted with a great deal of technology, including the automated vehicle location (AVL) system, which tracks auger and spinner, and they also have a pavement temperature sensor.
 - ii. In general, the city has embraced technology and when the industry pushed for more liquid or alternatives, the city adjusts accordingly. The city has developed a new framework, to be used at city buildings for mitigating chloride discharge to groundwater. The framework is in the early stages, and they are also evaluating potential city codes updates associated with the framework.
- e. 2025 project and programs update
 - i. No additional items were stated.

4. City Programs and Projects (City Staff)

- a. Current priorities projects and programs
 - i. One project site on the city’s radar is the Ansel Glen Heritage Hills South Glen Pond Network, located at Normandale and 102nd Street. The site is a large system, not far from the river that includes a series of three different ponds. There are erosion concerns in the channel that connect the ponds and control structures that may need to be modified. While there is not a project scope, there is a great deal of potential for significant improvement.

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- b. Issues discussion – flooding issues or threats
 - i. No additional items were stated.
- c. Opportunities for City and LMRWD partnership
 - i. No additional items were stated.

5. Municipal and Individual Permits (Jenny)

- a. Increased level of collaboration and coordination
 - i. City staff stated progress in conveying essential requirements. Nonetheless, development-related impacts persist. To protect the bluff, the city staff stressed the need for a larger buffer zone, even if it might be unpopular.

6. Next Steps (Della)

- a. Generate and share meeting summary
 - i. Young Environmental will draft the meeting summary and send out via email.

Summary



PROJECT NAME: Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (LMRWD) Municipal Coordination – City of Burnsville

Date: Thursday, December 12, 2024
Start Time: 3:00 p.m.
End Time: 3:30 p.m.
Location: Virtual meeting using Teams

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

- To continue the established collaboration and information sharing framework
- To review recent and upcoming LMRWD and City projects and programs
- To assess resources and discuss opportunities for partnership

INVITEES: Logan Vlasaty, Walter Ehresmann, and Daryl Jacobson– City of Burnsville

HOSTS: ~~Linda Loomis – Naiad Consulting and Lower Minnesota River Watershed District~~
Della Schall Young and Jenny Mocol-Johnson – Young Environmental Consulting Group

AGENDA:

- 1. Welcome (Della)**
 - a. Linda will be retiring and the LMRWD is hoping to have a new administrator in place by June.
- 2. Agenda Overview (Della)**
 - a. Purpose and intent
 - i. Linda has worked hard to build partnership and collaboration. The focus of the annual meeting is to serve as a check-in to see how both the city and the LMRWD can support each other in the future.
- 3. General Collaboration Discussion (Della)**
 - a. Listening session
 - i. The listening session will be held on January 8th. Requests were sent out for communities and technical experts that could discuss how climate, funding, etc. are affecting the individual community and what support they would like from the LMRWD.
 - ii. The information provided will be used to build the next generation watershed management plan, as well as set up the 2025 legislative agenda. The district has a legislative liaison (firm) they work with to provide support.

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- b. Watershed management plan update
 - i. The LMRWD has had a full change in the board since the last watershed management plan update. The plan is set to expire in 2027. Because of the change in the board, the board decided to initiate the planning process early with internal evaluation and visioning. The external engagement component will follow.
- c. Best Management Practice (BMP) Management – effectiveness and agreements monitoring
 - i. Regarding monitoring and tracking the effectiveness of BMPs, the city tracks privately owned stormwater BMPs; however, they do not do any active inspections or proactive monitoring.
 - ii. Maintenance agreements have driven implementation forward, and while the city has focused on pond cleanouts, sediment removal on private ponds may be in the future.
 - iii. In the past, older ponds had issues with contaminated materials; however, this has not been noticed with newer ponds cleanouts.
- d. Chloride or other emerging concerns
 - i. Regarding chloride, the city has spent a great deal of money on equipment to automate operations and minimize the amount of salt used as a de-icing agent. They have focused on prewetting roads before a storm event.
 - ii. Related to monitoring, the city doesn't do any monitoring for chloride. However, the Black Dog Watershed Management Organization (WMO) is now testing five waterbodies as part of their strategy, and chloride is part of that testing.
- e. 2025 project and programs update
 - i. No additional information was provided.

4. City Programs and Projects (City Staff)

- a. Current priorities projects and programs
 - i. The city is not aware of projects within the LMRWD. The city mentioned the ravine restoration; however, there are a few items on hold because of the landfill (Kraemer Quarry) closure. Some of those items were expected to be coming to an end; however, the landfill just received a permit for expansion, and Kraemer received an expansion for the mining operation.
 - ii. The city may do ravine work. They had a consultant give a prioritized list, and they are reaching out to do another evaluation, with the selection process for projects in 2025.
 - iii. Regional projects involving the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) were mentioned to occur in 2025, including bridge replacements.
 - iv. The city is partnering with the University of Minnesota and local research

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board to study the effectiveness of sediment removal in ponds. They will be sampling ponds in Burnsville and a few other communities, then will complete the cleanout and return in a few years to measure the phosphorus levels.

- b. Issues discussion – flooding issues or threats
 - i. The city mentioned a flood control project that is in Black Dog WMO (on Highway 13 near Garden of Eden Cemetery).
- c. Opportunities for City and LMRWD partnership
 - i. No additional items were noted.

5. Individual Permits (Jenny)

- a. Discuss increased collaboration and coordination
 - i. In 2024, the LMRWD focused on increased communication and collaboration in the permitting process.
 - ii. The city mentioned that this year has seen a few crossover developments, where the city has done inspections and LMRWD did inspections with conflicting results. The conflict was resolved.

6. Municipal Permit Audit (Della)

- a. Timeline and process
 - i. As part of Rule A, the LMRWD will be completing an audit. While it is called an audit, it is an opportunity for the LMRWD and the City to learn from each other based on how the city is implementing requirements. The audit will occur in the second or third quarter of 2025.

7. Next Steps (Della)

- a. Generate and share meeting summary
 - i. Young Environmental will generate a summary of the meeting and provide via email.

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PROJECT NAME: Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (LMRWD) Municipal Coordination – City of Carver

Date: Thursday, December 19, 2024
Start Time: 3:00 p.m.
End Time: ~~3:30~~ 3:34 p.m.
Location: Virtual meeting using Teams

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

- To continue the established collaboration and information sharing framework
- To review recent and upcoming LMRWD and City projects and programs
- To assess resources and discuss opportunities for partnership

INVITEES: Brent Mareck, Aaron Schmidt, and Bob Bean– City of Carver

HOSTS: Linda Loomis – Naiad Consulting and Lower Minnesota River Watershed District
Della Schall Young and Jenny Mocol-Johnson – Young Environmental Consulting Group

AGENDA:

1. Welcome (Linda)

- i. The LMRWD Board is currently looking for Linda’s replacement. Linda will be retiring in 2025. The administrator position is currently open and listed on the website.

2. Agenda Overview (Della)

- a. Purpose and intent
 - i. The focus of the meeting is to maintain collaboration and continue those efforts that are successful and correct any item that is identified as needing improvement.

3. General Collaboration Discussion (Della)

- a. Listening session – [January 8, 2025 \(1-4pm\)](#)
 - i. The listening session is scheduled for January 8th. The LMRWD is using it to add items to the legislative agenda. The district has a legislative liaison (due to dredge management). The information provided will help formalize work in St Paul as they go to the legislature for funding. It is also an opportunity to hear from the cities on where they could receive support.
 - ii. City staff will verify they received information on the listening session.

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- b. Watershed management plan update
 - i. The LMRWD has had a full change in the board since the last watershed management plan update. The plan is set to expire in 2027. Because of the change in the board, the board decided to initiate the planning process early with internal evaluation and visioning. The external engagement component will follow.
- c. Best Management Practice (BMP) Management - effectiveness and agreements monitoring
 - i. Most of the work in the city is private, large-scale development projects. There are not very many small scale (one-off) projects. The city does all municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) inspections for all development-related activities in the city.
 - ii. Developers are required to enter into maintenance agreements that are recorded with the county.
 - iii. The city inspects BMPs every five years (2025 will be the first year), with inspections occurring on years 0 and 5.
 - The city is conducting a private BMP inventory (existing private BMPs).
 - They are also in the process of analyzing ponds. They completed bathymetric surveys.
- d. Chloride or other emerging concerns
 - i. Regarding chloride management, the city is going through normal winter procedures (pre-soaking, using brine, etc.). City staff have completed training, and they are starting to explore more creative ways to reduce the chloride footprint. They have invested in salt distribution rate technology in the large plow trucks.
- e. 2025 project and programs update
 - i. There are not a lot of major projects in the area. LMRWD mentioned the watershed management plan (Technical Advisory Committee [TAC] will be involved beginning in 2026 and 2027), and the Spring Creek project is nearing completion. The city mentioned a desire to establish a process to do pre-construction meetings.

4. City Programs and Projects (City Staff)

- a. Current priorities projects and programs
 - i. The city is focused on efforts related to the floodwall (see item b., below).
- b. Carver Levee (certification)
 - i. Currently the city is working on the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) and receiving detailed feedback from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) regarding floodwall construction. The city is expecting a

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series of meetings, with a heavier lift in 2025.

- ii. The project is expected to cost \$8.5 million, and they are currently looking for \$3.5 million in state and federal funds. Overall, the city considers themselves fortunate to have senators out and able to see issues firsthand. That has put them in a better position to receive federal support from senators.

c. Issues discussion - flooding issues or threats

- i. No additional items were noted or discussed.

d. Opportunities for City and LMRWD partnership

- i. The city recently received a message from a property owner regarding damage. A claim was placed. The city wanted to inform LMRWD in case they received a message from the League of Minnesota Cities.
- ii. The city also expressed potential interest in the Water Resources Restoration Fund money.

5. Municipal and Individual Permits (Jenny)

a. Increased level of collaboration and coordination

- i. LMRWD and the city will continue to work on increased communication regarding projects.

6. Audit (Della)

a. Timeline and process

- i. Carver completed the initial audit exercise. The LMRWD will be following up to evaluate how things are going and to see how previously identified items are being addressed.
- ii. A timeline will be sent out, the city will be within the first quarter of 2025 (February/March). Staff were in touch in January with more specifics.

7. Next Steps (Della)

a. Generate and share meeting summary

- i. Young Environmental will draft the meeting summary and send out via email.
- ii. The city requested additional information related to the timing of the floodplain modeling project as they are concerned about the potential impact of the project on the levee project underway. Young Environmental is gathering feedback and will respond to all municipalities.

Summary



PROJECT NAME: Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (LMRWD) Municipal Coordination – City of Chanhassen

Date: Thursday, December 19, 2024
Start Time: 2:00 p.m.
End Time: 2:39 p.m.
Location: Virtual meeting using Teams

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

- To continue the established collaboration and information sharing framework
- To review recent and upcoming LMRWD and City projects and programs
- To assess resources and discuss opportunities for partnership

INVITEES: ~~Joe Seidl~~ and Charles Howley–City of Chanhassen

HOSTS: Linda Loomis – Naiad Consulting and Lower Minnesota River Watershed District
Della Young and Jenny Mocol-Johnson – Young Environmental Consulting Group

AGENDA:

1. Welcome (Linda)

- i. The LMRWD is currently searching for a new administrator. Linda is hoping to retire sometime in 2025. The job description is currently on the website.

2. Agenda Overview (Della)

a. Purpose and intent

- i. The focus of the meeting is to maintain collaboration, discuss potential opportunities, talk about current projects, and identify potential areas for improvement.

3. General Collaboration Discussion (Della)

a. Listening session– [January 8, 2025](#) (1-4pm)

- i. The listening session is scheduled for January 8th. This is an opportunity for cities to share challenges and discuss anything that may be done in partnership. The information provided will be used to (1) inform the Watershed Management Plan update, which is slated to begin internally in 2025, and (2) inform the legislative agenda pursued through the legislative liaison. Unlike other watershed management organizations, the district's responsibilities include maintaining and disposing of materials dredged from

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the Minnesota River by the US Army Corps of Engineers. Because this benefits the entire state of Minnesota, the representatives of the LMRWD spend time at the legislature. The listening session is an opportunity to hear from the cities on where they could receive support.

- b. Watershed Management Plan update
 - i. LMRWD is starting the Watershed Management Plan update process. The process will begin in early 2025 with internal visioning. Partners can expect the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to come together in 2026.
- c. Best Management Practice (BMP) Management – effectiveness and agreements monitoring
 - i. The city has the framework for monitoring and inspecting BMPs. The city requires maintenance agreements and makes sure they get recorded with the county.
 - ii. When it comes to monitoring private BMPs, the city annually requires property owners to fill out a checklist and do inspections. The city is not considering asking private owners to determine the effectiveness of the BMPs as they would have to hire an engineer and that would be incredibly burdensome.
- d. Chloride or other emerging concerns
 - i. The City of Chanhassen Public Works evaluates the amount of salt they use throughout the season. While city staff do not have the data, they believe the city is in the lower half to lower third of communities in pounds per mile of application.
 - ii. The city does not conduct their own chloride monitoring. They rely on the watershed staff to conduct monitoring.
 - iii. The city provides training to operators to make sure they understand the expectations, rules, and regulations.
- e. 2025 project and programs update
 - i. The LMRWD priorities previously highlighted are the listening session as well as the Watershed Management Plan update.

4. City Programs and Projects (City Staff)

- a. Current priorities projects and programs
 - i. The land that is in the district is primarily bluff area along Highway 61. There are no developments proposed, and the area does not have sewer and water. As far as city development is concerned, there is not a lot planned in the district. The only concern city staff have is the erodibility of bluffs. The LMRWD is looking to collaborate with the city on high-priority gully projects. The district staff will share specific projects with the city to assess their interest and whether the projects are a priority or not.

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- ii. City staff previously received the Gully Inventory.
- b. Issues discussion – flooding issues or threats
 - i. No items were mentioned or discussed.
- c. Opportunities for City and LMRWD partnership
 - i. No items were mentioned or discussed.

5. Municipal and Individual Permits (Jenny)

- a. Status of Local Government Unit (LGU) permit decision
 - i. No changes were mentioned. The LMRWD requested a letter be sent from the city stating they would like the LMRWD to retain permitting authority. Linda will provide an example for their consideration.
- b. Increased level of collaboration and coordination
 - i. The city and LMRWD will continue to collaborate and communicate regarding permits and provide status updates as appropriate.

6. Next Steps (Della)

- a. Generate and share meeting summary
 - i. Young Environmental will draft and distribute the meeting summary via email.
 - ii. Linda will provide an example requesting the LMRWD retain permitting authority letter.

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PROJECT NAME: Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (LMRWD) Municipal Coordination – City of Chaska

Date: Tuesday, December 10, 2024
Start Time: 3:00 p.m.
End Time: 3:27 p.m.
Location: Virtual meeting using Teams

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

- To continue the established collaboration and information sharing framework
- To review recent and upcoming LMRWD and City projects and programs
- To assess resources and discuss opportunities for partnership

INVITEES: Brent Alcott, Matt Clark, [Brian Jung](#), and Alex Moellenkamp– City of Chaska

HOSTS: Linda Loomis – Naiad Consulting and Lower Minnesota River Watershed District
Della Schall Young and Jenny Mocol-Johnson – Young Environmental Consulting Group

AGENDA:

- 1. Welcome** (Linda)
 - a. [Linda announced her retirement and the district’s search process for her replacement.](#)
- 2. Agenda Overview** (Della)
 - a. Purpose and intent
 - i. [The focus of the meeting is to maintain collaboration and continue those efforts that are successful and correct any items that are identified as needing improvement.](#)
- 3. General Collaboration Discussion** (Della)
 - a. Listening session
 - i. [The listening session is scheduled for January 8th. The LMRWD is looking to hear about challenges \(flooding, water and natural resources management, etc.\) and where the city could use assistance. This information will be used to help formalize work in St. Paul as the district has a legislative liaison.](#)
 - ii. [Looking for information related to how the fluctuations in the river impact communities.](#)
 - iii. [City staff discussed the possibility of providing a resolution of support.](#)

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- b. Watershed management plan update
 - i. LMRWD is starting the watershed management plan update process. Because the board is new since the last plan development, they will first focus on crafting their vision for the next ten years.
- c. Best management practice (BMP) Management – effectiveness and agreements monitoring
 - i. Regarding inspections, the Public Works department does the inspections. The private side is relatively new since requiring maintenance agreements. The city changed standards to match the LMRWD requirements and Carver County Water Management Organization (WMO). Because the process is new, they do not know how effective private maintenance is going.
 - ii. The maintenance of older legacy projects is continuing to be challenging.
- d. Chloride or other emerging concerns
 - i. The Public Works Department is doing a good job. The following items were mentioned:
 - Completed equipment upgrades.
 - Held annual plow operators meeting.
 - Promoted understanding of salt usage in terms of purchased and remaining.
 - Worked with Carver WMO to provide education to businesses.
 - ii. The city does not track lane miles, and it is their goal to stay out of the need for a chloride total maximum daily load (TMDL).
- e. 2025 project and programs update
 - i. The focus of the LMRWD is the listening session and hearing from partners.

4. City Programs and Projects (City Staff)

- a. Current priorities projects and programs
 - i. The city is working on Seminary Fen projects (C2 Ravine) and looking at the fen itself and the Fen Stewardship Plan. They are examining a potential project slated for 2025 and examining a path forward for their next high priority projects.
- b. Issues discussion – flooding issues or threats
 - i. No additional items were noted.
- c. Opportunities for City and LMRWD partnership
 - Projects identified in Table 6-1 for 2025 include: Seminary Fen Ravine C-3 Study and Restoration, Other Creek and Ravine Restoration Opportunities,

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Wetland Restoration/Enhancement Opportunities, Un/Undertreated Stormwater Retrofits

- No additional items were noted or discussed.

5. Municipal and Individual Permits (Jenny)

- i. Discuss increased collaboration and coordination
- b. No issues or concerns were raised with the existing level of coordination and collaboration.

6. Next Steps (Della)

- a. Generate and share meeting summary
 - i. Young Environmental will draft the meeting summary and send out via email.
 - ii. The LMRWD will follow up with Brent regarding providing a resolution of support.

Summary



PROJECT NAME: Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (LMRWD) Municipal Coordination – City of Eagan

Date: Wednesday, December 18, 2024
Start Time: 1:00 p.m.
End Time: ~~4:30~~ 1:41 p.m.
Location: Virtual meeting using Teams

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

- To continue the established collaboration and information sharing framework
- To review recent and upcoming LMRWD and City projects and programs
- To assess resources and discuss opportunities for partnership

INVITEES: Jenna Olson, Brian Leyendecker, and Gregg Thompson– City of Eagan

HOSTS: Linda Loomis – Naiad Consulting and Lower Minnesota River Watershed District
Della Schall Young and Jenny Mocol-Johnson – Young Environmental Consulting Group

AGENDA:

1. **Welcome** (Linda)
 - a. The LMRWD Board is currently looking for Linda’s replacement as she will be retiring sometime in 2025.
2. **Agenda Overview** (Della)
 - a. Purpose and intent
 - i. The focus of the meeting is to maintain collaboration and continue those efforts that are successful and correct any items that are identified as needing improvement or having the potential to be improved.
3. **General Collaboration Discussion** (Della)
 - a. Listening session – [January 8, 2025 \(1-4pm\)](#)
 - i. The listening session is scheduled for January 8th. The LMRWD is interested in hearing about challenges. The district has a legislative liaison that speaks on their behalf. If the city is looking for funding or assistance from the legislature the district is happy to assist. The LMRWD would appreciate any submittal. Any information will also be helpful and will focus and inform the watershed management plan update, which will be kicking off early in 2025.
 - b. Watershed management plan update

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- i. The plan update will begin in early 2025 and will begin with visioning and an introspective review. It is important to start early as the LMRWD has a new board since the previous planning process.
- c. Best Management Practice (BMP) Management - effectiveness and agreements monitoring
 - i. The city uses maintenance agreements on all private practices. The agreements get recorded and the practices are inspected annually. If adjustments are needed, the city communicates with owners. Overall, the city evaluates effectiveness and structural integrity, both of which are necessary for the municipal separate storm sewer (MS4) permit and the total maximum daily load (TMDL).
- d. Chloride or other emerging concerns
 - i. The city is currently working on smart salting. Staff are certified at Level 1, and there are efforts to move to Level 2. The city does track salt use, and street maintenance is pushing for more liquid/brine as opposed to relying on typical road salt. The city would appreciate continued communication because chloride is daunting (a public safety concern), and difficult to get out of water once it's there. Any information related to managing chloride or deicing is appreciated.
 - ii. Due to the city's aeration efforts, they have two lake buoys equipped with instruments to measure connectivity. They also periodically collect samples to monitor chloride levels.
 - iii. The other emerging concern is perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in fish tissue. In partnership with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MnDNR), the city has done fish population surveys and submitted fish tissue samples for PFAS analysis. The results are pending.
 - iv. The final item relates to work with the railroad. Communication has proven difficult. One area of assistance would be for the LMRWD to help facilitate the line of communication or maintain contact. That would be very beneficial for the city.
- e. 2025 project and programs update
 - i. The LMRWD will continue the Fen Stewardship Program in 2025.

4. City Programs and Projects (City Staff)

- a. Current priorities projects and programs
 - i. There are not a lot of things occurring on the northwest side of Highway 13. One item mentioned (related to private development), was the Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) building being redeveloped into an offshoot of 3M.
 - ii. Every so often, the city hears from the Metropolitan Council (Met Council) related to the water sewage plant. They are focused on redoing the parking lot.
 - iii. One area of assistance is coordination with the railroad. There is a great deal

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of crossing of stormwater underneath railroad tracks (metal pipes, cast iron pipes, etc.). Staff from Dakota County have tried to reach out to the railroads (related to trail development for the Phase 2 area). The city is unsure if Dakota County has been able to make contact, as historically they have not had any success.

- iv. The city does not have any public projects planned in 2025 for the LMRWD side of Highway 13.
- v. Regarding the Watershed Resources Restoration Fund, the city sends information to Young Environmental. The LMRWD will follow up if there's an agreement or resolution and next steps.

b. Issues discussion – flooding issues or threats

- i. The city is continuing efforts related to hydrologic and hydraulic (H&H) modeling.

c. Opportunities for City and LMRWD partnership

- i. Coordinating with the railroad is the main area of focus.

5. Municipal and Individual Permits (Jenny)

a. Increased level of collaboration and coordination

- i. While there is not a lot of activity, the city mentioned that when they do coordination with the LMRWD it is always positive, and staff are very responsive.

6. Next Steps (Della)

a. Generate and share meeting summary

- i. A request was made to share items for the listening session. If the city would like the LMRWD to be a convener or assist with regulatory challenges that should be mentioned.
- ii. The meeting summary will be drafted and provided to the group.

Summary



PROJECT NAME: Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (LMRWD) Municipal Coordination – City of Eden Prairie

Date: Thursday, December 12, 2024
Start Time: ~~4:00~~ 1:08 p.m.
End Time: 1:30 p.m.
Location: Virtual meeting using Teams

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

- To continue the established collaboration and information sharing framework
- To review recent and upcoming LMRWD and City projects and programs
- To assess resources and discuss opportunities for partnership

INVITEES: Patrick Sejkora and Lori Haak – City of Eden Prairie

HOSTS: ~~Linda Loomis – Naiad Consulting and Lower Minnesota River Watershed District~~
Della Young and Jenny Mocol-Johnson – Young Environmental Consulting Group

AGENDA:

1. **Welcome** (Della)
 - a. Linda will be retiring and the LMRWD is advertising for a new administrator and hopes to have someone in place by June 2025.
2. **Agenda Overview** (Della)
 - a. Purpose and intent
 - i. The focus of the meeting is to maintain collaboration and continue those efforts that are successful and correct any items that are identified as needing improvement.
3. **General Collaboration Discussion** (Della)
 - a. Area 3 Project Update
 - i. In process of attaining land transfer. Status of the following items are as follows:
 - Cultural work is completed.
 - Cultural report was sent to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
 - Legal survey documents need to be signed/recorded (pending/hold up).
 - b. Listening session

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- i. The listening session is scheduled for January 8th from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Wildlife Refuge in Bloomington. LMRWD is requesting input, which will inform both the watershed management plan update, and the legislative agenda. The information provided can be both positive (what is working), and challenges or issues (ex. slope failures, etc.). Regardless, input is desired.
- c. Watershed management plan update
 - i. LMRWD is starting the watershed management plan update process. Because the board is a new board since the previous plan development, this process will begin with visioning focused around the future.
- d. Best Management Practice (BMP) Management – effectiveness and agreements monitoring
 - i. City staff stated that private BMPs are an area where they do have issues.
 - ii. With projects, it is important to have a maintenance agreement. Examples were provided of sites greater than one acre (which have an associated process), as well two lot subdivisions (parking lot reconstructions), that do not have formal processes.
 - iii. The city now has a process describing who is responsible, and the agreement is recorded. The agreement has appendices that include a checklist so annual inspections and expectations are clear and in plain English for developers and permittees.
 - iv. Because the process is in its infancy, success is yet to be determined. Most developments that have signed are currently holding onto land assurance permits, so the process has not been seen fully. City staff stated it is reassuring to know they are better prepared when issues do arise.
- e. Chloride or other emerging concerns
 - i. As related to chloride, the city is working with Bolton and Menk on low salt design.
 - ii. The city conducted a two-hour training session attended by 17 staff members from five of the six departments.
 - iii. The city is incrementally implementing principles to reduce chloride by reducing future salt-able surfaces. They are improving their design and implementation.
 - iv. The city is remodeling the western part of the city center (facility for police department). They applied for the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Chloride Reduction Grant because they wanted to implement practices prior to requiring others to do so.
 - v. Within the course of the winter season there are roughly 50-60 melt events, so the city is trying to place snow piles in places where they do not melt and run back on hard surfaces. While they cannot eliminate salt from the toolbox, they are working to become smarter when and how to use it. This

Summary

includes keeping up with the technology and analyzing low salt design.

- f. 2025 project and programs update

4. City Programs and Projects (City Staff)

- a. Current priorities projects and programs
 - i. Within the city, the Lower Minnesota River floodplain is highly regulated, meaning there are not a lot of developable spaces. They have not seen issues.
 - ii. Although not in the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District, the city has partnered with Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District (RPBCWD) to do detailed subwatershed-based modeling to examine the creeks, lakes, ponds, and roadway intersections. This effort includes assigning various scores and prioritizing.
 - iii. Riverview Road is still included within the city Capital Improvement Project (CIP) list, with the goal of 2027 construction.
 - iv. Del Road is slated for construction in 2025 or 2026. Currently doing the pre-work and coordinating with Marshall Farms.
- b. Issues discussion – flooding issues or threats
 - i. No issues were identified; however, the city did state they did not know if flooding issues existed within the ponds.
- c. Opportunities for City and LMRWD partnership
 - i. The city mentioned one potential partnership may include exploring data/modeling partnerships (much like in RPBCWD).

5. Municipal and Individual Permits (Jenny)

- a. Any interest in obtaining a Municipal Local Government Unit (LGU) Permit?
 - i. The city staff responded: no. City staff did request a list (summary) of Eden Prairie projects.
- b. Increased level of collaboration and coordination
 - i. No issues or concerns were raised with the existing level of coordination and collaboration. Staff stated they thought things were going well.

6. Next Steps (Della)

- a. Generate and share meeting summary
 - i. Young Environmental will generate a summary of the meeting, as well a copy of existing permits from this past year and provide both via email.

Summary



PROJECT NAME: LMRWD Municipal Coordination – City of Lilydale

Date: Thursday, January 9th, 2024
Start Time: 2:00 p.m.
End Time: ~~2:30~~ 2:43 p.m.
Location: Virtual meeting using Teams

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

- To continue the established collaboration and information sharing framework
- To review recent and upcoming LMRWD and City projects and programs
- To assess resources and discuss opportunities for partnership

INVITEES: Jen Koehler ~~and Mary Schultz~~ – City of Lilydale

HOSTS: Linda Loomis – Naiad Consulting and Lower Minnesota River Watershed District
Della Schall Young and Jenny Mocol-Johnson – Young Environmental Consulting Group

AGENDA:

- 1. Welcome** (Linda)
 - a. The LMRWD Board is currently looking for Linda's replacement. Linda plans to retire in 2025. A transition plan will be developed once a new administrator is hired. Linda will provide assistance to whomever the board selects.
- 2. Agenda Overview** (Della)
 - a. The focus of the meeting is to maintain collaboration, discuss projects the LMRWD is working on, learn about the projects the city is working on, and discuss additional opportunities for partnership.
- 3. General Collaboration Discussion** (Della)
 - a. Watershed management plan update
 - i. The LMRWD is starting the watershed management plan update process early. Because the board is a new board since the previous planning process, the LMRWD wants to do an internal look and discuss vision. This will set the foundation going into the planning process.
 - b. Best Management Practice (BMP) Management - effectiveness and agreements monitoring
 - i. The city area within the district is mostly bluff. Other land use discussed include single-family homes or multi-family developments with homeowner associations (or HOAs).

Summary

- c. Chloride or other emerging concerns
 - i. The City Administrator sends out two-three newsletters a year related to smart salting, pet waste, etc. Information is shared with the residents. In terms of training, the city only has one staff person (Mary) who is trained. The City of Lilydale also owns one segment of roadway, which Mendota Heights maintains for the city. There isn't any publicly owned right-of-way in the city's jurisdiction.
- d. 2025 project and programs update
 - i. No projects are identified. If high priority gullies are identified at any point, the city will be kept in the loop, especially if there are any feasibility studies developed.

4. City Programs and Projects (City Staff)

- a. Current priorities projects and programs
 - i. In August 2023, the city adopted a new ordinance. As part of the ordinance and Surface water Management Plan, new discharges are prohibited at the edge of bluffs. The city has also drafted a Bluff Runoff Management Plan. The ordinance will require the HOAs to address existing discharge at the bluff face and have safe conveyance. They will have until the end of 2045 to plan for and implement appropriate practices.
 - ii. City staff have identified four-five potential projects, totaling 3-5 million dollars. One project discussed is located at the Big River Regional Trail. This project will require safe transportation of water into existing drainage systems (and then the river). City staff have talked with state legislature about bonding. Staff will develop a project overview document for partners that will include talking points (description, cost, etc.) and a template to give support to the project. The city is interested in letters of support to build momentum.
- b. Issues discussion - flooding issues or threats
 - i. No additional items were noted.
- c. Opportunities for City and LMRWD partnership
 - i. The city is interested in letters of support related to their potential future projects.

5. Audit (Della)

- a. Have you permitted any projects within the district?
 - i. No. There is nothing to audit.
- b. Proposed timeline and process
 - i. N/A

6. Next Steps (Della)

Summary

- a. Generate and share meeting summary
 - i. Young Environmental will develop a meeting summary and share with meeting participants.

Summary



PROJECT NAME: LMRWD Municipal Coordination – City of Mendota

Date: Tuesday, January 14th, 2024
Start Time: 3:30 p.m.
End Time: ~~4:00~~ 3:53 p.m.
Location: Virtual meeting using Teams

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

- To continue the established collaboration and information sharing framework
- To review recent and upcoming LMRWD and City projects and programs
- To assess resources and discuss opportunities for partnership

INVITEES: Kathy Krotter– City of Mendota

HOSTS: Linda Loomis – Naiad Consulting and Lower Minnesota River Watershed District
Della Schall Young and Jenny Mocol-Johnson – Young Environmental Consulting Group

AGENDA:

1. **Welcome** (Linda)
 - a. Linda is planning her retirement. The board is currently looking for a new administrator. The information is posted on the LMRWD website.
2. **Agenda Overview** (Della)
 - a. Purpose and intent
 - i. Once a year, the LMRWD meets with municipalities. The purpose is to talk through projects, 2025 priorities, and discuss various opportunities for collaboration.
3. **General Collaboration Discussion** (Della)
 - a. 2025 project and programs update (Watershed management plan update)
 - i. The LMRWD is initiating the watershed management plan update process. Because the board is new since the previous plan development, the update process is kicking off early to give the board an opportunity to evaluate the vision and determine if adjustments or revisions are needed. Once this is completed, municipalities will be involved throughout the update process.
 - b. Best Management Practice (BMP) Management - effectiveness and agreements monitoring
 - i. The city of Mendota has one holding pond, which is currently dry. When it is not dry, the community uses it for boot hockey. Pond maintenance

Summary

activities include making sure nothing is going into the pond that shouldn't be there. Overall, the city monitors the pond, and it is found to be clean in the spring.

- c. Chloride or other emerging concerns
 - i. Comments were not provided.

4. City Programs and Projects (City Staff)

- a. Current priorities projects and programs
 - i. The city's first apartment building is currently under construction. Community feedback has indicated a preference for minimal development.
 - ii. LMRWD has identified a small area on the Met Council map that does not have watershed coverage. This information will be further evaluated and provided to the communities impacted as statute requires watershed district or watershed management organization coverage in the Twin Cities Metropolitan area.
- b. Issues discussion – flooding issues or threats
 - i. No further items were discussed. The LMRWD is encompassed within a small area of the City of Mendota.

5. Next Steps (Della)

- a. Generate and share meeting summary
 - i. Young Environmental will draft a meeting summary and provide it to all meeting participants.
 - ii. An additional action item identified from the meeting was to verify that Kathy Krotter was included on the list to receive the application for the LMRWD watershed restoration fund.

Summary



PROJECT NAME: LMRWD Municipal Coordination – City of Mendota Heights

Date: Tuesday, January 14, 2024
Start Time: 1:00 p.m.
End Time: ~~1:30~~ 1:24 p.m.
Location: Virtual meeting using Teams

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

- To continue the established collaboration and information sharing framework
- To review recent and upcoming LMRWD and City projects and programs
- To assess resources and discuss opportunities for partnership

INVITEES: Ryan Ruzek and Krista Spreiter – City of Mendota Heights

HOSTS: Linda Loomis – Naiad Consulting and Lower Minnesota River Watershed District
Della Schall Young and Jenny Mocol-Johnson – Young Environmental Consulting Group

AGENDA:

1. **Welcome** (Linda)
 - a. Linda announced her retirement, which will occur sometime in 2025. The board is currently looking for a new administrator. The announcement and description are located on the LMRWD website. The managers are doing a Question & Answer (Q&A) session. The role is critical in working with partners and collaborating.
2. **Agenda Overview** (Della)
 - a. Purpose and intent
 - i. Once a year the LMRWD meets with municipalities. The purpose is to talk about projects, annual priorities, and discuss various opportunities for collaboration. The meetings are critical in helping LMRWD understand what partners are focusing on and what is most important.
3. **General Collaboration Discussion** (Della)
 - a. 2025 project and programs update (Watershed management plan update)
 - i. The LMRWD is starting the watershed management plan update process early. Because the board is new since the last plan development, they will first focus on crafting their vision for the next ten years.
 - ii. Because of the district's responsibility to manage dredge material, the LMRWD has a legislative liaison. The liaison is at the capitol often, so if the city of Mendota Heights has items that align with the goals/vision of the

Summary

LMRWD, they are happy to advocate on their behalf.

- b. Best Management Practice (BMP) Management - effectiveness and agreements monitoring
 - i. The City of Mendota Heights requires maintenance agreements for private property owners that install BMPs. The city abides by the requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. There are no BMPs that require inspections within the LMRWD boundaries.
 - ii. As required by permit conditions, all BMPs within the city are inspected to meet Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) requirements.
- c. Chloride or other emerging concerns
 - i. Related to chloride, the city adopted a new ordinance for new uses. There is a snow removal policy and implementation plan in place. All salt applicators do annual or 3-year training. All staff keep up training. The city is still in the process of receiving a brine/pre-wetting system. Trucks were ordered 2.5 years ago and the city is still waiting. When received, the city will have top-of-the-line equipment. After that, it is just focusing on internal best management practices. The city does not track salt usage as it is weather dependent.

4. City Programs and Projects (City Staff)

- a. Current priorities projects and programs
 - i. There are not many priority items or projects within the district boundaries of the city. The city identified the following:
 - MnDOT beaver pond project.
 - Attended the Fen Workshop (by LMRWD).
 - MnDOT is looking to turn back old Sibley Memorial Highway to the city; however, there are current drainage and erosion issues near the bluff. The city is requesting stabilization as part of the turnback, which may take several years.
 - ii. The LMRWD mentioned there is a potential area of land not covered by a watershed district or watershed management organization. State statute requires coverage within the entirety of the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. The LMRWD will keep the city informed of any findings or updates.
- b. Issues discussion – flooding issues or threats
 - i. No additional items were noted. The city stated they did not identify anything for the water restoration fund.

5. Next Steps (Della)

- a. Generate and share meeting summary

Summary

- i. Young Environmental will draft a meeting summary and provide it to all meeting participants.

Summary



PROJECT NAME: Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (LMRWD) Municipal Coordination – City of Savage

Date: Wednesday, December 18, 2024
Start Time: 2:00 p.m.
End Time: ~~2:30~~ 2:58 p.m.
Location: Virtual meeting using Teams

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

- To continue the established collaboration and information sharing framework
- To review recent and upcoming LMRWD and City projects and programs
- To assess resources and discuss opportunities for partnership

INVITEES: Seng Thongvanh and Jesse Carlson – City of Savage

HOSTS: Linda Loomis – Naiad Consulting and Lower Minnesota River Watershed District
Della Schall Young and Jenny Mocol-Johnson – Young Environmental Consulting Group

AGENDA:

1. Welcome (Linda)

- i. Linda announced she plans to retire in 2025. The LMRWD board announced they are looking for a replacement, and the information is posted to the district website. The board is hoping for a large variety of applicants.
- ii. Linda provided a summary of the previous board meeting. The conversation included the topic of board reapportionment, as well adjustment of the LMRWD boundary/termination. While requests were made to delay hiring an administrator, this was decided against as the process of determining potential options for the LMRWD could take up to three years.

2. Agenda Overview (Della)

- a. Purpose and intent
 - i. The focus of the meeting is to maintain collaboration and continue those efforts that are successful and correct any items that are identified as needing improvement.

3. General Collaboration Discussion (Della)

- a. Listening session – [January 8, 2025 \(1-4pm\)](#)

Summary

- i. The listening session is scheduled for January 8th. The LMRWD is looking to hear about challenges (flooding, water quality, etc.) and what the city feels the district should prioritize. The district has a legislative liaison (because of the dredge material management), so the liaison assists in getting support for whatever initiatives the cities would like to present at the legislature.
 - ii. The city mentioned that they have not submitted information yet; however they could provide information related to what they experienced last year with the flooding.
- b. Watershed management plan update
 - i. LMRWD is starting the watershed management plan update process. Because the board is a new board since the previous plan development, this process will begin a little earlier than normal and look at visioning for the future.
- c. Best Management Practice (BMP) Management - effectiveness and agreements monitoring
 - i. The city has stormwater facilities maintenance agreements with newer developments, which get signed, executed, and finally recorded with Scott County. This agreement requires the applicant to provide documentation. The city currently does not receive reports once a year, which needs to be improved upon.
 - ii. Per permit requirements, the city inspects 20% of BMPs each year per the municipal separate storm sewer (MS4) permit requirement. Previously, inspections were more random but are now scheduled, sequenced, and paired with the plowing districts. If the city identifies non-compliance, documentation is sent out stating what needs to be fixed. Both public and private systems are inspected by the city and non-compliance issues are tracked.
- d. Chloride or other emerging concerns
 - i. The Public Works Department is the leading entity related to chloride management. They purchased new equipment designed to salt with a liquid consistency. The change in equipment also changed operations related to pre-wetting. Staff are Level 1-Certified in terms of understanding which chloride techniques to use. Reducing salt is an ongoing conversation with the city. Since 2015, the Credit River has seen downward trends in chloride levels, so the city is hoping that trend continues.
 - ii. The city is part of the Scott County Water Education Program (SCWEP). SCWEP puts out educational information specific to chloride. The city has used this information and provided it to various businesses, city hall, and the library.
- e. 2025 project and programs update
 - i. As mentioned, the watershed management plan update is kicking off in 2025. This is an opportunity for the board to consider how they want to

Summary

prioritize. Any identified issues will assist in understanding the focus of the district's partners.

4. City Programs and Projects (City Staff)

- a. Current priorities projects and programs
 - i. The 2024 flooding had significant impact on the city. While no buildings were impacted, areas were shut down near 123rd Street, as well as 124th Street and Wyoming Avenue. The areas further east had redevelopment and therefore were not impacted to the same extent. When areas get redeveloped, the goal is to redirect water into ponds, so the city does not have to babysit pumps. During the flooding events, the ports were shut down.
 - ii. The city is looking for conveyance systems to redesign so there are no restrictions that affect the floodway. In 2019, a 1D model was completed, and recommendations from the work were to complete a 2D model. This is an area where the city and watershed could potentially coordinate. The city is focused on seeing if anything can be done to increase capacity.
 - iii. City staff identified a memo from Barr, which summarizes the recommendations. This will be provided to the LMRWD along with a cover letter describing the desire to collaborate.
- b. Issues discussion – flooding issues or threats
 - i. Comments related to flooding and potential partnership opportunities are in item a (above).
- c. Opportunities for City and LMRWD partnership
 - i. Comments related to flooding and potential partnership opportunities are in item a (above).

5. Municipal and Individual Permits (Jenny)

- a. Status of official control update and Local Government Unit (LGU) permit application
 - i. This item is in process. The city hired HKGi to rewrite the zoning code. This process kicked off January 2024. The Water Resources Manager for the City will follow up with the HKGi Project Manager to determine the timeline. The city stated to expect it in 2025.
- b. Increased level of collaboration and coordination
 - i. The LMRWD will continue to focus on collaboration and coordination with the city partners.

6. Next Steps (Della)

- a. Generate and share meeting summary
 - i. The LMRWD will email a copy of the meeting summary.

Summary



PROJECT NAME: Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (LMRWD) Municipal Coordination – City of Shakopee

Date: Thursday, December 12, 2024
Start Time: 2:00 p.m.
End Time: 2:30 p.m.
Location: Virtual meeting using Teams

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

- To continue the established collaboration and information sharing framework
- To review recent and upcoming LMRWD and City projects and programs
- To assess resources and discuss opportunities for partnership

INVITEES: Kirby Templin, and Alex Jordan– City of Shakopee

HOSTS: ~~Linda Loomis – Naiad Consulting and Lower Minnesota River Watershed District~~
Della Schall Young and Jenny Mocol-Johnson – Young Environmental Consulting Group

AGENDA:

1. **Welcome** (Della)
 - a. Linda will be retiring and the LMRWD is hoping to have a new administrator in place by June 2025.
 - b. At the December LMRWD Board meeting, one of the county commissioners suggested examining the governance structure to consider all of Scott County being a part of the Scott Watershed Management Organization (WMO). The meeting was recorded and can be requested.
2. **Agenda Overview** (Della)
 - a. Purpose and intent
 - i. The focus of the meeting is to maintain collaboration and continue those efforts that are successful and correct any items that are identified as needing improvement.
3. **General Collaboration Discussion** (Della)
 - a. Listening session
 - i. The listening session will take place on January 8th and will be streaming as well. City staff submitted items. The items that come from the session are expected to inform both the watershed management plan update, and the legislative agenda.

Summary

- b. Watershed management plan update
 - i. The LMRWD will be kicking off the new year with planning. There is also an interest in considering what partners would like to see moving forward.
- c. Best Management Practices (BMP) Management – effectiveness and agreements monitoring
 - i. For all new private BMPs the city enters into a utility/facility easement. The city is then able to complete inspections and if there is a need for maintenance, this would also give the ability to do maintenance and bill back. These agreements are in place for new construction; however, legacy items are more challenging to track down.
 - ii. Currently the city does not have private BMPs inspections scheduled. It is not a current municipal separate storm sewer (MS4) requirement, so it has not been implemented as a proactive step.
- d. Chloride or other emerging concerns
 - i. The city has implemented a few BMPs to help with chloride reduction over the past few years, including:
 - Implemented a brine-making system.
 - Expanded storage tanks.
 - Fitted newer plow equipment with pre-wetting systems for efficiency of applying salt.
 - Used smart scale on loaders to do a better job tracking the amount of salt going into vehicles.
 - Used shaker cans so there is not a large concentrated application.
 - Used weather systems and sensors throughout the city to help with monitoring/forecasting and better targeting when to send out operations.
- e. 2025 project and programs update
 - i. No additional items noted.

4. City Programs and Projects (City Staff)

- a. Current priorities projects and programs
 - i. Minnesota Riverbank Restoration and Huber Park Improvements
 - Regarding the riverbank stabilization project, the city will continue to engage at different points along the design process and as they move toward permitting.
 - The city could use additional funds for the project as it was hard to cost out the scope before the project started. The cost of the stabilization (rock) includes funding from both state and federal

Summary

partners; however, additional partnership would assist in bridging the financial gap.

- Funds were earmarked last year; however, verification is needed to know whether the agreement was sent for regular funds.

b. Issues discussion – flooding issues or threats

- i. The Boiling Springs drainage issue project is submitted, and triggers erosion control as it's located in a high value resource area (HVRA). The review was put on hold until the rights to the property were finalized.

c. Opportunities for City and LMRWD partnership

- i. Young Environmental will be sending out the Water Resources Restoration Fund Application in Quarter 1.

5. Municipal and Individual Permits (Jenny)

a. Discuss increased collaboration and coordination

- i. City staff stated there is no concern with the current level of communication/collaboration with the permitting program.

6. Next Steps (Della)

a. Generate and share meeting summary

- i. Meeting summary will be sent out via email.
- ii. The following action items were determined:
 - Young Environmental to coordinate the LMRWD Administrator to attain the appropriate agreements for funds.
 - City of Shakopee staff will determine whether project funds are needed.
 - Young Environmental will send a copy of the previous year's restoration fund documentation (prior to Quarter 1), so there is an understanding of content/expectations.
 - Young Environmental will discuss the Louis Street Parking lot project with LMRWD Administrator to determine if the LMRWD would be interested in funding the maintenance cost of cleaning out chambers.
 - LMRWD will provide a copy of the board meeting recording to city staff.

Summary



PROJECT NAME: LMRWD Municipal Coordination – Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC)

Date: Wednesday, January 15th, 2024
Start Time: 1:00 p.m.
End Time: 1:30 p.m.
Location: Virtual meeting using Teams

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

- To continue the established collaboration and information sharing framework
- To review recent and upcoming LMRWD and MAC projects and programs
- To assess resources and discuss opportunities for partnership

INVITEES: Marisa Trapp, and Shona Mosites– MAC
Brian Swanson and Mat Knutson– Terracon

HOSTS: Linda Loomis – Naiad Consulting and Lower Minnesota River Watershed District
Della Schall Young and Jenny Mocol-Johnson – Young Environmental Consulting Group

AGENDA:

1. Welcome (Linda)

- a. Linda announced her retirement, and the board is actively searching for her replacement. There is a position description on the website, and applications are due at the end of January. The board is expecting to have a new administrator by April, and Linda will support that person before offboarding.

2. Agenda Overview (Della)

- a. Purpose and intent
 - i. Once a year, the LMRWD meets with municipalities. The purpose is to talk through projects, 2025 priorities, and discuss various opportunities for collaboration.

3. General Collaboration Discussion (Della)

- a. 2025 project and programs update (Watershed management plan update)
 - i. The LMRWD is initiating the watershed management plan update process. Because the board is new since the previous plan development, the focus in 2025 is an introspective look at the district. The managers will do vision exercises. Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) members will be brought in to inform strategies, goals, and objectives.

Summary

- ii. Additional items of focus are the fen stewardship program and gully assessments. The assessments will evaluate areas of severe erosion and determine a process for fixing the concerned areas.
- b. Best Management Practice (BMP) Management - effectiveness and agreements monitoring
 - i. At the highest level, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) stormwater permit dictates how MAC manages the stormwater ponds, including sampling and effluent limits. The MAC recently acquired a local government unit (LGU) permit from the LMRWD. Part of the permit involves updating standards and shoring up Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) construction and inspection processes.
 - ii. The pond that receives water from I-494 and Cedar Avenue is a Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) pond. The pond is part of the National Cemetery property and MnDOT is responsible for maintenance of the pond.
 - iii. Regarding monitoring effectiveness, the MAC does a great deal of sampling, and the data gathered provides information on whether the pond is effective in keeping total suspended solids (TSS) out. On an annual basis, the MAC does pond maintenance and the systems are maintained frequently. MAC removes woody vegetation on a frequent basis and there is quite a bit of effort to maintain the pond and its functionality.
- c. Chloride or other emerging concerns
 - i. Historically chloride is not a huge issue as salt isn't used much at the Minneapolis-Saint Paul International Airport (MSP) because of the corrosion. Although they do receive some salt exposure from Highway 5, the vast majority of drainage acres do not have a typical chloride profile.
 - ii. The LMRWD mentioned that one of their board members was at the airport and noted a liquid dropping down. MAC staff stated they would evaluate and provide a response after the formal question is received.

4. Programs and Projects (MAC Staff)

- a. Current priorities projects and programs
 - i. MAC had a very busy year with a lot of projects. One more significant project was a pavement replacement. Every year there is some pavement replacement occurring. G concourse is also being expanded (this will be replacing impervious surface with impervious surface). They are also continuing a runway reconstruction that occurred in 2024.
 - ii. Related to water quality, MAC is cleaning out Pond 3. They are also adding a lift station by ponds one and two. The glycol lift station is intended to improve recovery and efficiency.
- b. Issues discussion – flooding issues or threats
 - i. Near the St. Paul airport, the MAC faces reoccurring flooding almost every

Summary

year. They continually manage the same flooding issues each year.

5. Municipal and Individual Permits (Jenny)

- a. Communication and instruction during submission/revision process
 - i. MAC stated that overall, the permitting process went smoothly. The Environmental Council reviewed the permit and requested clarification to better match the airport. The outstanding item is related to permit language. The LMRWD will check with legal counsel to provide comments.

6. Audit (Della)

- a. Timeline and process
 - i. The purpose of the audit is to do a check-in to see how the MAC is integrating new items, verify how changes are made, and see how things are working out. This effort is a partnership. The MAC will receive communication information in late summer 2025.

7. Next Steps (Della)

- a. Generate and share meeting summary
 - i. Young Environmental will provide a meeting summary.
 - ii. Pending actions:
 - LMRWD to send a message to MAC requesting a response for the liquid discharge mentioned by the board president.
 - MAC will respond to the manager's question related to liquid substance at the airport.
 - Young Environmental will send communication related to the audit process.
 - Young Environmental will check in with legal counsel and provide a response to MAC related to permit language.