

Administration	Description	Update	Partners
Accounting, Audit & Budget		 Staff Bakkum and Staff Monahan compiled the monthly treasurer's report. Administrator Jeffery, Staff Bakkum, and Staff Monahan continue to provide Abdo with preliminary deliverables to begin the 2023 audit. They have set an internal deadline of April 12th to provide all materials. All 2022 state grants have had their final reports and request for reimbursement submitted by Administrator Jeffery. Payment is pending. Administrator Jeffery has scheduled the 2024 Watershed Based Implementation Funding (WBIF) convene meeting with the partner LGUs for April 4, 2024. Administrator Jeffery and Engineer Sobiech have begun identifying grant opportunities and gathering the necessary information to apply. As a result of on-going litigation, there are several grant opportunities that, with the delayed acquisition of the Spring Rd property, the District will be unable to capitalize upon. Administrator Jeffery and Staff Maxwell are applying for a Surface Water Assessment Grant (SWAG) to acquire monitoring equipment for the Riley Creek WOMP station at Flying Cloud Rd. Administrator Jeffery and Engineer Sobiech are applying for a Water Quality and Storage Grant to be applied to the wetland restoration portion of the Upper Bluff Creek Ecological Enhancement project. 	
Administration	Administrator activities	Administrator Jeffery has continued to devote significant time to the lawsuit and the negotiations for the Spring Rd property.	
Annual Report & Communication	Compile, finalize and submit an annual report to agencies.	An updated draft of the Annual Report including appendices have been sent to managers for review.	
DEI	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	Staff Mahon attended the March meeting of the Watershed Equity Alliance (formerly called the Watershed Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Access (DEIA) Workgroup). Belinda Armstead with CRWD gave a presentation on their CAC Reinvigoration Project.	

Human Resources	General Human Resources	 The District received over 30 applications for the Data Collections Technician position. Interviews have occurred and two candidates have accepted the positions. The District has received six applications for the regulatory intern position. Four have been selected to be interviewed the week of May 1st with an offer to be tendered May 8th or 9th. Staff Bakkum went to part-time hourly as of 2/15/24 so she can concentrate on her law degree. She has still been able to work with Dylan to perform all duties. There is no need for additional staff at this time but this will be revisited in the future. 	
Internal Policies	Work with Governance Committee and Personnel Committee to review bylaws and manuals as necessary.	The governance committee met March 15 th and have finalized the recommended changes to the Governance Manual. These will be brought to the BOM at their April workshop to be adopted at their May regular meeting Minutes of this meeting are provided within the regular meeting packet.	
Advisory	 Engage with the Technical Advisory Committee on water conservation, chloride management and emerging topics. Engage with the Citizen Advisory Committee on water conservation, annual budget, and emerging topics. 	The CAC held a regular meeting on Mar. 18 in person at the district office.; Staff Maxwell and Hartmann gave a presentation on the 2023 water resources monitoring report. Minutes will be provided as part of the board packet. The next regular meeting of the CAC will be April 15.	
Local SWMP	Review of member cities local surface water management plan.	Bloomington2018-2027Chanhassen2016-2025Chaska2015-2024Deephaven2015-2024Eden Prairie2021-2030Minnetonka2020-2029Shorewood2019-2028Minnetonka adopted their minor plan amendment.Chaska submitted a plan amendment for review. They are updating their H&H to include Atlas 14 and some of their rate control regulations. The plan still defers to the district for administration of their regulatory program.	

MN Watersheds (formerly MAWD)	Business and happenings of MN Watersheds	and was attended by four of the managers.		
District-Wide	Description	Update	Partners	
Regulatory Program	 Review regulatory program to maximize efficiency. Engage Technical Advisory Committee and Citizen Advisory Committee on possible rule changes. Implement a regulatory program. 	 Staff Portoghese developed a web map of permitting data . Visit rpbcwd.org/permits-map to access the permits map. Staff Nicklay is working with Staff Forbes to develop a mailing targeting landscape contractors in the metro with the aim of increasing awareness of permitting requirements and reducing the number of after-the-fact permits. Staff Nicklay and Administrator Jeffery have drafted an updated violation SOP with the aim of providing a clear and efficient path for enforcement of District regulations. This will be presented to Smith Partners for input prior to being brought to the BOM. 		
Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)	Review AIS monitoring program. Develop and implement Rapid Response Plan as appropriate. Coordinate with LGUs and keep stakeholders aware of AIS management activities. Manage and maintain the aeration system on Rice Marsh Lake. Riley Chain of Lakes Carp Management. Purgatory Chain of Lakes Carp Management. Review AIS inspection program. Keep abreast of technology and research in AIS. Zebra mussel adult and veligermonitoring.	District staff applied for a Scientific Fisheries Permit through the MNDNR to allow for regular common carp monitoring and Purgatory Creek spring removals.	City of Chanhassen City of Eden Prairie University of Minnesota MN DNR Carver County	
Cost-Share	Schedule and coordinate site visits. Review applications and recommend implementation. Evaluate program.	 The Stewardship Grant program currently has 8 active projects with 6 new applications in review. 13 site visits have been or are scheduled to be completed since requests opened March 1st. The bulk of Stewardship Grant program duties has transitioned to Staff Mahon as part of her new role as Community Engagement Coordinator. Staff Forbes will remain involved in the program. 	Carver Soil & Water Conservation District	

		Staff continue to build content for the Stewardship Grant Program to support grantees and others. The newest addition is <u>Ecologically</u> <u>Friendly Maintenance for Native Plants</u> .	
Data Collection	Continue Data Collection at permanent sites. Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program. Identify monitoring sites to assessfuture project sites. Water Level Sensors. Lake and Stream Monitoring.	 Metropolitan Council (METC) - Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program (WOMP): Regular biweekly samples were collected this month, and one melting event sample occurred this month. Staff have fully taken over regular water quality sampling at the Riley Creek location. Staff are working on placing the correct equipment into the unit for continuous monitoring now that METC has turned over the station. Half of the lake level sensors were placed this month. Lake level sensors are checked monthly during the summer and record water level every 30 minutes. Due to ice conditions no regular sampling event occurred on the Purgatory Chain of Lakes and a series of stormwater ponds draining EP city center this month. Additional focused chloride samples were collected from the stormwater pond next to the office. Staff have summarized and QC data for the annual report and Riley Purg Bluff Creek Summit. A final draft is being reviewed which will incorporate managers' input before being released to BWSR. Staff have been working with City of Eden Prairie staff to coordinate 2023 alum application of Round Lake with Lotus Lake. Staff collected sediment cores for Round to calculate dosing rates. Staff have been coordinating data submittal and information requests for the delisting process for Rice Marsh Lake and Lake Riley from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Impaired waters list. Staff Portoghese has mapped all the score your shore data, most of which was collected this summer. This will be incorporated into the EHAP project and will be used for outreach to lakeshore owners. Staff are also working with the DNR who also collected score your shore data on a subset of lakes within the district. This will be used to compare both data sets. Discussion has occurred about the possibility of specific targeting of improving shorelines with the grant program. 	Metropolitan Council City of Eden Prairie University of MN City of Chanhassen MN DNR City of Minnetonka Three Rivers Park District

District Hydrology & Hydraulics Model	Coordinate maintenance of Hydrology and Hydraulics Model. Coordinate model update with LGUs if additional information is collected. Partner and implement with the City of Bloomington on Flood Evaluation and Water Quality Feasibility.	 Flood risk assessment mapping for Eden Prairie was completed and the GIS database is being updated accordingly. Updated maps will be placed on the district website. Administrator Jeffery and Engineer Sobiech will be meeting with representatives of the City of Chanhassen to discuss updating the model throughout Chanhassen, Shorewood, and Deephaven. This will complete the District's high resolution H&H model. Engineer Sobiech and Administrator Jeffery have begun discussing ways in which the model can be utilized for added benefit in project prioritization, issue identification, etc. 	City of Bloomington City of Minnetonka City of Eden Prairie City of Deephaven City of Shorewood
Education & Outreach	 Implement Education & Outreach Plan, review at year end. Manage partnership activities withother organizations. Coordinate Public Engagement with District projects. 	 Staff continue to update the district website as needed. Separate pages were built to house a searchable library of meeting minutes and finalized resolutions. Staff Bakkum continues to receive inquiries via the district website "Contact Us" form. Staff Forbes continues to upload open sessions of recorded board meetings to the <u>RPBCWD YouTube channel</u>. Staff Mahon continues to meet monthly with the 2 new RPBCWD stewards in this year's Minnesota Water Stewards program through Freshwater Society. Staff Mahon hosted a table at the Eden Prairie Home, Landscape & Garden Expo on March 9th. Staff Mahon and GreenCorps member Whittington brought the Envirscape activity to the Cedar Ridge Elementary School Family Fun Night on March 14th, where students were engaged in a hands-on activity above water pollution. A <u>new webpage</u> was created focused on providing info in one place for lake residents/lake associations. Staff hosted the Lake Association Summit on Mar. 21. Eight associations RSVPd; 12 people attended. Content included presentations by Administrator Jeffery, Staff Maxwell, and Staff Forbes and a Score-the-Shore activity. 	Adopt-a-drain partners: Cities of Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Bloomington, and Eden Prairie; Hamline University; Nine Mile Creek Watershed District; MPCA; Bolton & Menk Freshwater Society City of Chanhassen City of Minnetonka

		 Staff Mahon and Staff Dickhausen are working with GreenCorps Member Whittington to plan an April visit to St Hubert Catholic School's 2nd graders to lead activities surrounding trees, birds and insects, and storm drains. Staff Dickhausen, Staff Mahon and GreenCorps Member Whittington visited the Eden Lake Elementary School's 4th/5th grade Mosiac classes (Eden Prairie gifted/talented program). 48 students were engaged in activities surrounding soil profiles. Staff is planning activities for Creek Week 2024, planned for May 5- 11th. Activities include a garlic mustard pull volunteer event, a build your own rain barrel workshop, a watershed trivia night, Cycle the Creek, and a family-friendly pop-up event at Purgatory Creek Pavilion. A 'passport event' will also run for the entire month of May, a self-guided activity in which residents must visit 5 unique sites in natural areas within the District to win a prize pack. 	
Groundwater Conservation	 Work with other LGUs to monitor, assess, and identify gaps. Engage with the Technical Advisory Committee to identify potential projects. Develop a water conservation program (look at Woodbury model). 	A kick-off meeting will be held in mid-April.	Metropolitan Council City of Eden Prairie City of Shorewood City of Bloomington City of Minnetonka City of Chanhassen
Lake Vegetation Management	 Work with the University of Minnesota or Aquatic Plant Biologist, Cities of Chanhassen and Eden Prairie, lake associations, and residents as well as the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources on potential treatments. Implement herbicide treatment as needed. Secure DNR permits and contracts with herbicide applicators. Schedule regularly scheduled point intercept surveys. 	Staff completed the process of applying for herbicide treatments for 2024 this month. Staff received \$13450 in MN DNR AIS Control Grants for treatment on Lotus, Mitchell, and Susan. Below is a list of potential treatments for 2024 and their probability of being needed:	City of Eden Prairie City of Chanhassen University of Minnesota MN DNR

	Work with Three Rivers Park District for				# of	Total	Avg		
	Hyland Lake.	Lake	Delineation	Herbicide	Areas	Acres	Depth	Liklihood	
		Mitchell	CLP	Flumioxazin	2@6.5	13	7.5	Yes	
		Susan	CLP	Flumioxazin	2@4.3	8.6			
		Red Rock	CLP	Flumioxazin	1	13	8.3	Yes	
		Riley	CLP	Diquat		20		Yes	
		Staring	CLP	Flumioxazin	2@10	20	4	Unknown	
		Duck	EWM	Procellacor	1	7		Yes	
		Lotus	EWM	Fluridone	whole	245	10.2	Yes	
		PCRA,	ept Surveys and Idlewild. chell, Red Rc	Eden Prairie	e is planı		•	-	
Opportunity	Assess potential projects as they are	Minnetonka	a is continuin	g the desigr	for that	reach o	f Purgat	ory Creek	City of Chanhassen
Projects	presented to the District		Purgatory Cr	eek Preserv	e for res	toration	. Fundin	g will be	St Hubert School
		provid	ed via WBIF.						Eden Prairie Public Schools
									City of Eden Prairie
Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)	Continue working with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency on the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS).	No changes	i						MPCA
Repair &	Develop and formalize grant program.	In a meetin	g with the Na	atural Resou	rces staf	f of vari	ous citie	s and	City of Eden Prairie
Maintenance Fund	Maintenance of RPBCWD BMPs	additior	ations, it was nal role in the rould be help	e operations			-		
University of Minnesota	 Review and monitor progress onUniversity of Minnesota grant. Support Dr. John Gulliver and Dr. Ray Newman research and coordinate with local partners. Keep the manager abreast to progress in the research. Identify next management steps. 	No update:	5.						Stormwater ponds partners: Cities of Bloomington, Chanhassen, Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Shorewood; U of MN

Watershed Plan	Review and identify needs for amendments.	 Administrator Jeffery, Engineer Sobiech, Staff Forbes, and Fred Rozumalski (Barr) are meeting bi-weekly to develop the Ecological Health Action Plan (EHAP). The joint BOM/CAC EHAP workshop was held on March 11. Slides from the presentation are available on <u>rpbcwd.org/EHAP</u>. Engineer Sobiech, Staff Maxwell, Joe Bischoff, and Administrator Jeffery met on January 4th to discuss modifying the lake management plan scope to take advantage of efficiencies that may be developed by identifying tasks that would be relatively universal across lakes. An updated scope will be brought back to the Board of Managers at their March or April meeting. 	
Wetland Conservation Act (WCA)	Administer WCA within the Cities of Shorewood and Deephaven. Represent the District on Technical Evaluation Panel throughout the District.	Administrator Jeffery and Staff Dickhausen are working with Chanhassen, DNR, Carver SWCD, and BWSR to address a wetland violation on Lake Lucy Lane in Chanhassen. A restoration order has been issued by the DNR and the landowner has retained the services of a professional wetland delineator and an engineer and environmental services company to design a restoration plan. The landowners' engineer hired to complete restoration plans has created a plan and the TEP has agreed that the scope of the preliminary plans will fulfill the requirements of the restoration order. They did advise that the landowners will need to secure the proper City and District Permits in order to complete the work. They have since submitted the plan to the District for review. The current deadline to complete the work is May 1, 2024.The Chanhassen TEP meet on March 18 to discuss the updates surrounding this restoration project.	City of Shorewood City of Deephaven City of Chanhassen City of Eden Prairie MCWD BWSR MN DNR A COE
Wetland Management	Assess known existing wetlands, identify previously unknown wetlands, identify wetlands for potential restoration/ rehabilitation and wetlands requiring additional protection.	Staff Dickhausen is done with this season's wetland assessments. He carried out QA/QC assessments in the southeast part of Eden Prairie and Bloomington. He will continue QA/QC work next season, as well as update vegetation assessments with FQA in parts of Chanhassen where these types of assessments were not previously conducted. Administrator Jeffery and Staff Dickhausen continue updating the MNRAM Access database. Numerous requests for MNRAM scores continue to be made by municipalities and private developers. Any changes in District management classifications for the wetlands (based on QA/QC work and updates due to applications and delineation work done within the District) will be reflected in	City of Chanhassen City of Eden Prairie Hennepin County Carver County MN DNR BWSR USFWS

		the future Annual reports.	
Bluff Creek Watershed	Description	Update	Partners
Bluff Creek Tributary Restoration	Implement and finalize restoration. Monitor Project.	Annual maintenance of vegetation establish continues. CRAS scores significantly improved from pre to post restoration signaling the restoration is successful (Previous Tier 1 Score = 22; Post Tier 1 Score = 10).	City of Chanhassen
Bluff Creek Reaches B5 and B6	Develop Feasibility Study regarding potential creek and wetland restoration.	 The Board of Managers approved the Barr task order to begin design, public engagement, and bid package development for this project at their December 2023 regular meeting. A site survey for the Bluff Creek Headwaters Ecological Enhancement Project will begin in February. Notifications were sent to property owners in late January. 	
Wetland Restoration at Pioneer Tr and MN TH 101	Remove 3 properties from flood zone, restore a minimum 7 acres and as many as 16 acres of wetlands, connect public with resources, reduction of volume, rate, pollution loads to Bluff Creek.	Administrator Jeffery has submitted the final report for payment of the balance of the grant.	City of Chanhassen MN DNR Carver County
Riley Creek Watershed	Description	Update	Partners
Lake Riley Alum Treatment	Continue monitoring of Lake.	Staff started the process of delisting the Lake as it meets all the nutrient criteria.	
Lake Susan Park Pond	Complete final site stabilization andspring start up. Finalize and implement E & O for project. Monitor project.	 A pre-construction meeting was held with Peterson Contracting and Chanhassen Parks and Recreation Staff. Engineer Sobiech is working with WaterTronics on the SCADA system licensure and installation. The City of Chanhassen is bringing the cooperative agreement to their council for review and approval. Administrator Jeffery will be presenting to the Chanhassen Parks and Recreation Committee in April or May to discuss the project and garner support. 	City of Chanhassen Clean Water Legacy Amendment
Lake Susan Spent Lime	2022 startup and monitoring	District and Barr staff collected wetland sediment cores and additional sediment form the cattail areas around the wetland to the	City of Chanhassen

		southwest of Lake Susan (spent lime unit treats). This is to confirm that the wetland is a nutrient loader and give us some data to start to discuss viable solutions to treat the wetlands runoff before it gets to Lake Susan. Samples were submitted to the University of Wisconsin-Stout for processing. Early results indicate the sediment release rates are extremely high.	
Lower Riley Creek Stabilization	Coordinate agreement and acquire easements if needed for the restoration of Lower Riley Creek reach D3 and E. Implement Project. Continue Public Engagement for project and develop signage for restoration.	 A final inspection occurred in the lower valley and the project is closed out. CRAS scores significantly improved from pre to post restoration signaling the restoration is successful (Previous Tier 1 Score = 26; Post Tier 1 Score = 14). 	City of Eden Prairie Lower MN River Watershed District
Rice Marsh Lake Alum Treatment	Continue monitoring of Lake. Prepare for second dose.	Staff have started the process of delisting RML from the impaired waters list for nutrients as it meets all the criteria. Depending upon budgeting considerations, 2025 is the projected 2 nd dose. Likely the lake could be delisted for nutrients in 2024.	City of Eden Prairie City of Chanhassen
Rice Marsh Lake Watershed Load Project 1	Install proprietary BMPs. Install soil corrections and plant areas in native vegetation for long-term study of impact on soil health and runoff parameters. Install curb-cut rain garden.	The 2024 maintenance schedule was provided.	City of Chanhassen
Upper Riley Creek	 Work with city to develop scope of work (in addition to stabilizing the creek can we mitigate climate change). Conduct feasibility. Develop cooperative agreement with the City of Chanhassen. Order project and begin design. 	 The draft cooperative agreement has been drafted by Smith Partners and has been presented to the City for consideration and discussion. Design continues. No updates. A mailing was sent to property owners on Jan. 24 requesting a meeting with Administrator Jeffery to discuss property access and a maintenance easement to construct the Upper Riley Ecological Enhancement Project. Administrator Jeffery has met with three of the property owners to discuss right of entry agreement and has had email correspondence with one other. One landowner remains to be contacted. Information about the project may be found on the project webpage. 	City of Chanhassen
St Hubert Water Quality Project	Repair eroded ravine tributary to RML.	Administrator Jeffery has submitted the final report to BWSR and a request for payment.	CCSWCD

	Install BMPs to provide water quality and quantity benefits for site. Develop curriculum to be used with teachers and students at St. Hubert. Establish native vegetation and monitor soil development, water quality/quantity benefits, and ecological changes.	Minger Construction will be retaining the services of a new vegetation subcontractor to complete the requisite maintenance.	Metropolitan Council City of Chanhassen
Purgatory Creek Watershed	Description	Update	Partners
PCRA Berm		No changes	City of Eden Prairie MN DNR
Lotus Lake Internal Load Control	Continue monitoring the Lake. Plan second alum application.	Barr will be presenting findings and dosing recommendations at 3/13/24 meeting.	
Silver Lake Restoration	Order project. Design Project. Work with the City of Chanhassen for design, cooperative agreement, and implementation.	Prairie Restoration has performed vegetative maintenance including treatment of garlic mustard on the site but outside of the grading area to prevent it from migrating further.	City of Chanhassen
Lotus Lake Watershed Water Quality Improvement Project	Feasibility Study/Preliminary Engineering Report Issue Identification	Administrator Jeffery, Engineer Sobiech, Counsel Welch, and Project Engineer Keeler met to discuss project scope, regulatory program implications, regional credit, and term sheet development for the project.	City of Chanhassen
	Partnership Opportunities and CIP Alignment		