

NORTH CANNON RIVER



WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING

Wednesday, April 20, 2022

7:00 pm

GREENVALE TOWN HALL

31800 Guam Ave, Northfield, MN 55057

1. Call to Order

* Indicates that support materials are included within the packet

2. Approval of Agenda

3. Audience

Anyone in the audience wishing to address the Board regarding an item that is not on the agenda may come forward at this time.

4. Consent Agenda

4.1 January 19, 2022 Meeting Minutes*

4.2 Invoices for Payment*

4.3 Year-to-Date Financial Summary*

5. New Business

5.1 NCRWMO Watershed Plan Update

5.2 Watershed Based Funding BWSR Grant FY 22-23 Project List*

5.3 Metropolitan Council Priority Waters List Information*

5.4 County Agricultural Chemical Reduction Effort Update*

5.5 SWCD Programs Updates

6. Agenda Items and Location for July 20, 2022 Tour and Meeting

7. Member Community Reports

8. Adjournment

NORTH CANNON RIVER



WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

DRAFT MINUTES

BOARD OF MANAGERS

January 19, 2022

7:00 p.m.

Eureka Townhall

NCRWMO Managers Present:

Jeff Reed	Douglas Township
Frank Wergin	Waterford Township
Greg Langer	Greenvale Township
Dan Peine	Hampton Township
Don Dinesen	Randolph Township
Nancy Sauber	Eureka Township

Others Present:

Ashley Gallagher, Dakota County SWCD Staff
Jayne Hager Dee, Dakota County SWCD Board
Melissa King, Board of Water & Soil Resources
Paul Marston, ISG
Maureen Hoffman, Metropolitan Council (Virtual)

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Langer called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Sauber, second by Reed to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

3. Election of Officers

Open nominations for Chair. Nomination for Sandy Weber. **Motion** by Reed, second by Sauber to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Sandy Weber for Chair. Motion carried.

Open nominations for Vice Chair. Nomination for Jeff Reed. **Motion** by Langer, second by Wergin to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Jeff Reed for Vice Chair. Motion carried.

Open nominations for Treasurer/Secretary. Nomination for Frank Wergin. **Motion** by Reed, second by Sauber to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Frank Wergin for Treasurer/Secretary. Motion carried.

4. Audience

Langer asked if there was anyone in the audience that wished to address the Board on an item that is not on the agenda. No one appeared.

5. Consent Agenda

Motion by Wergin, second by Langer to remove financials from consent agenda. Motion carried.

5.1 July 21, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Sauber, second by Wergin to approve the minutes with the four corrections as noted. Motion carried.

5.2 Invoices for Payment

Wergin presented invoices for payment. Invoices total more than funds available in checking and savings. SWCD has agreed to hold the regular invoices but process the WBF grant invoices. This will allow for the second disbursement of the WBF grant from BWSR to be disbursed to NCRWMO. BWSR disburses grants in a 50% payment then the next 40% once the initial money

is all spent and finally 10% upon grant completion and final reporting. **Motion** by Langer, second by Reed to approve invoices as presented. Motion carried.

5.3 Year-to-Date Financial Summary

Summaries were included in the meeting packet. There is a summary for the WBF grant from BWSR, a summary of funds (local dues) and a year-end balance sheet. Wergin provided updated balances based upon the approved invoices. **Motion** by Sauber, second by Peine to approve the year-end financial summaries. Motion carried.

6. New Business

6.1 NCRWMO Watershed Plan Update

6.1.1 Planning kick-off presentation and public comment opportunity

Gallagher provided a presentation on the engagement process and outcomes. There were no comments. There was a clarifying question on the priority resources ranking and the implementation ranking. Lake Byllesby remains number one, however when getting to the activities part of the plan, implementation may occur most in Chub Creek Watershed in order to see change in Lake Byllesby. The committees recognized the NCRWMO only has small portion of contributing land, which emphasis need for continued partnerships on a full Cannon watershed scale.

6.1.2 Review and approve priority issues, concerns, and resources

ISG prepared a memo for the Board that includes priorities as was presented by Gallagher. **Motion** by Langer, second by Wergin to approve the priorities as presented in the memo. Motion carried.

6.2 Performance Review and Assessment Program (PRAP) Report Comments

The Board saw the full PRAP report at the October NCRWMO Board meeting. NCRWMO has the opportunity to respond to BWSR's report. Gallagher prepared a response based upon comments at the October meeting. Action items are required while recommendations are not. Everything will be addressed at some point. **Motion** by Reed, second by Langer to submit the PRAP response letter as presented to BWSR. Motion carried.

6.3 Convene Process for Watershed Based Funding BWSR Grant

NCRWMO has now participated in the pilot round of Metro WBF, the first round and is preparing for the FY22-23 round of WBF funding. The money is available to those with eligible plans, which for this metro planning area currently includes NCRWMO and County Groundwater Plan, could even use Cannon CWMP. Last round of funding Board delegated voting authority to the Administrator. **Motion** by Peine, second by Langer to delegate the decision-making representative as the Administrator for the convene process. Motion carried.

6.4 Landscaping for Clean Water Summary

Information update that NCRWMO and the other WMOs in Dakota County continue to support the SWCD Landscaping for Clean Water program (LCW). LCW provides education and funding for smaller scale raingardens, native plantings, and shoreline restorations. There were two projects within the NCRWMO watershed this year.

6.5 Wetland Health Evaluation Program (WHEP) Joint Powers Agreement

NCRWMO has sponsor a WHEP team since 2017. This is an agreement to ensure that Dakota County implements WHEP and payment is made by NCRWMO when invoiced. The WHEP program allows for the WMO to gather data but is also an important program for involving volunteers and increasing knowledge of the watershed. **Motion** by Langer, second by Wergin to approve the JPA with Dakota County for WHEP. Motion carried.

6.6 Draft 2021 Annual Report

Gallagher presented the Draft 2021 Annual Report. It is a required document that must be submitted to BWSR. It is due at the end of April; however if the Board is comfortable approving now it can be submitted and distributed to members. Hager Dee commented that members should try to distribute through their networks. Sauber commented on spelling of Eureka in the table. **Motion** by Peine, second by Reed to approve the report as presented. Motion carried.

7. **Agenda Items and Location for April 20, 2022 Meeting**
Greenvale Township will host next meeting pending scheduling check.
8. **Member Community Reports**
Townships have upcoming elections.
9. **Adjournment - Motion** by Peine, second by Sauber to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.



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Mankato, MN 56001
507-387-6651

www.ISGInc.com

North Cannon River WMO
4100 220th Street West
Suite 102
Farmington, MN 55024

Invoice Number 79706
Date 02/28/2022

Project 21-25618 North Cannon
River WMO Mgmt Plan - Farmington,
MN

Progress billing for professional services provided through date of invoice

Description	Contract Amount	Prior Billed	Current Billed
Task 1: Gaps Analysis	\$2,620.00	\$2,620.00	
Task 2: Stakeholder Engagement	\$3,718.00	\$3,718.00	
Task 3: Issue Prioritization	\$3,538.00	\$3,538.00	
Task 4: Goals, Strategies, Policies	\$7,308.00		\$5,460.00
Task 5: Plan Prep + Review	\$14,928.00		
Reimbursables			
	\$32,112.00	\$9,876.00	\$5,460.00

Invoice Amount \$5,460.00

*Payment Terms: Net 30 days from invoice date. Thank you.
Past due balances are subject to late fees in the amount of 1.5% per month.
If you have a question regarding your invoice, please e-mail ar@ISGInc.com*



**Dakota County Soil & Water
Conservation District**

**4100 220th Street West, Ste 102
651-480-7777
Farmington, MN 55024**

Invoice

DATE	INVOICE #
4/1/2022	3182

BILL TO

North Cannon River WMO WBF Grant
Frank Wergin, Treasurer
30468 Canada Avenue
Northfield, MN 55057

Reference

TERMS

ITEM CODE	DESCRIPTION	HOURS	RATE	AMOUNT
	FY19 Watershed Based Funding Grant Tasks October 3, 2021 to December 31, 2021			
NCR WMO 19	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE: Square Deal Dairy Water and Sediment Control Basins (115.50 Hours)		10,318.71	10,318.71
NCR WMO 19	Recognize NCR WMO Technical Assistance		-250.00	-250.00
	(115.50 Hours at Billable Rate)			
Thank you.			Total	\$10,068.71

North Cannon River Watershed Management Organization

January 1, 2022 to April 1, 2022

Watershed Based Funding Grant

WBF Grant	2018 Activity	2019 Activity	2020 Activity	2021 Activity	2022 1st Qtr	2022 2nd Qtr	2022 3rd Qtr	2022 4th Qtr	Final Entries	Annual Total	Cumulative Total	Budget
Grant Funds Received	\$68,260.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$54,608.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$54,608.00	\$122,868.00	\$136,520.00
<u>Expenses</u>												
Grant Administration	\$88.31	\$246.95	\$449.44	\$1,914.24	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,698.94	\$5,726.00
Project Development	\$0.00	\$475.26	\$1,082.04	\$13,521.33	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,078.63	\$14,785.00
Agricultural Practices												
Not-Structural Practices	\$0.00	\$38,325.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$38,325.00	\$38,325.00
Structural Practices	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30,375.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30,375.00	\$34,014.00
Technical Engineering	\$0.00	\$2,396.80	\$0.00	\$10,816.67	\$10,068.71	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,068.71	\$23,282.18	\$13,020.00
Subwatershed Analysis	\$465.90	\$3,432.74	\$2,531.48	\$16,221.01	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$22,651.13	\$23,650.00
Drainage Water Management	\$294.35	\$313.25	\$446.22	\$2,075.66	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,129.48	\$7,000.00
Drainage Water Management Exp	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$28.56</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	\$28.56	<u>\$0.00</u>
Total Expenses:	\$848.56	\$45,190.00	\$4,509.18	\$74,952.47	\$10,068.71	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,068.71	\$135,568.92	\$136,520.00
Grant Balance:	<u>\$67,411.44</u>	<u>\$22,221.44</u>	<u>\$17,712.26</u>	<u>-\$57,240.21</u>	<u>\$62,251.55</u>	<u>\$62,251.55</u>	<u>\$62,251.55</u>	<u>\$62,251.55</u>	<u>\$62,251.55</u>		<u>-\$12,700.92</u>	

North Cannon River Watershed Management Organization

January 1, 2022 to April 1, 2022

Revenue and Expense Summary

General Fund	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Final Entries	Annual Total	2022 Budget
<u>Revenues</u>							
Member Allocations	\$40,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
Interest - Savings Account	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Interest - CD	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$250.00</u>
Total Revenues:	\$40,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$40,000.00	\$40,300.00
<u>Expenses</u>							
Administrative Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,350.00
Administrative Services - WM Plan	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,800.00
Organizational Dues	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Advocacy, Education, Outreach	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,125.00
Education and Outreach GF	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,700.00
CS-Agricultural Projects	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$4,000.00
CS-Landscaping for Wtr Quality	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
Water Quality Monitoring	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,200.00
4th Generation WM Plan	\$5,460.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,460.00	\$25,000.00
5th Generation WM Plan	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Total Expenses:	\$5,710.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,710.00	\$70,175.00
Net Surplus / (-) Deficit	<u>\$34,290.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$34,290.00</u>	<u>-\$29,875.00</u>

Agenda Item 5.2

WBF BWSR Grant FY 22-23 Project List

Name of Project	eLink Category	Project Description	Water Resource	Grant Funds Requested (\$)	Proposed Measurable Outcome(s) of Project	Plan Reference
Administration	Administration/Coordination		NA	\$7,886.00	NA	NA
Technical and Engineering	Technical/Engineering Assistance		NA	\$72,000.00	NA	NA
Sediment Reduction Practices	Agricultural Practices	Target practices in completed SWAs. Outreach to top 25% projects in each SWA first. Practices include Grassed Waterways, WASCBS, Grade Stabilization Structures and vegetative practices.	Cannon	\$80,000.00	150 tons/yr reduction in sediment	NCRWMO Plan 5.1 Surface Water Quality 5. Provide grant match and cost share for water quality BMPs
Nitrate Reduction Practices	Agricultural Practices	Target practices in very high, high, high medium and medium vulnerability areas. Practices include cover crops and harvestable covers.	Groundwater	\$40,000.00	2,500 lbs/yr reduction in nitrate	County Groundwater Plan 1B1C- Provide cost-share funding through SWCD for agricultural water quality BMPs and AMTS.
Sub-watershed Analysis (SWA)	Planning and Assessment	Complete desktop analysis, field reconnaissance, cost-benefit ranking and a final report. This will be completed for two sub-watersheds.	Dutch Creek, Hazelwood Creek	\$30,000.00	2 completed SWAs with projects ranked by cost-benefit	NCRWMO Plan 5.1 Surface Water Quality 4. Participate in other water quality studies as needed
Chub Lake Adaptive Management Plan	Planning and Assessment	Develop a nutrient budget for the lake that will include ranked restoration and protection activities.	Chub Lake	\$20,000.00	1 Complete Plan with ranked activities	NCRWMO 5.1 Surface Water Quality 4. Participate in other water quality studies as needed
Irrigation Tools	Project Development	Increase use of irrigation scheduling tools and precision technology through outreach and technical assistance to farmers. Conduct field trials of technologies and tools. Provide services such as soil moisture sensor readings and assist with incorporating data into scheduling tools.	Cannon	\$15,000.00	Increase IMA users to 10 in the Cannon Watershed. Host at least 2 trials.	County Groundwater Plan Strategy 1B1-Reduce agricultural chemical contamination.
Targeted Outreach on Groundwater Practices	Project Development	One-on-one outreach as well as tailored messaging based upon audience, incorporate field days and start farmer-led group(s). Use GW maps to show priority locations and impacts.	Cannon	\$30,000.00	Provide personalized information to 30 farmers, host 2 field days and start 1 farmer group.	County Groundwater Plan 3A1A-Expand groundwater conservation and pollution prevention education and outreach efforts
Cannon CWMP Roles	Project Development	Assist with implementation of the Cannon CWMP through support of the Accelerated Implementation and Measures role.	Cannon	\$10,000.00	Keep PTMapp up-to-date, track projects, and assess CWMP goals.	Cannon CWMP - Internal Capacity 3.3.2-B-2 Establish a regular meeting schedule, for the lifespan of the Plan, of a working group comprised of members of the Cannon River 1W1P Policy and Advisory Committees, joined by County and SWCD staff, to track progress of the Plan, make modifications, discuss and identify alternative sources of funding for both staff and project resources, and assess effectiveness toward Plan implementation.
Total				\$304,886.00		
Allocation				\$304,886.00		

Metropolitan Council Priority Waters List

The Twin Cities seven-county metro area has more than 950 lakes and hundreds of miles of rivers and streams. The Metropolitan Council is establishing a Priority Waters List to help focus limited resources on sustainably managing these waterbodies. This new list builds on the success of our Priority Lakes List, created in 1982 and last updated in 2015, by adding rivers and streams.



The Priority Waters list is being developed to anticipate future needs: It will be a tool to help Met Council leaders and water resources staff effectively distribute resources and make decisions. This list is designed to be a useful tool for a variety of future projects. Some of the first uses of the list will be to:

- Guide how the Met Council allocates resources to monitor, assess, plan for, and improve the region's waterbodies.
- Provide a key lens for developing policies and activities to include in the 2050 Water Resources Policy Plan. It will inform how the Met Council can align with the priorities of local, regional, and state partners, and provide value for those partners.
- Offer insights to other organizations as they prioritize projects and spend their valued resources.

PRIORITY WATERS LIST APPROACH



Waterbodies included on the Priority Waters List have been determined to be regionally significant based on the benefits these waterbodies provide. The Met Council believes these are the most important waterbodies to protect and improve as the region continues to grow and change. This approach supports our mission to foster efficient and economic growth for a prosperous metropolitan region and the five outcomes from our most recent regional development guide, Thrive MSP 2040: stewardship, prosperity, equity, livability, and sustainability.

The Priority Waters List focuses on waterbodies deemed regionally significant based on their benefits. This was determined using regional scale datasets. Just because a waterbody is not on the Priority Waters List does not mean it does not have value. That waterbody may still be a priority for an individual city or local organization.

Metropolitan Council Priority Waters List

SCORING PROCESS

The waterbodies of the Twin Cities region were evaluated for the Priority Waters List using scores calculated in seven categories. While these categories do not represent all potential benefits of a waterbody, these categories had datasets available to produce a quantifiable score.

A waterbody qualifies for the Priority Waters List if it meets any of the following criteria:

1. Is a drinking water source.
2. Has a high **Recreation and Tourism** score, which is the ability of a waterbody to support visitors and different types of recreation on the water or on shore, such as swimming, boating, fishing, or walking along a trail.
3. Has a high **Healthy Habitat** score, which is the likelihood that a waterbody provides good habitat for native wildlife and vegetation to live and thrive.
4. Has a high well-rounded score, which is an average score of all seven categories:



Recreation and Tourism



Healthy Habitat



Drinking Water Protection: The likelihood that a waterbody may impact the quality of a regional drinking water source if degraded.



Tranquil Connection: An estimate of a waterbody's potential to provide a tranquil outdoor experience, free from distractions of human activity.



Equity: An estimate of a waterbody's accessibility to communities that may generally have more limited access to benefits waterbodies can provide.



Industry and Utility: The degree to which a waterbody provides or supports utility or economic benefits for the region.



Science and Education: The extent to which a waterbody supports use for scientific studies or environmental education.

HELP US SHAPE THE PRIORITY WATERS LIST

While the Priority Waters List has been created primarily as a Met Council internal tool, we are seeking feedback on the list from a wide swath of individuals in the region: water resources professionals, planners, engineers, elected officials, and engaged residents. Gathering this feedback from outside the Met Council will help ensure this list supports and reflects the values of the region.

A draft of the Priority Waters List is available for review on the Met Council's Priority Waters website at <https://metro council.org/Wastewater-Water/Projects/Priority-Waters-List.aspx>. The site also includes more information on project background, context, data, and methods, plus a form to provide feedback. Please feel free to review the content on the website and provide comments using the feedback form.

Questions?

Email Emily Resseger, project manager, at emily.resseger@metc.state.mn.us, or call her at 651-602-1033.





Agricultural Chemical Reduction Effort

Background

The **2020-2030 Dakota County Groundwater Plan** identified agricultural chemicals, especially nitrate, crop herbicides, and chloride as drinking water issues in rural Dakota County. The Agricultural Chemical Reduction Effort (ACRE) intends to reduce these chemicals in groundwater to levels that no longer pose health threats. ACRE focuses on agriculture, while other Groundwater Plan strategies will reduce groundwater pollution from non-agricultural sources.



Outreach

Starting in mid-2021, the County and its consultant, Environmental Initiative, began work with farmers, agricultural businesses, other rural residents, and local officials to develop strategies to reduce agricultural chemicals in groundwater. Outreach included:

- Questionnaire: property owners with 2+ acres, 304 responses received, nearly half from farmers
- Public Townhall: agriculture community
- Public Sector Meeting: city, township, and watershed organization representatives
- Presentations: one Watershed Management Organization and four Township Board meetings
- Technical Advisory Group: state and regional agencies
- Agriculture Advisory Group: three meetings with farmers and other agricultural professionals

What We Heard

Farmers recommended:

- **Agricultural practices:** that would be appealing with incentives
- **Incentive equity:** payments for maintaining helpful practices as well as for adopting new practices
- **Regulatory caution:** potential regulations must be thoughtfully tailored to maintain farming's economic and environmental sustainability

Draft Plan Strategies for Public Comment

The following strategies emerged from the outreach efforts:

- 1) Collect data for decision making, such as monitoring MN Department of Agriculture, County-owned, and private wells
- 2) Expand communications, outreach, and education; for example convene a permanent agricultural advisory group
- 3) Increase technical assistance for farmers exploring water quality practices
- 4) Expand financial incentives for farmers implementing water quality practices

Draft ACRE Plan strategies will focus on voluntary pollution reduction efforts. If voluntary efforts do not reduce pollution to safe levels, regulations may be considered in the future.

Next Steps

Draft strategies will be refined based on comments. A draft plan will be available for public review this summer.

The project website has a detailed public engagement report and the draft plan will be posted here.

Visit www.co.dakota.mn.us and search for ACRE.

Tell us your comments, concerns and ideas, send email to groundwater@co.dakota.mn.us.