

Technical Advisory Committee

April 10, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

- Andover
 - Dave Berkowitz, Director of Public Works
 - Kameron Kytonen, Natural Resources Technician
- Anoka Conservation District
 - Chris Lord, Administrator
- Anoka County Highways
 - Rebecca Haug, Environmental Project Manager
- Blaine
 - Megan Hedstrom, Water Resources Coordinator
- Coon Creek Watershed District
 - Tim Kelly, Administrator
 - Jon Janke, Director of Operations/Operations & Maintenance Coord.
 - Tyler Thompson, Field Operations Manager
 - Jessica Lindemyer, Engagement Coordinator
 - Erik Bye, Planning Coordinator
 - Justine Dauphinais, Water Quality Coordinator
 - Erin Margl, Watershed Development Coordinator
 - Abbey Lee, Watershed Development Manager
 - Eileen Weigel, Senior Water Resource Engineer (Stantec)
- Coon Rapids
 - Tim Himmer, Public Works Director
 - Mark Hansen, City Engineer
 - Olivia Dorow Hovland, Sustainability Planner
- Department of Transportation
 - Katie Kowalczyk, Water Resources Engineer
- Ham Lake
 - Dave Krugler, City Engineer (RFC)
- Fridley
 - Jim Kosluchar, City Engineer/Public Works Director

Absent: Board of Water and Soil Resources, Columbus, Spring Lake Park

1. Management Situation

Hydrology

Jon Janke provided the TAC with a brief update on recent weather and hydrology indicating that water levels across the District are normal for this time of year and road restrictions remain in place. The watershed is still under a Red Flag warning and we may start to see drought conditions develop.

Legislative Update

Tim Kelly summarized pertinent happenings at the state and federal levels indicating that most votes have been split along party lines. The District has been working with Senator Michael Kreun to draft language to help with permitting efficiency at the DNR and MPCA. Tim asked TAC members to share with him any examples they may have of issues related to permitting efficiency at these agencies. Mark Hansen offered to reach out to members of the American Public Works Association (APWA).

Rebecca Haug mentioned that the Minnesota Cities Stormwater Coalition (MCSC) is following a potential stormwater reuse bill. MCSC has concerns regarding the broad language in the bill that would essentially require the allowance of stormwater reuse for outdoor use.

2. Concerns

None.

3. Briefs

MS4 General Permit Coverage

Justine Dauphinais reminded the TAC that the deadline for renewal under the current MS4 permit is May 20th. There is still a chance that the new permit will be ready later this year.

Clean Water Council Funding Reductions & Future Implications

Tim Kelly discussed the potential implications of the error in the state general fund, stating that the Clean Water Council has \$6.8 million less available to spend than when the Council made its recommendations for FY 26-27. This error may result in significant funding reductions to the Clean Water Fund over the next 3-5 years.

FEMA Request for Comments

Erik Bye informed the TAC that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Review Council has published a request for comments regarding

experiences with FEMA during disasters. Information on how to submit comments is linked on the TAC Resource Webpage.

Tim Kelly noted that this request for comments underscores the uncertainty surrounding FEMA and the potential shift of responsibilities around disaster response back to the states.

Mark Hansen shared he expects to receive information from APWA on this topic at the spring conference and will share what he learns with the TAC.

4. Other Water Management Concerns

Anoka County Hazard Mitigation Plan

Tim Himmer inquired about the District's comments on the Anoka County Hazard Mitigation Plan, particularly if there are concerns regarding the designation of "drought" being a "low concern".

Erik Bye confirmed that the District commented on this designation.

LiDAR Update

Jon Janke reminded the TAC that they can request the latest LiDAR data from the County which includes both DEM and Point Cloud data. Jon noted that they are still waiting on the 1-foot contour data from the state. This data is expected to be available in September.

Dave Krugler noted that he had tried using the data for a small project and found that the sheer amount of data provided can be overwhelming and hard to work with. Jon Janke confirmed that it is the raw data from the LiDAR collection process and that it will likely require a fair amount of editing to be usable.

5. Announcements

None.

All handouts, materials, and presentations for this meeting can be found on the TAC Resource Webpage: <https://www.cooncreekwd.org/tac/>