

Technical Advisory Committee

September 10, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

- Andover
 - Dave Berkowitz, Director of Public Works/City Engineer
 - Jason Law, Assistant City Engineer
 - Kameron Kytonen, Natural Resources Technician
- Anoka County Highways
 - Rebecca Haug, Environmental Project Manager
- Blaine
 - Megan Hedstrom, Water Resources Coordinator
- Coon Creek Watershed District
 - Jon Janke, District Administrator
 - Erik Bye, Planning Coordinator
 - Erin Margl, Watershed Development Coordinator
 - Abbey Lee, Watershed Development Manager
 - Jessica Lindemyer, Engagement Coordinator
 - Justine Dauphinais, Water Quality Coordinator
 - Tyler Thompson, Operations and Maintenance Coordinator
- Coon Rapids
 - Brooke Schultz, Water Resource Specialist
- Department of Natural Resources
 - Ryan Toot, Area Hydrologist
- Department of Transportation
 - Katie Kowalczyk, Metro Water Resources Engineer
- Fridley
 - Jim Kosluchar, City Engineer/Public Works Director
- Ham Lake
 - Dave Krugler, City Engineer

Absent: Anoka Conservation District, City of Columbus, Department of Health, City of Spring Lake Park

1. Announcements

Water Quality Cost Share Program

Justine Dauphinais reminded the Committee that the next deadline for Water Quality Cost Share applications is Friday, September 11th.

Other

Rebecca Haug announced that the county will be holding a Smart Salting training on October 22nd. The training is open to municipal staff within the county and will be opened up to private contractors if space allows. Training is paid for by Rice Creek Watershed District, with food provided by Coon Creek Watershed District.

Dave Berkowitz shared that the City of Andover has hired Todd Neal as the new Parks and Streets Operations Manager. Todd takes over the role from Jason Baumunk, who assumed the role of Fire Chief earlier this year.

2. Management Situation

Hydrology

Tyler Thompson provided a brief hydrology update. Conditions continue to be dry across the watershed. Recent precipitation raised flows for a brief period of time, but water levels continue to be low across the District.

Jon Janke shared that 40 CFS is the typical low for Coon Creek at Vale St, it is currently flowing at 14 CFS.

Other

None.

3. Concerns

None.

4. Briefs

WBIF proposal reminder and next steps

Justine Dauphinais provided a recap of the informal kickoff held during last month's TAC meeting and encouraged partners to start thinking of projects for consideration. The proposed activities template was sent out via email on August 15th. The formal convene meeting will be held in late 2026 or early 2027.

Chloride Data

Erik Bye shared a timeline of recent chloride management activities. Pleasure Creek, Springbrook Creek, and Laddie Lake received formal chloride impairments in 2024 and CCWD chloride monitoring data discovers significant groundwater chloride contributions. Early 2025 Groundwater Modeling Phase 1 began with a USGS partnership to model shallow groundwater flow dynamics and gain an understanding of groundwater sheds, flow paths, and residence times. Phase 2 of Groundwater Modeling began in winter of 2026 with the collection of salt application data from LGUs to incorporate into groundwater transportation model. The model will analyze mitigation scenarios and identify chloride loading hotspots. The plan for 2027-2030 is to draft a chloride management plan and/or TMDL to identify actions to meet chloride reduction targets identified in Phase 2.

Justine Dauphinais walked the Committee through the 2026 LGU winter maintenance meetings and provided a summary of findings. The meetings were intended to learn about current winter maintenance policies and practices, better understand current challenges, collect salt application data to incorporate into the groundwater model, and analyze changes in recent salt application rates.

Major takeaways from the meetings and analysis of collected data included:

- Multiple cities/road authorities have seen 30-36% reduction in salting rates over last 20 years!
- 10-20 year groundwater residence time = delayed impact to receiving waters

Main challenges to salt reduction with winter maintenance	Key drivers for recent chloride reduction
• Managing public expectations • Policy implementation & adjustments • Resistance to change by PW staff • Difficulty accurately tracking salt usage/ accountability	• Training • Accountability/incentives • Adhering to triggers (not plowing <2") • Adoption of new technologies and methods • Treated salt product application

General discussion was had regarding how winter weather patterns and new roadways were accounted for when analyzing the winter maintenance data.

MDH St. Paul and Minneapolis Source Water Protection

Erike Bye provided a summary of the recently drafted Source Water Assessments for Minneapolis and St. Paul completed by the Minnesota Department of Health. The purpose of these documents is to assess current drinking water contribution areas, ID potential contamination sources, and provide recommendations to protect and improve drinking water supply. Comments on the draft assessments are due October 9th. Upon finalization, the assessments will be used to draft the Surface Water Intake Protection Plan (SWIPP).

Local Water Plan Process

Erik Bye provided an overview of the Local Water Plan (LWP) requirements along with timeline and process requirements. LGUs should aim to submit draft LWPs to watershed management organizations by January 1, 2028.

Erik noted that he will be sending out an email with more detailed information to each LGU and would be open to meeting one-on-one to discuss requirements and timelines.

MS4 Permit Reissuance Update

Jon Janke stated that the District has not heard any new information about the release date for the new MS4 Permit.

Rebecca Haug shared that the Minnesota Cities Stormwater Coalition has heard that the release date is still scheduled for late September.

Atlas 15 Update

Jon Janke stated that the District has not heard any new information about the release of Atlas 15, which was also scheduled for a September release, but will reach out if anything substantial is learned.

5. Other Water Management Concerns

Dave Krugler asked if any new information has been learned about when the DNR will release the new flood maps. Erik Bye confirmed that the official HUC 8 kickoff meeting will be scheduled for this fall. Jon noted that official maps for insurance purposes are still several years out.

Rebecca Haug shared that there is a new position with the University of Minnesota called Flood Wise. Rachel Johnson is the contact for that position. Her role will be to work with communities on flooding issues and preparing for changes in precipitation. She is open to meeting with communities, and perhaps she could come to a future TAC meeting.

Rebecca also shared information on an upcoming Met Council workshop titled 'Shape our Water Future' scheduled for October 8th. She indicated she would share that info with the Committee.

Jon Janke noted the recently released documentary on TPT titled "We Are The River".

Rebecca asked for an update on the Plumbing Board situation related to stormwater reuse. Jon provided a brief recap of the situation, sharing that the Plumbing Board has decided to move ahead with adoption of Chapter 15 of the National Plumbing Code, but exclude the section related to stormwater reuse. Justine Dauphinais is on the MPCA's tech team that will be evaluating updates to the MN Stormwater Manual. Meanwhile, Minnesota Watersheds is aiming to find an amicable solution related to allowable conditions in which stormwater reuse would be allowed. Justine shared that the timeline outlined for the tech team is 12-18 months.

Erik Bye shared that early bird registration for the Water Resources conference begins tomorrow, September 11th. CCWD will be featured in 4 talks at the conference.

Jon Janke reminded the committee that SAFL's stormwater seminar series will occur after the TAC meeting at 10 am.

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