

Technical Advisory Committee

September 11, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

- Andover
 - Kameron Kytonen, Natural Resources Technician
 - Jason Law, Assistant City Engineer
- Anoka County Highways
 - Rebecca Haug, Environmental Project Manager
- Anoka Conservation District
 - Chris Lord, District Manager
- Blaine
 - Megan Hedstrom, Water Resources Coordinator
- Coon Creek Watershed District
 - Jon Janke, Director of Operations
 - Erik Bye, Planning Coordinator
 - Jessica Lindemyer, Engagement Coordinator
 - Erin Margl, Watershed Development Coordinator
 - Abbey Lee, Watershed Development Manager
 - Justine Dauphinais, Water Quality Coordinator
 - Eileen Weigel, District Engineer (Stantec)
- Coon Rapids
 - Tim Himmer, Public Works Director
- Ham Lake
 - Dave Krugler, City Engineer (RFC)
- Fridley
 - Jim Kosluchar, City Engineer/Public Works Director

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

1. Announcements

Jon Janke announced that Kailee Vik, CCWD Watershed Development Specialist, has taken a position with Sherborn County. Her last day at CCWD is scheduled for Thursday, September 18th.

The DNR has hired Ryan Toot to fill the role of Area Hydrologist for the North Metro.

Water Quality Cost Share Awards

Justine Dauphinais congratulated the City of Coon Rapids and the City of Fridley for their Water Quality Cost Share grants. Both cities received their

full grant request.

Justine shared that there is still \$67,000 left in the 2025 cost share budget and she encouraged city staff to reach out with any proposal ideas they may have.

2. Management Situation

Hydrology

Jon Janke provided the TAC with a brief update on recent weather and hydrology stating that the District is roughly 30% above average on precipitation for the growing season. Going into the fall, CCWD staff will be keeping an eye on soil moisture.

Things to know

Jon Janke shared information regarding MCEA's petition to the MPCA, encouraging the MPCA to permit ditches for pollution. The MPCA has 30-days to respond to this petition. Depending on how this petition plays out, there may be some adverse impacts on the drainage law. CCWD will be keeping an eye on the progress of this petition.

Jon Janke gave an update on the potential changes to the definition of "Waters of the United States" stating that the discussion is largely around the definition and use of the "wet foot test" and how that may affect the classification and protection of wetlands that are isolated from water courses.

Erik Bye announced that a Judge has ordered the MPCA and the Department of Agriculture to review their nitrate protection rules for groundwater. This order was the result of a lawsuit filed by MECA (MN Erosion Control Association) based on a research report published by the University of Minnesota that found Minnesotans spend approximately \$745M annually on indirect health costs from nitrate pollution. The MPCA and Department of Agriculture have one year to complete their review.

Rebecca Haug shared that the Minnesota Cities Stormwater Coalition (MCSC) is looking at information to go to the legislature regarding salting practices since limited liability isn't going anywhere. They are considering a certification requirement for salt applicators that would be similar to the certification requirements for fertilizer applicators. MCSC is also keeping an eye on MCEA's petition to the MPCA.

Area Hydrologist, Ryan Toot, introduced himself to the TAC and provided a brief overview of his educational background in geological engineering and forest ecology. He comes to the DNR from his role as a Watershed Forester at the USDA Forest Service. Jon Janke welcomed Ryan to the TAC and asked

everyone to briefly introduce themselves.

3. Concerns

None.

4. Briefs

HUC 8 Update / Maps

Erik Bye provided a brief update on the HUC 8 process, stating that everything is now in the hands of the DNR.

Erik noted that CCWD now has more refined floodplain maps that have been QA/QC'd and are available for use by local partners. CCWD is working with GIS staff to determine the best method for sharing those maps.

MS4 Permit Comment Period & Implementation Guide

Jon Janke reminded the group that the current MS4 permit is set to expire at the end of the year. Earlier this year the MPCA put out a call for comments and feedback relating to the current MS4 permit. That comment period closed in May and we have since been waiting on step two of their process which will be an informal pre-public notice. This notice would provide MS4s with the opportunity to review and comment on an initial redlined draft of the permit. However, no information has been released relating to the expected timeline for step two. Rebecca Haug shared that from what she has heard, everyone should expect to continue working under an expired permit.

Jon provided a brief overview of the MS4 Implementation Guide that was recently released by the MPCA. CCWD staff have reviewed the Implementation Guide and feel that while the guide is well-intended, MS4 staff should not rely on it as their only source of guidance when determining compliance of materials.

5. Other Water Management Concerns

None.

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