COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

Technical Advisory Committee
November 12, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

- Andover
  - Jason Law, Assistant City Engineer
  - Kameron Kytonen, Natural Resources Technician
- Anoka County Highways
  - Jared Langer, MN Sea Grant Fellow
- Blaine
  - Megan Hedstrom, Water Resources Coordinator
- Board of Soil & Water Resources
  - Josh Norman, Board Conservationist
- Coon Creek Watershed District
  - Jon Janke, District Administrator
  - Erik Bye, Planning Coordinator
  - David Petry, Water Restoration & Protection Coordinator
  - Justine Dauphinais, Water Quality Coordinator
  - Eileen Weigel, District Engineer (Stantec)
- Coon Rapids
  - Brooke Schultz, Water Resource Specialist
- Department of Natural Resources
  - Ryan Toot, Area Hydrologist
- Fridley
  - Rachel Workin, Environmental Planner
- Ham Lake
  - Dave Krugler, City Engineer
- Spring Lake Park
  - George Linngren, Public Works Director

Absent: Anoka Conservation District, City of Columbus, Department of Health, Department of Transportation

1. Announcements

Draft MS4 Permit Comments

Jon Janke shared that the draft MS4 Permit is moving forward with a formal comment period. CCWD submitted comments during the previous comment period, some of those comments were addressed, others were not. CCWD plans to resubmit the comments that were note addressed. Comments are due November 19th.

Water Quality Cost Share Applications

Justine Dauphinais shared that the Water Quality Cost Share Program still has around $100,000 available. Applications are accepted on a first come first serve basis between now and the end of the year.

District Rules Update

Jon Janke reminded the TAC of CCWD's rules update. The rules have been approved by CCWD's Board of Managers and will go into effect January 1st, 2027. Questions regarding the updated rules should be directed to Erin.

ENRTF Community Grant Program

Justine Dauphinais highlighted the new Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fun (ENRTF) Community Grant Program administered by the DNR. It appears to be a broad program accepting applications for a variety of projects including existing trail maintenance and improvements. A link to this grant program will be added to the TAC Resource Webpage. The application period opens December 1st and concept submittals are due January 7th. David Petry added that this grant program does not require match funds.

Other

None.

2. Management Situation

Hydrology

Water levels throughout the District are still relatively low despite recent precipitation. A relatively warm winter is expected due to the El Nino.

401 Certification Program Staffing Update

MPCA's Program Coordinator for the 401 Certification Program has stepped down. Staffing changes in leadership often present an opportunity to have dialog about how an agency chooses to regulate various aspects under their purview. We may see some changes coming down the line.

Other

None.

3. Concerns

Public Waters Inventory Update

The DNR has announced that the Public Waters Inventory update for Anoka County is being initiated. MN Statute 103G defines what constitutes a "public water". The update process is an attempt to improve the synchronicity between the waterbodies on the inventory map and the statutory definition of a public water. Jon Janke asked if any members of the TAC would like to be involved in the discussions with the DNR regarding these updates or if it would be preferrable for CCWD to provide updates on the process as it progresses. There was consensus among members of the TAC that regular updates from CCWD would be sufficient.

Jon noted that there will be a 45-day comment period and a 60-day comment period, but a specific timeline has for the Anoka County update has not yet been shared. CCWD will update the TAC as soon as that information is available. The whole process may take around 18 months.

4. Briefs

WBIF Next Steps

Justine Dauphinais provided an overview on the Watershed Based Implementation Funding (WBIF) program and a recap on where we're at with the FY27 process. The group selected Justine Dauphinais as the facilitator, Jon Janke (CCWD), Chris Lord (ACD), Kameron Kytonen (Andover), and Rachel Workin (Fridley) as the voting representatives, and selected tiered majority as the decision-making criteria. A shared spreadsheet has been distributed to help identify eligible projects/activities for consideration.

The next step in the FY27 process is to hold a Convene Meeting to vote on proposed projects/activities. Justine Dauphinais suggested to hold the Convene Meeting at the December 10th TAC meeting.

One a formal vote has occurred, a budget request gets submitted to BWSR, a grant agreement with BWSR is executed, and funds are available for use until the grant expires on December 31, 2029.

Justine provided an overview of the two proposals that have been submitted to-date.

- Andover – Installation of stormwater MTD (Jellyfish Filter) as part of planned Spring 2027 mill & overlay project to treat drainage from 54 acres that is currently untreated.
- CCWD – Hire consultant to develop a targeted chloride reduction action plan.

There was general agreement to hold the Convene Meeting at the December 10th TAC Meeting. The voting members present confirmed their availability, along with Board Conservationist, Josh Norman. Justine indicated that she would confirm availability with Chris Lord and Barb Piechel and then out a separate meeting invite to confirm.

MS4 Permit Reissuance

The new permit is expected to go live in the summer of 2027. A webinar is planned for November 17th to discuss top 10 non-compliance items found during MS4 audits. A link to this webinar will be posted to the TAC Resource Webpage.

GIS Online Map Sharing

Erik Bye explained that CCWD has been working on a way to improve data sharing and coordination between partners. ArcGIS Online accounts are becoming more common, allowing for more advanced collaboration including the creation of groups where participating organization can work with and collectively edit/update shared content in real time. Each organization continues to own and manage its own content while allowing others to view and contribute, setting limitations as desired. Examples uses could include floodplain maps, joint project details, storm assets, and future analysis map deliverables.

To participate in map and data sharing, each organization needs its own ArcGIS Online account and organization homepage. Erik asked that each city send him the contact info for their primary GIS contact and the URL for their organization homepage.

HUC8 December Meeting

DNR has been progressing on their HUC8 efforts with an anticipated meeting date for the Coon Creek portion occurring in December and Rice Creek's portion in January. Additional details will be shared with the TAC when it is received. This will be a kickoff meeting.

Local Water Plan Preparation

Reminder that the deadline for the submittal of draft local water plans to CCWD is January 2028. Erik Bye encouraged TAC members to schedule a kickoff meeting with CCWD staff once they are ready to get started to avoid duplication of effort, particularly as it relates to data and mapping that may already be available.

Joint Capital Projects Update

David Petry provided a brief update on seven upcoming capital projects that are using joint funding. These projects included:

- Springbrook Nature Center Outlet:
  Finalizing phase one feasibility memo, phase two kicking off design will begin soon
- University Ave (Orphan) Pond:
  On hold until Springbrook Creek Subwatershed Assessment is complete. Several modification options are being considered.
- MnDOT Pond Outlet:
  Initially planned to modify existing outlet controls but have run into regulatory issues with the outlet being classified as a dam. A potential solution being considered is the creation of a new outlet structure. Design and geotechnical work is anticipated to occur this winter.
- Bridgewater Iron-Enhanced Sand Filter (IESF):
  Working to finalize design, should be ready for bid soon. Construction anticipated for early 2027.
- Little League Park Pond:
  Currently on hold waiting for 2D flood model to be complete.
- Happy Acres Park 2 Stage Ditch/Cresent Pond Outlet:
  Several different activities have been looked at for this site. Hoping to be at 30% design by end of year.
- Xeon Blvd Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP):
  Currently at 90% design. Project bidding and permitting anticipated to begin shortly.

Erik Bye will be following up with each city via email regarding budgeting plans. There was general discussion regarding the potential need for MOUs to carry funds over from 2026 to 2027. Megan Hedstrom confirmed that Blaine would need an MOU.

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/