COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
Request for Board Action

MEETING DATE: February 12, 2018
AGENDA NUMBER: 11
ITEM: Authorize Staff to Represent District for Watershed Based Funding Work Group

AGENDA: Policy

ACTION REQUESTED
Appoint District representative to the Watershed Based Funding Work Group.

BACKGROUND
On January 4, the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) held meetings to discuss a pilot program given to them by the Legislature called Watershed Based Funding or Fund the Plan (Laws of Minnesota 2017, Chapter 91, Article 2, Section 7 (a). The gist of the pilot study is to replace the competitive grant process with a pre-allocation of dollars that, within the metro area would be done on a County Wide basis.

The District is eligible to receive these funds for implementation of the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and other water quality work identified within the District’s Comprehensive Plan.

A requirement of the pilot program is that there is collaboration between Watershed Management Organizations (WMOs) and Cities and that any projects or programs meet the eligibility criteria for the Clean Water Fund and that there be a county-wide collaborative meeting of eligible funding entities.

The Anoka Conservation District facilitated the first meeting, which was January 30. At that meeting the WMOs and Cities with approved Local Water Plans discussed the process we’d like to use for deciding how the funds will be used. Here is a summary of the new Watershed-Based Funding:

- $826,000 available within Anoka County.
- Dollars are from the Clean Water Fund.
- WMOs, Watershed District’s (WD’s), counties, & Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) are eligible to receive funds. Municipalities are eligible if they have a water plan approved by a WD or WMO. BWSR encourages cities to work through WMOs.
- Funds must be split through collaborative, mutual agreement of those eligible by June 30. If we can’t agree, then the funds revert to a whole-metro competitive grant pool.
- Funds must be used for water quality projects identified in state-approved, locally adopted watershed management plan.
- Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization (SRWMO) cities and townships are eligible recipients because they have a WMO-approved local water plan.
- 10% match.
- Intent is for this funding approach to be used statewide by 2025 as One Watershed One Plans are created statewide. About 75% of Clean Water Funds will be spent this way instead of through competitive grants.

ISSUES/CONCERNS

1. **What this means to Coon Creek WD**

   Total Allocation $ 826,000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WMO</th>
<th>Acres</th>
<th>Pct</th>
<th>Potential Allocation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coon Creek</td>
<td>67,880</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>$197,400.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Rum River</td>
<td>36,021</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>$104,751.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>4,405</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>$12,811.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice Creek</td>
<td>47,648</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>$138,563.76</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunrise River</td>
<td>45,657</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>$132,773.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Rum River</td>
<td>81,409</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>$236,744.35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vadnais Lake</td>
<td>1,016</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>$2,955.20</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

   Upper Rum WMO as yet does not have an approved plan. If the State strictly applies the allocation rules then funds available to the District could increase to **$276,709**.

2. **Continued Participation in the County-Wide Collaboration**

   Continued participation in the county-wide collaboration requires that
   a. The District assign a representative with authority to represent the position of the District through discussions and decision making.
   b. The designee’s appointment be recorded in the minutes of a regularly scheduled meeting of the governing Board

PRIOR DECISIONS

Representation of the District’s positions is a part of both the Administrator’s position description and employment agreement

OPTIONS
1. District Administrator
2. District Attorney
3. District President or Treasurer
**RECOMMENDATION**
District Administrator

**Motion for record**
The Coon Creek Watershed District Board of Managers selects Tim Kelly, District Administrator to represent the Coon Creek Watershed District on the Watershed Based Funding Work Group. In the absence of the Mr. Kelly, The Administrator may assign his duties and authorities on this matter to an alternate of his choosing (Justine Dauphinais).