COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
Request for Board Action

MEETING DATE: November 13, 2017
AGENDA NUMBER: 14
ITEM: A Resolution Accepting a Grant from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for Improved Flood Risk Mapping.

AGENDA: Policy

ACTION REQUESTED
Adopt attached resolution accepting a grant from the MDNR for improved risk mapping

BACKGROUND
In September 2015 the District submitted its completed XP-SWMM hydrologic model for the watershed to the DNR for a courtesy technical review and comment.

On August 7, 2017, Rita Weaver, engineer and floodplain hydrologist with the DNR responded with comments, questions and suggestions. On August 23, Rita met with the District’s Technical Advisory Committee to review the model and discuss the opportunities and problems for city floodplain management, flood insurance and development in the communities.

In September the District was approached by the DNR Floodplain program indicating that the District qualified for a grant to complete the floodplain work and with the District’s permission would like to include the District in the process.

On September 25 the District was notified that FEMA had awarded DNR a grant to update Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs).

On October 9 DNR contacted the District to set up a scoping meeting for the work to be done under the grant.

On Wednesday November 1 DNR and District staff and engineer met to review and discuss the scope of the grant, deliverables and general timeline. In the immediate time frame the District was asked to do 2 tasks:
1. Develop a work plan
2. Pass a resolution supporting/accepting the grant

A proposed resolution is included at the end of this staff report.
ISSUES/CONCERNS
1. **Cost:** The grant is for approximately $85,000 of work. There is no match required from the District.

2. **Local Match:** $0.00.

3. **Timeline:** Work to be completed by April, 2020

4. **Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs)**
Ditch 37, 58, and significant portions of ditch 44 & 59 are not included on the map and should be. Ditch 37 and 58 were discussed with DNR and will most probably be included in the grant work.

5. **Benefits of Grant:**
   a. Further hydrologic and hydraulic refinement of the model
   b. Final depth grids for all significant storm probabilities and the 1% depth grid in approximate areas.
   c. Greater certainty of the upstream and downstream effect and opportunities resulting from changes in land use

**PRIOR DECISIONS**
September 2014 Decision to update District hydrologic model included in District Budget

**OPTIONS**
1. Refuse grant, leave model as is
2. Modify suggested resolution
3. Adopt resolution as presented

**RECOMMENDATION**
Review, discuss and consider adoption of the following resolution
RESOLUTION
Authorizing Application for and Acceptance of a Grant From The Minnesota Department Of Natural Resources For Improved Flood Risk Mapping

WHEREAS, The Coon Creek Watershed District (District) is a metropolitan watershed district with the powers and duties set forth in Minnesota Statutes Chapters 103B and 103D; and

WHEREAS, One of the purposes of the District as a metropolitan watershed district is to control or alleviate damage from flood waters; and

WHEREAS, The District has developed a hydrologic model that reflects the most current land use, hydrology and hydraulics or the watershed; and

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) as part of its Floodplain Program has been awarded a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to update Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs) within the Twin City Metropolitan Area; and

WHEREAS, The DNR has indicated that the Coon Creek Watershed District’s XP-SWMM model is an excellent candidate for the work requested by FEMA. And that the District qualifies for a grant to collaborate with the DNR to complete the floodplain work, as more particularly described in the attached scope of services and work plan; and

WHEREAS, It is the District’s understanding that funding for this work provided through the DNR requires no monetary match on the District’s part.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the District, will apply for grant assistance from the DNR and enter into a grant agreement with the DNR in a collaborative effort to improve flood risk identification and mapping within its jurisdiction, as more particularly described in the attached scope of services and work plan (FEMA Modeling Updates for the Coon Creek Watershed, November, 2017; and the District Administrator is authorized to work with the DNR to secure funding of a project on the District’s behalf.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Applicant has not incurred any reimbursable project expenses prior to the full execution of a grant agreement.