COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
Request for Board Action

MEETING DATE: April 22, 2013
AGENDA NUMBER: 5
ITEM: Hearing on Comprehensive Plan Comments

POLICY IMPACT: Policy
FISCAL IMPACT: Budgeted

REQUEST
Approve the plan for submittal to the BWSR

BACKGROUND
Minnesota Statute 103B.231 Subd. 7 (c ) requires the District to hold a public hearing on the draft plan after the 60-day review period of the draft plan.

The Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan is required M.S. 103B.231 and M.S. 103D.401. On January 16, 2013 The Board of Managers approved release of a DRAFT of the plan for a 60 day review period. The plan was posted on the District’s web site and 33 copies (6 paper and 27 digital) were distributed to 28 State and local agencies and individuals.

The required 60 day review period ended on March 18, 2013. Two hundred sixty-five comments, corrections and concerns were received from 10 agencies. Four major issues surfaced as a result of the 60 day comment period:

1. Changes in Precipitation versus Climate Change
2. Collaboration: A significant strategy for implementation
3. Conservation Drainage
4. Length and Accessibility of Plan

These four issues were reviewed and discussed at the Citizen Advisory Committee and Technical Advisory Committee meetings on Wednesday April 10.

- Proposed revisions to the Issues; Changes in Precipitation and Partnerships and Collaboration were distributed and reviewed at that time and members were given until Tuesday April 16 to submit comments, questions and concerns.

- The proposed response to Conservation Drainage was reviewed and softened to recognize the fact that while reconstructing the entire system is physically and financially impractical, there may be areas where “conservation drainage” may be appropriate.
• The use of the executive and plan summaries as the principal documents would be dependent on the ability to properly footnote/reference the remained of the supporting documentation.

**ISSUES/CONCERNS**

**Hearing Outline:**
1. Convene Hearing
2. Presentation
   a. General Review of Plan
   b. General Review of Comments, Changes & Amendments
3. Receive Further Comment or Testimony from Public
4. Close Hearing

**Next Steps**
After completion of the review of the draft plan the following shall be submitted to the Metropolitan Council, state review agencies and the Board of Water and Soil Resources for final review. The submittal shall include:

1. Amendments
2. Written comments received on the draft plan,
3. Record of the public hearing
4. Summary of changes incorporated as a result of the review process

The BWSR shall review the plan for conformance with the requirements of sections 103B.205 to 103B.255, and chapter 103D.

The board shall not prescribe a plan, but may disapprove all or parts of a plan which it determines is not in conformance with the requirements of sections 103B.205 to 103B.255, and chapter 103D.

The board shall complete its review under this section within 90 days.

**OPTIONS**
1. Approve the plan for submittal to the Metropolitan Council, state review agencies and the Board of Water and Soil Resources for final review.
2. Receive the plan and comments and carry over discussion to the May 13 Board of Managers meeting

**RECOMMENDATION**
Approve the plan for submittal to the Metropolitan Council, state review agencies and the Board of Water and Soil Resources for final review.