

## COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT BOARD TOUR MEETING

The Coon Creek Watershed District held the annual District Tour on Monday, June 12, 2023, at 1:00 PM.

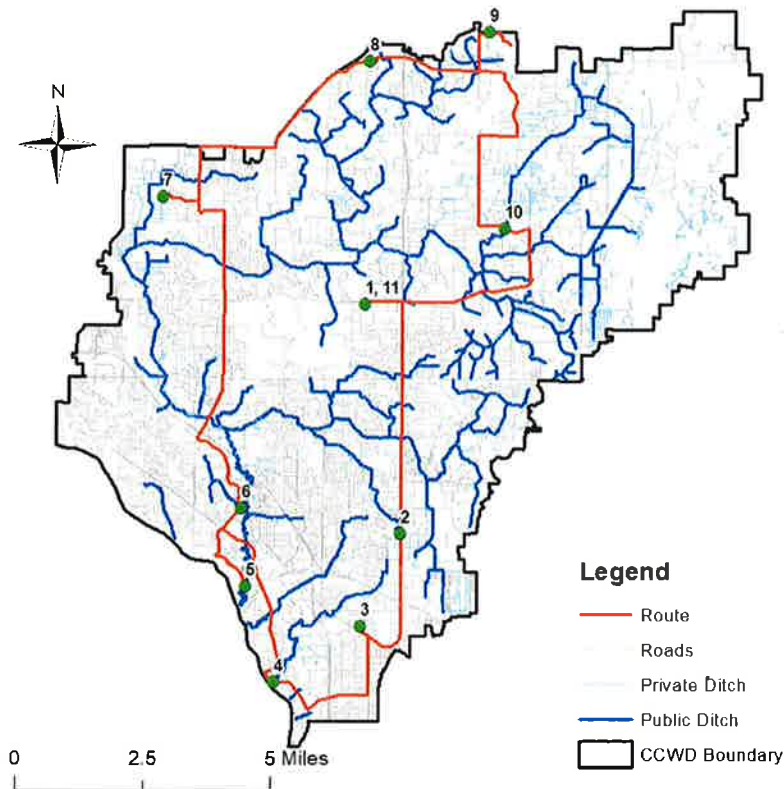
Board Members Present: Mary Campbell, James Hafner, Matthew Herbst, Dwight McCullough, and Patrick Parker.

Staff Present: Justine Dauphinais, Dawn Doering, Erin Edison, Corinne Elfelt, Jenny Gooden, Jason Hilst, Jon Janke, Tim Kelly, Ed Matthiesen (Stantec), Tyler Thompson, Abby Shea, Michelle Ulrich and Jordan Wochenske (Stantec).

Citizens Advisory Committee Members Present: Barbara Goodboe-Bischoff, Roger Johnson, Paddy Jones, Erin Lind, Bill Kurdziel, Joe MacPherson, Gary Nereson.

Anoka County Commissioner Present: Julie Jeppson.

2023 CCWD Board Tour Travel Route



Sequence	Location	Subject	Arrive	Onsite	Depart	Drive	Method	Staff
1	CCWD Office	Welcome, office drainage, rear parking	1:00 PM	0:10	1:10 PM		Onboard	TK, CE
2	NWY Ed	Road project, subwatershed planning			0:16		Drive by	TK
3	Northern Library	Water Education grants, partnerships, buffers	1:36 PM	0:08	1:34 PM	0:10	Park	DD
4	Aspen Pond and RiverView Terrace Flood Mitigation	Water Quality and flood mitigation collaboration	1:44 PM	0:08	1:52 PM	0:15	Park	JD
5	Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park	Creek crossing, creek restoration, collaboration	2:07 PM	0:15	2:22 PM		Deboard	JJ
6	Epiphany Creek Biochar and Iron Sand Filter	New filter, collaboration			0:24		Drive by	JD
7	Rural Reserve	Proposed development, subwatershed planning	2:46 PM	0:08	2:54 PM	0:11	Park	TV
8	Crestown Rolling Acres 3rd	Development, multiple BMPs, creative solutions	3:06 PM	0:08	3:13 PM	0:07	Park	EE
9	SRWMD Boundary	179th area	3:30 PM	0:08	3:28 PM	0:15	Park	TK
10	Ditch 11 In-channel Vegetation	Ditch maintenance	3:43 PM	0:08	3:51 PM	0:09	Park	JJ
11	CCWD Office	Goodnight	4:00 PM				Deboard	TK

**Coon Creek Watershed District Office:**



The group viewed the Conference room of the District Office. Administrative Services Coordinator Elfelt expressed the need for more versatile tables and stackable or nesting chairs as the current furniture is not practical for staff meetings, training, or gatherings. It is an item that is budgeted for 2024.

The tour group reviewed the back lot of the Coon Creek Watershed District Office. There is a need to pave the back lot in the next year to provide additional parking, decrease erosion and improve the surface for snow removal. It is proposed that the area in front of the garage receive pavement and it is proposed that the rear area be done with a permeable surface. Due to the proximity of the golf course, netting is needed to protect vehicles from golf balls, similar to the netting on the District Administrator's office window.

**Highway 65 Road Project – Subwater Planning (drive-by):**

The location contains three ditch crossings and two headwaters.

Mr. Kelly expressed the importance of informing the District of future projects.

**Northtown Library:**



Public and Government Affairs Coordinator Doering explained the buffer garden project that was completed by Westwood Middle School students over the year. She stated that grants applied for by the school have helped with the planting and have provided learning opportunities for the students.

**Apex Pond and Riverview Terrace Flood Mitigation:**



Water Quality Coordinator Dauphinais explained the purpose of the pond is to reduce flooding of nearby homes and property. The CCWD is collaborating with the City of Fridley and the Anoka Conservation District to modify the pond to additionally capture 18 pounds of phosphorous and 6 tons of sediment per year. Project funding is from a grant and the City of Fridley.

**Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park:**



Director of Operations Janke reported on several efforts to repair portions of Coon Creek, replace portions of the regional trail, replace a regional trail culvert crossing Coon Creek, and replace a regional trail bridge crossing Coon Creek within the Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park. He reported that the existing infrastructure and creek channel are deteriorated and starting to fail. The CCWD is collaborating with Anoka County Parks to coordinate design, funding, and construction to address flooding, water quality, aquatic organism passage, aquatic habitat, and recreation issues and concerns while minimizing construction and future maintenance costs.

**Epiphany Creek Biochar and Iron Sand Filter:**



Water Quality Coordinator Dauphinais reported on the newly constructed Epiphany Creek Sand Filter. She stated that a structure was constructed in Epiphany Creek to divert water through the sand filter which has a drain tile that returns the treated water back into the flow of the creek. She stated that 90% of the sediment is removed, iron filings remove Phosphorus, and biochar removes pathogens like e. coli

**Rural Reserve:**



Administrator Kelly provided the history of the previous and current owners of the land. The City of Andover and property owners would like to develop the land, but the soils, floodplain, and zoning are not favorable. The city worked with the Metropolitan Council to extend the Metropolitan Urban Service Area (MUSA) to the area providing water and sewer services allowing for smaller acreage lots and more lucrative development. The city is working to acquire a developer who would develop the entire area and absorb the taxes and special assessments.

The area is a floodplain and part of Ditch 37. The area will have water quality treatment needs due to Ditch 37 drainage. The area is an old, shallow lake basin which is lower than Round Lake.

**Crosstown Rolling Acres 3<sup>rd</sup> Addition:**



This area is within the Ditch 58 drainage area which Coon Creek. The area was challenging to develop resulting in the developer designing 14 infiltration basins to meet the stormwater requirements.

Water Development Coordinator Edison explained that a post construction requirement was for the testing of the infiltration basins. The testing fee for 14 basins was very expensive and she explained that an agreement was made with the developer to test a few representative basins. She stated that the tests showed that the basins showed compaction and they were not operating as designed.

Ms. Edison reported that after the basins were repaired the developer and the District agreed to place markers in the basins and after a rainfall, the volume of retention would be measured and monitored. She noted that Ditch 58 is farmland and there is no drainage in the fields.

**SRWMO Boundary:**



East Lake Netta Drive illustrates the boundary between the CCWD and SRWMO. Mr. Kelly explained that the City of Ham Lake initiated an amendment to the boundary. CCWD staff have reviewed the boundary and is drafting a boundary amendment petition. The draft petition will be sent to the City of Ham Lake and SRWMO for review before submitting to the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) for approval. A letter of concurrence will be needed from the City of Ham Lake and Sunrise River WMO in order for BWSR to approve the boundary amendment.

**Ditch 11 In channel Vegetation:**



Mr. Kelly and Janke reported that Ditch 11 has active agriculture and is impaired. Drainage has been blocked causing significant flooding and crop damage. Maintenance is needed every 10-15 years to remove sediment and every 2-5 years to remove vegetation. He stated that after the clean out occurs, the system will be working properly.

The bus tour adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

  
President

