

**COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT**  
**Request for Board Action**

**MEETING DATE:** November 10, 2025  
**AGENDA NUMBER:** 7  
**ITEM:** Advisory Committees Report

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**AGENDA:** Policy Discussion Information

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**ACTION REQUESTED**

Receive Report

**BACKGROUND**

The Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) met on October 9th. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met on October 9th.

- The next CAC meeting is scheduled: November 12<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 p.m. hybrid with Zoom.
- The next TAC meeting is scheduled: November 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. hybrid with Zoom.

**ISSUES/CONCERNS**

**Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)**

The October CAC meeting took place at Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park in the form of a volunteer native planting activity. Several members of the CAC were present, along with additional volunteers from the community, Anoka County Parks, and Anoka Conservation District. CCWD staff Jessica Lindemyer, Justine Dauphinais, and Jon Janke assisted with the planting as well. In total, the group planted over 500 native plants along the banks of Coon Creek with the project area of the Lower Coon Creek Corridor Restoration. The volunteer planting occurred from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>.



## **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)**

The majority of the TAC was present at the meeting. Absent were the City of Columbus, the City of Ham Lake, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Natural Resources, and the City of Spring Lake Park.

### **1. Announcements**

#### Staff Changes

Board Conservationist, Michelle Jordan, has resigned from her position at the Board of Water & Soil Resources (BWSR). Her position has been posted. Until the position is filled, our local contact will be Central Region Manager, Marcey Westrick.

Erik Thorvig, former Community Development Director for the City of Blaine, has been officially named the next City Manager following a nationwide search.

Tim Kelly, CCWD Administrator, has formally submitted his intent to retire at the end of 2025.

#### Water Quality Cost Share Round 3

Justine Dauphinais reminded the TAC that there are still funds up for grabs under the 2025 Water Quality Cost-Share Program; stating that one application for \$38,000 has already been received. Assuming that application is funded, the remaining cost share funds available would be \$27,000.

#### Upcoming Training Opportunities

Jon Janke reminded the TAC that several state agencies are offering trainings this time of year, including the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) shoreline and floodplain trainings. He also encouraged cities to check their compliance on annual MS4 trainings.

#### Cost Share Projects – updates & timelines

Erik Bye gave an update on the timelines for two projects. Construction on the Bridgewater South IESF project has been pushed to 2026 due to some design changes. Construction on the MnDOT Pleasure Creek Pond Outlet Retrofit Project has also been pushed to 2026 due to permitting hurdles with FEMA and the DNR.

#### Groundwater Contamination in the District

Justine Dauphinais provided an update on the groundwater contamination in Andover. MPCA and MDH have been working on private well testing in the area. Recently, the area of detections above the health-based standard has expanded to the west. Thus, the private well testing area has also expanded west across Crooked Lake. Notification letters recently went out to residents, and CCWD has heard frustrations from a few residents regarding the lack of updates being provided on the MPCA website. The MPCA website is still showing maps from 2024 causing confusion among the residents who are receiving the most recent round of notification letters. CCWD has contacted the MPCA and encouraged them to update the webpage with more recent information.

Dave Berkowitz shared that funding has been secured for Red Oaks Phase II. There are two funding sources; one source is cash for the private side (anything outside of the right of way), the other source is bonds for the municipal-utility side. An informational open

house is tentatively scheduled for November 5th. The city continues to work with the MPCA and the legislature on securing funding for the Eastbrook Terrace site.

Justine noted that CCWD recently received a letter from the MPCA asking for permission to test the District's well for gasoline additives. This request is part of a larger state-wide effort by the MPCA to test wells within 1,500' of old petroleum leak sites for gasoline additives.

## **2. Situation**

### Hydrology

Jon Janke provided the TAC with a brief update on recent weather and hydrology, stating that it has been fairly dry the last two months; however, the watershed is still about 20% above average for annual precipitation. The watershed is in a good position entering the winter months. Soil moisture is variable throughout the District, and is particularly dry in the sandier areas. Soil temps are still above 50-60 degrees. There is no significant rain in the forecast.

### Things to know

Tim Kelly stated that CCWD is tracking two legislative items: a drainage portal bill and a proposal from the Minnesota Association of Watersheds to improve permitting efficiency at the DNR and MPCA. The significance of the drainage portal bill, should it pass, would be its impact on the maintenance and repair of public ditches; adding additional steps to the process and making it difficult to respond quickly to public health and safety issues related to public ditches. The proposal to improve permitting efficiency at the DNR and MPCA is aimed at separating the permit completeness determination from the review of permit compliance. This proposal is also on the docket for the Anoka County Board to consider as a legislative priority.

Jon Janke shared that the League of MN Cities (LMC) just announced their legislative priorities, which did not include any stormwater-related items.

## **3. Concerns**

None.

## **4. Briefs**

### Review of CIP Update & Minor Plan Amendment

Erik Bye provided a review of the current 2024-2033 Watershed Management Plan, the reasoning for conducting an amendment, a summary of the amended items, and an overview of the amendment timeline.

View the detailed presentation on the [TAC Resource Webpage](#).

### CCWD Rules Review

Erin Margl encouraged all TAC members to spend some time reflecting on their experience interacting with the CCWD rules and consider the following questions to provide feedback

during the review process:

- Are there any District Rules that are causing issues or need clarification since the last rule update in 2023?
- Are there any gaps in the current District Rules?
- Is there anything missing from the District Rules that could lay groundwork for city needs?

CCWD hopes to have the draft rule changes to the TAC for review by February of 2026.

## **5. Other Water Management Concerns**

Jason Law inquired about the status of receiving the updated Atlas 14 map and model for the watershed. Eric Bye shared that CCWD has received a very brief update from the DNR on the topic of the Atlas 14 map confirming that the DNR is reviewing the floodway. However, given that the original timeline was estimated to be five years and that FEMA is currently undergoing a lot of funding changes, it is difficult to predict when we can expect to receive the finalized details from the DNR and FEMA.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Receive the report.