

## COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

### Request for Board Action

**MEETING DATE:** June 8, 2026  
**AGENDA NUMBER:** 7  
**ITEM:** Advisory Committees Report

---

**AGENDA:** Policy Discussion Information

---

### ACTION REQUESTED

Receive Report

### BACKGROUND

The Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) met on May 13th. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) did not meet in May.

- The next CAC meeting is scheduled: June 8<sup>th</sup> for the Board Tour
- The next TAC meeting is scheduled: June 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. hybrid with Zoom.

### ISSUES/CONCERNS

#### Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)

Half of the CAC was present at the meeting. Absent were John Lilly, Joe MacPherson, Jason Margl, Gary Nereson, and Nathan Schneider.

#### 1. Open Forum

David Petry announced that he is resigning from the CAC as he has accepted the position of Project Manager for Coon Creek Watershed District. May 13th is his last meeting serving on the CAC, he will be starting his position as Project Manager June 1st. Dwight McCullough welcomed David to CCWD and the Committee congratulated him on his new position.

Jessica Lindemyer stated that she will be advertising for the open CAC position and encouraged current members to share the opening with anyone who may be interested in applying.

#### 2. District Update

Jessica Lindemyer gave a brief update on various District activities including recent weather conditions and spring flood outlook.

Jessica provided details on the Project Manager position, an upcoming vacancy on the CCWD Board of Managers, the 2027 budget season, and a recent workshop for watershed professionals held at Woodcrest Biochar & Iron-Enhanced Sand Filter.

### **3. 2025 Annual Report**

Jessica introduced the 2025 Annual Report. She provided a brief summary of the new report format and how it differs from the format of past reports. While the primary purpose of the report continues to be meeting statutory requirements, the intent of the new format is to make the report for user-friendly and accessible to the general public.

Barbara Goodboe-Bisschoff commended the District on the updated formatting, stating that it is a significant improvement over previous years. Jim Lindahl and David Petry agreed.

Barbara suggested future reports include a table of events attended by CCWD and inquired about the cost of producing the Annual Report. Jessica confirmed that there is no monetary cost associated with producing the Annual Report as it is completed in-house by District Staff.

Jim Lindahl noted that he appreciated the grant details included in the report and suggested that future reports also include details on grants that were applied for, but not awarded.

There was general discussion about the Audit and why the audited financials were not ready for inclusion in the report. Jessica shared that District Administrator, Jon Janke, is looking into how the District may be able to shift the Audit time frame to allow for the audited numbers to be available for this report.

Jessica stated that staff have started a running list of ideas and suggestions to be considered for incorporation into the 2026 Annual Report and encouraged the CAC to share any additional ideas that may come to mind over the course of the year related to the Annual Report.

### **4. 2027 Budget Schedule**

Jessica stated that the Board has started the 2027 budget process. While the 2027 budget schedule is similar to previous years, it has changed slightly. She shared the 2027 budget schedule with the CAC and noted that the CAC should expect to review the draft budget at their August 12th meeting.

### **5. Springbrook Creek Subwatershed Survey**

Jessica introduced the draft Springbrook Creek Subwatershed Survey. She shared that the survey is a continuation of the Municipal Insight Survey that was conducted in the fall of 2024. The purpose of the survey is to provide a higher-resolution look at the values, beliefs, and priorities of district residents as they relate to water quality and water management. Data from the Municipal Insight Survey suggested that attitudes related to water management did not statistically differ geographically within the District. When sharing these findings with municipal partners, many staff felt that this insight may not be accurate. Given the relatively small sample size (n=100) of the original survey, the Springbrook Creek Subwatershed Survey was proposed to provide more robust data for comparison. Funding for a survey of Springbrook Creek subwatershed residents was originally budgeted back in 2023 by previous Administrator Tim Kelly and has been carried forward until a worthy opportunity arose.

Jessica stated that the Springbrook Creek Subwatershed was chosen as the location for this survey for two reasons 1) available funding and 2) the heavily developed nature of the subwatershed. Springbrook Creek Subwatershed is one of the most heavily developed subwatersheds in the district with very little available space for water quality or water quantity projects, as such any future projects in the area will likely require significantly more public support than projects in other subwatersheds. Having a better understanding of the values, beliefs, and priorities of the residents in this subwatershed will help the District and its municipal partners garner the necessary public support for future projects in the area.

Jessica passed out printed copies of the survey, asking committee members to read through the survey and share any feedback they may have related to clarity, intent, distribution method, and potential public reaction.

Dwight McCullough shared that he has been receiving a lot of political mail recently that he has become indifferent to it and he expressed concern that that may be the case for Springbrook Creek residents as well. Jim and Barbara seconded this concern.

There was discussion regarding the two options for distribution: a postcard with link to online survey vs a mailed survey with pre-paid return envelope. The committee unanimously recommended proceeding with the postcard method.

David inquired about how the survey was drafted. Jessica confirmed that the District is working with the same consultant that designed and implemented the municipal insight survey.

Jim suggested that surveying commercial property owners may be more beneficial than surveying residents, given the heavily developed nature of the area and the number of large commercial properties.

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

The TAC did not meet in the month of May.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Receive the report.