

COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

Request for Board Action

MEETING DATE: August 24, 2026
AGENDA NUMBER: 10
ITEM: Citizen Advisory Committee Applications

AGENDA: Policy

ACTION REQUESTED

Decision

PURPOSE & SCOPE

The purpose of this item is for the Board to consider the appointment of one or more applicants to the District's Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC).

BACKGROUND

Minnesota Statute 103D.331 states that the Board of Managers must annually appoint an advisory committee to advise and assist the managers on all matters affecting the interests of the watershed district and make recommendations to the managers on all contemplated projects and improvements in the watershed district.

In May, David Petry stepped down from his position on the CAC after accepting a staff position with the District.

In August, Nathaniel Schneider stepped down from his position on the CAC after accepting an appointment to the Board of Managers.

With David Petry and Nathaniel Schneider stepping down from their positions, the 2026 Citizen Advisory Committee currently includes:

1. Barbara Goodboe-Bisschoff, Spring-Lake Park City Council representative
2. Paddy Jones, Ham Lake Resident
3. John Lilly, Blaine Resident
4. Jason Margl, Andover Resident
5. Gary Nereson, Andover Resident - Crooked Lake Area Association representative
6. Anoka Conservation District representative – Jim Lindahl
7. Anoka County representative – Joe MacPherson

On Thursday, July 9th District staff received a CAC application from Coon Rapids resident Cameron Bluhm. On Monday, July 13th District staff received a CAC application

from Andover resident Jonathan Gwinn. Both applications have been reviewed by staff and deemed complete.

Both applications have been attached for Board review and consideration.

ISSUES/CONCERNS

CCWD Policy 1.8.1 limits the size of CCWD's Citizen Advisory Committee to nine members. Both state statute and CCWD policy emphasize the importance of having members represent various organizations, interest groups, and communities.

With the departure of both David Petry and Nathaniel Schneider, the Committee currently sits at seven members and two vacancies.

Should the Board choose to appoint either or both applicants at the August 24th meeting, their appointment would run through the rest of the year and be up for re-appointment with the rest of the CAC members in December 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

Appoint applicants Cameron Bluhm and Jonathan Gwinn to serve on the Citizen Advisory Committee.



Citizen Advisory Committee

Member Application Part 1

Date	7-9-2026
Type	☒ New ☐ Re-application
Name	Cameron Bluhm
Residency address	10733 Riverview PI NW
City, State, Zip	Coon Rapids, MN, 55433
Email	cameronbluhm1@gmail.com
Phone	(507) 226-3842
Mailing address (if different from residency)	

Are you available to attend monthly meetings & take an active role in working with the Coon Creek Watershed District Board of Managers?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Member Category

☐ City/County Official

☒ Citizen

☐ Farmer

☐ Outdoor organization

☐ Other:

Occupation

Substation Apparatus Electrician for Great River Energy

Qualifications (education or background related specifically to civic, professional, volunteer, or governmental boards or commissions)

College public speaking and speech course

Reasons for wanting to serve:

I am currently active with a community driven lake association in Itasca county assisting in lake measurements, and I also grew up in southeast Minnesota with the Mississippi River in my backyard. Minnesota's watersheds have played a crucial role in my life, so when I moved to Coon Rapids last year and then heard about this opportunity I was very interested. Thank you

List any financial interests or associations you have that may present a conflict of interest

N/A

Please read and complete Part 2 of this application, Member Expectations and Data Practices Advisory. After completing Part 2, please return the signed form by either:

Mailing a physical copy to
Coon Creek Watershed District
13632 Van Buren St NE
Ham Lake, MN 55304

OR

Scanning or photographing a copy and
emailing it to info@cooncreekwd.org with
"CAC Member Application" in the email subject
line



Citizen Advisory Committee

Member Application Part 2

Member Expectations

This is a volunteer position with no reimbursement, except possibly for conference attendance.

The Coon Creek Watershed District (CCWD) expects CAC members to:

- Attend a new member orientation
- Make a serious commitment to actively participate in CAC work
- Notify the staff liaison if unable to attend meetings
- Prepare for meetings and reviews
- Become familiar with the CCWD Mission and CAC role
- Understand the roles and relationships of the CAC and the CCWD staff and Board of Managers
- Get to know other CAC members to build a working relationship
- Reflect the perspectives of the watershed's diverse constituency in discussions and decision-making
- Serve the CCWD in a professional and non-partisan manner
- Support the majority decision on issues decided by the CAC and the CCWD Board of Managers at meetings and when representing CCWD at other forums, even if personal opinions are different
- Refrain from making public comments and statements that would misrepresent or negatively represent the CCWD, its decisions or policies including written or verbal comments to the media, on blogs, websites, or other forums where it is foreseeable that the comments will become known to the public

Data Practices Advisory

The following information requested above is classified as private data under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes chapter 13 (MGDPA): your address, telephone numbers, and email address. Other information you provide in response to questions asked will be public data and so your responses should be limited to your education, training, employment, volunteer work, and any other aspects of your background and interests you do not consider to be private. If you are appointed to the Citizen Advisory Committee your address, telephone numbers, and email address will become public data.

Private data are data that generally may not be released to the public. The information classified as private data is requested so that the appointing authority can confirm your eligibility to serve on the Citizen Advisory Committee and contact you about your application. You are not legally required to provide this information; however, if you don't do so, the appointing authority may not be able to confirm your eligibility or communicate with you in a timely way.

The private data will be maintained by the Coon Creek Watershed District in accordance with the MGDPA and will be accessible to those within the Coon Creek Watershed District who reasonably require access in order to administer the appointment process.

I certify that the information on this application is correct and that I understand the Expectations and Data Practices Advisory listed above:

	7-9-2026
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Signature

Date



Citizen Advisory Committee

Member Application Part 1

Date	7/13/26
Type	☒ New ☐ Re-application
Name	Jonathan Gwinn
Residency address	1210 141st Ln NW
City, State, Zip	Andover, MN, 55304
Email	gwinn9912@gmail.com
Phone	6124121434
Mailing address (if different from residency)	N/A

Are you available to attend monthly meetings & take an active role in working with the Coon Creek Watershed District Board of Managers?

☒ Yes	☐ No
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Member Category

☐ City/County Official
☒ Citizen
☐ Farmer
☐ Outdoor organization
☐ Other:

Occupation

Conservationist, Public Relations, Self-Researcher

Qualifications (education or background related specifically to civic, professional, volunteer, or governmental boards or commissions)

Over many years (2022-2026), I have been able to serve on the Andover Nature Preserve commission. Working collaboratively with a team of commissioners to offer recommendations to the city council regarding maintenance activities, creative funding methods, and visionary planning regarding our nature preserves (Vice Chair from March 2024-April 2026).

As a part of the Park Services Unit employee for Anoka County Parks. I assist with the enforcement of policies/ordinances at campgrounds, visitor centers, and gate operations. As the need arises, I work to employ de-escalation communication techniques to manage confrontational situations effectively. Answering questions in a helpful and friendly manner is my priority.

Self-Research development proposals regarding stormwater infrastructure, wetland banking, and more. Learned more about the process required for approval, including plat reviews, EAW's, and AUAR.

Lastly, I am an individual who loves to learn more and be involved in the community, through collaborative efforts and creative solutions to the problems of today and tomorrow we can make the community the best it can be for generations to come.

Reasons for wanting to serve:

I would enjoy the opportunity to learn more about the CCWD and its partners. Furthermore, I have a desire to help our growing community be the best that it can be. Everyday decisions can have long-term impacts on what our community looks like for generations to come.

Lastly, I value diverse perspectives and the conversations that come along with it. These discussions (in part through the CAC) help the board of managers by offering additional information/ideas that may not have been thought of before.

List any financial interests or associations you have that may present a conflict of interest

I have the potential of being on the Andover Nature Preserve Commission. I have discussed this potential opportunity (CAC) with City of Andover Staff, and they are comfortable with me serving in both roles, with some stipulations. These stipulations can be provided as the need arises.

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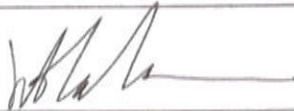
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