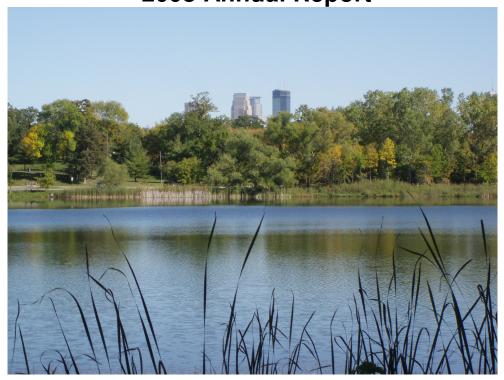
Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission 2008 Annual Report



Crystal • Golden Valley • Medicine Lake • Minneapolis Minnetonka • New Hope • Plymouth • Robbinsdale • St. Louis Park



May 2009

Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission 2008 Annual Report

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Cover photo: Wirth Lake, Golden Valley, Minnesota

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Appendix B Water Quality Monitoring

- 2008 Lake Water Quality Study: Sweeney Lake and Twin Lake, Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission
- 2007 Study of the Water Quality of 176 Metropolitan Area Lakes (July 2008), Brian Johnson Metropolitan Council
- 2007 Water Resources Report (January 2009), Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board
- River Watch 2008, Hennepin County Environmental Services
- Response of Curlyleaf Pondweed to Herbicide Treatments from 2004 2008 in Medicine Lake, Plymouth Minnesota, Steve McComas, Blue Water Science
- Aquatic Plant Surveys for Parker's Lake, Plymouth, Minnesota, 2008, Steve McComas and Jo Stuckert, Blue Water Science
- 2008 Bassett Creek Fish Index of Biological Integrity, Matt Hernick, Barr Engineering Company
- Bassett Creek E. Coli Bacteria Monitoring 2008, Matt Hernick, Barr Engineering Company

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Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission



Executive Summary: The Year in Brief

2008 COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVES

Pauline Langsdorf – *Crystal* Linda Loomis – *Golden Valley* Cheri Templeman – *Medicine Lake*

Michael Welch – *Minneapolis*Kristine Sundberg – *Minnetonka*Daniel Stauner – *New Hope*Ginny Black – *Plymouth*Karla Peterson – *Robbinsdale*Manuel Jordan – *St. Louis Park*

2008 ALTERNATES

Stuart Stockhaus – Crystal

David Hanson – Golden Valley

John O'Toole – Medicine Lake

Lisa Goddard – Minneapolis

Tony Wagner – Minnetonka

Elizabeth Thornton – Plymouth

Wayne Sicora – Robbinsdale

Sue Sanger – St. Louis Park

The Bassett Creek

Watershed Management

Commission (BCWMC) is

governed by a board

composed of representatives

from each of the nine

member cities: Crystal,

Golden Valley, Medicine

Lake, Minneapolis,

Minnetonka, New Hope,

Plymouth, St. Louis Park,

& Robbinsdale.

2008 Activities & Achievements Follow Roadmap Set by BCWMC Plan

The BCWMC's most recent Watershed Management Plan (Plan) was approved by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources on August 25, 2004, and adopted by the BCWMC board of commissioners on September 16, 2004. The BCWMC has a long history of achievements, having formed in 1969 as the Bassett Creek Flood Control Commission covering the nine communities in the watershed. In accordance with provisions of the 1982 Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act, the Bassett Creek Flood Control Commission revised its Joint Powers Agreement and created the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (BCWMC).

The 2004 Plan includes an implementation program that provides a roadmap for the BCWMC's activities in the areas of capital improvements, annual water quality programs, and annual flood control programs. This executive summary communicates the BCWMC's 2008 accomplishments in the following areas:

Capital Improvements Program

The BCWMC continued to implement its capital improvements program. In 2008, these achievements included:

- Completing the BCWMC's first channel restoration project for a portion of the Sweeney Lake Branch, at a total cost of \$386,000. The project was constructed by the City of Golden Valley.
- Funding a portion of an in-lake herbicide treatment targeting curlyleaf pondweed in Medicine Lake; the BCWMC also contributed to similar treatments in 2005 and 2006.
- Completing a draft feasibility study to restore the downstream reach of Plymouth Creek, in the City of Plymouth.
- Passing Resolution No. 08-07, which updated the cost of the West Medicine Lake Park Pond Capital Improvement Project. The resolution also certified \$800,000 of the project cost to be assessed by Hennepin County for 2008.

Past completed capital improvement projects include construction or improvement of water quality treatment ponds to treat stormwater runoff in the Medicine Lake, Northwood Lake, Westwood Lake and Wirth Lake watersheds.

Inspection Activities

The BCWMC conducted the following inspection activities in 2008:

- · Monthly erosion control inspections of construction sites
- Annual inspections of the flood control project
- Performing the 20-year inspection of the Bassett Creek tunnels, which included coordinating with the City of Minneapolis, MnDOT and Corps of

The BCWMC is assisted by its Technical Advisory, Education and Public Outreach, Administrative Services, and Budget committees.

Regular meetings for the BCWMC are held monthly on the third Thursday (except in November) at 11:30 a.m. at the Golden Valley City Hall, 7800 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley. In November the meeting is held on the third Wednesday of the month. The meetings are open to the public and the

Watershed Management Commission

Water Quality Activities

- Working diligently on three TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) studies toward the outcome of setting pollutant goals needed to restore the waters of Sweeney Lake and Wirth Lakes in Golden Valley and Medicine Lake in Plymouth.
- Participating in the stakeholder and technical advisory committees of the Upper Mississippi River Bacteria TMDL study
- Participating in Metropolitan Council Environmental Services' Citizen-Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP) for five lakes
- Sampling Bassett Creek Main Stem

for fecal coliform

- Participating with Minnesota Pollution Control Agency in sampling Bassett Creek Main Stem for biota
- Conducting water quality monitoring and analysis for Sweeney and Twin Lakes in Golden Valley
- Participating in Hennepin County's River Watch program by funding two Bassett Creek monitoring sites for benthic invertebrates, which are a sign of the health of a stream
- Reviewing the local water management plans for four membercities to ensure the plans meet the watershed's goals
- Approving development of a Resource Management Plan, a plan to expedite

Education Activities

- Cosponsoring MetroBlooms rain garden workshops with member
- Reviewing results of the 2007 joint watershed residential survey (Bassett Creek, Shingle Creek, Elm Creek, West Mississippi WMOs)
- Participating in the Joint Education and Public Outreach Committee with the previously listed watersheds and with Pioneer-Sarah Creek watershed
- Running the BCWMC's education grant program
- Staffing a booth at public education events such as Plymouth's Environmental Expo and Yard and Garden event and Westwood

- Nature Center's Earth Day
- Showing the BCWMC's education displays at City Halls in the watershed
- Giving away native plant seed packets
- Joining Blue Thumb, a local program that encourages homeowners to use native plantings, rain gardens, and shoreline stabilization to reduce runoff from home yardscapes
- Participating in Metro WaterShed Partners, including the Minnesota Waters "Let's Keep Them Clean" campaign

General Achievements

- Requesting proposals for legal, engineering and technical, and administrative services
- Hiring consultant Springsted, Inc. to conduct an organizational analysis of the BCWMC's operations and provide recommendations

For more information, please visit our web site at www.bassettcreekwmo.org



I. Annual Activity Report

A. 2008 Commissioners

Municipality	Commissioners	Alternates	Term Expires
Crystal	Pauline Langsdorf 8100 33 rd Avenue North Crystal, MN 55427 763-544-1317 langsdorfp@aol.com	Stu Stockhaus 3437 Adair Avenue North Crystal, MN 55422 StockhausSJ@unique-software.com	February 1, 2009
Golden Valley	Mayor Linda Loomis, Treasurer City of Golden Valley 7800 Golden Valley Road Golden Valley, MN 55427 763-593-3990 Linda.loomis@ci.golden-valley.mn.us	David Hanson 1030 Angelo Drive Golden Valley, MN 55422 763-588-1478 davewhanson@gmail.com	February 1, 2009
Medicine Lake	Cheri Templeman PO Box 47091 Plymouth, MN 55447 612-750-3354 Templeman@Justice.com	John O'Toole MGO4SE, General Mills, Inc. PO Box 1113 Minneapolis, MN 55440 763-764-2422 john.otoole@genmills.com	February 1, 2009
Minneapolis	Michael Welch, Chair 217 South Cedar Lake Road Minneapolis, MN 55405 612-385-6885 Mike1w@qwest.net	Lisa Goddard 214 Logan Avenue North Minneapolis, MN 55405 763-475-0010 lgoddard@srfconsulting.com	February 1, 2010
Minnetonka	Kris Sundberg 18617 Covington Road Minnetonka, MN 55345 952-380-3432 Kristine sundberg@hotmail.com	Tony Wagner 1804 Traymore Road Minnetonka, MN 55305 952-512-1817 twagner@eminnetonka.com	February 1, 2010
New Hope	Daniel Stauner 8424 Meadow Lake Road E. New Hope, MN 55428-3142 763-536-1415 dstauner@ci.new-hope.mn.us	Vacant	February 1, 2010
Plymouth	Ginny Black, Vice Chair Plymouth City Hall 3400 Plymouth Blvd Plymouth 55447 763-509-5004 Ginny bassettcreek@att.net	Elizabeth Thornton 4270 Lawndale Lane North Plymouth 55446 763-509-0784 eathornt@comcast.net	February 1, 2011
Robbinsdale	Karla Peterson Minnesota Department of Health PO Box 64975 St. Paul, MN 55164-0975 651-215-0761 Karla.Peterson@health.state.mn.us	Wayne Sicora 3706 Abbott Ave. North Robbinsdale, MN 55422 763-532-8165 Wayne.sicora@ryancompanies.com	February 1, 2011
St. Louis Park	Manuel Jordan P.O. Box 26607 St. Louis Park, MN 55426 952-544-7978 heritageshadetree@comcast.net	Sue Sanger 4717 W. 28 th Street St. Louis Park, MN 55416 Suesanger@comcast.net	February 1, 2011

B. BCWMC Staff and Consultants

Attorney

Charlie LeFevere Kennedy & Graven 470 U.S. Bank Plaza 200 South Sixth Street Minneapolis, MN 55402 612-337-9215

clefevere@kennedy-graven.com

Deputy Treasurer

Susan Virnig City of Golden Valley 7800 Golden Valley Road Golden Valley, MN 55427 763-593-8010 svirnig@ci.golden-valley.mn.us

Engineer

Leonard J. Kremer, P.E. James P. Herbert, P.E. Karen L. Chandler, P.E. Barr Engineering Company 4700 West 77th Street Minneapolis, MN 55435-4803 952-832-2600 lkremer@barr.com iherbert@barr.com kchandler@barr.com

Bassett Creek Recording Administrator

Amy Herbert c/o Barr Engineering Company 4700 West 77th Street Minneapolis, MN 55435-4803 952-832-2652 bcra@barr.com

C. BCWMC Goals and 2008 Work Activities

Description of Overall Goals

The BCWMC's general goals fall under the categories of water quality, flood control, erosion and sediment control, stream restoration, wetland management, groundwater, public ditches, and public involvement and information. The goals are to:

- Manage the water resources of the watershed, with input from the public, so that the beneficial uses of wetlands, lakes, and streams remain available to the community.
- Improve the quality of stormwater runoff reaching the Mississippi River by reducing the nonpoint source pollution (including sediment) carried as stormwater runoff.
- Protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat and maintain shoreland integrity.
- Reduce flooding along the Bassett Creek trunk system which is defined as:
 - a. The main channel from Medicine Lake to the Mississippi River.
 - b. The North Branch from upstream of County Road 9 to its junctions with the Main Stem near T.H. 100.
 - c. The Sweeney Lake Branch, from its source in Section 5, T29N, R21W to its junction with the Main Stem downstream of Sweeney Lake.
 - d. Plymouth Creek, from the point where it intersects with Highway 55 in Section 17, T228N, R22W to Medicine Lake, including the lake.
 - e. The designated water quantity and water quality storage facilities.
 - f. All other drains designated as trunks by the BCWMC.
- Protect human life, property, and surface water systems that could be damaged by flood events.
- Regulate stormwater runoff discharges and volumes to minimize flood problems, flood damages, and the future costs of stormwater management systems.

- Provide leadership and assist member cities with coordination of intercommunity stormwater runoff planning and design.
- Prevent erosion and sedimentation to the greatest extent possible to protect the BCWMC's water resources from increased sediment loading and associated water quality problems.
- Implement soil protection and sedimentation controls whenever necessary to maintain health, safety, and welfare.
- Implement stream restoration measures whenever necessary to maintain health, safety, and welfare.
- Maintain or enhance the natural beauty and wildlife habitat value of Bassett Creek.
- Achieve no net loss of wetlands in the BCWMC, in conformance with the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) and associated rules.
- Protect the quantity and quality of groundwater resources.
- Manage public ditches in a manner that recognizes their current use as urban drainage systems.
- Raise awareness of the watershed's existence and the role that the BCWMC plays in protecting water quality and preserving the watershed's health and aesthetics.
- Enable the target audiences to have confidence in the BCWMC's expertise and participate in a meaningful way in the planning process and ongoing projects conducted by the BCWMC.
- Raise awareness of the impact that individuals, businesses, and organizations have upon
 water quality and motivate these audiences to change personal/corporate behavior that has a
 negative impact on water quality and the watershed.

2008 Work Activities Completed

In addition to the activities described in the Executive Summary, the BCWMC conducted the following activities in 2008. Work associated with review of development proposals is listed in Section E. Work related to water quality monitoring is addressed in Section F.

• Impaired Waters and Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) Studies:

1. The following water bodies in the Bassett Creek Watershed were listed in the 2008 Final TMDL List "Inventory of Impaired Waters."

Water Body	Pollutant or Stessor (Year
(Lake/River ID #)	
Bassett Creek from Medicine	Fish bioassessments (2004)
Lake to Mississippi River (07010206-538)	Fecal coliform (2008)
Sweeney Lake	Nutrient/Eutrophication Biological indicators (2004)
(27-0035-01)	
Wirth Lake	Nutrient/Eutrophication Biological indicators (2002)
(27-0037-00)	Mercury in fish tissue (2002)
Medicine Lake	Nutrient/Eutrophication Biological indicators (2004)
(27-0104-00)	Mercury in fish tissue (2004)
Parkers Lake	Mercury in fish tissue (1998)
(27-0107-00)	
Northwood Lake	Nutrient/Eutrophication Biological indicators (2004)
(27-0627-00)	

List can be found at http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/wq-iw3-15.pdf

2. **Sweeney Lake TMDL Study**—In the *Final EPA-Approved MPCA 2004 CWA 303(d) List of Impaired Waters*, Sweeney Lake was listed as impaired due to excess nutrients (phosphorus) and was listed as having a target TMDL study start date of 2009 and a target TMDL study completion date of 2012.

In 2007 the BCWMC contracted with the MPCA for Phase 1 of the Sweeney Lake TMDL study. The Phase 1 work plan is posted on the MPCA's Web site at http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/tmdl-sweeneylake-phase1workplan.pdf. In 2008 the BCWMC contracted with the MPCA for Phase 2 of the Sweeney Lake TMDL study. The Phase 2 work plan is posted on the MPCA's Web site at http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/tmdl-sweeneylake-phase2workplan.pdf. In 2008 the final pieces of Phase 1 were completed and 50% of Phase 2 was completed. In 2008 the Phase 2 tasks completed included the second year of in-lake and in-flow monitoring

² List can be found at http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/wq-iw3-15.xls

work, the compilation of all of the sampling data, and the completion and calibration of the lake response model 2007 data runs. The Sweeney Lake TMDL estimated project timeline is posted on the MPCA's Web site at

http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/tmdl-sweeneylake-projecttimeline.pdf.

The components of Phase 2 of the TMDL study include the following tasks:

- A nutrient-loading analysis comprising an in-lake data collection, runoff
 monitoring, phosphorus loading analysis, evaluation of internal loading, surfacewater loading, in-lake mass balance, and aeration impacts, and BATHTUB
 modeling;
- A public involvement process;
- Development of the details of an implementation plan;
- Preparation of a recommended monitoring plan; and
- Preparation of the draft and final TMDL reports.

For more information about the Sweeney Lake TMDL study, visit the following Web sites:

The Sweeney Lake TMDL project Web site maintained by SEH, Inc. at http://www.sehinc.com/online/sweeney/index.htm.

The Sweeney Lake TMDL project Web site maintained by the MPCA at http://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/tmdl/project-sweeneylake.html.

The TMDL page on the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission's Web site at http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/TMDLStudyHomepage.htm.

3. **Medicine Lake TMDL Study**—In the *Final EPA-Approved MPCA 2004 CWA 303(d) List of Impaired Waters*, Sweeney Lake was listed as impaired due to excess nutrients (phosphorus) and was listed as having a target TMDL study start date of 2009 and a target TMDL study completion date of 2012. In 2008 the BCWMC approved conducting the Medicine Lake TMDL Study with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) leading the project. The MPCA has partnered with Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (BCWMC) and Three Rivers Park District (TRPD) to develop the work

products necessary to complete the TMDL and Implementation Plan for Medicine Lake. The Medicine Lake Excess Nutrients TMDL Project Tasks and Timeline is posted on the MPCA's Web site at http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/tmdl-medicinelake-timeline.pdf. and the final work plan is posted on the Web site at http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/tmdl-medicinelake-workplan.pdf.

In 2008 the Medicine Lake TMDL Steering Committee was formed with technical and non-technical stakeholders that will be affected by the final implementation plan. A list of the 2008 and 2009 Steering Committee meeting dates and topics is posted on the MPCA Web site at http://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/tmdl/medicinelake-scmeetings.pdf.

For more information about the Medicine Lake TMDL study, visit the following Web sites:

The Medicine Lake TMDL project Web site maintained by the MPCA at http://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/tmdl/project-medicinelake-phosphorus.html

The TMDL page on the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission's Web site at http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/TMDLStudyHomepage.htm.

4. Wirth Lake TMDL Study—In the *Final EPA-Approved MPCA 2004 CWA 303(d) List of Impaired Waters*, With Lake was listed as impaired due to excess nutrients (phosphorus in amounts greater than the state's goal of 40 micrograms per liter) and was listed as having a target TMDL study start date of 2009 and a target TMDL study completion date of 2012. In 2008 the BCWMC developed a scope of work for the TMDL and approved undertaking the TMDL study with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency leading the project. The MPCA entered into an agreement with a contractor to conduct the technical work in the work plan.

The scope of work in the work plan includes:

- Updating the watershed and in-lake water quality response modeling developed for the BCWMC Wirth Lake Plan;
- Calibrating the modeling to the most recent monitoring data for the lake;
- Evaluating watershed control measures and in-lake management techniques for phosphorus load reductions;

- Determining the margin of safety (MOS) and waste load allocations (WLA) and load allocations (LA) for phosphorus;
- Developing implementation and compliance monitoring plans;
- Coordinating and communicating with a citizen- stakeholder- technical advisory committee (CSTAC); and
- Writing the TMDL report that fulfills Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and Environmental Protection Agency requirements.

For more information about the Wirth Lake TMDL study, visit the following Web sites:

The Wirth Lake TMDL project Web site maintained by the MPCA at http://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/tmdl/project-wirthlake.html

The TMDL page on the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission's Web site at http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/TMDLStudyHomepage.htm

- 5. **Bassett Creek Fish IBI (Index of Biological Integrity) Listing**—In the Final EPA-Approved MPCA 2004 CWA 303(d) List of Impaired Waters, the Main Stem of Bassett Creek, from Medicine Lake to the Mississippi River, was listed as impaired for fish (biota) based on the results of sampling at one location at the downstream end of the watershed. An entire stream is considering impaired for fish if the Index of Biological Integrity for fish in any section of the stream is below 46, calculated using the standard methods defined in the Index of Biological Integrity Guidance for Coolwater Rivers and Streams of the Upper Mississippi River Basin published by the MPCA Biological Monitoring Program in 2002. Partnering with the BCWMC, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency conducted fish sampling in the summer of 2008 at four locations along Bassett Creek and its tributaries in order to determine the extent of the impairment. The results from the 2008 sampling and IBI calculations determined that two of the four sampled sites were below the standard of IBI of 46; therefore, Bassett Creek is considered impaired for fish bioassessments.
- 6. **Bassett Creek Fecal Coliform Listing** In the 2008 Final TMDL List Inventory of all Impaired Waters, Bassett Creek, from Medicine Lake to the Mississippi River, was listed as impaired for fecal coliform. As mentioned in the Executive Summary, in 2008 the BCWMC conducted water quality sampling of Bassett Creek. During July, August, and

September 2008, a contractor collected water samples along six locations along the creek in order to determine presence and quantity of bacteria in the creek. The samples were analyzed at the Minnesota Department of Health lab in St. Paul for E. Coli bacteria. All samples tested contained E. Coli bacteria. The BCWMC received the results of the analysis in December 2008.

- Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Reserve Account. In 2005 the BCWMC established a \$250,000 reserve fund to address shortages in available funding in any given year for construction of water quality CIP projects. The BCWMC agreed to revisit the reserve account policy each year. In 2008 the BCWMC made no changes to the policy.
- Annual Report—The BCWMC prepared the 2008 Annual Report as set forth in the
 Minnesota Rules Chapter 8410.0150. The report was submitted to the Board of Water and
 Soil Resources and is available online at the Bassett Creek Watershed Management
 Commission Web site at http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org.
- Water Quantity—The BCWMC continued its lake- and stream-gauging program. The lake-gauging program consisted of collecting monthly lake-level readings at Medicine Lake, Sweeney Lake, Parkers Lake, Westwood Lake, Crane Lake (Ridgedale Pond), and Northwood Lake. Lake levels were measured twice per month between April and September. The stream-gauging program consisted of periodically surveying stages or inspecting the creek if periods of high flow exist. The BCWMC also participated with the Metropolitan Council and Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board on the watershed outlet monitoring program (WOMP) designed to continuously monitor flow and water quality. Graphs of lake levels are included in the appendices.
- Watershed Inspection—The BCWMC performed monthly erosion control inspections of
 construction sites within the watershed. Following each inspection, a letter was prepared and
 sent to the applicable municipality listing construction projects and the improvement needed
 for effective erosion control.
- **Flood Control Project Inspection**—The BCWMC performed its annual inspections of the flood control project. Following the inspection, letters were prepared and sent to the applicable municipality and Mn/DOT summarizing the results of the inspection.

- Development Proposals—The BCWMC reviewed 31 development proposals in the watershed for conformance to water quality and flooding policies. See Section F: Project Reviews.
- **Technical Advisory Committee**—The BCWMC directed its Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to review the following items:
 - 1. Proposed Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) modifications
 - City of Plymouth's proposal for CIP funding of a 2008 spot-treatment of Curlyleaf Pondweed on Medicine Lake
 - 3. Recommend a change order policy for CIP projects
 - 4. Recommend ways the BCWMC could address aesthetic elements of projects
 - 5. Review the final revisions of the Requirements for Improvements and Development Proposals document including Best Management Practices requirements.
 - 6. Review Non-degradation and Level 1 requirements for sites that involve additions, site expansions, and changes in land use
 - 7. Discuss Hennepin County's Proposed Ditch Abandonment Policy
 - 8. Develop recommendation regarding the sampling program of the fecal coliform impairment of Bassett Creek Main Stem
 - 9. Develop recommendation on whether wetland mitigation costs of West Medicine Lake Park Pond project should be part of ad valorem tax request
 - 10. Develop recommendation regarding reimbursement for wetland mitigation on CIP projects
 - 11. Discuss BCWMC operations and structure with Springstead, Inc.
 - 12. Review final Medicine Lake Work Plan
- Permit Review Fees—Based on BCWMC review of its permit review fee schedule, the BCWMC revised its schedule effective January 1, 2009. The fee schedule is online at the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Web site at http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org.

- Twin's Stadium Project—The BCWMC coordinated with the city of Minneapolis and the Minnesota Ball Park Authority regarding inspection and construction of the proposed stadium over the Bassett Creek Tunnel.
- Channel Maintenance Fund—This fund is for creek and stream bank maintenance projects that are smaller than channel maintenance projects that are part of the BCWMC's Capital Improvement Plan. No Channel Maintenance Fund projects took place in 2008.
- Flood Control Long-Term Maintenance Fund—These funds are for projects to repair structures associated with the Flood Control Project. Repairs to the Bassett Creek tunnel located in the city of Minneapolis will be reimbursed from this fund.
- Resolution 08-01, A Resolution of Appreciation for the Services of Richard Johnson to the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission— The BCWMC adopted Resolution 08-01 at its January 17, 2008, meeting.
- Resolution 08-02, A Resolution Designating Depositories for Bassett Creek Watershed
 Management Commission Funds— The BCWMC adopted Resolution 08-02 at its February 21, 2008, meeting.
- Resolution 08-03, A Resolution Approving the Reimbursement to the Bassett Creek
 Watershed Management Commission 2.5% of the 2007 Tax Levy, for Administrative
 Expenses for Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Projects and Approving the Transfer
 of the Funds from the CIP Account to the Administrative Account— The BCWMC
 adopted Resolution 08-03 at its February 21, 2008, meeting.
- Resolution 08-04, A Resolution Amending the Bassett Creek Watershed Management
 Commission's 2007 Operating Budget by Ordering the Transfer at Fiscal Year-End
 2007 the Funds Remaining in the Annual Inspections Budget to the 2008 Project
 Inspections Budget— The BCWMC adopted Resolution 08-04 at its February 21, 2008,
 meeting.
- Resolution 08-05, A Resolution Approving the Local Plan Prepared by the City of Minnetonka— The BCWMC adopted Resolution 08-05 at its September 18, 2008, meeting.
- Resolution 08-06, A Resolution Approving the Local Plan Prepared by the City of Golden Valley— The BCWMC adopted Resolution 08-06 at its September 18, 2008, meeting.

- Resolution 08-07, A Resolution Making Findings Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 103B.251— The BCWMC adopted Resolution 08-06 at its September 18, 2008, meeting. The resolution updated the cost of the West Medicine Lake Park Pond Capital Improvement Project from the original estimate of \$900,000 to the revised estimate of \$1,100,000 in order to include wetland mitigation costs not included in the original cost estimate. The resolution also certified \$800,000 of the project cost to Hennepin County for 2008.
- Resolution 08-08, A Resolution Approving the Local Plan Prepared by the City of New Hope— The BCWMC adopted Resolution 08-08 at its October 16, 2008, meeting.
- Resolution 08-09, A Resolution Approving the Local Plan Prepared by the City of Plymouth— The BCWMC adopted Resolution 08-09 at its November 19, 2008, meeting.
- Resolution 08-10, A Resolution Approving the Transfer of Bassett Creek Watershed
 Management Commission Funds from the Administrative Account to the Erosion/
 Sediment (Channel Maintenance) Account, Long-Term Maintenance Account, and
 TMDL Studies Account— The BCWMC adopted Resolution 08-10 at its December 18,
 2008, meeting.

D. 2009 Projected Work Plan

Following is a list of tasks to be completed during 2009:

- Water Quantity—The BCWMC will perform its lake- and stream-gauging program. The
 lake-gauging program will encompass Medicine Lake, Sweeney Lake, Parkers Lake,
 Westwood Lake, Crane Lake (Ridgedale Pond), and Northwood Lake. The stream-gauging
 program will consist of periodically surveying stages or inspecting the creek if periods of
 high flow exist.
- Watershed Inspection—The BCWMC will perform its watershed construction-site inspection program. The inspections have proved valuable in correcting erosion- and sediment-control practices that are not in conformance with BCWMC policies.
- Flood Control Project Inspection—The BCWMC will perform its flood control project inspection program as set forth in the Bassett Creek Flood Control Project Operations and Maintenance Manual.
- Water Quality—Proposed water quality tasks for 2009 include performance of the following:
 - 1. *Water Quality Monitoring:* The BCWMC and Three Rivers Park District will perform detailed lake monitoring of Northwood Lake in New Hope; North and South Rice Lake in Golden Valley/Robbinsdale; and Sweeney and Twin Lake in Golden Valley.
 - 2. *Stream Monitoring:* The BCWMC will perform biotic index monitoring of Bassett Creek Main Stem, North Branch, Sweeney Lake Branch and Plymouth Creek.
 - 3. *CAMP*: The lake-gauging program will include lake monitoring through the citizens assisted monitoring program (CAMP). Volunteer citizens will monitor the following lakes: Sweeney Lake in Golden Valley, Northwood Lake in New Hope, Westwood Lake in St. Louis Park, and Parkers Lake in Plymouth.
 - 4. Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program (WOMP:) The program will be managed by Metropolitan Council Environmental Services and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. The BCWMC will provide technical support for the maintenance of the rating curve.

- 5. River Watch Program: The BCWMC will participate in the River Watch program managed by Hennepin County Environmental Services (HCES) and two sites on Bassett Creek will be sampled. A final report of the 2009 sampling results will be provided to the BCWMC by HCES.
- 6. *Medicine Lake:* will be monitored by Three Rivers Park District and the City of Plymouth.
- 7. Parkers Lake: will be monitored by Three Rivers Park District and the City of Plymouth.
- 8. Wirth Lake: will be monitored by Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board.
- **Development**—The BCWMC will review development proposals in the watershed for conformance to water quality and flooding policies.
- Citizen Involvement—The BCWMC will make provisions for citizen participation including an opportunity at each monthly BCWMC meeting to hear citizen-input about agenda and non-agenda items. The BCWMC posts its upcoming meeting agendas and its previous meeting minutes on its Web site (www.bassettcreekwmo.org) to provide citizens an opportunity to monitor BCWMC actions. Citizen involvement is an important component on Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) studies and public meetings on the Sweeney Lake, Medicine Lake, and Wirth Lake TMDLs will take place in 2009.
- Second Generation Watershed Management Plan—The BCWMC will implement its Capital Improvements Program as described in the BCWMC Watershed Management Plan.
- Capital Improvement Program and Prioritization—The BCWMC will review and update
 its capital improvement program and its water resource prioritization. The Capital
 Improvements Program is included in the report appendices.
- Channel Maintenance Fund—The BCWMC will continue its creek and streambank maintenance fund. The member cities will be assessed \$25,000 annually for the fund.
- Flood Control Long-Term Maintenance Fund—The BCWMC established a long-term maintenance fund to be used to repair structures associated with the Flood Control Project. The member cities will be assessed \$25,000 annually to a not-to-exceed fund amount of \$1 million.

- **Annual Report**—The BCWMC will prepare an annual report and submit to BWSR and member cities and will post it on its Web site.
- Sweeney Lake TMDL Study—The BCWMC and its contractor will continue with the Phase 2 tasks of the TMDL study on Sweeney Lake including: developing the details of the implementation plan; preparing the recommended monitoring plan; and preparing the draft and final TMDL reports. The BCWMC anticipates the final TMDL report will be completed by fall.
- Medicine Lake TMDL Study—The BCWMC and the MPCA and their contractors will
 continue working on the project tasks including: completing the final modeling report;
 continuing the stakeholder and public participation process; evaluating the improvement
 options; developing the allocations and implementation plan; developing the monitoring plan;
 and preparing the draft and final TMDL reports. The BCWMC anticipates the final report
 will be completed by fall.
- Wirth Lake TMDL Study—The BCWMC and the MPCA and their contractors will conduct the tasks in the work plan including: modeling, conducting the stakeholder and public participation process, evaluating improvement options, developing the allocations and implementation plan, developing the monitoring plan, and writing the draft and final TMDL report. The goal is to have the final TMDL report completed by October.
- Bassett Creek Main Stem Biota Listing—The BCWMC will be discussing next steps regarding the fish bioassessment in consideration of the analysis conducted in 2008.
- Bassett Creek Main Stem Fecal Coliform Listing—The BCWMC will be discussing next steps regarding the fish bioassessment in consideration of the analysis conducted in 2008.

E. Project Reviews

Two tables have been prepared that list development proposals and other plans that were reviewed by the BCWMC and/or its engineering consultant. The following table, *Plans Presented for BCWMC Review and Comment* includes development proposals and other plans that were reviewed and discussed during the BCWMC meeting. The second table, *Plans Presented for Administrative Review and Comment*, is a list of projects that were reviewed by the BCWMC's engineer in accordance with policies of the BCWMC. The second table is included in the report appendices.

Plans Presented For BCWMC Review and Comment

Appl. Form #	Project Name	Date Submitted	City	Comments	Date of BCWMC Meeting
2008-1	Golden Valley 2008/09 Pavement Management Program	2/5/08	Golden Valley	Conditional approval, Public road	2/21/08
2008-2	Crest Ridge Corporate Center	2//6/08	Minnetonka	Conditional approval of change in land use, Commercial development	2/21/08
2008-4	Plymouth Street Reconstruction Project; West Medicine Lake Area	3/20/08	Plymouth	Conditional approval, Public road	4/17/08
None	Highway 55 EAW	Preliminary	Plymouth	BCWMC provided comments to Hennepin County	4/17/08
2008-13	Trader Joes	6/4/08	Minnetonka	Conditional approval of underground water quality vault Commercial development	6/19/08
2008-14	North Hennepin Regional Trail- Phase 2	6/25/08	Golden Valley	Approval, Public Trail	7/17/08
2008-17	1240 Angelo Drive	7/22/08	Golden Valley	Approval, Shoreline restoration	8/21/08
2008-23	West Medicine Lake Park Pavilion	9/14/08	Plymouth	No Action (Withdrawn from Agenda)	10/16/08
2008-28	9209 40 ½ Avenue North	10/13/08	New Hope	Variance to floodplain policy tabled to allow applicant and City to review compensatory storage.	11/19/08
2008-32	West Medicine Lake Water Quality Ponds	11/24/08	Plymouth	No action required (Review only)	12/18/08

F. Water Quality Monitoring Data and Studies

The following water quality monitoring and water quality studies were performed:

- Sweeney and Twin Lake—The BCWMC and Three Rivers Park District performed detailed lake monitoring of Sweeny Lake and Twin Lake. Monitoring was performed at each lake on six to twelve occasions for selected parameters by Three Rivers Park District. Selected parameters included total phosphorus, soluble reactive phosphorus, total nitrogen, pH and chlorophyll a. Phytoplankton, and zooplankton were analyzed by BCWMC staff. An aquatic survey was performed on two occasions. The report 2008 Lake Water Quality Study Sweeney Lake and Twin Lake (February, 2009) was prepared by the BCWMC. A copy of the executive summary is appended. The report is also available on the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission Web site (http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org)
- Citizens Assisted Lake Monitoring Program (CAMP)—The BCWMC participated with the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) in its citizen-assisted lakemonitoring program (CAMP). Volunteer citizens monitored the following lakes: Sweeney Lake in Golden Valley, Northwood Lake in New Hope, Westwood Lake in St. Louis Park, Parkers Lake in Plymouth, and South Rice Lake in Golden Valley/Robbinsdale. See 2007 Study of the Water Quality of 176 Metropolitan Area Lakes (Met Council, July 2008). The report is also available on the Metropolitan Council Web site:

 (http://www.metrocouncil.org/environment/RiversLakes/Lake_Report_2007_webversion.pdf).
- Detailed stream monitoring at Bassett Creek WOMP station—Stream monitoring was performed in cooperation with the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) as part of the stream monitoring and watershed outlet monitoring program (WOMP). See the MCES Web site for additional information: http://www.metrocouncil.org/environment/RiversLakes/index.htm
- Birch Pond, Wirth Lake, Spring Lake and Bassett Creek WOMP Data—The
 Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board (MPRB) monitored Wirth Lake and Spring Lake. The
 MPRB also managed the Bassett Creek WOMP station. A copy of the executive summary
 and other sections related to Bassett Creek watershed from the MPRB's 2007 Water
 Resources Report (January 2009) is appended and can be obtained from Minneapolis Park &

Recreation Board Web site at:

http://www.minneapolisparks.org/documents/caring/WaterResourcesReport2007.pdf

- Medicine Lake and Parkers Lake—The City of Plymouth and Three Rivers Park District
 monitor Medicine Lake and Parkers Lake. A copy of the 2005-2007 results is included in the
 report City of Plymouth Water Quality Monitoring 2005-2007 (Three Rivers Park District).
 The referenced report and 2008 results can be obtained from Plymouth and Three Rivers Park
 District staff.
- River Watch Program—The BCWMC has supported the Hennepin County Environmental Services in its River Watch Program. The program began in 1995 and utilizes volunteers to conduct biological monitoring as a means of monitoring water quality. Students have been monitoring Bassett Creek since 1999. There were two River Watch sites in the Bassett Creek Watershed in 2008 including site GM, which is located on Betty Crocker Drive in the City of Golden Valley, and site #13, which is located east of Highway 100 and south of Bassett Creek Drive. See the report "Hennepin County River Watch 2008 Year in Review: Bassett Creek" included in Appendix B for more information including the explanation of the stream grading scale. Site GM received a grade of "C" in 2008 in respect to the family biotic index, the presence of EPT, and the number of families present, which is the same grade the site received in 2007. Site 13 received a grade of "D" in 2008, which is a grade lower than it received in 2007. See Hennepin County Environmental Services Web site for additional information about River Watch:

 $\frac{\text{http://wwwa.co.hennepin.mn.us/portal/site/HCInternet/menuitem.3f94db53874f9b6f68ce1e10}{\text{b1466498/?vgnextoid=e76d26b92c9fc010VgnVCM1000000f094689RCRD\&vgnextfmt=defa}}$ ult.

- Medicine Lake Curlyleaf Pondweed Herbicide Treatment—The City of Plymouth conducted herbicide treatment for curlyleaf pondweed during 2008. A copy of the results is included in the report Response of Curlyleaf Pondweed to Herbicide Treatments from 2004-2008 in Medicine Lake, Plymouth Minnesota (Blue Water Science). The referenced report can be obtained from Plymouth staff. A copy of the summary is attached.
- Parker's Lake Aquatic Plant Surveys—The City of Plymouth conducted aquatic plant surveys during May and August 2008. A copy of the results is included in the report *Aquatic*

Plant Surveys for Parker's Lake, Plymouth Minnesota, 2008 (Blue Water Science). The referenced report can be obtained from Plymouth staff. A copy of the summary is attached.

- MPCA Fish Index of Biological—The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MCPA)
 conducted electro-fishing at four locations along Bassett Creek and its tributaries during the
 summer of 2008. A copy of the results and December 11, 2008 technical memorandum from
 Barr Engineering Co. is attached.
- **BCWMC E. Coli Bacteria Monitoring**—The BCWMC collected water samples at six locations along Bassett Creek during the summer of 2008 to determine the presence and quantity of bacteria in the stream. A copy of the results and December 11, 2008 technical memorandum from Barr Engineering Co. is attached.
- Capital Improvements Plan—The 10-year capital improvements plan and potential future water quality capital improvements plan prepared by the BCWMC is included in the BCWMC Watershed Management Plan (September 2004). See Appendix F to review the table of the BCWMC's capital improvement projects.
- **Medicine Lake Gage**—A staff gage is located at the Medicine Lake outlet structure. The current 0.00 staff gage reading is equal to 887.00 MSL.

G. Local Plan Adoption

Many of the municipal plans were prepared prior to adoption of the BCWMC 2004 plan. The following table shows the status of the surface water management plan preparation for each municipality.

Municipality	Local Plan Status	Comments
Crystal	In progress	Final plan scheduled to be completed in 2009.
Golden Valley	Completed	Local plan approved by the BCWMC in August 1999. Resolution 99-6. Revised plan was approved by the BCWMC in September 2008. Resolution 08-06.
Medicine Lake	In progress	Final plan scheduled to be completed in 2009.
Minneapolis	Completed	Local plan was approved by the BCWMC in September 2006. Resolution 2006-04.
Minnetonka	Completed	Local plan was approved by the BCWMC in October 1997. Resolution 97-8. Revised plan was approved by the BCWMC in September 2008. Resolution 08-05.
New Hope	Completed	Local plan was approved by the BCWMC in August 1996; reconfirmed in April 1997. Resolution 97-4. Revised plan was approved by the BCWMC in October 2008. Resolution 08-08.
Plymouth	Completed	Local plan conditionally approved by the BCWMC in February 1999. Resolution 99-3. Revised plan was approved by the BCWMC in November 2008. Resolution 08-09.
Robbinsdale	Completed	Local plan was approved by the BCWMC in October 1996; reconfirmed in April 1997. Resolution 97-5. Local plan was reviewed as part of the city's comprehensive plan review in 2008. Revised plan is anticipated to be completed in 2009.
St. Louis Park	Completed	Local plan was approved by the BCWMC in March 2000; Resolution 00-2. Revised plan is scheduled to be completed in 2009.

H. Watershed Communication/ Public Education

In accordance with Minnesota Rules, Chapter 8410, Subpart 4, the BCWMC utilized the following information sources for providing information to the general public:

- Improvements and Development Requirements—The report Requirements for Improvements and Development Proposals, prepared by the BCWMC (November 1998), is posted on the BCWMC's Web site at http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/require/97reptab.htm. The updated document was reviewed and approved by the BCWMC in 2008.
- Web Site—The BCWMC updated information on its Web site throughout 2008. Information posted on the site includes: the BCWMC's Watershed Management Plan, BCWMC meeting agendas, meeting/ events calendar, meeting minutes, water quality information, details of the Total Maximum Daily Load studies being undertaken by the BCWMC, the permit application form and the requirements for development and improvement proposals being submitted for BCWMC review, and the BCWMC's annual reports. In 2008, there were approximately 73,973 visits to the BCWMC's Web site. A copy of the Web site Usage Report from January 1, 2008, through December 31, 2008, is included in the appendices. The address for Bassett Creek Web site is http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org.
- **BCWMC Meeting Packet** Each month in 2008 the BCWMC distributed monthly meeting packets to approximately 40 interested parties. The packets included the BCWMC meeting agenda, meeting minutes, and meeting materials such as various correspondence items and other documents pertaining to the meeting agenda.
- Communications Coordinator—The BCWMC will continue to implement a public information plan as recommended by the Policy and Citizens Advisory Groups at its November 13, 2001, special meeting.
- Technical Advisory Committees (TAC) Meetings—The TAC met the first Thursday of every other month and on additional days as needed to discuss issues directed to it by the BCWMC. The TAC meetings were noticed and were open to the public.
- Metro Watershed Partners—The BCWMC participated as a member of the Metro
 Watershed Partners as a supporter of the Minnesota Water- Let's Keep it Clean stormwater
 education program for the Twin Cities Metro Area and Greater Minnesota. The program is

designed to assist local government, organizations, educators, and individual citizens in conducting stormwater education outreach. Components of the program include:

- Maintenance of the Clean Water Minnesota Web site at <u>www.cleanwatermn.org</u>, which is a stormwater education resource.
- o Creation of stormwater education publications and press releases.
- Creation of stormwater education print ads available for placement in the media by local government
- **Plymouth Yard and Garden Expo**—The BCWMC participated in the City of Plymouth's 2008 Yard and Garden Expo.
- Sunset Hills Elementary Environmental Expo—The BCWMC participated in the City of Plymouth's annual environmental expo by setting up an educational display and conducting hands-on demonstration activities.
- **Demonstration and Public Communications**—The BCWMC's small-grant program is designed to promote water-quality improvement projects and communications and education programs that reduce pollution. The grant program provides up to \$1,000 to grantees to support the following activities:
 - 1. Water-quality improvement projects;
 - 2. Communication and education programs on reducing pollution from household activities; and
 - 3. Projects that raise citizen awareness of their role/ responsibility in improving and maintaining water quality in the watershed.

In 2008 the BCWMC awarded the following grant:

• The Blake School- the BCWMC granted up to \$1,000 to help The Blake School senior class construct a demonstration rain garden that will utilize up to 25% of the total roof-collected water from the Upper School buildings.

The BCWMC has information about grant eligibility and application procedures in its grant program section of the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Organization Web site at http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.html.

- BCWMC Education and Public Outreach Committee: In addition to the activities
 described in the Executive Summary, the Committee conducted the following activities in
 2008:
 - The Education and Public Outreach Committee participated in quarterly joint meetings
 of the Education and Public Outreach Committees (EPOC) of the Bassett Creek
 Watershed Management Organization (WMO), Elm Creek WMO, Shingle Creek/ West
 Mississippi WMO, and Pioneer-Sarah Creek WMO. The purpose of the joint meetings
 is to promote consistent and cooperative messages in the participating watersheds.
 - 2. The Committee participated with the Joint EPOC in 2007 to hire a firm to conduct a public opinion survey of residents regarding knowledge of water-related issues. In 2008 the Joint EPOC reviewed and distributed the survey results and began developing a communication plan based on the results. The Joint EPOC arranged a public presentation at Plymouth City Hall of the results and the BCWMC Education and Outreach Committee arranged for a presentation of the results at a BCWMC meeting.
 - 3. The Committee purchased 400 packets of mixed seeds of Minnesota native prairie plants for the BCWMC to distribute to citizens at education events and through the BCWMC's education display that is displayed on a rotating basis at member-cities' city halls and at public events throughout the year.

I. Professional Services Proposal

In accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 103B.227, Subdivision 5, the BCWMC solicited proposals in 2008 for administrative, legal, and engineering technical consulting services. The Commission's Administrative Services Committee reviewed the proposals and brought recommendations to the Commission at its December 18, 2008, meeting. The Commission approved retaining Barr Engineering Company for engineering technical services, Kennedy & Graven for legal services, and Amy Herbert for administrative services.

J. Assessment of Changes in Fund Balance

A discussion of the fund balance is included in the BCWMC's annual financial audit report. A copy of the annual audit report will be made available on the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission's Web site at http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org.

K. Wetland Conservation Act/Wetland Banking Program

1991 Wetland Conservation Act—The interim program of the 1991 Wetland Conservation Act was effective through December 31, 1993. On January 1, 1994, the permanent program of the 1991 Wetland Conservation Act became effective. Each municipality was required to designate the local government unit (LGU) responsible for administrating the interim program and the permanent program of the 1991 Wetland Conservation Act. The following table indicates the local governmental unit for each municipality.

Municipality	Permanent Program (Effective 1/1/94)
Crystal	Crystal
Golden Valley	Golden Valley
Medicine Lake	BCWMC
Minneapolis	Minneapolis
Minnetonka	Minnetonka
New Hope	New Hope
Plymouth	Plymouth
Robbinsdale	BCWMC
St. Louis Park	BCWMC

BCWMC = Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

Wetland Mitigation Policy—The BCWMC's wetland mitigation policy specifies that filling or developing existing lakes and wetlands require an evaluation of the benefits of the wetland for stormwater storage, water quality enhancement, and wildlife habitat, as well as the development of a plan to mitigate the loss of those benefits somewhere in the affected municipality.

Wetland Banking Program—The BCWMC has not adopted a wetland banking program.

II. Annual Financial Report

The 2008 fiscal year for the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (BCWMC) commenced on February 1, 2008 and ended January 31, 2009.

A. Approved Budget

The approved operating budget for fiscal year 2008 was \$490,500. Each member's contribution toward the annual budget is based 50 percent on the total area of the municipality within the watershed and 50 percent on the tax capacity of the area within the watershed. A copy of the 2008 budget proposal, member-city assessment table, and operating budget prepared by the BCWMC's Deputy Treasurer are appended.

B. Report of Revenues

See the Financial Audit Report in the appendices.

C. Report of Expenditures

See the Financial Audit Report in the appendices.

D. Financial Audit Report

The annual audit report for the year ending January 31, 2009, was performed by Malloy Montague Karnowski Radosevich & Co., P.A. A copy of the annual audit report is included in the appendices and also is available on the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission's Web site at http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org.