



## Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

# MEMO

Date: July 13, 2016  
From: Laura Jester, Administrator  
To: BCWMC Commissioners  
RE: **Administrator's Report**

Aside from this month's agenda items, the Commission Engineers, city staff, committee members, and I continue to work on the following Commission projects and issues.

### **CIP Projects** (more resources at <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects.>)

**2017 Plymouth Creek Restoration Project, Annapolis Lane to 2,500 feet Upstream (2017CR-P) (See Item 5D):** The final feasibility study is now available online at <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?cID=284> and was used to request 2017 levy funds from Hennepin County. BCWMC staff and city staff will attend a Hennepin County Commission meeting on July 19<sup>th</sup> to answer any questions that may arise regarding this project and the levy request. In September, the Commission is expected to hold a public hearing on the project, order the project, and enter an agreement with the City of Plymouth to design and construct the project.

**2017 Main Stem Bassett Creek Streambank Erosion Repair Project (2017CR-M):** The feasibility study for this project was approved at the April Commission meeting and the final document is available on the project page at: <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?cID=281>. Recently, an application was submitted to Hennepin County for funds to complete a Response Action Plan to address contaminated soils in the project area. BCWMC staff and city staff will attend a Hennepin County Commission meeting on July 19<sup>th</sup> to answer any questions that may arise regarding this project and the 2017 levy request. In September, the Commission is expected to hold a public hearing on the project, order the project, and enter an agreement with the City of Minneapolis to design and construct the project.

**2013 Four Season Area Water Quality Project (NL-2) (See Item 7C):** Since November 2015, the City of Plymouth has considered different options for this area including the original stream restoration, using only rock to stabilize the channel, and a flocculation facility. The City received comments on these options at a public meeting in January. Recently, a developer has proposed a redevelopment project for the site that includes several innovative stormwater management features for the site. The BCWMC submitted a letter of support to the City of Plymouth for their application to the Met Council for a Livable Communities Demonstration Account grant (see Item 7C).

**2014 Schaper Pond Diversion Project, Golden Valley (SL-3):** At this meeting, the Commission Engineer will verbally update the Commission on recent activities at the site. The Commission approved 90% plans at their February 2015 meeting. The City's consultant (Barr Engineering) completed contract documents for the project May 21st, the bid advertisement publication date. The city council awarded the contract on July 7th to Sunram Construction. The pre-construction meeting was held July 30th. Mobilization began on November 11 and construction began on November 24. On December 10, the baffle was installed and fully deployed, and the contractor demobilized from the site for the season. This spring the contractor will perform final clean-up and any needed site restoration to ensure turf establishment.

**2014 Twin Lake In-lake Alum Treatment, Golden Valley (TW-2):** No change since July 2015 report. At their March 2015 meeting, the Commission approved the project specifications and directed the city to finalize

specifications and solicit bids for the project. The contract was awarded to HAB Aquatic Solutions. The alum treatment spanned two days: May 18- 19, 2015 with 15,070 gallons being applied. Water temperatures and water pH stayed within the desired ranges for the treatment. Early transparency data from before and after the treatment indicates a change in Secchi depth from 1.2 meters before the treatment to 4.8 meters on May 20th. City staff reports no complaints or comments from residents since the treatment and also reports consistently clear water since the last actual reading on May 20, 2015.

**2015 Main Stem Restoration Project 10th Avenue to Duluth Street, Golden Valley (2015CR):** The restoration project is being constructed in two phases, each under separate contract. Phase one includes stream bank shaping, placement of field stone rock and 12-inch bio-logs, and repair of storm sewer outlets. The first phase of the project began in November 2015 and is wrapped up last month.

Phase two of the project includes the establishment of native vegetation along the stream, including grasses, wildflowers, shrubs, live stakes and fascines, and cordgrass plugs. Phase 2 work began last month (see photo) with seeding and the installation of an erosion control blanket. Phase two activities will continue over two additional growing seasons to ensure proper establishment.

On April 5, 2016, the Golden Valley City Council awarded the contract to the lowest responsible bidder, Applied Ecological Services for \$152,182.60, which was under the engineers estimate. It anticipated that the total contract amount for both Phase one and Phase two will be within the Watershed's overall project budget.



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**2016 Northwood Lake Improvement Project, New Hope (NL-1) (See Item 4D):** Construction on this project began this spring. Photos and construction progress are available at: <http://www.ci.new-hope.mn.us/departments/publicworks/2016infrastructure.shtml>

The construction reimbursement request in Item 4D reflects Northdale Construction Company completing a majority of the storm sewer redirection on Boone Avenue as well as the underground storage tank construction. Work has just begun for the water re-use piping and rain garden construction. The pond construction and storm sewer installation at Jordan Avenue North is near completion. In their June 15<sup>th</sup> update, the City of New Hope reports that:

The contractor has completed work on the lid for the underground storm water storage tank. The tank will be backfilled (covered with dirt) over the next two weeks. The contractor has completed storm water improvements inside Northwood Park and will begin water main installation this week. New pavement is expected to be installed on Boone Avenue and site work will continue in Northwood Park over the next two to three weeks.

**2016 Honeywell Pond Expansion Project, Golden Valley (BC-4):** At the August 2015 meeting, the Commission entered an agreement with the City of Golden Valley to design and construct the project. At the September 2015 meeting, the Commission granted conditional approval of the 50% design plans for the project and authorized the

City to proceed with final plans and contract documents. 90% design plans were presented and approved at the November Commission meeting. The bid opening for this project (in conjunction with the Douglas Drive Project) was held April 12<sup>th</sup>. The county will be awarding the contract in a few weeks. The project was within budget and the entire project will be starting in June, including pipe work for the CIP project. Pond expansion will likely occur this winter.

## Other Projects

**Education Tasks:** I continue to participate in the West Metro Water Alliance consortium at their monthly meetings, and to write and coordinate the WMWA “Water Links” newsletter articles (<http://www.hennepin.us/residents/environment/protecting-land-water#water-links>). Recently, WMWA began a large “Pledge to Plant” campaign to encourage homeowners and others landowners to plant native plants and buffers. The Education Committee recently met to review a proposal from Dawn Pape to upgrade BCWMC event display materials and write articles for submission to local papers and city newsletters (see Item 5F). Since the last meeting, I also coordinated and attended the BCWMC Watershed Tour.

**Hennepin County Natural Resources Partnership:** I attended the meeting of this group met on April 26<sup>th</sup> on the new buffer law and Hennepin County’s public GIS application. I was unable to attend the June meeting of this group due to a TCA meeting.

**Records Retention/Management and Data Practices:** At the direction of the Administrative Services Committee, I updated the Commission’s Records Retention Schedule and asked legal counsel to review and recommend any changes needed. Additionally, a Data Practices Procedure was drafted for the Commission by our legal counsel. The Commission will review these documents at a future meeting. Also, I continue to work on records management including locating all official records, determining what records should be disposed of or sent to the State Archives, how paper records can be digitized, and how and where to store our electronic records. I will be researching and gathering input on different options for records management and storage over the course of the year.

**Organizational Efficiencies:** At the direction of the Administrative Services Committee I will be drafting an organizational chart and have been discussing practices and procedures with TAC members, Commission staff, and Commissioners to ensure the proper and efficient use of staff’s time and to streamline communications where needed.