



Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

MEMO

To: BCWMC Commissioners and Alternate Commissioners

From: Administrator Jester

Date: March 14, 2024

RE: Potential Study of Creek Co-Naming Opportunities

Over the past couple of years, commissioners have occasionally and informally discussed the potential to incorporate the Dakota name, *Haŋa Wakpadaŋ*, in and on Commission materials, signage, website, etc.

For instance, the Education Committee is recommending that the updated watershed map show both names for the creek and include a large section on the Dakota community – including history, culture, knowledge of natural resources, and historical maps.

Staff is seeking input and direction from the Commission on a potential process to study creek co-naming so that recommendations on how, when, and where co-naming is appropriate and desired can be presented and discussed. Right now, this is not an endeavor to change the name of the organization, but to incorporate and honor the Dakota name for the creek wherever possible. Some ideas include co-naming the creek on the BCWMC website, on educational signage, in educational materials, in the watershed management plan, on the BCWMC letterhead, etc.

Should an existing BCWMC committee study the options and develop co-naming recommendations?

Should a new committee be formed for this endeavor?

Should a consultant or individual be hired to help facilitate the study of options and development of recommendations?