



Board of Managers Meeting Agenda

Wednesday – March 12th, 2025 - 3:00 p.m.

**West St. Paul City Hall
1616 Humboldt Ave, West St Paul, MN 55118**

1. Call Meeting to Order
 - 1.1 Identification of Voting Board Members
 - 1.2 Approval of Agenda* (Additions/Corrections/Deletions) Action
 - 1.3 Opportunity for Public Comment (Limited to 2 minutes per person)
2. Approve February 12th, 2025 Meeting Minutes - Chair * Action
3. Approve March 12th, 2025 Financial Summary & Invoice Payment - Treasurer* Action
4. Authorize Funding for Development and Submittal of 3M Grant Letter of Intent - SWCD* Action
5. Authorize Submittal of Funding Request for FY25 WBIF Grant - SWCD* Action
6. Approve 2025 Water Monitoring Plan - SWCD* Action
7. Member City Updates Information
8. Adjourn - Next Meeting held on April 9th, 2025 – South St. Paul, Fleming Field

* Materials included in full packet

** Materials available separately on website

<https://LMRWMO.org/about-us/meeting-information/>



Board of Managers Meeting Minutes

Wednesday - February 12th, 2025 - 3:00 p.m.
West St. Paul City Hall

Managers and Alternates in Attendance:

Sharon Lencowski (Chair), Inver Grove Heights
Leslie Pilgrim, Mendota Heights
Brian Jastram, Saint Paul
Mary Kleinberg, Lilydale

Steve Gebauer, Mendota Heights (Sec/Tres)
Analiese Miller, West St. Paul
Tom Sutton, Lilydale
Dan Halvorsen, Sunfish Lake

Advisors and Others in Attendance:

Ryan Ruzek, Mendota Heights
Pat Murphy, Saint Paul
Ross Beckwith, West St. Paul
Greg Williams, Barr Engineering

Lucas Richie, Mendota Heights
Brady Zeug, Saint Paul
Chris English, Inver Grove Heights
Joe Barten, Dakota County SWCD

1. Call Meeting to Order

1.1 Public Comment / Introductions

Audience members may address the Board regarding items not on the agenda.

1.2 Approval of Agenda* (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

Motion by Gebauer to approve the agenda, second by Sutton; motion passed.

2. Approve January 8th, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Halvorsen to approve the previous meeting minutes, second by Miller; motion passed.

3. Approve February 12th, 2025 Financial Summary & Invoices

Ruzek provided a summary of the finances.

Motion by Gebauer to approve the financial summary, second by Sutton; motion passed.

4. Review BWSR Approved Accelerated Implementation Grant & Authorize Administrator to Draft Work Plan & Execute Grant Agreement with MN Board of Water & Soil Resources

Motion by Lencowski to authorize the Administrator to submit a grant work plan to BWSR and for the Board Chair to execute the subsequent grant agreement with the Board of Water & Soil Resources for the Water Quality Modeling of Lower Mississippi River WMO Priority Watersheds grant project, second by Miller; motion passed.

5. Review Goal Tracking Sheets & Authorize Barr to Begin Assessment

Williams summarized the goal tracking process and noted that the Board had already reviewed the goal tracking sheets included in the packet. He suggested the assessment could be completed by June 2025.

Motion by Sutton to authorize Barr staff to begin the goal tracking assessment and completion of the goal tracking sheets for review by the Board, second by Jastram; motion passed.

6. Authorize Execution of Agreement with Peterson Co. for 2024 Audit

Barten noted that since the packet was sent out, he has verified State statute noting when an Audit is required. Due to the LMRWMO not receiving income above the threshold set by the State to require an audit, the LMRWMO is not required to perform a full audit of the LMRWMO 2024 finances, as they have been in recent years. SWCD staff will still prepare a financial summary to send to the State to meet requirements. Pilgrim requested to meet with the Administrator to review the LMRWMO finances along with the Board Secretary/Treasurer. The Administrator will coordinate that meeting.

7. Discuss 2024 Annual Report Content

Barten provided the 2023 Annual Report and requested any suggestions in the 2024 report content be sent to him in before mid-March.

8. Updates & Information Items

a. Grant Tracking Database

Williams provided an update on relevant upcoming grants available to Cities and the WMO.

b. 3M Grant Request for Proposals

Barten summarized the 3M grant opportunity and his suggestion to pursue funding for additional fish tissue testing and projects at Seidls and Thompson Lakes. The Board was generally supportive of him further pursuing a potential grant application and bringing information back in March.

c. Mud Lake Letter of Support

Barten provided the already submitted letter of support for information purposes only.

d. LMRWMO Salt Week Information

Barten provided materials in the packet for Board information on information being funded by and displayed in Dakota County libraries regarding chloride reduction.

e. Landscaping for Clean Water (LCW) Marketing Campaign Video

The LCW video funded by the LMRWMO was shown and is currently being marketed to increase interest in the Landscaping for Clean Water program.

9. Member City Updates

Advisors and Members provided updates on relevant projects in their Cities.

10. Adjournment & Next Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 4:30. The next Board meeting is March 12th, 2025 at the West St. Paul City Hall.



FINANCIAL SUMMARY
February 13, 2025 to March 12, 2025

<u>Beginning Balance - Gateway Bank Checking Account:</u>		\$15,144.52
Deposit		+
		+
<u>Payments</u>		
		-
		-
		-
		-
	<i>Checking Ending Balance</i>	\$15,144.52
<u>Beginning Balance - Gateway Bank Savings Account:</u>		
		\$115,136.65
<i>Dep</i>	2/28/2025 February 2025 Interest	+ \$236.75
	<i>Savings Ending Balance</i>	<u>\$115,373.40</u>
<i>Available Total Balance at Gateway Bank</i>		<u>\$130,517.92</u>

LMRWMO 2025 Budget & Financial Summary		2024 Carryover		2025 Monthly Revenue					
Revenue	Budget	Dec 12, 2024 - Jan 8 2025	Jan 9 - Feb 12 2025	Feb 13 - Mar 12 2025	Mar 13 - April 9 2025	2025 Total	Variance	Percent Received	
Dues from Members	\$153,725.00					\$0.00	\$153,725.00	0%	
Interest & LMCIT Rebate	\$3,000.00	\$326.70	\$490.14	\$236.75		\$1,053.59	\$1,946.41	35%	
Grant Revenue	\$440,000.00					\$0.00	\$440,000.00	0%	
Subtotal Operating Revenue	\$156,725.00	\$326.70	\$490.14	\$236.75		\$1,053.59			
		2024 Carryover		2025 Monthly Revenue					
Expenses	Budget	Dec 12, 2024 - Jan 8 2025	Jan 9 - Feb 12 2025	Feb 13 - Mar 12 2025	Mar 13 - April 9 2025	2024 Total	Remaining Budget	Percent Expended	
Engineering/Technical Assistance									
Meetings	\$7,000.00	\$621.80	\$1,189.80			\$1,189.80	\$5,810.20	17%	
Technical Assistance ²	\$6,500.00	\$2,153.50	\$227.50			\$227.50	\$6,272.50	4%	
Plan Implementation / Project Mgmt.	\$5,000.00		\$997.50			\$997.50	\$4,002.50	20%	
Grant Development / Review	\$3,000.00					\$0.00	\$3,000.00	0%	
Biennial Progress Review	\$2,000.00					\$0.00	\$2,000.00	0%	
Watershed Plan Amendment	\$1,000.00					\$0.00	\$1,000.00		
Project Study/Implementation									
Miss. River Direct Drainage - FY-21 WBIF Match	\$9,304.00	\$552.00	\$5,394.75			\$5,394.75	\$3,909.25	58%	
Interstate Valley Creek Stabilization (FY-24 SWCD CWF Match)	\$10,000.00					\$0.00	\$10,000.00	0%	
Priority Watershed Modeling - \$100,000 (FY-23 WBIF Match)	\$12,000.00					\$0.00	\$12,000.00	0%	
Seidls Lake Improvements - \$356,000 (FY-22 CPL % Match)	\$2,500.00					\$0.00	\$2,500.00	0%	
Landscaping for Clean Water Projects	\$14,000.00		\$850.00			\$850.00	\$13,150.00	6%	
Monitoring									
Lake and Stream Water Monitoring (CAMP) and Reports	\$14,000.00	\$2,660.00	\$2,421.89			\$2,421.89	\$11,578.11	17%	
Education									
WMO Biannual E-Newsletter	\$3,200.00					\$0.00	\$3,200.00	0%	
Board Tour of Projects	\$1,000.00					\$0.00	\$1,000.00	0%	
Water Resources Videos Partnership Campaign	\$7,500.00					\$0.00	\$7,500.00	0%	
Landscaping for Clean Water Classes	\$9,500.00					\$0.00	\$9,500.00	0%	
MN Water Stewards Support	\$3,000.00					\$0.00	\$3,000.00	0%	
Storm Drain Stenciling Program	\$5,000.00					\$0.00	\$5,000.00	0%	
Engage Residents at Public Events / WMO Tabling	\$500.00					\$0.00	\$500.00	0%	
General Education Requests & Materials	\$1,500.00		\$665.00			\$665.00	\$835.00	44%	
Metro Watershed Partners Membership & Welcome Kits	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$891.00			\$891.00	\$109.00	89%	
Website Maintenance and Updates	\$3,000.00		\$547.50			\$547.50	\$2,452.50	18%	
Board Education	\$500.00					\$0.00	\$500.00	0%	
						\$0.00	\$0.00		
Administration									
General Administration	\$36,000.00		\$6,842.50			\$6,842.50	\$29,157.50	19%	
Hold Annual TAC Meeting	\$1,000.00					\$0.00	\$1,000.00	0%	
Insurance	\$2,500.00					\$0.00	\$2,500.00	0%	
Attorney and Audit	\$5,800.00					\$0.00	\$5,800.00	0%	
Subtotal Operating Expenses	\$167,304.00	\$6,987.30	\$20,027.44	\$0.00		\$20,027.44	\$147,276.56	12%	
Grant Expenses	\$400,000.00	\$0.00	\$9,774.00	\$0.00		\$9,774.00	\$390,226.00	2%	
Overall Fund Balance		\$159,592.47	\$130,281.17	\$130,517.92					
Total Grant Balance		\$10,911.00	\$1,137.00	\$1,137.00					
Operating Fund Balance		\$148,681.47	\$129,144.17	\$129,380.92					
Unencumbered Operating Fund Balance¹		\$123,681.47	\$99,144.17	\$99,380.92					

2025 Budget Notes:

- \$30,000 set aside for 2033 Watershed Plan Update, \$10,000 additional annually encumbered.
- Includes additional time to develop modeling standards and goal tracking.

General: Budget is an estimate and will vary depending on changing priorities and grant project progress.

Balances Explained:

Overall Fund Balance
Total Grant Balance
Operating Fund Balance
Unencumbered Operating Fund Balance

LMRWMO 2025 Grant Budget & Financial Summary											
	Budget	Aggregate Prior to Jan 12, 2022	Jan 13, 2022 - Jan 11, 2023	Jan 12 2023 - Jan 10 2024	Jan 11, 2024 - Jan 8 2025	Jan 9 - Feb 12 2025	Feb 13 - Mar 12 2025		Total	Variance	Percent Received/ Expended
BWSR - FY 2021 Watershed Based Implementation Funding (Miss. River Direct Drainage Study)											
Revenue											
BWSR FY-2021 WBIF Payment	\$93,042.00	\$46,521.00							\$46,521.00	\$46,521.00	50%
WBIF Matching Funds	\$9,304.00				\$3,647.25	\$5,394.75			\$9,042.00	\$262.00	97%
Total Revenue	\$102,346.00	\$46,521.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,647.25	\$5,394.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$55,563.00	\$46,783.00	54%
Expenses											
Grant Administration	\$10,042.00			\$156.00	\$3,424.50	\$696.00			\$4,276.50	\$5,765.50	43%
Erosion & Direct Drainage Study	\$71,000.00				\$71,000.00	\$247.00			\$71,247.00	(\$247.00)	100%
Erosion & Direct Drainage Study Match (WMO)	\$9,304.00				\$3,647.25	\$5,394.75			\$9,042.00	\$262.00	97%
Project Development	\$12,000.00			\$2,733.50	\$5,067.00	\$7,090.50			\$14,891.00	(\$2,891.00)	124%
Total Expenses	\$102,346.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,889.50	\$83,138.75	\$13,428.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$99,456.50	\$2,889.50	97%
FY-21 WBIF Balance		\$46,521.00	\$46,521.00	\$43,631.50	-\$35,860.00	-\$43,893.50	-\$43,893.50	-\$43,893.50	-\$43,893.50		
BWSR - FY 2023 Watershed Based Implementation Funding (Priority Watershed Project ID & Model - Thompson, Rogers, Seidls)											
Revenue											
BWSR FY-2021 WBIF Payment	\$118,385.00			\$59,193.00					\$59,193.00	\$59,192.00	50%
WBIF Matching Funds	\$12,000.00								\$0.00	\$12,000.00	0%
Total Revenue	\$130,385.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$59,193.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$59,193.00	\$71,192.00	45%
Expenses											
Grant Administration	\$8,000.00				\$769.50				\$769.50	\$7,230.50	10%
Priority Watershed Project ID & Model	\$100,385.00								\$0.00	\$100,385.00	0%
Priority Watershed Project ID & Model Match (WMO)	\$10,000.00								\$0.00	\$10,000.00	0%
Project Development	\$12,000.00				\$1,491.00				\$1,491.00	\$10,509.00	12%
Total Expenses	\$130,385.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,260.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,260.50	\$128,124.50	2%
FY-21 WBIF Balance		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$59,193.00	\$56,932.50	\$56,932.50	\$56,932.50	\$56,932.50	\$56,932.50		
MN DNR - Conservation Partners Legacy Grant (Seidls Lake Shoreline Restoration)											
Revenue											
Grant Reimbursement Payments	\$382,000.00				\$70,192.78				\$70,192.78	\$311,807.22	18%
Matching funds	\$75,000.00								\$0.00	\$75,000.00	0%
Total Revenue	\$457,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$70,192.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$70,192.78	\$386,807.22	15%
Expenses											
Grant Administration/Project Mgmt	\$26,000.00			\$15,118.00	\$6,171.50	\$1,740.50			\$23,030.00	\$2,970.00	89%
Construction	\$356,000.00				\$27,486.03				\$27,486.03	\$328,513.97	8%
Engineering - Construction Docs	\$37,500.00				\$31,578.75				\$31,578.75	\$5,921.25	84%
Engineering - Const. Mgmt, Permits, Bids	\$37,500.00										
Total Expenses	\$457,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,118.00	\$65,236.28	\$1,740.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$82,094.78	\$337,405.22	18%
Seidls Lake Shoreline Balance		\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$15,118.00	-\$10,161.50	-\$11,902.00	-\$11,902.00	-\$11,902.00	-\$11,902.00		
	Budget	Aggregate Prior to Jan 12, 2022	Jan 13, 2022 - Jan 11, 2023	Jan 12 2023 - Jan 10 2024	Jan 9, 2025 - Feb 12 2025	Jan 9 - Feb 12 2025	Feb 13 - Mar 12 2025		Total	Variance	Percent Received/ Expended
TOTAL GRANT FUNDS RECEIVED	\$559,346.00	\$46,521.00	\$0.00	\$59,193.00	\$70,192.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$175,906.78	\$433,590.22	31%
PASS THROUGH MATCH RECEIVED	\$75,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75,262.00	0%
LMRWMO MATCH PROVIDED	\$9,304.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,647.25	\$5,394.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,042.00	\$433,590.22	97%
GRANT EXPENSES (MINUS WMO MATCH)	\$550,042.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18,007.50	\$146,988.28	\$9,774.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$174,769.78	\$458,157.22	32%
PASS THROUGH MATCH EXPENSES	\$75,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$31,578.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$40,620.75	\$34,379.25	54%
NET FUND BALANCE (MINUS WMO MATCH)		\$46,521.00	\$46,521.00	\$87,706.50	\$10,911.00	\$1,137.00	\$1,137.00	\$1,137.00			



MEMORANDUM

To: LMRWMO Board of Managers
From: Joe Barten, Dakota County SWCD
Subject: Funding for Development and Submittal of 3M Grant Letter of Intent
Date: March 9, 2025

SUMMARY & BACKGROUND

The LMRWMO seeks to partner with and provide value to its member Cities by helping to obtain grant funds to improve LMRWMO waterbodies. The Watershed Management Plan notes that to maximize its financial capacity, the LMRWMO should leverage cost-share opportunities and grant funding. It recognizes that partnering with other entities and pursuing competitive State and local grants to carry out its implementation program allows for projects and improvements to water resources that might be otherwise cost-prohibitive.

On February 5th, 2025 information on a grant which stems from 3M settlement dollars (see attached grant information) was released. This grant represents a unique opportunity to request funding for projects not eligible for typical State grant programs. It is a one-time grant program, with no required match.

At the February 12th LMRWMO Board meeting, the Board supported the Administrator seeking additional information for a potential grant application to improve the water quality at Thompson Lake in West St. Paul and Seidls Lake in South St. Paul and Inver Grove Heights. To that end, the Administrator has discussed the potential for such a project with other stakeholders. Since the February Board meeting, the following discussions have taken place by the Administrator:

- Met with David Austin of Jacobs Engineering to discuss water quality improvement using geochemical augmentation and aeration. David has extensive experience with implementing water quality improvement projects on reservoirs throughout the US. Jacobs is willing to provide engineering services to create a grant application to provide geochemical augmentation via microdosing of a form of alum at Seidls and Thompson Lakes, along with aeration, to improve water quality.
- Discussed possibility of geochemical augmentation and aeration to improve water quality with Greg Williams of Barr Engineering. The Administrator's preference would be to have Barr involved throughout the process to serve as a technical LMRWMO representative in creation of a grant application and subsequent implementation, should the project be approved.
- Met with City engineering staff from West St. Paul, South St. Paul, Inver Grove Heights, and Dakota County to discuss the possibility of projects at Seidls Lake and Thompson Lake and to gauge potential City support for the project preliminarily, and more specifically to submit a 3M grant application. The Cities and Dakota County were supportive of the LMRWMO seeking grant funding. Should funding be received, the Cities would be integral to project implementation via permissions and were open to

discussing the potential for direct City support, noting that it would likely come down to what the potential cost to the City would be.

Based on the above discussions and outcomes, the Administrator suggests the creation of two separate grant application Letters of Intent for this 3M grant:

- 1. Monitoring of Fish Tissue for Contaminants of Emerging Concern on Priority Waterbodies**
 - a. Description: This would be paired with \$36,000 in funding already committed by Cities to go towards sampling and testing of fish tissues in LMRWMO waterbodies for emerging contaminants of concern. The additional funding would allow for testing of additional lakes and contaminants
 - b. Approx. Grant Request: \$34,000

- 2. Improve Water Quality & Habitat of Thompson & Seidls Lake via Aeration & Geochemical Augmentation**
 - a. Description: Evaluation and implementation of appropriate geochemical augmentation via alum treatments, alum microdosing, and aeration for lake water quality improvement at and fish habitat improvement Seidls Lake and Thompson Lake. The lakes have both had significant watershed improvements and investment over the last 15 years and the logical next step to meet water quality goals is looking within the lakes themselves. The project will include engaging with Jacobs Engineering and Barr Engineering to creation and implementation of a water quality improvement plan, utilizing the above methods, with 3M grant dollars providing funds for the more significant up-front costs. This system can then be maintained by local partners going forward to realize long term water quality improvements.
 - b. Approx. Grant Request: Unknown - To be determined by consultants prior to April 4th Letter of Intent submission deadline

NEXT STEPS

The grant process includes creation of a pre-application Letter of Intent by April 4th, 2025. The Letter of Intent includes compilation of relevant grant information, development of the estimated grant request amount, and compiling specific project feasibility details in order to be considered to apply for the full grant later in 2025. To create the grant applications, it is estimated that approximately \$5,000 in funds from Jacobs and Barr staff would be necessary to create the pre-application Letter of Intent.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED

Authorize up to \$5,000 in funding towards engineering services (approx. \$3,000 for Jacobs Engineering and \$2,000 to Barr Engineering) to further develop project feasibility and create the necessary information to submit a Letter of Intent for the 3M grant for the above projects.

Authorize the LMRWMO Administrator to finalize grant details and submit the grant Letter(s) of intent to the MN DNR for the 3M grant for the above projects.

ATTACHED

- 3M Grant Factsheet
- 3M Grant Request for Proposals (posted separately on website)

3M Settlement Priority 2 Project Update

RFP now open

A request for proposals process has opened for restoration and recreation projects in the Twin Cities east metropolitan area and in downstream areas of the Mississippi and St. Croix rivers that have been affected by Per- and Polyfluorinated Alkyl Substances (PFAS) released by 3M.

- Applicant organizations must be capable of planning and executing a project in the project area. These can include local units of government, non-profit organizations, watershed districts, federal/state agencies, Tribes, and schools. Individuals or for-profit organizations are not eligible to apply for a grant.
- Project co-trustees (DNR and MPCA) will select the projects that best meet Priority 2 goals.
 - **Goal 1** – Restore, protect and enhance aquatic and terrestrial resources, wildlife and habitats.
 - **Goal 2** – Increase understanding of fish tissue contamination, improve communication about PFAS-based fish consumption advisories, and identify and enhance alternative, non-contaminated fishing areas.
 - **Goal 3** – Improve and enhance outdoor recreational opportunities.

RFP process and Timeline

The RFP will be a two-part application:

- Letter of intent—brief project description to determine whether a project qualifies for Priority 2 funding.
- Full application—proposals to be evaluated using criteria.

Timeline:

Feb. 5 - April 4, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RFP letter of intent for qualification screening • Q and A opportunity
Summer 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full RFP opens for projects that passed screening • Public grant application workshop
Fall 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full RFP grant application due
Late 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants notified and contracts initiated
2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project start

[Settlement webpage](https://3msettlement.state.mn.us) – 3msettlement.state.mn.us

[Grant project webpage](https://mndnr.gov/3mp2) - mndnr.gov/3mp2

Questions? Email 3mpriority2@state.mn.us

GovDelivery – sign up on either webpage to receive project updates



MEMORANDUM

To: LMRWMO Board of Managers
From: Joe Barten, Dakota County SWCD
Subject: Submittal of Funding Request for FY25 WBIF Grant to BWSR
Date: March 9, 2025

SUMMARY & BACKGROUND

The State Board of Soil and Water Resources (BWSR) has allocated funds for the Fiscal Year - 2025 round of Metro Watershed Based Implementation Funding (WBIF). This round includes \$208,410 in funding available within the Lower Mississippi River Watershed Planning Area (WPA). That area includes eligible organizations who can propose to implement projects specifically referenced in the LMRWMO Watershed Management Plan implementation items or the County Groundwater Plan implementation items. Those eligible organizations include Dakota County, Dakota County SWCD, Ramsey County, Cities within the LMRWMO, and the LMRWMO. Attached is background information on the WBIF program and allocation.

The eligible organizations were all invited to participate in a WBIF convene process, which is outlined and overseen by BWSR staff, to determine how to utilize the available funding. Mendota Heights and West St. Paul volunteered to participate in the process as the two voting City convene members. The convene group met on March 6th and agreed upon the attached project list to utilize the \$208,410 in available funding, which includes funding for a study of Ivy Falls Creek led by the LMRWMO and implementation of stormwater BMPs in LMRWMO priority watersheds by the Dakota SWCD.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED

Authorize the LMRWMO Administrator to finalize grant details and submit the funding request of \$102,410 for FY-25 Watershed Based Implementation Funding (WBIF) grant for a study of Ivy Falls Creek to the Board of Water & Soil Resources and authorize the Board Chair to execute the subsequent grant agreement.

ATTACHED

- FY-25 WBIF Funding Request
- FY-25 WBIF Grant Policy (posted separately on website)

FY-25 Watershed Based Implementation Funding Request

Activity Category (Engineering, Feasibility Study, Project, etc)	Entity Requesting Funding (Grantee)	Project Name	Activity Description	Water Resource(s) Benefited	Grant Fund Request	Local Match	Match Providing Entity	Proposed Measurable Outcome(s) of Activity	Time frame	LMRWMO Plan Reference (likely from implementation tables)
Study, E/O	Lower Mississippi River WMO	Ivy Falls Creek Erosion and Watershed Study	Evaluate condition of existing grade structures, streambank erosion, and additional erosion prone areas throughout Ivy Falls Creek and its tributaries and study the entire subwatershed to identify opportunities for stormwater volume reduction, such as retention basins, infiltration practices, to reduce peak flows. Support engagement with residents in the watershed via educational classes using Landscaping for Clean Water program materials promoting raingardens, native gardens, and native shoreline restorations and/or rainbarrel programming and/or disbursement information to reduce volume in the watershed.	Ivy Falls Creek	\$102,410	\$10,241	City	Prioritized project list to stabilize stream erosion and reduce peak flows along Interstate Valley Creek.	2026-2027	Table 5-1 - LMRWMO 2023-2033 Implementation Schedule - Activity ID S-5
Project	Dakota SWCD	Priority Waterbody BMPs	Provide financial support for voluntary projects providing stormwater management, erosion control, and shoreline/streambank restoration or portions of projects exceeding applicable performance standards. Provide funds Conservation Initiative Funding program or Community Conservation Partnership grant program. Other funding amounts or grant programs to support could be considered. Projects shall focus on, but not be limited to, those benefiting LMRWMO priority level 1 lakes/streams, the Mississippi River, or City-identified priorities.	Priority Level 1 - A& B Lakes & Streams	\$106,000	\$10,600	Landowners	Phosphorus and Sediment reductions toward benefitting waterbodies	2026-2027	Table 5-1 - LMRWMO 2023-2033 Implementation Schedule - Activity ID - P-8

\$208,410	\$20,841	Total Requested
\$208,410		Total Allocation
\$0		Difference



MEMORANDUM

To: LMRWMO Board of Managers
From: Joe Barten, Dakota County SWCD
Subject: 2025 SWCD-Led Water Monitoring Plan
Date: March 5, 2025

WATER MONITORING HISTORY

The LMRWMO Watershed Management Plan identifies the need to evaluate and track water quality trends through monitoring of DNR protected water bodies within the WMO. Monitoring efforts since 2011 have focused on lakes larger than 10 acres and on water bodies identified by the member Cities to be of interest. Lakes could be considered of interest because the LMRWMO has identified them as priority waterbodies, has implemented recent projects to improve lake water quality, or has plans to implement projects in the future. Monitoring data can then help identify water quality improvements over the long term or establish baseline conditions for future improvements.

The attached monitoring summary table shows the lakes historically monitored by the LMRWMO and Member Cities, primarily through the Metropolitan Council's Community Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP) with volunteer coordination, data analysis processing, and Met. Council coordination provided by the Dakota County SWCD through the annual agreement for services. Some Lakes listed on the attached summary table are monitored through the same program but with the City as the sponsor and volunteer coordinator.

RECOMMENDED 2025 CAMP WATER MONITORING

Dakota County SWCD staff recommends continuing to monitor Thompson Lake, Seidl's Lake, and Lake Augusta to track improvements related to recently implemented and planned projects. We also recommend monitoring Schmitt Lake, Dickman Lake, Simley Lake, Interstate Valley Creek, and Ivy Falls Creek in 2025 to continue to establish baseline data on the condition of those waterbodies.

CAMP MONITORING PROCESS

The CAMP program obtains data on eutrophication parameters only, which include total phosphorus, chlorophyll *a*, and Secchi depth. Additional parameters are analyzed for the stream sites. CAMP volunteers also collect surface temperature data and note general observations such as water color, odor, wind conditions, lake level, amount of aquatic plants, physical condition, and recreational suitability. The cost per lake for CAMP covers training, monitoring equipment supplies for each CAMP volunteer, as well as the laboratory analysis.

2025 PROPOSED CAMP WATERBODY LIST & COST ESTIMATE

Thompson Lake	<i>CAMP - 7 Events (Bi-Weekly)</i>	\$380
Seidls Lake	<i>CAMP - 7 Events (Bi-Weekly)</i>	\$380
Lake Augusta	<i>CAMP - 7 Events (Bi-Weekly)</i>	\$380
Schmitt Lake	<i>CAMP - 7 Events (Bi-Weekly)</i>	\$380
Dickman Lake	<i>CAMP - 7 Events (Bi-Weekly)</i>	\$380
Simley Lake	<i>CAMP - 7 Events (Bi-Weekly)</i>	\$380
Interstate Valley Creek	Vol. Stream - 7 Events (Monthly)	\$660
Ivy Falls Creek (Trib. 1)	Vol. Stream - 7 Events (Monthly)	\$660
Ivy Falls Creek (Trib. 2)	Vol. Stream - 7 Events (Monthly)	\$660
Total		\$4,260

The 2025 LMRWMO/SWCD Work Plan includes services for water monitoring data management, volunteer coordination, and sample pickup and delivery to the Met. Council lab. The SWCD has previously provided backup water monitoring (2 times) if a volunteer is unavailable. We are proposing to NOT do that in 2025 and instead move that cost toward a lake gage installation and additional chloride samples (see below).

CHLORIDE MONITORING

The SWCD provides Chloride monitoring at Thompson Lake in addition to CAMP monitoring (this cost is shared 50/50 with the LMRWMO and Dakota County). Volunteers also collect samples to process for Chloride at Interstate Valley Creek and Ivy Falls Creek. We are proposing taking two samples for chloride at Horseshoe Lake in 2025, at the request of a landowner who believes this may be an emerging issue. The cost to collect and process those samples at Horseshoe Lake would be approximately \$1,400 in 2025, which may be in addition to the previously approved 2025 work plan.

INSTALL LAKE GAUGE AT LAKE AUGUSTA

Dakota County SWCD staff recommends installing a permanent lake gauge at Lake Augusta to monitor long term lake levels. The cost for this work, which may be in addition to the previously approved work plan for 2025, would be approximately to \$1,600 to purchase and install a lake gage. SWCD Staff would then train a volunteer/resident to monitor the lake levels.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED

- Consider the above list of waterbodies to be monitored and propose additional waterbodies (if any) for monitoring in 2025.
- Approve list of lakes to fund for CAMP water quality monitoring for 2025. SWCD staff recommend Thompson Lake, Seidls Lake, Lake Augusta, Schmitt Lake, Dickman Lake, Simley Lake, Interstate Valley Creek, and two sites at Ivy Falls Creek.
- Authorize the LMRWMO Administrator to execute an agreement with the Metropolitan Council for 2025 water monitoring through the Metropolitan Council's Community Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP).

ATTACHED: Summary Table of LMRWMO Waterbodies & Water Monitoring
2025 CAMP Program Brochure

Summary of Water Monitoring in the LMRWMO

Waterbody	Plan Priority Level	DNR ID	Area (Acres)	Waterbody Location	MPCA Waterbody Type	Public Access?	Impairments	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Current Monitoring Parameters	Long Term Monitoring Notes:	Planned Frequency	Monitoring Reports
Monitoring Goal: Tracking Trends or Changes in Water Quality (Monitor Frequently)								5-Year Monitoring Plan												
Mississippi River	1-A	N/A	N/A	Throughout	N/A	Public	Nutrients/Eutrophication biological indicators											Led by other agencies.		
Thompson Lake	1-A	19-0048	7	West St. Paul	Shallow Lake	Public - dock access	Nutrients/Eutrophication bio. indicators, Chloride	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	CAMP eutrophication, Chloride	Continue WMO CAMP monitoring.	7 Events	Yes
Seidl's Lake	1-A	19-0095	7	South St. Paul/Inver Grove Heights	Shallow Lake	Public - dock access		WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	CAMP eutrophication	Continue WMO CAMP monitoring.	7 Events	Yes
Rogers Lake	1-A	19-0080	107	Mendota Heights	Shallow Lake	Public - dock access		(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	CAMP eutrophication	Monitoring expected to continue through City		Future
Interstate Valley Creek	1-A	N/A	N/A	Mendota Heights	Stream	Public parkland	e. Coli	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	Secchi, TP, TSS Chloride, Ecoli	Continue monitoring with willing volunteer, can stop if no volunteer	7 Events	Yes
Ivy Falls Creek	1-A	N/A	N/A	Mendota Heights	Stream	Private - no access		WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	Secchi, TP, TSS Chloride, Ecoli	Continue monitoring with willing volunteer, can stop if no volunteer	7 Events	Yes
Kaposia Creek	1-A	N/A	N/A	South St. Paul	Stream	Public parkland												No monitoring planned at this time		
Lake Augusta	1-B	19-0081	33	Mendota Heights	Lake (deep or shallow)	Private - no access	Nutrients/Eutrophication biological indicators	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	CAMP eutrophication, Chloride, ecoli	Continue WMO CAMP monitoring.	7 Events	Yes
Sunfish Lake	1-B	19-0050	45	Sunfish Lake	Deep Lake	Private - no access	Delisted in 2022	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	CAMP eutrophication	Monitoring expected to continue through City		Yes
Hornbeam Lake	1-B	19-0047	22	Sunfish Lake/Inver Grove Heights	Shallow Lake	Private - no access		(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	CAMP eutrophication	Monitoring expected to continue through City		Future
Lemay Lake	2	19-0082	25	Mendota Heights	Shallow Lake	Private - no access		(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	CAMP eutrophication	Monitoring expected to continue through City		Future
Horseshoe Lake	Unprioritized	19-0051	14	Sunfish Lake/Inver Grove Heights	Shallow Lake	Private - no access		(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	CAMP eutrophication, WMO to do Chloride samples	Monitoring expected to continue through City		Future
Monitoring Goal: Establishing Baseline Conditions (Monitor Infrequently)																				
Pickrel Lake	2	19-0079	107	Lilydale/St. Paul	Shallow Lake	Public - boat landing	Mercury in fish tissue	WMO (CAMP)										Monitor for 5 years to re-establish baseline.		
Simley Lake	2	19-0037	11	Inver Grove Heights	Shallow Lake	Public - dock access					WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	CAMP eutrophication	Monitor for 5 years to re-establish baseline.	7 Events	
Ohmans Lake (Marcott Chain)	2	19-0042	22	Inver Grove Heights	Deep Lake	Private - no access												Monitor for 5 years to re-establish baseline.		
Rosenberger Lake (Marcott chain)	2	19-0041	20	Inver Grove Heights	Deep Lake	Private - no access												Monitor for 5 years to re-establish baseline.		
Copperfield Pond	2			Mendota Heights														Consider adding in future years to establish baseline.		
Dickman Lake	Unprioritized	19-0046	24	Inver Grove Heights	Shallow Lake	Private - no access		WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	CAMP eutrophication	Continue monitoring with willing volunteer, can stop if no volunteer	7 Events	Future
Schmitt Lake	Unprioritized	19-0052	61	Inver Grove Heights	Shallow Lake	Private - no access		WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	CAMP eutrophication	Continue monitoring with willing volunteer, can stop if no volunteer	7 Events	Future
Anderson Pond	Unprioritized	19-0094	3	South St. Paul	(Wetland or shallow lake)	Public - no access												Consider adding in future years to establish baseline.		
LeVander Pond	Unprioritized	19-0088	3	South St. Paul	(Wetland or shallow lake)	Private - no access												Consider adding in future years to establish baseline.		
Bohrer Pond	Unprioritized	19-0034	14	South St. Paul/Inver Grove Heights	Lake (possibly deep or shallow)	Public - no access												Consider adding in future years to establish baseline.		