PRIOR LAKE SPRING LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT

AGENDA

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

6:00 PM

Council Chambers
Prior Lake City Hall

BOARD OF MANAGERS:
Bruce Loney, President; Frank Boyles, Vice President;
Christian Morkeberg, Treasurer; Ben Burnett, Secretary; Matt Tofanelli, Manager

Note: Individuals with items on the agenda or who wish to speak to the Board are encouraged to be in attendance when the meeting is called to order.

Board Workshop 4:00 PM – *Parkview Conference Room*

4:00 – 4:30 PM	W.1	Potential Partnership Opportunities with SMSC (Joni Giese)
4:30 – 4:45 PM	W.2	New Easements: Sign Installation (Joni Giese)
4:45 – 4:55 PM	W.3	Joint Board of Managers & CAC Meeting Planning (Emily Dick)
4:55 – 5:10 PM	W.4	PLOC Pipelining: Funding Status Update (Emily Dick)
5:10 – 5:30 PM	W.5	Amendment of the Easement Amendment Policy (Joni Giese)
5:30 – 5:45 PM	W.6	Liaison Updates o District Partners in Attendance o Managers' Summary of other Meetings Attended
5:45 – 5:55 PM	W.7	Administrator Report (Joni Giese)

6:00 – 6:02 PM 1.0 **BOARD MEETING CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

6:02 – 6:05 PM 2.0 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

If anyone wishes to address the Board of Managers on an item not on the agenda or on the consent agenda, please come forward at this time. Go up to the podium, turn on the microphone and state your name and address. (The Chair may limit your time for commenting.)

6:05 - 6:10 PM **PUBLIC MEETING – Water Resources Management Plan Amendment**

If anyone wishes to address the Board of Managers on the proposed Water Resources Management Plan amendment, please come forward at this time. Go up to the podium, turn on the microphone and state your name and address. (The Chair may limit your time for commenting.)

6:10 – 6:12 PM 3.0 **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

6:12 – 6:40 PM 4.0 **OTHER OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

4.1 Programs & Projects Update (Discussion)
4.2 2023 Annual Financial Audit: Andy Berg, Abdo (Vote)
4.3 Swamp Lake Iron Enhanced Sand Filter Easement Approval (Vote)
4.4 Amendment of the Easement Amendment Policy (Vote)
4.5 Water Resources Management Plan Amendment Approval (Vote)

6:40 – 6:50 PM 5.0 **TREASURER'S REPORT**

5.1 Monthly Financial Reports (Discussion Only)

- Financial Report
- Treasurers Report
- Cash Flow Projections
- Cost Analysis

6:50 – 6:55 PM 6.0 **CONSENT AGENDA**

The consent agenda is considered as one item of business. It consists of routine administrative items or items not requiring discussion. Items can be removed from the consent agenda at the request of the Board member, staff member, or a member of the audience. Please state which item or items you wish to remove for separate discussion.

6.1 Meeting Minutes – April 16, 2024, Board Workshop
6.2 Meeting Minutes – April 16, 2024, Board Meeting
6.3 Claims List and Bank Purchase Card Expenditures Summary
6.4 General Governance Policies Amendment
6.5 City of Prior Lake Office Space Lease Agreement Renewal
6.6 Resolution 24-381: Amending the 2024 Budget to Reclass Funds in the 509-Implementation Fund, from 637-Aquatic Vegetation Surveys to 611-Aquatic Vegetation Management
6.7 Resolution 24-382: Amending the 2024 Budget, 509-Implementation Fund, 648 – BMP and Easements Inventory & Inspections
6.8 Ferric Chloride Site Improvements Scope of Services

6:55 – 7:00 PM 7.0 **UPCOMING MEETING/EVENT SCHEDULE:**

- CAC Meeting, Thursday, May 30, 2024, 6:00 pm (Prior Lake City Hall – Wagon Bridge Conference Room)
- Board of Managers Workshop, Tuesday, June 18, 2024, 4:00 pm (Prior Lake City Hall – Parkview Conference Room)
- Board of Managers Meeting, Tuesday, June 18, 2024, 6:00 pm (Prior Lake City Hall – Council Chambers)
- Joint Board of Managers/CAC Tour and Meeting, Thursday, June 27, 2024, 3:00 – 5:00 pm (tour), 5:00 – 7:00 pm (meeting) (Location TBD)

7:00 PM 8.0 **ADJOURNMENT**

PLSLWD Board Staff Report
May 15, 2024

Subject |	Water Resources Management Plan Amendment		
Board Meeting Date |	May 21, 2024	**Item No:**	Public Meeting
Prepared By |	Emily Dick		
Attachments |	a.) Redlined Proposed Plan Amendments b.) Comments to the Plan Amendment and Response		
Proposed Action |	Discussion.		

Background

A Water Resource Management Plan (WRMP) is required by state statute and sets the goals, policies, programs and projects for protecting the water resources within the watershed district. Watershed districts are required to adopt and periodically update their Water Resource Management Plans (WRMP). The WRMPs are approved by the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) and many grants require a WRMP citation related to the project to be eligible. The current PLSLWD WRMP is for 2020-2030. Plans can be updated as needed.

The District has an interest in updating the WRMP as several priority water quality and flood storage projects are not identified in the plan. Including projects in the plan makes them eligible for funding sources through BWSR and the Clean Water Fund. The intent of the plan amendment is solely to update language to be eligible for grants and correct outdated information. The focus, priorities and overall intent of the plan remain unchanged. The District Board of Managers voted to enact the plan amendment process at the March 19th Board meeting.

The proposed WRMP amendments are reflected in full in the "Redlined Proposed Plan Amendments" attachment. The proposed changes are summarized below:

Project Additions for Grant Eligibility:

- Fish Lake Management Plan and Accompanying Projects
- Fish Lake as a potential lake for alum treatment
- Alternate Spring West subwatershed project locations
- Other Flood Storage Projects beyond those in the TMDL plan
- Buck Ferric Chloride System
- Swamp Iron Enhanced Sand Filter (IESF)
- Alternate Sutton IESF locations
- Buck Stream Stabilization
- Prior Lake Outlet Channel pipelining

Update Goals to Accepted Industry Standards

- Carp population goal from 30 kg/ha to 100 kg/ha
- Public outreach article goal from 12 to 7 per year

Remove Errors and Outdated Information

- Correct WRAPs update schedule
- Remove Tier 3 Lake "classifications," they do not exist
- Remove inaccurate language about Buck Ferric Chloride system cost effectiveness
- Remove language about an unnecessary WRMP update
- Remove hyperlinks

Explicit linkages between typical grant priorities and existing PLSLWD actions

- Climate resiliency
- Equitable actions
- Groundwater protection is drinking water protection
- Habitat improvement can provide water quality benefits

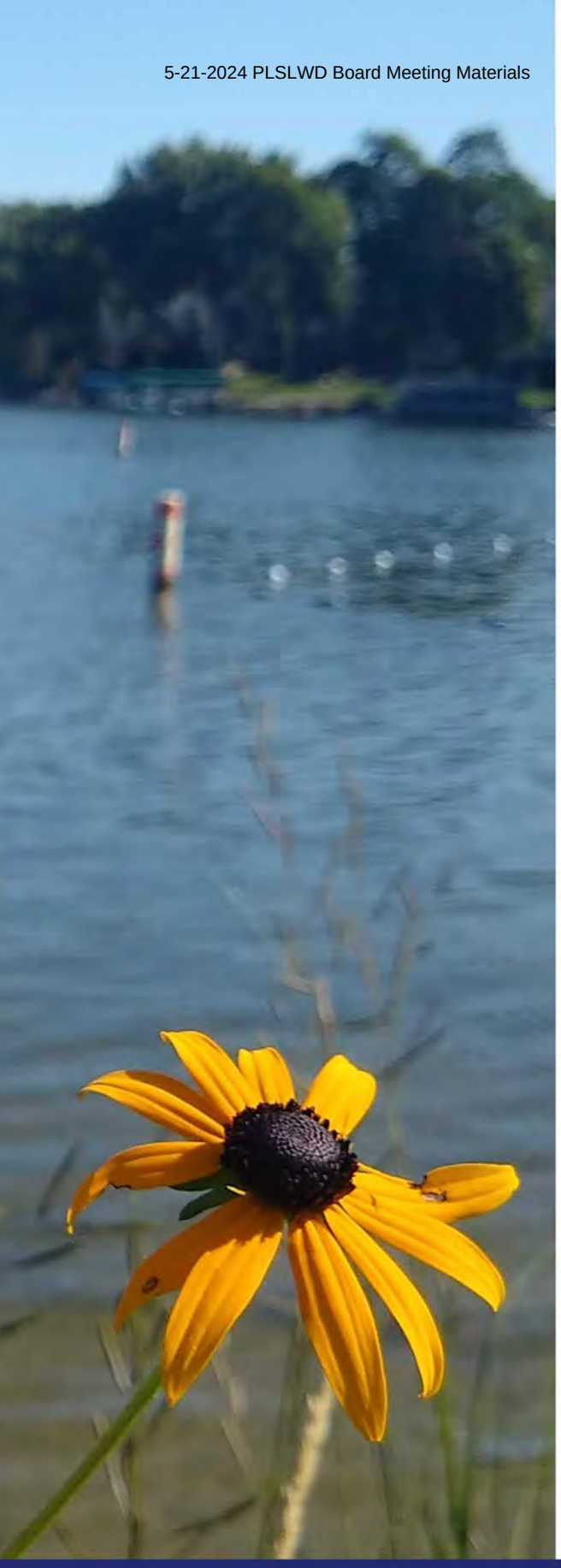
Discussion

The District followed a plan amendment process as described in state statute MN Rules 8410.0140 Sup.2. Notice was given to plan review authorities, and a 30-day public comment period was enacted April 5th through May 6th. After the public comment period closed, BWSR determined that the plan amendment could proceed through the "minor" plan amendment process. As a part of the "minor" plan amendment process, the District must hold a public meeting to explain the amendments. The intent of this agenda item is to serve the purposes of the public meeting and respond to any public comment.

District staff will present a summary of the plan amendments as well as the comments received through the public comment period, and responses. Further public comment can be made at the public hearing. The Board may choose to adopt the amended WRMP at any time after the public hearing.

Budget Impact

The cost associated with amending the WRMP is covered under budget item 626 District Plan Update.



PRIOR LAKE SPRING LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT

Water Resources Management Plan 2020 - 2030

Adopted on July 14, 2020
Amended on Month Day, 2024

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APPENDICES

Plan Appendices are located on the ~~Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District website~~Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District website and include the following:

- ~~Appendix A: Bibliography~~Appendix A: Bibliography
- ~~Appendix B: Maps and Reference Figures~~Appendix B: Maps and Reference Figures
- ~~Appendix C: DNR Fisheries Data~~Appendix C: DNR Fisheries Data
- ~~Appendix D: District Rules~~Appendix D: District Rules
- ~~Appendix E: PLOC MOA and Operating Procedures~~Appendix E: PLOC MOA and Operating Procedures
- ~~Appendix F: Education & Outreach Plan~~Appendix F: Education & Outreach Plan
- ~~Appendix G: Hydrologic Data and Figures~~Appendix G: Hydrologic Data and Figures
- ~~Appendix H: Long-Term Monitoring Plan~~
- Appendix H: Long-Term Monitoring Plan
- ~~Appendix I: Comprehensive Wetland Plan~~Appendix I: Comprehensive Wetland Plan
- ~~Appendix J: Cooperative Cost Share Program Manual~~Appendix J: Cooperative Cost Share Program Manual
- ~~Appendix K: BWSR Level II Performance Review~~Appendix K: BWSR Level II Performance Review
- ~~Appendix L: Summary of Management Plan Meeting & Public Feedback~~Appendix L: Summary of Management Plan Meeting & Public Feedback
- ~~Appendix M: Outcomes & Measures Dashboards~~Appendix M: Outcomes & Measures Dashboards

LIST OF FIGURES

LIST OF TABLES

Lake Townships (**Figure 1**). In addition, a portion of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (SMSC) Tribal Lands are located within the watershed. The SMSC is a sovereign nation and has the ability to partner with the District in their management of water resources. The activities and policies of the PLSLWD are administered by a five-person Board of Managers appointed by the commissioners of Scott County. The PLSLWD administers the Prior Lake Outlet Channel (PLOC) via the PLOC Memorandum of Agreement or Use, Operation, and Maintenance of the Prior Lake Outlet Channel and Outlet Structure (MOA) in ~~**Appendix E**~~**Appendix E**.

2. PLSLWD Map

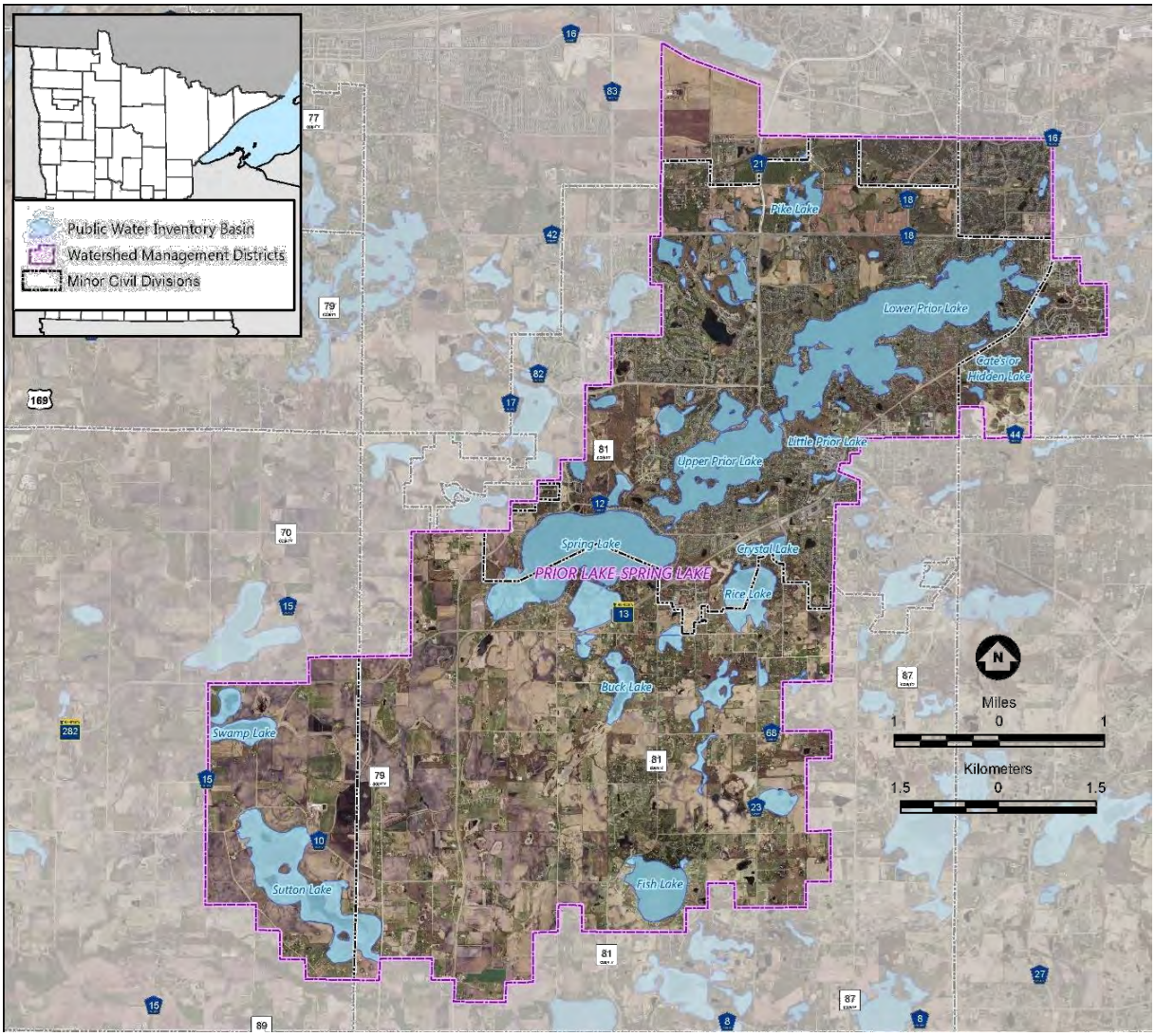


Figure 1. Map of the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District Boundary

- *Local plans, studies and policies (e.g. Upper Prior Lake In-Lake Phosphorous Management Plan, Integrated Pest Management Plan, Arctic Lake Subwatershed Assessment)*

In total, over 50 documents were compiled to create a comprehensive list of plans to inform the Prior Lake – Spring Lake WRMP. These documents are included in the bibliography in ~~Appendix A~~Appendix A. Information collected during this review of existing plans and policies was supplemented with information provided by the Plan Notification Process and the Stakeholder and Public Involvement Process described below.

C. Issues Identification Mapping Exercise

While the PLSLWD Board of Managers and staff were well aware of the priority issues and concerns facing the watershed, having worked on these same issues since the 2010-2019 WRMP, they took the opportunity to explore additional resource restoration and protection needs using an Issues Identification Mapping Exercise (IIME).

The IIME, also referred to as "zonation", is a conservation prioritization software that uses geographic information and user input weighting to identify locations on the landscape that have varying degrees of environmental sensitivity or management priority. This tool utilized existing data layers and a values model approach to assign weights to the various conservation features located in the watershed. In total, there were 24 data layers or conservation features included in the IIME. While many of the data layers were generated by state agencies (e.g. Lakes Vulnerable to Phosphorous Addition (MNDNR) and Altered Watercourses (MPCA)), a quarter of the data layers were generated by Scott County or PLSLWD (e.g. wells with nitrate concentrations greater than 10 ppm (Scott County) and Wetland Management Classifications (PLSLWD)).

As one of the IIME tools, the PLSLWD Board, staff, and advisory committees were asked to take a survey to assess their value ratings within five potential priority areas. The results of this survey are shown below in **Figure 4** and were used to weight the potential issue areas in the mapping process.

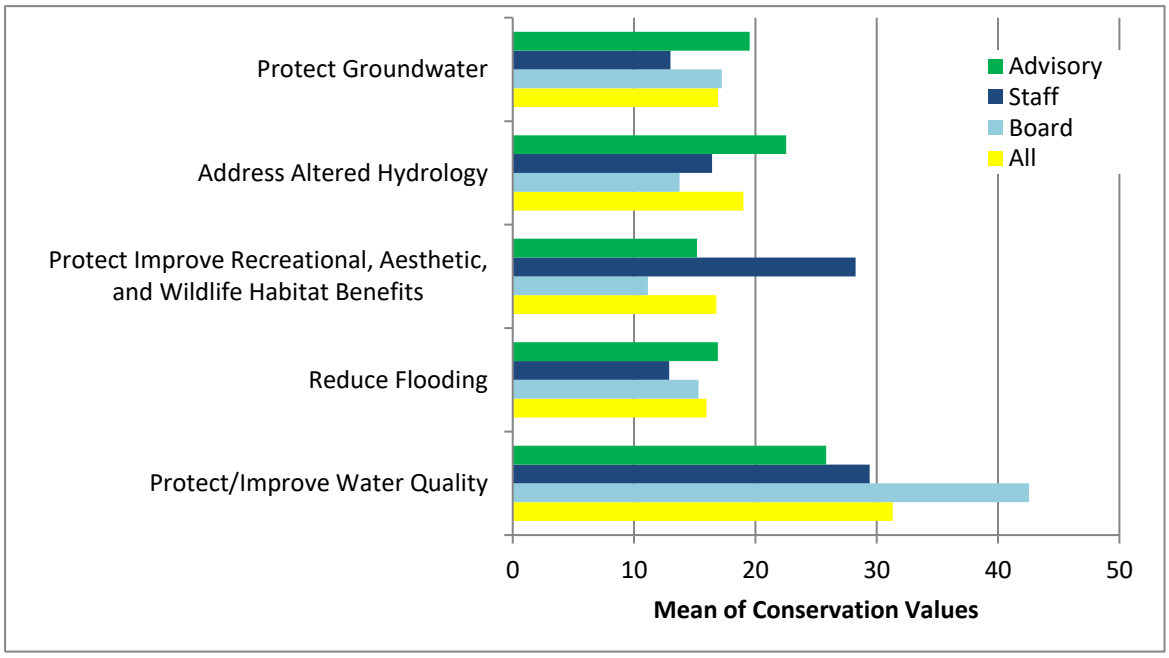


Figure 4. Results of Broad-Scale IIME Survey

After stacking the 24 data layers on top of each other and applying the values provided by the PLSLWD Board of Managers, staff and Technical Advisory Committee, a map identifying 10 potential issue areas was generated

Table 2. Summary of potential issue areas identified by IIME

Potential Issue Area for Consideration	Layers most influential in determining high ranking
Haas Lake	• *DWSMA* • *Ecological Corridor Areas* • *Sites of Biodiversity Significance*
Spring Lake Regional Park	• *High Quality Wetlands* • *Ecological Corridor Areas* • *Regional Park* • *Sites of Biodiversity Significance*
Hwy 13 Wetland	• *Groundwater Sensitivity* • *Areas of High Soil Loss Potential* • *Altered Watercourses* • *Basins for Flood Storage*
County Ditch 13	• *Groundwater Sensitivity* • *Altered Watercourses* • *High Quality Wetlands* • *Wetlands for Water Quality*
Spring Lake Township Wetlands	• *Groundwater Sensitivity* • *Altered Watercourses* • *Wetlands for Water Quality* • *Basins for Flood Storage*
Fish Lake Outlet Channel	• *Altered Watercourses* • *High Quality Wetlands* • *Ecological Corridor Areas* • *Wetlands for Water Quality*
Panama Avenue Wetland	• *Cultivated Areas* • *Ecological Corridor Areas* • *Wetlands for Water Quality* • *Basins for Flood Storage*
Direct Drainage to Lower Prior Lake	• *Groundwater Sensitivity* • *Lakes Vulnerable to Phosphorus Addition* • *Significant Shoreland Area* • *Existing Urban Areas*
Cate's Channel	• *High Quality Wetlands* • *Wetlands for Water Quality* • *Altered Watercourses* • *Existing Urban Areas*
Rice Lake/Crystal Lake	• *Lakes Vulnerable to Phosphorus Addition* • *High Quality Wetlands* • *Ecological Corridor Areas* • *Wetlands for Water Quality*

NOTE: Potential areas chosen for further consideration and project development in **bold**.

Through the IIME process, the Board had a clearer view of where to place the PLSLWD's priorities over the next ten years. While many of the above ten potential issue areas held high resource values, most did not have significant issues or opportunities for regionally significant projects. Based on the feedback received from the public engagement process (~~**Appendix L**~~**Appendix L**), the Board determined that with the limited resources available, work should be focused more on the most widely used resources and/or those most in need of improvements due to state listed impairments. However, this IIME process helped the PLSLWD identify three issue areas that held multiple benefits to PLSLWD resources which were ultimately chosen for consideration

and incorporation of projects into this WRMP: These resources include: 1) **Spring Lake Regional Park** where there is an opportunity for a regional stormwater pond or water quality improvement; 2) **County Ditch 13** where an improvement would not only help improve the stream system, but also Spring and Prior Lakes; and 3) **Direct Drainage to Lower Prior Lake**, a regionally significant resource which also impacts the downstream waterbody, Pike Lake. These three issue areas were prioritized to be included in the Tiered Lake approach.

The direct watersheds of Spring and Upper Prior Lakes were not included in the IIME as there was general consensus that the District has been focusing on these impaired waters and will continue to do so.

D. Plan Partners and Role in Plan Development

In addition to drawing from existing local and regional plans and incorporating agency input, significant efforts were made to engage member communities, stakeholder groups and the public in the planning process. One of the most critical components of any planning process is engaging members of the community in sharing local knowledge and identifying values and motivations that will inform the process and plan content. This section describes the various groups involved in the public engagement process. A complete list of the meetings held during the plan development process is provided in ~~**Appendix L**~~**Appendix L**.

1. PLSLWD Board of Managers

The PLSLWD Board of Managers participated in a series of workshops that produced the Managers' priorities for watershed management issues, goals and implementation actions over the 10-year timeframe of the WRMP.

During this series of special meetings, the Board discussed how they would like to address newer issues such as groundwater management and changes in precipitation patterns as well as on-going issues related to upland storage and priorities for lake management. The key findings of these discussions were that there are three priority concerns (water quality, AIS and flood reduction), but there were also areas that the Board would like more information such as what role the PLSLWD should play in groundwater management, what the pros & cons would be of a PLSLWD boundary change to better reflect where the water drains, at what level the Board should consider wetland management, and to what degree can the PLSLWD better address and make progress on flood reduction goals.

2. Technical Advisory Committee

The PLSLWD's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) included one staff representative from the BWSR, MNDNR, MPCA, Metropolitan Council, Scott County Watershed Management Organization, Scott Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD), Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (SMSC), Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (LMRWD), Scott County, City of Prior Lake, City of Savage, City of Shakopee, and Spring Lake Township.

The TAC participated in the plan development process by participating in the IIME (taking the survey and discussing the results) and providing feedback on the issues, measurable goals and implementation plan.

3. Citizen Advisory Committee

The PLSLWD's Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) consists of residents who provide input and recommendations to the Board of Managers on projects, reports and prioritization and act as the primary interface for the Board to address the current issues of concern of local citizens. There were fourteen citizen representatives on the CAC, all of whom participated in the plan development process.

Like the TAC, the CAC participated in the plan development process by participating in the IIME (taking the survey and discussing the results) and providing feedback on the issues, measurable goals and the implementation plan.

4. Farmer-Led Council

The PLSLWD's Farmer-Led Council (FLC) is comprised of local farmers who develop and guide the implementation of strategies that the PLSLWD will use to accomplish agriculture's share of the nutrient reduction goal. Agricultural lands make up the majority of the land in the Spring Lake and Upper Prior Lake watersheds. As such, farmers are the most important stewards of the land and their active input and participation is critical to achieving water quality goals.

The FLC participated in the plan development process by participating in an Agricultural Issues Survey, summarized in ~~Appendix L~~Appendix L, identifying issues of concern to the agricultural community and providing feedback on measurable goals and strategies.

5. Stakeholders and the General Public

PLSLWD held two meetings with the public over the course of the plan development process: the first to identify issues and concerns and the second to weigh in on the implementation plan and review draft plan content. Information collected during the stakeholder and public engagement process is summarized in ~~Appendix L~~Appendix L.

While much of the feedback supports the issues, policies and goals brought forward from previous plans, new information was brought to light that resulted in the development of new issues, policies and goals, allowed for further refinement of existing issues, policies and goals or led to discussions with the Managers and staff about priorities for watershed management. For example, feedback received from the public indicated that protecting the recreational value and ecological health of the PLSLWD's resources was a big concern and priority for residents of the watershed. This need led to a discussion about all of the PLSLWD's surface water resources (e.g. smaller, disconnected lakes and streams) and how they are being managed now and into the future.

E. Previous Plan Recommendations

During the PLSLWD's Level II performance review in 2016 (~~Appendix K~~Appendix K), BWSR concluded that the PLSLWD had completed or was making progress on 37 of their 62 action initiatives (60%). Several of the items were not started pending the completion of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS) study and report for the Lower Minnesota River watershed. Some of the actions that were dropped were projects that the managers considered and evaluated but determined to be infeasible or not warranted. BWSR was particularly impressed with the PLSLWD's tracking and reporting of the changing conditions of the water resources in the District, particularly the lakes. The PLSLWD's website contains detailed information about water quality and other lake conditions. However, while there were many excellent projects implemented by the PLSLWD, BWSR provided three key recommendations to the Board for future consideration:

1) To consider setting measurable resource condition targets for PLSLWD lakes;
2) To consider how to engage with all PLSLWD partners in both communication and collaboration to address PLSLWD goals; and
3) To address the Local Water Plan compliance action item.

- ***GOAL WQ2:*** ***Meet the state water quality standards for aquatic recreation on Spring Lake.***
- ***GOAL WQ3:*** ***Meet the state water quality standards for aquatic recreation on Upper Prior Lake.***
- ***GOAL WQ4:*** ***Improve water quality in Fish Lake by reducing annual phosphorous load by 40 lbs/year (50% of Lower MN Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy).***

b) Tier 2 Lakes

One of the Tier 2 lakes (Pike Lake) has been identified by the MPCA as being impaired for aquatic recreation due to excess nutrients, both from internal and external sources. The remaining three Tier 2 lakes have received significant recent or planned investment into the water resource due to their unique attributes as well as their connectivity and direct impact on Tier 1 lakes. While none of the four Tier 2 lakes have public access points, they still provide important water quality, aesthetic, and ecological benefits to the PLSLWD.

POLICY: PLSLWD is committed to achieving improvements to water quality for Tier 2 lakes (Pike Lake, Sutton Lake, Arctic Lake, and Buck Lake).

- ***GOAL WQ5:*** ***Improve water quality in Arctic Lake by supporting SMSC's improvement efforts to reduce watershed phosphorus loading by 37 lbs/yr and by partnering with SMSC, the City of Prior Lake and the Three Rivers Park District on future projects as opportunities arise.***
- ***GOAL WQ6:*** ***In partnership with SMSC and the City of Prior Lake, improve Pike Lake by achieving 10% percent improvement in TP concentrations to work toward the TMDL pollutant reduction requirements.***
- ***GOAL WQ7:*** ***Assess the quality of Sutton Lake and develop a Lake Management Plan.***
- ***GOAL WQ8:*** ***Assign a District water quality standard for Buck Lake and set management goals for the next 10-year plan.***

c) Tier 3 Lakes

There are several other lakes where monitoring data exists but there is insufficient information to assess if the resource meets the state's water quality standard. These lakes include: Crystal, Jeffers Pond, Rice, and Swamp. All but Jeffers Pond contributes stormwater runoff to the Prior-Spring chain-of-lakes. None have public access; however, they are valued by the residents who live near the resources which provide scenic, flood-reduction, water quality, and aesthetic benefits to the public and habitat for wildlife.

Policy: PLSLWD intends to monitor and assess the water quality for Tier 3 lakes (Haas Lake, Cates Lake, Jeffers Pond, Rice Lake, Crystal Lake, and Swamp Lake).

- ***GOAL WQ9:*** ***Assess the quality of Tier 3 Lakes ~~and assign lake management classifications~~.***

2. WETLANDS

The 2012 Comprehensive Wetland Plan inventoried a total of 716 wetlands covering 3,533 acres of the watershed. Of these, the 2012 Comprehensive Wetland Plan identifies two classes of protection wetlands: the Hydrology Class and the Natural Areas Management Class wetlands. The Hydrology Class warrants protection in order to preserve existing downstream water quality function and groundwater recharge function. The Natural Areas Management Class warrants protection based on the high ranking for vegetative diversity and wildlife habitat. Additionally, the City of Prior Lake has identified several high-quality wetlands that need to be protected from adjacent land use changes. For instance, the wetland in the Trillium Cove development is a high-quality wetland (floating bog) that is accessible to the public via a trail system. Encroachment of terrestrial invasive species is affecting the resource. In addition, Rice Lake Park Wetland is also a high-quality resource in need of a buffer and vegetative management.

A significant portion of the wetlands within the upper watershed of the PLSLWD have been lost to agricultural land use activities (i.e. tiling and ditching). While development-related wetland impacts are mitigated per Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) regulations, replacement often occurs outside the watershed. Wetland restoration and enhancement projects, while an on-going activity for the PLSLWD as part of its flood reduction strategies (needed to address the flood protection goal), have been limited in number.

The PLSLWD has identified high quality wetlands to protect and degraded wetlands to enhance as part of its Comprehensive Wetland Plan (~~Appendix I~~Appendix I). Efforts for restoration will consist of referral of restorations to other appropriate agency programs, projects required as a part of future development as well as easement acquisition and restoration by the PLSLWD itself.

Policy: PLSLWD is committed to maintaining or improving the quantity & quality of wetlands in the District.

- ***GOAL WQ10: Maintain no net loss of wetlands in the District.***
- ***GOAL WQ11: Restore or enhance 5% (24 of 482 acres) of the Restoration/Enhancement Management Class of wetlands (as identified in the Comprehensive Wetland Plan), focusing on those that work towards prioritized and/or multiple PLSLWD goals.***

3. STREAMS

There are several stream systems located in the watershed. The major stream systems serve as conveyance for stormwater runoff as it makes its way from the upper watershed (e.g. County Ditch 13) to the chain-of-lakes and on to the Minnesota River via the Prior Lake Outlet Channel.

The MPCA has identified two streams that do not support aquatic life and are impaired for biotic integrity: specific reaches of County Ditch 13 and the Prior Lake Outlet Channel. Both of these stream reaches are highly altered and viewed more as conveyance systems than high quality streams. As such, addressing altered hydrology and pollutant loading from areas tributary to these systems continues to be the primary focus of the PLSLWD and its member communities.

That said, there are several smaller stream systems located in the watershed that residents who attended WRMP public meetings expressed interest in having the PLSLWD manage for other functions such as wildlife habitat and recreational value. Examples of higher priority resources identified through the public engagement process include Buck Lake Creek and Cates Creek. The PLSLWD intends to conduct assessment of these systems and potentially establish management goals for incorporation into a plan amendment.

Policy: PLSLWD is committed to improving streambank stability on public waters & major streams.

- ***GOAL WQ12: Stabilize a minimum of ten bank erosion/slumping sites, prioritizing those in the watersheds of Tier 1 or Tier 2 lakes and/or meet multiple PLSLWD goals[1].***
- ***GOAL WQ13: Improve the stability of the Prior Lake Outlet Channel through annual maintenance, pipelining, and complete 10,000 linear feet of bank repair work (PLOC Master Plan, 2019).***

4. GROUNDWATER

Land alterations have the potential to impact groundwater resources as well as groundwater dependent natural resources. The Scott County Geological Atlas indicates that there are portions of the watershed that are highly susceptible to groundwater contamination. Without proper land-use and water resource management, the following impacts could occur: reduced groundwater quality, reduced groundwater recharge, alterations to drinking water supply, and alterations to the functions and values of groundwater dependent natural resources. The Twin Cities Metropolitan Area Master Water Supply Plan's water supply profile for the communities located in the watershed identify several issues related to drinking water protection including:

- Significant vulnerability to contamination: travel time from land surface to bedrock aquifers is estimated to be less than 50 years in Sand Creek Township, SMSC, Savage, Shakopee, Spring Lake Township, and Prior Lake.
- Potential for significant decline in aquifer water levels: regional groundwater modeling indicates significant aquifer decline under 2040 demand pumping rates in Shakopee, Spring Lake Township, SMSC, and Prior Lake.
- Potential impacts on surface water features and ecosystems from groundwater pumping; groundwater-dependent natural resources and surface waters in the area may be directly connected to regional groundwater system in Savage, Shakopee, Spring Lake Township, SMSC, and Prior Lake.

Additionally, Scott County's assessment of groundwater monitoring identifies the need to better coordinate the collection and analysis of groundwater data.

Drinking Water Protection

The Twin Cities Metropolitan Area Master Water Supply Plan indicates that communities in the PLSLWD are located in areas vulnerable to groundwater contamination. Although watershed districts are not

[1] this is an interim goal that is to be revised via a plan amendment after the inventory and assessment work has been completed.

7~~7~~4 Implementation Actions that Help Achieve One or More Goals:

The Implementation Actions are organized by the measurable goals listed in Section III above. Note that some Implementation Actions address multiple goals and may be listed more than once. The Implementation Actions that repeat are identified by *italicized text.* Each of the Implementation Actions later will be organized into PLSLWD programs, keeping the same numbering system and color scheme as below:

Capital Projects # Operations & Maintenance # Planning # Monitoring # Regulation # Education & Outreach

- *Italicized grey text* = Implementation Action repeated from previous goal. Note that it keeps the same number.
- Implementation Actions are numbered in order, 1-~~74~~77, regardless of color (program).

GOAL WQ1: Maintain or improve 5-year average for Total Phosphorus, Chlorophyll-a and Secchi depth in Lower Prior Lake.

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS
External Loading	Stormwater Runoff	1 Review the Lower Prior Lake Diagnostic Study and set new goals as needed.
		2 Implement stormwater retrofits in the Lower Prior Lake drainage area as opportunities arise.
		3 Continue to provide assistance to the City of Prior Lake for its Targeted Intensive Street Sweeping program.
		4 Implement activity identified in the 2020 Lower Prior Lake Subwatershed Feasibility Study.
		5 Enforce District Rules through active permit program and assess the need for rule updates on a five-year basis.
		6 Provide information to residents to encourage individual choices that benefit water quality and to increase participation in cost-share programs.
		7 Regularly and effectively monitor water quality on Tier 1 lakes and its tributaries in order to inform District plans and projects.

GOAL WQ2: Meet the state water quality standards for aquatic recreation on Spring Lake.

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS
External Loading	Stormwater Runoff	*3 Continue to provide assistance to the City of Prior Lake for its Targeted Intensive Street Sweeping program.*
		5 Enforce District Rules through active permit program and assess the need for rule updates on a five-year basis.
		6 Provide information to residents to encourage individual choices that benefit water quality and to increase participation in cost-share programs.
		7 Regularly and effectively monitor water quality on Tier 1 lakes and its tributaries in order to inform District plans and projects.
		8 Implement nutrient reduction BMPs in the Spring West subwatershed, such as those ~~the strategy~~ identified in the Spring Lake West Subwatershed Feasibility Study.
		9 Implement one or more storage and infiltration projects identified in upper watershed planning efforts such as District feasibility studies, the 2023 Flood Storage Decision Matrix, the 2016 Flood Study, the Upper Watershed Blueprint and the Spring & Upper Prior Lake TMDL Implementation Plan.
		10 Update the District's Comprehensive Wetland Plan which identifies strategic wetlands that help work towards achieving prioritized and/or multiple goals, including climate resiliency.
		11 Strategically target and implement a minimum of one wetland restoration in the Spring Lake Watershed identified in Comprehensive Wetland Plan.
		12 Continue to provide cost-share opportunities for residential & agricultural water quality and habitat improvement projects within the watershed, including Farmer-Led Council initiatives, that reduce nutrient loading or runoff volume.
		13 Collaborate with LGUs and/or other partners on three or more retrofit water quality and volume management BMPs and/or water quality improvement research studies.

14 Collaborate with the City of Prior Lake to promote efforts for the Innovative P load reductions program.

1475 Reassess feasibility of Buck Chemical Treatment System and implement if feasible.

7614 Implement a streambank restoration project, such as the Buck Stream Stabilization.

~~***Goal WQ2 continued from previous page***~~

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS	
External Loading	Stormwater Runoff	15	Collaborate with Scott County to incorporate water quality improvement components at Spring Lake Regional Park *(Source: Scott County Local Water Resources Plan, Page 33).*
		16	Develop equitable regional stormwater management plans with municipalities that includes a stormwater utility credit program for future development areas.
		17	Work with the Farmer-Led Council to create win-win programming in agricultural areas to improve water quality, including cover crop programs, no-till incentives, and other soil health initiatives.
		18	Continue to provide water resources information and project updates to residents through social media platforms, press releases, targeted mailings, email blasts, signage and the District's website.
		19	Organize public participation/information events (e.g. Clean Water Clean-Up or District Tours) at least four times per year.
		20	Continue to help support, organize and facilitate a Citizens Advisory Committee and its projects.
		21	Continue to help support, organize and facilitate a Farmer-Led Council and its initiatives.
		22	Continue supporting SCWEP and partner with Scott SWCD and/or other LGUs in Scott County to hold a minimum of two training events for residents per year that helps provide information for projects that benefit water quality and/or flood reduction.
		23	Coordinate with other LGU partners at least once per year to provide targeted outreach to landowners to encourage them to use good water resource practices and/or participate in cost-share opportunities which not only fulfils MS4 education and outreach obligations but also supports all District projects & programs.
		24	Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.
		25	Develop a plan to conduct outreach to non-profit partners (e.g. Great River Greening, Freshwater Society, UMN, etc.) on an annually basis to assess potential opportunities to leverage funds and/or collaborate on projects.
	County Ditch 13 System	26	Operate and maintain the Ferric Chloride Treatment System, completing dredging of the desilt pond as necessary. Make system improvements informed by 2023/2024 Ferric Chloride System Assessment.
		27	Partner with local farmers, landowners, Scott County, Spring Lake Township and Sand Creek Township to identify opportunities and implement projects to improve stabilization of banks, habitat and water quality in County Ditch 13, such as an iron enhanced sand filter (ie. MB CD-13, Sutton, Swamp BMP sites).
Internal Loading	AIS	28	Annually update and implement the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Plan for Common Carp.

	29	Annually assess curly-leaf pondweed on Tier 1 lakes, implementing chemical or physical controls as needed to reduce harmful growth.
Lake Sediment	30	Complete aluminum sulfate treatments on Spring Lake, Fish Lake and Upper Prior Lake as needed to achieve water quality standards.

GOAL WQ3: Meet the state water quality standards for aquatic recreation on Upper Prior Lake.

ISSUE	SOURCE		IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS
External Loading	Stormwater Runoff	4	*Implement activities that help reduce phosphorus in Spring Lake (see above Implementation Actions).*
		5	*Enforce District Rules through active permit program and assess the need for rule updates on a five-year basis.*
		6	*Provide information to residents to encourage individual choices that benefit water quality and to increase participation in cost-share programs.*
		7	*Regularly and effectively monitor water quality on Tier 1 lakes and its tributaries in order to inform District plans and projects.*
		9	*Implement one or more storage and infiltration projects identified in upper watershed planning efforts such as District feasibility studies, the 2023 Flood Storage Decision Matrix, the 2016 Flood Study, the Upper Watershed Blueprint and —the Spring & Upper Prior Lake TMDL Implementation Plan.*
		10	*Update the District's Comprehensive Wetland Plan which identifies strategic wetlands that help work towards achieving prioritized and/or multiple goals, including climate resiliency.*
		12	*Continue to provide cost-share opportunities for residential & agricultural water quality and habitat improvement projects within the watershed, including Farmer-Led Council initiatives that reduce nutrient loading or runoff volume.*
		13	*Collaborate with LGUs and/or other partners on three or more retrofit water quality and volume management BMPs and/or water quality improvement research studies.*
		14	*Collaborate with the City of Prior Lake to promote efforts for the Innovative P load reductions program.*
		16	*Develop equitable regional stormwater management plans with municipalities that includes a stormwater utility credit program for future development areas.*
		18	*Continue to provide water resources information and project updates to residents through social media platforms, press releases, targeted mailings, email blasts, signage and the District's website.*
		19	*Organize public participation/information events (e.g. Clean Water Clean-Up or District Tours) at least four times per year.*
		20	*Continue to help support, organize and facilitate a Citizens Advisory Committee and its projects.*
		21	*Continue to help support, organize and facilitate a Farmer-Led Council and its initiatives.*
		22	*Continue supporting SCWEP and partner with Scott SWCD and/or other LGUs in Scott County to hold a minimum of two training events for residents per year that helps provide information for projects that benefit water quality and/or flood reduction.*
		23	*Coordinate with other LGU partners at least once per year to provide targeted outreach to landowners to encourage them to use good water resource practices and/or participate in cost-share opportunities which not*

~~***Goal WQ3 continued from previous page***~~

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS	
Internal Loading	AIS	25	*Develop a plan to conduct outreach to non-profit partners (to assess potential opportunities to leverage funds and/or collaborate on projects.*
		28	*Annually update and implement the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Plan for Common Carp.*
		29	*Annually assess curly-leaf pondweed on Tier 1 lakes, implementing chemical or physical controls as needed to reduce harmful growth.*
	Lake Sediment	30	*Complete aluminum sulfate treatments on Spring Lake, Fish Lake and Upper Prior Lake as needed to achieve water quality standards.*

GOAL WQ4: Improve water quality in Fish Lake by reducing annual phosphorous load by 40 lbs/year (50% of Lower MN Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy).

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS	
External Loading	Stormwater Runoff	5	*Enforce District Rules through active permit program and assess the need for rule updates on a five-year basis.*
		6	*Provide information to residents to encourage individual choices that benefit water quality and to increase participation in cost-share programs.*
		7	*Regularly and effectively monitor water quality on Tier 1 lakes and its tributaries in order to inform District plans and projects.*
	Agricultural Runoff	12	*Continue to provide cost-share opportunities for residential & agricultural water quality and habitat improvement projects within the watershed, including Farmer-Led Council initiatives that reduce nutrient loading or runoff volume.*
		21	*Continue to help support, organize and facilitate a Farmer-Led Council and its initiatives.*
		23	*Coordinate with other LGU partners at least once per year to provide targeted outreach to landowners to encourage them to use good water resource practices and/or participate in cost-share opportunities which not only fulfils MS4 education and outreach obligations but also supports all District projects & programs.*
		31	Explore a potential biofiltration or iron-enhanced sand filtration treatment of agricultural runoff (tile drainage) on the north side of Fish lake, completing a project as opportunities and funding are available.
	Altered/Loss of Wetlands	32	Partner with the new or current owners of the Fish Lake Acres Campground to implement wetland restoration and enhancement project as feasible.
Internal Loading	AIS	28	*Annually update and implement the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Plan for Common Carp.*
		29	*Annually assess curly-leaf pondweed on Tier 1 lakes, implementing chemical or physical controls as needed to reduce harmful growth.*
		77	Complete an updated Fish Lake Management Plan to inform future management and potential BMPs to improve Fish Lake.
		32	Study and implement projects identified in the Fish Lake Management Plan to reduce phosphorus loads in Fish Lake.
		30	*Complete aluminum sulfate treatments on Spring Lake, Fish Lake and Upper Prior Lake as needed to achieve water quality standards.*

GOAL WQ5: Improve water quality in Arctic Lake by supporting SMSC's improvement efforts to reduce watershed phosphorus loading by 37 lbs/yr and by partnering with SMSC, the City of Prior Lake and the Three Rivers Park District on future projects as opportunities arise.

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS
External Loading	Stormwater Runoff	5 *Enforce District Rules through active permit program and assess the need for rule updates on a five-year basis.*
		33 Support the SMSC with implementation of stabilization and retrofit water quality BMP projects in the Arctic Lake watershed as identified.
		34 Monitor and assess data for the District's waterbodies as prescribed in the District's Long-Term Monitoring Plan.
Internal Loading	Common Carp	35 Support SMSC's monitoring program by sharing information and resources to better understand nutrient dynamics within Arctic & Pike Lakes and partner with them as part of the IPM Plan for Common Carp.

GOAL WQ6: In partnership with SMSC and the City of Prior Lake, improve Pike Lake by achieving 10% percent improvement in TP concentrations to work toward the TMDL pollutant reduction requirements

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS
External Loading	Stormwater Runoff	5 *Enforce District Rules through active permit program and assess the need for rule updates on a five-year basis.*
		6 *Provide information to residents to encourage individual choices that benefit water quality and to increase participation in cost-share programs.*
		34 *Monitor and assess data for the District's waterbodies as prescribed in the District's Long-Term Monitoring Plan.*
		36 Work with the developers to include enhanced water quality and habitat features in projects, providing cost-share as incentives.
Internal Loading	Common Carp	28 *Annually update and implement the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Plan for Common Carp.*
		35 *Support SMSC's monitoring program by sharing information and resources to better understand nutrient dynamics within Arctic & Pike Lakes and partner with them as part of the IPM Plan for Common Carp.*

GOAL WQ7: Assess the quality of Sutton Lake and develop a Lake Management Plan.

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS
Low Diversity	Dominant Plant Species	34 *Monitor and assess data for the District's waterbodies as prescribed in the District's Long-Term Monitoring Plan.*
		37 Develop a lake management plan for Sutton Lake.
		38 Provide equitable opportunities for communities to engage in and provide feedback for projects, programs, and District plans through neighborhood & public meetings, online surveys, direct mailings, District tours, presentations at local groups, etc.

~~***Goal WQ7 continued from previous page***~~

ISSUE	SOURCE	~~IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS~~	
Low Diversity	Dominant Plant Species	39	Engage local government partners, elected & appointed officials, state agencies, non-profits, and experts in planning efforts for District projects & programs, as appropriate.

GOAL WQ8: Assign a District water quality standard for Buck Lake and set management goals for the next 10-year plan.

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS	
High phosphorus levels	Internal loading	34	*Monitor and assess data for the District's waterbodies as prescribed in the District's Long-Term Monitoring Plan.*
		40	Conduct a lake diagnostic study for Buck Lake to determine phosphorus budget, including a sediment core analysis, and identify restoration strategies based on applicable standard.

GOAL WQ9: Assess the quality of Tier 3 Lakes~~ and assign lake management classifications~~.

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS	
Minimal information available	Limited historical monitoring	34	*Monitor and assess data for the District's waterbodies as prescribed in the District's Long-Term Monitoring Plan.*

GOAL WQ10: Maintain no net loss of wetlands in the District.

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS	
Loss of wetland quantity	Development	5	*Enforce District Rules through an active permit program and assess the need for rule updates on a five-year basis.*
		6	*Provide information to residents to encourage individual choices that benefit water quality and to increase participation in cost-share programs.*
		41	Conduct outreach to new developments early in the planning process to identify areas of opportunity for water quality improvements.
		42	Protect wetlands and wetland buffers under PLSLWD conservation easements or other municipal control through District Rule J enforcement or other mechanisms.
		43	Create a District wetland banking program to ensure no wetland loss when the use of wetland credits is necessary for a project within the District.
	Agricultural activities	23	*Coordinate with other LGU partners at least once per year to provide targeted outreach to landowners to encourage them to use good water resource practices and/or participate in cost-share opportunities which not only fulfils MS4 education and outreach obligations but also supports all District projects & programs.*
		44	Identify opportunities to use other programs (e.g. Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, non-profit organization programs, etc.) to temporarily or permanently protect wetlands in the agricultural areas.
		45	Continue to provide cost-share opportunities for wetland restoration projects.

GOAL WQ11: Restore or enhance 5% (24 of 482 acres) of the Restoration/Enhancement Management Class of wetlands (as identified in the Comprehensive Wetland Plan), focusing on those that work towards prioritized and/or multiple District goals.

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS	
Loss of Wetland Quality	Insufficient targeting & outreach	6	*Provide information to residents to encourage individual choices that benefit water quality and to increase participation in cost-share programs.*
		18	*Continue to provide water resources information and project updates to residents through social media platforms, press releases, targeted mailings, email blasts, signage and the District's website.*
		20	*Continue to help support, organize and facilitate a Citizens Advisory Committee and its projects.*
		21	*Continue to help support, organize and facilitate a Farmer-Led Council and its initiatives.*
		23	*Coordinate with other LGU partners at least once per year to provide targeted outreach to landowners to encourage them to use good water resource practices and/or participate in cost-share opportunities which not only fulfils MS4 education and outreach obligations but also supports all District projects & programs.*
		38	*Provide equitable opportunities for communities to engage in and provide feedback for projects, programs, and District plans through neighborhood & public meetings, online surveys, direct mailings, District tours, presentations at local groups, etc.*
		39	*Engage local government partners, elected & appointed officials, state agencies, non-profits, and experts in planning efforts for District projects & programs, as appropriate.*
		45	*Continue to provide cost-share opportunities for wetland restoration projects.*
		46	Update the Comprehensive Wetland Plan (CWP) to discretely characterize wetland storage capacity and downstream water quality functions.
		47	Use CWP information to strategically target wetland restorations through outreach & implementation of a wetland acquisition program.
	Development	41	*Conduct outreach to new developments early in the planning process to identify areas of opportunity for water quality improvements.*
		48	Coordinate with LGU partners to improve/protect buffers on public property through habitat improvement, signage, or regular inspections.
		49	Monitor and enforce existing conservation easements.
Loss of Wetland Quality	Upstream Waterbodies	24	*Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.*

~~***Goal WQ11 continued from previous page***~~

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS
Loss of Wetland Quality	Upstream Waterbodies	25 *Develop a plan to conduct outreach to non-profit partners (e.g. GRG, TPL, Freshwater Society, UMN, etc.) on an annually basis to assess potential opportunities to leverage funds and/or collaborate on projects.*
		50 Assess the storage capacity of the Hwy 13 wetland to maintain pretreatment function for the Ferric Chloride Treatment System and dredge/restore as recommended.
		51 Enhance the habitat and wetland functions of the Frog Farm Wetland.

GOAL WQ12: Stabilize a minimum of ten bank erosion/slumping sites, prioritizing those that impact Tier 1 or Tier 2 lakes and/or meet multiple District goals.

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS
Streambank erosion & slumping	Historical damage to banks	27 *Partner with local farmers, landowners, Scott County, Spring Lake Township and Sand Creek Township to identify opportunities and implement projects to improve stabilization of banks, habitat and water quality in County Ditch 13, such as an iron enhanced sand filter (ie. MB CD-13, Sutton, Swamp BMP sites).*
		23 *Coordinate with other LGU partners at least once per year to provide targeted outreach to landowners to encourage them to use good water resource practices and/or participate in cost-share opportunities which not only fulfils MS4 education and outreach obligations but also supports all District projects & programs.*
		52 Develop a Streambank Restoration Program that strategically prioritizes sites for stabilization based on water quality & flooding benefits and implements a minimum of ten projects.
		53 Complete bank erosion inventory project for streams and other tributaries in the upper watershed to establish baseline conditions and the number of sites that needing stabilization.
	Stormwater drainage	6 *Provide information to residents to encourage individual choices that benefit water quality and to increase participation in cost-share programs.*
		21 *Continue to help support, organize and facilitate a Farmer-Led Council and its initiatives.*
		54 Provide increased incentives for establishment of buffers and filter strips along private ditches and streams through the Cost Share Program.
		22 *Continue supporting SCWEP and partner with Scott SWCD and/or other LGUs in Scott County to hold a minimum of two training events for residents per year that helps provide information for projects that benefit water quality and/or flood reduction.*

~~***Goal WQ12 continued from previous page***~~

ISSUE	SOURCE	~~IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS~~
Streambank erosion & slumping	Stormwater drainage	24 *Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.*
		25 *Develop a plan to conduct outreach to non-profit partners (e.g. GRG, TPL, Freshwater Society, UMN, etc.) on an annually basis to assess potential opportunities to leverage funds and/or collaborate on projects.*
		39 *Engage local government partners, elected & appointed officials, state agencies, non-profits, and experts in planning efforts for District projects & programs, as appropriate.*

GOAL WQ13: Improve the stability of the Prior Lake Outlet Channel through annual maintenance, pipelining, and complete 10,000 linear feet of bank repair work (PLOC Master Plan).

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS
Erosion along PLOC	Significant rain events & flooding	55 Maintain (or finish completion of) the Prior Lake Outlet Channel Stabilization Project (7,400 linear feet of bank repair funded by FEMA Public Assistance funding), completing as-builts and post-stabilization bank assessment work on repaired channel banks.
		56 Repair an additional 10,000 linear feet of eroded banks at locations identified in the PLOC Master Plan (EOR, 2019).
		57 Manage the Prior Lake Outlet Channel per the Memorandum of Agreement for Use, Operation, and Maintenance of the Prior Lake Outlet Channel and Outlet Structure, Version 9, dated April 2, 2019.

GOAL WQ14: Actively participate in groundwater planning efforts to support municipal protection of highly vulnerable areas of DWSMA's or groundwater dependent natural resources.

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS
Groundwater quality and/or contamination	Current and future land uses	39 *Engage local government partners, elected & appointed officials, state agencies, non-profits, and experts in planning efforts for District projects & programs, as appropriate.*
		58 Serve on wellhead protection planning teams to assist public water suppliers with planning and implementation activities to address land use planning concerns.
		59 Develop a plan on how to better incorporate consideration of groundwater and drinking water protection when reviewing new permits and completing capital projects to incorporate the alignment with NFMP and GPR activities.
	Improperly sealed wells	60 Continue to provide Cost Share funding for the sealing of decommissioned wells in partnership with the SWCD.
	Quality of groundwater	61 Develop new incentives for low-impact development practices and BMPs that reduce the need for irrigation, promote infiltration, and protect groundwater quality through the Cost Share Program.

GOAL AIS1: Develop and implement an Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Response and Prevention Plan in coordination with Scott County to help prevent new AIS from entering Tier 1 lakes (lakes with public access).

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS	
New AIS can reduce water quality	Infested boats entering lakes	6	*Provide information to residents to encourage individual choices that benefit water quality and to increase participation in cost-share programs.*
		18	*Continue to provide water resources information and project updates to residents through social media platforms, press releases, targeted mailings, email blasts, signage and the District's website.*
		20	*Continue to help support, organize and facilitate a Citizens Advisory Committee and its projects.*
		23	*Coordinate with other LGU partners at least once per year to provide targeted outreach to landowners to encourage them to use good water resource practices and/or participate in cost-share opportunities which not only fulfils MS4 education and outreach obligations but also supports all District projects & programs.*
		24	*Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.*
		25	*Develop a plan to conduct outreach to non-profit partners (e.g. GRG, TPL, Freshwater Society, UMN, etc.) on an annually basis to assess potential opportunities to leverage funds and/or collaborate on projects.*
		39	*Engage local government partners, elected & appointed officials, state agencies, non-profits, and experts in planning efforts for District projects & programs, as appropriate.*
		62	Create and implement an AIS Rapid Response and Prevention Plan for Tier 1 lakes in collaboration with local and state partners.
		63	Partner with local partners and/or the University of Minnesota to implement strategies to prevent the spread of known and emerging AIS in Tier 1 lakes.
	Zebra Mussels	64	As new research allows, implement strategies to better manage the spread and population of zebra mussels in and out of Prior Lake.

GOAL AIS2: Effectively manage common carp in Tier 1 and Tier 2 lakes to 10~~3~~0 kg/ha or below.

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS	
New AIS can reduce water quality	Infested boats entering lakes	28	*Annually update and implement the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Plan for Common Carp.*
		34	*Monitor and assess data for the District's waterbodies as prescribed in the District's Long-Term Monitoring Plan.*
		35	*Support SMSC's monitoring program by sharing information and resources to better understand nutrient dynamics within Arctic & Pike Lakes and partner with them as part of the IPM Plan for Common Carp.*

GOAL RF1: Achieve the first-tier priority flood reduction goal to reduce the flood level on Prior Lake (from 905.62) to 905.5 feet for the 25-year return period (Source: Prior Lake Stormwater Management & Flood Mitigation Study, 2016).

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS
Flooding on Prior Lake	Insufficient upstream storage	21 *Continue to help support, organize and facilitate a Farmer-Led Council and its initiatives.*
		23 *Coordinate with other LGU partners at least once per year to provide targeted outreach to landowners to encourage them to use good water resource practices and/or participate in cost-share opportunities which not only fulfils MS4 education and outreach obligations but also supports all District projects & programs.*
		25 *Develop a plan to conduct outreach to non-profit partners (e.g. GRG, TPL, Freshwater Society, UMN, etc.) on an annually basis to assess potential opportunities to leverage funds and/or collaborate on projects.*
		27 *Partner with local farmers, landowners, Scott County, Spring Lake Township and Sand Creek Township to identify opportunities and implement projects to improve stabilization of banks, habitat and water quality in County Ditch 13, such as an iron enhanced sand filter (ie. MB CD-13, Sutton, Swamp BMP sites).*
		39 *Engage local government partners, elected & appointed officials, state agencies, non-profits, and experts in planning efforts for District projects & programs, as appropriate.*
		65 Conduct an assessment of the upland storage sites identified in the Stormwater Management & Flood Mitigation Study, 2016 and the Upper Subwatershed Assessment to create a prioritized list of potential storage areas based on refined cost estimates, feasibility, and opportunity.
		66 Complete flood reduction projects in order to provide a total of 176 acre-feet of storage in the upper watershed (includes Sutton Lake project) and to improve climate resiliency.
		67 Develop a Detention Policy in coordination with LGU partners (which includes the Spring Lake Dam Policy) for each of the waterbodies in the District that identifies normal operating levels and ability to manage water levels for flood management.
	Historical & new land development	5 *Enforce District Rules through active permit program and assess the need for rule updates on a five-year basis.*
		6 *Provide information to residents to encourage individual choices that benefit water quality and to increase participation in cost-share programs.*
		16 *Develop equitable regional stormwater management plans with municipalities that includes a stormwater utility credit program for future development areas.*
		24 *Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.*
		68 Provide incentives through the Cost Share Program to member communities and the development community to promote the use of green infrastructure that contributes to flood reduction on Prior Lake.

1. Capital Improvement Program

Capital projects are generally large, expensive projects that cannot be funded easily with one of the existing implementation mechanisms, such as the cost-share framework. The PLSLWD will seek to implement these projects in partnership with local entities where possible, and seek grant funding, again where possible. The PLSLWD is prepared to contribute at least 25% of the estimated cost of the planned expenditures in this section, regardless of the outcome of grant applications. Each individual project is intended to significantly advance a goal or goals of the PLSLWD.

All capital projects will be preceded by a study, concept plan and/or cost-benefit analysis to determine their feasibility, either as part of a greater study (such as a TMDL study), or in the preceding year as a separate expenditure (see Section IV.C.3.4 – Feasibility Reports). The Board may choose not to fund planned capital expenditures if the outcome of the feasibility report is unfavorable.

1. IN-LAKE ALUM TREATMENTS

10-Year Budget: $3,266,100

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:	MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:
• Tier 1 Lakes	• **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake* • **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lake* • **WQ4:** *Improve water quality in Fish Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PEFORMED:

30 Complete aluminum sulfate treatments on Spring Lake, Fish Lake and Upper Prior Lake as needed to achieve water quality standards.

Background & Purpose

The Spring Lake-Upper Prior Lake Nutrient TMDL identified internal load as a significant source of phosphorus to Spring and Upper Prior Lake. The reduction of internal pollutant loading through one or more internal load management projects is identified as an important strategy in the improvement of water quality in Spring Lake and Upper Prior Lake. Controlling internal loading is necessary to improve water quality and clarity in Spring Lake and Upper Prior Lake.

Spring Lake has been dosed with two of the three phased aluminum sulfate (alum treatment) applications. The first application was in 2013 and the second was in 2018. A third application is scheduled for 2020.

The Upper Prior Lake Alum Treatment Feasibility Study (2019) prescribes a two-phased treatment approach. The first of which is scheduled for 2020 and the second is tentatively scheduled for 2022, depending on lake response and the success of the PLSLWD's Carp Management Program.

Legacy (in-lake) phosphorus loading is also anticipated to be an issue on Fish Lake. This source of phosphorus can be managed by conducting an alum treatment. All efforts will be made to reduce incoming phosphorus and remove carp before exploring an alum treatment.

Implementation Steps

1. Continue to fund In-Lake Alum Reserve Fund: This fund has been established to dampen annual levy fluctuations associated with in-lake alum treatments.

2. COUNTY DITCH 13 RESTORATION

10-Year Budget: $272,500

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:

- Tier 1 Lakes: *Spring, Upper Prior*
- Streams

MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:

- **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake*
- **WQ12:** *Stabilize a minimum of ten bank erosion sites*
- **RF1:** *Achieve first-tier flood reduction goal on Prior Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

27 Partner with local farmers, landowners, Scott County, Spring Lake Township and Sand Creek Township to identify opportunities and implement projects to improve stabilization of banks, habitat and water quality in County Ditch 13, such as an iron enhanced sand filter (ie. MB CD-13, Sutton, Swamp BMP sites).

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

11 *Strategically target and implement a minimum of one wetland restoration in the Spring Lake Watershed that is identified in Comprehensive Wetland Plan.*

16 *Develop equitable regional stormwater management plans with municipalities that includes a stormwater utility credit program for future development areas.*

23 *Coordinate with other LGU partners at least once per year to provide targeted outreach to landowners to encourage them to use good water resource practices and/or participate in cost-share opportunities which not only fulfils MS4 education and outreach obligations but also supports all District projects & programs.*

24 *Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.*

52 *Develop a Streambank Restoration Program that strategically prioritizes sites for stabilization based on water quality & flooding benefits and implements a minimum of ten projects.*

53 *Complete bank erosion inventory project for streams and other tributaries in the upper watershed to establish baseline conditions and the number of sites that needing stabilization.*

54 *Provide increased incentives for establishment of buffers and filter strips along private ditches and streams through the Cost Share Program.*

Background & Purpose

The greatest amount of phosphorus loading from external sources into Spring Lake comes from the County Ditch 13 system. This system has been altered over time in both shape/direction and amount of flow. Working with local farmers, landowners, Scott County, Spring Lake Township and Sand Creek Township to improve the stabilization of banks and water quality in County Ditch 13 will provide multiple benefits to residents. Those benefits include flood reduction, water quality improvements, wildlife habitat, stream improvements, and aesthetics.

Implementation Steps

The first step of this project is envisioned as 2-3 year effort culminating in a vision for the future of the County Ditch 13 system, one which sets the stormwater management goals, standards and framework for the potential transition from agricultural to predominantly rural residential land use (as planned by land use authorities). Once a plan has been developed, the 2020-2030 WRMP will be revised/updated to include specific undertakings for this project.

1. Gather Information: Activities completed in other projects such as the PCSWMM update, Comprehensive Wetland Plan update, Upper Watershed Blueprint development and municipal land use plans will be used to help to frame the overall vision for the County Ditch 13 system including proposed management, potential strategies and implementation projects. Partner with local farmers, landowners, Scott County, Spring Lake Township and Sand Creek Township to identify opportunities to improve stabilization of banks and water quality in County Ditch 13.
2. Develop Goals: Anticipated benefits, landowner interest, and discussions with the current ditch authority will help frame a Vision Plan that will be developed outlining goals for the project.

~~3. Update the Water Resource Management Plan: Update the 2020-2030 WRMP to include specific projects for the County Ditch 13 Restoration.~~

~~4.~~3. Execute Agreements: Work with landowners, farming operators, Scott County, and LGUs to draft and execute agreements for work along County Ditch 13.

~~5.~~4. Implement Projects: Complete implementation projects to restore County Ditch 13.

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
1. Gather Information											
2. Develop Goals											
3. Update WRMP											
4. Execute Agreements											
5. Implement Projects											

Funding Sources

The funding for restoration of County Ditch 13 will likely come from a variety of sources. Implementation Steps 1-34 will come from the District Levy. The PLSLWD will pursue state grants (e.g. BWSR Clean Water Fund grant), potential contributions from partners, and landowner contributions for the completion of the projects in Step 45.

5. FISH LAKE WATERSHED PROJECTS

10-Year Budget: $100,000

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:

- Tier 1 Lakes
- Tier 2 Lakes: *Buck*

MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:

- **WQ4:** *Improve water quality in Fish Lake*
- **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake*
- **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

31 Explore a potential biofiltration or iron-enhanced sand filtration treatment of agricultural runoff (tile drainage) on the north side of Fish lake, completing a project as opportunities and funding are available.

32 Partner with the new or current owners of the Fish Lake Acres Campground to implement wetland restoration and enhancement project as feasible.

~~77~~ Complete an updated Fish Lake Management Plan to inform future management and potential BMPs to improve Fish Lake.

~~73~~ Study and implement projects identified in the Fish Lake Management Plan to reduce phosphorus loads in Fish Lake.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

24 *Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.*

Background & Purpose

Fish Lake water quality slightly exceeds the state water quality standard of 40 ug/L of phosphorus and is considered impaired for excess nutrients. A WRAPS and Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study is anticipated to be completed by the MPCA in ~~2020~~2027.

Fish Lake is known to have a high internal load of phosphorus, but there are also some inputs from external sources. An assessment of the watershed and monitoring shows a tributary on the north side of the lake contributes relatively large amounts of phosphorus that comes from an open tile inlet in a farm field. A tributary from the west side of the lake has also been observed to have high turbidity. These hotspots will be assessed for potential conservation projects, which will reduce sedimentation and phosphorus from these tributaries, along with strategies identified in the MPCA's upcoming TMDL Implementation Plan. After the external sources have been addressed, the lake monitoring will show whether internal projects (possibly an alum treatment) may be needed to reach the water quality standard. Since the water quality is very near the standard, the PLSLWD hopes it can reach that goal solely by addressing external sources.

Implementation Steps

1. Targeted Outreach: The PLSLWD will work with Scott SWCD, Spring Lake Township, and the FLC to conduct targeted outreach to the landowners surrounding Fish Lake to explore the interest in potential projects. Specifically, the PLSLWD will coordinate an outreach effort to the landowner on the north side of the lake to explore a potential biofiltration or iron-enhanced sand filtration treatment of agricultural runoff (tile drainage), and to the new or current owners of the Fish Lake Acres Campground to explore a potential wetland restoration and enhancement project.

2. Feasibility Studies: The PLSLWD will complete a feasibility study for projects of interest such as the~~both the~~ north and west tributaries that have been identified as nutrient sources, as well as any potential projects identified in the updated Fish Lake Management Plan and upcoming TMDL Implementation Plan. The PLSLWD will work with the landowners to identify their goals and concerns.

~~3. Update the Water Resource Management Plan: Update the WRMP to include specific projects for the Fish Lake Watershed Project.~~

~~4.~~3. Implement Projects: Based on Board direction, the PLSLWD will implement one or more cost-effective projects that improve the water quality of Fish Lake.

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
1. Targeted Outreach											
2. Feasibility Studies											
3. Update the WRMP											
4. Implement Projects											

Funding Sources

The funding for the Public Infrastructure Partnership Projects will come from the District Levy, partner contributions (e.g. Spring Lake Township, Scott County, etc.) and state grant sources (e.g. BWSR Clean Water Funds, Watershed-Based Funding grant, etc.)

8. SPRING LAKE WEST SUBWATERSHED PROJECT

10-Year Budget: $230,000

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:

- Tier 1 Lakes: *Spring, Upper Prior*

MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:

- **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake*
- **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

8 Implement ~~the strategy~~nutrient reduction BMPs in the Spring West subwatershed, such as those identified in the Spring Lake West Subwatershed Feasibility Study.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

13 *Collaborate with LGUs and/or other partners on three or more retrofit water quality and volume management BMPs and/or water quality improvement research studies.*

24 *Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.*

36 *Work with the developers to include enhanced water quality and habitat features in projects, providing cost-share as incentives.*

41 *Conduct outreach to new developments early in the planning process to identify areas of opportunity for water quality improvements.*

Background & Purpose

The Spring West Subwatershed is drained via a stream (ditch) running east from the Highway Department that enters the west side of Spring Lake. This ditch has been monitored for several years and the results indicate high phosphorus, conductivity, chlorides, *E. coli* and nitrates. There is potentially to design and implement a water quality BMP along this ditch corridor in this watershed that has higher concentrations than any other subwatershed the PLSLWD has monitored. The feasibility study completed in 2020 prepared concept plans for the preferred alternative, a refined cost estimate and identification of assumptions and additional data needs for advancing the preferred alternative to final design.

Implementation Steps

1. Engineering & Design: Coordinate with landowners and LGUs to complete design plans for nutrient reduction BMPs, such as the projects identified in the 2020 Spring Lake West Subwatershed Feasibility Study. Agreements will be acquired as needed.
2. Project Construction: The PLSLWD will acquire grants as available and complete construction of the project.

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
1. Engineering & Design											
2. Project Construction											

Funding Sources

The funding for this Project will come from the District Levy, potential partner contributions (Scott County, and/or landowner contributions), and state grant sources (e.g. BWSR, MPCA, etc.) as available.

9. STORAGE & INFILTRATION PROJECTS

10-Year Budget: $3,242,850

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:

- Wetlands
- Tier 1 Lakes: Spring Lake, Lower Prior, Upper Prior

MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:

- **WQ1:** *Maintain or Improve water quality in Lower Prior Lk.*
- **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake*
- **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lake*
- **RF1:** *Achieve first-tier flood reduction goal on Prior Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

9 Implement one or more storage and infiltration projects identified in upper watershed planning efforts such as District feasibility studies, the 2023 Flood Storage Decision Matrix, the 2016 Flood Study, the Upper Watershed Blueprint and the Spring & Upper Prior Lake TMDL Implementation Plan.

66 Complete flood reduction projects in order to provide a total of 176 acre-feet of storage in the upper watershed (includes Sutton Lake project) and to improve climate resiliency.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

8 *Implement the strategy identified in the Spring Lake West Subwatershed Feasibility Study.*

13 *Collaborate with LGUs and/or other partners on three or more retrofit water quality and volume management BMPs and/or water quality improvement research studies.*

24 *Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.*

Background & Purpose

The 2016 Prior Lake Stormwater Management & Flood Mitigation Study recommended a short-term strategy to meet the first-tier, high priority Prior Lake protection level of 905.5 feet above sea level for the 25-year return period. In addition, in order to meet a second-tier flood level goal, the Study recommended that the PLSLWD would lead efforts to cost-effectively provide additional flood protection above the high-priority protection level of 905.5 based on future assessments as part of an adaptive management strategy.

Implementation Steps

1. Develop Upper Watershed Blueprint: See Section IV.C.3.9. This Blueprint will use information from the Spring & Upper Prior Lake TMDL Plan as well as other resources to identify potential storage & infiltration projects.
2. Prioritize Potential Projects: The PLSLWD will complete baseline analysis of sites and conduct initial outreach to landowners. This information will be used to prioritize potential projects based upon cost/benefit/feasibility to achieve a collective total of 176-acre feet of storage in the upper watershed in combination with the Sutton Lake Outlet project within the timeframe of this plan.
3. Engineering & Design: The PLSLWD will complete engineering and design for one or more projects.
4. Construction: The PLSLWD will implement one or more storage and infiltration projects, including one identified in upper watershed planning efforts such as District feasibility studies, the 2023 Flood Storage Decision Matrix, the 2016 Flood Study, the Upper Watershed Blueprint and the Spring &

Upper Prior Lake TMDL Implementation Plan, to achieve a total of 176 acre-feet of storage in the upper watershed (in combination with the Sutton Lake project) and to improve climate resiliency.~~.~~

10. STREAMBANK RESTORATION PROGRAM

10-Year Budget: $237,300

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:

- Tier 1 Lakes
- Tier 2 Lakes
- Streams

MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:

- **WQ1:** *Maintain or improve water quality in Lower Prior Lk.*
- **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake*
- **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lk.*
- **WQ4:** *Improve water quality in Fish Lake*
- **WQ12:** *Stabilize a minimum of ten bank erosion sites*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

52 Develop a Streambank Restoration Program that strategically prioritizes sites for stabilization based on water quality & flooding benefits and implements a minimum of ten projects.

53 Complete bank erosion inventory project for streams and other tributaries in the Upper Watershed to establish baseline conditions and the number of sites that needing stabilization.

~~76~~ Implement a streambank restoration project, such as the Buck Stream Stabilization.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

27 *Partner with local farmers, landowners, Scott County, Spring Lake Township and Sand Creek Township to identify opportunities and implement projects to improve stabilization of banks, habitat and water quality in County Ditch 13, such as an iron enhanced sand filter (ie. MB CD-13, Sutton, Swamp BMP sites).*

54 *Provide increased incentives for establishment of buffers and filter strips along private ditches and streams through the Cost Share Program.*

Background & Purpose

Both measured and anecdotal evidence indicates that streams in the upper watershed of Spring & Prior Lakes are eroding and/or slumping, causing loss of usable land, impairments to biota, and adverse water quality impacts downstream. As many of the stream segments and ditches lie on private property, there is not an existing inventory of where problem areas might exist.

This project will complete an inventory of all those stream segments in the upper watershed that the PLSLWD can gain access to with assistance from the Scott SWCD, Farmer-Led Council, Scott County, and Spring & Sand Creek Townships. This information will be used to summarize and prioritize potential project areas and its benefits to landowners, wildlife habitat, downstream water resources and residents. Based on this inventory, the PLSLWD will implement, on average, one bank restoration project per year over the course of this 2020-2030 WRMP.

In addition, there are a number of smaller stream systems located in the watershed that residents who attended WRMP public meetings expressed interest in having the PLSLWD manage for other functions such as wildlife habitat and recreational value. Examples of higher priority resources identified through the public engagement process include Buck Lake Creek and Cates Creek. The PLSLWD will consider conducting additional assessment through its monitoring program of these systems and potentially establish management goals for incorporation into a future plan amendment.

Implementation Steps

11. SUTTON LAKE OUTLET STRUCTURE

10-Year Budget: $356,700

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:

- Tier 1 Lakes: *Spring, Upper Prior*
- Tier 2 Lakes: *Sutton*
- Streams: *Ditch 13*

MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:

- **WQ7:** *Assess Sutton Lake & develop a Management Plan*
- **RF1:** *Achieve first-tier flood reduction goal on Prior Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

37 Develop a lake management plan for Sutton Lake.

66 Complete flood reduction projects in order to provide a total of 176 acre-feet of storage in the upper watershed (includes Sutton Lake project) and to improve climate resiliency.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

67 *Develop a Detention Policy in coordination with LGU partners (which includes the Spring Lake Dam Policy) for each of the waterbodies in the District that identifies normal operating levels and ability to manage water levels for flood management.*

Background & Purpose

In response to the 2014 flood, the PLSLWD completed the Prior Lake Stormwater Management & Flood Mitigation Study in coordination with the City of Prior Lake. This study identified potential upstream storage areas to reduce flooding on Prior Lake, one of which was an outlet control structure on Sutton Lake. Installation of a controlled outlet weir to control high flows will provide drawdown capacity below the normal pool elevation to improve aquatic vegetation and habitat and increase flood storage, and is expected to achieve a potential high water line reduction of 0.12 foot on Prior Lake. Furthermore, this project will allow Sutton Lake to bounce periodically, more similar to a natural lake/wetland system that does not have a ditched outlet. The weir will not raise the 100-year, 24-hour High Water Line (HWL) on Sutton Lake.

A MNDNR Public Waters Work Permit was issued on February 8, 2019 for the Sutton Outlet Control Structure based on the 60% Draft Plan Set. This permit is conditioned on final construction plan set and operating plan approval by the MNDNR Area Hydrologist and Wildlife Manager prior to construction. In response to these conditions EOR submitted to MNDNR on April 4, 2019 a draft operating plan for review and comment. On April 18, 2019 the PLSLWD was informed that the operating plan triggered additional statute and rule requirements that were not considered by the MNDNR when the permit was issued. The PLSLWD resubmitted the operating plan with conditioned drawdown and developed final plans for construction that have been approved by the MNDNR.

Implementation Steps

1. Complete Construction: Construction of the outlet weir is scheduled for 2020.
2. Complete Natural Resource Inventories: Bathymetric surveying of Sutton Lake and the extent and density of existing cattail vegetation, wetland seed bank field investigation and a Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) to document plant and animal communities within the project area.
3. Develop Lake Management Plan: A lake management plan is required by MNDNR if the PLSLWD intends to pursue drawdown below the existing control elevation of Sutton Lake. In addition, the landowners surrounding the lake have expressed interest in lake management for waterfowl.
4. Implement Lake Management Plan: Implement activities identified in the lake management plan.

12. WETLAND RESTORATION & ENHANCEMENT

10-Year Budget: $539,950

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:

- Wetlands
- Tier 1 Lakes

MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:

- **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake*
- **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lake*
- **WQ4:** *Improve water quality in Fish Lake*
- **WQ11:** *Restore/enhance wetlands in the District*
- **RF1:** *Achieve first-tier flood reduction goal on Prior Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

11 Strategically target and implement a minimum of one wetland restoration in the Spring Lake Watershed identified in Comprehensive Wetland Plan.

47 Use CWP information to strategically target wetland restorations through outreach & implementation of a wetland acquisition program.

51 Enhance the habitat and wetland functions of the Frog Farm Wetland.

70 Restore two or more wetlands that help contribute to flood reduction on Prior Lake.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

10 *Update the District's Comprehensive Wetland Plan which identifies strategic wetlands that help work towards achieving prioritized and/or multiple goals, including climate resiliency.*

32 *Partner with the new or current owners of the Fish Lake Acres Campground to implement wetland restoration and enhancement project as feasible.*

45 *Continue to provide cost-share opportunities for wetland restoration projects.*

46 *Update the Comprehensive Wetland Plan (CWP) to discretely characterize wetland storage capacity and downstream water quality functions.*

49 *Monitor and enforce existing conservation easements.*

Background & Purpose

The PLSLWD has restored several wetland areas in the watershed and has created an inventory of potential additional sites. The PLSLWD will continue to solicit wetland restoration program participation by expanding communication and education programs regarding wetland restoration and acquisition. Where they qualify, the PLSLWD will attempt to enroll wetlands into the BWSR wetland bank.

Implementation Steps

1. Establish Reserve Fund: Similar to in-lake alum treatment, the PLSLWD intends to establish a reserve fund for wetland restoration. The reserve funds are intended to receive $50K or more per year, starting in 2021 for the duration of the WRMP. Funds reserved for restoration will be used for that purpose only.
2. Identification & Outreach: The PLSLWD will identify potential sites and conduct strategic outreach to landowners based on the PLSLWD's updated Comprehensive Wetland Plan (~~Appendix I~~Appendix I), including those in the Spring Lake Watershed and those that contribute to flood reduction on Prior Lake. Outreach will include social media, articles in papers and newsletters, direct mailings, SWCD staff contacts, and advertisement at local events.

3. COST SHARE PROGRAM

10-Year Budget: $717,200

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:

- All District Lakes
- Wetlands
- Streams

MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:

- **WQ1:** *Maintain or Improve water quality in Lower Prior Lake*
- **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake*
- **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lake*
- **WQ4:** *Improve water quality in Fish Lake*
- **WQ5:** *Improve water quality in Arctic Lake*
- **WQ6:** *Improve water quality in Pike Lake*
- **WQ10:** *Maintain no net loss of wetlands in the District*
- **WQ11:** *Restore/enhance wetlands in the District*
- **WQ12:** *Stabilize a minimum of ten bank erosion sites*
- **RF1:** *Achieve first-tier flood reduction goal on Prior Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

12 Continue to provide cost share opportunities for residential & agricultural water quality improvement projects within the watershed, including Farmer-Led Council initiatives, that reduce nutrient loading to lakes.

36 Work with the developers to include enhanced water quality and habitat features in projects, providing cost-share as incentives.

45 Continue to provide cost-share opportunities for wetland restoration projects.

54 Provide increased incentives for establishment of buffers and filter strips along private ditches and streams through the Cost Share Program.

60 Continue to provide Cost Share funding for the sealing of decommissioned wells in partnership with the SWCD.

61 Develop new incentives for low-impact development practices and BMPs that reduce the need for irrigation, promote infiltration, and protect groundwater quality through the Cost Share Program.

68 Provide incentives through the Cost Share Program to member communities and the development community to promote the use of green infrastructure that contributes to flood reduction on Prior Lake.

69 Provide financial incentives to residents and businesses in the District to implement BMPs that reduce flooding to the lakes through the Cost Share Program.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

6 *Provide information to residents to encourage individual choices that benefit water quality and to increase participation in cost-share programs.*

18 *Continue to provide water resources information and project updates to residents through social media platforms, press releases, targeted mailings, email blasts, signage and the District's website.*

22 *Continue supporting SCWEP and partner with Scott SWCD and/or other LGUs in Scott County to hold a minimum of two training events for residents per year that helps provide information for projects that benefit water quality and/or flood reduction.*

23 *Coordinate with other LGU partners at least once per year to provide targeted outreach to landowners to encourage them to use good water resource practices and/or participate in cost-share opportunities which not only fulfils MS4 education and outreach obligations but also supports all District projects & programs.*

4. FARMER-LED COUNCIL INITIATIVES

10-Year Budget: $764,250

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:

- All District Lakes
- Wetlands
- Streams

MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:

- **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake*
- **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lake*
- **WQ4:** *Improve water quality in Fish Lake*
- **WQ6:** *Improve water quality in Pike Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

17 Work with the Farmer-Led Council to create win-win programming in agricultural areas to improve water quality, including cover crop programs, no-till incentives, and other soil health initiatives.

21 Continue to help support, organize and facilitate a Farmer-Led Council and its initiatives.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

12 *Continue to provide cost-share opportunities for residential & agricultural water quality and habitat improvement projects within the watershed, including Farmer-Led Council initiatives that reduce nutrient loading or runoff volume.*

27 *Partner with local farmers, landowners, Scott County, Spring Lake Township and Sand Creek Township to identify opportunities and implement projects to improve stabilization of banks, habitat and water quality in County Ditch 13, such as an iron enhanced sand filter (ie. MB CD-13, Sutton, Swamp BMP sites).*

Background & Purpose

To help the PLSLWD reach its nutrient reduction goals for its water resources, PLSLWD has engaged with local farmers to build a Farmer-Led Council (FLC). Agricultural lands make up the majority of the landscape in the Spring Lake & Upper Prior Lake watersheds. As such, farmers are the most important stewards of the land and their active input and participation is critical to achieving water quality goals.

The role of the FLC is to develop and guide the implementation of strategies that PLSLWD will use to accomplish agriculture's share of the nutrient reduction goal. Specifically, the FLC will:

- Inform decision makers and the general public about practical issues and opportunities related to soil and water conservation on agricultural lands
- Identify base-level and site-tailored practices that are available and needed
- Define the approach for engaging with and assisting farmers to implement practices
- Establish a schedule with reasonable milestones and timelines for progress
- Identify potential barriers to implementation, along with tools and resources needed to overcome them

The FLC has focused its efforts on win-win programming for PLSLWD and farmers. This includes soil health initiatives such as cover crops, nutrient management, and no-till farming. The FLC incentives allow innovative new phosphorus reduction ideas to be implemented and refined prior to introduction to the regular cost-share docket if successful.

5. FERRIC CHLORIDE TREATMENT SYSTEM

10-Year Budget: $1,333,950

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:	MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:
• Tier 1 Lakes: *Spring, Upper Prior*	• **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake* • **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

26 Operate and maintain the Ferric Chloride Treatment System, completing scheduled dredging of the desilt pond as necessary. Make system improvements informed by 2023/2024 Ferric Chloride System Assessment.

Background & Purpose

The ferric chloride treatment system is located on the County Ditch 13 channel immediately south of MN Highway 13 and was constructed in 1998. The structure and ferric chloride injection system require periodic adjustment and inspection to ensure effective operation. This system is inspected three times per week to ensure all is working properly. Sampling is conducted once a week per the MPCA permit. System maintenance includes checking the pump, filling the ferric tank, weeding, inspecting the weir, spring set up, winter shut down, and checking the lines for leaks.

The desiltation (i.e. sedimentation) pond is located on the County Ditch 13 tributary entering the southwest corner of Spring Lake. The pond was one of the earliest PLSLWD projects and was designed to decrease sedimentation occurring in the western end of Spring Lake. The basin has been dredged on several occasions over the years and enhanced to serve a flocculation basin for the Ferric Chloride Treatment System.

The desiltation pond was constructed in 1978, cleaned out in 1999 and again in 2012 to return the pond back to the original storage capacity. This basin will need to be dredged at least once during the lifetime of this plan.

Implementation Steps

1. Operate the Ferric Chloride Treatment System: Annually dosing of ferric chloride (FeCl) into the stream that flows into Spring Lake as per the FeCl Treatment System operation plan.
2. Desiltation Pond Survey: Survey basin storage capacity every three years to establish typical maintenance frequency and schedule next maintenance excavation project.
3. Desiltation Pond Maintenance Excavation: Prepare plans and specifications, obtain permits, solicit bids and construction administration for restoration of basin flocculation capacity. Also includes survey and soil sampling per NPDES-SDS requirements.
4. Desiltation Pond Outlet Improvement: Develop outlet structure improvement concept plan options to enhance flow capacity and monitoring capability and consider implementation with future maintenance excavation project.
5. Assess FeCl Dosing Curve: Consider flow and season conditioned dosing curve refinements to enhance performance.
6. Replace and Update Storage Facility: The tank holding ferric chloride has a lifespan of 10-20 years. The tank was installed in 1997 and should be replaced as soon as possible. The shed was not designed with replacement in mind and will need to be rebuilt or modified in order to replace the tank.

8. PLOC MANAGEMENT

10-Year Budget: $706,200

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:

- Tier 2 Lakes: *Pike*
- Streams: *PLOC*

MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:

- **WQ13:** *Improve the stability of the Prior Lake Outlet Channel*
- **RF2:** *Continue to operate the PLOC*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

57 Manage the Prior Lake Outlet Channel per the Memorandum of Agreement for Use, Operation, and Maintenance of the Prior Lake Outlet Channel and Outlet Structure, Version 9, dated April 2, 2019 and revisions after the Master Plan is completed in 2024.

71 The Prior Lake Outlet Structure is operated according to the MNDNR-approved Prior Lake Outlet Control Structure Management Policy and Operating Procedures (last revised July 3, 2017).

Background & Purpose

The PLOC is funded by a MOA between the "Cooperators:" the PLSLWD, the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community and the cities of Shakopee and Prior Lake. In 2019, the Cooperators substantively revised the MOA, of which one of the revisions was to include an inspection program identifying responsible parties for each and every crossing of the PLOC. The Cooperators also developed a Master Plan to assess the current conditions of the PLOC from a channel capacity, bank stability, easement alignment with physical conditions and invasive species management. The Cooperators requested the Master Plan as a means to guide MOA activities over five years as a bridge to consideration of alternate means to manage the channel. At the end of the five years (2024), the Cooperators will determine what the next MOA will entail.

Implementation Steps

PLSLWD activities for the PLOC include administration, Cooperator meeting coordination, invasive plant management, culvert/channel inspections, channel repair, XP-SWMM model maintenance, water quantity monitoring, and outlet structure and pipe maintenance as outlined in the MOA. The Prior Lake Outlet Structure will be operated in accordance with the MNDNR-approved Prior Lake Outlet Control Structure Management Policy and Operating Procedures.

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
1. Invasive Plant Management											
2. Channel Inspections											
3. Channel Repairs (incl. pipelining)											
4. XP-SWMM Model Maint.											
5. Outlet Operations											
6. MOA Management											

Funding Sources

The funding for this Project will come from the District Levy and the other PLOC partners (City of Shakopee, City of Prior Lake, and SMSC) as laid out in the PLOC MOA. Grants will be sought to support pipelining.

9. PROJECT MAINTENANCE

10-Year Budget: $85,000

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:	MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:
• Tier 1 Lakes	• **WQ1:** *Maintain or Improve water quality in Lower Prior Lake* • **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake* • **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

2 Implement stormwater retrofits in the Lower Prior Lake drainage area as opportunities arise.

26 Operate and maintain the Ferric Chloride Treatment System, completing scheduled dredging of the desilt pond as necessary. Make system improvements informed by 2023/2024 Ferric Chloride System Assessment.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

13 *Collaborate with LGUs and/or other partners on three or more retrofit water quality and volume management BMPs and/or water quality improvement research studies.*

19 *Organize public participation/information events (e.g. Clean Water Clean-Up or District Tours) at least four times per year.*

24 *Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.*

50 *Assess the storage capacity of the Hwy 13 wetland to maintain pretreatment function for the Ferric Chloride Treatment System and dredge/restore as recommended.*

Background & Purpose

After the construction of Public Infrastructure Partnership Projects is completed, there is typically a vegetation maintenance period before the PLSLWD officially hands the project over to the respective LGU partner. As of 2019, the following projects require maintenance until accepted by the LGU partner:

- 12/17 wetland (until 2020) – City of Prior Lake
- Raymond Park (until 2020) – City of Prior Lake
- Fairlawn Shores (until 2021) – City of Prior Lake
- Fish Lake Shoreline Project (until 2021) – Spring Lake Township

In addition, the PLSLWD has acquired fee title or easement to lands that it has restored and/or maintains the vegetation on. As of 2019, the PLSLWD has the following maintenance lands:

- Spring Lake Shoreline Project – oak savanna and shoreline restorations
- Frog Farm Wetland – PLSLWD allows neighbor to hay for vegetation maintenance
- FeCl system easements – maintain/mow vegetation for access

Implementation Steps

1. Develop Annual Maintenance Plans: Annually develop maintenance plans for current projects for incorporation into the budget into the following calendar year each August.

3. Planning Program

Planning is integral to the efficient and effective management of the PLSLWD's resources, and to ensure regular progress toward PLSLWD goals. Planning includes staying abreast of regional, state, and federal water resource issues, keeping the PLSLWD's WRMP up to date, reviewing plans from other local government entities, and performing studies and feasibility reports.

1. AIS RAPID RESPONSE & PREVENTION PLAN

10-Year Budget: $61,000

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:

- Tier 1 Lakes

MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:

- **AIS1:** *Develop and implement AIS Plan*
- **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake*
- **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lake*
- **WQ4:** *Improve water quality in Fish Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

62 Create and implement an AIS Rapid Response and Prevention Plan for Tier 1 lakes in collaboration with local and state partners.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

18 *Continue to provide water resources information and project updates to residents through social media platforms, press releases, targeted mailings, email blasts, signage and the District's website.*

19 *Organize public participation/information events (e.g. Clean Water Clean-Up or District Tours) at least four times per year.*

34 *Monitor and assess data for the District's waterbodies as prescribed in the District's Long-Term Monitoring Plan.*

38 *Provide equitable opportunities for communities to engage in and provide feedback for projects, programs, and District plans through neighborhood & public meetings, online surveys, direct mailings, District tours, presentations at local groups, etc.*

39 *Engage local government partners, elected & appointed officials, state agencies, non-profits, and experts in planning efforts for District projects & programs, as appropriate.*

63 *Partner with local partners and/or the University of Minnesota to implement strategies to prevent the spread of known and emerging AIS in Tier 1 lakes.*

64 *As new research allows, implement strategies to better manage the spread and population of zebra mussels in and out of Prior Lake.*

Background & Purpose

Preventing new introductions and infestations of AIS in the District's lakes is crucial to avoiding their establishment, spread, and irreversible consequences. History has proven that once an AIS has become established and widespread, eradication is nearly impossible, and control efforts can become perpetual and costly programs.

2. COMPREHENSIVE WETLAND PLAN UPDATE

10-Year Budget: $32,500

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:	MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:
• All District Lakes • Wetlands	• **WQ10:** *Maintain no net loss of wetlands in the District* • **WQ11:** *Restore/enhance wetlands in the District* • **RF1:** *Achieve first-tier flood reduction goal on Prior Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

10 Update the District's Comprehensive Wetland Plan which identifies strategic wetlands that help work towards achieving prioritized and/or multiple goals, including climate resiliency.

46 Update the Comprehensive Wetland Plan (CWP) to discretely characterize wetland storage capacity and downstream water quality functions.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

44 *Identify opportunities to use other programs (e.g. Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, non-profit organization programs, etc.) to temporarily or permanently protect wetlands in the agricultural areas.*

Background & Purpose

The PLSLWD's current Comprehensive Wetland Plan (CWP) was adopted by the Board on April 10, 2012. The CWP was created to help accomplish goals and meet policies set forth in the 2010-2019 WRMP and was modeled after the Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan (CWPMP) process developed under MN Rule 8420.0830 for the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act (WCA). The 2012 CWP was used to develop wetland management standards to support other important water resource management activities in the PLSLWD. In addition, PLSLWD provided an inventory of the Restoration/Enhancement Management Class of wetlands to Scott County for the purpose of mapping potential Public Values for potential flexibility during the Planned Unit Development (PUD) process.

Since the 2012 CWP was adopted, better mapping information (e.g. LiDAR) is now available to further identify and refine wetland areas in the District. In pursuit of wetland restoration projects that address water quality & flood reduction goals, it is vital that the PLSLWD have the best information available for its outreach efforts to potential partners and landowners for wetland restorations and upper watershed storage sites.

Implementation Steps

1. Update Wetland Inventory: Update existing CWP wetland database and mapping using remote sensing techniques to incorporate LiDAR data, SSURGO Soils data, MLCCS land use data, and high-resolution aerial photography. This effort will provide more accurate wetland boundaries, estimate storage (volume) capacity, delineate likely water sources and drainage area, characterize landscape position and basin morphometry, and distance to downstream water resources of value. Other relevant databases will also be incorporated into this update including the University of MN Restorable Wetland Inventory and any information available from the Scott SWCD.
2. Prioritize Wetland Basins for Upper Watershed Storage: Complete cost-benefit assessment based on preliminary estimate of probable cost to restore wetlands versus the flood storage and water quality benefit they could provide. Provide the update inventory to Scott County to support the use of Public Value areas for the County's PUD process.

5. GROUNDWATER PROTECTION PLAN

10-Year Budget: $16,800

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:	MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:
• Groundwater	• **WQ14:** *Active participation in groundwater planning efforts.*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

58 Serve on wellhead protection planning teams to assist public water suppliers with planning and implementation activities to address land use planning concerns.

59 Develop a plan on how to better incorporate consideration of groundwater and drinking water protection when reviewing new permits and completing capital projects to incorporate the alignment with NFMP and GPR activities.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

60 *Continue to provide Cost Share funding for the sealing of decommissioned wells in partnership with the SWCD.*

61 *Develop new incentives for low-impact development practices and BMPs that reduce the need for irrigation, promote infiltration, and protect groundwater quality through the Cost Share Program.*

Background & Purpose

At the request of the PLSLWD's local partners, work with the Scott SWCD to provide funding for residential well-decommissioning (sealing unused wells) as a result of a public water supply expansion project. For individual requests, follow the current Scott County Cost Share Docket for the cost-sharing amount.

Implementation Steps

1. Incorporation of Groundwater Considerations: Develop and implement a plan to better consider groundwater protection when reviewing new permits and completing projects. The Groundwater Considerations Plan will be approved by the Board no later than 2024.
2. Groundwater Protection Planning: Assist public water suppliers with planning and implementation activities to address land use planning concerns, serving on wellhead protection planning teams as opportunities arise. If no opportunities present themselves, schedule a meeting with County and local officials to discuss groundwater planning.

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
1. Incorporation of Groundwater Considerations											
2. Groundwater Protection Planning											

Funding Sources

The funding for this Project will come from the District Levy.

8. REGIONAL STORMWATER PLANNING

10-Year Budget: $55,600

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:	MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:
• Tier 1 Lakes	• **WQ1:** *Maintain or Improve water quality in Lower Prior Lk.* • **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake* • **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lake* • **RF1:** *Achieve first-tier flood reduction goal on Prior Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

16 Develop equitable regional stormwater management plans with municipalities that includes a stormwater utility credit program for future development areas.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

24 *Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.*

36 *Work with the developers to include enhanced water quality and habitat features in projects, providing cost-share as incentives.*

41 *Conduct outreach to new developments early in the planning process to identify areas of opportunity for water quality improvements.*

Background & Purpose

Any unit of government may prepare a plan by which regional stormwater management facilities may be constructed in anticipation of, or concurrent with, land disturbing activity. The PLSLWD is in a position to facilitate advancement of regional stormwater management planning and seeks to develop concept plans in advance of development, including expansion within orderly annexation areas.

Implementation Steps

1. Identify Likely Expansion Area: Coordinate with the municipalities and Scott County to identify areas most likely to develop on an annual basis. Consider regional stormwater projects and development of a stormwater utility for future development areas.
2. Regional Concept Plan Development: Utilize existing databases, models and plans such the PLSLWD's wetland inventory, PCSWMM model and Upper Watershed Blueprint, develop concept plans for areas to be developed and engage the development community in advance of preliminary plat/PUD submittal.
3. Program Development: Consider development of a program or revisions to existing programs enabling PLSLWD to accept and maintain easements acquired through the Scott County PUD process. Also consider implementation of associated stormwater improvements and wetland restorations on the areas so acquired if they are not completed as part of the development process.

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
1. Identify Likely Expansion Areas											
2. Regional Concept Plan Development											

Funding Sources

The funding for this Project will come from the District Levy.

9. UPPER WATERSHED BLUEPRINT

10-Year Budget: $85,000

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:	MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:
• All Lakes	• **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake* • **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lake* • **RF1:** *Achieve first-tier flood reduction goal on Prior Lake* • **RF5:** *Assess progress on flood reduction goals*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

65 Conduct an assessment of the upland storage sites identified in the Stormwater Management & Flood Mitigation Study, 2016 and the Upper Subwatershed Assessment to create a prioritized list of potential storage areas based on refined cost estimates, feasibility, and opportunity.

67 Develop a Detention Policy in coordination with LGU partners (which includes the Spring Lake Dam Policy) for each of the waterbodies in the District that identifies normal operating levels and ability to manage water levels for flood management.

74 Complete an assessment of progress towards flood reduction goals on year 9 of the plan along with an increased precipitation and intensity resiliency scenario analysis, and set new goals for the next 10-year plan.

~~7513~~ Reassess feasibility of Buck Chemical Treatment System and implement if feasible.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

13 *Collaborate with LGUs and/or other partners on three or more retrofit water quality and volume management BMPs and/or water quality improvement research studies.*

16 *Develop equitable regional stormwater management plans with municipalities that includes a stormwater utility credit program for future development areas.*

24 *Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.*

73 *Partner with the City of Prior Lake to set goals for and complete modeling updates that provide sufficient information to inform future flood reduction decisions.*

Background & Purpose

Building off activities such as the PCSWMM model update, Comprehensive Wetland Plan update, and County Ditch 13 visioning, the PLSLWD intends to update and prioritize its approach to pursuing upper watershed storage by prioritizing downstream water quality improvement in addition to flood damage reduction.

Identifying pollutant loading hotspots on the landscape is often an effective way to target projects for downstream water quality improvement. However, as the scale and complexity of a watershed increase, the usefulness of pollutant loading estimates alone is diminished. While it is relatively straightforward to estimate pollutant loading using lookup tables and well-established empirical formulae at the field or site scale, at the watershed scale there are complex phenomena that factor into whether pollutants contained in runoff actually reach a given downstream resource. Proximity is one part of that equation, but

4. Education and Outreach Program

The best advocate for water resources is an engaged and informed citizenry. Educational programs are designed to improve the general understanding of water resources and the impact each citizen has upon them. Outreach programs seek to make connections and change behaviors.

1. CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

10-Year Budget: $47,000

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:	MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:
• All Lakes • Streams • Wetlands	*All Goals*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

20 Continue to help support, organize and facilitate a Citizens Advisory Committee and its projects.

38 Provide equitable opportunities for communities to engage in and provide feedback for projects, programs, and District plans through neighborhood & public meetings, online surveys, direct mailings, District tours, presentations at local groups, etc.

Background & Purpose

Watershed districts in Minnesota are required by state statute to maintain a Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) to provide input to the Board on various actions of the district. The CAC holds bimonthly meetings and follows adopted bylaws. The CAC continues to provide a valuable role, informing the PLSLWD of water resource concerns around the District and providing feedback on proposed PLSLWD projects. The CAC is also encouraged to lead their own projects and initiatives and develop annual goals and project plans. PLSLWD staff will continue to support the CAC, ensuring that monthly meetings continue and providing opportunities for CAC members to become more involved in PLSLWD activities.

Implementation Steps

1. BiMmonthly CAC meetings: The CAC will meet bimonthly to develop and implement research and educational projects which reflects the Board of Managers' Priority Concerns of Water Quality; Storage and Flood Reduction; and Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). They will review draft reports and provide comments to the Board of Managers, in a timely manner.
2. CAC-led projects: The CAC will pursue projects which expand the PLSLWD's impact and help reach more community members. The Citizens Advisory Committee will identify research projects volunteers can undertake which reflects the Board of Managers' Priority Concerns of Water Quality; Storage and Flood Reduction; and Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS).

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
1. Bi~~M~~monthly CAC Meetings											
2. CAC-Led Projects											

Funding Sources

The funding for this Project will come from the District Levy.

2. COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS

10-Year Budget: $62,500

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:	MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:
• All Lakes • Streams • Wetlands	*All Goals*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

6 Provide information to residents to encourage individual choices that benefit water quality and to increase participation in cost-share programs.

18 Continue to provide water resources information and project updates to residents through social media platforms, press releases, targeted mailings, email blasts, signage and the District's website.

38 Provide equitable opportunities for communities to engage in and provide feedback for projects, programs, and District plans through neighborhood & public meetings, online surveys, direct mailings, District tours, presentations at local groups, etc.

Background & Purpose

The PLSLWD's Education & Outreach program's activities are outlined in the annual Education & Outreach Plan written each year. The PLSLWD is required to provide educational opportunities for their citizens because the PLSLWD holds a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit from the MPCA.

The PLSLWD will seek to keep residents up to date with District news, events, programs and projects and provide information about topics relating to water resources, ecology, natural systems, biodiversity and other relevant environmental topics. A number of mediums will be used to communicate information with the public including the PLSLWD website; social media; newspapers, including the ~~Prior Lake American~~Star Tribune and Scott County SCENE; and other publications, such as the Wavelength in the City of Prior Lake's utility bills and others. In addition to writing articles, the PLSLWD will publish an annual report of PLSLWD activities, factsheets, brochures, videos and other materials. The PLSLWD will also reach out to other local non-profit partners and local schools to identify other partnership opportunities.

Implementation Steps

1. Annually Update & Implement District Education & Outreach Plan: Update the PLSLWD's Education & Outreach Plan every year to meet strategic goals and implement the education and outreach actions highlighted in the Plan.
2. Website Updates: Keep website information on PLSLWD projects, programs and events up to date, adding updated reports and documents as needed. Provide relevant information regarding water resources and natural resources topics to serve as reference information for residents and partners.
3. Write articles for publication: Write at least ~~twelve~~ seven articles per year covering PLSLWD projects, events, programs, PLSLWD news, success stories, tips for best management practices and other nature interest stories each year. Articles can be published on PLSLWD website, social media platforms, shared by partners and submitted for publication in local newspapers including the ~~Prior Lake American~~Star Tribune and the Scott County SCENE.
4. Social Media: Use relevant social media platforms to provide PLSLWD news, tips for residents, interesting nature information, project updates, etc.

3. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

10-Year Budget: $115,350

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:	MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:
• All Lakes • Streams • Wetlands	*All Goals*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

19 Organize public participation/information events (e.g. Clean Water Clean-Up or District Tours) at least four times per year.

22 Continue supporting SCWEP and partner with Scott SWCD and/or other LGUs in Scott County to hold a minimum of two training events for residents per year that helps provide information for projects that benefit water quality and/or flood reduction.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

38 *Provide equitable opportunities for communities to engage in and provide feedback for projects, programs, and District plans through neighborhood & public meetings, online surveys, direct mailings, District tours, presentations at local groups, etc.*

Background & Purpose

The PLSLWD will host events each year to engage and involve the public. Examples of events include PLSLWD tours of projects or resources in the District, clean-up events, etc. The PLSLWD will continue to partner with other local groups, such as cities and the Scott SWCD, to host workshops for residents on topics such as raingardens, shoreline restorations, prairie restorations and maintenance, winter maintenance and salt use, etc.

The PLSLWD's 50th Anniversary is in 2020 and special activities will be planned to engage the public and celebrate the District's anniversary.

Implementation Steps

1. Organize public events: Organize at least four public events each year, such as clean-up events, restoration plantings, neighborhood meetings, etc.
2. Organize 50th anniversary celebration events: Organize several public events to celebration the PLSLWD's 50th Anniversary in 2020. Events could include bike rides or hikes around the District to highlight PLSLWD projects or natural resources, a trivia night at a local brewery and a story corps project to record local resident's stories and knowledge of the PLSLWD and its lakes.
3. Participate in public events: Attend public events, such as Lakefront Days, farmers' markets or other community events, to engage the public and inform them on water resources and natural resources topics.
4. Host or partner to support workshops: Host or partner with other LGUs to host training events for residents, contractors and other relevant people to provide information for projects or practices that benefit water quality and other topics. Workshop examples including raingardens, prairie restoration, shoreline restoration, winter salt application use, property management, etc.

5. Monitoring Program

Monitoring and research are needed to better understand watershed impacts, evaluate issues, and determine appropriate watershed management approaches within the watershed. In addition, long-term monitoring provides the PLSLWD with the information needed to demonstrate performance towards meeting the goals of the WRMP as well as the various TMDL Implementation Plans. The PLSLWD should also make sure that data collected are quality-assured and quality-checked (QA/QC'ed) and made available annually to the public and appropriate agencies. Updated water quality summaries are provided annually on the waterbodies tab. Otherwise, data can be found be searching the Water Quality Database.

To ensure that the PLSLWD monitors water quality on a time and cost efficient basis, a long-term monitoring plan (~~Appendix H~~Appendix H) has been created. The long-term monitoring plan covers lakes, streams, best management practices (BMPs), precipitation, wetlands, and groundwater.

1. BUCK LAKE DIAGNOSTIC STUDY

10-Year Budget: $45,000

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:	MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:
• Tier 2 Lakes: *Buck*	• **WQ8:** *Assign water quality standard & goals for Buck Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

40 Conduct a lake diagnostic study for Buck Lake to determine phosphorus budget, including a sediment core analysis, and identify restoration strategies based on applicable standard.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

34 *Monitor and assess data for the District's waterbodies as prescribed in the District's Long-Term Monitoring Plan.*

Background & Purpose

The Buck Lake drainage area was previously assessed primarily to estimate the cost-benefit of constructing another ferric chloride treatment system to manage stormwater runoff before discharge to Spring Lake. ~~This project was shelved as it was deemed cost prohibitive.~~ Public comment received during development of this management plan suggested the PLSLWD assess the quality of Buck Lake not only for its role in protection of downstream lakes, but for its inherent recreational and habitat value. The purpose of this Buck Lake study is to, for the first time, assess this resource by evaluating historic and current water quality trends; identify pollutant sources and loads; and assign numerical goals and quantify of pollutant reductions necessary to reach assigned PLSLWD goals for the resource as well as for the benefit of downstream water quality.

Implementation Steps

1. Prepare Diagnostic Study: Assess historic and current water quality trends, identify pollutant sources and loads (including sediment core collection and aquatic plant surveys), develop watershed and in-lake loading models, conduct public meetings, identify load reduction strategies and practices, assign PLSLWD goals, prioritize implementation activities, and prepare report.

In order to stay abreast of monitoring techniques, PLSLWD staff will attend trainings and workshops as well as keep good relationships and partnerships with other monitoring organizations. New and innovative monitoring equipment or methods may be tested by the PLSLWD when applicable.

Implementation Steps

1. Lake Water Quality Monitoring: Annual water quality monitoring (completed by Three Rivers Parks District as of 2019) on Lower Prior, Upper Prior, Spring, Fish, and Pike Lake. Arctic Lake is monitored by SMSC.
2. Citizen-Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP): Citizen volunteers or staff collect a surface water sample for laboratory analysis and provide some user perception information about each lake's physical and recreational condition. Includes Swamp, Sutton, Crystal, Buck, Haas, Lower Prior (site 2), Cates, Jeffers, and Fish Lakes.
3. Lake Level Monitoring: Automatic level data loggers and staff gauges are used to monitor lake levels. Level loggers will transmit real-time data to the website.
4. Aquatic Plant Surveys: Plant surveys will assess the distribution, type, and growth density of all plants. Lakes with potential nuisance curly-leaf pondweed (CLP) will be surveyed just after ice out to determine the potential need for treatment. If CLP is treated, an assessment will be done post-treatment to determine effectiveness of treatment.
5. Vegetation Density Mapping: Annually map lakes on a rotating basis for lake plant biomass densities, bathymetry, and bottom hardness using sonar to capture long-term trends of lake plant density and growth in the PLSLWD's lakes.
6. Lake Ice Monitoring: Volunteer ice observers will inform the PLSLWD when the lake is at least 90% on and off each year for PLSLWD records for all lakes.
7. Zooplankton & Phytoplankton: Monitor zooplankton & phytoplankton every 3, 5, or 10 years based on lake tier.
8. Citizen AIS Monitoring: Organize and implement a citizen AIS monitoring program that includes such activities as zebra mussel plates and dock reporting, boat launch inspections, etc.

Additional detail about the above implementation steps can be found in the PLSLWD's Long-Term Monitoring Plan in ~~Appendix H~~Appendix H.

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
1. Lake Water Quality Monitoring											
2. Citizen-Assisted Monitoring Program											
3. Lake Level Monitoring											
4. Aquatic Plant Surveys											
5. Vegetation Density Mapping											
6. Lake Ice Monitoring											
7. Zooplankton & Phytoplankton											
8. Citizen AIS Monitoring											

Funding Sources

The funding for this Project will come from the District Levy.

1. PERMIT PROGRAM

10-Year Budget: $175,950

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:

- All Lakes
- Wetlands
- Streams

MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:

- **WQ1:** *Maintain or Improve water quality in Lower Prior Lake*
- **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards for Spring Lake*
- **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards for Upper Prior Lake*
- **WQ4:** *Improve water quality in Fish Lake*
- **WQ5:** *Improve water quality in Arctic Lake*
- **WQ6:** *Improve water quality in Pike Lake*
- **WQ10:** *Maintain no net loss of wetlands in the District*
- **RF3:** *Eliminate/reduce impact of development on flooding*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

5 Enforce District Rules through active permit program and assess the need for rule updates on a five-year basis.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

16 *Develop regional stormwater management plans with municipalities that include a stormwater utility credit program for future development areas.*

24 *Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.*

36 *Work with the developers to include enhanced water quality and habitat features in projects, providing cost-share as incentives.*

41 *Conduct outreach to new developments early in the planning process to identify areas of opportunity for water quality improvements.*

42 *Protect wetlands and wetland buffers under PLSLWD conservation easements or other municipal control through District Rule J enforcement or other mechanisms.*

43 *Create a District wetland banking program to ensure no wetland loss when the use of wetland credits is necessary for a project within the District.*

59 *Develop a plan on how to better incorporate consideration of groundwater protection when reviewing new permits and completing capital projects.*

68 *Provide incentives through the Cost Share Program to member communities and the development community to promote the use of green infrastructure that contributes to flood reduction on Prior Lake.*

Background & Purpose

The PLSLWD will enforce District Rules (~~Appendix D~~Appendix D) through an active permit program and will continue to issue permits for other government entities, including municipal, county and state projects. The PLSLWD will also issue permits when called for by District rules, agreements with other entities or watershed law; when requested by the local municipality; or for projects within PLSLWD easements, specifically easements on the Prior Lake Outlet Channel.

PLSLWD staff will participate in city Development Review Committees (DRC) and Scott County Development Review Team (DRT) meetings to incorporate water quality and quantity BMPs on new development and redevelopment.

PLSLWD staff will monitor conservation easements on a regular basis, initially annually. Staff will communicate and build relationships with landowners through inspection letters, site visits, newsletters, etc. If easements are in compliance with the terms of the easement agreement they could be monitored less frequently, such as once every two or three years. Staff will work with landowners who are in violation of the easement to bring the conservation easement area back into compliance. An easement amendment may be requested by the landowner per the PLSLWD's Easement Amendment Request Policy in order to retain the conservation value of the easement area while helping the landowner achieve compliance. Additionally, new conservation easements should be pursued as new developments trigger Rule J and as other strategic opportunities present themselves.

In addition, the PLSLWD will complete an inventory of BMPs for which the PLSLWD has taken on maintenance responsibility. Once a BMP inventory is complete, monitoring of the BMP will occur every 1-3 years, depending on needs. The PLSLWD will work with the responsible partners to ensure any necessary maintenance is performed.

Many wetlands in the watershed are protected by city buffers and/or conservation easements which they acquired through the permitting process as a result of the District's permitting equivalency. However, the City of Prior Lake has indicated that they may not have the capacity to monitor these buffer areas as needed. As a result, staff from the City of Prior Lake and the PLSLWD have discussed having PLSLWD assist with the monitoring of City conservation easements located in the District. In 2021 the PLSLWD will work with the City to assess needs and will partner with the City to help monitor their easements as needed.

Implementation Steps

1. Regularly Monitor Easements: Conservation easements will be monitored regularly every 1-3 years, based on compliance status and risk of future violation for each easement.
2. Enforce Conservation Easements: The PLSLWD will take Board-directed action steps when an easement remains out of compliance for more than two years, per the PLSLWD's ~~Easement Enforcement Policy~~Easement Enforcement Policy.
3. Easement Amendments: The PLSLWD will process requests to change the easement per the PLSLWD's ~~Easement Amendment Policy~~Easement Amendment Policy as they are received.
4. BMP Inventory & Monitoring: The PLSLWD will inventory historical BMPs that have existing, recorded agreements, and develop & implement a monitoring plan.
5. Assistance Inspections: The PLSLWD will work with the City of Prior to assess their needs for assisting with easement and/or BMP inspections in 2021. The PLSLWD and the City then would potentially implement a partnership plan approved by the Board to move forward with inspecting those areas as soon as 2022.

Funding Sources

The funding for this Project will come from the District Levy, easement amendment request fees, and invoiced enforcement costs to landowners.

definable boundaries (e.g., roads), and a single property cannot be in more than one watershed district. This can result in significant differences between the legal boundary and the hydrologic boundary. The PLSLWD will keep PLSLWD's legal boundary matched to its hydrologic boundary as accurately as possible, so that the land that drains to PLSLWD water resources is captured within the legal boundary to the maximum extent possible. This may involve including additional areas such as those flowing to Tier 1 lakes and the Prior Lake Outlet Channel watershed as well as removing the Cates Lake subwatershed.

Work Program and Budget Process

The following process provides a method for the development of each year's budget and assessing consistency with the 2020 Plan (e.g., goals, action items). The PLSLWD will develop a work plan annually. The process will incorporate program evaluation (evaluation of the "Outcomes & Measures"), track changes to the original plan content and projections, and determine if plan amendments are required.

I. Work Program Content

- **a.** Review of previous year's work program and accomplishments. *Did the PLSLWD complete tasks identified? What were the documented "Signs of Success"?*
- **b.** Discussion of studies, data, and public input that influences proposed projects, schedules, and budgets.
- **c.** Identification of new issues for potential inclusion in work program and budget. *What influence or effect does the new issue have on established priorities, programs, or projects?*
- **d.** Identification of funding issues presented by proposed work program – bonding needs, levy adjustments, budget/levy policy impacts, new funding approaches.
- **e.** Progress summary for each goal using the Outcomes & Measures Dashboards in ~~**Appendix M**~~**Appendix M** that identifies associated projects in the plan and any proposed adjustments (identifying completed efforts, ongoing efforts, and updated project schedules and budgets).
- **f.** Need for plan amendments – identify whether changes require amendments.
- **g.** Estimated annual budget by major program area. This budget table shall reference the applicable PLSLWD goals.

II. Work Program Development and Review Process

- **a.** Information identified above shall be collected and developed beginning in March of each year by staff beginning in 2021.
- **b.** The proposed work program, budget, and levy will be presented to the Board of Managers for discussion no later than the August Board meeting starting in 2021.
- **c.** The preliminary budget and levy shall be presented at a public hearing, deliberated by the Board, and approved at the September Board meeting, prior to September 30 of each year.
- **d.** The preliminary levy shall be certified to Scott County by September 30 of each year.
- **e.** Identified plan amendments shall be drafted and submitted to the Board of Managers for review and approval at the September Board meeting and to the agencies for review by September 30.
- **f.** Following local review of the proposed PLSLWD work program and budget, the Board of Managers shall revise, if necessary, and approve the final work program, budget, and levy. The levy shall be certified to Scott County by December 30 of each year.

III. Reporting

- **a.** Annual Reporting. As indicated, the PLSLWD annually evaluates its progress toward achieving its goals and performing those items listed in its Implementation Plan. Rule 8410.0150 Subpart 1 requires Watershed Districts to prepare an annual activity report which is due within the first 120 days of the calendar year. Rule 8410 specifies the content of the Annual Report.

V. Outcomes and Measures

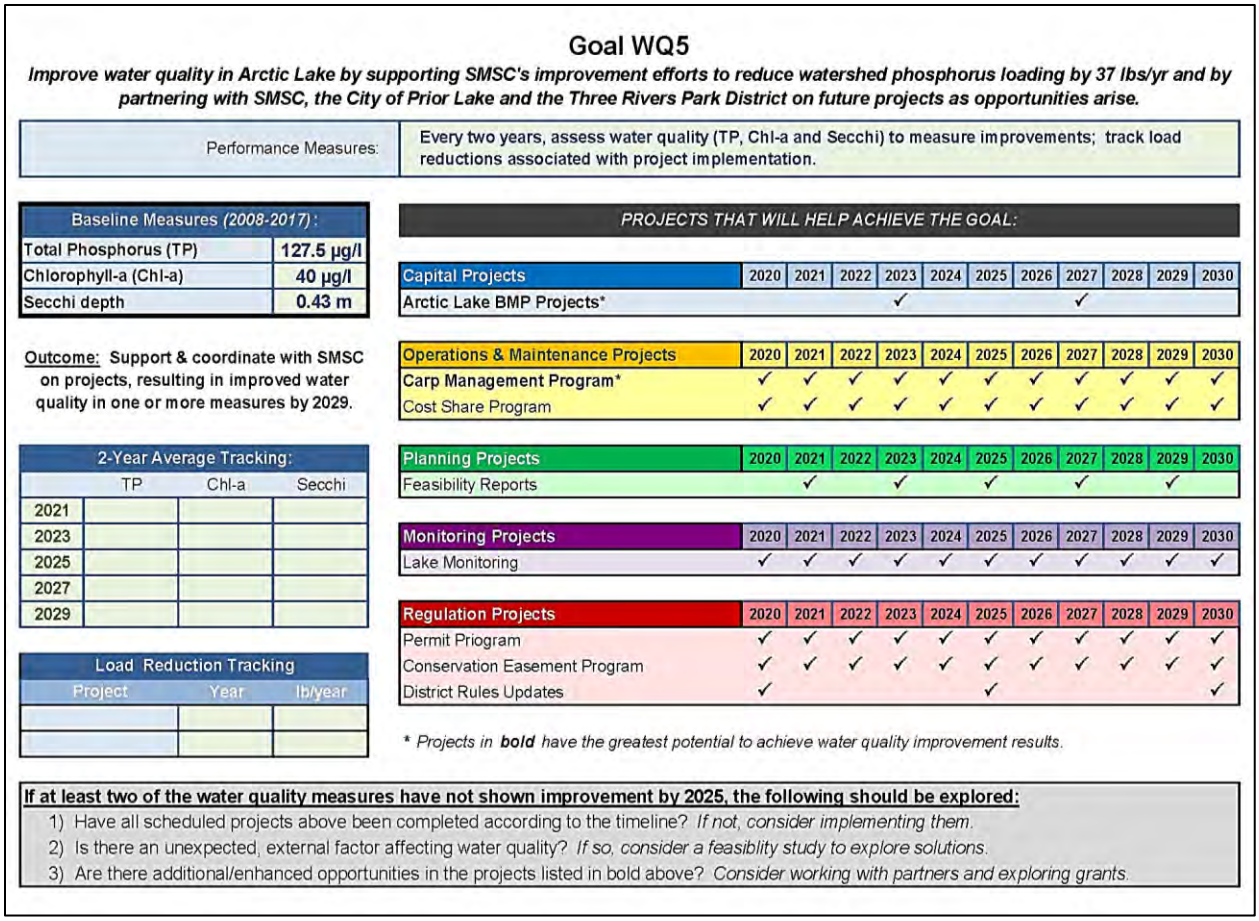
The desired outcomes of each goal identified in this plan are included in this section along with the measure that will be used to determine if that outcome was achieved. This information is included in **Table 6** and will be used, along with the goals dashboards (**Figure 7; ~~Appendix M~~Appendix M**), to track progress throughout the course of this 10-year WRMP. The implementation actions that will result in these goals being met are also included in this section.

Pursuant to Rule 8410, the PLSLWD will evaluate the actions within the Implementation Table with the annual activity report every two years. During this evaluation, the PLSLWD also plans to evaluate progress towards Plan goals. The PLSLWD's efforts from 2010 to 2016 have been well-characterized in BWSR's Level II Performance and Assistance Program (PRAP) report (**~~Appendix K~~Appendix K**). The PRAP will continue to be used as a means of evaluating implementation progress.

Goal Dashboards

In this 2020-2030 WRMP, the PLSLWD intends to better measure and track progress towards goals to ensure adequate progression through the use of dashboards. **~~Appendix M~~Appendix M** provides an Outcomes & Measures Dashboard for each goal for the PLSLWD to use internally to help better track and make adjustments as necessary. These dashboards will be updated every two years during the required evaluation period. As the Management Plan is amended, the Appendices will also be updated to provide the most current information on progress towards goals.

Below is an example of the dashboard for Goal WQ5 for Arctic Lake. Note that the dashboards include information not only on how to track progress, but what to consider if the PLSLWD is not meeting certain milestones during the 10-year plan. This dashboard also provides a quick reference for which projects are helping to achieve the goal.



Goal WQ5

Improve water quality in Arctic Lake by supporting SMSC's improvement efforts to reduce watershed phosphorus loading by 37 lbs/yr and by partnering with SMSC, the City of Prior Lake and the Three Rivers Park District on future projects as opportunities arise.

Performance Measures:	Every two years, assess water quality (TP, Chl-a and Secchi) to measure improvements; track load reductions associated with project implementation.

Baseline Measures *(2008-2017)*:	
Total Phosphorus (TP)	127.5 µg/l
Chlorophyll-a (Chl-a)	40 µg/l
Secchi depth	0.43 m

Outcome: Support & coordinate with SMSC on projects, resulting in improved water quality in one or more measures by 2029.

2-Year Average Tracking:			
	TP	Chl-a	Secchi
2021			
2023			
2025			
2027			
2029			

Load Reduction Tracking		
Project	Year	lb/year

PROJECTS THAT WILL HELP ACHIEVE THE GOAL:

Capital Projects	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Arctic Lake BMP Projects*				✓				✓			

Operations & Maintenance Projects	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Carp Management Program*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cost Share Program	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Planning Projects	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Feasibility Reports		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓	

Monitoring Projects	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Lake Monitoring	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Regulation Projects	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Permit Priogram	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Conservation Easement Program	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
District Rules Updates	✓					✓					✓

** Projects in **bold** have the greatest potential to achieve water quality improvement results.*

If at least two of the water quality measures have not shown improvement by 2025, the following should be explored:

1) Have all scheduled projects above been completed according to the timeline? *If not, consider implementing them.*
2) Is there an unexpected, external factor affecting water quality? *If so, consider a feasiblity study to explore solutions.*
3) Are there additional/enhanced opportunities in the projects listed in bold above? *Consider working with partners and exploring grants.*

Figure 7. Goal Dashboard Example

See ~~Appendix M~~Appendix M for a complete compilation of dashboards for each of the PLSLWD's goals.

Outcomes & Measures Table

Periodically evaluating success provides the Board of Managers with a mechanism to evaluate progress and make the necessary adjustments needed for improvement. While the dashboards provide detail and information for each individual goal, the following table includes an overview of each water quality goal, listing the desired outcome and measure of success for each along with the appropriate programs that help achieve the goal. This table is used to provide a larger look at the PLSLWD's planned activities for each goal and a quick overview of what measures will be used to determine success.

Table 6. Measures and Outcomes of each Goal and their associated Projects and Programs

Goal#	Goals (Desired OUTCOMES)	MEASURES	Strategies	PROJECTS	CAPITAL PROJECTS													OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE									PLANNING											E & O				MONITORING & RESEARCH										REGULATION			
					In-Lake Alum Treatments	County Ditch 13 Restoration	Public Infrastructure Projects	Arctic Lake BMP Projects	Fish Lake Watershed Projects	Lower Prior Lake Subwatershed Project	Spring Lake Regional Park Project	Spring Lake West Subwatershed Project	Storage & Infiltration Projects	Streambank Restoration Program	Sutton Lake Outlet Structure	Wetland Restoration & Enhancement	Wetland Banking Program	AIS Prevention & Management	Carp Management Program	Cost Share Program	Farmer-Led Council Initiatives	Ferric-Chloride Treatment System	Highway 13 Wetland Restoration	PLOC Bank Restoration	PLOC Management	Project Maintenance	AIS Rapid Response & Prevention Plan	Comprehensive Wetland Plan Update	District Plan Updates	Feasibility Reports	Groundwater Protection Plan	Lower Prior Lake Diagnostic Study Update	Planning & Programming	Regional Stormwater Planning	Upper Watershed Blueprint	Citizens Advisory Committee	Communications & Public Outreach	Public Engagement Events	Strategic Outreach	Buck Lake Diagnostic Study	Lake Monitoring	Stream & Ditch Monitoring	Effectiveness / BMP Monitoring	Wetland Monitoring	Precipitation & Weather	Groundwater	Reporting and Recording	PCSMM Model Update & Maintenance	Permit Program	Conservation Easement Program	District Rules Updates	District Boundary Revision	
WQ1	Maintain or improve the 5-year average for TP, Chlorophyll-a and Secchi depth in Lower Prior Lake.	Every two years, evaluate water quality trends on a 5-year running average to ensure water quality is maintained or improved.	1-7				**X**			**X**			**X**	x				x		x						x																									
WQ2	Meet the state water quality standards for aquatic recreation on Spring Lake.	Use in-lake water quality monitoring results to assess progress every two years; request delisting to MPCA.	3, 5-30,75,76		**X**	**X**	**X**		x		X	**X**	**X**	**X**		**X**	x	x	**X**	x	**X**	x	x			x	x			x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x		x	x	x	
WQ3	Meet the state water quality standards for aquatic recreation on Upper Prior Lake.	Use in-lake water quality monitoring results to assess progress every two years; request delisting to MPCA.	5-7, 9, 10, 12-14, 16, 18-25, 28-30		**X**		**X**	x	x			x	**X**	**X**		**X**	x	x	**X**	x	**X**	x	x			x	x			x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x			x		x	x	x	
WQ4	Improve water quality in Fish Lake by reducing annual phosphorous load by 40 lbs/year (50% of Lower MN Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy).	Every two years, assess water quality to measure improvements; reduce annual P load by 40 lbs/year by 2029.	5, 6, 7, 12, 21, 23, 28, 29, 31, 32, 77, 78						**X**					x		**X**		x	x	x	**X**					x		x	x			x			x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x			x		x	x	x	
WQ5	Improve water quality in Arctic Lake by supporting SMSC's improvement efforts to reduce watershed phosphorus loading by 37 lbs/yr and by partnering with SMSC, the City of Prior Lake and the Three Rivers Park District on future projects as opportunities arise.	Every two years, assess water quality (TP and Secchi) to measure improvements; track load reductions associated with project implementation.	5, 33-35					**X**										**X**	x								x	x			x			x	x	x	x		x			x			x		x	x	x	
WQ6	In partnership with SMSC and the City of Prior Lake, improve Pike Lake by achieving 10% percent improvement in TP concentrations to work toward the TMDL pollutant reduction requirements.	Every two years, assess TP concetrations to measure improvements; track load reductions associated with project implementation.	5, 6, 28, 34-36															**X**	x	**X**							x	x			x			x	x	x	x		x			x			x		x	x	x	
WQ7	Assess the quality of Sutton Lake and develop a Lake Management Plan.	Assessment of lake quality and development of management plan.	34, 37-39												**X**													x	x			x			x	x	x	x		x			x								
WQ8	Assign a District water quality standard for Buck Lake and set management goals for the next 10-year plan.	Conduct a lake diagnostic study to identify water quality standard; set management goals for next 10-year plan.	34, 40																									x	x			x			x	x	x	x	**X**	x				x								
WQ9	Assess the quality of Tier 3 Lakes.	In-lake water quality monitoring.	34																									x	x			x			x	x	x	x		**X**				x								
WQ10	Maintain no net loss of wetlands in the District.	Every two years, track wetland impacts and mitigation measures.	5, 6, 23, 41-45													**X**			x							x	x	x			x			x	x	x	x				x			x		**X**	x	x	

VI. LAND AND WATER RESOURCES INVENTORY

This section of the WRMP outlines the hydrologic and geologic characteristics of the PLSLWD. This inventory provides supporting information to orient specific issues, goals, and strategies with locations throughout the watershed. Information in this section is not exhaustive, so links are included for more information and supporting information is included in ~~Appendix B~~Appendix B and ~~Appendix G~~Appendix G.

A. Existing and Future Conditions

This section of the Water Resource Management Plan is an inventory of existing conditions and proposed future development within the PLSLWD. This section is divided into three main subsections: Physical Environment, Biological Inventory, and Human Environment. The **Physical Environment** subsection provides a general physical description of the watershed and describes the geomorphology, geology, and soils. The **Biological Inventory** subsection summarizes the major biological communities and inventories important plant and animal species. The **Human Environment** subsection describes land use and growth patterns, recreational resources, and potential environmental hazards. All maps referenced in this section appear in ~~Appendix B~~Appendix B.

1. Physical Characteristics

The physical characteristics of a watershed include its physical setting, geology, geomorphology, soils, and water resources. Each of these topics is discussed in this section except for water resources which is the focus of Part B of this section.

a) Physical Setting

The PLSLWD includes approximately 42 square miles of land located entirely within Scott County, Minnesota. The Vicinity map and the District map show the PLSLWD boundaries; the surrounding area is shown for location reference (~~Appendix B~~Appendix B). The District encompasses land in five local units of government and one tribe: the Cities of Prior Lake, Savage, and Shakopee, as well as Sand Creek and Spring Lake Townships the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community. The Municipalities map shows the boundaries of the District as well as the municipal boundaries of these five local governmental units. The City of Prior Lake and Spring Lake Township comprise most of the PLSLWD's area, while Sand Creek Township and the cities of Shakopee and Savage have relatively little land area within the District.

In 1983, an outlet channel was constructed beginning at the southwest end of Lower Prior Lake. With the outlet channel in place, drainage flows north under County Road 21, through Jeffers Pond, Pike Lake, Deans Lake, and Blue Lake before its eventual discharge to the Minnesota River near the Old Highway 18 Bridge.

The PLSLWD is bordered by the Lower Minnesota River Watershed on the north, and the Scott County Water Management Organization (WMO) on all other sides.

b) Geology and Geomorphology

The surficial geology of the PLSLWD is almost entirely comprised of glacial till deposits. The only surficial geological unit of any other origin is a few small regions of peat deposits. Glacial till and drift were brought to the region through a series of glaciations coming from the northeast and the northwest. The Superior lobe came from the northeast bringing reddish-brown drift, eroded from the bedrock of the Superior region. Glaciers coming from the northwest brought gray clayey, calcareous drift eroded from North Dakota, Manitoba, and northwestern Minnesota. The hills, ridges, and kettle lakes of the region were formed when the Des Moines Lobe began to stagnate and melt. This resulted in the creation of the irregular topography of the region. The Surface Geology map shows the surficial geology of the District.

Environmental Hazards subsection describes areas that have potential pollutant sources to surface or groundwater such as hazardous material handlers, landfills, feedlots, and other potential pollutant sources.

a) Land Use

Historical Background

The earliest European settlers in the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed arrived in 1853. These early settlers resided south of Spring Lake in what was to become Spring Lake Township.

The first annual town meeting for Spring Lake was held May 11, 1858 at the house of W.H. Calkins. Spring Lake Village was originally surveyed and recorded in 1857. A considerable number of lots were sold as the town rapidly grew. A grist mill was built at the outlet of Spring Lake in 1859, the first store in Spring Lake Village was built in 1865 and there is also a cemetery which was laid out and recorded in 1863. Following the construction of the Hastings & Dakota Railway the town saw a general decline.

Prior Lake Village was surveyed and recorded in 1875 on land owned by C.H. Prior. The first building erected in Prior Lake was a store built in 1871. The Prior Lake post office was established in 1872, and by 1882, the Prior Lake business district had expanded to include one flour and feed mill, one general merchandise store, one wheat storehouse, one blacksmith shop, and two saloons. The Grainwood Resort opened on the lake in 1879, followed by several other smaller resorts; Fish Point (1907); Grainwood Landing (1906-1910); and Spranks Resort (1910-1940).

By 1940, Spring Lake had 59 cottages, 5 resorts, and more than 125 boats used for fishing, boating and other recreational purposes. Lower Prior Lake had 90 cottages and 2 resorts and more than 150 boats (Minnesota Department of Conservation 1940).

Present Land Use

Land use within the District reflects five basic location mechanisms: proximity to Minneapolis and St. Paul, proximity to transportation, proximity to Prior and Spring Lakes, availability of wastewater service, and local controls. The Existing Land Use map presents the existing land uses for the District.

Existing land uses within the District include both urban and rural land use types. Urban developments are primarily residential units located adjacent to the lakes with some commercial and industrial development primarily occurring along Highway 13 through the City of Prior Lake. The predominant residential land use is single family residential units. Commercial and industrial land use in the watershed is comprised of warehousing, residential services, and office space. Rural land use is primarily comprised of small to medium sized farms with the average farm size being about 150 acres. The major farming activities include row crop production of corn and soybeans along with a few farms with cattle grazing in pastures. The agricultural areas of the District are primarily located in the southern part of the District south of Prior and Spring Lakes and outside the Metropolitan Urban Service Area (MUSA).

The MUSA map, as shown in ~~Appendix B~~Appendix B, presents the current MUSA boundaries for the District. Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) operates all the regional wastewater treatment facilities for the Greater Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. As the wastewater authority, MCES establishes the limits of the MUSA boundary. Within this boundary residents and businesses receive municipal services. Outside this boundary, residents and businesses must rely on on-site wastewater treatment systems. As a result, the MUSA boundary determines in large part the extent of urban development. Comparing the MUSA boundary map to the existing land use map reveals the close connection between urban development and the availability of wastewater services.

Future Land Use

Under the Metropolitan Land Planning Act, the communities within the District were required to prepare and submit land management plans with projections of future land use. ~~Appendix B~~Appendix B shows the 2030 Land Use map, which is a compilation of proposed future land use by the municipalities within the District.

Recent trends in land use patterns for the District indicate that residential development is spreading out from the core area around Prior and Spring Lakes into adjacent areas. Population of the City of Prior Lake has doubled since 1995, with 2017 population estimates at 26,401. Population estimates for Scott County by the Metropolitan Council and State Demography Unit estimate 2017 populations at 145,827 people. Agriculture has experienced a modest decline in cropland acreage and in the number of farms. However, much of the soil within the District is classified by the Natural Resource Conservation Service as good farmland, with an area around Sutton Lake being classified as prime agricultural land. These agricultural areas are also the least affected by the most common type of development because they are furthest away from the metropolitan core cities and the highly desirable recreational lakes and are outside of the MUSA. Therefore, it is expected that agricultural land uses will continue to remain present within the District although pressure of urbanization is increasing dramatically. Commercial agriculture is becoming less viable as seen in the increase in cluster or large lot subdivisions.

Land use information for the District was obtained from land management plans prepared by the local municipalities and by the county. For more detailed information on land use, refer to the city land use plans prepared by the Cities of Prior Lake, Savage, and Shakopee. For areas outside of these municipalities, land use information is provided by Scott County. The county land use plan appears as a portion of the Scott County 2040 Comprehensive Water Resources Plan, adopted in June 2019.

b) Recreational Resources

Land and water-based recreational opportunities exist within the District. Water-based recreation in the District is primarily focused on Spring, Upper Prior, and Lower Prior Lakes. There are numerous parks within the District, the largest of which is Spring Lake Regional Park, located on the north shore of Spring Lake and covering about 400 acres. Lakefront Park is the second largest park and is located on the southeast shore of Lower Prior Lake within the City of Prior Lake; it hosts one of two public beaches on Lower Prior. Jeffers Pond Park is the third largest park facility, covering 147 acres and including both Upper and Lower Jeffers Ponds. Sand Point Beach Park is another important community park which hosts the other public beach on Prior Lake and is adjacent to the Lower Prior Lake boat launch. Locations of park and boat launch facilities in the District are shown on the Recreational Resources map.

Public boat landings within the District include one each on Fish, Spring, Upper and Lower Prior Lakes. These landings are maintained by the MNDNR. There is also one additional winter access point on both Spring and Lower Prior Lakes.

Spring, Upper Prior, and Lower Prior Lakes have a combined surface area of approximately 1,800 acres. These lakes receive intense recreational pressure year-round. Open water activities include fishing, boating, kayaking, canoeing, water skiing, jet skiing, sailing, wakeboarding, and swimming. During the winter when the lake is ice-covered, recreational activities include snowmobiling, ice fishing, skating, and cross-country skiing.

The few swimming beaches in the District are quite popular. According to the City of Prior Lake, annual visitors to Sand Point Beach on the north shore of Lower Prior Lake reach 30,000-48,000 each year and

B. Hydrologic Systems

This section is an inventory of basic hydrologic data for the PLSLWD. The inventory is divided into four subsections: Precipitation, Water Quantity, Water Quality, and Groundwater. All tables and figures for this section appear in ~~Appendix G~~Appendix G.

1. Precipitation and Drainage

Snow and rainfall data for the District is obtained from the State Climatology Office. Over 100 years of precipitation data has been collected in the Lower Minnesota River watershed and is summarized in Figure 2 of ~~Appendix G~~Appendix G. These stations are used by the District because of their proximity, their long period of record, and the high degree of confidence in the data. Additional precipitation records can be obtained from local sites through the state's volunteer precipitation monitoring network overseen by the state climatologist and the weather station that was installed by PLSLWD staff in 2018 at Spring Lake Townhall. Figure 1 of ~~Appendix G~~Appendix G presents the ten-year historical record of precipitation at the PLSLWD site.

a) Precipitation and Evaporation

The annual average rainfall for this area is approximately 31 inches of water per year. When rainfall is below average, lakes with small tributary areas can drop rapidly. In the absence of specific evaporation data, these values can be used to estimate future lake levels and recovery times for lakes when combined with observation well data and hydrology models.

b) Topography

The hydrologic system of the District is characterized by its drainage features including ditches, streams, floodplains, wetlands, and lakes. Topography and drainage patterns for the District are typical of glaciated areas. The terrain ranges from rolling hills to nearly level land with numerous basins of glacial origin, such as kettle lakes, scattered throughout the District. The Subwatershed Map, shown in ~~Appendix B~~Appendix B, shows the major drainage features of the watershed including subwatershed boundaries, lakes, streams, and drainage ditches. Discussion of wetlands and floodplains are presented later in this section.

The highest ground in the watershed is 1,100 feet above mean sea level (MSL). This high ground is located along the eastern boundary of the watershed in Spring Lake Township (S23, T114N, R22W). The lowest ground in the watershed is the end of the outlet channel at an elevation of approximately 880 feet above MSL. The shoreline of Prior Lake has varied historically depending upon the lake level. The elevation of Prior Lake has ranged from a recorded low of 883.6 in 1938 to a recorded high of 907.6 in 1906.

The major lakes of the District are Spring Lake, Upper Prior Lake, and Lower Prior Lake. In general, water flows from southwest to northeast through the watershed. The southwestern portion of the watershed includes Swamp Lake, Sutton Lake, Fish Lake and Buck Lake. This region is drained primarily by County Ditch 13 for Swamp and Sutton Lakes and by the Buck Lake channel for Fish and Buck Lakes. These channels discharge to Spring Lake, which discharges to Upper Prior Lake, which in turn flows into Lower Prior Lake.

There was no consistent outflow from the watershed until 1983, when an outlet channel was constructed beginning at the southwest shore of Lower Prior Lake. With the Prior Lake outlet channel in place, drainage flows north in a pipe under County Road 21, then the channel daylights and flows through Jeffers Pond, Pike Lake, Dean Lake and Blue Lake, before its eventual discharge to the Minnesota River.

c) Floodplain

The United States Army Corps of Engineers and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) have mapped the District's floodplains. The Floodplain Map, found in ~~Appendix B~~Appendix B, shows an approximation of the floodplains delineated by these agencies. These floodplains represent the area that

would be inundated by a 100-year flood event. This map does not show all floodplains within the District and is in part, based on approximate hydrologic methods and limited topographical data. Refer to Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) for more detailed information. Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) and Flood Insurance Studies (FIS) are available online via FEMA's interactive website.

2. Waterbodies

a) Public Ditches

County Ditch 13 is the only public ditch in the District. This ditch follows the path of the original natural stream for most of its length. However, the original natural stream was widened and straightened into today's current Ditch 13 to increase its capacity to drain land for agricultural purposes. Scott County maintains maps of this system which differentiate the public ditch from private laterals/extensions, and natural drainage ways. The County controls the public ditches and is the ditch authority for the purpose of implementing M.S. 103E (Drainage Law).

b) Lakes

Approximately 8 percent of the District is covered by lakes. There are four lakes in the District that are greater than 100 acres in size and eight lakes with areas between 20 and 100 acres. The lakes that are greater than 100 acres and support fishing, swimming, and other body and non-body contact recreational uses are considered priority waterbodies. Lakes in the District are listed in Table 4 and Table 5 in ~~Appendix G~~Appendix G, with their major physical, chemical, and biological characteristics. Additional fishery and water quality data can be found in ~~Appendix C~~Appendix C.

c) Wetlands

MN Rule 8420 (the Wetland Conservation Act) states per MN Rule 8420.0105, "Wetlands must not be impacted unless replaced by restoring or creating wetland areas of at least equal public value. This chapter regulates the draining or filling of wetlands, wholly or partially, and excavation in the permanently and semipermanently flooded areas of type 3, 4, or 5 wetlands, and in all wetland types if the excavation results in filling, draining, or conversion to nonwetland."

MNDNR protected wetlands are defined in M.S. 105.37 as "all Type 3, 4, and 5 wetlands, as defined in United States Fish and Wildlife Service Circular No. 39 (1971 edition), not included within the definition of public waters, which are 10 or more acres in size in unincorporated areas or 2.5 or more acres in incorporated areas." Permits are required from the MNDNR for any alteration of protected wetlands or waters below the ordinary high-water elevation. A detailed map of MNDNR protected wetlands can be found on the MNDNR website.

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has also compiled wetland maps through the National Wetland Inventory (NWI). The NWI maps identify wetland types 1-8, regardless of size, and therefore provide a more complete accounting of wetland areas. Detailed USFWS NWI maps can be found on the USFWS interactive Geospatial Wetlands Information website. The District has chosen to use this interactive mapping tool, as opposed to a hard copy map, as it is the most up to date and allows flexibility in selecting data sets.

In 1994, the Scott SWCD conducted a detailed wetland inventory for the southern half of the District. Under this effort, the SWCD reviewed maps from the MNDNR, the Metropolitan Mosquito Control District, the United States Department of Agriculture, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and the United States Geological Service to identify existing wetlands, drainage areas for these wetlands, and drainage channels. Tile records were reviewed to obtain information on drained wetlands. Historical aerial photographs dating

back to 1937 were also reviewed to identify original wetland areas. Field reconnaissance was used to complete the inventory by providing a field verification of the mapping results. The maps and records from this wetland inventory are not included in this plan because the extensive detail of this inventory would make this plan excessively cumbersome. However, the inventory records and maps can be viewed at the District office.

In 2012, Emmons and Olivier Resources (EOR) prepared a Comprehensive Wetland Plan for PLSLWD to accomplish goals and meet policies set forth in this WRMP. This plan was used to develop wetland management standards used to support water resource management activities in the Watershed District and an updated inventory was created, which can be found in the District files.

The Wetland map, found in ~~Appendix B~~Appendix B, shows the general location of MNDNR protected wetlands in the District as determined by the Scott SWCD.

3. Water Quantity

Water quantity has been identified as a priority issue for the District and will likely continue to be so in the future as development continues throughout the watershed. A thorough understanding of water quantity issues is a major component of the watershed management plan. Water quantity issues can be divided into two categories: issues relating to the quantity of water stored and issues relating to the quantity of water flowing through a given point. This section summarizes and discusses data on water storage in terms of lake levels and flow data.

To supplement the existing data on lake levels and flow, several hydrologic models have been developed for the District. These models serve as an important tool for analyzing the relative importance of various factors that influence water levels and flow rates. In addition, these models can be used to make predictions regarding future water levels and flow rates in the District. Various models have been used depending upon desired analysis parameters and include XP-SWMM, SWAT, HydroCAD, PCSWMM, and HEC-RAS. Details on modeling and model calibration can be found in individual project reports.

a) Lake Levels

The most comprehensive data on lake levels in the District are for Upper and Lower Prior Lakes. Because these two lakes are joined by a wide channel, water level readings for both lakes are essentially equal. Figure 6 of ~~Appendix G~~Appendix G shows the historic record of water level data for these lakes from 1906. This figure shows that lake levels are significantly influenced by long-term rainfall patterns, although this linkage has been dampened by the construction of the lake outlet which moderates high lake levels and decreases the odds of successive high-water years.

Lake levels for Upper and Lower Prior Lakes have historically been one of the most important issues in the District. Before 1983, Lower Prior Lake did not have an overland outlet. As a result, water levels in the lakes fluctuated widely depending upon rainfall patterns. Since the construction of the outlet channel, the lake levels have stabilized somewhat, but lake level issues still arise. When lake levels are high, water levels encroach on numerous dwellings, but when water levels are too low, water recedes from some shallow bays making boat access to the lake difficult.

In 2016, the ~~Prior Lake Stormwater Management & Flood Mitigation Study~~Prior Lake Stormwater Management & Flood Mitigation Study was completed by Barr Engineering and jointly sponsored by the District and the City of Prior Lake in collaboration with Spring Lake Township. The study updated the watershed's hydrologic model, reviewed flood-related issues and projects, identified potential flood reduction strategies and developed an implementation plan to reduce future flooding and improve agency

response to flooding. The number of dwellings that are potentially adversely affected at a given water level is documented on page 6 of that report.

Water level data are available for other lakes, including Fish, Spring, Cates, and Pike Lakes on the District website or MNDNR Lake Finder. Limited data is available for other waterbodies in the District, such as Haas, Crystal, Rice, Sutton, and Swamp Lakes.

Table 6 of ~~Appendix G~~Appendix G lists ordinary high water (OHW) levels for lakes in the District. The OHW is defined in M.S. 103G.005 as:

> *"An elevation delineating the highest water level that has been maintained for a sufficient period of time to leave evidence upon the landscape, commonly the point where the natural vegetation changes from predominantly aquatic to predominantly terrestrial; for watercourses, the ordinary high water level is the elevation of the top of the bank of the channel; and for reservoirs and flowages, the ordinary high water level is the operating elevation of the normal summer pool."*

The OHW is an important regulatory concept as it defines the extent of the MNDNR protected public waters and wetlands. Any change to the course, current or cross-section at or below the ordinary high water level of a public water requires a MNDNR Public Waters Work Permit~~project that would alter the OHW or would occur below the OHW would require a MNDNR permit~~.

b) Flow Gauging

District-wide

With assistance from the Scott SWCD, the District monitors flow at several locations around the watershed, ranging from the upper watershed, outlets of lakes, and along the Outlet Channel. Some of the flow data for the District have been collected as part of short-term special studies, such as the Upper Watershed Study from 2014-2016.

Stream flow data is used to calibrate and verify the District's various hydrologic models and calculate pollutant loads. Stream flow measurements will be completed as determined in the District's long-term monitoring plan. The Water Quality Monitoring map, found in ~~Appendix B~~Appendix B, shows the locations of monitoring stations from current and past water quantity and water quality studies.

Outlet Channel

Flow calculations for the outlet channel are integral for implementation of the PLOC MOA. Additional details on modeling for this project can be found in the document, which is available for review on the District website. Additional monitoring of flows in the outlet channel will be completed by the District in accordance with the District's monitoring plan.

4. Water Quality

Lakes within the District are monitored by Three Rivers Park District or by volunteers through the Metropolitan Council Citizen-Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP). Data is stored in the District's Water Quality Database (WQDB) and summaries of lake water quality data is posted on the Waterbodies tab of the District's website. The monitoring program provides an assessment of water quality and identifies possible water quality trends in a timely manner so that prompt management action can be taken. The monitoring program also helps evaluate the effectiveness of District projects meant to improve water quality. The District currently operates its monitoring program based upon an annual and long-term monitoring plan.

a) Summary of Historical Lake Water Quality Data

Historic data includes information on phosphorus, nitrogen, chlorophyll-a, suspended solids, dissolved oxygen, and Secchi disk transparency. The District's website and ~~Appendix G~~Appendix G contain some of the most recent data collected.

Phosphorus

Phosphorus is an essential nutrient for algae growth and it is often the limiting nutrient. As a result, the concentration of phosphorus is of particular concern in aquatic systems as its concentration often determines the abundance of algae; the overabundance of algae results in numerous interrelated water quality problems that may adversely impact recreational, aesthetic, and fisheries uses of lakes. ~~Appendix G~~Appendix G, Section A shows the mean summer total phosphorus (TP) concentrations for Cates, Buck, Crystal, Sutton, Swamp, Arctic, Haas, Fish, Pike, Spring, Upper Prior, and Lower Prior Lakes from 2014-2017 (unless otherwise noted).

Chlorophyll-a

Chlorophyll-a is a photosynthetic pigment common to all plants including algae. The concentration of chlorophyll-a is used as a convenient surrogate measure of algae abundance. ~~Appendix G~~Appendix G, Section A presents the mean summer chlorophyll-a concentrations for Fish, Buck, Spring, Pike, Arctic, Upper Prior, and Lower Prior Lakes for the years each lake was sampled between 2004-2017. Chlorophyll-a concentrations over 30 μg/L are generally considered nuisance algae conditions and hypereutrophic.

b) Secchi Disk Transparency

Secchi disk transparency is a measure of water clarity. The Secchi depth is determined by lowering a black and white disk to the point where the disk disappears from view. The depth of disappearance is then recorded as the Secchi depth. Because of its ease of measurement, Secchi depth readings have been promoted through volunteer monitoring programs. ~~Appendix G~~Appendix G**,** Section A shows the mean summer Secchi depth readings for Cates, Fish, Spring, Pike, Upper Prior, and Lower Prior Lakes for all years available between 2005 and 2017. Secchi depth readings less than 1.0 m for shallow lakes, or 1.4 m for deep lakes, are generally considered poor water clarity conditions and hypereutrophic.

c) Stream Water Quality Data

Stream water quality data collection for the District has also focused on eutrophication related parameters and has primarily been directed at evaluating contributions to the eutrophication of lakes. These data include information on flow, nutrients, and suspended solids. This data can be found in the District's water quality database (www.plslwd.org/wqdb).

d) Impaired Waters and TMDLs

The District has several lakes that do not meet state and federal water quality requirements and have been included on the State of Minnesota List of Impaired Waters, also known as the 303(d) list after the relevant section of the federal Clean Water Act. Impairments are listed in Table 7 under ~~Appendix G~~Appendix G.

In 2008 and 2009 the District undertook a TMDL study for excess nutrients for both Spring and Upper Prior Lakes. A stakeholder group of local and agency representatives assisted the District in diagnosing the sources of excess nutrients to the lakes, establishing load reduction targets, and identifying Best Management Practices and activities to achieve load reduction and water quality goals. The final TMDL study was written by PLSLWD, MPCA, and Wenck Associates, Inc and approved in 2011. The TMDL Implementation Plan was finalized in 2012.

approved plan. Additionally, the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community is exempt from PLSLWD rules on tribal lands.

1. Rules and Standards

The District's permitting program is based upon the District rules and standards, which are included in ~~Appendix D~~Appendix D. The Board of Managers updated its rules in 1996 with the assistance of member communities. The update included major revisions which reflected the philosophies of the Board of Managers. In addition to removing ambiguous text, the rules clarified regulatory roles of the cities, county, and District. They also addressed water quality issues in redeveloping areas and eliminated regulatory overlap by leaving wetland regulations to local governmental units who implement the Wetland Conservation Act. Another area of overlap was eliminated with the cessation of District permitting for dredging and shoreline improvements. This area is adequately addressed by the MNDNR, and in the case of larger projects, by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

In 2001, the Board of Managers made significant additions to the rules by adopting general standards, a performance standard for infiltration, and buffer strip requirements for wetlands and watercourses. These additions reflected the District's goals of enhancing water quality and volume control within the watershed. The Board worked closely with the cities, county and other interested parties on this revision, which was adopted in February 2001. The rules underwent minor revisions in 2003 and again in 2015.

The rules and standards of the PLSLWD cover the topics of definitions, procedural requirements, general standards, stormwater management, erosion and sediment control, floodplain alteration, wetland alteration, bridge and culvert crossing, drainage alterations, buffer strips, enforcement, variances, appeals, and permitting fees and security. The District will rely on these rules while entertaining regulatory enforcement and variance actions.

The District is near completion of another round of rule revisions which is anticipated to be completed in 2020. Primary revisions contemplated are for linear road project and redevelopment standards, volume control standards, wetland bounce and inundation, and providing greater flexibility in demonstration of compliance with the stormwater rule including ability for stormwater banking/credits, off-site treatment, regional planning, municipal cost cap, and a stormwater impact fund.

2. Equivalency Agreements

If municipalities wish to provide full regulatory control, the District will cede permit authority only following completion of an approved local plan, adoption of the ordinances, and implementation of inspection and administrative procedures necessary to ensure the full regulatory standards of the District are met. Equivalency of local water management plans and official controls will be determined according to the process in MN Statute 103B and the PLSLWD 2020-2030 WRMP, as amended. To make a finding of equivalency, the Board must determine that:

- The local unit of government (LGU) having land use planning and regulatory responsibility has adopted a local water management plan and official controls that follow the policies and achieve the standards and objectives articulated in the PLSLWD 2020-2030 WRMP, as amended, and the District's rules, as amended.
- The LGU has developed and is implementing a program to permit land disturbing activities in accordance with its official controls and to inspect, monitor and enforce compliance with the official controls.
- The LGU has developed and is implementing a program for operating and maintaining the best management practices required by its official controls and procedures, either directly or through developers' or homeowners' agreements.

PLSLWD WRMP 30 Day Public Comment Period

Key:

	Grammatical or Format Changes
	Content Changes
	Content Changes-Complex/Need Additional Input
	No changes

Page Number	Section	Commenter	Comment	Change?	Response
139	Section V, Table 6	Melissa Hanson	Do you need to remove the Tier 3 lake classifications mention from the grid on page 60?	Yes	Updated, this reflects original intent of the plan amendment to remove Tier 3 lake classifications, (redline on page 26) as there are no lake classifications established.
General	General	Taylor Huinker, MN DNR	We applaud the WD on the plan's acknowledgment that habitat improvement can provide water quality benefits. It is vitally important to link habitat improvements and water quality benefits, rather than separating the two as mutually exclusive issues. The protection of natural vegetation in shoreland areas, especially along lakes and streambanks, is critical to maintaining water quality and wildlife habitat. We continue to witness the conversion of shorelines to riprap and hard armoring every year, and it is much harder to restore natural shorelines once they have been lost than it is to protect and maintain existing natural shorelines. A healthy shoreline supports a diverse community of fish and wildlife by providing native vegetation that fulfills their habitat needs where land and water meet. Native vegetation provides important water quality functions by slowing and filtering water runoff as it moves to the lake or stream. Shorelines with a diverse mixture of native plants extending inland as well as offshore of the bank are more resilient to wave and ice erosion. Our lakes, streams and wetlands need healthy shorelines to reduce runoff, filter pollutants, and provide important habitat functions that benefit fish and wildlife. The addition of habitat improvements to the existing water quality implementation action framework is an exciting update!	No	Thank you for the comment!
General	General	Taylor Huinker, MN DNR	We are also pleased to see the addition of climate resiliency in the WRMP goals. By taking a forward thinking and planning approach, the WD will be better equipped to mitigate and adapt to a changing climate, thus enhancing the resiliency of the WD's water resources.	No	Thank you for the comment!
157	Land and Water Resources Inventory Section (B. Hydrologic Systems, 3. Water Quantity, a) Lake Levels) on page 158	Taylor Huinker, MN DNR	Finally, under the Land and Water Resources Inventory Section (B. Hydrologic Systems, 3. Water Quantity, a) Lake Levels) on page 158, the Plan states "any project that would alter the OHW or would occur below the OHW would require a MNDNR permit". We suggest changing this sentence to more accurately reflect the DNR Public Water Rules to say "Any change to the course, current or cross-section at or below the ordinary high water level of a public water requires a MNDNR Public Waters Work Permit".	Yes	Updated to reflect this clarification.
General	General	Abby Shea, MN Dept. of Health	With the mission of MDH and the goal of SWP in mind, we would like to note our appreciation of the additions of climate resiliency and equitable actions to the Plan, as well as the explicit acknowledgement of groundwater protection protecting drinking water in Implementation Action 59. MDH would also like to make PLSLWD aware of two funding opportunities for groundwater and drinking water projects...	No	Thank you for the comment!
General	General	Amy Timm, MPCA	The amendments are relevant and in line with the priorities of the MPCA and well organized. It has been noted that Fish Lake is a priority water for a total maximum daily load (TMDL) report and watershed restoration and protection strategy (WRAPS) report, to be completed by 2027.	No	Thank you for the comment!
General	General	Alex Jordan, City of Shakopee	City staff wanted to point out that the plan notes a Swamp Lake Wetland iron enhanced sand filter project, which has been mentioned previously. The City of Shakopee did this mitigation project in 2006 (led by Bruce Loney). We have a set of plans, and some other miscellaneous files, but haven't really understood the reason for it. We believe there should be an easement over it, which we are researching. If the City has any obligations with the mitigation site, we would be interested in what PLSLWD is planning and review the project. If not, then we don't need to be involved.	No	Clarification was provided that the project completed by City of Shakopee near Swamp Lake is on a different property and will have no overlap with the Swamp Iron Enhanced Sand Filter location.
General	General	Ole Olmanson, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community	Happy to see the plan mention SMSC and supporting our water resources goals.	No	Thank you for the comment!
General	General	Ole Olmanson, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community	Will you work directly with specific farmers and what kind of best management practices are happening around Pike Lake?	No	Any farmer within the district is welcome to apply for cost share funds through our traditional cost share program or Farmer-led council. The most competitive projects will be selected if funds are limited. The District will provide information around Pike Lake as it is developed.
General	General	Ole Olmanson, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community	Any other ideas on improving the water quality at Pike Lake?	No	The District employs many water quality tools across it's lakes and would be interested in discussing. According to Pike Lake's TMDL, the internal load management is likely a key area.
General	General	Ole Olmanson, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community	It might be useful for SMSC staff to meet with PLSLWD staff to discuss future goals for Pike and Arctic Lake.	No	The District would love to collaborate and coordinate with SMSC and has reached out to plan a meeting.
112	Section IV, 4. Education and Outreach Program, 2. Communications & Public Relations, 2 mentions	Ole Olmanson, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community	Remove reference to the Prior Lake American since it no longer exists	Yes	Updated to Star Tribune.
General	General	Ole Olmanson, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community	Plan has a large focus on agricultural projects and working with a farmer led council, but don't have substantive plans to address the continued residential development that is replacing those agricultural areas.	No	The District's residential cost share program and permitting programs are designed to ensure residential development is done in a sustainable manner protecting water resources. We would be happy to share more and talk about potential improvements if you have found gaps.

PLSLWD WRMP 30 Day Public Comment Period

General	General	Ole Olmanson, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community	$16,800 over 10 yrs for groundwater protection seems very low.	No	They very well could be. The budgetary estimates were our best guess in drafting this plan for 2020. We decided not to update budgetary figures because many factors make them highly fluctuating: inflation, level of landowner buy-in, market value, program successes and adaptive management.
General	General	Steve Christopher, Met Council	Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed amendment to the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District (District) Watershed Management Plan (Plan). We commend the District for maintaining a current Plan and feel that the changes proposed will strengthen it through the additional projects, clarifications, and updated goals. We have no further comments on this amendment.	No	Thank you for the review!
112	Section IV, 4. Education and Outreach Program, 2. Communications & Public Relations, 2 mentions	Laura Rescorla, City of Prior Lake	I only have one minor comment: I noticed that page 112 references publishing articles in the Prior Lake American. I believe that newspaper just recently ended publication, so might be a good time to remove that reference.	Yes	Updated to Star Tribune.
General	General	Jeff Berg, MN Dept of Agriculture	I have reviewed the proposed Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District minor plan amendments. Minnesota Department of Agriculture has no comments.	No	Thank you for the review!
General	General	Anne Sawyer, BWSR	BWSR staff had no comments	No	Thank you for the review!

MAY 2024 PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS UPDATE

PROGRAM OR PROJECT	LAST MONTH'S STAFF ACTIVITIES	NEXT STEPS
Carp Management ***Rough Fish Management (Class 611)*** *Project Lead: Jeff*	• Installed new PIT station on Fish Lake. • Installed push trap at Desilt Pond. • Installed panel trap on Upper Prior Lake. • Completed bluegill stocking in desilt pond near Spring Lake with aid from Spring Lake Association. • Tagged approx. 250 carp as part of mark and recapture study on Upper Prior Lake.	• Complete repairs on Freemont barrier in 2024 as weather allows. • Collaborate with SMSC on carp management. • Continue mark and recapture study on Upper Prior Lake. • Conduct removals on Spring Lake.
Ferric Chloride System Operations *Project Lead: Jeff and Emily*	• Replaced water level sensor and data logger. Operating in automatic, flow paced dosing mode. • Continue weekly sampling routine. • Working with EOR on system update work order. • EOR took first jar test sample to advance dosing review and alternate chemicals study.	• Install new tank level sensor. • Continue to review and finalize elements of the system assessment reports. • Evaluate desilt outlet and Geis wetland improvements.
Farmer-Led Council *Project Lead: Emily*	• Continued coordination with Scott SWCD. • Coordinated FLC interviews with SWCD.	• Continue to support and review FLC projects.
Cost Share Incentives *Project Lead: Emily*	• Provided feedback on potential cost share projects. • Coordinated on Fish Lake shoreline restoration focus area with extra Fish Lake project funds.	• Review cost share applications with Scott SWCD as needed. • Present non-traditional cost share project types for Board approval as applicable.
Sutton Lake Outlet and Lake Management Plan *Project Lead: Emily*	**Lake Management Plan** • Organized one fall 2024 drone.	**Lake Management Plan** • Plan landowner communications in summer.

MAY 2024 PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS UPDATE

PROGRAM OR PROJECT	LAST MONTH'S STAFF ACTIVITIES	NEXT STEPS
Upper Watershed Projects **Buck Stream Stabilization, Spring West IESF, MB CD-13 IESF, Swamp IESF, Fish Lake Mgmt Plan, Sutton IESF, Swamp IESF, Buck Chemical Treatment, Potential Flood Storage Projects** *Project Lead: Emily*	**Buck Stream Stabilization** • Continued contract drafting with Smith Partners and SWCD. • Met with landowners to review 60% plans and draft contracts. • Reviewed 90% plans. • Reviewed need for DNR, County, Wetland Conservation Act, and Army Corps of Engineers permits, and began steps for submission. • Held coordination meeting. **Spring Lake West IESF** • BKJ Construction completed outlet repair. • Planned monitoring after outlet replacement. **MB CD-13 IESF** • Attempted to contact landowner. **Swamp IESF** • Prepared easement and agreement for landowner signature. • Convened to discuss allotment of WBIF funds. **Fish Lake Management Plan (FLMP)** • Attempted to contact landowners of priority projects. • Coordinated with SWCD on shoreline restoration campaign. • Convened to discuss allotment of WBIF funds to FLMP projects. • Discussed budget of 200 St pond project. **Potential Flood Storage Projects** • Amended SWCD Contract to include Project 10 prelim surveying. • Amended EOR scope to include new flood storage approach.	**Buck Stream Stabilization** • Continue to draft agreements. • Submit permits and finalize plans. • Begin bidding process in ~June/July. • Construction slated for August-Fall. **Spring Lake West IESF** • Monitor two rain events during summer. • Assess ideal and feasible IESF or BMP for implementation. **MB CD-13 IESF** • Understand landowner willingness to proceed in investigation. **Swamp IESF** • Obtain easement. • Obtain grant funds. • Develop Scope of Work for project implementation. **Fish Lake Management Plan** • Understand landowner willingness to develop implementation steps. • Obtain grant funds. • Meet with landowners. • Develop budget and scope for 200 St pond. **Potential Flood Storage Projects** • Conduct preliminary investigation on Project 10.

MAY 2024 PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS UPDATE

PROGRAM OR PROJECT	LAST MONTH'S STAFF ACTIVITIES	NEXT STEPS
Website and Media *Project Lead: Danielle*	**Social Media** • Continued updating Facebook and Instagram about projects & news: Carp Espionage, Earth Day, Admin Professionals Day, beginning of field season, lobbying, and bluegill stocking **Website** • Complete and test first draft of projects and watershed maps for new website.	**Social Media** Continue updating Facebook, and Instagram about projects & news: field work/carp removals, summer events, etc. **Website** • Continue refining website maps and reviewing updates, posting events. Possibly an article for website
Citizen Advisory Committee *Project Lead: Danielle*	• Prep for May Meeting • Plan joint meeting and tour	• May CAC meeting • Keep CAC informed on upcoming education and outreach events and volunteer opportunities. • Continue planning for June joint meeting and tour.
Education Program *Project Lead: Danielle*	• See Website and Media section. • Plan and coordinate for Natural Ink Workshop and Paint & Sip • Work with local students on storm drain stenciling project. • Coordinate with volunteers at start of CAMP sampling. • Design and purchase logo'd stickers to hand out in 2024 events. • Meet and coordinate with Three Rivers Park District on Watershed Week partnership. • Spring Lake Association Presentation.	• See website and media section. • Continue planning Watershed Week events, including coordination with partners and advertising • Design educational signs for Watershed Week walk/hike. • Assist interested residents with Storm Drain Stenciling.
Monitoring Program *Project Lead: Jeff and Zach*	• Setting thresholds in WISKI to flag questionable data. • QA/QC data in WISKI. • Installed replacement water level monitoring wells on Fish and Pike Lakes. • Conducted bi-weekly stream and Swamp Lake monitoring regime. • Installed flow monitoring unit on Swamp Lake outlet. • Conducted stream flow measurements. • Make corrections to water level datasets online.	• Finalize mapping report on historic monitoring site locations and analysis. • Continue with data validation in WISKI. • Determine additional sites for spare water level loggers. • Conduct Biobase surveys.
Aquatic Vegetation Management and Surveys *Project Lead: Jeff*	• Contractor completed spring CLP delineations. • Coordinated CLP treatments for Spring, Upper, and Lower Prior Lakes that were completed on 5/3 totaling 59 acres.	• Review post treatment assessments.

MAY 2024 PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS UPDATE

PROGRAM OR PROJECT	LAST MONTH'S STAFF ACTIVITIES	NEXT STEPS
AIS *Project Lead: Jeff and Zach*	• Coordinated with DNR on CD3 station installation agreement documentation. • Worked with Waterfront Restorations and DNR to provide boat inspection coverage information.	• Continue coordinating with DNR on CD3 station installation agreement. • Coordinate with DNR and Waterfront Restorations on boat inspection coverage on our lakes.
Rules Revisions *Project Lead: Joni*	• Held meeting with Scott County and Scott SWCD to resolve outstanding equivalency issues with Scott County.	• Finalize City of Prior Lake equivalency MOA. • Finalize City of Savage interim equivalency agreement. • Continue working with Scott County to finalize equivalency MOA and review Scott County rule updates to confirm equivalency.
BMPs & Easements *Project Lead: Joni*	• Refined encroachment agreement template and updated easement amendment policy to incorporate encroachment agreements. • Mailed out annual easement informational brochure to property owners with conservation easements. • Continued installation of missing conservation easement signs. • Recorded one declaration of conservation easement with mortgage consent.	• Wrap up work on outstanding issues associated with: o Development Agreement and Conservation Easement establishment process and document templates. o Start implementing encroachment agreements, if approved by managers. • Work to resolve outstanding easement violations.
Permitting *Project Lead: Joni*	• Performed research on old permit security held by District. • Issued Permit 23.02. • Coordinated with City of Prior Lake on Permit 24.01. • Provided revised permit review comments to DNR for Sand Point Boat Ramp. Scheduled meeting with DNR to discuss outstanding permit application comments. • Provided permit review comments to LGU partners on five projects (four in Prior Lake and one in Spring Lake Township)	• Start inspections on Permit 23.02. • Continue to close out old permits. • Continue to provide permit review comments to LGU partners.

MAY 2024 PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS UPDATE

PROGRAM OR PROJECT	LAST MONTH'S STAFF ACTIVITIES	NEXT STEPS
Planning Activities *Project Lead: Joni and Emily*	• Printed legal notice of the plan amendment process on May 2 and 14. • Public comment period for plan amendment ended May 6th and BWSR deemed the amendment to be a minor plan amendment. • Submitted a MPCA Surface Water Assistance Grant (if awarded, grant funds monitoring activities that will support upcoming MPCA WRAPS and offset District monitoring costs. • Reviewed responses to 60-day comments for the Lower Minnesota River East Comprehensive Water Management Plan. Attended final Advisory Committee meeting.	• Circulate plan amendment if approved.
Outlet Channel Projects and Administration *Project Lead: Emily/Jeff*	• Inspected outlet channel and culverts. • Worked on vegetation maintenance mapping and contracting. • Herbaceous treatments completed. • Conducted follow up for the pipelining bonding bill process. Visited the Capitol to lobby. • Rescheduled PLOC Cooperators meeting to May 30th to allow for response to funding outcomes. • Prepare materials for May 30 Project Cooperator meeting. • Conducted fish passage tour with SMSC to aid in their future work.	• Pipelining construction expected to occur in winter 2024/2025 if capital funding, or MPCA funding awarded. • Finalize woody invasives contracting. • Send out meeting packets and support May 30 Project Cooperator meeting.
General Administration *Project Lead: Joni*	• Completed 2023 financial audit. • Completed insurance renewals. • Continued to review files for archiving. • Completed revisions to per diem policy. • Met with League of Women Voters of Dakota County representative to provide information on District operations, programs and projects.	• Update remainder of personnel policy in 2024. • Address outstanding encroachment issue related to a District owned parcel.

PLSLWD Board Staff Report
May 14, 2024

Subject |	2023 Annual Financial Audit
Board Meeting Date |	May 21, 2024 **Item No: 4.2**
Prepared By |	Joni Giese, District Administrator
Attachment |	a) 2023 Financial Statement Audit Presentation b) 2023 Executive Governance Summary c) 2023 Annual Financial Report
Action |	Motion to accept the 2023 Executive Governance Summary and 2023 Annual Financial Report and authorize staff to submit to BWSR and the State Auditor's Office.

Background

PLSLWD retained Abdo to perform an audit on the District's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023. The audited financial statements must be submitted to the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) and the Minnesota State Auditor's Office within 180 days of the end of the District's fiscal year.

Discussion

Andy Berg, a Partner with Abdo, will make a presentation regarding audit findings and the auditor's opinion.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Board of Managers accept the 2023 Executive Governance Summary and 2023 Annual Financial Report and authorize staff to submit to BWSR and the State Auditor's Office.

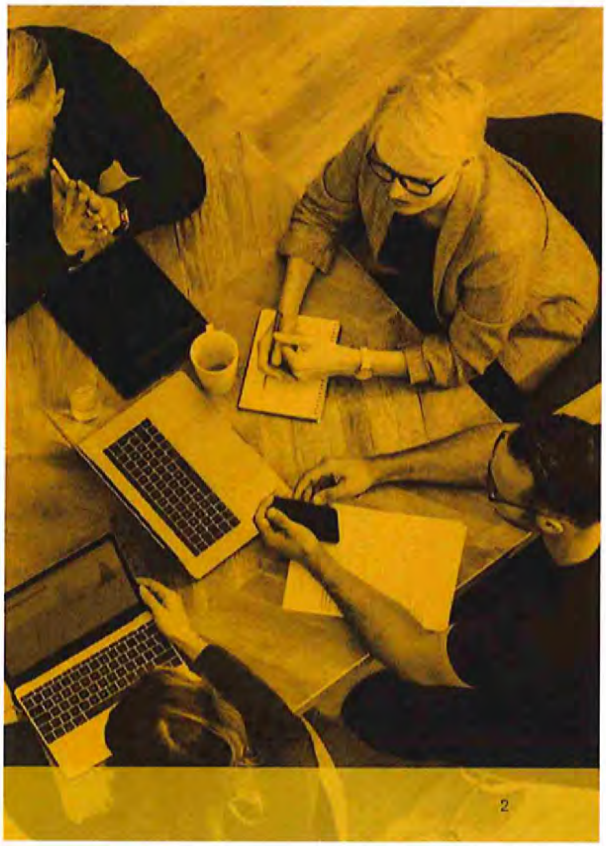
Abdo
Lighting the path forward

Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District

2023 Financial Statement Audit

Introduction

- Audit Opinion and Responsibility
- Components of Annual Financial Report
- General Fund Results
- Other Governmental Funds



Audit Results

Auditor's Opinion

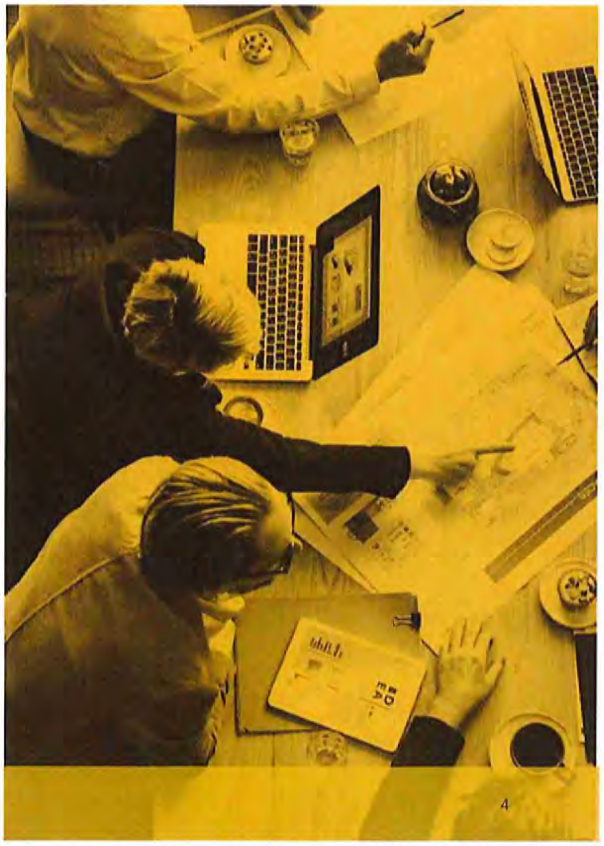
Unmodified or "clean opinion"

Minnesota Legal Compliance

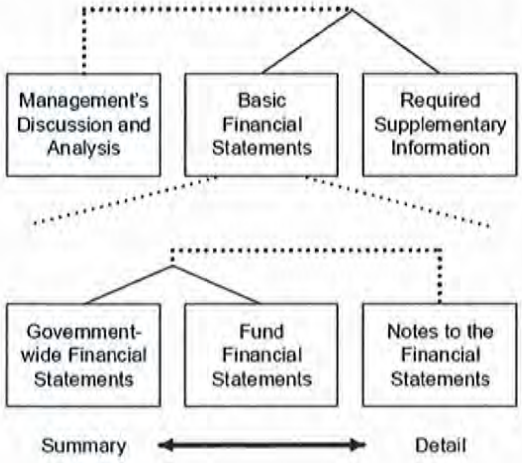
One compliance finding

Audit Results
2023 Audit Findings

- Timing of Payments
  - Compliance Finding



Components of Annual Financial Report



Difference Between Governmental-wide and Fund Financial Statements

Governmental-wide

- Similar to private-sector business
- Consolidation of all funds and accounts
- Revenues and expenses shown when earned/incurred regardless of cash flow
- Examples
  - Vehicle depreciation
  - Accrued PTO

Fund

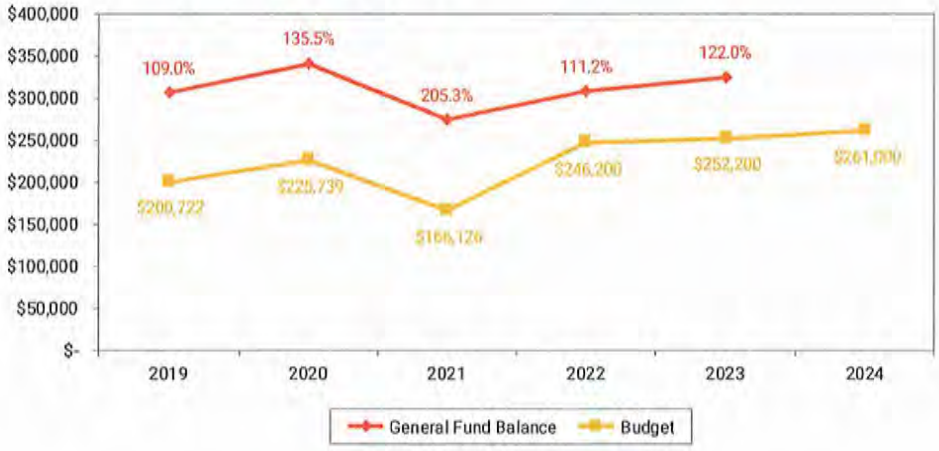
- Grouping of funds and accounts segregated for specific activities
  - General, Implementation, PLOC
- Focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resource (e.g. cash)
- Useful to evaluate near-term financing requirements

Government Wide Analysis

Summary Statement of Net Position
December 31, 2023

Assets	
Cash and temporary investments	$ 3,659,458
Other assets (mainly receivables and capital assets)	1,203,003
Total Assets	4,862,461
Deferred Outflows of Resources	73,518
Liabilities	
Current	420,429
Noncurrent	304,269
Total Liabilities	724,698
Deferred Inflows of Resources	105,106
Net Position	
Investment in capital assets	1,167,494
Restricted	342,936
Unrestricted	2,595,745
Total Net Position	$ 4,106,175

General Fund Balance as a Percent of Next Year's Budget



General Fund Budget to Actual

	Final Budgeted Amounts	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget
Revenues	$ 252,200	$ 271,779	$ 19,579
Expenditures	252,200	254,816	(2,616)
Net Change in Fund Balances	-	16,963	16,963
Fund Balances, January 1	307,680	307,680	-
Fund Balances, December 31	$ 307,680	$ 324,643	$ 16,963

Implementation Fund Budget to Actual

	Final Budgeted Amounts	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget
Revenues	$ 1,858,600	$ 1,815,531	$ (43,069)
Expenditures	1,964,300	1,082,727	881,573
Excess of Revenues Over Expenditures	(105,700)	732,804	838,504
Other Financing Uses			
Transfers out	(185,500)	(185,421)	79
Net Change in Fund Balances	(291,200)	547,383	838,583
Fund Balances, January 1	2,041,635	2,041,635	-
Fund Balances, December 31	$ 1,750,435	$ 2,589,018	$ 838,583

JPA/MOA Fund Balances

Fund	Fund Balances December 31, 2023	2022	Increase (Decrease)
Major			
JPA/MOA Operations	$ 82,936	$ (35,737)	$ 118,673
JPA/MOA Emergency	260,000	260,000	-
Total	$ 342,936	$ 224,263	$ 118,673

Your Abdo Team

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Executive Governance Summary

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District

Prior Lake, Minnesota

For the year ended December 31, 2023

Abdo
Lighting the path forward

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Mankato, MN 56001
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April 19, 2024

Board of Managers
Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District
Prior Lake, Minnesota

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District (the District), Prior Lake, Minnesota, for the year ended December 31, 2023. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated December 13, 2023. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Significant Audit Findings

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, grant agreements, and other matters noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit. The results of our tests disclosed one instance of noncompliance described below as finding 2023-001.

Finding	Description
2023-001	**Time Period for Payment**
Condition:	Auditing for legal compliance requires a review of the District's payment of claims. Our audit indicated an instance of non-compliance. We noted four instances out of a sample of 25 invoices that were paid after the 35-day period.
Criteria:	Minnesota statute section 471.425 requires that the District pay bills within 35 days from receipt. If the invoice is not paid within 35 days, interest at 1.5 percent per month is to be added to amount due.
Cause:	Unknown.
Effect:	The District is out of compliance with this statute.
Recommendation:	We recommend that the District develop policies and procedures related to the accounts payable cycle to avoid late payments. These policies and procedures should include payment terms that are outlined within State statutes.
Management Response:	The District will work with vendors and staff to ensure invoices are received with sufficient time to review and pay within the Statute's requirements.

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the District are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies were not changed during the year ended December 31, 2023. We noted no transactions entered into by the District during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the financial statements were capital asset basis and depreciation on capital assets and the liability for the District's pensions.

- Management's estimate of depreciation is based on estimated useful lives of the capital assets. Depreciation is calculated using the straight-line method.
- Management's estimate of its pension liability is based on several factors including, but not limited to, anticipated investment return rate, retirement age for active employees, life expectancy, salary increases and form of annuity payment upon retirement.

We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop these estimates in determining that they are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole. The disclosures in the financial statements are neutral, consistent, and clear. Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to each opinion unit or the financial statements taken as a whole.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated April 19, 2024.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the District's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the District's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Other Matters

We applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information (RSI) (Management's Discussion and Analysis, the Schedule of Employer's Share of the Net Pension Liability and the Schedule of Employer's Contributions), which is information that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We were not engaged to report on the introductory section, which accompanies the financial statements but is not RSI. We did not audit or perform other procedures on this other information and we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

Future Accounting Standard Changes

The following Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statements have been issued and may have an impact on future District financial statements: [1]

GASB Statement No. 100 - *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections* *Effective: 12/31/2024*

GASB Statement No. 101 - *Compensated Absences* *Effective: 12/31/2024*

GASB Statement No. 102 - *Certain Risk Disclosures* *Effective: 12/31/2025*

Further information on upcoming GASB pronouncements.

* * * * *

Restriction on Use

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of the Board, management and the Minnesota Office of the State Auditor and is not intended and should not be used by anyone other than those specified parties.

Our audit would not necessarily disclose all weaknesses in the system because it was based on selected tests of the accounting records and related data. The comments and recommendations in the report are purely constructive in nature, and should be read in this context.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss any of the items contained in this letter, please feel free to contact us at your convenience. We wish to thank you for the continued opportunity to be of service and for the courtesy and cooperation extended to us by your staff.

Abdo

Abdo
Minneapolis, Minnesota
April 19, 2024

Annual Financial Report

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District

Prior Lake, Minnesota

For the years ended December 31, 2023

Abdo
Lighting the path forward

Edina Office
5201 Eden Avenue, Ste 250
Edina, MN 55436
P 952.835.9090

Mankato Office
100 Warren Street, Ste 600
Mankato, MN 56001
P 507.625.2727

Scottsdale Office
14500 N Northsight Blvd, Ste 233
Scottsdale, AZ 85260
P 480.864.5579

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Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District
Prior Lake, Minnesota
Annual Financial Report
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For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

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INTRODUCTORY SECTION

PRIOR LAKE - SPRING LAKE
WATERSHED DISTRICT
PRIOR LAKE, MINNESOTA

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2023

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Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District
Prior Lake, Minnesota
Board of Managers and Appointed Officials
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

MANAGERS

Name	Title
Bruce Loney	President
Christian Morkeberg	Treasurer
Ben Burnett	Secretary
Matt Tofanelli	Board Member
Frank Boyles	Vice President

STAFF

Joni Giese	District Administrator
Patty Dronen	Administrative Assistant
Emily Dick	Water Resources Project Manager
Jeff Anderson	Water Resources Coordinator
Zach Nagel	Water Resources Technician
Danielle Studer	Water Resources Specialist

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FINANCIAL SECTION

PRIOR LAKE - SPRING LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
PRIOR LAKE, MINNESOTA

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2023

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Honorable Managers of the
Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District
Prior Lake, Minnesota

Report on the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District (the District), Prior Lake, Minnesota, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of the District as of December 31, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position and the respective budgetary comparison for the General fund and Implementation fund for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

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In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis starting on page 15 and the Schedule of Employer's Share of the Net Pension Liability, Schedule of Employer's Contributions, and the related note disclosures starting on page 58 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information in the annual report. The other information comprises the introductory section but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statement do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Abdo

Abdo
Minneapolis, Minnesota
April 19, 2024

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Management's Discussion and Analysis

As management of the Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District (the District), Prior Lake, Minnesota, we offer readers of the District's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the District for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023. We encourage readers to consider the information presented here in conjunction with the financial statements, which follow this section.

Financial Highlights

- The assets and deferred outflows of resources of the District exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources at the close of the most recent fiscal year as shown in the summary of net position on the following pages. The unrestricted amount of net position may be used to meet the District's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

- The District's total net position increased as shown in the summary of changes in net assets table on the following pages. A significant portion of this increase was mainly due to revenues from property taxes and intergovernmental reimbursements & grants in the General and Implementation funds.

- For the current fiscal year, the District's governmental funds fund balances are shown in the Financial Analysis of the District's Funds section of the Management's Discussion and Analysis. The total fund balance increased in comparison with the prior year. This increase was mainly due to revenues from property taxes and intergovernmental reimbursements & grants in the General and Implementation funds.

- Unassigned fund balance in the General fund as shown in the financial analysis of the District's funds section increased from prior year.

- The District's total long-term liabilities increased due to an increase in compensated absences.

Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the District's basic financial statements. The District's basic financial statements are comprised of three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements.

The financial statements include notes that explain some of the information in the financial statements and provide more detailed data. The statements are followed by a section of combining and individual fund financial statements and schedules that further explains and supports the information in the financial statements. Figure 1 shows how the required parts of this annual report are arranged and relate to one another.

Figure 1
Required Components of the
District's Annual Financial Report

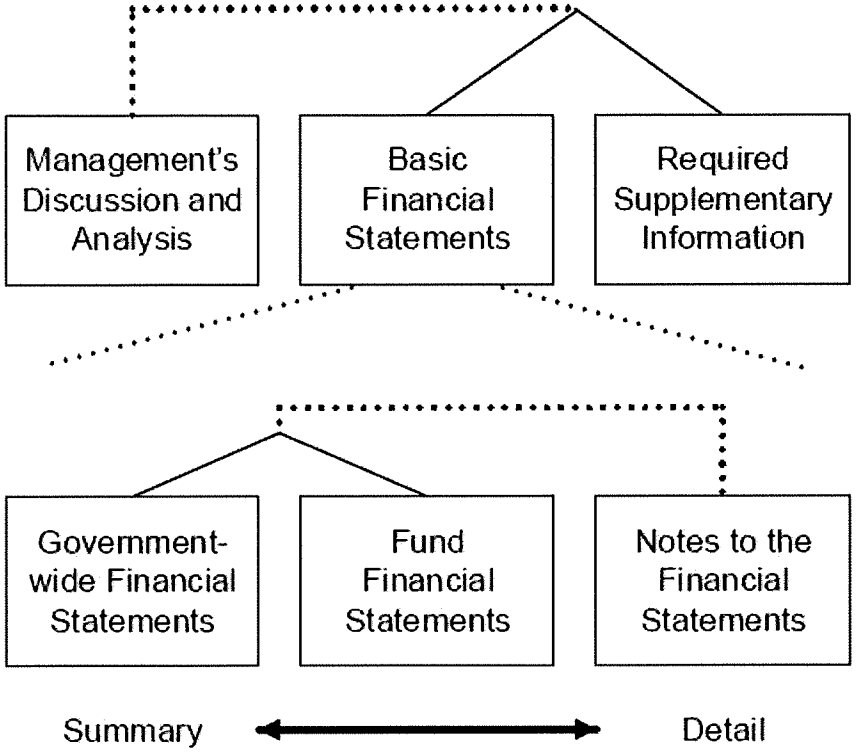


Figure 2 summarizes the major features of the District's financial statements, including the portion of the District they cover and the types of information they contain. The remainder of this overview section of management's discussion and analysis explains the structure and contents of each of the statements.

Figure 2
Major Features of the Government-wide and Fund Financial Statements

	Fund Financial Statements	
	Government-wide Statements	**Governmental Funds**
Scope	Entire District	The activities of the District
Required financial statements	• Statement of Net Position • Statement of Activities	• Balance Sheet • Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances
Accounting basis and measurement focus	Accrual accounting and economic resources focus	Modified accrual accounting and current financial resources focus
Type of asset/liability information	All assets and liabilities, both financial and capital, and short-term and long-term	Only assets expected to be used up and liabilities that come due during the year or soon thereafter; no capital assets included
Type of deferred outflows/inflows of resources information	All deferred outflows/inflows of resources, regardless of when cash is received or paid	Only deferred outflows of resources expected to be used up and deferred inflows of resources that come due during the year or soon thereafter; no capital assets included
Type of inflow/outflow information	All revenues and expenses during year, regardless of when cash is received or paid	Revenues for which cash is received during or soon after the end of the year; expenditures when goods or services have been received and payment is due during the year or soon thereafter

Government-wide Financial Statements. The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the District's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The *statement of net position* presents information on all of the District's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as *net position*. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the District is improving or deteriorating.

The *statement of activities* presents information showing how the District's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, *regardless of the timing of related cash flows*. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g., grants and earned but unused vacation and sick leave).

The governmental activities of the District include general government, programs and interest on long-term debt.

The government-wide financial statements start on page 28 of this report.

Fund Financial Statements. A *fund* is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The District, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The District currently maintains five governmental funds.

Governmental Funds. *Governmental funds* are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as *governmental activities* in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on *near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources*, as well as on *balances of spendable resources* available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for *governmental funds* with similar information presented for *governmental activities* in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact by the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheets and the governmental fund statements of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between *governmental funds* and *governmental activities*.

The District adopts an annual appropriated budget for its General and Implementation fund. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided for the General and Implementation fund to demonstrate compliance with this budget.

The basic governmental fund financial statements start on page 32 of this report.

Notes to the Financial Statements. The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements start on page 39 of this report.

Government-wide Financial Analysis

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. In the case of the District, assets and deferred outflow of resources exceeded liabilities and deferred inflow of resources at the close of the most recent fiscal year, as shown in the table below.

A Large portion of the District's net position are net investment in capital assets (e.g., land, land improvements, easements and equipment). The net position invested in capital assets is not available for future spending.

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District's Summary of Net Position

	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022	Increase (Decrease)
Assets			
Current	$ 3,694,967	$ 2,865,526	$ 829,441
Capital	1,167,494	1,185,322	(17,828)
Total Assets	4,862,461	4,050,848	811,613
Deferred Outflows of Resources			
Deferred pension resources	73,518	116,400	(42,882)
Liabilities			
Current	420,429	274,464	145,965
Noncurrent	304,269	424,126	(119,857)
Total Liabilities	724,698	698,590	26,108
Deferred Inflows of Resources			
Deferred pension resources	105,106	20,951	84,155
Net Position			
Investment in capital assets	1,167,494	1,185,322	(17,828)
Restricted	342,936	224,263	118,673
Unrestricted	2,595,745	2,038,122	557,623
Total Net Position	$ 4,106,175	$ 3,447,707	$ 658,468
Net Position as a Percent of Total			
Investment in capital assets	28.4 %	34.4 %	
Restricted	8.4	6.5	
Unrestricted	63.2	59.1	
	100.0 %	100.0 %	

At the end of the current fiscal year, the District is able to report positive balances in all types of net position.

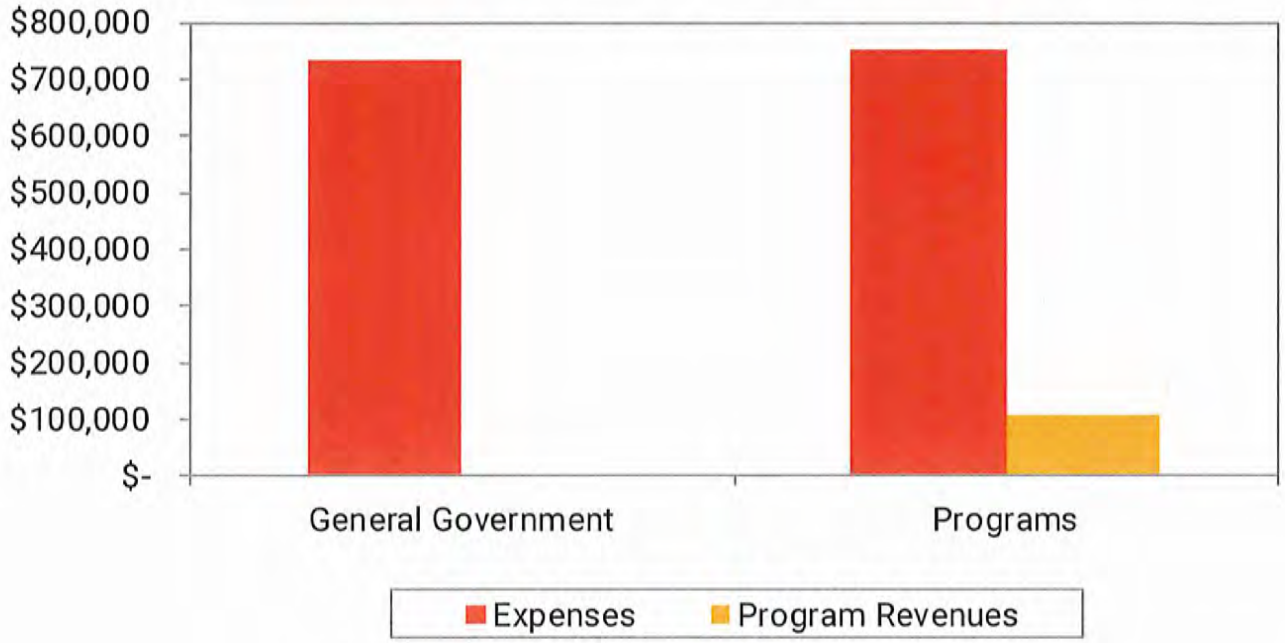
Governmental Activities. Governmental activities increased the District's net position, as shown below. This increase was mainly due to an increase in property taxes and unrestricted investment earnings. Key elements of this increase are as follows:

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District's Changes in Net Position

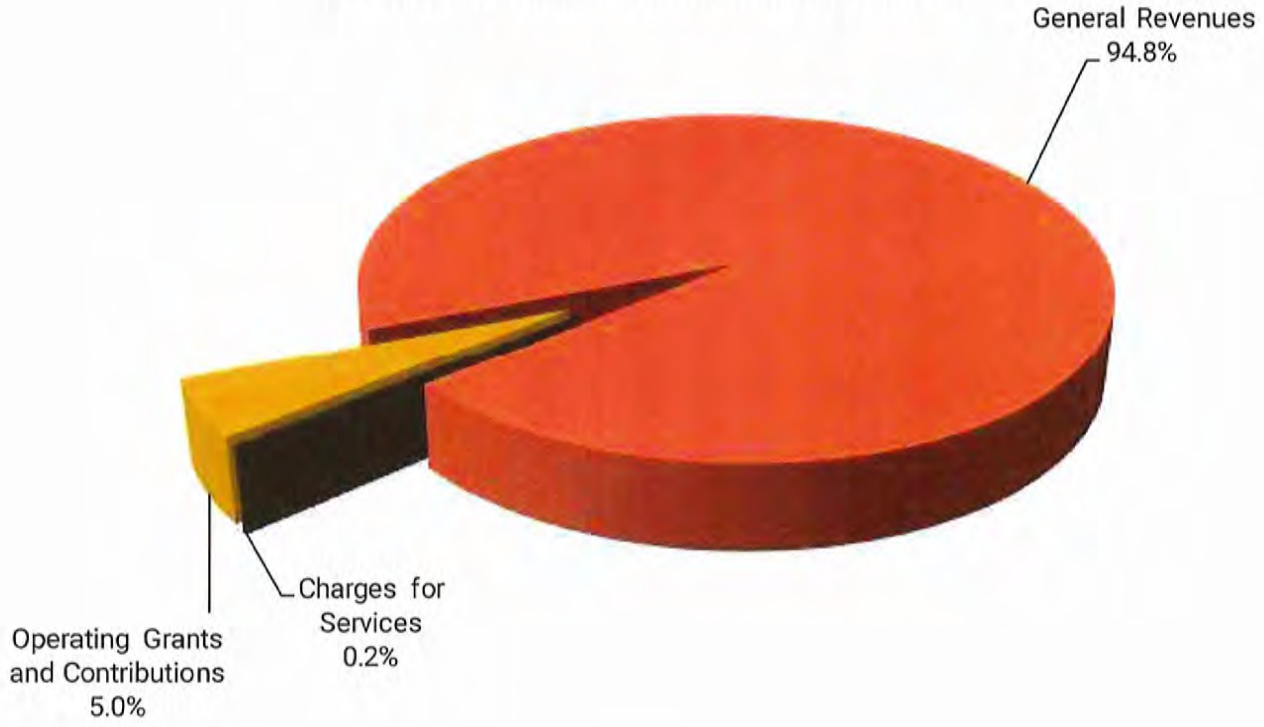
	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022	Increase (Decrease)
Revenues			
Program			
Charges for services	$ 3,389	$ 3,808	$ (419)
Operating grants and contributions	106,233	302,396	(196,163)
General			
Property taxes	1,910,440	1,835,164	75,276
Unrestricted investment earnings	125,740	20,784	104,956
Total Revenues	2,145,802	2,162,152	(16,350)
Expenses			
General government	734,312	699,400	34,912
Programs	753,022	862,989	(109,967)
Total Expenses	1,487,334	1,562,389	(75,055)
Change in Net Position	658,468	599,763	58,705
Net Position, January 1	3,447,707	2,847,944	599,763
Net Position, December 31	$ 4,106,175	$ 3,447,707	$ 658,468

The following graph depicts various governmental activities and shows the revenue and expenses directly related to those activities.

Expenses and Program Revenues - Governmental Activities



Revenues by Source - Governmental Activities



Financial Analysis of the Government's Funds

As noted earlier, the District uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental Funds. The focus of the District's *governmental funds* is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows and balances of *spendable* resources. Such information is useful in assessing the District's financing requirements. In particular, *unassigned fund balance* may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year. The table below outlines the governmental fund balances for the year ending December 31, 2023.

	General Fund	Implementation Fund	JPA/MOA Operations Fund	JPA/MOA Emergency Fund	Total	Prior Year Total	Increase/ (Decrease)
Fund Balances							
Nonspendable	$ 2,387	$ 7,500	$ -	$ -	$ 9,887	$ 10,200	$ (313)
Restricted for	-	-	82,936	260,000	342,936	260,000	82,936
Committed for	-	1,322,000	-	-	1,322,000	942,300	379,700
Assigned for	-	1,259,518	-	-	1,259,518	1,099,335	160,183
Unassigned	322,256	-	-	-	322,256	261,743	60,513
	$ 324,643	$ 2,589,018	$ 82,936	$ 260,000	$ 3,256,597	$ 2,573,578	$ 683,019

As of the close of the current fiscal year, the District's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances shown above. Additional information on the District's fund balances can be found in Note 1 starting on page 39 of this report.

The General Fund is the District's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources not accounted for in a different fund of the District. At the end of the current year, the fund balance of the General fund is shown in the table above. As a measure of the General fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare unassigned fund balance to total fund expenditures. The total unassigned fund balance as a percent of total fund expenditures is shown in the chart below along with total fund balance as a percent of total expenditures.

	Current Year Ending Balance	Prior Year Ending Balance	Increase/ (Decrease)
General Fund Fund Balances			
Nonspendable	$ 2,387	$ 10,200	$ (7,813)
Unassigned	322,256	297,480	24,776
	$ 324,643	$ 307,680	$ 16,963
General Fund expenditures	$ 254,816	$ 218,119	
Unassigned as a percent of expenditures	126.5%	136.4%	
Total Fund Balance as a percent of expenditures	127.4%	141.1%	

The fund balance of the District's General fund increased during the current fiscal year as shown in the table above. The increase in fund balance was due to property tax and interest on investment revenues outweighing total expenditures.

Other major governmental fund analysis is shown below:

	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022	Increase (Decrease)
Implementation Fund	$ 2,589,018	$ 2,041,635	$ 547,383
The Implementation Fund increase in fund balace during the year was due to revenues from property taxes over expenditures.			
JPA/MOA Operations Fund	82,936	(35,737)	118,673
The JPA/MOA Operations Fund increase in fund balance can be mainly attributed to the transfer in from the Implementation fund and JPA/MOA Emergency Fund.			
JPA/MOA Emergency Fund	260,000	260,000	-
The JPA/MOA Emergency Fund balance remained the same due to the interest on investments transferred out to the JPA/MOA Operations Fund.			

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

	Original Budgeted Amounts	Budget Amendments	Final Budgeted Amounts	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget
Revenues	$ 252,200	$ -	$ 252,200	$ 271,779	$ 19,579
Expenditures	252,200	-	252,200	254,816	(2,616)
Net Change in Fund Balances	-	-	-	16,963	16,963
Fund Balances, January 1	307,680	-	307,680	307,680	
Fund Balances, December 31	$ 307,680	$ -	$ 307,680	$ 324,643	$ 16,963

The District's General fund budget was not amended during the year. Actual revenues and expenditures were over the final budget as shown above.

Capital Asset and Debt Administration

Capital Assets. The District's investment in capital assets for its governmental and business-type activities as of December 31, 2023, is shown below in capital asset table (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment in capital assets includes land, easements, land improvements and equipment. The decrease is attributable to the sale of land and asset depreciation.

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District's Capital Assets
(Net of Depreciation)

	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022	Increase (Decrease)
Land	$ 37,800	$ 37,800	$ -
Permanent Easements	578,120	578,120	-
Land Improvements	432,764	446,590	(13,826)
Equipment	118,810	122,812	(4,002)
Total	$ 1,167,494	$ 1,185,322	$ (17,828)

Additional information on the District's capital assets can be found in Note 3B starting on page 48 of this report.

Long-term Debt. At the end of the current fiscal year, the District had no bonded debt outstanding.

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District's Outstanding Debt

	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022	Increase (Decrease)
Compensated Absences Payable	$ 35,858	$ 28,124	$ 7,734

The District's total debt and other liabilities increased during the current fiscal year, as shown above.

Additional information on the District's long-term debt can be found in Note 3D starting on page 49 of this report.

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets

The District goes through a multi-stage process to develop its annual budget. This first step includes developing a draft and final budget for the JPA/MOA Operations Fund with the PLOC Project Cooperators who are a part of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the Construction, Use, Operation, and Maintenance of the Prior Lake Outlet Channel (PLOC) and Outlet Structure. The final JPA/MOA Operations Fund budget for the next year is approved at the September PLOC Project Cooperators meeting. Concurrent with the development of the JPA/MOA Operations Fund budget, the Watershed District Board meets several times to consider current and projected projects, programs, staff adjustments, etc. to develop the General Fund and Implementation Fund budget. For the 2024 fiscal year, the District invited the Citizen Advisory Committee to review drafts of the budget and to provide feedback and comment. The 2024 budgets for all PLOC and District funds were approved in 2023.

PLOC: A 36-inch concrete pipe that extends 0.4 miles from the PLOC outlet structure to the PLOC open channel was televised in 2022. The televising resulted in a recommendation to install a cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) lining along the entire length of the pipe. In 2023, the Project Cooperators retained a consultant to prepare construction documents for the CIPP lining. The Project Cooperators, along with District Managers and staff, attempted to secure grant and/or state bonding funds to cover all or a portion of the CIPP cost. At December 31, 2023, neither grant or bonding funds had been secured. Efforts will continue in 2024 to secure grant and/or state bonding funds for the project. If efforts to obtain state bonding or grant funds are not successful in 2024, the PLOC Project Cooperators will need to determine if efforts should continue to find outside sources of funding or to self-fund the project. Once funding is secured, implementation of the pipelining project will occur.

District Rules: The District Board of Managers approved updated rules on May 10, 2022, that were effective June 1, 2022. The District continues to work with interested local government units within the District to establish equivalency agreements. Progress has been made with two local government units with the goal of establishing equivalency agreements in early 2024. The District is working with a third local government unit to establish interim equivalency protocols while that entity works to update their ordinances to be equivalent with the District rules.

Water Resources Management Plan: The District completed the update of the 2020 to 2030 Water Resources Management Plan in 2020. Three guiding principles of the Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) include reducing flood impacts, maintaining or improving quality of water resources, and managing existing and preventing new aquatic invasive species in the District. In 2023, some of the WRMP initiatives included: a.) Completion of the Sutton Lake Management Plan, b.) Advanced Upper Watershed and upstream storage projects (see next sections), c.) Continued to work with Scott Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) to implement cost share projects and farmer-led council initiatives, d.) Continued AIS activities, such as curlyleaf pondweed assessments and management as necessary, carp removals, boat inspections, and AIS identification events, e.) Continued to monitor District streams and lakes, f.) Initiated a study of potential improvements to the District's ferric-chloride treatment facility, g.) Completed an update to the Fish Lake Management Plan, h.) Retained Scott SWCD to assist with implementation of the District's regulatory program, and i.)Initiated discussion of potential future alum treatments with consideration to Upper Prior Lake, Spring Lake, and Fish Lake.

Upper Watershed: The District completed the preparation of the Upper Watershed Blueprint Plan in 2021 to investigate and develop recommended projects for the upper watershed. In 2023 the District advanced the following projects located in the upper watershed: a.) Completed a feasibility study for wetland enhancement, water quality and potentially flood control east of Buck Lake, b.) Completed the Swamp Lake Phosphorus and Peak Flow Reduction feasibility study, c.) Initiated a feasibility evaluation of stabilizing a section of a stream outletting to Buck Lake, and d.) Continued to consult with upper watershed landowners to see if feasibility studies can be advanced to implementation. Based on direction received from the Board of Managers, District staff will prioritized the advancement of the following six upper watershed water quality projects in 2024 (Buck Lake chemical treatment system plan update, MB County Ditch 13 Iron Enhanced Sand Filter (IESF) feasibility study, Spring West IESF implementation, Swamp Lake IESF implementation, Buck Stream stabilization implementation, Improvements to the existing Ferric-chloride system to further improve water quality results from this facility.

Upstream Storage: A Flood Study completed in 2016 recommended that the District store water in the upper watershed. With the successful completion of Sutton Lake Outlet Project in 2022, the District met the first goal of the 2016 Flood Study achieving the first-tier, high priority Prior Lake protection level of 905.5 feet above sea level for the 25-year return period. It is expected that the District will discuss and possibly set a new flood reduction goal in 2024. The District also worked with Scott SWCD to identify potential flood control projects and perform preliminary outreach to landowners for two potential flood reduction projects to gauge landowner interest and support for these projects. For one project, landowners were not interested in pursuing the project. A determination on the second project will be made in 2024.

Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the District's finances for all those with an interest in the District's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to District Administrator, Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District, 4646 Dakota Street SE, Prior Lake, MN 55372.

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GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

PRIOR LAKE - SPRING LAKE
WATERSHED DISTRICT
PRIOR LAKE, MINNESOTA

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2023

Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District
Prior Lake, Minnesota
Statement of Net Position
December 31, 2023

	Governmental Activities
Assets	
Cash and temporary investments	$ 3,659,458
Receivables	
Accounts	625
Delinquent taxes	17,941
Due from other governments	7,056
Prepaid items	9,887
Capital assets	
Land and permanent easements	615,920
Depreciable assets, net of accumulated depreciation	551,574
Total Assets	4,862,461
Deferred Outflows of Resources	
Deferred pension resources	73,518
Liabilities	
Accounts payable	180,128
Accrued salaries payable	18,361
Permit collateral deposits payable	124,395
Deposits payable	2,827
Unearned revenue	94,718
Noncurrent liabilities	
Due within one year	
Long-term liabilities	35,858
Due in more than one year	
Net pension liability	268,411
Total Liabilities	724,698
Deferred Inflows of Resources	
Deferred pension resources	105,106
Net Position	
Investment in capital assets	1,167,494
Restricted	
Prior Lake outlet channel	342,936
Unrestricted	2,595,745
Total Net Position	$ 4,106,175

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District
Prior Lake, Minnesota
Statement of Activities
For The Year Ended December 31, 2023

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues: Charges for Services	Program Revenues: Operating Grants and Contributions	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position: Governmental Activities
Governmental Activities				
General government	$ 734,312	$ 3,389	$ -	$ (730,923)
Programs	753,022	-	106,233	(646,789)
Total	$ 1,487,334	$ 3,389	$ 106,233	(1,377,712)
General Revenues				
Property taxes				1,910,440
Unrestricted investment earnings				125,740
Total General Revenues				2,036,180
Change in Net Position				658,468
Net Position, January 1				3,447,707
Net Position, December 31				$ 4,106,175

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

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FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

PRIOR LAKE - SPRING LAKE
WATERSHED DISTRICT
PRIOR LAKE, MINNESOTA

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2023

Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District

Prior Lake, Minnesota
Balance Sheet
Governmental Funds
December 31, 2023

	405 General Fund	509 Implementation Fund	830 JPA/MOA Operations Fund	850 JPA/MOA Emergency Fund	Total Governmental Funds
Assets					
Cash and temporary investments	$ 456,008	$ 2,750,779	$ 192,671	$ 260,000	$ 3,659,458
Receivables					
Accounts	41	475	109	-	625
Delinquent taxes	2,332	15,609	-	-	17,941
Due from other governments	250	6,806	-	-	7,056
Prepaid items	2,387	7,500	-	-	9,887
Total Assets	$ 461,018	$ 2,781,169	$ 192,780	$ 260,000	$ 3,694,967
Liabilities					
Accounts payable	$ 3,494	$ 100,323	$ 14,114	$ -	$ 117,931
Accrued salaries payable	9,386	7,963	1,012	-	18,361
Permit collateral deposits payable	58,966	65,429	-	-	124,395
Deposits payable	-	2,827	-	-	2,827
Unearned revenue	-	-	94,718	-	94,718
Due to other governments	62,197	-	-	-	62,197
Total Liabilities	134,043	176,542	109,844	-	420,429
Deferred Inflows of Resources					
Unavailable revenue	2,332	15,609	-	-	17,941
Fund Balances					
Nonspendable	2,387	7,500	-	-	9,887
Restricted for					
Prior Lake outlet channel	-	-	82,936	260,000	342,936
Committed for					
Implementation of specific projects and programs	-	1,322,000	-	-	1,322,000
Assigned for					
General water resources management plan implementation		1,259,518			1,259,518
Unassigned	322,256	-	-	-	322,256
Total Fund Balances	324,643	2,589,018	82,936	260,000	3,256,597
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances	$ 461,018	$ 2,781,169	$ 192,780	$ 260,000	$ 3,694,967

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District
Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet
to the Statement of Net Position
Governmental Funds
December 31, 2023

Amounts reported for the governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because

Total Fund Balances - Governmental	$ 3,256,597
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported as assets in governmental funds.	
Cost of capital assets	2,343,026
Less accumulated depreciation	(1,175,532)
Noncurrent liabilities, are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported as liabilities in the funds.	
Long-term liabilities at year-end consist of	
Compensated absences payable	(35,858)
Net pension liability	(268,411)
Some receivables are not available soon enough to pay for the current period's expenditures, and therefore, are unavailable in the funds.	
Delinquent taxes receivable	17,941
Governmental funds do not report long-term amounts related to pensions.	
Deferred outflow of resources	73,518
Deferred inflow of resources	(105,106)
Total Net Position - Governmental Activities	$ 4,106,175

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District

Prior Lake, Minnesota
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
For The Year Ended December 31, 2023

	405 General Fund	509 Implementation Fund	830 JPA/MOA Operations Fund	850 JPA/MOA Emergency Fund	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues					
Property taxes	$ 249,070	$ 1,660,913	$ -	$ -	$ 1,909,983
Intergovernmental					
Reimbursements/grants	-	65,057	41,176	-	106,233
Interest on investments	22,311	86,570	6,759	10,100	125,740
Miscellaneous	398	2,991	-	-	3,389
Total Revenues	271,779	1,815,531	47,935	10,100	2,145,345
Expenditures					
Current					
General government	254,816	412,910	59,406	-	727,132
Program costs	-	669,817	65,377	-	735,194
Total Expenditures	254,816	1,082,727	124,783	-	1,462,326
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	16,963	732,804	(76,848)	10,100	683,019
Other Financing Sources (Uses)					
Transfers in	-	-	195,521	-	195,521
Transfers out	-	(185,421)	-	(10,100)	(195,521)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	-	(185,421)	195,521	(10,100)	-
Net Change in Fund Balances	16,963	547,383	118,673	-	683,019
Fund Balances, January 1	307,680	2,041,635	(35,737)	260,000	2,573,578
Fund Balances, December 31	$ 324,643	$ 2,589,018	$ 82,936	$ 260,000	$ 3,256,597

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District
Prior Lake, Minnesota
Reconciliation of the Statement of
Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
to the Statement of Activities
Governmental Funds
For The Year Ended December 31, 2023

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because

Total Net Change in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds	$	683,019
Capital outlays are reported in governmental funds as expenditures. However in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over the estimated useful lives as depreciation expense.		
Capital outlays		8,822
Depreciation expense		(26,650)
Long-term pension activity is not reported in governmental funds.		
Pension expense		521
Pension other revenue		33
Certain revenues are recognized as soon as they are earned. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, certain revenues cannot be recognized until they are available to liquidate liabilities of the current period.		
Property taxes		457
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.		
Compensated absences		(7,734)
Change in Net Position - Governmental Activities	$	658,468

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District

Prior Lake, Minnesota

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Budget and Actual

General Fund

For The Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget
	Original	Final		
Revenues				
Property taxes	$ 249,200	$ 249,200	$ 249,070	$ (130)
Interest on investments	3,000	3,000	22,311	19,311
Miscellaneous	-	-	398	398
Total Revenues	252,200	252,200	271,779	19,579
Expenditures				
Current				
General government	252,200	252,200	254,816	(2,616)
Net Change in Fund Balances	-	-	16,963	16,963
Fund Balances, January 1	307,680	307,680	307,680	-
Fund Balances, December 31	$ 307,680	$ 307,680	$ 324,643	$ 16,963

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District

Prior Lake, Minnesota

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Budget and Actual

Implementation Fund

For The Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with
	Original	Final	Amounts	Final Budget
Revenues				
Property taxes	$ 1,670,736	$ 1,670,736	$ 1,660,913	$ (9,823)
Intergovernmental				
Reimbursements/grants	120,664	120,664	65,057	(55,607)
Interest on investments	67,200	67,200	86,570	19,370
Miscellaneous	-	-	2,991	2,991
Total Revenues	1,858,600	1,858,600	1,815,531	(43,069)
Expenditures				
Current				
General government	541,900	492,900	412,910	79,990
Program costs	1,413,500	1,471,400	669,817	801,583
Total Expenditures	1,955,400	1,964,300	1,082,727	881,573
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	(96,800)	(105,700)	732,804	838,504
Other Financing Uses				
Transfers out	(185,500)	(185,500)	(185,421)	79
Net Change in Fund Balances	(282,300)	(291,200)	547,383	838,583
Fund Balances, January 1	2,041,635	2,041,635	2,041,635	-
Fund Balances, December 31	$ 1,759,335	$ 1,750,435	$ 2,589,018	$ 838,583

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

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Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District
Prior Lake, Minnesota
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Reporting Entity

The Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District (the District), Prior Lake, Minnesota, was established on March 4, 1970 by order of the Minnesota Water Resources Board (MWRB), which is now the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) under the authority of the Minnesota Watershed Act (Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 112). The order was in response to a petition filed with the MWRB by residents within the watershed on June 24, 1969.

The Mission of the District is to manage and preserve water resources of the District to the best of its ability using input from the community, sound engineering practices, and its ability to efficiently fund beneficial projects which transcend political jurisdictions.

The District is governed by a Board of Managers which consists of five members. The Board of Managers exercises legislative authority and determines all matters of policy. The Board of Managers appoints personnel responsible for the proper administration of all affairs relating to the District's activities.

The District has considered all potential units for which it is financially accountable, and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the District are such that exclusion would cause the District's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. These criteria include appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body, and (1) the ability of the primary government to impose its will on that organization or (2) the potential for the organization to provide specific benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on the primary government. The District has no component units that meet the GASB criteria.

B. Government-wide and Fund Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement activities) report information on all of the non-fiduciary activities of the District. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment is offset by program revenues. *Direct expenses* are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Amounts reported as *program revenues* include 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as *general revenues.*

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds. Major individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

C. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Basis of Presentation

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District
Prior Lake, Minnesota
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the District considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgments, are recorded only when payment is due.

Charges for service, assessments to members, grants and interest associated with the current fiscal period are all considered susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal period. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the organization.

Revenue resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place. On a modified accrual basis, revenue is recorded in the year in which the resources are measurable and become available.

Non-exchange transactions, in which the District receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include grants, entitlement and donations. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the year when use is first permitted, matching requirements, in which the District must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the District on a reimbursement basis. On a modified accrual basis, revenue from non-exchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

Unearned revenue arises when assets are recognized before revenue recognition criteria have been satisfied. Grants and entitlements received before eligibility requirements are met are also recorded as unearned revenue.

The District reports the following major governmental funds:

The *General fund* is the District's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources not accounted for in a different fund of the District.

The *Implementation fund* was established pursuant to Minnesota statutes for funding related to the development and implementation of the District's watershed management plan. By law, this plan must contain a capital improvement plan which allows watershed districts to implement projects without petition. The District may impose an ad valorem levy over the entire watershed or sub watershed to fund these projects or allow funds to accumulate to finance these capital improvement projects. The property tax levy is committed to execute the water resources management plan as filed with the Board of Water and Soil Resources.

The *JPA/MOA Operations fund* was established to account for activity necessary to monitor the status of the Outlet Channel and ensure the stability and continued performance of the Outlet Channel associated with the cost sharing agreement.

The *JPA/MOA Emergency fund* was established to account for any major unexpected and necessary expenditures relating to the JPA/MOA agreement.

As a general rule the effect of interfund activity has been eliminated from government-wide financial statements.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District
Prior Lake, Minnesota
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

D. Assets, Deferred Outflows of Resources, Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Net Position or Fund Balance

Deposits and Investments

The District's cash and temporary investments are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

Cash balances from all funds are pooled and invested, to the extent available, in certificates of deposit and other authorized investments. Earnings from such investments are allocated on the basis of applicable participation by each of the funds.

The District may also invest idle funds as authorized by Minnesota statutes, as follows:

1. Direct obligations or obligations guaranteed by the United States or its agencies.

2. Shares of investment companies registered under the Federal Investment Company Act of 1940 and received the highest credit rating, rated in one of the two highest rating categories by a statistical rating agency, and have a final maturity of thirteen months or less.

3. General obligations of a state or local government with taxing powers rated "A" or better; revenue obligations rated "AA" or better.

4. General obligations of the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency rated "A" or better.

5. Obligation of a school district with an original maturity not exceeding 13 months and (i) rated in the highest category by a national bond rating service or (ii) enrolled in the credit enhancement program pursuant to statute section 126C.55.

6. Bankers' acceptances of United States banks eligible for purchase by the Federal Reserve System.

7. Commercial paper issued by United States banks corporations or their Canadian subsidiaries, of highest quality category by at least two nationally recognized rating agencies, and maturing in 270 days or less.

8. Repurchase or reverse repurchase agreements and securities lending agreements with financial institutions qualified as a "depository" by the government entity, with banks that are members of the Federal Reserve System with capitalization exceeding $10,000,000, a primary reporting dealer in U.S. government securities to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, or certain Minnesota securities broker-dealers.

9. Guaranteed Investment Contracts (GIC's) issued or guaranteed by a United States commercial bank, a domestic branch of a foreign bank, a United States insurance company, or its Canadian subsidiary, whose similar debt obligations were rated in one of the top two rating categories by a nationally recognized rating agency.

Broker money market funds operate in accordance with appropriate state laws and regulations. The reported value of the pool is the same as the fair value of the shares. The District categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets; Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs; Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs. The District's recurring fair value measurements are listed in detail on page 47 and are valued using quoted market prices (Level 2 inputs).

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District
Prior Lake, Minnesota
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

The Minnesota Municipal Money Market Fund is regulated by Minnesota statutes and the Board of Directors of the League of Minnesota Cities and is an external investment pool not registered with the Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) that follows the regulatory rules of the SEC. In accordance with GASB Statement No. 79, the District's investment in this pool is valued at amortized cost, which approximates fair value. There are no restrictions or limitations on withdrawals from the 4M Liquid Asset Fund. Investments in the 4M Plus must be deposited for a minimum of 14 calendar days. Withdrawals prior to the 14-day restriction period will be subject to a penalty equal to seven days interest on the amount withdrawn. Seven days' notice of redemption is required for withdrawals of investments in the 4M Term Series withdrawn prior to the maturity date of that series. A penalty could be assessed as necessary to recoup the Series for any charges, losses, and other costs attributable to the early redemption. Financial statements of the 4M Fund can be obtained by contracting RBC Global Management at 100 South Fifth Street, Suite 2300, Minneapolis, MN 55402-1240.

Property Tax Revenue Recognition

The Board of Managers annually adopts a tax levy and certifies it to the County in December (levy/assessment date) of each year for collection in the following year. The County is responsible for billing and collecting all property taxes for itself, the District, the local School District and other taxing authorities. Such taxes become a lien on January 1 and are recorded as receivables by the District at that date. Real property taxes are payable (by property owners) on May 15 and October 15 of each calendar year. Personal property taxes are payable by taxpayers on February 28 and June 30 of each year. These taxes are collected by the County and remitted to the District on or before July 7 and December 2 of the same year. The District has no ability to enforce payments of property taxes by property owners. The County possesses this authority.

Government-wide Financial Statements. The District recognizes property tax revenue in the period for which taxes were levied.

Governmental Fund Financial Statements. The District recognizes property tax revenue when it becomes both measurable and available to finance expenditures of the current period. In practice, current and delinquent taxes and State credits received by the District in July, December, and January are recognized as revenue for the current year. Taxes collected by the County by December 31 (remitted to the District the following January) and taxes and credits not received at year end are classified as delinquent and due from County taxes receivable. The portion of delinquent taxes not collected by the District in January is fully offset by unavailable revenue because they are not available to finance current expenditures.

Interfund Receivable and Payables

Activity between funds that are representative of lending/borrowing arrangements outstanding at the end of the fiscal year are referred to as either "due to/from other funds" (i.e., the current portion of interfund loans) or "advances to/from other funds" (i.e., the non-current portion of interfund loans). All other outstanding balances between funds are reported as "due to/from other funds."

Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable include amounts billed for services provided before year end.

Prepaid Items

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items and are recorded as prepaid items. The District uses the consumption method to account for all prepaid items.

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District
Prior Lake, Minnesota
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include land, land improvements, easements and equipment are reported in the applicable governmental activities columns in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the District as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than $5,000 (amount not rounded) and an estimated useful life in excess of one year. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at acquisition value at the date of donation.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets lives are not capitalized.

GASB Statement No. 34 required the District to report and depreciate new infrastructure assets effective with the beginning of the 2004 calendar year. Infrastructure assets include lake improvements, dams and drainage systems. Neither their historical cost nor related depreciation had historically been reported in the financial statements. For governmental entities with total annual revenues of less than $10 million for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1999 the retroactive reporting of infrastructure is not required under the provisions of GASB Statement No. 34. The District implemented the general provisions of GASB Statement No. 34 in the 2004 calendar year and has elected not to report infrastructure assets acquired in years prior to 2004.

Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed.

Capital assets of the District are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Assets	Useful Lives in Years
Land Improvements	50
Equipment	5 - 10

Deferred Outflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the statement of net position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net assets that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. The District has only one item that qualifies for reporting in this category. Accordingly, the item, deferred pension resources, is reported only in the statement of net position. This item results from actuarial calculations and current year pension contributions made subsequent to the measurement date.

Pensions

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows/inflows of resources, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA) and additions to/deductions from PERA's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by PERA except that PERA's fiscal year end is June 30. For this purpose, plan contributions are recognized as of employer payroll paid dates and benefit payments and refunds are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value. The General fund is typically used to liquidate governmental net pension liability.

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District
Prior Lake, Minnesota
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Compensated Absences

It is the District's policy to permit employees to accumulate earned but unused paid time off. All paid time off that is vested as severance pay is accrued when incurred in the government-wide financial statements. A liability for these amounts is reported in the governmental funds only if they have matured, for example, as a result of employee resignations and retirements. In accordance with the provisions of Statement of Government Accounting Standard No. 16, *Accounting for Compensated Absences*, no liability is recorded for non-vesting accumulating rights to receive paid time off. The General fund is typically used to liquidate governmental compensated absences payable.

Long-term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities statement of net position. The recognition of bond premiums and discounts as are amortized over the life of the bonds using the straight-line method. Bonds payable are reported net of the applicable bond premium or discount. Bond issuance costs are reported as an expense in the period incurred.

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognized bond premiums and discounts, as well as bond issuance costs, during the current period. The face amount of debt is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures.

Deferred Inflows of Resources

In addition to liabilities, the statement of net position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of net assets that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The District has only one type of item, which arises only under a modified accrual basis of accounting that qualifies as needing to be reported in this category. Accordingly, the item, unavailable revenue, is reported only in the governmental funds balance sheet. The governmental funds report unavailable revenues from property taxes. These amounts are deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period that the amounts become available.

The District has an additional item which qualifies for reporting in this category. The item, deferred pension resources, is reported only in the statement of net position and results from actuarial calculations.

Fund Balance

In the fund financial statements, fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the District is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of resources reported in the governmental funds. These classifications are defined as follows:

Nonspendable - Amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form, such as prepaid items.

Restricted - Amounts related to externally imposed constraints established by creditors, grantors or contributors; or constraints imposed by state statutory provisions.

Committed - Amounts constrained for specific purposes that are internally imposed by formal action (resolution) of the District Board of Managers, which is the District's highest level of decision-making authority. Committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Board of Managers modifies or rescinds the commitment by resolution.

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District
Prior Lake, Minnesota
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Assigned - Amounts constrained for specific purposes that are internally imposed. In governmental funds other than the General fund, assigned fund balance represents all remaining amounts that are not classified as nonspendable and are neither restricted nor committed. In the General fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by the Board of Managers itself or by an official to which the governing body delegates the authority. The Board of Managers has adopted a fund balance policy which delegates the authority to assign amounts for specific purposes to the District Administrator.

Unassigned - The residual classification for the General fund and also negative residual amounts in other funds. The District considers restricted amounts to be spent first when both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available. Additionally, the District would first use committed, then assigned, and lastly unassigned amounts of unrestricted fund balance when expenditures are made.

The District has formally adopted a fund balance policy.

Net Position

Net position represents the difference between assets/deferred outflows of resources and liabilities/deferred inflows of resources. Net position is displayed in three components:

a. Investment in capital assets - Consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation

b. Restricted net position - Consists of net position balances restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, laws or regulations of other governments.

c. Unrestricted net position- All other net position balances that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "investment in capital assets".

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the District's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

Note 2: Stewardship, Compliance and Accountability

A. Budgetary Information

The Board of Managers adopts an annual budget for the General and Implementation funds of the District on an annual basis. During the budget year, supplemental appropriations and deletions are or may be authorized by the Board of Managers. There were amendments to the budget during 2023. The modified accrual basis of accounting is used by the District for budgeting data. All appropriations end with the fiscal year for which they were made.

The District monitors budget performance on the fund basis. All amounts over budget have been approved by the Board of Managers through the disbursement process.

The District does not use encumbrance accounting.

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District
Prior Lake, Minnesota
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

Note 2: Stewardship, Compliance and Accountability (Continued)

B. Excess of Expenditures Over Appropriations

For the year ended December 31, 2023, expenditures exceeded appropriations in the following fund:

Fund	Budget	Actual	Excess of Expenditures Over Appropriations
General	$ 252,200	$ 254,816	$ 2,616

The excess of expenditures over appropriations were funded with revenues in excess of budget.

Note 3: Detailed Notes on Accounts

A. Deposits and Investments

Deposits

Custodial credit risk for deposits and investments is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the District's deposits and investments may not be returned or the District will not be able to recover collateral securities in the possession of an outside party.

In accordance with Minnesota statutes and as authorized by the Board of Managers, the District maintains deposits at those depository banks, all of which are members of the Federal Reserve System.

Minnesota statutes require that all District deposits be protected by insurance, surety bond or collateral. The market value of collateral pledged must equal 110 percent of the deposits not covered by insurance or bonds, with the exception of irrevocable standby letters of credit issued by Federal Home Loan Banks as this type of collateral only requires collateral pledged equal to 100 percent of the deposits not covered by insurance or bonds.

Authorized collateral in lieu of a corporate surety bond includes:

- United States government Treasury bills, Treasury notes, Treasury bonds;
- Issues of United States government agencies and instrumentalities as quoted by a recognized industry quotation service available to the government entity;
- General obligation securities of any state or local government with taxing powers which is rated "A" or better by a national bond rating service, or revenue obligation securities of any state or local government with taxing powers which is rated "AA" or better by a national bond rating service;
- General obligation securities of a local government with taxing powers may be pledged as collateral against funds deposited by that same local government entity;
- Irrevocable standby letters of credit issued by Federal Home Loan Banks to a municipality accompanied by written evidence that the bank's public debt is rated "AA" or better by Moody's Investors Service, Inc., or Standard & Poor's Corporation; and
- Time deposits that are fully insured by any federal agency.

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District
Prior Lake, Minnesota
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

Note 3: Detailed Notes on Accounts (Continued)

Minnesota statutes require that all collateral shall be placed in safekeeping in a restricted account at a Federal Reserve Bank, or in an account at a trust department of a commercial bank or other financial institution that is not owned or controlled by the financial institution furnishing the collateral. The selection should be approved by the District.

Investments

At year end, the District's investment balances were as follows:

Types of Investments	Credit Quality/ Ratings (1)	Segmented Time Distribution (2)	Amount	Fair Value Measurement Using Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Pooled Investments (at Amortized Cost)						
4M Fund	N/A	less than 1 year	$ 1,998,858			
Non-pooled Investments						
Negotiable certificates of deposit	AA+	less than 1 year	1,660,600	$ -	$ 1,660,600	$ -
Total			$ 3,659,458	$ -	$ 1,660,600	$ -

(1) Ratings are provided by Moody's where applicable to indicate associated credit risk.
(2) Interest rate risk is disclosed using the segmented time distribution method.
N/A Indicates not applicable or available.

A reconciliation of cash and investments as shown in the financial statements of the District follows:

Investments	$ 3,659,458

The investments of the District are subject to the following risks:

- *Credit Risk*. Credit risk is the risk that an issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations. Ratings are provided by various credit rating agencies and where applicable, indicate associated credit risk. Minnesota statutes and the District's investment policy limit the Districts investments to the list on page 41 of the notes. The District's investment policy specifically limits investments to the following:
    - Bonds, notes, certificates of indebtedness, treasury bills or other securities now or hereafter issued by the United States of America and its agencies
    - Interest bearing checking and savings accounts, or any other investments constituting direct obligations of any FDIC financial institution
    - Certificates of deposit with federally insured institutions that are collateralized or insured in excess of the $250,000 provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation coverage limit
    - Money market accounts that are 100 percent invested in above referenced government securities
    - Commercial paper issued by corporations organized in the United States with assets exceeding $500,000,000, of highest quality category by at least two of the three standard rating agencies, maturing in 270 days. The total investment in any one corporation cannot exceed 10 percent of that corporation's outstanding obligations and cannot be more than $500,000
    - Investments may be made only in those savings banks or saving and loan associations the shares, or investment certificates of which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
    - Investment products that are considered as derivatives are specifically excluded from approved investments

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District
Prior Lake, Minnesota
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

Note 3: Detailed Notes on Accounts (Continued)

- *Custodial Credit Risk.* The custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty to a transaction, a government will not be able to recover the value of investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The District's investment policy states that collateral must be placed in safekeeping at or before the time the investments are purchased if the investment is not fully covered by FDIC insurance.

- *Concentration of Credit Risk.* The concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of a government's investment in a single issuer. According to the District's investment policy, it is the policy of the District to diversify its investment portfolio. Investment shall be diversified to eliminate the risk of loss resulting in over concentration in a specific maturity, issuer, or class of securities. Diversification strategies shall be determined and revised periodically by the District.

- *Interest Rate Risk.* The interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. In accordance with the District's investment policy, no investment maturity shall extend beyond five years to reduce this risk.

B. Capital Assets

Capital asset activity for the year ended December 31, 2023 was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance
Governmental Activities				
Capital Assets, not being Depreciated				
Land	$ 37,800	$ -	$ -	$ 37,800
Permanent easements	578,120	-	-	578,120
Total Capital Assets, not being Depreciated	615,920	-	-	615,920
Capital Assets, being Depreciated				
Land improvements	1,566,612		-	1,566,612
Equipment	151,672	8,822	-	160,494
Total Capital Assets being Depreciated	1,718,284	8,822	-	1,727,106
Less Accumulated Depreciation for				
Land improvements	(1,120,022)	(13,826)	-	(1,133,848)
Equipment	(28,860)	(12,824)	-	(41,684)
Total Accumulated Depreciation	(1,148,882)	(26,650)	-	(1,175,532)
Total Capital Assets being Depreciated, Net	569,402	(17,828)	-	551,574
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	$ 1,185,322	$ (17,828)	$ -	$ 1,167,494

The full depreciation expense amount was charged to programs.

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District
Prior Lake, Minnesota
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

Note 3: Detailed Notes on Accounts (Continued)

C. Interfund Receivables, Payables, and Transfers

The following interfund transfers were made during 2023:

- The Implementation fund transferred $185,421 to the JPA/MOA Operations fund. This interfund transfer represents the District's cost-share allocation for the funds established pursuant to the Memorandum of Agreement for construction, use, operation and maintenance of the Prior Lake Outlet Channel and Outlet Structure. The JPA/MOA Emergency fund transferred $10,100 to the JPA/MOA Operations fund to transfer excess interest in accordance with the cost share agreement.

D. Long-term Liabilities

Changes in Long-term Liabilities

During the year ended December 31, 2023, the following changes occurred in long-term liabilities.

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance	Current Portion
Governmental Activities					
Compensated absences payable	$ 28,124	$ 36,979	$ (29,245)	$ 35,858	$ 35,858

Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

Note 4: Defined Benefit Pension Plans - Statewide

A. Plan Description

The District participates in the following cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plans administered by the Public Employees Retirement Association of Minnesota (PERA). PERA's defined benefit pension plans are established and administered in accordance with Minnesota statutes, chapters 353 and 356. PERA's defined benefit pension plans are tax qualified plans under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

General Employees Retirement Plan

All full-time and certain part-time employees of the District are covered by the General Employees Plan. General Employees Plan members belong to the Coordinated Plan. Coordinated Plan members are covered by Social Security.

B. Benefits Provided

PERA provides retirement, disability and death benefits. Benefit provisions are established by state statute and can only be modified by the state Legislature. Vested, terminated employees who are entitled to benefits but are not receiving them yet are bound by the provisions in effect at the time they last terminated their public service.

General Employee Plan Benefits

General Employees Plan benefits are based on a member's highest average salary for any five successive years of allowable service, age, and years of credit at termination of service. Two methods are used to compute benefits for PERA's Coordinated Plan members. Members hired prior to July 1, 1989, receive the higher of Method 1 or Method 2 formulas. Only Method 2 is used for members hired after June 30, 1989. Under Method 1, the accrual rate for Coordinated members is 1.2 percent of average salary for each of the first 10 years of service and 1.7 percent of average salary for each additional year. Under Method 2, the accrual rate for Coordinated members is 1.7 percent for average salary for all years of service. For members hired prior to July 1, 1989 a full annuity is available when age plus years of service equal 90 and normal retirement age is 65. For members hired on or after July 1, 1989 normal retirement age is the age for unreduced Social Security benefits capped at 66.

Benefit increases are provided to benefit recipients each January. The postretirement increase is equal to 50 percent of the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) announced by the SSA, with a minimum increase of at least 1 percent and a maximum of 1.5 percent. Recipients that have been receiving the annuity or benefit for at least a full year as of the June 30 before the effective date of the increase will receive the full increase. Recipients receiving the annuity or benefit for at least one month but less than a full year as of the June 30 before the effective date of the increase will receive a reduced prorated increase. In 2023, legislation repealed the statute delaying increases for members retiring before full retirement age.

Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

Note 4: Defined Benefit Pension Plans - Statewide (Continued)

C. Contributions

Minnesota statutes, chapter 353 sets the rates for employer and employee contributions. Contribution rates can only be modified by the state Legislature.

General Employees Fund Contributions

Coordinated Plan members were required to contribute 6.50 percent of their annual covered salary in fiscal year 2023 and the District was required to contribute 7.50 percent for Coordinated Plan members. The District's contributions to the General Employees Fund for the years ending December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021 were $30,823, $28,365 and $28,148, respectively. The District's contributions were equal to the required contributions for each year as set by state statute.

D. Pension Costs

General Employees Fund Pension Costs

At December 31, 2023, the District reported a liability of $268,411 for its proportionate share of the General Employees Fund's net pension liability. The District's net pension liability reflected a reduction due to the State of Minnesota's contribution of $16 million. The State of Minnesota is considered a non-employer contributing entity and the state's contribution meets the definition of a special funding situation. The State of Minnesota's proportionate share of the net pension liability associated with the District totaled $7,351. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The District's proportionate share of the net pension liability was based on the District's contributions received by PERA during the measurement period for employer payroll paid dates from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 relative to the total employer contributions received from all of PERA's participating employers. The District's proportionate share was 0.0048 percent at the end of the measurement period and 0.005 percent for the beginning of the period.

District Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	$ 268,411
State of Minnesota's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability Associated with the District	7,351
Total	$ 275,762

For the year ended December 31, 2023, the District recognized pension expense of $30,269 for its proportionate share of the General Employees Plan's pension expense. In addition, the District recognized $33 as pension expense (and grant revenue) for its proportionate share of the State of Minnesota's contribution of $16 million to the General Employees Fund.

Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

Note 4: Defined Benefit Pension Plans - Statewide (Continued)

At December 31, 2023, the District reported its proportionate share of the General Employees Plan's deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences Between Expected and Actual Economic Experience	$ 8,903	$ 2,081
Changes in Actuarial Assumptions	48,739	73,569
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment Earnings	-	17,266
Changes in Proportion	-	12,190
Contributions Paid to PERA Subsequent to the Measurement Date	15,876	-
Total	$ 73,518	$ 105,106

The $15,876 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from the District's contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended December 31, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

2024	$ (612)
2025	(48,728)
2026	7,699
2027	(5,823)

E. Long-term Expected Return on Investment

The State Board of Investment, which manages the investments of PERA, prepares an analysis of the reasonableness on a regular basis of the long-term expected rate of return using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future rates of return are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce an expected long-term rate of return by weighting the expected future rates of return by the target asset allocation percentages. The target allocation and best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-term Expected Real Rate of Return
Domestic Equity	33.5 %	5.10 %
International Equity	16.5	5.30
Fixed Income	25.0	0.75
Private Markets	25.0	5.90
	100.0 %	

Note 4: Defined Benefit Pension Plans - Statewide (Continued)

F. Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2023, actuarial valuation was determined using an individual entry-age normal actuarial cost method. The long-term rate of return on pension plan investments used in the determination of the total liability is 7.0 percent. This assumption is based on a review of inflation and investments return assumptions from a number of national investment consulting firms. The review provided a range of return investment return rates deemed to be reasonable by the actuary. An investment return of 7.0 percent was deemed to be within that range of reasonableness for financial reporting purposes.

Inflation is assumed to be 2.25 percent for the General Employees Plan. Benefit increases after retirement are assumed to be 1.25 percent for the General Employees Plan.

Salary growth assumptions in the General Employees Plan range in annual increments from 10.25 percent after one year of service to 3.0 percent after 27 years of service.

Mortality rates for the General Employees Plan are based on the Pub-2010 General Employee Mortality Table. The tables are adjusted slightly to fit PERA's experience.

Actuarial assumptions for the General Employees Plan are reviewed every four years. The most recent four-year experience study for the General Employees Plan was completed in 2022.

The following changes in actuarial assumptions and plan provisions occurred in 2023:

General Employees Fund

Changes in Actuarial Assumptions

- The investment return assumption and single discount rate were changed from 6.5 percent to 7.0 percent.

Changes in Plan Provisions

- An additional one-time direct state aid contribution of $170.1 million will be contributed to the Plan on October 1, 2023.
- The vesting period of those hired after June 30, 2010, was changed from five years of allowable service to three years of allowable service.
- The benefit increase delay for early retirements on or after January 1, 2024, was eliminated.
- A one-time, non-compounding benefit increase of 2.5 percent minus the actual 2024 adjustment will be payable in a lump sum for calendar year 2024 by March 31, 2024.

G. Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability in 2023 was 7.0 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members and employers will be made at rates set in Minnesota statutes. Based on these assumptions, the fiduciary net position of the General Employees were projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

Note 4: Defined Benefit Pension Plans - Statewide (Continued)

H. Pension Liability Sensitivity

The following presents the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability for all plans it participates in, calculated using the discount rate disclosed in the preceding paragraph, as well as what the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current discount rate:

	1 Percent Decrease (6.0%)	Current (7.0%)	1 Percent Increase (8.0%)
General Employees Fund	$ 474,840	$ 268,411	$ 98,615

I. Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about each pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in a separately-issued PERA financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That report may be obtained on the Internet at www.mnpera.org.

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District
Prior Lake, Minnesota
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2023

Note 5: Other Information

A. Risk Management

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters for which the District carries insurance. The District pays annual premiums for its workers compensation and property and casualty insurance. Settled claims have not exceeded the District's coverage in any of the past four fiscal years.

Liabilities are reported when it is probable that a loss has occurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. Liabilities, if any, include an amount for claims that have been incurred but not reported (IBNRs). The District's management is not aware of any incurred but not reported claims.

B. Permit Collateral Deposits Payable

The District issues permits to applicants who wish to make changes to land that may affect the water drainage or alter the lake shore within the boundaries of the District. The District requires collateral to be deposited to ensure the projects are completed in accordance with the permit application. As of December 31, 2023, the District was holding $124,395 of collateral deposits.

C. Cost Sharing Agreement

On October 17, 2007, the District entered into a Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Prior Lake and the City of Shakopee. At the same time, the District also entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with the City of Prior Lake, the City of Shakopee, and the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community. The purpose of both agreements is to share costs for construction, use, and operation of the Prior Lake outlet channel. The Memorandum of Agreement for the Use, Operation, and Maintenance of the Prior Lake Outlet Channel and Structure Between the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District, the City of Prior Lake, the City of Shakopee, and the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community was subsequently updated and approved, with an effective date of May 2, 2019.

For the year ended December 31, 2023, the District recognized cost reimbursement revenue of $41,176 and $94,718 unearned revenue.

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REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

PRIOR LAKE - SPRING LAKE
WATERSHED DISTRICT
PRIOR LAKE, MINNESOTA

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2023

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District
Prior Lake, Minnesota
Required Supplementary Information
December 31, 2023

Schedule of Employer's Share of PERA Net Pension Liability - General Employees Fund

Fiscal Year Ending	District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (a)	State's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability Associated with the District (b)	Total (a+b)	District's Covered Payroll (c)	District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll ((a+b)/c)	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability
06/30/23	0.0048 %	$ 268,411	$ 7,351	$ 275,762	$ 379,546	70.7 %	83.1 %
06/30/22	0.0050	396,002	11,504	407,506	371,521	106.6	76.7
06/30/21	0.0054	230,604	7,087	237,691	390,978	59.0	87.0
06/30/20	0.0052	311,764	9,685	321,449	373,317	83.5	79.0
06/30/19	0.0053	293,025	9,166	302,191	375,703	78.0	80.2
06/30/18	0.0047	260,737	8,633	269,370	317,093	82.2	79.5
06/30/17	0.0045	287,277	3,645	290,922	286,665	100.2	75.9
06/30/16	0.0043	349,139	-	349,139	273,072	127.9	68.9
06/30/15	0.0036	186,571	-	186,571	208,266	89.6	78.2

Note: Schedule is intended to show 10-year trend. Additional years will be reported as they become available.

Schedule of Employer's PERA Contributions - General Employees Fund

Year Ending	Statutorily Required Contribution (a)	Contributions in Relation to the Statutorily Required Contribution (b)	Contribution Deficiency (Excess) (a-b)	District's Covered Payroll (c)	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll (b/c)
12/31/2023	$ 30,823	$ 30,823	$ -	$ 410,974	7.5 %
12/31/2022	28,365	28,365	-	378,194	7.5
12/31/2021	28,148	28,148	-	375,303	7.5
12/31/2020	28,460	28,460	-	379,468	7.5
12/31/2019	27,359	27,359	-	364,783	7.5
12/31/2018	26,684	26,684	-	355,787	7.5
12/31/2017	22,312	22,312	-	297,493	7.5
12/31/2016	20,643	20,643	-	275,235	7.5
12/31/2015	18,844	18,844	-	251,252	7.5

Note: Schedule is intended to show 10-year trend. Additional years will be reported as they become available.

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District
Prior Lake, Minnesota
Required Supplementary Information (Continued)
December 31, 2023

Notes to the Required Supplementary Information - General Employees Fund

Changes in Actuarial Assumptions

2023 - The investment return assumption and single discount rate were changed from 6.5 percent to 7.00 percent.

2022 - The mortality improvement scale was changed from Scale MP-2020 to Scale MP-2021. The single discount rate changed from 6.50 percent to 5.40 percent.

2021 - The investment return and single discount rates were changed from 7.50 percent to 6.50 percent, for financial reporting purposes. The mortality improvement scale was changed from Scale MP-2019 to Scale MP-2020.

2020 - The price inflation assumption was decreased from 2.50% to 2.25%. The payroll growth assumption was decreased from 3.25% to 3.00%. Assumed salary increase rates were changed as recommended in the June 30, 2019 experience study. The net effect is assumed rates that average 0.25% less than previous rates. Assumed rates of retirement were changed as recommended in the June 30, 2019 experience study. The changes result in more unreduced (normal) retirements and slightly fewer Rule of 90 and early retirements. Assumed rates of termination were changed as recommended in the June 30, 2019 experience study. The new rates are based on service and are generally lower than the previous rates for years 2-5 and slightly higher thereafter. Assumed rates of disability were changed as recommended in the June 30, 2019 experience study. The change results in fewer predicted disability retirements for males and females. The base mortality table for healthy annuitants and employees was changed from the RP-2014 table to the Pub-2010 General Mortality table, with adjustments. The base mortality table for disabled annuitants was changed from the RP-2014 disabled annuitant mortality table to the PUB-2010 General/Teacher disabled annuitant mortality table, with adjustments. The mortality improvement scale was changed from Scale MP-2018 to Scale MP-2019. The assumed spouse age difference was changed from two years older for females to one year older.

The assumed number of married male new retirees electing the 100% Joint & Survivor option changed from 35% to 45%. The assumed number of married female new retirees electing the 100% Joint & Survivor option changed from 15% to 30%. The corresponding number of married new retirees electing the Life annuity option was adjusted accordingly.

2019 - The mortality projection scale was changed from MP-2017 to MP-2018.

2018 - The mortality projection scale was changed from MP-2015 to MP-2017. The assumed benefit increase was changed from 1.00 percent per year through 2044 and 2.50 percent per year thereafter to 1.25 percent per year.

2017 - The Combined Service Annuity (CSA) loads were changed from 0.8 percent for active members and 60 percent for vested and non-vested deferred members. The revised CSA loads are now 0.0 percent for active member liability, 15.0 percent for vested deferred member liability and 3.0 percent for non-vested deferred member liability. The assumed post-retirement benefit increase rate was changed from 1.0 percent per year for all years to 1.0 percent per year through 2044 and 2.5 percent per year thereafter.

2016 - The assumed post-retirement benefit increase rate was changed from 1.0 percent per year through 2035 and 2.5 percent per year thereafter to 1.0 percent per year for all future years. The assumed investment return was changed from 7.9 percent to 7.5 percent. The single discount rate was changed from 7.9 percent to 7.5 percent. Other assumptions were changed pursuant to the experience study dated June 30, 2015. The assumed future salary increases, payroll growth and inflation were decreased by 0.25 percent to 3.25 percent for payroll growth and 2.50 percent for inflation.

2015 - The assumed post-retirement benefit increase rate was changed from 1.0 percent per year through 2030 and 2.5 percent per year thereafter to 1.0 percent per year through 2035 and 2.5 percent per year thereafter.

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District
Prior Lake, Minnesota
Required Supplementary Information (Continued)
December 31, 2023

Notes to the Required Supplementary Information - General Employees Fund (Continued)

Changes in Plan Provisions

2023 - Additional one-time direct state aid contribution of 19.4 million will be contributed to the Plan on October 1, 2023. Vesting requirement for new hires after June 30, 2014, was changed from a graded 20-year vesting schedule to a graded 10-year vesting schedule, with 50 percent vesting after five years, increasing incrementally to 100% after 10 years. A one-time, non-compounding benefit increase of 3.0 percent will be payable in a lump sum for calendar year 2024 by March 31, 2024. Psychological treatment is required effective July 1, 2023, prior to approval for a duty disability benefit for a psychological condition relating to the member's occupation. The total and permanent duty disability benefit was increased, effective July 1, 2023.

2022 - There were no changes in plan provisions since the previous valuation.

2021 - There were no changes in plan provisions since the previous valuation.

2020 - Augmentation for current privatized members was reduced to 2.0% for the period July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2023 and 0.0% after. Augmentation was eliminated for privatizations occurring after June 30, 2020.

2019 - The employer supplemental contribution was changed prospectively, decreasing from $31.0 million to $21.0 million per year. The state's special funding contribution was changed prospectively, requiring $16.0 million due per year through 2031.

2018 - The augmentation adjustment in early retirement factors is eliminated over a five-year period starting July 1, 2019, resulting in actuarial equivalence after June 30, 2024. Interest credited on member contributions decreased from 4.00 percent to 3.00 percent, beginning July 1, 2018. Deferred augmentation was changed to 0.00 percent, effective January 1, 2019. Augmentation that has already accrued for deferred members will still apply. Contribution stabilizer provisions were repealed. Postretirement benefit increases were changed from 1.00 percent per year with a provision to increase to 2.50 percent upon attainment of 90.00 percent funding ratio to 50.00 percent of the Social Security Cost of Living Adjustment, not less than 1.00 percent and not more than 1.50 percent, beginning January 1, 2019. For retirements on or after January 1, 2024, the first benefit increase is delayed until the retiree reaches normal retirement age; does not apply to Rule of 90 retirees, disability benefit recipients, or survivors. Actuarial equivalent factors were updated to reflect revised mortality and interest assumptions.

2017 - The State's contribution for the Minneapolis Employees Retirement Fund equals $16,000,000 in 2017 and 2018, and $6,000,000 thereafter. The Employer Supplemental Contribution for the Minneapolis Employees Retirement Fund changed from $21,000,000 to $31,000,000 in calendar years 2019 to 2031. The state's contribution changed from $16,000,000 to $6,000,000 in calendar years 2019 to 2031.

2016 - There were no changes in plan provisions since the previous valuation.

2015 - On January 1, 2015, the Minneapolis Employees Retirement Fund was merged into the General Employees Fund, which increased the total pension liability by $1.1 billion and increased the fiduciary plan net position by $892 million. Upon consolidation, state and employer contributions were revised.

OTHER REQUIRED REPORT

PRIOR LAKE - SPRING LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
PRIOR LAKE, MINNESOTA

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2023

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
ON MINNESOTA LEGAL COMPLIANCE

Board of Managers
Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District
Prior Lake, Minnesota

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District (the District), Prior Lake, Minnesota, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated April 19, 2024.

In connection with our audit, nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that the District failed to comply with the provisions of the contracting and bidding, deposits and investments, conflicts of interest, public indebtedness, claims and disbursements, and miscellaneous provisions sections of the *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Other Political Subdivisions*, promulgated by the State Auditor pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 6.65, except as described in the Schedule of Findings and Responses as item 2023-001. However, our audit was not directed primarily toward obtaining knowledge of such noncompliance. Accordingly, had we performed additional procedures, other matters may have come to our attention regarding the District's noncompliance with the above referenced provisions, insofar as they relate to accounting matters.

The City's response to the finding in our audit is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Responses. The City's responses were not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of those charged with governance and management of the District and the State Auditor and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Abdo

Abdo
Minneapolis, Minnesota
April 19, 2024

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District
Prior Lake, Minnesota
Schedule of Finding and Response
December 31, 2023

Finding	Description
2023-001	**Time Period for Payment**
Condition:	Auditing for legal compliance requires a review of the District's payment of claims. Our audit indicated an instance of non-compliance. We noted four instances out of a sample of 25 invoices that were paid after the 35-day period.
Criteria:	Minnesota statute section 471.425 requires that the District pay bills within 35 days from receipt. If the invoice is not paid within 35 days, interest at 1.5 percent per month is to be added to amount due.
Cause:	Unknown.
Effect:	The District is out of compliance with this statute.
Recommendation:	We recommend that the District develop policies and procedures related to the accounts payable cycle to avoid late payments. These policies and procedures should include payment terms that are outlined within State statutes.

Management Response:

The District will work with vendors and staff to ensure invoices are received with sufficient time to review and pay within the Statute's requirements.

PLSLWD Board Staff Report
May 15, 2024

Subject	Swamp Lake Iron Enhanced Sand Filter Easement Approval		
Board Meeting Date	May 21, 2024	**Item No:**	4.3
Prepared By	Emily Dick		
Attachments	Swamp Iron Enhanced Sand Filter Easement Agreement		
Proposed Action	Motion to approve the Swamp Iron Enhanced Sand Filter Easement Agreement		

Background

The Swamp Lake Iron Enhanced Sand Filter project was identified in the Upper Watershed Blueprint study as a potential project to reduce external loads to Spring Lake. A feasibility study was conducted by Stantec in 2023 which developed several alternatives and identified a preferred alternative for implementation. The feasibility study was partially supported through a Watershed Based Implementation Fund grant.

Through conversations with the landowner, the following easement agreement was agreed upon. Obtaining an easement agreement allows the District to ensure access and use of the project area for implementation and operations and maintenance. The Board of Managers approved negotiation of this easement in a closed portion of the January 16, 2024, Board workshop.

Discussion

In discussions with the WBIF convening group, the District is likely to receive significant funds to support the continued final design and implementation. Full design, engineering, easement, construction and construction administration costs are estimated to be roughly $630,000. District staff also plans to submit a competitive BWSR grant application in summer 2024 to further support construction. Obtaining the easement allows the District to strategically fundraise for implementation, and to ensure an important water quality project has a place to land. The project is estimated to remove 89 lbs of Phosphorus annually.

Recommendation

Staff recommend the managers approve the Swamp Iron Enhanced Sand Filter Easement Agreement.

Budget Impact

The cost associated with the proposed activity is covered under budget item 626-Upper Watershed Projects.

AGREEMENT to CONVEY EASEMENT
On the Property of Eugene F. Hauer as Trustee
of the Eugene F. Hauer Trust Dated January 10, 1995
Scott County, Minnesota

Legal description of burdened property:
Attachment A

This Agreement to Convey Easement ("Agreement") is entered into between Eugene F. Hauer as Trustee of the Eugene F. Hauer Trust Dated January 10, 1995 ("Owner") and the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District, a public body with powers set forth at Minnesota Statutes Chapters 103B and 103D ("District").

A. Owner owns, in fee simple, certain real property located in Sand Creek Township, Scott County, Minnesota as legally described in Attachment A hereto, incorporated herein (the "Burdened Property").

B. Attachment B hereto, incorporated herein, is a perpetual easement encumbering the Burdened Property that allows the District to install, modify and maintain features to manage and treat surface waters and maintain vegetation for water quality and habitat benefit and related water resource purposes (the "Easement").

C. Owner and the District enter into this Agreement to set forth terms for Owner's conveyance of the Easement to the District.

THEREFORE, Owner and the District agree to the terms set forth herein, intending that they be legally binding.

1. Within 10 calendar days of the date this Agreement has been executed by both parties, Owner will duly execute and deliver to the District three originals of the Easement. Within 10 calendar days of delivery, the District will deliver to Owner one fully executed original of the Easement and payment in the amount of $40,015. Of this amount, $1,000 is an amount negotiated between the parties to defray Owner's cost of legal counsel to review the Easement.

2. Until the Easement is fully executed, Owner will not grant any encumbrance on the Burdened Property that, if given priority in relation to the Easement, would interfere with any right conveyed to the District thereby.

3. Owner will cooperate in the event that a non-substantive change to the Easement is required in order to correct an error or for the Easement to be accepted for filing on the title by Scott County.

4. Only contractual remedies are available for a breach of this Agreement. It is the intent of the parties that specific performance be available as a remedy for either party, whether or not there is an adequate remedy at law.

5. Delivery pursuant to this Agreement will be made to the following addresses:

OWNER
Eugene F. Hauer, Trustee
Eugene F. Hauer Trust dated January 10, 1995
523 Timber Court
Shakopee MN 55379

DISTRICT
Administrator
Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District
4646 Dakota Street SE
Prior Lake MN 55372

6. Owner understands that this Agreement and the Easement affect important legal rights of Owner. Owner has been advised of his right to consult with an attorney regarding the meaning and effect of these documents and has done so to the extent he deems appropriate.

7. All recitals are a part of this Agreement. This Agreement is governed by the laws of the State of Minnesota. This Agreement sets forth the entire agreement of the parties and supersedes all prior discussions and agreements.

OWNER

Eugene F. Hauer Date: 5-10-24
Eugene F. Hauer as Trustee of the
Eugene F. Hauer Trust dated January 10, 1995

PRIOR LAKE-SPRING LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT

_____ Date:
Bruce Loney, President

ATTACHMENT A

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: BURDENED PROPERTY

That part of Government Lot 1, and the East Half of the Southwest Quarter (E ½ of SW ¼), of Section 13, Township 114, Range 23, Scott County, Minnesota. And that part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 24, Township 114, Range 23, Scott County Minnesota, lying easterly of the centerline of Sand Creek Township Road No. 161 and its northerly extension, (as defined by Document No. 265275), and lying southeasterly, southerly, westerly and southwesterly of the following described line:

Commencing at the northeast corner of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (NE ¼ of NW ¼) of said Section 24; thence south 00 degrees 54 minutes 25 seconds West, assumed bearing, along the east line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (NE ¼ of NW ¼) a distance of 1.87 feet to the point of beginning of the line to be described; thence South 59 degrees 56 minutes 40 seconds West a distance of 450.40 feet; thence along a tangential curve concave to the north, having a radius of 117.54 feet, a central angle of 46 degrees 05 minutes 16 seconds, an arc length of 94.55 feet; thence North 73 degrees 58 minutes 05 seconds West, tangent to said curve a distance of 105.11 feet; thence along a tangential curve concave to the northeast, having a radius of 53.23 feet, a central angle of 58 degrees 48 minutes 56 seconds, an arc length of 54.64 feet; thence North 15 degrees 09 minutes 09 seconds West, tangent to said curve a distance of 540.00 feet; thence North 50 degrees 22 minutes 41 seconds West a distance of 434.93 feet; North 88 degrees 34 minutes 12 seconds West a distance of 394.00 feet more or less to the centerline of said Sand Creek Township Road No. 161 and there terminating.

ATTACHMENT B

EASEMENT including ATTACHMENTS

EASEMENT
On the Property of Eugene F. Hauer as Trustee
of the Eugene F. Hauer Trust Dated January 10, 1995
Scott County, Minnesota

Legal description of burdened property:
Attachment A

This Easement is entered into between Eugene F. Hauer as Trustee of the Eugene F. Hauer Trust Dated January 10, 1995 ("Grantor") and the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District, a public body with powers set forth at Minnesota Statutes Chapters 103B and 103D ("Grantee").

A. Grantor owns, in fee simple, certain real property located in Sand Creek Township, Scott County, Minnesota as legally described in Attachment A hereto, incorporated herein (the "Burdened Property").

B. The Burdened Property lies due east of, and directly across Redwing Trail from, Swamp Lake, and is crossed by Scott County Ditch (CD) 13, a public drainage system under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103E. CD 13 outlets from Swamp Lake and flows generally northeast to Spring Lake. Diagnostic work by Grantee has shown that CD 13 has elevated levels of nutrient pollution that is discharged downstream into Spring Lake. Grantee intends to construct and maintain an Iron Enhanced Sand Filter (IESF) basin to remove nutrients from the waters of CD 13 and to maintain a native vegetated buffer around the IESF basin (the "Project").

C. The Burdened Property currently is enrolled in the Minnesota "Green Acres" program under Minnesota Statutes §273.111. Grantor and Grantee, each represented by counsel, have assessed the impact of this grant of easement on the property's program status, and determined that the impact is acceptable.

D. This Easement is a perpetual easement to allow Grantee to install, modify and maintain features to manage and treat surface waters and maintain vegetation for water quality and habitat benefit and related water resource purposes. The Easement includes a project easement area and an access easement area, each as set forth below.

THEREFORE, for one dollar and other valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which hereby are acknowledged, and under the mutual terms set forth herein, Grantor conveys to Grantee and Grantee accepts the Easement on the Burdened Property, subject to terms specifically set forth herein.

1. Easement Description. The Easement encompasses a Project Easement and an Access Easement (together, "Easement"). The Project and Access Easements are as legally described and delineated on the site plan at Attachment B hereto, incorporated herein. In the event of conflict between the legal description and delineation, the description controls.

2. Easement Term. This Easement is a perpetual easement.

3. Grantee's Rights in Project Easement. Grantors convey to Grantee the right to engage in the following activities within the Project Easement:

a. Land Alteration. Grantee may modify lands by excavation, grading, filling and shaping. Grantee owns all right, title and interest in any soil and vegetative material removed, unless the material is disposed of on the Burdened Property by agreement of Grantor and Grantee.

b. Flowage and Flow Management. Grantee may direct and redirect surface water flows; flood or drain lands, wholly or partly; and otherwise manage surface flows within and through the Project Easement. This does not include the right to increase flood elevation on, or drain or redirect surface flows on or across, any lands outside of the Project Easement, including the remainder of the Burdened Property.

c. Rock, Bioengineered Elements and Structure Features. Grantee may install rock, sand, bioengineered elements and fabricated structures, including but not limited to berms, level spreaders and weirs, to modify and stabilize the bed and banks of surface waters, manage and treat flows, redirect surface and subsurface flows.

d. Project Appurtenances. Grantee may install, maintain, remove and replace piping, intake and outlet structures, filter medium, control equipment, protective enclosures, and other necessary or appropriate project appurtenances.

e. Vegetation Management. Grantee may remove surface vegetation, brush and trees within the Project Easement. Grantee may seed, plant and maintain vegetation within the Project Easement for stabilization, water quality, habitat and aesthetic purposes, and may manage the vegetation through means including but not limited to replanting and reseeding, mowing, weeding, and use of approved herbicides.

f. Incidental Activities. Grantee may engage in activities incidental to those authorized in this section 3, above, including but not limited to site inspection by Grantee and permitting authorities; investigation and testing; placing and maintaining erosion control and similar construction-phase site measures; and stockpiling and staging during work authorized by this Easement. Grantee may enter or occupy the Project Easement to inspect, maintain, modify and reconstruct the Project. In doing so, it may modify and adjust the method of water quality treatment consistent with the extent of its rights under this section 3.

4. Access Easement. Grantee may cross and re-cross the Access Easement on foot or in motorized vehicle or equipment to reach the Project Easement for all purposes authorized herein. If the Access Easement crosses a culvert or other structural element, Grantee may, but is not required to, repair or replace the structure. If the Access Easement is temporarily not suited for passage, Grantee may deviate from the Access Easement, but only to the extent necessary and upon notice to Grantor. Grantee will

restore or repair any damage to the Burdened Property outside of the Access Easement caused by Grantee's passage.

5. Grantor's Limitations within the Easement. Grantor reserves all rights associated with ownership of the Burdened Property except as follows. For the purposes of this section 5, "Grantor" includes all those acting under authority or direction of Grantor.

a. Prohibited Uses. Grantor will not perform an act within the Easement that materially impairs or interferes with Grantee's ability to exercise its rights under this Easement, or that alters any element of the Project. All rights reserved by Grantor must be exercised in accordance with this paragraph 5.a.

b. Structures and Improvements. Grantor will not place or construct a temporary or permanent building, structure, sign or other improvement of any kind within the Easement, except that Grantor may improve the surface of the Access Easement.

b. Utilities. Grantor will not install a new utility system or expand an existing utility system within the Project Easement including but not limited to water, sewer, power, fuel, or communications or data lines.

c. Surface Alteration. Grantor will not alter surface vegetation or soils within the Project Easement, including but not limited to filling, excavating or removing soil, sand, gravel, rocks or other material.

d. Altering Vegetation. Within the Project Easement, Grantor will not remove, destroy, cut, mow or otherwise alter vegetation; apply fertilizers, herbicides or pesticides; or pasture or graze animals.

e. Soil and Water Degradation. Grantor will not engage in an activity or use within the Project Easement that results in the mobilization or movement of sediments or pollutants.

f. Placement of Waste, Fill or Other Material. Grantor will not dump, dispose of or otherwise place refuse, brush or other waste material within the Project Easement.

Grantor will inform all others who exercise any right on the Burdened Property, by or through Grantor, of this Easement and the constraints that it imposes.

6. No Public Access Granted. Nothing in this Easement authorizes any public right of access onto the Burdened Property. The right of entry conveyed to Grantee under this Easement is limited to Grantee, where Grantee is defined to include Grantee's authorized representatives, agents, contractors and subcontractors.

7. Regulatory Authorities Not Affected. This Easement does not replace or diminish the regulatory authority of any federal, state or local public body, including Grantee, as it may apply to the Burdened Property or any activity on it.

8. Grantor's Warranty. Grantor represents and warrants to Grantee as follows:

a. Authority to Convey. Grantor has the full power to convey this Easement and the rights hereunder. This conveyance is not a default under any indenture, agreement, mortgage or other instrument to which Grantor is a party and does not violate any law to which Grantor is subject. For a period of 30 days from the date this Easement is fully executed, Grantor will not grant any encumbrance on the Burdened Property that, if given priority in relation to this Easement, would interfere with any right conveyed to Grantee hereby.

b. Pending Actions. No action, suit or proceeding at law or in equity, administratively or otherwise, that affects the Easement has been instituted or threatened.

c. Liens. No lien for services or materials (mechanic's or materialmen's lien) affects the Easement.

d. Hazardous Materials. Grantor has not handled, stored or disposed of any hazardous material on or affecting the Project Easement in violation of any federal, state or local law, and to the best of Grantor's knowledge no prior owner, tenant, occupant or licensee of the Burdened Property has handled, stored or disposed of any hazardous material on or affecting the Project Easement in violation of any federal, state or local law. For the purpose of this paragraph, "hazardous material" means any asbestos, urea-formaldehyde foamed-in-place insulation, polychlorinated biphenyl, petroleum, crude oil or any other hazardous pollutant, waste, material or substance as defined in the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, the Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, as amended, or the Minnesota Environmental Response and Liability Act, as amended.

9. Notice of Property Transfer. Grantor reserves the right to sell, transfer, lease or encumber all or part of the Burdened Property subject to this Easement. Grantor will give fifteen (15) days' prior written notice to Grantee of a transfer of fee interest in all or part of the Burdened Property. Grantee has no right to block or prevent Grantor's transfer of the Burdened Property to any third party, whether by sale, rental, lease, or otherwise.

10. Taxes, Insurance. Grantor retains all financial obligations and bears all costs and liabilities of any kind accruing from the fee ownership of the Burdened Property. Grantor will pay all taxes and assessments levied against the Burdened Property. Neither Grantor nor Grantee has an obligation to the other to maintain liability or other insurance, but each will maintain such insurance as it deems appropriate for its own purposes.

11. Waiver. A decision by either party not to exercise its rights of enforcement in the event of a breach of a term of this Easement is not a waiver of such term, any subsequent breach of the same or any other term, or any of the party's rights under this Easement. The delay or failure to discover a breach or to exercise a right of enforcement as to such breach does not impair or waive a party's right of enforcement.

12. Acts Beyond Party's Control. A party will not exercise its right of enforcement against the other party for injury, alteration or encroachment within the Burdened Property resulting from: (a) a cause beyond the reasonable control of that party, including without limitation fire, flood, a precipitation event with a statistical recurrence interval of 100 years or more, storm, and earth movement resulting from

natural forces or the act of a third party; or (b) any prudent action taken by the party under emergency conditions to prevent, abate or mitigate significant injury or alteration resulting from such a cause.

13. Notices. Any notice or other communication that either party must give to the other will be in writing and delivered to the following address or such other address as either party designates by written notice to the other:

GRANTOR
Eugene F. Hauer, Trustee
Eugene F. Hauer Trust dated January 10, 1995
523 Timber Court
Shakopee MN 55379

PLSLWD
Administrator
Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District
4646 Dakota Street SE
Prior Lake MN 55372

14. Recitals Incorporated. All recitals are a part of this Easement.

15. Miscellaneous. This Easement is governed by the laws of the State of Minnesota. This Easement sets forth the entire agreement of the parties and supersedes all prior discussions and agreements. The parties may amend this Easement only by a writing duly executed by both parties. The terms of this Easement bind and benefit the parties and their respective personal representatives, heirs, successors, assigns and all others who exercise any right by or through them and shall run with the Burdened Property in perpetuity. Grantee may assign this Easement, or any right or responsibility hereunder, exclusively or non-exclusively, but only to a public body that is authorized to operate and maintain the Project. Grantee will give thirty (30) days' advance written notice to Grantor of an assignment. Grantee may file and refile this Easement for recording or registration, at its cost, in the Scott County title records.

GRANTOR

_____ Date:
Eugene F. Hauer as Trustee of the
Eugene F. Hauer Trust dated January 10, 1995

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF _____

This instrument was acknowledged before me this ___ day of _____, 2024, by Eugene F. Hauer as Trustee of the Eugene F. Hauer Trust dated January 10, 1995.

_____
Notary Public

PRIOR LAKE-SPRING LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT

_____ Date:
Bruce Loney, President

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF _____

This instrument was acknowledged before me this ___ day of _____, 2024, by Bruce Loney as President of the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District.

_____
Notary Public

This document prepared by:
Smith Partners P.L.L.P.
250 South Marquette Avenue
Suite 250
Minneapolis MN 55401

ATTACHMENT A

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: BURDENED PROPERTY

That part of Government Lot 1, and the East Half of the Southwest Quarter (E ½ of SW ¼), of Section 13, Township 114, Range 23, Scott County, Minnesota. And that part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 24, Township 114, Range 23, Scott County Minnesota, lying easterly of the centerline of Sand Creek Township Road No. 161 and its northerly extension, (as defined by Document No. 265275), and lying southeasterly, southerly, westerly and southwesterly of the following described line:

Commencing at the northeast corner of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (NE ¼ of NW ¼) of said Section 24; thence south 00 degrees 54 minutes 25 seconds West, assumed bearing, along the east line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (NE ¼ of NW ¼) a distance of 1.87 feet to the point of beginning of the line to be described; thence South 59 degrees 56 minutes 40 seconds West a distance of 450.40 feet; thence along a tangential curve concave to the north, having a radius of 117.54 feet, a central angle of 46 degrees 05 minutes 16 seconds, an arc length of 94.55 feet; thence North 73 degrees 58 minutes 05 seconds West, tangent to said curve a distance of 105.11 feet; thence along a tangential curve concave to the northeast, having a radius of 53.23 feet, a central angle of 58 degrees 48 minutes 56 seconds, an arc length of 54.64 feet; thence North 15 degrees 09 minutes 09 seconds West, tangent to said curve a distance of 540.00 feet; thence North 50 degrees 22 minutes 41 seconds West a distance of 434.93 feet; North 88 degrees 34 minutes 12 seconds West a distance of 394.00 feet more or less to the centerline of said Sand Creek Township Road No. 161 and there terminating.

ATTACHMENT B

DELINEATION: PROJECT and ACCESS EASEMENTS

BENCHMARK COORDINATES SHOWN ARE IN SCOTT COUNTY COORDINATE SYSTEM, US FEET, NAD 83.

BENCHMARK #1
442286.1' E
173810.8' N

BENCHMARK #2
442444.5' E
174069.3' N

BENCHMARK #3
443448.2' E
173781.1' N

PIN: 090390010
OWNER: KANNENBERG TRENT

SWAMP LAKE

BENCHMARK #2

PROJECT EASEMENT AREA (1.44 ACRES)

REDWING TRAIL

ACCESS EASEMENT AREA (0.09 ACRES)

PIN: 099130092
OWNER: EUGENE F HAUER TRUST

BENCHMARK #1

BENCHMARK #3

SECTION LINE

PIN: 099240010
OWNER: PAULY FARM LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

PIN: 099240041
OWNER: EUGENE F HAUER TRUST

Plot Date: 04/01/2024
Drawing Name: X:\Clients_WD\00758_PLSLWD\0014_General_Engineering\Swamp Lake Easement\DWGs\00758-0014_SwampLakeEasement.dwg
Xrefs: ' ; images: ; \image xref\911 G:\CADD\Blocks\911logo ; \image xref\GSO\CLogo_2019 ; \image xref\iowa-one-cal X:\Clients_WD\00758_PLSLWD\LIBRARY\2020 PLSLWD Logos\received_03022022\PLSLWD Logo 02

EOR water ecology community
EMMONS & OLIVIER RESOURCES, INC.
1919 UNIV. AVE. W. #300 ST. PAUL, MN
TEL: 651.770.8448 WWW.EORINC.COM

SCALE IN FEET
0' 30' 60' 120'

N

DATE	NO.	DESCRIPTION
	1	
	2	
	3	
	4	
	5	
	6	

DRAWN BY: EOR

SUBMISSION DATE: 04/01/2024

EOR JOB #758-014

PLSLWD

SAND CREEK TOWNSHIP, SCOTT COUNTY, MINNESOTA

CLIENT NAME CLIENT CITY, STATE, ZIP

SWAMP LAKE BMP EASEMENT

SHEET 01 OF 01

PLSLWD Board Staff Report
May 16, 2024

Subject |	Amendment of the Easement Amendment Policy
Board Meeting Date |	May 21, 2024 **Item No: 4.4**
Prepared By |	Joni Giese, District Administrator
Attachment |	a) Draft Amendments to the Easement Amendment Policy (redlined) b) Draft Amendments to the Easement Amendment Policy 2023 c) Sample Encroachment Agreement Template
Action |	Motion to approve the amendments to the Easement Amendment Policy

Background

The District has secured Declarations of Conservation Easement since 2000. In 2016, the Board of Managers approved a policy that provided the criteria under which a conservation easement amendment would be considered and the process to be followed to amendment an easement.

Discussion

As the District and Scott SWCD continue to advance enforcement activities associated with identified conservation easement violations, select situations have been encountered where easement encroachments may be deemed acceptable, but an easement amendment is not seen as an appropriate manner to rectify the situation. District staff would like to add "encroachment agreements" as a potential enforcement tool for District use in these situations.

An encroachment agreement is an alternative to an easement amendment to resolve a situation where a landowner has created, or allowed, a condition on property subject to a District easement that does not conform to the terms of the easement. Unlike an easement amendment, an encroachment agreement does not change the easement. Under an encroachment agreement, the District agrees to allow the condition to remain, and to not take enforcement or other legal action against the landowner for the condition. The agreement preserves District's right to determine, at a later time, that the condition must be removed.

The easement amendment policy is proposed to be amended to incorporate the use of easement encroachment agreements. Additional modifications are proposed to the easement amendment policy to provide improved clarity and/or better reflect current practices. A sample encroachment agreement template has been attached for manager reference and does not require manager approval.

Recommendation

Staff recommends manager approval of the amendment to the Easement amendment Policy.

PRIOR LAKE - SPRING LAKE
WATERSHED DISTRICT

PRIOR LAKE-SPRING LAKE
WATERSHED DISTRICT

EASEMENT AMENDMENT POLICY

Adopted ~~February 9, 2016~~May 21, 2024 (DRAFT)

1. INTRODUCTION

The Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District (~~PLSLWD~~"District") has issued Declarations of Conservation Easement~~s~~ since 2000. A conservation easement is a legally binding agreement between a landowner and a qualified land trust or government entity that permanently limits uses of the land in order to protect its conservation values. The ~~PLSLWD~~District Rules require that new developments must establish temporary and perpetual conservation easements for ponding, flowage and drainage purposes over hydrologic features such as water bodies and stormwater basins and for providing a buffer between the wetlands or watercourses and the surrounding development.

~~PLSLWD~~The District also has acquired other perpetual easements for ponding, flowage, drainage, conservation and other purposes that are not associated with new developments. These easements were negotiated with individual landowners to improve the water quality and decrease the quantity of water entering the lakes located in the watershed.

~~PLSLWD~~The District acquires conservation easements with the intent to hold the easements and enforce their terms and provisions as they are originally written. However, ~~PLSLWD~~the District recognizes that given the perpetual term of the easements it holds, it is possible that changes in future conditions or circumstances may justify amending an easement to strengthen the ability to achieve easement purposes, to resolve conflicts between easement purposes and unforeseen conditions or circumstances, or to clarify ambiguities, among other things. In some circumstances, by means of an encroachment agreement, the District may allow conditions contrary to an easement to remain, but without granting a permanent allowance to the landowner to maintain those conditions.

This policy is for ~~PLSLWD~~District internal use only in order to govern the relations between the Board of Managers and staff. It is not intended to and does not create any right or expectation in any person subject to ~~PLSLWD~~District easement compliance review or any other third party. The Board of Managers may amend this policy or make exceptions to it as it deems appropriate. Nothing in this policy removes or restricts the judgment and discretion that the ~~PLSLWD~~District may exercise as a

conservation easement holder. A ~~PLSLWD~~District decision on amending an existing conservation easement that it holds is not a regulatory action. It is not subject to: (a) any statutory timeline applicable to action on a regulatory permit, license or approval; or (b) a right of judicial appeal.

2. AMENDMENT POLICIES

An amendment may be proposed by the landowner, District staff, or a third party. ~~PLSLWD~~The District will consider amendments to its conservation easements only under the circumstances listed below.

A. Minor Changes Not Requiring Board Approval

These are amendments where ~~PLSLWD~~District staff and the landowner agree that a minor change needs to be made. The District Administrator may authorize these changes, following consultation with the Board of Managers or District Attorney, as the Administrator deems appropriate. These minor changes generally correct an error or oversight made at the time the conservation easement was executed or respond to site conditions in a manner compatible with the purposes and intent of the easement, including but not limited to:

1) Correction of a legal description
2) Correction of a typographical error
3) Correction to include language that was unintentionally omitted
4) Clarification of ambiguous language
5) Change in minimum monumentation requirements (e.g., location, number)
6) Minor boundary modification to reduce boundary complexity or eliminate an encroachment when the impairment of the easement is insignificant.

B. Changes Requiring Board Approval

~~PLSLWD~~District staff may recommend an easement amendment with significant changes to improve the water quality value or enforceability of an easement. In this case, the ~~PLSLWD~~District would cover all District expenses related to the easement amendment or as negotiated with the landowner.

A landowner may also request an amendment that modifies the restricted uses or areas of an easement property due to unforeseen adverse conditions or hardships. As a matter of policy, and subject to the discretion of the Board of Managers, ~~PLSLWD~~the District may agree to an amendment only if each of the following requirements is met:

1) The amendment is consistent and compatible with the purposes and intent of the original easement.
2) The amendment clearly serves the public interest and is consistent with ~~PLSLWD~~the District's mission.
3) The amendment has a net beneficial or neutral effect on the relevant conservation values protected by the easement.
4) A decision to approve the amendment complies with ~~PLSLWD~~the District's Conflicts of Interest policy.

5) The amendment results in conditions that can be monitored and enforced by ~~PLSLWD~~the District.
6) The amendment is consistent with applicable laws governing conservation easements and with other local, state and federal laws.

Approval of any conservation easement amendment will be done on a case-by-case basis and will not establish a precedent for future amendment requests. The District may consider the landowner's current conformance to the easement in making its decision.

C. Condemnation/Judicial Proceedings

Conservation easements are subject to condemnation for public purposes, such as highways and schools. Where it appears that the condemnation power will be properly exercised, ~~PLSLWD~~ the District may enter into a settlement agreement with the condemning authority. If judicial proceedings require amending the conservation easement, ~~PLSLWD~~the District will make every attempt to preserve the intent of the original conservation easement to the greatest extent possible.

3. PROCEDURES FOR AMENDMENTS REQUIRING BOARD APPROVAL

For Amendments Requested by Landowner:

A. Request by Landowner

All requests by a landowner or group of landowners for an amendment to a conservation easement shall be in writing and shall include the following:

1) A description of the proposed amendment.
2) The specific reason(s) why the amendment is being requested.
3) An explanation of how the amendment is consistent with the original conservation easement, as well as with the amendment policies and procedures of the District.
4) Map(s) that include the following:
   a. existing and proposed conservation easement boundaries
   b. notations identifying locations affected by the proposed amendment
5) Additional mapping information may be requested by staff, such as:
   a. contour elevations at 2 foot intervals
   b. current delineation of existing wetland(s), ~~marsh, shoreland and floodplain~~
   ~~b.~~c. current 100-year floodplain boundaries
   ~~c.~~d. existing ponding, flowage or drainage and utility easements on the property
   ~~d.~~e. Proposed normal ~~existing and proposed ordinary high~~ and 100-year water elevations of stormwater features.
6) Any other documentation necessary to understand the significance of the proposed amendment, including all hydrologic, water quality and hydraulic computations necessary to assess the loss or gain of conservation values.
7) $2~~1~~,000 **amendment request fee** to cover anticipated staff, consultant and direct costs pertaining to review of the request, regardless of whether the request is approved. ~~Any~~

~~unexpended portion of the fee will be refunded following Board approval/denial. PLSLWD may request additional funds from the landowner to cover all costs exceeding the initial fee.~~

B. Review of Request.

1. Evaluation

Upon receipt of a complete amendment request, District staff ~~-~~shall evaluate the request with respect to the requirements in Section 2.B. above. Staff evaluation may include site visits and/or consultation with District Engineer ~~&,~~ District Attorney, ~~consultation with appropriate~~ experts, and ~~property site visit, consultation with the~~ property owner, ~~etc.~~as staff deems appropriate.

2. Recommendation

District staff shall, upon completion of its evaluation of the request, prepare a staff memorandum ~~make a written recommendation~~ to the Board of Managers~~. The written~~ that includes a staff recommendation ~~may recommend~~of approval, approval with conditions, or denial of the ~~easement amendment~~ request. The staff recommendation shall be reviewed at a Board Meeting within six months after receipt of a complete request.

3. Approval/Denial

The Board will move to approve or deny the request upon considering the information provided and ~~based on the~~ District staff recommendation. The Board may also decide to delay the decision if more information is required. Additional information may be requested from the applicant at this time to move forward with the amendment request.

C. Costs

1. The District may require additional funds from the landowner ~~to cover all~~if the projected ~~costs~~ to complete the amendment ~~that~~ exceeds the amendment request fee. ~~Based on the District staff recommendation, the Board may require that the landowner provide additional funds for the **amendment request fee** based on the projected costs to complete the amendment.~~ Costs covered by the amendment request fee may include expenses such as legal review, staff time, ecological evaluations, environmental review, baseline data, surveys, boundary monuments, title insurance, closing costs, Scott County recording fees, and other expenses.

~~2. PLSLWD may request additional funds from the landowner for all costs exceeding the total amount received for the amendment request fee in order to move forward with the amendment.~~

~~3.~~2. Any unexpended portion of the fee will be refunded following completion or abandonment of the amendment ~~or abandonment of the project~~. No expended portion of the processing fee will be returned should title complications or other factors prevent the amendment from being completed.

For Amendments Requested by District Staff:

1. Evaluation

District staff shall ~~make a written~~prepare a staff memorandum ~~recommendation~~ to the Board of Managers that includes a staff recommendation for the easement amendment ~~request~~. The staff recommendation shall be reviewed at a Board Meeting.

2. *Approval/Denial*
   The Board will move to approve or deny the request by District staff. The Board may also decide to delay the decision if more information is required.

Completing the Easement Amendment (for all requiring Board approval):

Once the amendment request has been approved by the Board, District staff will complete the following components as part of the amendment:

1. *Title Review*
   a) ~~At the request of~~The District ~~staff~~, at its discretion and at the landowner's expense, ~~must provide the abstract for the property (if available) to the District or identified title company for review within 30 days of the request~~may order a title report. The District Administrator~~, on advice of counsel, may waive the requirement of an abstract or~~ may accept demonstration of title by another means.
   b) The landowner is responsible for clearing any title issues associated with the property at the request of ~~PLSLWD~~District, such as mortgage consents, legal access, title corrections, etc.
2. ~~*Legal review*~~*Document Preparation*
   a) The District ~~staff and~~, in consultation with the District Attorney, as the Administrator deems appropriate, will draft a conservation easement amendment document. The easement amendment ~~shall~~will reference the recorded document number, date and name of parties of the original easement agreement. The draft conservation easement amendment document ~~that~~ will be provided to the landowner for review.
   b) District staff will work with the landowner to negotiate any minor terms of the easement that were not covered in the Board approval.

3. *Baseline Documentation*
   a) ~~PLSLWD~~The District will create baseline documentation based on the final easement document, including photographs, maps and description of the amended conservation easement. This document will be signed by both the landowner and ~~PLSLWD~~ the District at the closing of the amendment~~.~~
   b) The landowner will conduct a survey of the easement boundaries, as necessary, and install ~~.~~ ~~b~~Boundary monuments at revised easement boundaries ~~will be placed at corners and along strategic areas of the conservation easement boundary by PLSLWD~~in compliance with easement terms.
4. *Closing*
   ~~Upon verification of easement monument installation and receipt of any outstanding fees due~~On verifying that the landowner has installed easement monuments and submitted any outstanding fees, the District will provide for execution of three original easement amendments, one for each party and one for recording. T~~T~~he District will record the easement amendment ~~shall be recorded~~ at the Scott County Recorder's Office. ~~The easement~~

~~amendment shall reference the recorded document number, date and name of parties of the original easement agreement.~~ The District will hold the original recorded document. A copy of the recorded easement amendment will be provided to the landowner.

4. ENCROACHMENT AGREEMENTS

An encroachment agreement is an alternative to an easement amendment to resolve a situation where a landowner has created, or allowed, a condition on property subject to a District easement that does not conform to the terms of the easement. Unlike an easement amendment, an encroachment agreement does not change the easement. Under an encroachment agreement, the District agrees to allow the condition to remain, and to not take enforcement or other legal action against the landowner for the condition.

The agreement preserves District's right to determine, at a later time, that the condition must be removed and the property brought into conformance with the easement. Should the District so determine, the agreement provides for notice to the landowner, and specifies a period of time for the landowner to remove the condition and bring the property into conformance with the easement.

A landowner may submit a request for an encroachment agreement. The process for District review and approval of an agreement will follow the same steps set forth in section 3, above, for an easement amendment. In the same way as for an easement amendment, a request must contain the information listed at section 3.A, above, and must meet the criteria set forth at section 2.B. District staff, in its discretion, may agree that certain submittals are not needed or that certain steps in the process may be simplified. The landowner must submit the request fee indicated in paragraph 3.A.7. the District will manage and apply the fee in the same way as for an easement amendment request.

If the Board approves an encroachment agreement, the District will record the completed agreement at the Scott County Recorder's Office after the landowner submits any outstanding fees, including the county filing fee. On termination of an agreement, the District will cooperate with the landowner to record a notice that the agreement is no longer in force.

PRIOR LAKE-SPRING LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT

EASEMENT AMENDMENT POLICY

Adopted May 21, 2024 (DRAFT)

1. INTRODUCTION

The Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District ("District") has issued Declarations of Conservation Easement since 2000. A conservation easement is a legally binding agreement between a landowner and a qualified land trust or government entity that permanently limits uses of the land in order to protect its conservation values. The District Rules require that new developments must establish temporary and perpetual conservation easements for ponding, flowage and drainage purposes over hydrologic features such as water bodies and stormwater basins and for providing a buffer between the wetlands or watercourses and the surrounding development.

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The District acquires conservation easements with the intent to hold the easements and enforce their terms and provisions as they are originally written. However, the District recognizes that given the perpetual term of the easements it holds, it is possible that changes in future conditions or circumstances may justify amending an easement to strengthen the ability to achieve easement purposes, to resolve conflicts between easement purposes and unforeseen conditions or circumstances, or to clarify ambiguities, among other things. In some circumstances, by means of an encroachment agreement, the District may allow conditions contrary to an easement to remain, but without granting a permanent allowance to the landowner to maintain those conditions.

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4) Map(s) that include the following:
   a. existing and proposed conservation easement boundaries
   b. notations identifying locations affected by the proposed amendment
5) Additional mapping information may be requested by staff, such as:
   a. contour elevations at 2 foot intervals
   b. current delineation of existing wetland(s)
   c. current 100-year floodplain boundaries
   d. existing ponding, flowage or drainage and utility easements on the property
   e. Proposed normal and 100-year water elevations of stormwater features.
6) Any other documentation necessary to understand the significance of the proposed amendment, including all hydrologic, water quality and hydraulic computations necessary to assess the loss or gain of conservation values.
7) $2,000 **amendment request fee** to cover anticipated staff, consultant and direct costs pertaining to review of the request, regardless of whether the request is approved.

B. Review of Request.

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Upon receipt of a complete amendment request, District staff shall evaluate the request with respect to the requirements in Section 2.B. above. Staff evaluation may include site visits and/or consultation with District Engineer, District Attorney, experts, and property owner, as staff deems appropriate.

2. Recommendation

District staff shall, upon completion of its evaluation of the request, prepare a staff memorandum to the Board of Managers that includes a staff recommendation of approval, approval with conditions, or denial of the request. The staff recommendation shall be reviewed at a Board Meeting within six months after receipt of a complete request.

3. *Approval/Denial*
   The Board will move to approve or deny the request upon considering the information provided and District staff recommendation. The Board may also decide to delay the decision if more information is required. Additional information may be requested from the applicant at this time to move forward with the amendment request.

C. Costs
1. The District may require additional funds from the landowner if the projected cost to complete the amendment exceeds the amendment request fee. Costs covered by the amendment request fee may include expenses such as legal review, staff time, ecological evaluations, environmental review, baseline data, surveys, boundary monuments, title insurance, closing costs, Scott County recording fees, and other expenses.
2. Any unexpended portion of the fee will be refunded following completion or abandonment of the amendment. No expended portion of the processing fee will be returned should title complications or other factors prevent the amendment from being completed.

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   District staff shall prepare a staff memorandum to the Board of Managers that includes a staff recommendation for the easement amendment. The staff recommendation shall be reviewed at a Board Meeting.
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   The Board will move to approve or deny the request by District staff. The Board may also decide to delay the decision if more information is required.

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Once the amendment request has been approved by the Board, District staff will complete the following components as part of the amendment:

1. *Title Review*
   a) The District, at its discretion and at the landowner's expense, may order a title report. The District Administratormay accept demonstration of title by another means.
   b) The landowner is responsible for clearing any title issues associated with the property at the request of District, such as mortgage consents, legal access, title corrections, etc.
2. *Document Preparation*
   a) The District, in consultation with the District Attorney, as the Administrator deems appropriate, will draft a conservation easement amendment document. The easement amendment will reference the recorded document number, date and name of parties of the original easement agreement. The draft conservation easement amendment document will be provided to the landowner for review.
   b) District staff will work with the landowner to negotiate any minor terms of the easement that were not covered in the Board approval.

3. *Baseline Documentation*
   a) The District will create baseline documentation based on the final easement document, including photographs, maps and description of the amended conservation easement. This document will be signed by both the landowner and the District at the closing of the amendment
   b) The landowner will conduct a survey of the easement boundaries, as necessary, and install boundary monuments at revised easement boundaries in compliance with easement terms.
4. *Closing*
   On verifying that the landowner has installed easement monuments and submitted any outstanding fees, the District will provide for execution of three original easement amendments, one for each party and one for recording. The District will record the easement amendment at the Scott County Recorder's Office. The District will hold the original recorded document. A copy of the recorded easement amendment will be provided to the landowner.

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The agreement preserves District's right to determine, at a later time, that the condition must be removed and the property brought into conformance with the easement. Should the District so determine, the agreement provides for notice to the landowner, and specifies a period of time for the landowner to remove the condition and bring the property into conformance with the easement.

A landowner may submit a request for an encroachment agreement. The process for District review and approval of an agreement will follow the same steps set forth in section 3, above, for an easement amendment. In the same way as for an easement amendment, a request must contain the information listed at section 3.A, above, and must meet the criteria set forth at section 2.B. District staff, in its discretion, may agree that certain submittals are not needed or that certain steps in the process may be simplified. The landowner must submit the request fee indicated in paragraph 3.A.7. the District will manage and apply the fee in the same way as for an easement amendment request.

If the Board approves an encroachment agreement, the District will record the completed agreement at the Scott County Recorder's Office after the landowner submits any outstanding fees, including the county filing fee. On termination of an agreement, the District will cooperate with the landowner to record a notice that the agreement is no longer in force.

Note: three inches of blank space required at top of the document for recording.

ENCROACHMENT AGREEMENT

THIS ENCROACHMENT AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is entered into by _[legal first and last name(s) if person(s) or entity/company name]_ ("Owner") and the Prior Lake – Spring Lake Watershed District, a political subdivision of the State of Minnesota with powers and purposes as set forth in Minnesota Statutes chapters 103B and 103D ("District").

RECITALS

A. Owner is the fee owner of certain real estate located at [insert address and parcel PID number], legally described on the attached Exhibit A (the "Property").

B. The Property is subject to a conservation easement in favor of the District, filed with the Scott County Recorder/Registrar of Titles on [date] as Document No. [insert] (the "Easement").

C. [describe the existing or proposed encroachment] (the "Encroachment"). This use is not authorized under the Easement and constitutes an encroachment on the rights of the District under the Easement. The area of the encroachment is depicted on Exhibit B, attached hereto ("Encroachment Area").

D. The District authorizes the Encroachment to remain within the Encroachment Area subject to the terms and conditions contained in this Agreement.

TERMS

1. The recitals set forth above are incorporated herein and made part of this Agreement.

2. District grants Owner a license to maintain the Encroachment. This Agreement creates in Owner no interest in real property. District grants this license in its discretion, and retains all rights and incidents under the Easement. The permission granted to Owner hereunder does not accrue toward a prescriptive easement or any similar right of ownership or use, or alter any immunity or defense of the District, as a public body, against such a claim.

3. Owner, at its sole expense, must maintain the Encroachment so that it is structurally sound and does not increase its impairment, if any, of the purposes of the Easement. Owner may maintain, use and reconstruct the Encroachment without expanding its physical extent or intensity of use. The following specific terms govern Owner's maintenance of the encroachment:

    [insert any specific terms or criteria that define the encroachment right].

The permission given to Owner under this paragraph does not constrain District's right to terminate this Agreement in accordance with terms stated below.

4. While this Agreement is in effect, District will seek to exercise its rights under the Easement in a manner that does not damage or impair the Encroachment. This Agreement otherwise does not limit any right of the District under the Easement or its discretion to exercise that right. Owner will not have a claim against District, or any party acting under the District's authority, for injury or damage to the Encroachment, except to the extent that such injury or damage results from the gross negligence or willful act of the District or the party, respectively.

5. Owner will hold harmless, defend and indemnify District, its managers and employees, and any party acting under the District's authority, with respect to any claim or proceeding, and any liability, damage or cost, arising from Owner's maintenance of the Encroachment within the Easement. Nothing herein creates a right in any third party, or waives or limits any immunity, defense or liability limit that the District may enjoy under law.

6. Owner or District may terminate this Agreement in its discretion, by providing 30 days' written notice to the other party. By the date of termination, or by another date to which District in its discretion may agree, Owner, at its sole expense, will remove the Encroachment and restore the Encroachment Area to bring it into compliance with the conservation easement terms.

7. Any notice or other communication under this Agreement by either party to the other is deemed given if dispatched by certified or registered mail or delivered personally to the other party as follows:

   To Owner:

   [Authorized Representative (_____ Encroachment Agreement)
   Organization (as applicable)
   Address]

   To District:

   Prior Lake – Spring Lake Watershed District
   Attn.: Administrator (_____ Encroachment Agreement)
   4646 Dakota Street SE
   Prior Lake MN 55372

   A party may change the name or address of the recipient of notice by giving notice of the change in accordance with this section.

8. District will file this Agreement, at Owner's expense, in the Office of the Scott County Recorder/Registrar of Titles. When of record on the title, the Agreement will run with the property, subject to the above right of termination by a party. On termination, either party may file a notice of termination on the title of the Property. The parties will cooperate as needed to prepare the notice.

9. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and supersedes any other written or oral agreements. Any modification of this Agreement must be in writing and signed by both parties.

INTENDING TO BE LEGALLY BOUND,

OWNER

_____ **Date:**_____
[Company Legal Name or Individual legal names individual or spouse of one another]
[Its: Title if a Company, LLC, Sole Proprietorship, Trust]

STAE OF MINNESOTA)
)SS
COUNTY OF SCOTT)

This instrument was acknowledged before me this _____ day of _____, 20___,
by [Name][, as [Title] of [Legal Name], of [Company.]

_____
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: _____

PRIOR LAKE – SPRING LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT

_____ Date:_____
Joni Giese
Its: Administrator

STAE OF MINNESOTA)
)SS
COUNTY OF SCOTT)

This instrument was acknowledged before me this _____ day of _____, 20___,
by Joni Giese, as Administrator of Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District.

_____
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: _____

Drafted by:
Smith Partners PLLP
250 South Marquette Avenue, Suite 250
Minneapolis MN 55401

EXHIBIT A

LEGAL DESCRIPTION of PROPERTY

EXHIBIT B

ENCROACHMENT AREA

PLSLWD Board Staff Report
May 15, 2024

Subject |	Water Resources Management Plan Amendment
Board Meeting Date |	May 21, 2024 **Item No:** 4.5
Prepared By |	Emily Dick
Attachments |	Redlined Proposed Plan Amendments
Proposed Action |	Motion to approve the plan amendment to the 2020-2030 PLSLWD Water Resources Management Plan, with changes noted as attached.

Background

A Water Resource Management Plan (WRMP) is required by state statute and sets the goals, policies, programs and projects for protecting the water resources within the watershed district. Watershed districts are required to adopt and periodically update their Water Resource Management Plans (WRMP). The WRMPs are approved by the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) and many grants require a WRMP citation related to the project to be eligible. The current PLSLWD WRMP is for 2020-2030. Plans can be updated as needed.

The District has an interest in updating the WRMP as several priority water quality and flood storage projects are not identified in the plan. Including projects in the plan makes them eligible for funding sources through BWSR and the Clean Water Fund. The intent of the plan amendment is solely to update language to be eligible for grants and correct outdated information. The focus, priorities and overall intent of the plan remain unchanged. The District Board of Managers voted to enact the plan amendment process at the March 19th Board meeting.

Discussion

The District followed a plan amendment process as described in state statute MN Rules 8410.0140 Sup.2. Notice was given to plan review authorities, and a 30-day public comment period was enacted April 5, 2024 through May 6, 2024. After the public comment period closed, BWSR determined that the plan amendment could proceed through the “minor” plan amendment process. As a part of the “minor” plan amendment process, the District will hold a public meeting to explain the amendments. The public meeting will be held prior to this new business agenda item, on May 21, 2024.

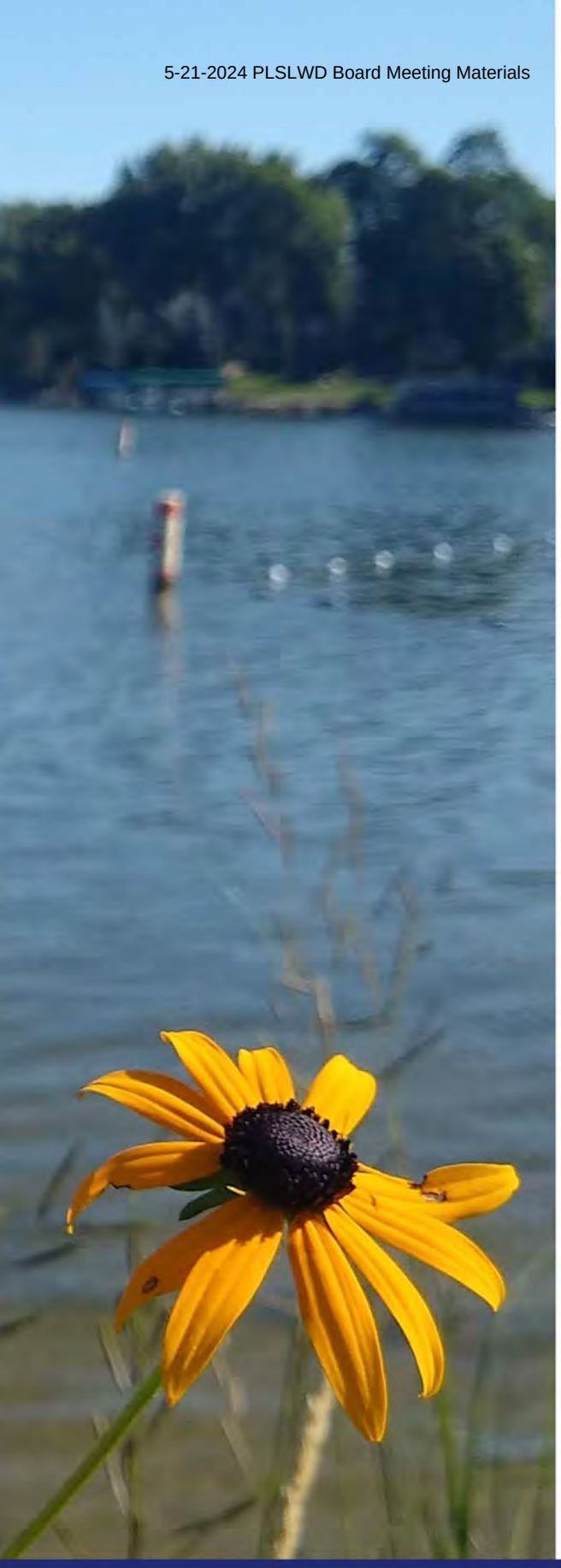
The Board may choose to adopt the amended WRMP at any time after the public hearing. Once the plan amendment is approved, District staff will circulate the amended pages to partners and plan review authorities. It serves the District to approve the plan amendment as soon as comfortable, in order to open up eligibility for available Watershed Based Implementation Fund (WBIF) and others. For example, the Swamp Lake Iron Enhanced Sand Filter is not stated explicitly in our plan and is a competitive project for grant funding if it has a plan citation. Several grant cycles begin in June.

Recommendation

Staff recommends managers approve the plan amendment of the 2020-2030 PLSLWD Water Resources Management Plan, with changes noted as attached.

Budget Impact

The cost associated with amending the WRMP is covered under budget item 626 District Plan Update.



PRIOR LAKE SPRING LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT

Water Resources Management Plan 2020 - 2030

Adopted on July 14, 2020
Amended on Month Day, 2024

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APPENDICES

Plan Appendices are located on the ~~Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District website~~Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District website and include the following:

- ~~Appendix A: Bibliography~~Appendix A: Bibliography
- ~~Appendix B: Maps and Reference Figures~~Appendix B: Maps and Reference Figures
- ~~Appendix C: DNR Fisheries Data~~Appendix C: DNR Fisheries Data
- ~~Appendix D: District Rules~~Appendix D: District Rules
- ~~Appendix E: PLOC MOA and Operating Procedures~~Appendix E: PLOC MOA and Operating Procedures
- ~~Appendix F: Education & Outreach Plan~~Appendix F: Education & Outreach Plan
- ~~Appendix G: Hydrologic Data and Figures~~Appendix G: Hydrologic Data and Figures
- ~~Appendix H: Long-Term Monitoring Plan~~
- Appendix H: Long-Term Monitoring Plan
- ~~Appendix I: Comprehensive Wetland Plan~~Appendix I: Comprehensive Wetland Plan
- ~~Appendix J: Cooperative Cost Share Program Manual~~Appendix J: Cooperative Cost Share Program Manual
- ~~Appendix K: BWSR Level II Performance Review~~Appendix K: BWSR Level II Performance Review
- ~~Appendix L: Summary of Management Plan Meeting & Public Feedback~~Appendix L: Summary of Management Plan Meeting & Public Feedback
- ~~Appendix M: Outcomes & Measures Dashboards~~Appendix M: Outcomes & Measures Dashboards

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LIST OF TABLES

Lake Townships (**Figure 1**). In addition, a portion of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (SMSC) Tribal Lands are located within the watershed. The SMSC is a sovereign nation and has the ability to partner with the District in their management of water resources. The activities and policies of the PLSLWD are administered by a five-person Board of Managers appointed by the commissioners of Scott County. The PLSLWD administers the Prior Lake Outlet Channel (PLOC) via the PLOC Memorandum of Agreement or Use, Operation, and Maintenance of the Prior Lake Outlet Channel and Outlet Structure (MOA) in ~~**Appendix E**~~**Appendix E**.

2. PLSLWD Map

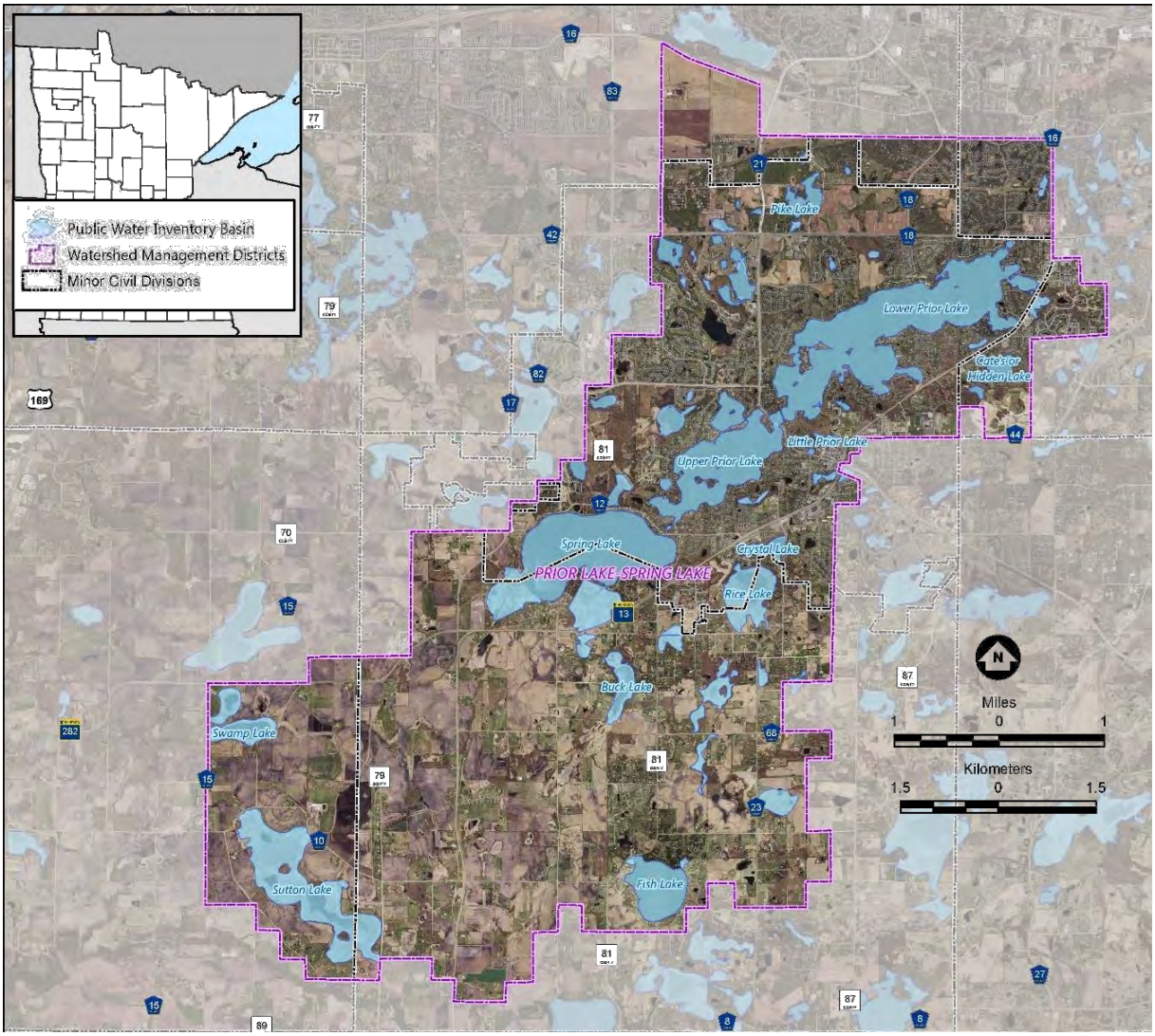


Figure 1. Map of the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District Boundary

- *Local plans, studies and policies (e.g. Upper Prior Lake In-Lake Phosphorous Management Plan, Integrated Pest Management Plan, Arctic Lake Subwatershed Assessment)*

In total, over 50 documents were compiled to create a comprehensive list of plans to inform the Prior Lake – Spring Lake WRMP. These documents are included in the bibliography in ~~Appendix A~~Appendix A. Information collected during this review of existing plans and policies was supplemented with information provided by the Plan Notification Process and the Stakeholder and Public Involvement Process described below.

C. Issues Identification Mapping Exercise

While the PLSLWD Board of Managers and staff were well aware of the priority issues and concerns facing the watershed, having worked on these same issues since the 2010-2019 WRMP, they took the opportunity to explore additional resource restoration and protection needs using an Issues Identification Mapping Exercise (IIME).

The IIME, also referred to as "zonation", is a conservation prioritization software that uses geographic information and user input weighting to identify locations on the landscape that have varying degrees of environmental sensitivity or management priority. This tool utilized existing data layers and a values model approach to assign weights to the various conservation features located in the watershed. In total, there were 24 data layers or conservation features included in the IIME. While many of the data layers were generated by state agencies (e.g. Lakes Vulnerable to Phosphorous Addition (MNDNR) and Altered Watercourses (MPCA)), a quarter of the data layers were generated by Scott County or PLSLWD (e.g. wells with nitrate concentrations greater than 10 ppm (Scott County) and Wetland Management Classifications (PLSLWD)).

As one of the IIME tools, the PLSLWD Board, staff, and advisory committees were asked to take a survey to assess their value ratings within five potential priority areas. The results of this survey are shown below in **Figure 4** and were used to weight the potential issue areas in the mapping process.

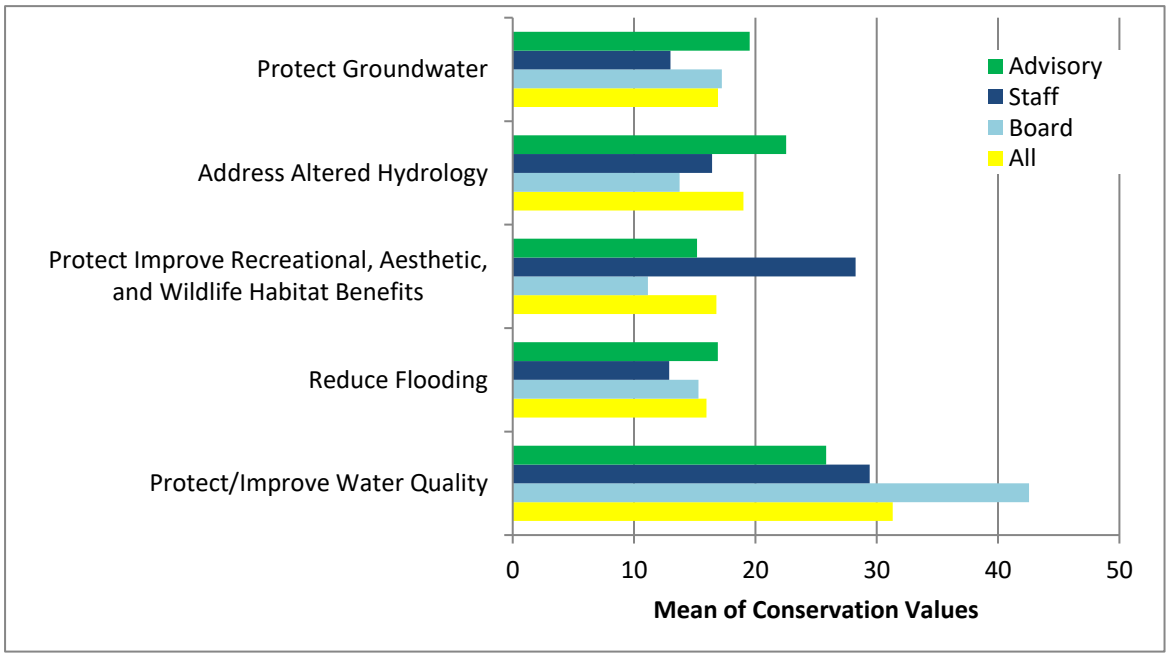


Figure 4. Results of Broad-Scale IIME Survey

After stacking the 24 data layers on top of each other and applying the values provided by the PLSLWD Board of Managers, staff and Technical Advisory Committee, a map identifying 10 potential issue areas was generated

Table 2. Summary of potential issue areas identified by IIME

Potential Issue Area for Consideration	Layers most influential in determining high ranking
Haas Lake	• *DWSMA* • *Ecological Corridor Areas* • *Sites of Biodiversity Significance*
Spring Lake Regional Park	• *High Quality Wetlands* • *Ecological Corridor Areas* • *Regional Park* • *Sites of Biodiversity Significance*
Hwy 13 Wetland	• *Groundwater Sensitivity* • *Areas of High Soil Loss Potential* • *Altered Watercourses* • *Basins for Flood Storage*
County Ditch 13	• *Groundwater Sensitivity* • *Altered Watercourses* • *High Quality Wetlands* • *Wetlands for Water Quality*
Spring Lake Township Wetlands	• *Groundwater Sensitivity* • *Altered Watercourses* • *Wetlands for Water Quality* • *Basins for Flood Storage*
Fish Lake Outlet Channel	• *Altered Watercourses* • *High Quality Wetlands* • *Ecological Corridor Areas* • *Wetlands for Water Quality*
Panama Avenue Wetland	• *Cultivated Areas* • *Ecological Corridor Areas* • *Wetlands for Water Quality* • *Basins for Flood Storage*
Direct Drainage to Lower Prior Lake	• *Groundwater Sensitivity* • *Lakes Vulnerable to Phosphorus Addition* • *Significant Shoreland Area* • *Existing Urban Areas*
Cate's Channel	• *High Quality Wetlands* • *Wetlands for Water Quality* • *Altered Watercourses* • *Existing Urban Areas*
Rice Lake/Crystal Lake	• *Lakes Vulnerable to Phosphorus Addition* • *High Quality Wetlands* • *Ecological Corridor Areas* • *Wetlands for Water Quality*

NOTE: Potential areas chosen for further consideration and project development in **bold**.

Through the IIME process, the Board had a clearer view of where to place the PLSLWD's priorities over the next ten years. While many of the above ten potential issue areas held high resource values, most did not have significant issues or opportunities for regionally significant projects. Based on the feedback received from the public engagement process (~~**Appendix L**~~**Appendix L**), the Board determined that with the limited resources available, work should be focused more on the most widely used resources and/or those most in need of improvements due to state listed impairments. However, this IIME process helped the PLSLWD identify three issue areas that held multiple benefits to PLSLWD resources which were ultimately chosen for consideration

and incorporation of projects into this WRMP: These resources include: 1) **Spring Lake Regional Park** where there is an opportunity for a regional stormwater pond or water quality improvement; 2) **County Ditch 13** where an improvement would not only help improve the stream system, but also Spring and Prior Lakes; and 3) **Direct Drainage to Lower Prior Lake**, a regionally significant resource which also impacts the downstream waterbody, Pike Lake. These three issue areas were prioritized to be included in the Tiered Lake approach.

The direct watersheds of Spring and Upper Prior Lakes were not included in the IIME as there was general consensus that the District has been focusing on these impaired waters and will continue to do so.

D. Plan Partners and Role in Plan Development

In addition to drawing from existing local and regional plans and incorporating agency input, significant efforts were made to engage member communities, stakeholder groups and the public in the planning process. One of the most critical components of any planning process is engaging members of the community in sharing local knowledge and identifying values and motivations that will inform the process and plan content. This section describes the various groups involved in the public engagement process. A complete list of the meetings held during the plan development process is provided in ~~**Appendix L**~~**Appendix L**.

1. PLSLWD Board of Managers

The PLSLWD Board of Managers participated in a series of workshops that produced the Managers' priorities for watershed management issues, goals and implementation actions over the 10-year timeframe of the WRMP.

During this series of special meetings, the Board discussed how they would like to address newer issues such as groundwater management and changes in precipitation patterns as well as on-going issues related to upland storage and priorities for lake management. The key findings of these discussions were that there are three priority concerns (water quality, AIS and flood reduction), but there were also areas that the Board would like more information such as what role the PLSLWD should play in groundwater management, what the pros & cons would be of a PLSLWD boundary change to better reflect where the water drains, at what level the Board should consider wetland management, and to what degree can the PLSLWD better address and make progress on flood reduction goals.

2. Technical Advisory Committee

The PLSLWD's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) included one staff representative from the BWSR, MNDNR, MPCA, Metropolitan Council, Scott County Watershed Management Organization, Scott Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD), Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (SMSC), Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (LMRWD), Scott County, City of Prior Lake, City of Savage, City of Shakopee, and Spring Lake Township.

The TAC participated in the plan development process by participating in the IIME (taking the survey and discussing the results) and providing feedback on the issues, measurable goals and implementation plan.

3. Citizen Advisory Committee

The PLSLWD's Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) consists of residents who provide input and recommendations to the Board of Managers on projects, reports and prioritization and act as the primary interface for the Board to address the current issues of concern of local citizens. There were fourteen citizen representatives on the CAC, all of whom participated in the plan development process.

Like the TAC, the CAC participated in the plan development process by participating in the IIME (taking the survey and discussing the results) and providing feedback on the issues, measurable goals and the implementation plan.

4. Farmer-Led Council

The PLSLWD's Farmer-Led Council (FLC) is comprised of local farmers who develop and guide the implementation of strategies that the PLSLWD will use to accomplish agriculture's share of the nutrient reduction goal. Agricultural lands make up the majority of the land in the Spring Lake and Upper Prior Lake watersheds. As such, farmers are the most important stewards of the land and their active input and participation is critical to achieving water quality goals.

The FLC participated in the plan development process by participating in an Agricultural Issues Survey, summarized in ~~Appendix L~~Appendix L, identifying issues of concern to the agricultural community and providing feedback on measurable goals and strategies.

5. Stakeholders and the General Public

PLSLWD held two meetings with the public over the course of the plan development process: the first to identify issues and concerns and the second to weigh in on the implementation plan and review draft plan content. Information collected during the stakeholder and public engagement process is summarized in ~~Appendix L~~Appendix L.

While much of the feedback supports the issues, policies and goals brought forward from previous plans, new information was brought to light that resulted in the development of new issues, policies and goals, allowed for further refinement of existing issues, policies and goals or led to discussions with the Managers and staff about priorities for watershed management. For example, feedback received from the public indicated that protecting the recreational value and ecological health of the PLSLWD's resources was a big concern and priority for residents of the watershed. This need led to a discussion about all of the PLSLWD's surface water resources (e.g. smaller, disconnected lakes and streams) and how they are being managed now and into the future.

E. Previous Plan Recommendations

During the PLSLWD's Level II performance review in 2016 (~~Appendix K~~Appendix K), BWSR concluded that the PLSLWD had completed or was making progress on 37 of their 62 action initiatives (60%). Several of the items were not started pending the completion of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS) study and report for the Lower Minnesota River watershed. Some of the actions that were dropped were projects that the managers considered and evaluated but determined to be infeasible or not warranted. BWSR was particularly impressed with the PLSLWD's tracking and reporting of the changing conditions of the water resources in the District, particularly the lakes. The PLSLWD's website contains detailed information about water quality and other lake conditions. However, while there were many excellent projects implemented by the PLSLWD, BWSR provided three key recommendations to the Board for future consideration:

1) To consider setting measurable resource condition targets for PLSLWD lakes;
2) To consider how to engage with all PLSLWD partners in both communication and collaboration to address PLSLWD goals; and
3) To address the Local Water Plan compliance action item.

- **GOAL WQ2: Meet the state water quality standards for aquatic recreation on Spring Lake.**
- **GOAL WQ3: Meet the state water quality standards for aquatic recreation on Upper Prior Lake.**
- **GOAL WQ4: Improve water quality in Fish Lake by reducing annual phosphorous load by 40 lbs/year (50% of Lower MN Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy).**

b) Tier 2 Lakes

One of the Tier 2 lakes (Pike Lake) has been identified by the MPCA as being impaired for aquatic recreation due to excess nutrients, both from internal and external sources. The remaining three Tier 2 lakes have received significant recent or planned investment into the water resource due to their unique attributes as well as their connectivity and direct impact on Tier 1 lakes. While none of the four Tier 2 lakes have public access points, they still provide important water quality, aesthetic, and ecological benefits to the PLSLWD.

POLICY: PLSLWD is committed to achieving improvements to water quality for Tier 2 lakes (Pike Lake, Sutton Lake, Arctic Lake, and Buck Lake).

- **GOAL WQ5: Improve water quality in Arctic Lake by supporting SMSC's improvement efforts to reduce watershed phosphorus loading by 37 lbs/yr and by partnering with SMSC, the City of Prior Lake and the Three Rivers Park District on future projects as opportunities arise.**
- **GOAL WQ6: In partnership with SMSC and the City of Prior Lake, improve Pike Lake by achieving 10% percent improvement in TP concentrations to work toward the TMDL pollutant reduction requirements.**
- **GOAL WQ7: Assess the quality of Sutton Lake and develop a Lake Management Plan.**
- **GOAL WQ8: Assign a District water quality standard for Buck Lake and set management goals for the next 10-year plan.**

c) Tier 3 Lakes

There are several other lakes where monitoring data exists but there is insufficient information to assess if the resource meets the state's water quality standard. These lakes include: Crystal, Jeffers Pond, Rice, and Swamp. All but Jeffers Pond contributes stormwater runoff to the Prior-Spring chain-of-lakes. None have public access; however, they are valued by the residents who live near the resources which provide scenic, flood-reduction, water quality, and aesthetic benefits to the public and habitat for wildlife.

Policy: PLSLWD intends to monitor and assess the water quality for Tier 3 lakes (Haas Lake, Cates Lake, Jeffers Pond, Rice Lake, Crystal Lake, and Swamp Lake).

- **GOAL WQ9: Assess the quality of Tier 3 Lakes ~~and assign lake management classifications~~.**

2. WETLANDS

The 2012 Comprehensive Wetland Plan inventoried a total of 716 wetlands covering 3,533 acres of the watershed. Of these, the 2012 Comprehensive Wetland Plan identifies two classes of protection wetlands: the Hydrology Class and the Natural Areas Management Class wetlands. The Hydrology Class warrants protection in order to preserve existing downstream water quality function and groundwater recharge function. The Natural Areas Management Class warrants protection based on the high ranking for vegetative diversity and wildlife habitat. Additionally, the City of Prior Lake has identified several high-quality wetlands that need to be protected from adjacent land use changes. For instance, the wetland in the Trillium Cove development is a high-quality wetland (floating bog) that is accessible to the public via a trail system. Encroachment of terrestrial invasive species is affecting the resource. In addition, Rice Lake Park Wetland is also a high-quality resource in need of a buffer and vegetative management.

A significant portion of the wetlands within the upper watershed of the PLSLWD have been lost to agricultural land use activities (i.e. tiling and ditching). While development-related wetland impacts are mitigated per Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) regulations, replacement often occurs outside the watershed. Wetland restoration and enhancement projects, while an on-going activity for the PLSLWD as part of its flood reduction strategies (needed to address the flood protection goal), have been limited in number.

The PLSLWD has identified high quality wetlands to protect and degraded wetlands to enhance as part of its Comprehensive Wetland Plan (~~Appendix I~~Appendix I). Efforts for restoration will consist of referral of restorations to other appropriate agency programs, projects required as a part of future development as well as easement acquisition and restoration by the PLSLWD itself.

Policy: PLSLWD is committed to maintaining or improving the quantity & quality of wetlands in the District.

- ***GOAL WQ10: Maintain no net loss of wetlands in the District.***
- ***GOAL WQ11: Restore or enhance 5% (24 of 482 acres) of the Restoration/Enhancement Management Class of wetlands (as identified in the Comprehensive Wetland Plan), focusing on those that work towards prioritized and/or multiple PLSLWD goals.***

3. STREAMS

There are several stream systems located in the watershed. The major stream systems serve as conveyance for stormwater runoff as it makes its way from the upper watershed (e.g. County Ditch 13) to the chain-of-lakes and on to the Minnesota River via the Prior Lake Outlet Channel.

The MPCA has identified two streams that do not support aquatic life and are impaired for biotic integrity: specific reaches of County Ditch 13 and the Prior Lake Outlet Channel. Both of these stream reaches are highly altered and viewed more as conveyance systems than high quality streams. As such, addressing altered hydrology and pollutant loading from areas tributary to these systems continues to be the primary focus of the PLSLWD and its member communities.

That said, there are several smaller stream systems located in the watershed that residents who attended WRMP public meetings expressed interest in having the PLSLWD manage for other functions such as wildlife habitat and recreational value. Examples of higher priority resources identified through the public engagement process include Buck Lake Creek and Cates Creek. The PLSLWD intends to conduct assessment of these systems and potentially establish management goals for incorporation into a plan amendment.

Policy: PLSLWD is committed to improving streambank stability on public waters & major streams.

- ***GOAL WQ12: Stabilize a minimum of ten bank erosion/slumping sites, prioritizing those in the watersheds of Tier 1 or Tier 2 lakes and/or meet multiple PLSLWD goals[1].***
- ***GOAL WQ13: Improve the stability of the Prior Lake Outlet Channel through annual maintenance, pipelining, and complete 10,000 linear feet of bank repair work (PLOC Master Plan, 2019).***

4. GROUNDWATER

Land alterations have the potential to impact groundwater resources as well as groundwater dependent natural resources. The Scott County Geological Atlas indicates that there are portions of the watershed that are highly susceptible to groundwater contamination. Without proper land-use and water resource management, the following impacts could occur: reduced groundwater quality, reduced groundwater recharge, alterations to drinking water supply, and alterations to the functions and values of groundwater dependent natural resources. The Twin Cities Metropolitan Area Master Water Supply Plan's water supply profile for the communities located in the watershed identify several issues related to drinking water protection including:

- Significant vulnerability to contamination: travel time from land surface to bedrock aquifers is estimated to be less than 50 years in Sand Creek Township, SMSC, Savage, Shakopee, Spring Lake Township, and Prior Lake.
- Potential for significant decline in aquifer water levels: regional groundwater modeling indicates significant aquifer decline under 2040 demand pumping rates in Shakopee, Spring Lake Township, SMSC, and Prior Lake.
- Potential impacts on surface water features and ecosystems from groundwater pumping; groundwater-dependent natural resources and surface waters in the area may be directly connected to regional groundwater system in Savage, Shakopee, Spring Lake Township, SMSC, and Prior Lake.

Additionally, Scott County's assessment of groundwater monitoring identifies the need to better coordinate the collection and analysis of groundwater data.

Drinking Water Protection

The Twin Cities Metropolitan Area Master Water Supply Plan indicates that communities in the PLSLWD are located in areas vulnerable to groundwater contamination. Although watershed districts are not

[1] this is an interim goal that is to be revised via a plan amendment after the inventory and assessment work has been completed.

7~~7~~4 Implementation Actions that Help Achieve One or More Goals:

The Implementation Actions are organized by the measurable goals listed in Section III above. Note that some Implementation Actions address multiple goals and may be listed more than once. The Implementation Actions that repeat are identified by *italicized text.* Each of the Implementation Actions later will be organized into PLSLWD programs, keeping the same numbering system and color scheme as below:

Capital Projects # Operations & Maintenance # Planning # Monitoring # Regulation # Education & Outreach

- *Italicized grey text* = Implementation Action repeated from previous goal. Note that it keeps the same number.
- Implementation Actions are numbered in order, 1-~~74~~77, regardless of color (program).

GOAL WQ1: Maintain or improve 5-year average for Total Phosphorus, Chlorophyll-a and Secchi depth in Lower Prior Lake.

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS
External Loading	Stormwater Runoff	1 Review the Lower Prior Lake Diagnostic Study and set new goals as needed.
		2 Implement stormwater retrofits in the Lower Prior Lake drainage area as opportunities arise.
		3 Continue to provide assistance to the City of Prior Lake for its Targeted Intensive Street Sweeping program.
		4 Implement activity identified in the 2020 Lower Prior Lake Subwatershed Feasibility Study.
		5 Enforce District Rules through active permit program and assess the need for rule updates on a five-year basis.
		6 Provide information to residents to encourage individual choices that benefit water quality and to increase participation in cost-share programs.
		7 Regularly and effectively monitor water quality on Tier 1 lakes and its tributaries in order to inform District plans and projects.

GOAL WQ2: Meet the state water quality standards for aquatic recreation on Spring Lake.

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS
External Loading	Stormwater Runoff	*3 Continue to provide assistance to the City of Prior Lake for its Targeted Intensive Street Sweeping program.*
		5 Enforce District Rules through active permit program and assess the need for rule updates on a five-year basis.
		6 Provide information to residents to encourage individual choices that benefit water quality and to increase participation in cost-share programs.
		7 Regularly and effectively monitor water quality on Tier 1 lakes and its tributaries in order to inform District plans and projects.
		8 Implement nutrient reduction BMPs in the Spring West subwatershed, such as those ~~the strategy~~ identified in the Spring Lake West Subwatershed Feasibility Study.
		9 Implement one or more storage and infiltration projects identified in upper watershed planning efforts such as District feasibility studies, the 2023 Flood Storage Decision Matrix, the 2016 Flood Study, the Upper Watershed Blueprint and the Spring & Upper Prior Lake TMDL Implementation Plan.
		10 Update the District's Comprehensive Wetland Plan which identifies strategic wetlands that help work towards achieving prioritized and/or multiple goals, including climate resiliency.
		11 Strategically target and implement a minimum of one wetland restoration in the Spring Lake Watershed identified in Comprehensive Wetland Plan.
		12 Continue to provide cost-share opportunities for residential & agricultural water quality and habitat improvement projects within the watershed, including Farmer-Led Council initiatives, that reduce nutrient loading or runoff volume.
		13 Collaborate with LGUs and/or other partners on three or more retrofit water quality and volume management BMPs and/or water quality improvement research studies.

14 Collaborate with the City of Prior Lake to promote efforts for the Innovative P load reductions program.

1475 Reassess feasibility of Buck Chemical Treatment System and implement if feasible.

7614 Implement a streambank restoration project, such as the Buck Stream Stabilization.

~~***Goal WQ2 continued from previous page***~~

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS	
External Loading	Stormwater Runoff	15	Collaborate with Scott County to incorporate water quality improvement components at Spring Lake Regional Park *(Source: Scott County Local Water Resources Plan, Page 33).*
		16	Develop equitable regional stormwater management plans with municipalities that includes a stormwater utility credit program for future development areas.
		17	Work with the Farmer-Led Council to create win-win programming in agricultural areas to improve water quality, including cover crop programs, no-till incentives, and other soil health initiatives.
		18	Continue to provide water resources information and project updates to residents through social media platforms, press releases, targeted mailings, email blasts, signage and the District's website.
		19	Organize public participation/information events (e.g. Clean Water Clean-Up or District Tours) at least four times per year.
		20	Continue to help support, organize and facilitate a Citizens Advisory Committee and its projects.
		21	Continue to help support, organize and facilitate a Farmer-Led Council and its initiatives.
		22	Continue supporting SCWEP and partner with Scott SWCD and/or other LGUs in Scott County to hold a minimum of two training events for residents per year that helps provide information for projects that benefit water quality and/or flood reduction.
		23	Coordinate with other LGU partners at least once per year to provide targeted outreach to landowners to encourage them to use good water resource practices and/or participate in cost-share opportunities which not only fulfils MS4 education and outreach obligations but also supports all District projects & programs.
		24	Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.
		25	Develop a plan to conduct outreach to non-profit partners (e.g. Great River Greening, Freshwater Society, UMN, etc.) on an annually basis to assess potential opportunities to leverage funds and/or collaborate on projects.
	County Ditch 13 System	26	Operate and maintain the Ferric Chloride Treatment System, completing dredging of the desilt pond as necessary. Make system improvements informed by 2023/2024 Ferric Chloride System Assessment.
		27	Partner with local farmers, landowners, Scott County, Spring Lake Township and Sand Creek Township to identify opportunities and implement projects to improve stabilization of banks, habitat and water quality in County Ditch 13, such as an iron enhanced sand filter (ie. MB CD-13, Sutton, Swamp BMP sites).
Internal Loading	AIS	28	Annually update and implement the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Plan for Common Carp.

	29	Annually assess curly-leaf pondweed on Tier 1 lakes, implementing chemical or physical controls as needed to reduce harmful growth.
Lake Sediment	30	Complete aluminum sulfate treatments on Spring Lake, Fish Lake and Upper Prior Lake as needed to achieve water quality standards.

GOAL WQ3: Meet the state water quality standards for aquatic recreation on Upper Prior Lake.

ISSUE	SOURCE		IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS
External Loading	Stormwater Runoff	4	*Implement activities that help reduce phosphorus in Spring Lake (see above Implementation Actions).*
		5	*Enforce District Rules through active permit program and assess the need for rule updates on a five-year basis.*
		6	*Provide information to residents to encourage individual choices that benefit water quality and to increase participation in cost-share programs.*
		7	*Regularly and effectively monitor water quality on Tier 1 lakes and its tributaries in order to inform District plans and projects.*
		9	*Implement one or more storage and infiltration projects identified in upper watershed planning efforts such as District feasibility studies, the 2023 Flood Storage Decision Matrix, the 2016 Flood Study, the Upper Watershed Blueprint and —the Spring & Upper Prior Lake TMDL Implementation Plan.*
		10	*Update the District's Comprehensive Wetland Plan which identifies strategic wetlands that help work towards achieving prioritized and/or multiple goals, including climate resiliency.*
		12	*Continue to provide cost-share opportunities for residential & agricultural water quality and habitat improvement projects within the watershed, including Farmer-Led Council initiatives that reduce nutrient loading or runoff volume.*
		13	*Collaborate with LGUs and/or other partners on three or more retrofit water quality and volume management BMPs and/or water quality improvement research studies.*
		14	*Collaborate with the City of Prior Lake to promote efforts for the Innovative P load reductions program.*
		16	*Develop equitable regional stormwater management plans with municipalities that includes a stormwater utility credit program for future development areas.*
		18	*Continue to provide water resources information and project updates to residents through social media platforms, press releases, targeted mailings, email blasts, signage and the District's website.*
		19	*Organize public participation/information events (e.g. Clean Water Clean-Up or District Tours) at least four times per year.*
		20	*Continue to help support, organize and facilitate a Citizens Advisory Committee and its projects.*
		21	*Continue to help support, organize and facilitate a Farmer-Led Council and its initiatives.*
		22	*Continue supporting SCWEP and partner with Scott SWCD and/or other LGUs in Scott County to hold a minimum of two training events for residents per year that helps provide information for projects that benefit water quality and/or flood reduction.*
		23	*Coordinate with other LGU partners at least once per year to provide targeted outreach to landowners to encourage them to use good water resource practices and/or participate in cost-share opportunities which not*

~~***Goal WQ3 continued from previous page***~~

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS	
Internal Loading	AIS	25	*Develop a plan to conduct outreach to non-profit partners (to assess potential opportunities to leverage funds and/or collaborate on projects.*
		28	*Annually update and implement the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Plan for Common Carp.*
		29	*Annually assess curly-leaf pondweed on Tier 1 lakes, implementing chemical or physical controls as needed to reduce harmful growth.*
	Lake Sediment	30	*Complete aluminum sulfate treatments on Spring Lake, Fish Lake and Upper Prior Lake as needed to achieve water quality standards.*

GOAL WQ4: Improve water quality in Fish Lake by reducing annual phosphorous load by 40 lbs/year (50% of Lower MN Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy).

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS	
External Loading	Stormwater Runoff	5	*Enforce District Rules through active permit program and assess the need for rule updates on a five-year basis.*
		6	*Provide information to residents to encourage individual choices that benefit water quality and to increase participation in cost-share programs.*
		7	*Regularly and effectively monitor water quality on Tier 1 lakes and its tributaries in order to inform District plans and projects.*
	Agricultural Runoff	12	*Continue to provide cost-share opportunities for residential & agricultural water quality and habitat improvement projects within the watershed, including Farmer-Led Council initiatives that reduce nutrient loading or runoff volume.*
		21	*Continue to help support, organize and facilitate a Farmer-Led Council and its initiatives.*
		23	*Coordinate with other LGU partners at least once per year to provide targeted outreach to landowners to encourage them to use good water resource practices and/or participate in cost-share opportunities which not only fulfils MS4 education and outreach obligations but also supports all District projects & programs.*
		31	Explore a potential biofiltration or iron-enhanced sand filtration treatment of agricultural runoff (tile drainage) on the north side of Fish lake, completing a project as opportunities and funding are available.
	Altered/Loss of Wetlands	32	Partner with the new or current owners of the Fish Lake Acres Campground to implement wetland restoration and enhancement project as feasible.
Internal Loading	AIS	28	*Annually update and implement the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Plan for Common Carp.*
		29	*Annually assess curly-leaf pondweed on Tier 1 lakes, implementing chemical or physical controls as needed to reduce harmful growth.*
		77	Complete an updated Fish Lake Management Plan to inform future management and potential BMPs to improve Fish Lake.
		32	Study and implement projects identified in the Fish Lake Management Plan to reduce phosphorus loads in Fish Lake.
		30	*Complete aluminum sulfate treatments on Spring Lake, Fish Lake and Upper Prior Lake as needed to achieve water quality standards.*

GOAL WQ5: Improve water quality in Arctic Lake by supporting SMSC's improvement efforts to reduce watershed phosphorus loading by 37 lbs/yr and by partnering with SMSC, the City of Prior Lake and the Three Rivers Park District on future projects as opportunities arise.

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS
External Loading	Stormwater Runoff	*5 Enforce District Rules through active permit program and assess the need for rule updates on a five-year basis.*
		33 Support the SMSC with implementation of stabilization and retrofit water quality BMP projects in the Arctic Lake watershed as identified.
		34 Monitor and assess data for the District's waterbodies as prescribed in the District's Long-Term Monitoring Plan.
Internal Loading	Common Carp	35 Support SMSC's monitoring program by sharing information and resources to better understand nutrient dynamics within Arctic & Pike Lakes and partner with them as part of the IPM Plan for Common Carp.

GOAL WQ6: In partnership with SMSC and the City of Prior Lake, improve Pike Lake by achieving 10% percent improvement in TP concentrations to work toward the TMDL pollutant reduction requirements

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS
External Loading	Stormwater Runoff	*5 Enforce District Rules through active permit program and assess the need for rule updates on a five-year basis.*
		6 Provide information to residents to encourage individual choices that benefit water quality and to increase participation in cost-share programs.
		34 Monitor and assess data for the District's waterbodies as prescribed in the District's Long-Term Monitoring Plan.
		36 Work with the developers to include enhanced water quality and habitat features in projects, providing cost-share as incentives.
Internal Loading	Common Carp	*28 Annually update and implement the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Plan for Common Carp.*
		35 Support SMSC's monitoring program by sharing information and resources to better understand nutrient dynamics within Arctic & Pike Lakes and partner with them as part of the IPM Plan for Common Carp.

GOAL WQ7: Assess the quality of Sutton Lake and develop a Lake Management Plan.

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS
Low Diversity	Dominant Plant Species	*34 Monitor and assess data for the District's waterbodies as prescribed in the District's Long-Term Monitoring Plan.*
		37 Develop a lake management plan for Sutton Lake.
		38 Provide equitable opportunities for communities to engage in and provide feedback for projects, programs, and District plans through neighborhood & public meetings, online surveys, direct mailings, District tours, presentations at local groups, etc.

~~***Goal WQ7 continued from previous page***~~

ISSUE	SOURCE	~~IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS~~	
Low Diversity	Dominant Plant Species	39	Engage local government partners, elected & appointed officials, state agencies, non-profits, and experts in planning efforts for District projects & programs, as appropriate.

GOAL WQ8: Assign a District water quality standard for Buck Lake and set management goals for the next 10-year plan.

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS	
High phosphorus levels	Internal loading	34	*Monitor and assess data for the District's waterbodies as prescribed in the District's Long-Term Monitoring Plan.*
		40	Conduct a lake diagnostic study for Buck Lake to determine phosphorus budget, including a sediment core analysis, and identify restoration strategies based on applicable standard.

GOAL WQ9: Assess the quality of Tier 3 Lakes~~ and assign lake management classifications~~.

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS	
Minimal information available	Limited historical monitoring	34	*Monitor and assess data for the District's waterbodies as prescribed in the District's Long-Term Monitoring Plan.*

GOAL WQ10: Maintain no net loss of wetlands in the District.

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS	
Loss of wetland quantity	Development	5	*Enforce District Rules through an active permit program and assess the need for rule updates on a five-year basis.*
		6	*Provide information to residents to encourage individual choices that benefit water quality and to increase participation in cost-share programs.*
		41	Conduct outreach to new developments early in the planning process to identify areas of opportunity for water quality improvements.
		42	Protect wetlands and wetland buffers under PLSLWD conservation easements or other municipal control through District Rule J enforcement or other mechanisms.
		43	Create a District wetland banking program to ensure no wetland loss when the use of wetland credits is necessary for a project within the District.
	Agricultural activities	23	*Coordinate with other LGU partners at least once per year to provide targeted outreach to landowners to encourage them to use good water resource practices and/or participate in cost-share opportunities which not only fulfils MS4 education and outreach obligations but also supports all District projects & programs.*
		44	Identify opportunities to use other programs (e.g. Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, non-profit organization programs, etc.) to temporarily or permanently protect wetlands in the agricultural areas.
		45	Continue to provide cost-share opportunities for wetland restoration projects.

GOAL WQ11: Restore or enhance 5% (24 of 482 acres) of the Restoration/Enhancement Management Class of wetlands (as identified in the Comprehensive Wetland Plan), focusing on those that work towards prioritized and/or multiple District goals.

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS	
Loss of Wetland Quality	Insufficient targeting & outreach	6	*Provide information to residents to encourage individual choices that benefit water quality and to increase participation in cost-share programs.*
		18	*Continue to provide water resources information and project updates to residents through social media platforms, press releases, targeted mailings, email blasts, signage and the District's website.*
		20	*Continue to help support, organize and facilitate a Citizens Advisory Committee and its projects.*
		21	*Continue to help support, organize and facilitate a Farmer-Led Council and its initiatives.*
		23	*Coordinate with other LGU partners at least once per year to provide targeted outreach to landowners to encourage them to use good water resource practices and/or participate in cost-share opportunities which not only fulfils MS4 education and outreach obligations but also supports all District projects & programs.*
		38	*Provide equitable opportunities for communities to engage in and provide feedback for projects, programs, and District plans through neighborhood & public meetings, online surveys, direct mailings, District tours, presentations at local groups, etc.*
		39	*Engage local government partners, elected & appointed officials, state agencies, non-profits, and experts in planning efforts for District projects & programs, as appropriate.*
		45	*Continue to provide cost-share opportunities for wetland restoration projects.*
		46	Update the Comprehensive Wetland Plan (CWP) to discretely characterize wetland storage capacity and downstream water quality functions.
		47	Use CWP information to strategically target wetland restorations through outreach & implementation of a wetland acquisition program.
	Development	41	*Conduct outreach to new developments early in the planning process to identify areas of opportunity for water quality improvements.*
		48	Coordinate with LGU partners to improve/protect buffers on public property through habitat improvement, signage, or regular inspections.
		49	Monitor and enforce existing conservation easements.
Loss of Wetland Quality	Upstream Waterbodies	24	*Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.*

~~***Goal WQ11 continued from previous page***~~

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS
Loss of Wetland Quality	Upstream Waterbodies	25 *Develop a plan to conduct outreach to non-profit partners (e.g. GRG, TPL, Freshwater Society, UMN, etc.) on an annually basis to assess potential opportunities to leverage funds and/or collaborate on projects.*
		50 Assess the storage capacity of the Hwy 13 wetland to maintain pretreatment function for the Ferric Chloride Treatment System and dredge/restore as recommended.
		51 Enhance the habitat and wetland functions of the Frog Farm Wetland.

GOAL WQ12: Stabilize a minimum of ten bank erosion/slumping sites, prioritizing those that impact Tier 1 or Tier 2 lakes and/or meet multiple District goals.

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS
Streambank erosion & slumping	Historical damage to banks	27 *Partner with local farmers, landowners, Scott County, Spring Lake Township and Sand Creek Township to identify opportunities and implement projects to improve stabilization of banks, habitat and water quality in County Ditch 13, such as an iron enhanced sand filter (ie. MB CD-13, Sutton, Swamp BMP sites).*
		23 *Coordinate with other LGU partners at least once per year to provide targeted outreach to landowners to encourage them to use good water resource practices and/or participate in cost-share opportunities which not only fulfils MS4 education and outreach obligations but also supports all District projects & programs.*
		52 Develop a Streambank Restoration Program that strategically prioritizes sites for stabilization based on water quality & flooding benefits and implements a minimum of ten projects.
		53 Complete bank erosion inventory project for streams and other tributaries in the upper watershed to establish baseline conditions and the number of sites that needing stabilization.
	Stormwater drainage	6 *Provide information to residents to encourage individual choices that benefit water quality and to increase participation in cost-share programs.*
		21 *Continue to help support, organize and facilitate a Farmer-Led Council and its initiatives.*
		54 Provide increased incentives for establishment of buffers and filter strips along private ditches and streams through the Cost Share Program.
		22 *Continue supporting SCWEP and partner with Scott SWCD and/or other LGUs in Scott County to hold a minimum of two training events for residents per year that helps provide information for projects that benefit water quality and/or flood reduction.*

~~***Goal WQ12 continued from previous page***~~

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS
Streambank erosion & slumping	Stormwater drainage	24 *Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.*
		25 *Develop a plan to conduct outreach to non-profit partners (e.g. GRG, TPL, Freshwater Society, UMN, etc.) on an annually basis to assess potential opportunities to leverage funds and/or collaborate on projects.*
		39 *Engage local government partners, elected & appointed officials, state agencies, non-profits, and experts in planning efforts for District projects & programs, as appropriate.*

GOAL WQ13: Improve the stability of the Prior Lake Outlet Channel through annual maintenance, pipelining, and complete 10,000 linear feet of bank repair work (PLOC Master Plan).

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS
Erosion along PLOC	Significant rain events & flooding	55 Maintain (or finish completion of) the Prior Lake Outlet Channel Stabilization Project (7,400 linear feet of bank repair funded by FEMA Public Assistance funding), completing as-builts and post-stabilization bank assessment work on repaired channel banks.
		56 Repair an additional 10,000 linear feet of eroded banks at locations identified in the PLOC Master Plan (EOR, 2019).
		57 Manage the Prior Lake Outlet Channel per the Memorandum of Agreement for Use, Operation, and Maintenance of the Prior Lake Outlet Channel and Outlet Structure, Version 9, dated April 2, 2019.

GOAL WQ14: Actively participate in groundwater planning efforts to support municipal protection of highly vulnerable areas of DWSMA's or groundwater dependent natural resources.

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS
Groundwater quality and/or contamination	Current and future land uses	39 *Engage local government partners, elected & appointed officials, state agencies, non-profits, and experts in planning efforts for District projects & programs, as appropriate.*
		58 Serve on wellhead protection planning teams to assist public water suppliers with planning and implementation activities to address land use planning concerns.
		59 Develop a plan on how to better incorporate consideration of groundwater and drinking water protection when reviewing new permits and completing capital projects to incorporate the alignment with NFMP and GPR activities.
	Improperly sealed wells	60 Continue to provide Cost Share funding for the sealing of decommissioned wells in partnership with the SWCD.
	Quality of groundwater	61 Develop new incentives for low-impact development practices and BMPs that reduce the need for irrigation, promote infiltration, and protect groundwater quality through the Cost Share Program.

GOAL AIS1: Develop and implement an Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Response and Prevention Plan in coordination with Scott County to help prevent new AIS from entering Tier 1 lakes (lakes with public access).

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS	
New AIS can reduce water quality	Infested boats entering lakes	6	*Provide information to residents to encourage individual choices that benefit water quality and to increase participation in cost-share programs.*
		18	*Continue to provide water resources information and project updates to residents through social media platforms, press releases, targeted mailings, email blasts, signage and the District's website.*
		20	*Continue to help support, organize and facilitate a Citizens Advisory Committee and its projects.*
		23	*Coordinate with other LGU partners at least once per year to provide targeted outreach to landowners to encourage them to use good water resource practices and/or participate in cost-share opportunities which not only fulfils MS4 education and outreach obligations but also supports all District projects & programs.*
		24	*Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.*
		25	*Develop a plan to conduct outreach to non-profit partners (e.g. GRG, TPL, Freshwater Society, UMN, etc.) on an annually basis to assess potential opportunities to leverage funds and/or collaborate on projects.*
		39	*Engage local government partners, elected & appointed officials, state agencies, non-profits, and experts in planning efforts for District projects & programs, as appropriate.*
		62	Create and implement an AIS Rapid Response and Prevention Plan for Tier 1 lakes in collaboration with local and state partners.
		63	Partner with local partners and/or the University of Minnesota to implement strategies to prevent the spread of known and emerging AIS in Tier 1 lakes.
	Zebra Mussels	64	As new research allows, implement strategies to better manage the spread and population of zebra mussels in and out of Prior Lake.

GOAL AIS2: Effectively manage common carp in Tier 1 and Tier 2 lakes to 10~~3~~0 kg/ha or below.

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS	
New AIS can reduce water quality	Infested boats entering lakes	28	*Annually update and implement the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Plan for Common Carp.*
		34	*Monitor and assess data for the District's waterbodies as prescribed in the District's Long-Term Monitoring Plan.*
		35	*Support SMSC's monitoring program by sharing information and resources to better understand nutrient dynamics within Arctic & Pike Lakes and partner with them as part of the IPM Plan for Common Carp.*

GOAL RF1: Achieve the first-tier priority flood reduction goal to reduce the flood level on Prior Lake (from 905.62) to 905.5 feet for the 25-year return period (Source: Prior Lake Stormwater Management & Flood Mitigation Study, 2016).

ISSUE	SOURCE	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS	
Flooding on Prior Lake	Insufficient upstream storage	21	*Continue to help support, organize and facilitate a Farmer-Led Council and its initiatives.*
		23	*Coordinate with other LGU partners at least once per year to provide targeted outreach to landowners to encourage them to use good water resource practices and/or participate in cost-share opportunities which not only fulfils MS4 education and outreach obligations but also supports all District projects & programs.*
		25	*Develop a plan to conduct outreach to non-profit partners (e.g. GRG, TPL, Freshwater Society, UMN, etc.) on an annually basis to assess potential opportunities to leverage funds and/or collaborate on projects.*
		27	*Partner with local farmers, landowners, Scott County, Spring Lake Township and Sand Creek Township to identify opportunities and implement projects to improve stabilization of banks, habitat and water quality in County Ditch 13, such as an iron enhanced sand filter (ie. MB CD-13, Sutton, Swamp BMP sites).*
		39	*Engage local government partners, elected & appointed officials, state agencies, non-profits, and experts in planning efforts for District projects & programs, as appropriate.*
		65	Conduct an assessment of the upland storage sites identified in the Stormwater Management & Flood Mitigation Study, 2016 and the Upper Subwatershed Assessment to create a prioritized list of potential storage areas based on refined cost estimates, feasibility, and opportunity.
		66	Complete flood reduction projects in order to provide a total of 176 acre-feet of storage in the upper watershed (includes Sutton Lake project) and to improve climate resiliency.
		67	Develop a Detention Policy in coordination with LGU partners (which includes the Spring Lake Dam Policy) for each of the waterbodies in the District that identifies normal operating levels and ability to manage water levels for flood management.
	Historical & new land development	5	*Enforce District Rules through active permit program and assess the need for rule updates on a five-year basis.*
		6	*Provide information to residents to encourage individual choices that benefit water quality and to increase participation in cost-share programs.*
		16	*Develop equitable regional stormwater management plans with municipalities that includes a stormwater utility credit program for future development areas.*
		24	*Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.*
		68	Provide incentives through the Cost Share Program to member communities and the development community to promote the use of green infrastructure that contributes to flood reduction on Prior Lake.

1. Capital Improvement Program

Capital projects are generally large, expensive projects that cannot be funded easily with one of the existing implementation mechanisms, such as the cost-share framework. The PLSLWD will seek to implement these projects in partnership with local entities where possible, and seek grant funding, again where possible. The PLSLWD is prepared to contribute at least 25% of the estimated cost of the planned expenditures in this section, regardless of the outcome of grant applications. Each individual project is intended to significantly advance a goal or goals of the PLSLWD.

All capital projects will be preceded by a study, concept plan and/or cost-benefit analysis to determine their feasibility, either as part of a greater study (such as a TMDL study), or in the preceding year as a separate expenditure (see Section IV.C.3.4 – Feasibility Reports). The Board may choose not to fund planned capital expenditures if the outcome of the feasibility report is unfavorable.

1. IN-LAKE ALUM TREATMENTS

10-Year Budget: $3,266,100

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:	MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:
• Tier 1 Lakes	• **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake* • **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lake* • **WQ4:** *Improve water quality in Fish Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PEFORMED:

30 Complete aluminum sulfate treatments on Spring Lake, Fish Lake and Upper Prior Lake as needed to achieve water quality standards.

Background & Purpose

The Spring Lake-Upper Prior Lake Nutrient TMDL identified internal load as a significant source of phosphorus to Spring and Upper Prior Lake. The reduction of internal pollutant loading through one or more internal load management projects is identified as an important strategy in the improvement of water quality in Spring Lake and Upper Prior Lake. Controlling internal loading is necessary to improve water quality and clarity in Spring Lake and Upper Prior Lake.

Spring Lake has been dosed with two of the three phased aluminum sulfate (alum treatment) applications. The first application was in 2013 and the second was in 2018. A third application is scheduled for 2020.

The Upper Prior Lake Alum Treatment Feasibility Study (2019) prescribes a two-phased treatment approach. The first of which is scheduled for 2020 and the second is tentatively scheduled for 2022, depending on lake response and the success of the PLSLWD's Carp Management Program.

Legacy (in-lake) phosphorus loading is also anticipated to be an issue on Fish Lake. This source of phosphorus can be managed by conducting an alum treatment. All efforts will be made to reduce incoming phosphorus and remove carp before exploring an alum treatment.

Implementation Steps

1. Continue to fund In-Lake Alum Reserve Fund: This fund has been established to dampen annual levy fluctuations associated with in-lake alum treatments.

2. COUNTY DITCH 13 RESTORATION

10-Year Budget: $272,500

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:

- Tier 1 Lakes: *Spring, Upper Prior*
- Streams

MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:

- **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake*
- **WQ12:** *Stabilize a minimum of ten bank erosion sites*
- **RF1:** *Achieve first-tier flood reduction goal on Prior Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

27 Partner with local farmers, landowners, Scott County, Spring Lake Township and Sand Creek Township to identify opportunities and implement projects to improve stabilization of banks, habitat and water quality in County Ditch 13, such as an iron enhanced sand filter (ie. MB CD-13, Sutton, Swamp BMP sites).

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

11 *Strategically target and implement a minimum of one wetland restoration in the Spring Lake Watershed that is identified in Comprehensive Wetland Plan.*

16 *Develop equitable regional stormwater management plans with municipalities that includes a stormwater utility credit program for future development areas.*

23 *Coordinate with other LGU partners at least once per year to provide targeted outreach to landowners to encourage them to use good water resource practices and/or participate in cost-share opportunities which not only fulfils MS4 education and outreach obligations but also supports all District projects & programs.*

24 *Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.*

52 *Develop a Streambank Restoration Program that strategically prioritizes sites for stabilization based on water quality & flooding benefits and implements a minimum of ten projects.*

53 *Complete bank erosion inventory project for streams and other tributaries in the upper watershed to establish baseline conditions and the number of sites that needing stabilization.*

54 *Provide increased incentives for establishment of buffers and filter strips along private ditches and streams through the Cost Share Program.*

Background & Purpose

The greatest amount of phosphorus loading from external sources into Spring Lake comes from the County Ditch 13 system. This system has been altered over time in both shape/direction and amount of flow. Working with local farmers, landowners, Scott County, Spring Lake Township and Sand Creek Township to improve the stabilization of banks and water quality in County Ditch 13 will provide multiple benefits to residents. Those benefits include flood reduction, water quality improvements, wildlife habitat, stream improvements, and aesthetics.

Implementation Steps

The first step of this project is envisioned as 2-3 year effort culminating in a vision for the future of the County Ditch 13 system, one which sets the stormwater management goals, standards and framework for the potential transition from agricultural to predominantly rural residential land use (as planned by land use authorities). Once a plan has been developed, the 2020-2030 WRMP will be revised/updated to include specific undertakings for this project.

1. Gather Information: Activities completed in other projects such as the PCSWMM update, Comprehensive Wetland Plan update, Upper Watershed Blueprint development and municipal land use plans will be used to help to frame the overall vision for the County Ditch 13 system including proposed management, potential strategies and implementation projects. Partner with local farmers, landowners, Scott County, Spring Lake Township and Sand Creek Township to identify opportunities to improve stabilization of banks and water quality in County Ditch 13.
2. Develop Goals: Anticipated benefits, landowner interest, and discussions with the current ditch authority will help frame a Vision Plan that will be developed outlining goals for the project.

~~3. Update the Water Resource Management Plan: Update the 2020-2030 WRMP to include specific projects for the County Ditch 13 Restoration.~~

~~4.~~3. Execute Agreements: Work with landowners, farming operators, Scott County, and LGUs to draft and execute agreements for work along County Ditch 13.

~~5.~~4. Implement Projects: Complete implementation projects to restore County Ditch 13.

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
1. Gather Information											
2. Develop Goals											
3. Update WRMP											
4. Execute Agreements											
5. Implement Projects											

Funding Sources

The funding for restoration of County Ditch 13 will likely come from a variety of sources. Implementation Steps 1-34 will come from the District Levy. The PLSLWD will pursue state grants (e.g. BWSR Clean Water Fund grant), potential contributions from partners, and landowner contributions for the completion of the projects in Step 45.

5. FISH LAKE WATERSHED PROJECTS

10-Year Budget: $100,000

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:

- Tier 1 Lakes
- Tier 2 Lakes: *Buck*

MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:

- **WQ4:** *Improve water quality in Fish Lake*
- **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake*
- **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

31 Explore a potential biofiltration or iron-enhanced sand filtration treatment of agricultural runoff (tile drainage) on the north side of Fish lake, completing a project as opportunities and funding are available.

32 Partner with the new or current owners of the Fish Lake Acres Campground to implement wetland restoration and enhancement project as feasible.

~~77~~ Complete an updated Fish Lake Management Plan to inform future management and potential BMPs to improve Fish Lake.

~~73~~ Study and implement projects identified in the Fish Lake Management Plan to reduce phosphorus loads in Fish Lake.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

24 *Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.*

Background & Purpose

Fish Lake water quality slightly exceeds the state water quality standard of 40 ug/L of phosphorus and is considered impaired for excess nutrients. A WRAPS and Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study is anticipated to be completed by the MPCA in ~~2020~~2027.

Fish Lake is known to have a high internal load of phosphorus, but there are also some inputs from external sources. An assessment of the watershed and monitoring shows a tributary on the north side of the lake contributes relatively large amounts of phosphorus that comes from an open tile inlet in a farm field. A tributary from the west side of the lake has also been observed to have high turbidity. These hotspots will be assessed for potential conservation projects, which will reduce sedimentation and phosphorus from these tributaries, along with strategies identified in the MPCA's upcoming TMDL Implementation Plan. After the external sources have been addressed, the lake monitoring will show whether internal projects (possibly an alum treatment) may be needed to reach the water quality standard. Since the water quality is very near the standard, the PLSLWD hopes it can reach that goal solely by addressing external sources.

Implementation Steps

1. Targeted Outreach: The PLSLWD will work with Scott SWCD, Spring Lake Township, and the FLC to conduct targeted outreach to the landowners surrounding Fish Lake to explore the interest in potential projects. Specifically, the PLSLWD will coordinate an outreach effort to the landowner on the north side of the lake to explore a potential biofiltration or iron-enhanced sand filtration treatment of agricultural runoff (tile drainage), and to the new or current owners of the Fish Lake Acres Campground to explore a potential wetland restoration and enhancement project.

2. Feasibility Studies: The PLSLWD will complete a feasibility study for projects of interest such as the~~both the~~ north and west tributaries that have been identified as nutrient sources, as well as any potential projects identified in the updated Fish Lake Management Plan and upcoming TMDL Implementation Plan. The PLSLWD will work with the landowners to identify their goals and concerns.

~~3. Update the Water Resource Management Plan: Update the WRMP to include specific projects for the Fish Lake Watershed Project.~~

~~4.~~3. Implement Projects: Based on Board direction, the PLSLWD will implement one or more cost-effective projects that improve the water quality of Fish Lake.

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
1. Targeted Outreach											
2. Feasibility Studies											
3. Update the WRMP											
4. Implement Projects											

Funding Sources

The funding for the Public Infrastructure Partnership Projects will come from the District Levy, partner contributions (e.g. Spring Lake Township, Scott County, etc.) and state grant sources (e.g. BWSR Clean Water Funds, Watershed-Based Funding grant, etc.)

8. SPRING LAKE WEST SUBWATERSHED PROJECT

10-Year Budget: $230,000

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:

- Tier 1 Lakes: *Spring, Upper Prior*

MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:

- **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake*
- **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

8 Implement ~~the strategy~~nutrient reduction BMPs in the Spring West subwatershed, such as those identified in the Spring Lake West Subwatershed Feasibility Study.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

13 *Collaborate with LGUs and/or other partners on three or more retrofit water quality and volume management BMPs and/or water quality improvement research studies.*

24 *Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.*

36 *Work with the developers to include enhanced water quality and habitat features in projects, providing cost-share as incentives.*

41 *Conduct outreach to new developments early in the planning process to identify areas of opportunity for water quality improvements.*

Background & Purpose

The Spring West Subwatershed is drained via a stream (ditch) running east from the Highway Department that enters the west side of Spring Lake. This ditch has been monitored for several years and the results indicate high phosphorus, conductivity, chlorides, *E. coli* and nitrates. There is potentially to design and implement a water quality BMP along this ditch corridor in this watershed that has higher concentrations than any other subwatershed the PLSLWD has monitored. The feasibility study completed in 2020 prepared concept plans for the preferred alternative, a refined cost estimate and identification of assumptions and additional data needs for advancing the preferred alternative to final design.

Implementation Steps

1. Engineering & Design: Coordinate with landowners and LGUs to complete design plans for nutrient reduction BMPs, such as the projects identified in the 2020 Spring Lake West Subwatershed Feasibility Study. Agreements will be acquired as needed.
2. Project Construction: The PLSLWD will acquire grants as available and complete construction of the project.

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
1. Engineering & Design											
2. Project Construction											

Funding Sources

The funding for this Project will come from the District Levy, potential partner contributions (Scott County, and/or landowner contributions), and state grant sources (e.g. BWSR, MPCA, etc.) as available.

9. STORAGE & INFILTRATION PROJECTS

10-Year Budget: $3,242,850

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:

- Wetlands
- Tier 1 Lakes: Spring Lake, Lower Prior, Upper Prior

MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:

- **WQ1:** *Maintain or Improve water quality in Lower Prior Lk.*
- **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake*
- **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lake*
- **RF1:** *Achieve first-tier flood reduction goal on Prior Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

9 Implement one or more storage and infiltration projects identified in upper watershed planning efforts such as District feasibility studies, the 2023 Flood Storage Decision Matrix, the 2016 Flood Study, the Upper Watershed Blueprint and the Spring & Upper Prior Lake TMDL Implementation Plan.

66 Complete flood reduction projects in order to provide a total of 176 acre-feet of storage in the upper watershed (includes Sutton Lake project) and to improve climate resiliency.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

8 *Implement the strategy identified in the Spring Lake West Subwatershed Feasibility Study.*

13 *Collaborate with LGUs and/or other partners on three or more retrofit water quality and volume management BMPs and/or water quality improvement research studies.*

24 *Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.*

Background & Purpose

The 2016 Prior Lake Stormwater Management & Flood Mitigation Study recommended a short-term strategy to meet the first-tier, high priority Prior Lake protection level of 905.5 feet above sea level for the 25-year return period. In addition, in order to meet a second-tier flood level goal, the Study recommended that the PLSLWD would lead efforts to cost-effectively provide additional flood protection above the high-priority protection level of 905.5 based on future assessments as part of an adaptive management strategy.

Implementation Steps

1. Develop Upper Watershed Blueprint: See Section IV.C.3.9. This Blueprint will use information from the Spring & Upper Prior Lake TMDL Plan as well as other resources to identify potential storage & infiltration projects.
2. Prioritize Potential Projects: The PLSLWD will complete baseline analysis of sites and conduct initial outreach to landowners. This information will be used to prioritize potential projects based upon cost/benefit/feasibility to achieve a collective total of 176-acre feet of storage in the upper watershed in combination with the Sutton Lake Outlet project within the timeframe of this plan.
3. Engineering & Design: The PLSLWD will complete engineering and design for one or more projects.
4. Construction: The PLSLWD will implement one or more storage and infiltration projects, including one identified in upper watershed planning efforts such as District feasibility studies, the 2023 Flood Storage Decision Matrix, the 2016 Flood Study, the Upper Watershed Blueprint and the Spring &

Upper Prior Lake TMDL Implementation Plan, to achieve a total of 176 acre-feet of storage in the upper watershed (in combination with the Sutton Lake project) and to improve climate resiliency.~~.~~

10. STREAMBANK RESTORATION PROGRAM

10-Year Budget: $237,300

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:

- Tier 1 Lakes
- Tier 2 Lakes
- Streams

MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:

- **WQ1:** *Maintain or improve water quality in Lower Prior Lk.*
- **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake*
- **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lk.*
- **WQ4:** *Improve water quality in Fish Lake*
- **WQ12:** *Stabilize a minimum of ten bank erosion sites*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

52 Develop a Streambank Restoration Program that strategically prioritizes sites for stabilization based on water quality & flooding benefits and implements a minimum of ten projects.

53 Complete bank erosion inventory project for streams and other tributaries in the Upper Watershed to establish baseline conditions and the number of sites that needing stabilization.

~~76~~ Implement a streambank restoration project, such as the Buck Stream Stabilization.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

27 *Partner with local farmers, landowners, Scott County, Spring Lake Township and Sand Creek Township to identify opportunities and implement projects to improve stabilization of banks, habitat and water quality in County Ditch 13, such as an iron enhanced sand filter (ie. MB CD-13, Sutton, Swamp BMP sites).*

54 *Provide increased incentives for establishment of buffers and filter strips along private ditches and streams through the Cost Share Program.*

Background & Purpose

Both measured and anecdotal evidence indicates that streams in the upper watershed of Spring & Prior Lakes are eroding and/or slumping, causing loss of usable land, impairments to biota, and adverse water quality impacts downstream. As many of the stream segments and ditches lie on private property, there is not an existing inventory of where problem areas might exist.

This project will complete an inventory of all those stream segments in the upper watershed that the PLSLWD can gain access to with assistance from the Scott SWCD, Farmer-Led Council, Scott County, and Spring & Sand Creek Townships. This information will be used to summarize and prioritize potential project areas and its benefits to landowners, wildlife habitat, downstream water resources and residents. Based on this inventory, the PLSLWD will implement, on average, one bank restoration project per year over the course of this 2020-2030 WRMP.

In addition, there are a number of smaller stream systems located in the watershed that residents who attended WRMP public meetings expressed interest in having the PLSLWD manage for other functions such as wildlife habitat and recreational value. Examples of higher priority resources identified through the public engagement process include Buck Lake Creek and Cates Creek. The PLSLWD will consider conducting additional assessment through its monitoring program of these systems and potentially establish management goals for incorporation into a future plan amendment.

Implementation Steps

11. SUTTON LAKE OUTLET STRUCTURE

10-Year Budget: $356,700

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:

- Tier 1 Lakes: *Spring, Upper Prior*
- Tier 2 Lakes: *Sutton*
- Streams: *Ditch 13*

MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:

- **WQ7:** *Assess Sutton Lake & develop a Management Plan*
- **RF1:** *Achieve first-tier flood reduction goal on Prior Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

37 Develop a lake management plan for Sutton Lake.

66 Complete flood reduction projects in order to provide a total of 176 acre-feet of storage in the upper watershed (includes Sutton Lake project) and to improve climate resiliency.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

67 *Develop a Detention Policy in coordination with LGU partners (which includes the Spring Lake Dam Policy) for each of the waterbodies in the District that identifies normal operating levels and ability to manage water levels for flood management.*

Background & Purpose

In response to the 2014 flood, the PLSLWD completed the Prior Lake Stormwater Management & Flood Mitigation Study in coordination with the City of Prior Lake. This study identified potential upstream storage areas to reduce flooding on Prior Lake, one of which was an outlet control structure on Sutton Lake. Installation of a controlled outlet weir to control high flows will provide drawdown capacity below the normal pool elevation to improve aquatic vegetation and habitat and increase flood storage, and is expected to achieve a potential high water line reduction of 0.12 foot on Prior Lake. Furthermore, this project will allow Sutton Lake to bounce periodically, more similar to a natural lake/wetland system that does not have a ditched outlet. The weir will not raise the 100-year, 24-hour High Water Line (HWL) on Sutton Lake.

A MNDNR Public Waters Work Permit was issued on February 8, 2019 for the Sutton Outlet Control Structure based on the 60% Draft Plan Set. This permit is conditioned on final construction plan set and operating plan approval by the MNDNR Area Hydrologist and Wildlife Manager prior to construction. In response to these conditions EOR submitted to MNDNR on April 4, 2019 a draft operating plan for review and comment. On April 18, 2019 the PLSLWD was informed that the operating plan triggered additional statute and rule requirements that were not considered by the MNDNR when the permit was issued. The PLSLWD resubmitted the operating plan with conditioned drawdown and developed final plans for construction that have been approved by the MNDNR.

Implementation Steps

1. Complete Construction: Construction of the outlet weir is scheduled for 2020.
2. Complete Natural Resource Inventories: Bathymetric surveying of Sutton Lake and the extent and density of existing cattail vegetation, wetland seed bank field investigation and a Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) to document plant and animal communities within the project area.
3. Develop Lake Management Plan: A lake management plan is required by MNDNR if the PLSLWD intends to pursue drawdown below the existing control elevation of Sutton Lake. In addition, the landowners surrounding the lake have expressed interest in lake management for waterfowl.
4. Implement Lake Management Plan: Implement activities identified in the lake management plan.

12. WETLAND RESTORATION & ENHANCEMENT

10-Year Budget: $539,950

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:	MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:
• Wetlands • Tier 1 Lakes	• **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake* • **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lake* • **WQ4:** *Improve water quality in Fish Lake* • **WQ11:** *Restore/enhance wetlands in the District* • **RF1:** *Achieve first-tier flood reduction goal on Prior Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

- **11** Strategically target and implement a minimum of one wetland restoration in the Spring Lake Watershed identified in Comprehensive Wetland Plan.
- **47** Use CWP information to strategically target wetland restorations through outreach & implementation of a wetland acquisition program.
- **51** Enhance the habitat and wetland functions of the Frog Farm Wetland.
- **70** Restore two or more wetlands that help contribute to flood reduction on Prior Lake.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

- **10** *Update the District's Comprehensive Wetland Plan which identifies strategic wetlands that help work towards achieving prioritized and/or multiple goals, including climate resiliency.*
- **32** *Partner with the new or current owners of the Fish Lake Acres Campground to implement wetland restoration and enhancement project as feasible.*
- **45** *Continue to provide cost-share opportunities for wetland restoration projects.*
- **46** *Update the Comprehensive Wetland Plan (CWP) to discretely characterize wetland storage capacity and downstream water quality functions.*
- **49** *Monitor and enforce existing conservation easements.*

Background & Purpose

The PLSLWD has restored several wetland areas in the watershed and has created an inventory of potential additional sites. The PLSLWD will continue to solicit wetland restoration program participation by expanding communication and education programs regarding wetland restoration and acquisition. Where they qualify, the PLSLWD will attempt to enroll wetlands into the BWSR wetland bank.

Implementation Steps

1. Establish Reserve Fund: Similar to in-lake alum treatment, the PLSLWD intends to establish a reserve fund for wetland restoration. The reserve funds are intended to receive $50K or more per year, starting in 2021 for the duration of the WRMP. Funds reserved for restoration will be used for that purpose only.
2. Identification & Outreach: The PLSLWD will identify potential sites and conduct strategic outreach to landowners based on the PLSLWD's updated Comprehensive Wetland Plan (~~Appendix I~~Appendix I), including those in the Spring Lake Watershed and those that contribute to flood reduction on Prior Lake. Outreach will include social media, articles in papers and newsletters, direct mailings, SWCD staff contacts, and advertisement at local events.

3. COST SHARE PROGRAM

10-Year Budget: $717,200

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:

- All District Lakes
- Wetlands
- Streams

MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:

- **WQ1:** *Maintain or Improve water quality in Lower Prior Lake*
- **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake*
- **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lake*
- **WQ4:** *Improve water quality in Fish Lake*
- **WQ5:** *Improve water quality in Arctic Lake*
- **WQ6:** *Improve water quality in Pike Lake*
- **WQ10:** *Maintain no net loss of wetlands in the District*
- **WQ11:** *Restore/enhance wetlands in the District*
- **WQ12:** *Stabilize a minimum of ten bank erosion sites*
- **RF1:** *Achieve first-tier flood reduction goal on Prior Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

12 Continue to provide cost share opportunities for residential & agricultural water quality improvement projects within the watershed, including Farmer-Led Council initiatives, that reduce nutrient loading to lakes.

36 Work with the developers to include enhanced water quality and habitat features in projects, providing cost-share as incentives.

45 Continue to provide cost-share opportunities for wetland restoration projects.

54 Provide increased incentives for establishment of buffers and filter strips along private ditches and streams through the Cost Share Program.

60 Continue to provide Cost Share funding for the sealing of decommissioned wells in partnership with the SWCD.

61 Develop new incentives for low-impact development practices and BMPs that reduce the need for irrigation, promote infiltration, and protect groundwater quality through the Cost Share Program.

68 Provide incentives through the Cost Share Program to member communities and the development community to promote the use of green infrastructure that contributes to flood reduction on Prior Lake.

69 Provide financial incentives to residents and businesses in the District to implement BMPs that reduce flooding to the lakes through the Cost Share Program.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

6 *Provide information to residents to encourage individual choices that benefit water quality and to increase participation in cost-share programs.*

18 *Continue to provide water resources information and project updates to residents through social media platforms, press releases, targeted mailings, email blasts, signage and the District's website.*

22 *Continue supporting SCWEP and partner with Scott SWCD and/or other LGUs in Scott County to hold a minimum of two training events for residents per year that helps provide information for projects that benefit water quality and/or flood reduction.*

23 *Coordinate with other LGU partners at least once per year to provide targeted outreach to landowners to encourage them to use good water resource practices and/or participate in cost-share opportunities which not only fulfils MS4 education and outreach obligations but also supports all District projects & programs.*

4. FARMER-LED COUNCIL INITIATIVES

10-Year Budget: $764,250

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:

- All District Lakes
- Wetlands
- Streams

MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:

- **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake*
- **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lake*
- **WQ4:** *Improve water quality in Fish Lake*
- **WQ6:** *Improve water quality in Pike Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

17 Work with the Farmer-Led Council to create win-win programming in agricultural areas to improve water quality, including cover crop programs, no-till incentives, and other soil health initiatives.

21 Continue to help support, organize and facilitate a Farmer-Led Council and its initiatives.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

12 *Continue to provide cost-share opportunities for residential & agricultural water quality and habitat improvement projects within the watershed, including Farmer-Led Council initiatives that reduce nutrient loading or runoff volume.*

27 *Partner with local farmers, landowners, Scott County, Spring Lake Township and Sand Creek Township to identify opportunities and implement projects to improve stabilization of banks, habitat and water quality in County Ditch 13, such as an iron enhanced sand filter (ie. MB CD-13, Sutton, Swamp BMP sites).*

Background & Purpose

To help the PLSLWD reach its nutrient reduction goals for its water resources, PLSLWD has engaged with local farmers to build a Farmer-Led Council (FLC). Agricultural lands make up the majority of the landscape in the Spring Lake & Upper Prior Lake watersheds. As such, farmers are the most important stewards of the land and their active input and participation is critical to achieving water quality goals.

The role of the FLC is to develop and guide the implementation of strategies that PLSLWD will use to accomplish agriculture's share of the nutrient reduction goal. Specifically, the FLC will:

- Inform decision makers and the general public about practical issues and opportunities related to soil and water conservation on agricultural lands
- Identify base-level and site-tailored practices that are available and needed
- Define the approach for engaging with and assisting farmers to implement practices
- Establish a schedule with reasonable milestones and timelines for progress
- Identify potential barriers to implementation, along with tools and resources needed to overcome them

The FLC has focused its efforts on win-win programming for PLSLWD and farmers. This includes soil health initiatives such as cover crops, nutrient management, and no-till farming. The FLC incentives allow innovative new phosphorus reduction ideas to be implemented and refined prior to introduction to the regular cost-share docket if successful.

5. FERRIC CHLORIDE TREATMENT SYSTEM

10-Year Budget: $1,333,950

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:	MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:
• Tier 1 Lakes: *Spring, Upper Prior*	• **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake* • **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

26 Operate and maintain the Ferric Chloride Treatment System, completing scheduled dredging of the desilt pond as necessary. Make system improvements informed by 2023/2024 Ferric Chloride System Assessment.

Background & Purpose

The ferric chloride treatment system is located on the County Ditch 13 channel immediately south of MN Highway 13 and was constructed in 1998. The structure and ferric chloride injection system require periodic adjustment and inspection to ensure effective operation. This system is inspected three times per week to ensure all is working properly. Sampling is conducted once a week per the MPCA permit. System maintenance includes checking the pump, filling the ferric tank, weeding, inspecting the weir, spring set up, winter shut down, and checking the lines for leaks.

The desiltation (i.e. sedimentation) pond is located on the County Ditch 13 tributary entering the southwest corner of Spring Lake. The pond was one of the earliest PLSLWD projects and was designed to decrease sedimentation occurring in the western end of Spring Lake. The basin has been dredged on several occasions over the years and enhanced to serve a flocculation basin for the Ferric Chloride Treatment System.

The desiltation pond was constructed in 1978, cleaned out in 1999 and again in 2012 to return the pond back to the original storage capacity. This basin will need to be dredged at least once during the lifetime of this plan.

Implementation Steps

1. Operate the Ferric Chloride Treatment System: Annually dosing of ferric chloride (FeCl) into the stream that flows into Spring Lake as per the FeCl Treatment System operation plan.
2. Desiltation Pond Survey: Survey basin storage capacity every three years to establish typical maintenance frequency and schedule next maintenance excavation project.
3. Desiltation Pond Maintenance Excavation: Prepare plans and specifications, obtain permits, solicit bids and construction administration for restoration of basin flocculation capacity. Also includes survey and soil sampling per NPDES-SDS requirements.
4. Desiltation Pond Outlet Improvement: Develop outlet structure improvement concept plan options to enhance flow capacity and monitoring capability and consider implementation with future maintenance excavation project.
5. Assess FeCl Dosing Curve: Consider flow and season conditioned dosing curve refinements to enhance performance.
6. Replace and Update Storage Facility: The tank holding ferric chloride has a lifespan of 10-20 years. The tank was installed in 1997 and should be replaced as soon as possible. The shed was not designed with replacement in mind and will need to be rebuilt or modified in order to replace the tank.

8. PLOC MANAGEMENT

10-Year Budget: $706,200

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:

- Tier 2 Lakes: *Pike*
- Streams: *PLOC*

MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:

- **WQ13:** *Improve the stability of the Prior Lake Outlet Channel*
- **RF2:** *Continue to operate the PLOC*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

57 Manage the Prior Lake Outlet Channel per the Memorandum of Agreement for Use, Operation, and Maintenance of the Prior Lake Outlet Channel and Outlet Structure, Version 9, dated April 2, 2019 and revisions after the Master Plan is completed in 2024.

71 The Prior Lake Outlet Structure is operated according to the MNDNR-approved Prior Lake Outlet Control Structure Management Policy and Operating Procedures (last revised July 3, 2017).

Background & Purpose

The PLOC is funded by a MOA between the "Cooperators:" the PLSLWD, the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community and the cities of Shakopee and Prior Lake. In 2019, the Cooperators substantively revised the MOA, of which one of the revisions was to include an inspection program identifying responsible parties for each and every crossing of the PLOC. The Cooperators also developed a Master Plan to assess the current conditions of the PLOC from a channel capacity, bank stability, easement alignment with physical conditions and invasive species management. The Cooperators requested the Master Plan as a means to guide MOA activities over five years as a bridge to consideration of alternate means to manage the channel. At the end of the five years (2024), the Cooperators will determine what the next MOA will entail.

Implementation Steps

PLSLWD activities for the PLOC include administration, Cooperator meeting coordination, invasive plant management, culvert/channel inspections, channel repair, XP-SWMM model maintenance, water quantity monitoring, and outlet structure and pipe maintenance as outlined in the MOA. The Prior Lake Outlet Structure will be operated in accordance with the MNDNR-approved Prior Lake Outlet Control Structure Management Policy and Operating Procedures.

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
1. Invasive Plant Management											
2. Channel Inspections											
3. Channel Repairs (incl. pipelining)											
4. XP-SWMM Model Maint.											
5. Outlet Operations											
6. MOA Management											

Funding Sources

The funding for this Project will come from the District Levy and the other PLOC partners (City of Shakopee, City of Prior Lake, and SMSC) as laid out in the PLOC MOA. Grants will be sought to support pipelining.

9. PROJECT MAINTENANCE

10-Year Budget: $85,000

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:	MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:
• Tier 1 Lakes	• **WQ1:** *Maintain or Improve water quality in Lower Prior Lake* • **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake* • **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

2 Implement stormwater retrofits in the Lower Prior Lake drainage area as opportunities arise.

26 Operate and maintain the Ferric Chloride Treatment System, completing scheduled dredging of the desilt pond as necessary. Make system improvements informed by 2023/2024 Ferric Chloride System Assessment.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

13 *Collaborate with LGUs and/or other partners on three or more retrofit water quality and volume management BMPs and/or water quality improvement research studies.*

19 *Organize public participation/information events (e.g. Clean Water Clean-Up or District Tours) at least four times per year.*

24 *Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.*

50 *Assess the storage capacity of the Hwy 13 wetland to maintain pretreatment function for the Ferric Chloride Treatment System and dredge/restore as recommended.*

Background & Purpose

After the construction of Public Infrastructure Partnership Projects is completed, there is typically a vegetation maintenance period before the PLSLWD officially hands the project over to the respective LGU partner. As of 2019, the following projects require maintenance until accepted by the LGU partner:

- 12/17 wetland (until 2020) – City of Prior Lake
- Raymond Park (until 2020) – City of Prior Lake
- Fairlawn Shores (until 2021) – City of Prior Lake
- Fish Lake Shoreline Project (until 2021) – Spring Lake Township

In addition, the PLSLWD has acquired fee title or easement to lands that it has restored and/or maintains the vegetation on. As of 2019, the PLSLWD has the following maintenance lands:

- Spring Lake Shoreline Project – oak savanna and shoreline restorations
- Frog Farm Wetland – PLSLWD allows neighbor to hay for vegetation maintenance
- FeCl system easements – maintain/mow vegetation for access

Implementation Steps

1. Develop Annual Maintenance Plans: Annually develop maintenance plans for current projects for incorporation into the budget into the following calendar year each August.

3. Planning Program

Planning is integral to the efficient and effective management of the PLSLWD's resources, and to ensure regular progress toward PLSLWD goals. Planning includes staying abreast of regional, state, and federal water resource issues, keeping the PLSLWD's WRMP up to date, reviewing plans from other local government entities, and performing studies and feasibility reports.

1. AIS RAPID RESPONSE & PREVENTION PLAN

10-Year Budget: $61,000

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:

- Tier 1 Lakes

MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:

- **AIS1:** *Develop and implement AIS Plan*
- **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake*
- **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lake*
- **WQ4:** *Improve water quality in Fish Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

62 Create and implement an AIS Rapid Response and Prevention Plan for Tier 1 lakes in collaboration with local and state partners.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

18 *Continue to provide water resources information and project updates to residents through social media platforms, press releases, targeted mailings, email blasts, signage and the District's website.*

19 *Organize public participation/information events (e.g. Clean Water Clean-Up or District Tours) at least four times per year.*

34 *Monitor and assess data for the District's waterbodies as prescribed in the District's Long-Term Monitoring Plan.*

38 *Provide equitable opportunities for communities to engage in and provide feedback for projects, programs, and District plans through neighborhood & public meetings, online surveys, direct mailings, District tours, presentations at local groups, etc.*

39 *Engage local government partners, elected & appointed officials, state agencies, non-profits, and experts in planning efforts for District projects & programs, as appropriate.*

63 *Partner with local partners and/or the University of Minnesota to implement strategies to prevent the spread of known and emerging AIS in Tier 1 lakes.*

64 *As new research allows, implement strategies to better manage the spread and population of zebra mussels in and out of Prior Lake.*

Background & Purpose

Preventing new introductions and infestations of AIS in the District's lakes is crucial to avoiding their establishment, spread, and irreversible consequences. History has proven that once an AIS has become established and widespread, eradication is nearly impossible, and control efforts can become perpetual and costly programs.

2. COMPREHENSIVE WETLAND PLAN UPDATE

10-Year Budget: $32,500

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:	MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:
• All District Lakes • Wetlands	• **WQ10:** *Maintain no net loss of wetlands in the District* • **WQ11:** *Restore/enhance wetlands in the District* • **RF1:** *Achieve first-tier flood reduction goal on Prior Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

10 Update the District's Comprehensive Wetland Plan which identifies strategic wetlands that help work towards achieving prioritized and/or multiple goals, including climate resiliency.

46 Update the Comprehensive Wetland Plan (CWP) to discretely characterize wetland storage capacity and downstream water quality functions.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

44 *Identify opportunities to use other programs (e.g. Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, non-profit organization programs, etc.) to temporarily or permanently protect wetlands in the agricultural areas.*

Background & Purpose

The PLSLWD's current Comprehensive Wetland Plan (CWP) was adopted by the Board on April 10, 2012. The CWP was created to help accomplish goals and meet policies set forth in the 2010-2019 WRMP and was modeled after the Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan (CWPMP) process developed under MN Rule 8420.0830 for the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act (WCA). The 2012 CWP was used to develop wetland management standards to support other important water resource management activities in the PLSLWD. In addition, PLSLWD provided an inventory of the Restoration/Enhancement Management Class of wetlands to Scott County for the purpose of mapping potential Public Values for potential flexibility during the Planned Unit Development (PUD) process.

Since the 2012 CWP was adopted, better mapping information (e.g. LiDAR) is now available to further identify and refine wetland areas in the District. In pursuit of wetland restoration projects that address water quality & flood reduction goals, it is vital that the PLSLWD have the best information available for its outreach efforts to potential partners and landowners for wetland restorations and upper watershed storage sites.

Implementation Steps

1. Update Wetland Inventory: Update existing CWP wetland database and mapping using remote sensing techniques to incorporate LiDAR data, SSURGO Soils data, MLCCS land use data, and high-resolution aerial photography. This effort will provide more accurate wetland boundaries, estimate storage (volume) capacity, delineate likely water sources and drainage area, characterize landscape position and basin morphometry, and distance to downstream water resources of value. Other relevant databases will also be incorporated into this update including the University of MN Restorable Wetland Inventory and any information available from the Scott SWCD.
2. Prioritize Wetland Basins for Upper Watershed Storage: Complete cost-benefit assessment based on preliminary estimate of probable cost to restore wetlands versus the flood storage and water quality benefit they could provide. Provide the update inventory to Scott County to support the use of Public Value areas for the County's PUD process.

5. GROUNDWATER PROTECTION PLAN

10-Year Budget: $16,800

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:	MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:
• Groundwater	• **WQ14:** *Active participation in groundwater planning efforts.*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

58 Serve on wellhead protection planning teams to assist public water suppliers with planning and implementation activities to address land use planning concerns.

59 Develop a plan on how to better incorporate consideration of groundwater and drinking water protection when reviewing new permits and completing capital projects to incorporate the alignment with NFMP and GPR activities.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

60 *Continue to provide Cost Share funding for the sealing of decommissioned wells in partnership with the SWCD.*

61 *Develop new incentives for low-impact development practices and BMPs that reduce the need for irrigation, promote infiltration, and protect groundwater quality through the Cost Share Program.*

Background & Purpose

At the request of the PLSLWD's local partners, work with the Scott SWCD to provide funding for residential well-decommissioning (sealing unused wells) as a result of a public water supply expansion project. For individual requests, follow the current Scott County Cost Share Docket for the cost-sharing amount.

Implementation Steps

1. Incorporation of Groundwater Considerations: Develop and implement a plan to better consider groundwater protection when reviewing new permits and completing projects. The Groundwater Considerations Plan will be approved by the Board no later than 2024.
2. Groundwater Protection Planning: Assist public water suppliers with planning and implementation activities to address land use planning concerns, serving on wellhead protection planning teams as opportunities arise. If no opportunities present themselves, schedule a meeting with County and local officials to discuss groundwater planning.

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
1. Incorporation of Groundwater Considerations											
2. Groundwater Protection Planning											

Funding Sources

The funding for this Project will come from the District Levy.

8. REGIONAL STORMWATER PLANNING

10-Year Budget: $55,600

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:	MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:
• Tier 1 Lakes	• **WQ1:** *Maintain or Improve water quality in Lower Prior Lk.* • **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake* • **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lake* • **RF1:** *Achieve first-tier flood reduction goal on Prior Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

16 Develop equitable regional stormwater management plans with municipalities that includes a stormwater utility credit program for future development areas.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

24 *Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.*

36 *Work with the developers to include enhanced water quality and habitat features in projects, providing cost-share as incentives.*

41 *Conduct outreach to new developments early in the planning process to identify areas of opportunity for water quality improvements.*

Background & Purpose

Any unit of government may prepare a plan by which regional stormwater management facilities may be constructed in anticipation of, or concurrent with, land disturbing activity. The PLSLWD is in a position to facilitate advancement of regional stormwater management planning and seeks to develop concept plans in advance of development, including expansion within orderly annexation areas.

Implementation Steps

1. Identify Likely Expansion Area: Coordinate with the municipalities and Scott County to identify areas most likely to develop on an annual basis. Consider regional stormwater projects and development of a stormwater utility for future development areas.
2. Regional Concept Plan Development: Utilize existing databases, models and plans such the PLSLWD's wetland inventory, PCSWMM model and Upper Watershed Blueprint, develop concept plans for areas to be developed and engage the development community in advance of preliminary plat/PUD submittal.
3. Program Development: Consider development of a program or revisions to existing programs enabling PLSLWD to accept and maintain easements acquired through the Scott County PUD process. Also consider implementation of associated stormwater improvements and wetland restorations on the areas so acquired if they are not completed as part of the development process.

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
1. Identify Likely Expansion Areas											
2. Regional Concept Plan Development											

Funding Sources

The funding for this Project will come from the District Levy.

9. UPPER WATERSHED BLUEPRINT

10-Year Budget: $85,000

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:	MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:
• All Lakes	• **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards on Spring Lake* • **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards on Upper Prior Lake* • **RF1:** *Achieve first-tier flood reduction goal on Prior Lake* • **RF5:** *Assess progress on flood reduction goals*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

65 Conduct an assessment of the upland storage sites identified in the Stormwater Management & Flood Mitigation Study, 2016 and the Upper Subwatershed Assessment to create a prioritized list of potential storage areas based on refined cost estimates, feasibility, and opportunity.

67 Develop a Detention Policy in coordination with LGU partners (which includes the Spring Lake Dam Policy) for each of the waterbodies in the District that identifies normal operating levels and ability to manage water levels for flood management.

74 Complete an assessment of progress towards flood reduction goals on year 9 of the plan along with an increased precipitation and intensity resiliency scenario analysis, and set new goals for the next 10-year plan.

~~7513~~ Reassess feasibility of Buck Chemical Treatment System and implement if feasible.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

13 *Collaborate with LGUs and/or other partners on three or more retrofit water quality and volume management BMPs and/or water quality improvement research studies.*

16 *Develop equitable regional stormwater management plans with municipalities that includes a stormwater utility credit program for future development areas.*

24 *Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.*

73 *Partner with the City of Prior Lake to set goals for and complete modeling updates that provide sufficient information to inform future flood reduction decisions.*

Background & Purpose

Building off activities such as the PCSWMM model update, Comprehensive Wetland Plan update, and County Ditch 13 visioning, the PLSLWD intends to update and prioritize its approach to pursuing upper watershed storage by prioritizing downstream water quality improvement in addition to flood damage reduction.

Identifying pollutant loading hotspots on the landscape is often an effective way to target projects for downstream water quality improvement. However, as the scale and complexity of a watershed increase, the usefulness of pollutant loading estimates alone is diminished. While it is relatively straightforward to estimate pollutant loading using lookup tables and well-established empirical formulae at the field or site scale, at the watershed scale there are complex phenomena that factor into whether pollutants contained in runoff actually reach a given downstream resource. Proximity is one part of that equation, but

4. Education and Outreach Program

The best advocate for water resources is an engaged and informed citizenry. Educational programs are designed to improve the general understanding of water resources and the impact each citizen has upon them. Outreach programs seek to make connections and change behaviors.

1. CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

10-Year Budget: $47,000

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:	MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:
• All Lakes • Streams • Wetlands	*All Goals*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

20 Continue to help support, organize and facilitate a Citizens Advisory Committee and its projects.

38 Provide equitable opportunities for communities to engage in and provide feedback for projects, programs, and District plans through neighborhood & public meetings, online surveys, direct mailings, District tours, presentations at local groups, etc.

Background & Purpose

Watershed districts in Minnesota are required by state statute to maintain a Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) to provide input to the Board on various actions of the district. The CAC holds bimonthly meetings and follows adopted bylaws. The CAC continues to provide a valuable role, informing the PLSLWD of water resource concerns around the District and providing feedback on proposed PLSLWD projects. The CAC is also encouraged to lead their own projects and initiatives and develop annual goals and project plans. PLSLWD staff will continue to support the CAC, ensuring that monthly meetings continue and providing opportunities for CAC members to become more involved in PLSLWD activities.

Implementation Steps

1. Bi~~M~~monthly CAC meetings: The CAC will meet bimonthly to develop and implement research and educational projects which reflects the Board of Managers' Priority Concerns of Water Quality; Storage and Flood Reduction; and Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). They will review draft reports and provide comments to the Board of Managers, in a timely manner.
2. CAC-led projects: The CAC will pursue projects which expand the PLSLWD's impact and help reach more community members. The Citizens Advisory Committee will identify research projects volunteers can undertake which reflects the Board of Managers' Priority Concerns of Water Quality; Storage and Flood Reduction; and Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS).

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
1. Bi~~M~~monthly CAC Meetings											
2. CAC-Led Projects											

Funding Sources

The funding for this Project will come from the District Levy.

2. COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS

10-Year Budget: $62,500

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:	MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:
• All Lakes • Streams • Wetlands	*All Goals*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

6 Provide information to residents to encourage individual choices that benefit water quality and to increase participation in cost-share programs.

18 Continue to provide water resources information and project updates to residents through social media platforms, press releases, targeted mailings, email blasts, signage and the District's website.

38 Provide equitable opportunities for communities to engage in and provide feedback for projects, programs, and District plans through neighborhood & public meetings, online surveys, direct mailings, District tours, presentations at local groups, etc.

Background & Purpose

The PLSLWD's Education & Outreach program's activities are outlined in the annual Education & Outreach Plan written each year. The PLSLWD is required to provide educational opportunities for their citizens because the PLSLWD holds a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit from the MPCA.

The PLSLWD will seek to keep residents up to date with District news, events, programs and projects and provide information about topics relating to water resources, ecology, natural systems, biodiversity and other relevant environmental topics. A number of mediums will be used to communicate information with the public including the PLSLWD website; social media; newspapers, including the ~~Prior Lake American~~Star Tribune and Scott County SCENE; and other publications, such as the Wavelength in the City of Prior Lake's utility bills and others. In addition to writing articles, the PLSLWD will publish an annual report of PLSLWD activities, factsheets, brochures, videos and other materials. The PLSLWD will also reach out to other local non-profit partners and local schools to identify other partnership opportunities.

Implementation Steps

1. Annually Update & Implement District Education & Outreach Plan: Update the PLSLWD's Education & Outreach Plan every year to meet strategic goals and implement the education and outreach actions highlighted in the Plan.
2. Website Updates: Keep website information on PLSLWD projects, programs and events up to date, adding updated reports and documents as needed. Provide relevant information regarding water resources and natural resources topics to serve as reference information for residents and partners.
3. Write articles for publication: Write at least ~~twelve~~ seven articles per year covering PLSLWD projects, events, programs, PLSLWD news, success stories, tips for best management practices and other nature interest stories each year. Articles can be published on PLSLWD website, social media platforms, shared by partners and submitted for publication in local newspapers including the ~~Prior Lake American~~Star Tribune and the Scott County SCENE.
4. Social Media: Use relevant social media platforms to provide PLSLWD news, tips for residents, interesting nature information, project updates, etc.

3. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

10-Year Budget: $115,350

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:	MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:
• All Lakes • Streams • Wetlands	*All Goals*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

19 Organize public participation/information events (e.g. Clean Water Clean-Up or District Tours) at least four times per year.

22 Continue supporting SCWEP and partner with Scott SWCD and/or other LGUs in Scott County to hold a minimum of two training events for residents per year that helps provide information for projects that benefit water quality and/or flood reduction.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

38 *Provide equitable opportunities for communities to engage in and provide feedback for projects, programs, and District plans through neighborhood & public meetings, online surveys, direct mailings, District tours, presentations at local groups, etc.*

Background & Purpose

The PLSLWD will host events each year to engage and involve the public. Examples of events include PLSLWD tours of projects or resources in the District, clean-up events, etc. The PLSLWD will continue to partner with other local groups, such as cities and the Scott SWCD, to host workshops for residents on topics such as raingardens, shoreline restorations, prairie restorations and maintenance, winter maintenance and salt use, etc.

The PLSLWD's 50th Anniversary is in 2020 and special activities will be planned to engage the public and celebrate the District's anniversary.

Implementation Steps

1. Organize public events: Organize at least four public events each year, such as clean-up events, restoration plantings, neighborhood meetings, etc.
2. Organize 50th anniversary celebration events: Organize several public events to celebration the PLSLWD's 50th Anniversary in 2020. Events could include bike rides or hikes around the District to highlight PLSLWD projects or natural resources, a trivia night at a local brewery and a story corps project to record local resident's stories and knowledge of the PLSLWD and its lakes.
3. Participate in public events: Attend public events, such as Lakefront Days, farmers' markets or other community events, to engage the public and inform them on water resources and natural resources topics.
4. Host or partner to support workshops: Host or partner with other LGUs to host training events for residents, contractors and other relevant people to provide information for projects or practices that benefit water quality and other topics. Workshop examples including raingardens, prairie restoration, shoreline restoration, winter salt application use, property management, etc.

5. Monitoring Program

Monitoring and research are needed to better understand watershed impacts, evaluate issues, and determine appropriate watershed management approaches within the watershed. In addition, long-term monitoring provides the PLSLWD with the information needed to demonstrate performance towards meeting the goals of the WRMP as well as the various TMDL Implementation Plans. The PLSLWD should also make sure that data collected are quality-assured and quality-checked (QA/QC'ed) and made available annually to the public and appropriate agencies. Updated water quality summaries are provided annually on the waterbodies tab. Otherwise, data can be found be searching the Water Quality Database.

To ensure that the PLSLWD monitors water quality on a time and cost efficient basis, a long-term monitoring plan (~~Appendix H~~Appendix H) has been created. The long-term monitoring plan covers lakes, streams, best management practices (BMPs), precipitation, wetlands, and groundwater.

1. BUCK LAKE DIAGNOSTIC STUDY

10-Year Budget: $45,000

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:	MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:
• Tier 2 Lakes: *Buck*	• **WQ8:** *Assign water quality standard & goals for Buck Lake*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

40 Conduct a lake diagnostic study for Buck Lake to determine phosphorus budget, including a sediment core analysis, and identify restoration strategies based on applicable standard.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

34 *Monitor and assess data for the District's waterbodies as prescribed in the District's Long-Term Monitoring Plan.*

Background & Purpose

The Buck Lake drainage area was previously assessed primarily to estimate the cost-benefit of constructing another ferric chloride treatment system to manage stormwater runoff before discharge to Spring Lake. ~~This project was shelved as it was deemed cost prohibitive.~~ Public comment received during development of this management plan suggested the PLSLWD assess the quality of Buck Lake not only for its role in protection of downstream lakes, but for its inherent recreational and habitat value. The purpose of this Buck Lake study is to, for the first time, assess this resource by evaluating historic and current water quality trends; identify pollutant sources and loads; and assign numerical goals and quantify of pollutant reductions necessary to reach assigned PLSLWD goals for the resource as well as for the benefit of downstream water quality.

Implementation Steps

1. Prepare Diagnostic Study: Assess historic and current water quality trends, identify pollutant sources and loads (including sediment core collection and aquatic plant surveys), develop watershed and in-lake loading models, conduct public meetings, identify load reduction strategies and practices, assign PLSLWD goals, prioritize implementation activities, and prepare report.

In order to stay abreast of monitoring techniques, PLSLWD staff will attend trainings and workshops as well as keep good relationships and partnerships with other monitoring organizations. New and innovative monitoring equipment or methods may be tested by the PLSLWD when applicable.

Implementation Steps

1. Lake Water Quality Monitoring: Annual water quality monitoring (completed by Three Rivers Parks District as of 2019) on Lower Prior, Upper Prior, Spring, Fish, and Pike Lake. Arctic Lake is monitored by SMSC.
2. Citizen-Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP): Citizen volunteers or staff collect a surface water sample for laboratory analysis and provide some user perception information about each lake's physical and recreational condition. Includes Swamp, Sutton, Crystal, Buck, Haas, Lower Prior (site 2), Cates, Jeffers, and Fish Lakes.
3. Lake Level Monitoring: Automatic level data loggers and staff gauges are used to monitor lake levels. Level loggers will transmit real-time data to the website.
4. Aquatic Plant Surveys: Plant surveys will assess the distribution, type, and growth density of all plants. Lakes with potential nuisance curly-leaf pondweed (CLP) will be surveyed just after ice out to determine the potential need for treatment. If CLP is treated, an assessment will be done post-treatment to determine effectiveness of treatment.
5. Vegetation Density Mapping: Annually map lakes on a rotating basis for lake plant biomass densities, bathymetry, and bottom hardness using sonar to capture long-term trends of lake plant density and growth in the PLSLWD's lakes.
6. Lake Ice Monitoring: Volunteer ice observers will inform the PLSLWD when the lake is at least 90% on and off each year for PLSLWD records for all lakes.
7. Zooplankton & Phytoplankton: Monitor zooplankton & phytoplankton every 3, 5, or 10 years based on lake tier.
8. Citizen AIS Monitoring: Organize and implement a citizen AIS monitoring program that includes such activities as zebra mussel plates and dock reporting, boat launch inspections, etc.

Additional detail about the above implementation steps can be found in the PLSLWD's Long-Term Monitoring Plan in ~~Appendix H~~Appendix H.

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
1. Lake Water Quality Monitoring											
2. Citizen-Assisted Monitoring Program											
3. Lake Level Monitoring											
4. Aquatic Plant Surveys											
5. Vegetation Density Mapping											
6. Lake Ice Monitoring											
7. Zooplankton & Phytoplankton											
8. Citizen AIS Monitoring											

Funding Sources

The funding for this Project will come from the District Levy.

1. PERMIT PROGRAM

10-Year Budget: $175,950

WATERBODIES ADDRESSED:

- All Lakes
- Wetlands
- Streams

MANAGEMENT GOALS ADDRESSED:

- **WQ1:** *Maintain or Improve water quality in Lower Prior Lake*
- **WQ2:** *Meet water quality standards for Spring Lake*
- **WQ3:** *Meet water quality standards for Upper Prior Lake*
- **WQ4:** *Improve water quality in Fish Lake*
- **WQ5:** *Improve water quality in Arctic Lake*
- **WQ6:** *Improve water quality in Pike Lake*
- **WQ10:** *Maintain no net loss of wetlands in the District*
- **RF3:** *Eliminate/reduce impact of development on flooding*

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS PERFORMED:

5 Enforce District Rules through active permit program and assess the need for rule updates on a five-year basis.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS:

16 *Develop regional stormwater management plans with municipalities that include a stormwater utility credit program for future development areas.*

24 *Coordinate effectively with LGU partners by meeting a minimum of biennially with each partner in the District to discuss upcoming projects, opportunities to collaborate, and partnerships to increase efficiency and reduce overlap, and through regular attendance at SCALE and other regional meetings by Board liaisons and staff.*

36 *Work with the developers to include enhanced water quality and habitat features in projects, providing cost-share as incentives.*

41 *Conduct outreach to new developments early in the planning process to identify areas of opportunity for water quality improvements.*

42 *Protect wetlands and wetland buffers under PLSLWD conservation easements or other municipal control through District Rule J enforcement or other mechanisms.*

43 *Create a District wetland banking program to ensure no wetland loss when the use of wetland credits is necessary for a project within the District.*

59 *Develop a plan on how to better incorporate consideration of groundwater protection when reviewing new permits and completing capital projects.*

68 *Provide incentives through the Cost Share Program to member communities and the development community to promote the use of green infrastructure that contributes to flood reduction on Prior Lake.*

Background & Purpose

The PLSLWD will enforce District Rules (~~Appendix D~~Appendix D) through an active permit program and will continue to issue permits for other government entities, including municipal, county and state projects. The PLSLWD will also issue permits when called for by District rules, agreements with other entities or watershed law; when requested by the local municipality; or for projects within PLSLWD easements, specifically easements on the Prior Lake Outlet Channel.

PLSLWD staff will participate in city Development Review Committees (DRC) and Scott County Development Review Team (DRT) meetings to incorporate water quality and quantity BMPs on new development and redevelopment.

PLSLWD staff will monitor conservation easements on a regular basis, initially annually. Staff will communicate and build relationships with landowners through inspection letters, site visits, newsletters, etc. If easements are in compliance with the terms of the easement agreement they could be monitored less frequently, such as once every two or three years. Staff will work with landowners who are in violation of the easement to bring the conservation easement area back into compliance. An easement amendment may be requested by the landowner per the PLSLWD's Easement Amendment Request Policy in order to retain the conservation value of the easement area while helping the landowner achieve compliance. Additionally, new conservation easements should be pursued as new developments trigger Rule J and as other strategic opportunities present themselves.

In addition, the PLSLWD will complete an inventory of BMPs for which the PLSLWD has taken on maintenance responsibility. Once a BMP inventory is complete, monitoring of the BMP will occur every 1-3 years, depending on needs. The PLSLWD will work with the responsible partners to ensure any necessary maintenance is performed.

Many wetlands in the watershed are protected by city buffers and/or conservation easements which they acquired through the permitting process as a result of the District's permitting equivalency. However, the City of Prior Lake has indicated that they may not have the capacity to monitor these buffer areas as needed. As a result, staff from the City of Prior Lake and the PLSLWD have discussed having PLSLWD assist with the monitoring of City conservation easements located in the District. In 2021 the PLSLWD will work with the City to assess needs and will partner with the City to help monitor their easements as needed.

Implementation Steps

1. Regularly Monitor Easements: Conservation easements will be monitored regularly every 1-3 years, based on compliance status and risk of future violation for each easement.
2. Enforce Conservation Easements: The PLSLWD will take Board-directed action steps when an easement remains out of compliance for more than two years, per the PLSLWD's ~~Easement Enforcement Policy~~Easement Enforcement Policy.
3. Easement Amendments: The PLSLWD will process requests to change the easement per the PLSLWD's ~~Easement Amendment Policy~~Easement Amendment Policy as they are received.
4. BMP Inventory & Monitoring: The PLSLWD will inventory historical BMPs that have existing, recorded agreements, and develop & implement a monitoring plan.
5. Assistance Inspections: The PLSLWD will work with the City of Prior to assess their needs for assisting with easement and/or BMP inspections in 2021. The PLSLWD and the City then would potentially implement a partnership plan approved by the Board to move forward with inspecting those areas as soon as 2022.

Funding Sources

The funding for this Project will come from the District Levy, easement amendment request fees, and invoiced enforcement costs to landowners.

definable boundaries (e.g., roads), and a single property cannot be in more than one watershed district. This can result in significant differences between the legal boundary and the hydrologic boundary. The PLSLWD will keep PLSLWD's legal boundary matched to its hydrologic boundary as accurately as possible, so that the land that drains to PLSLWD water resources is captured within the legal boundary to the maximum extent possible. This may involve including additional areas such as those flowing to Tier 1 lakes and the Prior Lake Outlet Channel watershed as well as removing the Cates Lake subwatershed.

Work Program and Budget Process

The following process provides a method for the development of each year's budget and assessing consistency with the 2020 Plan (e.g., goals, action items). The PLSLWD will develop a work plan annually. The process will incorporate program evaluation (evaluation of the "Outcomes & Measures"), track changes to the original plan content and projections, and determine if plan amendments are required.

I. Work Program Content

- **a.** Review of previous year's work program and accomplishments. *Did the PLSLWD complete tasks identified? What were the documented "Signs of Success"?*
- **b.** Discussion of studies, data, and public input that influences proposed projects, schedules, and budgets.
- **c.** Identification of new issues for potential inclusion in work program and budget. *What influence or effect does the new issue have on established priorities, programs, or projects?*
- **d.** Identification of funding issues presented by proposed work program – bonding needs, levy adjustments, budget/levy policy impacts, new funding approaches.
- **e.** Progress summary for each goal using the Outcomes & Measures Dashboards in ~~**Appendix M**~~**Appendix M** that identifies associated projects in the plan and any proposed adjustments (identifying completed efforts, ongoing efforts, and updated project schedules and budgets).
- **f.** Need for plan amendments – identify whether changes require amendments.
- **g.** Estimated annual budget by major program area. This budget table shall reference the applicable PLSLWD goals.

II. Work Program Development and Review Process

- **a.** Information identified above shall be collected and developed beginning in March of each year by staff beginning in 2021.
- **b.** The proposed work program, budget, and levy will be presented to the Board of Managers for discussion no later than the August Board meeting starting in 2021.
- **c.** The preliminary budget and levy shall be presented at a public hearing, deliberated by the Board, and approved at the September Board meeting, prior to September 30 of each year.
- **d.** The preliminary levy shall be certified to Scott County by September 30 of each year.
- **e.** Identified plan amendments shall be drafted and submitted to the Board of Managers for review and approval at the September Board meeting and to the agencies for review by September 30.
- **f.** Following local review of the proposed PLSLWD work program and budget, the Board of Managers shall revise, if necessary, and approve the final work program, budget, and levy. The levy shall be certified to Scott County by December 30 of each year.

III. Reporting

- **a.** Annual Reporting. As indicated, the PLSLWD annually evaluates its progress toward achieving its goals and performing those items listed in its Implementation Plan. Rule 8410.0150 Subpart 1 requires Watershed Districts to prepare an annual activity report which is due within the first 120 days of the calendar year. Rule 8410 specifies the content of the Annual Report.

V. Outcomes and Measures

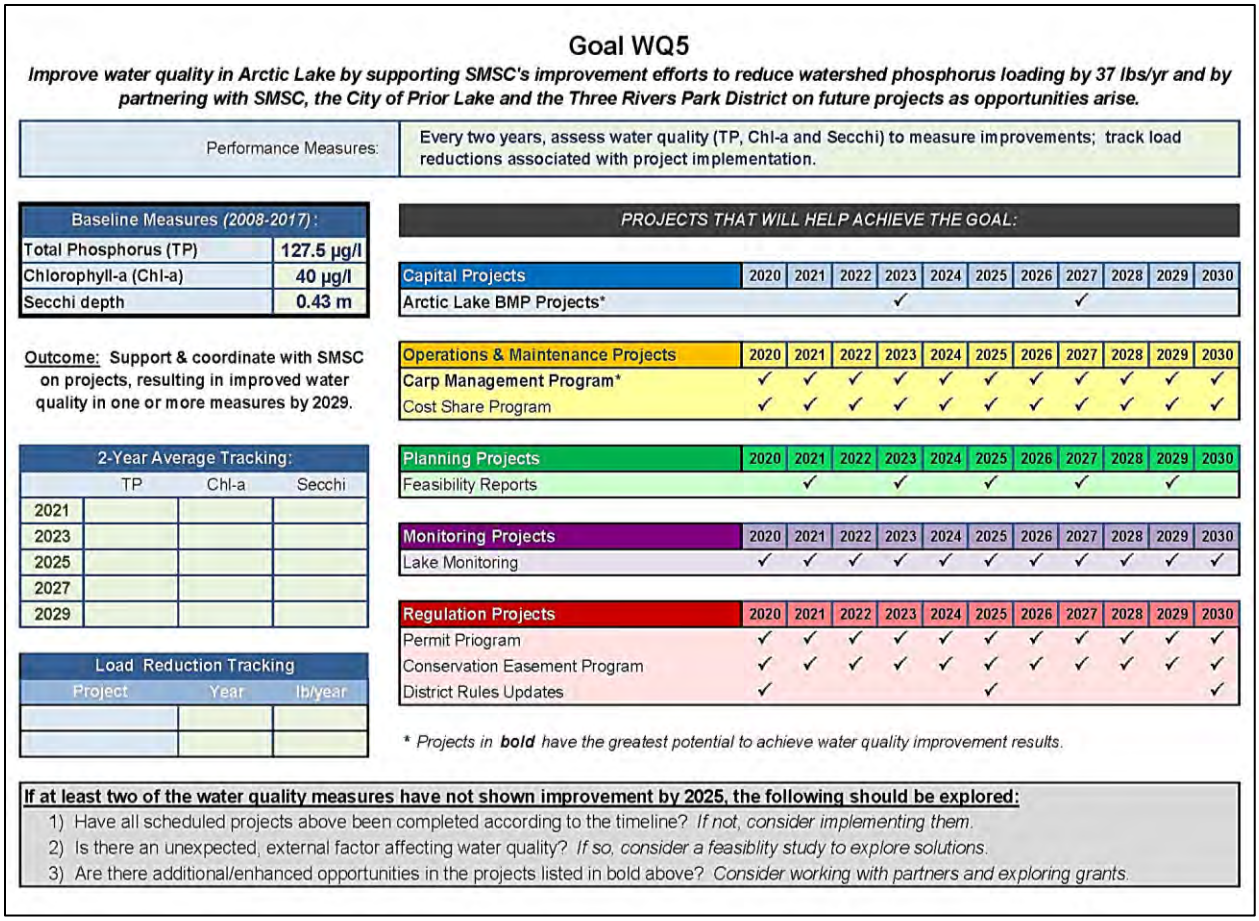
The desired outcomes of each goal identified in this plan are included in this section along with the measure that will be used to determine if that outcome was achieved. This information is included in **Table 6** and will be used, along with the goals dashboards (**Figure 7; ~~Appendix M~~Appendix M**), to track progress throughout the course of this 10-year WRMP. The implementation actions that will result in these goals being met are also included in this section.

Pursuant to Rule 8410, the PLSLWD will evaluate the actions within the Implementation Table with the annual activity report every two years. During this evaluation, the PLSLWD also plans to evaluate progress towards Plan goals. The PLSLWD's efforts from 2010 to 2016 have been well-characterized in BWSR's Level II Performance and Assistance Program (PRAP) report (**~~Appendix K~~Appendix K**). The PRAP will continue to be used as a means of evaluating implementation progress.

Goal Dashboards

In this 2020-2030 WRMP, the PLSLWD intends to better measure and track progress towards goals to ensure adequate progression through the use of dashboards. **~~Appendix M~~Appendix M** provides an Outcomes & Measures Dashboard for each goal for the PLSLWD to use internally to help better track and make adjustments as necessary. These dashboards will be updated every two years during the required evaluation period. As the Management Plan is amended, the Appendices will also be updated to provide the most current information on progress towards goals.

Below is an example of the dashboard for Goal WQ5 for Arctic Lake. Note that the dashboards include information not only on how to track progress, but what to consider if the PLSLWD is not meeting certain milestones during the 10-year plan. This dashboard also provides a quick reference for which projects are helping to achieve the goal.



Goal WQ5

Improve water quality in Arctic Lake by supporting SMSC's improvement efforts to reduce watershed phosphorus loading by 37 lbs/yr and by partnering with SMSC, the City of Prior Lake and the Three Rivers Park District on future projects as opportunities arise.

Performance Measures:	Every two years, assess water quality (TP, Chl-a and Secchi) to measure improvements; track load reductions associated with project implementation.

Baseline Measures *(2008-2017)*:	
Total Phosphorus (TP)	127.5 µg/l
Chlorophyll-a (Chl-a)	40 µg/l
Secchi depth	0.43 m

Outcome: Support & coordinate with SMSC on projects, resulting in improved water quality in one or more measures by 2029.

2-Year Average Tracking:			
	TP	Chl-a	Secchi
2021			
2023			
2025			
2027			
2029			

Load Reduction Tracking		
Project	Year	lb/year

PROJECTS THAT WILL HELP ACHIEVE THE GOAL:

Capital Projects	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Arctic Lake BMP Projects*				✓				✓			

Operations & Maintenance Projects	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Carp Management Program*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cost Share Program	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Planning Projects	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Feasibility Reports		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓	

Monitoring Projects	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Lake Monitoring	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Regulation Projects	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Permit Priogram	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Conservation Easement Program	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
District Rules Updates	✓					✓					✓

** Projects in **bold** have the greatest potential to achieve water quality improvement results.*

If at least two of the water quality measures have not shown improvement by 2025, the following should be explored:

1) Have all scheduled projects above been completed according to the timeline? *If not, consider implementing them.*
2) Is there an unexpected, external factor affecting water quality? *If so, consider a feasiblity study to explore solutions.*
3) Are there additional/enhanced opportunities in the projects listed in bold above? *Consider working with partners and exploring grants.*

Figure 7. Goal Dashboard Example

See ~~Appendix M~~Appendix M for a complete compilation of dashboards for each of the PLSLWD's goals.

Outcomes & Measures Table

Periodically evaluating success provides the Board of Managers with a mechanism to evaluate progress and make the necessary adjustments needed for improvement. While the dashboards provide detail and information for each individual goal, the following table includes an overview of each water quality goal, listing the desired outcome and measure of success for each along with the appropriate programs that help achieve the goal. This table is used to provide a larger look at the PLSLWD's planned activities for each goal and a quick overview of what measures will be used to determine success.

Table 6. Measures and Outcomes of each Goal and their associated Projects and Programs

				CAPITAL PROJECTS														OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE										PLANNING											E & O		MONITORING & RESEARCH									REGULATION			
Goal#	Goals (Desired OUTCOMES)	MEASURES	Strategies	PROJECTS	In-Lake Alum Treatments	County Ditch 13 Restoration	Public Infrastructure Projects	Arctic Lake BMP Projects	Fish Lake Watershed Projects	Lower Prior Lake Subwatershed Project	Spring Lake Regional Park Project	Spring Lake West Subwatershed Project	Storage & Infiltration Projects	Streambank Restoration Program	Sutton Lake Outlet Structure	Wetland Restoration & Enhancement	Wetland Banking Program	AIS Prevention & Management	Carp Management Program	Cost Share Program	Farmer-Led Council Initiatives	Ferric-Chloride Treatment System	Highway 13 Wetland Restoration	PLOC Bank Restoration	PLOC Management	Project Maintenance	AIS Rapid Response & Prevention Plan	Comprehensive Wetland Plan Update	District Plan Updates	Feasibility Reports	Groundwater Protection Plan	Lower Prior Lake Diagnostic Study Update	Planning & Programming	Regional Stormwater Planning	Upper Watershed Blueprint	Citizens Advisory Committee	Communications & Public Outreach	Public Engagement Events	Strategic Outreach	Buck Lake Diagnostic Study	Lake Monitoring	Stream & Ditch Monitoring	Effectiveness / BMP Monitoring	Wetland Monitoring	Precipitation & Weather	Groundwater	Reporting and Recording	PCSMM Model Update & Maintenance	Permit Program	Conservation Easement Program	District Rules Updates	District Boundary Revision	
WQ1	Maintain or improve the 5-year average for TP, Chlorophyll-a and Secchi depth in Lower Prior Lake.	Every two years, evaluate water quality trends on a 5-year running average to ensure water quality is maintained or improved.	1-7				**X**			**X**			**X**	x				x		x						x			x			x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x			x		x	x	x	
WQ2	Meet the state water quality standards for aquatic recreation on Spring Lake.	Use in-lake water quality monitoring results to assess progress every two years; request delisting to MPCA.	3, 5-30,75,76		**X**	**X**	**X**		x		X	**X**	**X**	**X**		**X**	x	x	**X**	x	**X**	x	x			x	x			x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x		x	x	x	
WQ3	Meet the state water quality standards for aquatic recreation on Upper Prior Lake.	Use in-lake water quality monitoring results to assess progress every two years; request delisting to MPCA.	5-7, 9, 10, 12-14, 16, 18-25, 28-30		**X**		**X**	x	x			x	**X**	**X**		**X**	x	x	**X**	x	**X**	x	x			x	x			x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x		x	x	x	
WQ4	Improve water quality in Fish Lake by reducing annual phosphorous load by 40 lbs/year (50% of Lower MN Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy).	Every two years, assess water quality to measure improvements; reduce annual P load by 40 lbs/year by 2029.	5, 6, 7, 12, 21, 23, 28, 29, 31, 32, 77, 78						**X**					x		**X**		x	x	x	**X**					x		x	x			x			x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x			x		x	x	x	
WQ5	Improve water quality in Arctic Lake by supporting SMSC's improvement efforts to reduce watershed phosphorus loading by 37 lbs/yr and by partnering with SMSC, the City of Prior Lake and the Three Rivers Park District on future projects as opportunities arise.	Every two years, assess water quality (TP and Secchi) to measure improvements; track load reductions associated with project implementation.	5, 33-35					**X**										**X**	x								x	x			x			x	x	x	x		x						x		x	x	x	
WQ6	In partnership with SMSC and the City of Prior Lake, improve Pike Lake by achieving 10% percent improvement in TP concentrations to work toward the TMDL pollutant reduction requirements.	Every two years, assess TP concetrations to measure improvements; track load reductions associated with project implementation.	5, 6, 28, 34-36															**X**	x	**X**							x	x			x			x	x	x	x		x						x		x	x	x	
WQ7	Assess the quality of Sutton Lake and develop a Lake Management Plan.	Assessment of lake quality and development of management plan.	34, 37-39												**X**													x	x			x			x	x	x	x		x						x					
WQ8	Assign a District water quality standard for Buck Lake and set management goals for the next 10-year plan.	Conduct a lake diagnostic study to identify water quality standard; set management goals for next 10-year plan.	34, 40																									x	x			x			x	x	x	x	**X**	x						x					
WQ9	Assess the quality of Tier 3 Lakes.	In-lake water quality monitoring.	34																									x	x			x			x	x	x	x		**X**						x					
WQ10	Maintain no net loss of wetlands in the District.	Every two years, track wetland impacts and mitigation measures.	5, 6, 23, 41-45														**X**			x							x	x	x			x			x	x	x	x				x			x		**X**	x	x	

VI. LAND AND WATER RESOURCES INVENTORY

This section of the WRMP outlines the hydrologic and geologic characteristics of the PLSLWD. This inventory provides supporting information to orient specific issues, goals, and strategies with locations throughout the watershed. Information in this section is not exhaustive, so links are included for more information and supporting information is included in ~~Appendix B~~Appendix B and ~~Appendix G~~Appendix G.

A. Existing and Future Conditions

This section of the Water Resource Management Plan is an inventory of existing conditions and proposed future development within the PLSLWD. This section is divided into three main subsections: Physical Environment, Biological Inventory, and Human Environment. The **Physical Environment** subsection provides a general physical description of the watershed and describes the geomorphology, geology, and soils. The **Biological Inventory** subsection summarizes the major biological communities and inventories important plant and animal species. The **Human Environment** subsection describes land use and growth patterns, recreational resources, and potential environmental hazards. All maps referenced in this section appear in ~~Appendix B~~Appendix B.

1. Physical Characteristics

The physical characteristics of a watershed include its physical setting, geology, geomorphology, soils, and water resources. Each of these topics is discussed in this section except for water resources which is the focus of Part B of this section.

a) Physical Setting

The PLSLWD includes approximately 42 square miles of land located entirely within Scott County, Minnesota. The Vicinity map and the District map show the PLSLWD boundaries; the surrounding area is shown for location reference (~~Appendix B~~Appendix B). The District encompasses land in five local units of government and one tribe: the Cities of Prior Lake, Savage, and Shakopee, as well as Sand Creek and Spring Lake Townships the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community. The Municipalities map shows the boundaries of the District as well as the municipal boundaries of these five local governmental units. The City of Prior Lake and Spring Lake Township comprise most of the PLSLWD's area, while Sand Creek Township and the cities of Shakopee and Savage have relatively little land area within the District.

In 1983, an outlet channel was constructed beginning at the southwest end of Lower Prior Lake. With the outlet channel in place, drainage flows north under County Road 21, through Jeffers Pond, Pike Lake, Deans Lake, and Blue Lake before its eventual discharge to the Minnesota River near the Old Highway 18 Bridge.

The PLSLWD is bordered by the Lower Minnesota River Watershed on the north, and the Scott County Water Management Organization (WMO) on all other sides.

b) Geology and Geomorphology

The surficial geology of the PLSLWD is almost entirely comprised of glacial till deposits. The only surficial geological unit of any other origin is a few small regions of peat deposits. Glacial till and drift were brought to the region through a series of glaciations coming from the northeast and the northwest. The Superior lobe came from the northeast bringing reddish-brown drift, eroded from the bedrock of the Superior region. Glaciers coming from the northwest brought gray clayey, calcareous drift eroded from North Dakota, Manitoba, and northwestern Minnesota. The hills, ridges, and kettle lakes of the region were formed when the Des Moines Lobe began to stagnate and melt. This resulted in the creation of the irregular topography of the region. The Surface Geology map shows the surficial geology of the District.

Environmental Hazards subsection describes areas that have potential pollutant sources to surface or groundwater such as hazardous material handlers, landfills, feedlots, and other potential pollutant sources.

a) Land Use

Historical Background

The earliest European settlers in the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed arrived in 1853. These early settlers resided south of Spring Lake in what was to become Spring Lake Township.

The first annual town meeting for Spring Lake was held May 11, 1858 at the house of W.H. Calkins. Spring Lake Village was originally surveyed and recorded in 1857. A considerable number of lots were sold as the town rapidly grew. A grist mill was built at the outlet of Spring Lake in 1859, the first store in Spring Lake Village was built in 1865 and there is also a cemetery which was laid out and recorded in 1863. Following the construction of the Hastings & Dakota Railway the town saw a general decline.

Prior Lake Village was surveyed and recorded in 1875 on land owned by C.H. Prior. The first building erected in Prior Lake was a store built in 1871. The Prior Lake post office was established in 1872, and by 1882, the Prior Lake business district had expanded to include one flour and feed mill, one general merchandise store, one wheat storehouse, one blacksmith shop, and two saloons. The Grainwood Resort opened on the lake in 1879, followed by several other smaller resorts; Fish Point (1907); Grainwood Landing (1906-1910); and Spranks Resort (1910-1940).

By 1940, Spring Lake had 59 cottages, 5 resorts, and more than 125 boats used for fishing, boating and other recreational purposes. Lower Prior Lake had 90 cottages and 2 resorts and more than 150 boats (Minnesota Department of Conservation 1940).

Present Land Use

Land use within the District reflects five basic location mechanisms: proximity to Minneapolis and St. Paul, proximity to transportation, proximity to Prior and Spring Lakes, availability of wastewater service, and local controls. The Existing Land Use map presents the existing land uses for the District.

Existing land uses within the District include both urban and rural land use types. Urban developments are primarily residential units located adjacent to the lakes with some commercial and industrial development primarily occurring along Highway 13 through the City of Prior Lake. The predominant residential land use is single family residential units. Commercial and industrial land use in the watershed is comprised of warehousing, residential services, and office space. Rural land use is primarily comprised of small to medium sized farms with the average farm size being about 150 acres. The major farming activities include row crop production of corn and soybeans along with a few farms with cattle grazing in pastures. The agricultural areas of the District are primarily located in the southern part of the District south of Prior and Spring Lakes and outside the Metropolitan Urban Service Area (MUSA).

The MUSA map, as shown in ~~Appendix B~~Appendix B, presents the current MUSA boundaries for the District. Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) operates all the regional wastewater treatment facilities for the Greater Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. As the wastewater authority, MCES establishes the limits of the MUSA boundary. Within this boundary residents and businesses receive municipal services. Outside this boundary, residents and businesses must rely on on-site wastewater treatment systems. As a result, the MUSA boundary determines in large part the extent of urban development. Comparing the MUSA boundary map to the existing land use map reveals the close connection between urban development and the availability of wastewater services.

Future Land Use

Under the Metropolitan Land Planning Act, the communities within the District were required to prepare and submit land management plans with projections of future land use. ~~Appendix B~~Appendix B shows the 2030 Land Use map, which is a compilation of proposed future land use by the municipalities within the District.

Recent trends in land use patterns for the District indicate that residential development is spreading out from the core area around Prior and Spring Lakes into adjacent areas. Population of the City of Prior Lake has doubled since 1995, with 2017 population estimates at 26,401. Population estimates for Scott County by the Metropolitan Council and State Demography Unit estimate 2017 populations at 145,827 people. Agriculture has experienced a modest decline in cropland acreage and in the number of farms. However, much of the soil within the District is classified by the Natural Resource Conservation Service as good farmland, with an area around Sutton Lake being classified as prime agricultural land. These agricultural areas are also the least affected by the most common type of development because they are furthest away from the metropolitan core cities and the highly desirable recreational lakes and are outside of the MUSA. Therefore, it is expected that agricultural land uses will continue to remain present within the District although pressure of urbanization is increasing dramatically. Commercial agriculture is becoming less viable as seen in the increase in cluster or large lot subdivisions.

Land use information for the District was obtained from land management plans prepared by the local municipalities and by the county. For more detailed information on land use, refer to the city land use plans prepared by the Cities of Prior Lake, Savage, and Shakopee. For areas outside of these municipalities, land use information is provided by Scott County. The county land use plan appears as a portion of the Scott County 2040 Comprehensive Water Resources Plan, adopted in June 2019.

b) Recreational Resources

Land and water-based recreational opportunities exist within the District. Water-based recreation in the District is primarily focused on Spring, Upper Prior, and Lower Prior Lakes. There are numerous parks within the District, the largest of which is Spring Lake Regional Park, located on the north shore of Spring Lake and covering about 400 acres. Lakefront Park is the second largest park and is located on the southeast shore of Lower Prior Lake within the City of Prior Lake; it hosts one of two public beaches on Lower Prior. Jeffers Pond Park is the third largest park facility, covering 147 acres and including both Upper and Lower Jeffers Ponds. Sand Point Beach Park is another important community park which hosts the other public beach on Prior Lake and is adjacent to the Lower Prior Lake boat launch. Locations of park and boat launch facilities in the District are shown on the Recreational Resources map.

Public boat landings within the District include one each on Fish, Spring, Upper and Lower Prior Lakes. These landings are maintained by the MNDNR. There is also one additional winter access point on both Spring and Lower Prior Lakes.

Spring, Upper Prior, and Lower Prior Lakes have a combined surface area of approximately 1,800 acres. These lakes receive intense recreational pressure year-round. Open water activities include fishing, boating, kayaking, canoeing, water skiing, jet skiing, sailing, wakeboarding, and swimming. During the winter when the lake is ice-covered, recreational activities include snowmobiling, ice fishing, skating, and cross-country skiing.

The few swimming beaches in the District are quite popular. According to the City of Prior Lake, annual visitors to Sand Point Beach on the north shore of Lower Prior Lake reach 30,000-48,000 each year and

B. Hydrologic Systems

This section is an inventory of basic hydrologic data for the PLSLWD. The inventory is divided into four subsections: Precipitation, Water Quantity, Water Quality, and Groundwater. All tables and figures for this section appear in ~~Appendix G~~Appendix G.

1. Precipitation and Drainage

Snow and rainfall data for the District is obtained from the State Climatology Office. Over 100 years of precipitation data has been collected in the Lower Minnesota River watershed and is summarized in Figure 2 of ~~Appendix G~~Appendix G. These stations are used by the District because of their proximity, their long period of record, and the high degree of confidence in the data. Additional precipitation records can be obtained from local sites through the state's volunteer precipitation monitoring network overseen by the state climatologist and the weather station that was installed by PLSLWD staff in 2018 at Spring Lake Townhall. Figure 1 of ~~Appendix G~~Appendix G presents the ten-year historical record of precipitation at the PLSLWD site.

a) Precipitation and Evaporation

The annual average rainfall for this area is approximately 31 inches of water per year. When rainfall is below average, lakes with small tributary areas can drop rapidly. In the absence of specific evaporation data, these values can be used to estimate future lake levels and recovery times for lakes when combined with observation well data and hydrology models.

b) Topography

The hydrologic system of the District is characterized by its drainage features including ditches, streams, floodplains, wetlands, and lakes. Topography and drainage patterns for the District are typical of glaciated areas. The terrain ranges from rolling hills to nearly level land with numerous basins of glacial origin, such as kettle lakes, scattered throughout the District. The Subwatershed Map, shown in ~~Appendix B~~Appendix B, shows the major drainage features of the watershed including subwatershed boundaries, lakes, streams, and drainage ditches. Discussion of wetlands and floodplains are presented later in this section.

The highest ground in the watershed is 1,100 feet above mean sea level (MSL). This high ground is located along the eastern boundary of the watershed in Spring Lake Township (S23, T114N, R22W). The lowest ground in the watershed is the end of the outlet channel at an elevation of approximately 880 feet above MSL. The shoreline of Prior Lake has varied historically depending upon the lake level. The elevation of Prior Lake has ranged from a recorded low of 883.6 in 1938 to a recorded high of 907.6 in 1906.

The major lakes of the District are Spring Lake, Upper Prior Lake, and Lower Prior Lake. In general, water flows from southwest to northeast through the watershed. The southwestern portion of the watershed includes Swamp Lake, Sutton Lake, Fish Lake and Buck Lake. This region is drained primarily by County Ditch 13 for Swamp and Sutton Lakes and by the Buck Lake channel for Fish and Buck Lakes. These channels discharge to Spring Lake, which discharges to Upper Prior Lake, which in turn flows into Lower Prior Lake.

There was no consistent outflow from the watershed until 1983, when an outlet channel was constructed beginning at the southwest shore of Lower Prior Lake. With the Prior Lake outlet channel in place, drainage flows north in a pipe under County Road 21, then the channel daylights and flows through Jeffers Pond, Pike Lake, Dean Lake and Blue Lake, before its eventual discharge to the Minnesota River.

c) Floodplain

The United States Army Corps of Engineers and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) have mapped the District's floodplains. The Floodplain Map, found in ~~Appendix B~~Appendix B, shows an approximation of the floodplains delineated by these agencies. These floodplains represent the area that

would be inundated by a 100-year flood event. This map does not show all floodplains within the District and is in part, based on approximate hydrologic methods and limited topographical data. Refer to Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) for more detailed information. Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) and Flood Insurance Studies (FIS) are available online via FEMA's interactive website.

2. Waterbodies

a) Public Ditches

County Ditch 13 is the only public ditch in the District. This ditch follows the path of the original natural stream for most of its length. However, the original natural stream was widened and straightened into today's current Ditch 13 to increase its capacity to drain land for agricultural purposes. Scott County maintains maps of this system which differentiate the public ditch from private laterals/extensions, and natural drainage ways. The County controls the public ditches and is the ditch authority for the purpose of implementing M.S. 103E (Drainage Law).

b) Lakes

Approximately 8 percent of the District is covered by lakes. There are four lakes in the District that are greater than 100 acres in size and eight lakes with areas between 20 and 100 acres. The lakes that are greater than 100 acres and support fishing, swimming, and other body and non-body contact recreational uses are considered priority waterbodies. Lakes in the District are listed in Table 4 and Table 5 in ~~Appendix G~~Appendix G, with their major physical, chemical, and biological characteristics. Additional fishery and water quality data can be found in ~~Appendix C~~Appendix C.

c) Wetlands

MN Rule 8420 (the Wetland Conservation Act) states per MN Rule 8420.0105, "Wetlands must not be impacted unless replaced by restoring or creating wetland areas of at least equal public value. This chapter regulates the draining or filling of wetlands, wholly or partially, and excavation in the permanently and semipermanently flooded areas of type 3, 4, or 5 wetlands, and in all wetland types if the excavation results in filling, draining, or conversion to nonwetland."

MNDNR protected wetlands are defined in M.S. 105.37 as "all Type 3, 4, and 5 wetlands, as defined in United States Fish and Wildlife Service Circular No. 39 (1971 edition), not included within the definition of public waters, which are 10 or more acres in size in unincorporated areas or 2.5 or more acres in incorporated areas." Permits are required from the MNDNR for any alteration of protected wetlands or waters below the ordinary high-water elevation. A detailed map of MNDNR protected wetlands can be found on the MNDNR website.

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has also compiled wetland maps through the National Wetland Inventory (NWI). The NWI maps identify wetland types 1-8, regardless of size, and therefore provide a more complete accounting of wetland areas. Detailed USFWS NWI maps can be found on the USFWS interactive Geospatial Wetlands Information website. The District has chosen to use this interactive mapping tool, as opposed to a hard copy map, as it is the most up to date and allows flexibility in selecting data sets.

In 1994, the Scott SWCD conducted a detailed wetland inventory for the southern half of the District. Under this effort, the SWCD reviewed maps from the MNDNR, the Metropolitan Mosquito Control District, the United States Department of Agriculture, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and the United States Geological Service to identify existing wetlands, drainage areas for these wetlands, and drainage channels. Tile records were reviewed to obtain information on drained wetlands. Historical aerial photographs dating

back to 1937 were also reviewed to identify original wetland areas. Field reconnaissance was used to complete the inventory by providing a field verification of the mapping results. The maps and records from this wetland inventory are not included in this plan because the extensive detail of this inventory would make this plan excessively cumbersome. However, the inventory records and maps can be viewed at the District office.

In 2012, Emmons and Olivier Resources (EOR) prepared a Comprehensive Wetland Plan for PLSLWD to accomplish goals and meet policies set forth in this WRMP. This plan was used to develop wetland management standards used to support water resource management activities in the Watershed District and an updated inventory was created, which can be found in the District files.

The Wetland map, found in ~~Appendix B~~Appendix B, shows the general location of MNDNR protected wetlands in the District as determined by the Scott SWCD.

3. Water Quantity

Water quantity has been identified as a priority issue for the District and will likely continue to be so in the future as development continues throughout the watershed. A thorough understanding of water quantity issues is a major component of the watershed management plan. Water quantity issues can be divided into two categories: issues relating to the quantity of water stored and issues relating to the quantity of water flowing through a given point. This section summarizes and discusses data on water storage in terms of lake levels and flow data.

To supplement the existing data on lake levels and flow, several hydrologic models have been developed for the District. These models serve as an important tool for analyzing the relative importance of various factors that influence water levels and flow rates. In addition, these models can be used to make predictions regarding future water levels and flow rates in the District. Various models have been used depending upon desired analysis parameters and include XP-SWMM, SWAT, HydroCAD, PCSWMM, and HEC-RAS. Details on modeling and model calibration can be found in individual project reports.

a) Lake Levels

The most comprehensive data on lake levels in the District are for Upper and Lower Prior Lakes. Because these two lakes are joined by a wide channel, water level readings for both lakes are essentially equal. Figure 6 of ~~Appendix G~~Appendix G shows the historic record of water level data for these lakes from 1906. This figure shows that lake levels are significantly influenced by long-term rainfall patterns, although this linkage has been dampened by the construction of the lake outlet which moderates high lake levels and decreases the odds of successive high-water years.

Lake levels for Upper and Lower Prior Lakes have historically been one of the most important issues in the District. Before 1983, Lower Prior Lake did not have an overland outlet. As a result, water levels in the lakes fluctuated widely depending upon rainfall patterns. Since the construction of the outlet channel, the lake levels have stabilized somewhat, but lake level issues still arise. When lake levels are high, water levels encroach on numerous dwellings, but when water levels are too low, water recedes from some shallow bays making boat access to the lake difficult.

In 2016, the ~~Prior Lake Stormwater Management & Flood Mitigation Study~~Prior Lake Stormwater Management & Flood Mitigation Study was completed by Barr Engineering and jointly sponsored by the District and the City of Prior Lake in collaboration with Spring Lake Township. The study updated the watershed's hydrologic model, reviewed flood-related issues and projects, identified potential flood reduction strategies and developed an implementation plan to reduce future flooding and improve agency

response to flooding. The number of dwellings that are potentially adversely affected at a given water level is documented on page 6 of that report.

Water level data are available for other lakes, including Fish, Spring, Cates, and Pike Lakes on the District website or MNDNR Lake Finder. Limited data is available for other waterbodies in the District, such as Haas, Crystal, Rice, Sutton, and Swamp Lakes.

Table 6 of ~~Appendix G~~Appendix G lists ordinary high water (OHW) levels for lakes in the District. The OHW is defined in M.S. 103G.005 as:

> *"An elevation delineating the highest water level that has been maintained for a sufficient period of time to leave evidence upon the landscape, commonly the point where the natural vegetation changes from predominantly aquatic to predominantly terrestrial; for watercourses, the ordinary high water level is the elevation of the top of the bank of the channel; and for reservoirs and flowages, the ordinary high water level is the operating elevation of the normal summer pool."*

The OHW is an important regulatory concept as it defines the extent of the MNDNR protected public waters and wetlands. Any change to the course, current or cross-section at or below the ordinary high water level of a public water requires a MNDNR Public Waters Work Permit~~project that would alter the OHW or would occur below the OHW would require a MNDNR permit~~.

b) Flow Gauging

District-wide

With assistance from the Scott SWCD, the District monitors flow at several locations around the watershed, ranging from the upper watershed, outlets of lakes, and along the Outlet Channel. Some of the flow data for the District have been collected as part of short-term special studies, such as the Upper Watershed Study from 2014-2016.

Stream flow data is used to calibrate and verify the District's various hydrologic models and calculate pollutant loads. Stream flow measurements will be completed as determined in the District's long-term monitoring plan. The Water Quality Monitoring map, found in ~~Appendix B~~Appendix B, shows the locations of monitoring stations from current and past water quantity and water quality studies.

Outlet Channel

Flow calculations for the outlet channel are integral for implementation of the PLOC MOA. Additional details on modeling for this project can be found in the document, which is available for review on the District website. Additional monitoring of flows in the outlet channel will be completed by the District in accordance with the District's monitoring plan.

4. Water Quality

Lakes within the District are monitored by Three Rivers Park District or by volunteers through the Metropolitan Council Citizen-Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP). Data is stored in the District's Water Quality Database (WQDB) and summaries of lake water quality data is posted on the Waterbodies tab of the District's website. The monitoring program provides an assessment of water quality and identifies possible water quality trends in a timely manner so that prompt management action can be taken. The monitoring program also helps evaluate the effectiveness of District projects meant to improve water quality. The District currently operates its monitoring program based upon an annual and long-term monitoring plan.

a) Summary of Historical Lake Water Quality Data

Historic data includes information on phosphorus, nitrogen, chlorophyll-a, suspended solids, dissolved oxygen, and Secchi disk transparency. The District's website and ~~Appendix G~~Appendix G contain some of the most recent data collected.

Phosphorus

Phosphorus is an essential nutrient for algae growth and it is often the limiting nutrient. As a result, the concentration of phosphorus is of particular concern in aquatic systems as its concentration often determines the abundance of algae; the overabundance of algae results in numerous interrelated water quality problems that may adversely impact recreational, aesthetic, and fisheries uses of lakes. ~~Appendix G~~Appendix G, Section A shows the mean summer total phosphorus (TP) concentrations for Cates, Buck, Crystal, Sutton, Swamp, Arctic, Haas, Fish, Pike, Spring, Upper Prior, and Lower Prior Lakes from 2014-2017 (unless otherwise noted).

Chlorophyll-a

Chlorophyll-a is a photosynthetic pigment common to all plants including algae. The concentration of chlorophyll-a is used as a convenient surrogate measure of algae abundance. ~~Appendix G~~Appendix G, Section A presents the mean summer chlorophyll-a concentrations for Fish, Buck, Spring, Pike, Arctic, Upper Prior, and Lower Prior Lakes for the years each lake was sampled between 2004-2017. Chlorophyll-a concentrations over 30 μg/L are generally considered nuisance algae conditions and hypereutrophic.

b) Secchi Disk Transparency

Secchi disk transparency is a measure of water clarity. The Secchi depth is determined by lowering a black and white disk to the point where the disk disappears from view. The depth of disappearance is then recorded as the Secchi depth. Because of its ease of measurement, Secchi depth readings have been promoted through volunteer monitoring programs. ~~Appendix G~~Appendix G**,** Section A shows the mean summer Secchi depth readings for Cates, Fish, Spring, Pike, Upper Prior, and Lower Prior Lakes for all years available between 2005 and 2017. Secchi depth readings less than 1.0 m for shallow lakes, or 1.4 m for deep lakes, are generally considered poor water clarity conditions and hypereutrophic.

c) Stream Water Quality Data

Stream water quality data collection for the District has also focused on eutrophication related parameters and has primarily been directed at evaluating contributions to the eutrophication of lakes. These data include information on flow, nutrients, and suspended solids. This data can be found in the District's water quality database (www.plslwd.org/wqdb).

d) Impaired Waters and TMDLs

The District has several lakes that do not meet state and federal water quality requirements and have been included on the State of Minnesota List of Impaired Waters, also known as the 303(d) list after the relevant section of the federal Clean Water Act. Impairments are listed in Table 7 under ~~Appendix G~~Appendix G.

In 2008 and 2009 the District undertook a TMDL study for excess nutrients for both Spring and Upper Prior Lakes. A stakeholder group of local and agency representatives assisted the District in diagnosing the sources of excess nutrients to the lakes, establishing load reduction targets, and identifying Best Management Practices and activities to achieve load reduction and water quality goals. The final TMDL study was written by PLSLWD, MPCA, and Wenck Associates, Inc and approved in 2011. The TMDL Implementation Plan was finalized in 2012.

approved plan. Additionally, the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community is exempt from PLSLWD rules on tribal lands.

1. Rules and Standards

The District's permitting program is based upon the District rules and standards, which are included in ~~Appendix D~~Appendix D. The Board of Managers updated its rules in 1996 with the assistance of member communities. The update included major revisions which reflected the philosophies of the Board of Managers. In addition to removing ambiguous text, the rules clarified regulatory roles of the cities, county, and District. They also addressed water quality issues in redeveloping areas and eliminated regulatory overlap by leaving wetland regulations to local governmental units who implement the Wetland Conservation Act. Another area of overlap was eliminated with the cessation of District permitting for dredging and shoreline improvements. This area is adequately addressed by the MNDNR, and in the case of larger projects, by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

In 2001, the Board of Managers made significant additions to the rules by adopting general standards, a performance standard for infiltration, and buffer strip requirements for wetlands and watercourses. These additions reflected the District's goals of enhancing water quality and volume control within the watershed. The Board worked closely with the cities, county and other interested parties on this revision, which was adopted in February 2001. The rules underwent minor revisions in 2003 and again in 2015.

The rules and standards of the PLSLWD cover the topics of definitions, procedural requirements, general standards, stormwater management, erosion and sediment control, floodplain alteration, wetland alteration, bridge and culvert crossing, drainage alterations, buffer strips, enforcement, variances, appeals, and permitting fees and security. The District will rely on these rules while entertaining regulatory enforcement and variance actions.

The District is near completion of another round of rule revisions which is anticipated to be completed in 2020. Primary revisions contemplated are for linear road project and redevelopment standards, volume control standards, wetland bounce and inundation, and providing greater flexibility in demonstration of compliance with the stormwater rule including ability for stormwater banking/credits, off-site treatment, regional planning, municipal cost cap, and a stormwater impact fund.

2. Equivalency Agreements

If municipalities wish to provide full regulatory control, the District will cede permit authority only following completion of an approved local plan, adoption of the ordinances, and implementation of inspection and administrative procedures necessary to ensure the full regulatory standards of the District are met. Equivalency of local water management plans and official controls will be determined according to the process in MN Statute 103B and the PLSLWD 2020-2030 WRMP, as amended. To make a finding of equivalency, the Board must determine that:

- The local unit of government (LGU) having land use planning and regulatory responsibility has adopted a local water management plan and official controls that follow the policies and achieve the standards and objectives articulated in the PLSLWD 2020-2030 WRMP, as amended, and the District's rules, as amended.
- The LGU has developed and is implementing a program to permit land disturbing activities in accordance with its official controls and to inspect, monitor and enforce compliance with the official controls.
- The LGU has developed and is implementing a program for operating and maintaining the best management practices required by its official controls and procedures, either directly or through developers' or homeowners' agreements.

PRIOR LAKE SPRING LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Financial Report - Cash Basis
January 1, 2024 Through April 30, 2024

Reflects bills paid through April 30, 2024

Program Element		2024 Source of Funds					2024 Actual Results		
		2024 Levy	Budget Reserve	Grant Funds/Fees	Budget Adjustment	2024 Budget	April 2024	YTD	YTD % of Budget
	General Fund (Administration)								
	Revenues								
	Property Taxes	$ 252,000	$ -	$ -		$ 252,000	$ -	$ -	0%
	Interest	-	-	9,000		9,000	-	2,753	31%
	Total Revenues	**$ 252,000**	**$ -**	**$ 9,000**	**$ -**	**$ 261,000**	-	**2,753**	1%
	Expenditures								
	Administrative Salaries and Benefits	$ 145,000	$ -	$ -		$ 145,000	11,596	44,084	30%
	703 · Telephone, Internet & IT Support	7,000	-	9,000		16,000	1,098	4,358	27%
	702 - Rent	27,500	-	-		27,500	2,387	11,935	43%
	706 · Office Supplies	8,000	-	-		8,000	1,037	1,532	19%
	709 · Insurance and Bonds	13,000	-	-		13,000	-		0%
	670 · Accounting	33,500	-	-		33,500	3,285	9,070	27%
	671 · Audit	10,500	-	-		10,500	7,500	7,500	71%
	903 · Fees, Dues, and Subscriptions	1,500	-	-		1,500	120	1,229	82%
	660 · Legal (not for projects)	6,000	-	-		6,000	161	1,324	22%
	General Fund (Administration) Expenditures	**$ 252,000**	**$ -**	**$ 9,000**		**$ 261,000**	**27,185**	**81,032**	31%
	Net Change in General Fund	-	-	-	-	-	**(27,185)**	**(78,279)**	

PRIOR LAKE SPRING LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT

Financial Report - Cash Basis

January 1, 2024 Through April 30, 2024

Reflects bills paid through April 30, 2024

Program Element		2024 Source of Funds: 2024 Levy	Budget Reserve	Funds/Fees	Budget Adjustment	2024 Budget	2024 Actual Results: April 2024	YTD	YTD % of Budget
	Implementation Fund								
	Revenues								
	Property Taxes	$ 1,697,000	$ -	$ -		$ 1,697,000	-	-	0%
	Grants/Fees	-	-	34,000		34,000	-	45,935	135%
	Interest	-	-	61,000		61,000	19,085	36,808	60%
	Sales/Other	-	-	-		-	2,072	2,572	#DIV/0!
	Budget Reserves	-	$ 468,500	-	38,981	507,481	-	-	0%
	Total Revenues	**$ 1,697,000**	**$ 468,500**	**$ 95,000**		**$ 2,299,481**	**21,157**	**85,315**	4%
	Expenditures								
	Program Salaries and Benefits (not JPA/MOA)	$ 490,500	$ -	$ -	$ (5,000)	$ 485,500	**35,559**	**138,996**	29%
Water Qual	550 Public Infrastructure Partnership Projects	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	-		#DIV/0!
Water Qual	611 Farmer-led Council	55,000	-	-		55,000	972	1,050	2%
Water Qual	611 Cost-Share Incentives	68,000	-	-		68,000	19	19	0%
Water Qual	611 Highway 13 Wetland, FeCl system & Desilt, O&M	244,000	-	61,000		305,000	-	1,314	0%
Water Qual	611 Carp Management	96,500	-	-		96,500	1,112	1,705	2%
Water Qual	611 Spring Lake Demonstration Project Maintenance	1,200	-	-		1,200	-		0%
Water Qual	611 Alum Internal Loading Reserve	230,000	-	-	-	230,000	-		0%
Water Qual	611 Fish Stocking	2,000	-	-		2,000			0%
Water Qual	637 District Monitoring Program	84,500	-	-		84,500	2,122	6,858	8%
Water Qual	626 Planning and Program Development	27,500	-	-		27,500	1,641	10,715	39%
Water Qual	626 LGU Plan Review	-	4,000	-		4,000	-		0%
Water Qual	626 Engineering not for programs	20,000	-	-		20,000	1,248	4,524	23%
Water Qual	648 Permitting and Compliance	57,000	-	5,000		62,000	3,949	7,582	12%
Water Qual	648 Update MOAs with cities & county	-	5,000	-		5,000	-		0%
Water Qual	648 BMP and easement inventory & inspections	25,000	-	2,000	5,000	32,000	28	3,069	10%
Water Qual	626 Upper Watershed Projects	194,000	442,000	-	-	636,000	5,636	14,782	2%
Water Qual	626 District Plan Update	-	2,500			2,500	-		0%
	WQ TOTAL	**$ 1,104,700**	**$ 453,500**	**$ 68,000**	**$ 5,000**	**$ 1,631,200**	**16,728**	**51,619**	3%
Water Storage	550 District-wide Hydraulic & Hydrologic model	$ 5,000	$ -	$ -		$ 5,000	-	-	0%
Water Storage	626 Comprehensive Wetland Plan Update	35,500			-	35,500	-	-	0%
	WS TOTAL	**$ 40,500**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 40,500**	**-**	**-**	0%
AIS	611 Aquatic Vegetation Mgmt	2,000	-	$ 12,000		$ 14,000	-		0%
AIS	637 Automated Vegetation Monitoring (BioBase)	$ 1,300	-	-		1,300	-		0%
AIS	637 Aquatic Vegetation Surveys	15,500	-	-		15,500	-		0%
AIS	637 Boat inspections on Spring, Upper & Lower Prior	19,000	-	15,000	-	34,000	-		0%
	AIS TOTAL	**37,800**	**-**	**27,000**	**-**	**64,800**	**-**	**-**	0%
Ed & Out	652 Education and Outreach Program	$ 23,500	$ 15,000	$ -		$ 38,500	2,160	4,521	12%
	E&O TOTAL	**$ 23,500**	**$ 15,000**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 38,500**	**$ 2,160**	**$ 4,521**	12%
	PLOC Contribution		**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 38,981**	**$ 38,981**	**38,981**	**38,981**	100%
	Debt Payment Reserve		**-**	**-**		**-**	-	-	#DIV/0!
	Total Implementation Fund	**$ 1,697,000**	**$ 468,500**	**$ 95,000**	**$ -**	**$ 2,299,481**	**93,428**	**234,116**	10%
	Net Change in Fund Balance Implementation Fund	**-**	**-**	**-**		**-**	**(72,271)**	**(148,801)**	

	Grant Funds/Fees Anticipated	2024 Budget
	Interest Income (general fund & Implementation fund)	$ 70,000
	648 New Easement Acquisition Fees	5,000
Water Qual	**648 Easement amendment/violations fees**	2,000
AIS	**611 Aquatic Vegetation Mgmt. (Scott County)**	27,000
	Total Grant Funds/Fees Anticipated	**$ 104,000**

Budget Summary

Fund Sources/Fund Expenditures	2024 Levy	Budget Reserves	Grants/Rev	Amendments	Budget Total	2023 Levy	Levy Increase	% Increase
General Fund	$ 252,000		$ 9,000	$ -	$ 261,000	249,200		
Implementation Fund	$ 1,697,000	$ 468,500	$ 95,000	$ -	$ 2,260,500	1,670,736		
Total Fund Sources	**$ 1,949,000**	**$ 468,500**	**$ 104,000**	**$ -**	**$ 2,521,500**	**1,919,936**	**$ 29,064**	**1.5%**
Expenditures								
General Fund					261,000			
Implementation Fund					2,299,481			
Total Expenditures					**2,560,481**			

Fund Balance Commitments/Assingments		12-31-23 Bal	2024 (Budget) Additions	Reductions	Amendments	12-31-24 Bal
	611 Alum Internal Loading Reserve	$ 700,000	$ 230,000	$ -	$ -	$ 930,000
	626 Upper Watershed Projects	$ 442,000	$ 194,000	$ (636,000)	$ -	$ -
	Debt Payment Reserve	$ 180,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 180,000
		$ 1,322,000	**$ 424,000**	**$ (636,000)**	**$ -**	**$ 1,110,000**

Draft amounts subject to change during audit preparation

No assurance provided on these financial statements

PLSLWD Monthly Treasurers Report Treasurer: Christian Morkeberg

Account balances as of 04/30/24

4M Fund (Checking Account)	$	1,376,257
4M Fixed Income	$	1,898,850
Total Uncleared Transactions	$	-
SUBTOTAL	**$**	**3,275,107**

RESTRICTED/COMMITTED FUNDS		
Restricted - Permit Deposits, etc. (350 & 360)	$	128,302
Restricted - PLOC Contingency Reserve (850)	$	261,863
Restricted - PLOC O&M Funds (830)	$	198,364
Committed - Alum Internal Loading Reserve	$	700,000
Committed - Upper Watershed Fund Balance	$	442,000
Committed - Debt Payment	$	180,000
TOTAL DISTRICT/PLOC RESTRICTED OBLIGATIONS	**$**	**1,910,529**

Available cash at end of April 2024	**$**	**1,364,578**

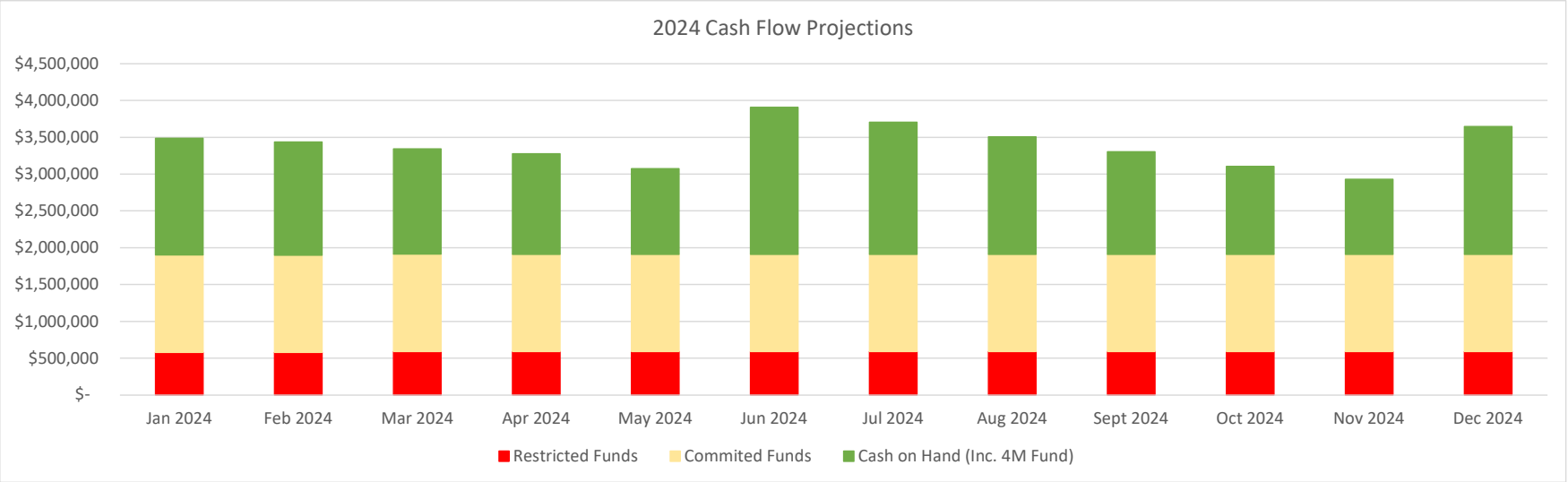
55.2% of 2024 Budget

Draft amounts subject to change during audit preparation

No assurance provided on these financial statements

Cash Flow Chart

Month (End of Month)	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	Mar 2024	Apr 2024	May 2024	Jun 2024	Jul 2024	Aug 2024	Sept 2024	Oct 2024	Nov 2024	Dec 2024
Restricted Funds	$ 578,864	$ 577,392	$ 589,581	$ 588,529	$ 588,529	$ 588,529	$ 588,529	$ 588,529	$ 588,529	$ 588,529	$ 588,529	$ 588,529
Commited Funds	$ 1,322,000	$ 1,322,000	$ 1,322,000	$ 1,322,000	$ 1,322,000	$ 1,322,000	$ 1,322,000	$ 1,322,000	$ 1,322,000	$ 1,322,000	$ 1,322,000	$ 1,322,000
Cash on Hand (Inc. 4M Fund)	$ 1,585,239	$ 1,536,801	$ 1,432,197	$ 1,364,578	$ 1,163,821	$ 1,996,034	$ 1,795,278	$ 1,594,521	$ 1,393,763	$ 1,193,006	$ 1,019,249	$ 1,734,522
Total Cash on Hand	$ 3,486,103	$ 3,436,193	$ 3,343,778	$ 3,275,107	$ 3,074,350	$ 3,906,563	$ 3,705,807	$ 3,505,050	$ 3,304,292	$ 3,103,535	$ 2,929,778	$ 3,645,051



Draft Amounts subject to chanbge during audit preparation

No assurance is provided on these financial statements

PLSL Watershed District

Starting cash on hand

Cash Minimum Balance Alert $ 150,000

	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	Mar 2024	Apr 2024	May 2024	Jun 2024	Jul 2024	Aug 2024	Sept 2024	Oct 2024	Nov 2024	Dec 2024	Total
Cash on hand (beginning of month)	$ 3,659,456	$ 3,486,103	$ 3,436,193	$ 3,343,778	$ 3,275,107	$ 3,074,350	$ 3,906,563	$ 3,705,807	$ 3,505,050	$ 3,304,292	$ 3,103,535	$ 2,929,778	
Cash Receipts													
Property Tax Levy	$ 7,050	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,032,970	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 916,030	$ 1,956,050
BWSR WBIF	-	41,403	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	41,403
Grants - Other	500	4,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27,000	-	31,500
PLOC Contributions	-	-	39,513	4,209	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	43,722
Interest Income	8,465	7,661	7,714	19,084	5,833	5,833	5,833	5,833	5,833	5,833	5,833	5,833	89,591
Other Receipts	-	532	-	2,072	875	875	875	875	875	875	875	875	9,604
Total Cash Reciepts	$ 16,015	$ 53,596	$ 47,227	$ 25,365	$ 6,708	$ 1,039,678	$ 6,708	$ 6,708	$ 6,708	$ 6,708	$ 33,708	$ 922,738	$ 2,171,870
Total Cash Available	$ 3,675,471	$ 3,539,699	$ 3,483,420	$ 3,369,143	$ 3,281,815	$ 4,114,028	$ 3,913,272	$ 3,712,515	$ 3,511,758	$ 3,311,001	$ 3,137,243	$ 3,852,516	
Cash Paid Out													
Salaries and Per Diems	$ 45,745	$ 44,115	$ 46,065	$ 47,154	$ 52,958	$ 52,958	$ 52,958	$ 52,958	$ 52,958	$ 52,958	$ 52,958	$ 52,958	$ 606,746
Office Expense, Audit, Accounting	13,490	6,217	19,515	8,222	9,667	9,667	9,667	9,667	9,667	9,667	9,667	9,667	124,777
PLSLWSD Program Costs	64,371	48,137	25,511	32,319	132,778	132,778	132,778	132,778	132,778	132,778	132,777	132,777	1,232,561
PLOC Contribution			38,981		-	-							38,981
PLOC Operations	3,565	5,037	9,570	6,341	12,062	12,062	12,062	12,062	12,063	12,063	12,063	12,063	121,013
Debt Service													
Other Disbursements	$ 62,197												$ 62,197
Subtotal	$ 189,368	$ 103,506	$ 139,642	$ 94,036	$ 207,465	$ 207,465	$ 207,465	$ 207,465	$ 207,466	$ 207,466	$ 207,465	$ 207,465	$ 2,124,077
Cash on Hand (end of month)	$ 3,486,103	$ 3,436,193	$ 3,343,778	$ 3,275,107	$ 3,074,350	$ 3,906,563	$ 3,705,807	$ 3,505,050	$ 3,304,292	$ 3,103,535	$ 2,929,778	$ 3,645,051	

Draft amounts subject to change during audit

No assurance is provided on these financial statements

PLSLWD
Cost Analysis
Year to Date 04/30/2024

	Year to Date 04/30/2024 Amount	% of total
Program staff costs	**138,996**	**44.1%**
Consultants		
EOR	31,840	
WSB & Associates	846	
RMB Environmental Labs	78	
	32,764	**10.4%**
Hard costs, exclusive of prog staff & consultant costs	23,376	
	23,376	**7.4%**
Overhead and Administration		
Staff costs	44,084	
Audit/Accounting/Legal	17,894	
Other admin overhead	15,666	
IT Support (Rymark)	3,388	
	81,032	**25.7%**
Bonds payments	**-**	**0.0%**
PLOC Contribution	38,981	**12.4%**
Expenses excluding PLOC expenses per manager report	**315,148**	**100.0%**

No assurance is provided on this statement.
This statement omits required disclosures.
This statement is prepared on the cash basis of accounting.

PRIOR LAKE SPRING LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT

WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, April 16, 2024
Prior Lake City Hall
4:00 PM

Members Present: Bruce Loney, Frank Boyles, Ben Burnett, Christian Morkeberg, Matt Tofanelli

Staff & Consultants Present: Joni Giese, District Administrator
Emily Dick, Water Resources Project Manager
Carl Almer, District Engineer, EOR

Others Present: Jim Fitzsimmons, Scott SWCD
Lisa Quinn, Spring Lake Township
Jody Brennan, Scott County

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM.

Flood Storage Next Steps
District Project Manager Emily Dick presented a proposed approach for flood storage projects in 2024. The presentation included reasoning (landowner disinterest, counterproductive to flood reduction goals) for excluding Projects 1, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 9 from further consideration. Projects 10 and 13 were proposed as 2024 priority flood storage projects. Project 10 would begin with a preliminary investigation into historic water body conditions on Buck Lake in respect to flood storage regulatory requirements. Project 13 would begin with landowner outreach. Board members expressed agreement with the approach of Projects 10 and 13.

Draft Manager Per Diem Policy
Administrator Giese presented a draft Manager Per Diem guidance document to the Board at the March workshop. Additional discrepancies were brought up since that document was presented. As a result, legal counsel provided clarifications and corrections, including updating the document to a “policy” rather than a “guidance document.” One key clarification is that Managers are limited to a maximum per diem of $125 per day. As long as attendance- in person, remotely, or viewing of a recorded meeting- occurs on separate days, the per diem may be claimed up to $125 per day. Reimbursement of expenses (mileage, etc.) do not apply to the daily per diem limit. The draft

policy may be consolidated with the per diem language in the general governance policies. The draft policy will be presented at the May Board meeting for approval and adoption. There was discussion revolving around the hierarchy of the document, which will be clarified with legal counsel.

Legal Counsel Support Discussion

Administrator Giese opened a discussion on whether the District should have legal counsel present at Board meetings for Board assistance. Most other watershed districts have counsel in attendance. Examples of how legal counsel assists other watershed districts include ensuring appropriate procedures are followed in meetings, providing statutory assistance when determining permit enforcement, drafting proposed resolutions, reviewing policies and suggesting updates when needed, and assisting with wording on motions to provide nuance or risk reduction for the District. The tradeoff would be an additional cost to the District. The Board was supportive of having the attorney present for select issues that are identified by staff and legal counsel. There was a motion made by Manager Boyles to ask legal counsel to make a presentation at a future Board workshop on their background, how legal counsel commonly helps other watershed districts, and outlining which items should always go to legal counsel. Second by Manager Morkeberg. 4 ayes (Boyles, Loney, Morkeberg, Burnett), 1 nay (Tofanelli). Motion passes.

Liaison Updates

<u>District Partner Reports</u>

- *Scott County*- WMO is starting their comprehensive plan update, they began discussing community engagement process. It is estimated to start in June.
- *Scott SWCD*- McMahon Lake outlet project plan completed. Progress on Buck stream stabilization project. Krueger runoff management project is ongoing. 19 landowners assisted in March. 53 active services. Working on 2 new conservation easements, and replacing missing easement signs. Identified highest priority violations. Working on Geis wetland fill violation. Farmer Led Council Lake Friendly Farm meeting. One on one interviews with Farmer Led Council members. The new drone is quickly becoming useful.
- *Spring Lake Township*- Partner on WBIF process, and discussing other future projects. Interested in the location of flood storage projects.

<u>Manager Liaison Reports</u>

- *CAC*- Maureen's term end recognition. Discussion on community outreach pieces with Spring Lake Association and Prior Lake Association. Reviewed the plan amendment. Stenciling event discussion. Discussed when budget review happens.
- *Scott SWCD*- None.
- *Lower Minnesota Watershed District*- None.
- *Sand Creek Township*- None.
- *Spring Lake Township*- Discussion on Fish Lake Management Plan. Sand point beach closure and impact on other boat ramps. Vegetation surveys. Prior Lake Outlet Channel funding applications. How to measure water quality was discussed.
- *Scott WMO*- None.
- *Shakopee*- None.

- *SCALE*- Legislative subcommittee meeting learned that the missing middle housing proposal is backing off. Mention of the Prior Lake Outlet Channel and other funding applications.
- *Scott County*- Manager Burnett's next three-year term was approved.
- *Metro Watersheds*- None.
- *PLOC Cooperators*- None.
- *Farmer-Led Council*- Lake Friendly Farm Awards to Marvin Klehr and Joe Hentges.

Administrator Report

- SCALE is funding a committee to investigate whether a shared benefit program between Scott County, Cities and Watershed Districts would be cost effective and desirable.
- Prior Lake Outlet Channel pipelining was the first mention in Rep. Bakeberg's latest newsletter.
- City of Prior Lake annual lease renewal is approaching. This will be year 3 of 4 available renewals. Planning to meet with Manager Wedel to discuss improvements. One item of interest is to see if remote attendance is possible in Council Chambers. A proposal will come in the next month or so. Due diligence on the rental market is expected as we get later in our contract period.
- Planning to reduce monitoring on conservation easements that have routinely complied to once every 3 years.
- An Abdo representative will be in attendance next month to present audit findings. Our financial statements are representative of our financial condition. In their review of statutory requirements, the District exceeded the 35-day invoice payment period. Board was interested in having time to review before approval.

Discussion on CAC Recommendation

Board had initial discussion on the CAC recommendation which included a preference for a clear tie to the District's work. Potentially even having the District provide information to input into materials.

Respectfully Submitted,
Emily Dick
4/16/2024

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, April 16th 2023
Prior Lake City Hall
6:00 PM

Managers Present:	Bruce Loney,	Christian Morkeberg,	
	Frank Boyles,	Matt Tofanelli,	Ben Burnett

Staff & Consultants Present:
Joni Giese, District Administrator
Jeff Anderson, Water Resources Coordinator
Emily Dick, Water Resources Project Manager
Danielle Studer, Water Resources Specialist
Carl Almer, EOR, District Engineer

Others Present:
Lisa Quinn, Spring Lake Township
Jody Brennan, Scott County Commissioner
Ron Hoffman, CAC representative

1.0 CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

- The meeting was called to order by President Loney at 6:05 pm. Everyone present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2.0 SWEARING IN OF MANAGER BURNETT

- Manager Loney swore in Manager Burnett for a 2nd term by reading the Oath of Office as Manager Burnett repeated the Oath.

3.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

4.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- Agenda changes: none
- Motion to approve the agenda by Manager Boyles;
    - 2nd by Manager Burnett;
    - passed 5-0.

5.0 OTHER OLD/NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Programs & Projects Update

- Staff provided a report of its many activities the preceding month, and some upcoming events.
    - FeCl upgrades started
    - Carp Management Continues
    - Update on Water Resources Management Plan amendment process – in comment period – notice was sent to approximately 50 plan review authorities or watershed partners
    - Watershed week July 7-13 (Music fest is 12th&13th)

5.2 CAC Recommendation: Funding Partner Educational Materials

- Danielle Studer introduced Ron Hoffman from the CAC to present a memorandum and a recommendation to: approve a portion of the CAC budget for the PLA and SLA for education materials
- There was some discussion
- Manager Boyles motioned to approve the modified CAC recommendation to use CAC budget of $500 each for the Spring Lake Association and Prior Lake Association for printing lake maps, or other materials that include messaging which furthers the PLSLWD agenda (e.g., Spring Lake "Need to Know" maps, printing of Prior Lake Association newsletters, etc.).
    - 2nd by Manager Tofanelli
    - Passed 5-0

5.3 2023 Annual Report Approval

- The annual report was presented by Danielle Studer.
- Manager Burnett motioned to approve the PLSLWD 2023 Annual Report and authorize its release to the Board of Water and Soil Resources and Department of Natural Resources
    - 2nd by Manager Morkeberg
    - Passed 5-0

6.0 TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Morkeberg summarized the financial information contained in the packet including:

6.1 Monthly Financial Reports

- Financial Report
- Treasurers Report
- Cash Flow Projections
- Cost Analysis

7.0 CONSENT AGENDA

- 7.1 Meeting Minutes – March 19, 2024, Board Workshop
- 7.2 Meeting Minutes – March 19, 2024, Board Meeting
- 7.3 Meeting Minutes – January 25, 2024, CAC Meeting
- 7.4 Claims List and Bank Purchase Card Expenditures Summary

- 7.5 Permit Application 24.01: Panama & 13 Water Quality Retrofit
- 7.6 League of Minnesota Cities Liability Coverage Waiver
- 7.7 Waterfront Restorations 2024 Boat Inspections Contract
- 7.8 Schumann 3rd Addition Declaration of Conservation Easement
- 7.9 Approval for Second Term on CAC: Loren Hanson
- 7.10 Revising the 2024 Official Newspaper

- Motion to approve consent agenda by Manager Burnett,
    - 2nd by Manager Morkeberg
    - Passed 5-0

8.0 UPCOMING MEETING/EVENT SCHEDULE:

- Board of Managers Workshop, Tuesday, May 21, 2024, 4:00 pm (Prior Lake City Hall – Parkview Conference Room)
- Board of Managers Meeting, Tuesday, May 21, 2024, 6:00 pm (Prior Lake City Hall – Council Chambers)
- CAC Meeting, Thursday, May 30, 2024, 6:00 pm (Prior Lake City Hall – Wagon Bridge Conference Room)
- Joint Board of Managers/CAC Tour and Meeting, Thursday, June 27, 2024, 3:00 – 5:00 pm (tour), 5:00 – 7:00 pm (meeting) (Location TBD)

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

- Motion to adjourn by Manager Morkeberg; 2nd by Manager Tofanelli;
    - Passed 5-0.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ben Burnett, PLSLWD Secretary, 4/23/24

Prior Lake Spring Lake Watershed District
Claims list for Invoice Payments due for the prior month

Managers will consider approving this claims list - Staff payroll and benefits, Manager per diems, and Health insurance premiums have already been paid via ACH transfers. After the managers vote, two Managers will approve individual payments via BILL within three days of the meeting for approved claims. Then, staff will release payment via BILL to the claims list parties.

Vendor	Invoice Link	Description	Amount
1. Watershed District Projects (excluding staff payroll)			
EOR	x	General Engineering	$ 2,354.50
		Flood Mitigation Engagement Assistance	$ 1,210.50
		Buck Stream Stabilization	$ 9,772.60
		Permitting	$ 1,820.00
Smith Partners	x	Water Resource Plan	$ 107.60
		Water Resource Plan	$ 1,129.80
		Permitting	$ 511.10
RMB	x	Ferric Monitoring	$ 1,928.00
RMB	x	Watershed Monitoring	$ 3,097.00
Xcel Energy	x	Utilities	$ 10.21
WSB	x	Carp Management Services	$ 3,414.75
10,000 Lakes Aquaculture	x	Bluegill Stocking	$ 2,500.00
CLA		April Bill.com Fees	$ 109.00
OTT	x	FeCl Tank Study Equipment	$ 7,841.92
Kimberly Boustead	x	2024 Community Engagement Workshops	$ 1,162.50
BKJ Excavating	x	Installation of new pipe, Removal/Disposal of old	$ 2,515.00
Ben Burnett	x	Electricity usage	$ 21.32
		Subtotal	**$ 39,505.80**
2. Outlet Channel - JPA/MOA (excluding staff payroll)			
EOR		PLOC Engineering Assitance	206.00
		PLOC Vegetation Maintenance	624.00
		PLOC Low Gate Benefit Analysis - Task 1	2,088.50
		Subtotal	**$ 2,918.50**
3. Payroll, Office and Overhead			
ADP Manager Per Diems			$ 593.35
ADP Staff Payroll			$ 21,686.85
ADP Taxes & Benefits			$ 18,250.50
NCPERS	x	May & June Premiums	$ 192.00
Reliance Standard	x	May LTD and STD Premiums	$ 852.04
League of Minnesota Cities	x	Property/Casualty Coverage Premium	$ 9,162.00
League of Minnesota Cities	x	Workers Comp Coverage Premium	$ 3,561.00
HealthPartners	x	Health Insurance Premiums	$ 7,266.49
City of Prior Lake	x	Rent (June 2024)	$ 2,387.03
ABDO LLP	x	Audit Preparation Fees	$ 3,000.00
CLA	x	Monthly Accounting (April)	$ 1,300.00
		Audit Preparation Fees	$ 1,300.00
		Technology and Client Support Fee	$ 148.35
		Monthly Payroll Processing Fees	$ 367.00
Smith Partners		General Legal Services	$ 645.30
Rymark	x	April Billing (10 workstations)	$ 828.25
HDR Inc.	x	Project Management - Website	$ 9,800.14
Metro Sales	x	Contract base rate April-May	$ 155.00
	x	Contract base rate May-June	$ 155.00
US Bank		April Billing	$ 1,295.03
		Subtotal	**$ 82,945.33**
		TOTAL	**$ 125,369.63**

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District
US Bank Transactions through 4/25/2024

Trans Date	Merchant Name	Amount	Receipt Link	Staff Approval	Class	Customer	Expense	Description
3/26/2024	Ironclad Storage	$ 260.00	x	Jeff Anderson	611 Operations & Maintenance	Fish Mgmt - Equipment, Storage & Maintenance	876 Field Equipment & Maintenance	Equipment storage
3/28/2024	Eileens Colossal Cookies	$ 8.00	x	Emily Dick	652 Education & Outreach	CAC	902 Meals and Lodging	CAC Meeting snack
3/28/2024	OfficeMax	$ 5.41	x	Emily Dick	652 Education & Outreach	CAC	706 Office Supplies	Certificate for CAC service
4/1/2024	Iceberg	$ 70.00	x	Patty Dronen	405 General Fund		703 Telephone, Internet & IT support	Web hosting
4/2/2024	Hocokata Ti	$ 78.00	x	Patty Dronen	626 Planning	Training	904 Staff & Board Training	Group Tour
4/2/2024	Mystic Lake Restaurant	$ 129.95	x	Joni Giese	626 Planning	Planning and Program Development	902 Meals and Lodging	Group Lunch
4/3/2024	Amazon	$ 45.00	x	Zach Nagel	611 Operations & Maintenance	Hwy 13 Wetland, FeCl System & Desilt Pond	876 Field Equipment & Maintenance	Eye Wash
4/3/2024	Walgreens	$ 3.23	x	Patty Dronen	405 General Fund		710 Office Expense Other	Sympathy Card
4/3/2024	Menards	$ 58.13	x	Patty Dronen	648 Regulation	Easement Supplies	803 Easements	Easement Hardware
4/4/2024	Verizon	$ 38.08	x	Jeff Anderson	648 Regulation	Easement Inspections & violations	876 Field Equipment & Maintenance	Cell data
4/3/2024	Menards	$ (51.77)	x	Patty Dronen	648 Regulation	Easement Supplies	803 Easements	Hardware return
4/7/2024	Amazon	$ 4.99	x	Zach Nagel	611 Operations & Maintenance	Fish Mgmt - Equipment, Storage & Maintenance	876 Field Equipment & Maintenance	PIT reader charger
4/8/2024	Lunds & Byerlys	$ 20.85	x	Zach Nagel	611 Operations & Maintenance	Hwy 13 Wetland, FeCl System & Desilt Pond	876 Field Equipment & Maintenance	Eye Wash
4/8/2024	Shell Oil	$ 71.93	x	Zach Nagel	611 Operations & Maintenance	Fish Mgmt - Equipment, Storage & Maintenance	801 Gas, Mileage	Gas
4/8/2024	Microsoft	$ 4.99	x	Patty Dronen	626 Planning	Planning and Program Development	903 Dues/Fees/Subscriptions	Software
4/11/2024	Tractor Supply	$ 18.41	x	Zach Nagel	637 Monitoring & Research	Lake Level Monitoring	876 Field Equipment & Maintenance	Well coupling
4/12/2024	GroupGreeting	$ 5.41	x	Patty Dronen	405 General Fund		710 Office Expense Other	Birthday Card
4/12/2024	Menards	$ 29.17	x	Patty Dronen	648 Regulation	Easement Supplies	803 Easements	Easement Hardware
4/16/2024	Jimmy Johns	$ 102.60	x	Patty Dronen	626 Planning	Planning and Program Development	902 Meals and Lodging	Board manager meal
4/17/2024	Amazon	$ 27.99	x	Patty Dronen	405 General Fund		706 Office Supplies	Flash Drives
4/18/2024	Ace Prior Lake Hardware	$ 84.92	x	Zach Nagel	637 Monitoring & Research	Lake Level Monitoring	876 Field Equipment & Maintenance	Wells
4/19/2024	Home Depot	$ 67.53	x	Patty Dronen	652 Education & Outreach	Events/Tours	710 Office Expense Other	Materials for Stenciling
4/22/2024	PayPal-Canva	$ 14.99	x	Patty Dronen	626 Planning	Planning and Program Development	903 Dues/Fees/Subscriptions	software
4/19/2024	OfficeMax/Depot	$ 15.35	x	Zach Nagel	611 Operations & Maintenance	Fish Mgmt - Equipment, Storage & Maintenance	901 Mailings	Shipping of equipment
4/22/2024	Bittner's Bakery	$ 18.37	x	Patty Dronen	626 Planning	Planning and Program Development	902 Meals and Lodging	donuts for Emily's bday
4/23/2024	Ace Hardware	$ 38.97	x	Patty Dronen	652 Education & Outreach	Events/Tours	710 Office Expense Other	Paint for Stenciling
4/23/2024	Adobe	$ 111.57	x	Patty Dronen	626 Planning	Planning and Program Development	903 Dues/Fees/Subscriptions	Software
4/23/2024	Menards	$ 12.96	x	Zach Nagel	637 Monitoring & Research	Lake Level Monitoring	876 Field Equipment & Maintenance	Well coupling
	TOTAL	**$ 1,295.03**						

PLSLWD Board Staff Report
May 15, 2024

Subject	General Governance Policies Amendment
Board Meeting Date	May 21, 2024 **Item No:** 6.4
Prepared By	Joni Giese, District Administrator
Attachments	a) Draft amended General Governance Policies (redlined version) b) Draft amended General Governance Policies
Proposed Action	Motion to approve the amended General Governance Policies

Background

A first draft of revised Manager per diem guidance was brought forward for review and discussion at the March board workshop. A second draft, along with proposed revisions to existing per diem policies, was brought forward for review and discussion at the April workshop.

Discussion

The draft policy presented in April has now been incorporated into the general governance policies, where the original per diem policies could be found. The intent of the revised per diem policies is to provide enhanced clarity regarding per diem values associated with various manager activities.

Beyond the revisions to the per diem policies, no other revisions are proposed for the General Governance Policies.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the managers approve the amended General Governance Policies.

Budget Impact

Amended the General Governance Policies will not impact the 2024 budget.

Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District

General Governance Policies

Adopted as amended ~~[~~52/~~12~~21/~~19~~2024

The following general governance policies help ensure sound administration of District business and continued focus of District resources on protection and improvement of the water resources in the Prior Lake - Spring Lake watershed.

I. Per diems

a. Managers may receive a per diem for participation in a meeting of the Board of Managers and participation in activities undertaken at the specific request of the Board of Managers or the administrator, and otherwise as may be more specified by resolution of the board of managers.

b. Managers will prepare claim forms for per diem payments and expenses in duplicate. The original will be submitted to the District Administrator to be reviewed for consistency with the rates and protocols adopted by the Board of Managers by resolution and approved in the same manner as other claims against the District. ~~If there is a concern that a claim is not consistent with the adopted rates and protocols, the claim will be submitted to the treasurer for review and approval.~~ A claim for an expense must be submitted within 6 months of the date the expense was incurred. The manager will retain a copy for his or her personal records.

~~c. A manager may receive only one per diem per day of service to the District.~~

c. The District may establish a per diem rate by resolution, but the per diem rate will not exceed that specified in Minnesota Statutes section 103D.315, subdivision 8 which states, "the compensation of managers for meetings and for performance of other necessary duties may not exceed $125 a day. Managers are entitled to reimbursement for traveling and other necessary expenses incurred in the performance of official duties." Traveling and other necessary expenses are separate and not considered in applying the $125 a day limit. In the absence of a decision by the Board of Managers setting a different rate, the statutory rate will apply.

d. Travel and other necessary expenses incurred in the performance of official duties shall comply with the District's Public Purposes Expenditure Policy.

e. The District will include the managers in its payroll and provide payment for expenses and per diems. The District will provide a W2 form.

f. A manager may receive a per diem under this policy for meeting attendance whether it occurs in person, remotely, or by later observing a recording of the meeting.

g. A manager may receive a $125 per diem if the manager:

- Attends a regular board workshop or board meeting.
- Attends a special board meeting where voting is required.
- Is appointed as the District's delegate to the Minnesota Watersheds for the purpose of voting on Minnesota Watershed organizational matters. The manager will be eligible for a per diem for the day on which voting occurs, and for a per diem for one additional travel day if the meeting is located

greater than 75 miles from the District office.
- Chairs the PLOC Project Cooperators' meeting.

h. A manager may receive a $40 per diem if the manager attends:
- A meeting as the appointed liaison, or as a substitute liaison, for an organization listed on the Board approved document, *PLSLWD Liaison Appointments*.
- A District sponsored educational tour, or a District sponsored educational or awards event.
- A meeting with District staff that exceeds one hour, for the purpose of fulfilling their officer role.
- A meeting as an appointed member of a special committee established by the managers in compliance with the District's bylaws.

i. If a manager attends a meeting, event, or training not indicated herein, the manager may receive a per diem of $40 on District Treasurer approval. If the District Treasurer attends a meeting, event, or training not indicated herein, the District Treasurer may receive a per diem of $40 on District President approval. The preference is to secure approval before the meeting, event, or training takes place.

j. Meetings other than those indicated or approved by the District Treasurer (or District President for the District Treasurer) are considered voluntary.

k. If the District Administrator needs clarification or a decision on a per diem, the District Treasurer is authorized to make the final decision.

~~d.~~l. A manager may receive multiple per diems in a given day for multiple activities listed above, provided that the manager's total per diem from the District for the day may not exceed $125. A manager may not receive a District per diem for an activity for which the manager is receiving a per diem from another public entity.

II. Records management and retention

a. The District will make and preserve all records necessary to ensure the availability of a full and accurate accounting of the District's official activities, in fulfillment of Minnesota Statutes sections 15.17, subdivision 1, and 138.17.

b. The District has adopted and will maintain a records retention schedule, to be approved by the State Archives, governing the retention and/or disposal of records created by the District.

c. In keeping with the direction of the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, the District has determined that it will create and retain its records in electronic form to the greatest extent possible. The District's records retention schedule includes indication of records that may be retained in hard copy form, but District policy is to retain all records in electronic form. .

d. The administrator is the responsible authority for purposes of District compliance with the Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes chapter 13.

e. The administrator is the data practices compliance official for purposes of District compliance with the Data Practices Act.

III. Delegated authority

a. No employee of the District may exercise authority beyond that which is allocated to the administrator by the District bylaws, the policies that constitute the Governance Manual, or a resolution of the Board of Managers.

b. Authority delegated to the administrator may not be delegated to other employees or contractors of the District.

c. Duties assigned to the administrator may be delegated to other employees or contractors by the administrator, however the administrator will remain responsible to the Board of Managers for the proper execution of all delegated duties.

d. The administrator may not commit funds of the District without the approval of the Board of Managers.

IV. Managers' authority

a. No manager may speak on behalf of the District unless authorized to do so by the Board of Managers.

b. No individual manager may provide direction, instructions or authorization to the administrator unless specifically authorized to do so by the Board of Managers.

c. Managers may request District copies of documents without authorization by the Board of Managers.

Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District

General Governance Policies
Adopted as amended 5/21/2024

The following general governance policies help ensure sound administration of District business and continued focus of District resources on protection and improvement of the water resources in the Prior Lake - Spring Lake watershed.

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b. Managers will prepare claim forms for per diem payments and expenses in duplicate. The original will be submitted to the District Administrator to be reviewed for consistency with the rates and protocols adopted by the Board of Managers by resolution and approved in the same manner as other claims against the District. A claim for an expense must be submitted within 6 months of the date the expense was incurred. The manager will retain a copy for his or her personal records.

c. The District may establish a per diem rate by resolution, but the per diem rate will not exceed that specified in Minnesota Statutes section 103D.315, subdivision 8 which states, "the compensation of managers for meetings and for performance of other necessary duties may not exceed $125 a day. Managers are entitled to reimbursement for traveling and other necessary expenses incurred in the performance of official duties." Traveling and other necessary expenses are separate and not considered in applying the $125 a day limit. In the absence of a decision by the Board of Managers setting a different rate, the statutory rate will apply.

d. Travel and other necessary expenses incurred in the performance of official duties shall comply with the District’s Public Purposes Expenditure Policy.

e. The District will include the managers in its payroll and provide payment for expenses and per diems. The District will provide a W2 form.

f. A manager may receive a per diem under this policy for meeting attendance whether it occurs in person, remotely, or by later observing a recording of the meeting.

g. A manager may receive a $125 per diem if the manager:
   - Attends a regular board workshop or board meeting.
   - Attends a special board meeting where voting is required.
   - Is appointed as the District’s delegate to the Minnesota Watersheds for the purpose of voting on Minnesota Watershed organizational matters. The manager will be eligible for a per diem for the day on which voting occurs, and for a per diem for one additional travel day if the meeting is located greater than 75 miles from the District office.
   - Chairs the PLOC Project Cooperators' meeting.

h. A manager may receive a $40 per diem if the manager attends:
- A meeting as the appointed liaison, or as a substitute liaison, for an organization listed on the Board approved document, *PLSLWD Liaison Appointments*.
- A District sponsored educational tour, or a District sponsored educational or awards event.
- A meeting with District staff that exceeds one hour, for the purpose of fulfilling their officer role.
- A meeting as an appointed member of a special committee established by the managers in compliance with the District's bylaws.

i. If a manager attends a meeting, event, or training not indicated herein, the manager may receive a per diem of $40 on District Treasurer approval. If the District Treasurer attends a meeting, event, or training not indicated herein, the District Treasurer may receive a per diem of $40 on District President approval. The preference is to secure approval before the meeting, event, or training takes place.

j. Meetings other than those indicated or approved by the District Treasurer (or District President for the District Treasurer) are considered voluntary.

k. If the District Administrator needs clarification or a decision on a per diem, the District Treasurer is authorized to make the final decision.

l. A manager may receive multiple per diems in a given day for multiple activities listed above, provided that the manager's total per diem from the District for the day may not exceed $125. A manager may not receive a District per diem for an activity for which the manager is receiving a per diem from another public entity.

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b. The District has adopted and will maintain a records retention schedule, to be approved by the State Archives, governing the retention and/or disposal of records created by the District.

c. In keeping with the direction of the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, the District has determined that it will create and retain its records in electronic form to the greatest extent possible. The District's records retention schedule includes indication of records that may be retained in hard copy form, but District policy is to retain all records in electronic form. .

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b. Authority delegated to the administrator may not be delegated to other employees or contractors of the District.
c. Duties assigned to the administrator may be delegated to other employees or contractors by the administrator, however the administrator will remain responsible to the Board of Managers for the proper execution of all delegated duties.
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IV. Managers' authority

a. No manager may speak on behalf of the District unless authorized to do so by the Board of Managers.
b. No individual manager may provide direction, instructions or authorization to the administrator unless specifically authorized to do so by the Board of Managers.
c. Managers may request District copies of documents without authorization by the Board of Managers.

PLSLWD Board Staff Report
May 14, 2024

Subject |	City of Prior Lake Office Space Lease Agreement Renewal
Board Meeting Date |	June 13, 2023 **Item No:** 6.5
Prepared By |	Joni Giese, District Administrator
Attachment |	Option to Renew Lease Agreement 2024
Action |	Motion to approve City of Prior Lake office lease agreement renewal for a one-year term from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025.

Background

On July 13, 2021, the Board of Managers voted to enter a one-year office space lease with the City of Prior Lake effective July 1, 2021. The annual base rent for the lease was $2,250 per month.

Discussion

Per the lease terms, the District can renew the lease annually for four additional one-year terms by mutual agreement of PLSLWD and the City of Prior Lake. The lease terms state for each year the lease is renewed, the base rent shall increase by three percent. Renewal on July 1, 2024, would be the third of four annual renewals and would set the monthly rent at $2,458.64.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the managers vote to approve the City of Prior Lake office lease agreement renewal for a one-year term from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025.

Budget Impact

Renewing the lease will not have an impact on the 2024 budget. The rent increase associated with the lease renewal was already incorporated in the approved 2024 budget.

OPTION TO RENEW
LEASE AGREEMENT

BY AND BETWEEN

CITY OF PRIOR LAKE "LESSOR"

AND

PRIOR LAKE-SPRING LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT "TENANT"

WHEREAS, THE PARTIES ABOVE MENTIONED entered into a Lease Agreement on September 7, 2021 for Tenant to lease from Lessor the Premises described as a portion of the lower level of City Hall consisting of 2 offices, 6 work stations, portions of three storage rooms, and copier and refrigerator space at 4646 Dakota Street SE, Prior Lake, MN 55372 and containing approximately 1,380 square feet; and

WHEREAS, said Lease Agreement was for an initial term commencing July 1, 2021 and terminating on June 30, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Paragraph 2 of said Lease Agreement allows for four additional one-year renewal year terms by mutual agreement of the Tenant and Lessor and the additional annual one-year renewal terms shall be considered the Term of the Lease; and

WHEREAS, Tenant and Lessor mutually desire to renew the Lease Agreement for an additional one-year term from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025; and

NOW THEREFORE BY THIS AMENDMENT, Lessor and Tenant hereby agree to renew the Lease Agreement for an additional one-year term from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.

CONTINUING VALIDITY OF LEASE, all other terms and conditions of the Lease Agreement dated September 7, 2021, shall be enforceable.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Tenant and Lessor have hereunder affixed their respective seals, this ___ day of _____, 2024.

LESSOR: City of Prior Lake

By: _____
Jason Wedel
Its: City Manager

TENANT: Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District

By: _____
Joni Giese
Its: District Administrator

PLSLWD Board Staff Report
May 14, 2024

Subject	Resolution 24-381: Amending the 2024 Budget to Reclass Funds in the 509-Implementation Fund, from 637-Aquatic Vegetation Surveys to 611-Aquatic Vegetation Management
Board Meeting Date	May 21, 2024 **Item No:** 6.6
Prepared By	Joni Giese, District Administrator Jeff Anderson, Water Resources Coordinator
Attachments	Resolution 24-381: Amending the 2024 Budget to Reclass Funds in the 509-Implementation Fund, from 637-Aquatic Vegetation Surveys to 611-Aquatic Vegetation Management
Proposed Action	Motion to approve Resolution 24-381: Amending the 2024 Budget to Reclass Funds in the 509-Implementation Fund, from 637-Aquatic Vegetation Surveys to 611-Aquatic Vegetation Management

Background

The Board of Managers adopted the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District 2024 budget on December 12, 2023.

Discussion

Within the 2024 budget adopted by the Board of Managers on December 12, 2023, the 509 Implementation Fund, 637-Aquatic Vegetation Surveys budget item included funds to cover surveys assessing type, distribution, and growth density of aquatic macrophytes. Concerns with lower water levels impacting ability to conduct surveys led to a decision to postpone multiple surveys in 2024 leaving surplus budget.

The 611-Aquatic Vegetation Management budget item includes funds to delineate, assess, and treat Curly-leaf pondweed in Tier 1 lakes. 2024 delineations indicated high estimated Curly-leaf pondweed growth on Spring, Upper, and Lower Prior Lakes requiring treatment levels exceeding budgeted treatment costs.

The proposed resolution reallocates funds that were not going to be used for vegetation surveys to cover the costs of greater than anticipated vegetation management on Spring, Upper, and Lower Prior Lakes.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Board of Managers approve Resolution 24-381: Amending the 2024 Budget to Reclass Funds in the 509-Implementation Fund, from 637-Aquatic Vegetation Surveys to 611-Aquatic Vegetation Management.

Budget Impact

The reallocation of funds between two budget items in the 509 Implementation Fund will have no impact on the District budget.

Resolution 24-381

Amending the 2024 Budget to Reclass Funds in the 509-Implementation Fund, from 637-Aquatic Vegetation Surveys to 611-Aquatic Vegetation Management

Motion By:_____ **Second By**:_____

WHEREAS, Within the 2024 budget adopted by the Board of Managers on December 12, 2023, the 509 Implementation Fund, 637-Aquatic Vegetation Surveys budget item included funds to cover surveys assessing type, distribution, growth density of aquatic macrophytes; AND

WHEREAS, Within the 2024 budget adopted by the Board of Managers on December 12, 2023, the 509 Implementation Fund, 611-Aquatic Vegetation Management budget item included funds to delineate, assess, and treat Curly-leaf pondweed in Tier 1 lakes; AND

WHEREAS, $3,500 of the 637-Aquatic Vegetation Surveys budget item will not be expended due to reduced vegetation surveys being performed in 2024 than originally budgeted; AND

WHEREAS, Due to higher-than-average growth patterns in 2024, $3,500 above budgeted costs in 611-Aquatic Vegetation Management budget item are needed to treat delineated areas of estimated heavy Curly-leaf pondweed growth.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in the 509 Implementation Fund, the 637-Aquatic Vegetation Surveys budget item will be reduced by $3,500, resulting in an amended 637-Aquatic Vegetation Surveys budget item of $12,000, and correspondingly, the 611-Aquatic Vegetation Management budget item be increased by $3,500, resulting in an amended 611-Aquatic Vegetation Management budget item of $17,500.

The question was called on the adoption of the Resolution and there were __ yeas and __ nays as follows:

	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Boyles	☐	☐	☐	☐
Burnett	☐	☐	☐	☐
Loney	☐	☐	☐	☐
Morkeberg	☐	☐	☐	☐
Tofanelli	☐	☐	☐	☐

Upon vote, the chair declared the resolution adopted.

It is hereby certified that the Board of the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District adopted this Resolution at a duly convened meeting of the Board held on the 21st day of May 2024, and that such Resolution is in full force and effect on this date, and that such Resolution has not been modified, amended, or rescinded since its adoption.

_____ Dated: May 21, 2024

Ben Burnett, Secretary

PLSLWD Board Staff Report
May 15, 2024

Subject	Resolution 24-382: Amending the 2024 Budget, 509-Implementation Fund, 648-BMP and Easements Inventory & Inspections Budget Item
Board Meeting Date	May 21, 2024 **Item No:** 6.7
Prepared By	Joni Giese, District Administrator
Attachments	Resolution 24-382: Amending the 2024 Budget, 509-Implementation Fund, 648-BMP and Easements Inventory & Inspections Budget Item
Proposed Action	Motion to approve Resolution 24-382: Amending the 2024 Budget, 509-Implementation Fund, 648-BMP and Easements Inventory & Inspections Budget Item

Background

On September 12, 2023, the Board of Managers approved the expenditure of $20,000 to cover materials costs and Scott SWCD labor associated with a one-time installation of missing conservation easement signs, of which only $4,125 was expended in 2023.

On February 20, 2024, the Board of Managers approved a contract with Scott SWCD that included $9,000 (included in the $20,000 approved on September 12, 2023) to cover estimated Scott SWCD labor costs to coordinate and install missing easement signs.

Discussion

The 2024 budget failed to reflect the remaining approved costs of $15,875 to install the missing easement signs. These costs should be reflected in budget item 648-BMP and Easement Inventory & Inspections in the Implementation Fund. For the work to proceed and associated activity costs to not exceed the approved budget, a budget amendment is being proposed to properly reflect the 2023 approved activity in the 2024 budget.

The approved budget for 648-BMP and Easement Inventory & Inspections as approved by the Board of Managers on December 12, 2023, was $27,000. In March, the board approved a budget amendment to increase the 648-BMP and Easement Inventory & Inspections to $32,000 to reflect Scott SWCD costs associated with easement inspection activities, originally budgeted to be performed by District interns. With the approval of this proposed amendment, the budget item 648-BMP and Easement Inventory & Inspections will be increased by $15,875 to an amended value of $47,875. District reserve funds will be used to cover the missing sign installation costs.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Board of Managers approve Resolution 24-382: Amending the 2024 Budget, 509-Implementation Fund, 648-BMP and Easements Inventory & Inspections Budget Item.

Budget Impact

Increasing the budget to cover the missing sign installation costs will reduce the District's cash reserves by $15,875.

Resolution 24-382

Amending the 2024 Budget, 509-Implementation Fund, 648-BMP and Easements Inventory & Inspections Budget Item

Motion By:_____ **Second By**:_____

WHEREAS, On September 12, 2023, the Board of Managers approved the expenditure of $20,000 to cover materials costs and Scott SWCD labor associated with a one-time installation of missing conservation easement signs, of which only $4,125 was expended in 2023; AND

WHEREAS, On February 20, 2024, the Board of Managers approved a contract with Scott SWCD that included $9,000 (of the $20,000 approved on September 12, 2023) to cover estimated Scott SWCD labor costs to coordinate and install missing easement signs; AND

WHEREAS, Within the 2024 budget adopted by the Board of Managers on December 12, 2023, the 509 Implementation Fund, 648-BMP and Easements Inventory & Inspections budget item was set at $27,000, which inadvertently excluded the cost of the approved installation of the missing conservation easement signs; AND

WHEREAS, On March 19, 2024, the Board of Managers approved Resolution 24-378, Amending the 2024 Budget to Reclass $5,000 from the 509-Implementation Fund, Program Salaries and Benefits budget item to the 648-BMP and Easement Inventory & Inspections budget item to cover Scott SWCD easement inspection activities, resulting in an amended 648-BMP and Easement Inventory & Inspections budget item of $32,000.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to appropriately reflect approved conservation easement sign installation activities that will occur in 2024, the 509 Implementation Fund, 648 – BMP and Easement Inventory & Inspections budget item be increased by $15,875, resulting in an amended 648 – BMP and Easement Inventory & Inspections budget line item of $47,875. The budget amendment will be funded through District reserve funds.

The question was called on the adoption of the Resolution and there were __ yeas and __ nays as follows:

	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Boyles	☐	☐	☐	☐
Burnett	☐	☐	☐	☐
Loney	☐	☐	☐	☐
Morkeberg	☐	☐	☐	☐
Tofanelli	☐	☐	☐	☐

Upon vote, the chair declared the resolution adopted.

It is hereby certified that the Board of the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District adopted this Resolution at a duly convened meeting of the Board held on the 21st day of May 2024, and that such Resolution is in full force and effect on this date, and that such Resolution has not been modified, amended, or rescinded since its adoption.

_____ Dated: May 21, 2024

Ben Burnett, Secretary

PLSLWD Board Staff Report
May 15, 2024

Subject |	Ferric Chloride Site Improvements Scope of Services		
Board Meeting Date |	May 21, 2024	**Item No:**	6.8
Prepared By |	Emily Dick		
Attachments |	Scope of Services for Ferric Chloride Site Improvements		
Proposed Action |	Motion to approve the Ferric Chloride Site Improvements Scope of Services		

Background

The District's Ferric Chloride Treatment System is an essential part of the District's efforts to reduce phosphorus reaching Spring Lake, and downstream Prior Lake. The District contracted EOR to conduct the Ferric Chloride System Assessment in 2023 in order to recommend system updates, equipment lifetimes, and optimization of the system. Due to drought and lack of flow through the ferric chloride system, the dosing and chemical analysis could not be completed in 2023. However, several elements of the assessment have been completed including the system component lifetimes, recommended improvements and access drive alternatives.

The Board reviewed the lifetime assessment and recommended improvements to the system throughout the end of 2023 and into 2024. At the March 19th Board meeting, the Board approved retaining a consultant to move towards final design and implementation of system enhancements recommended by staff. The recommended site improvements do not preclude the District from making informed decisions on alternative chemicals or dosing when the full report is completed. In order to continue to safely operate the Ferric Chloride system it is recommended to proceed with site improvements. The District 2024 budget includes $268,000 for Ferric Chloride system and site improvements.

Discussion

District staff has worked with consultant EOR to draft a scope of services to perform the necessary design, bidding and construction administration to advance the necessary site improvements. The intent would be to complete construction of the system improvements without interrupting treatment by aiming for construction in fall and winter, with site restoration complete early Spring 2025.

Recommendation

Staff recommend managers approve the Ferric Chlorite Site Improvements Scope of Services.

Budget Impact

The cost associated with proposed activity is covered under budget item 611-Hwy 13 Wetland, FeCl System and Desilt Pond.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

FECL3 SITE IMPROVEMENTS

PLSLWD	
CLASS:	611 – Hwy 13 Wetland, FeCl System & Desilt Pond
PROJECT:	Ferric Chloride Site Improvements

EOR			
JOB:	00758-0179		
PHASE:	N/A	TASK:	N/A

START DATE: June 1, 2024

END DATE: May 31, 2025

TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET: $39,400

OVERVIEW OF PROJECT SCOPE: This project involves supplementary data collection, design, plans and specifications, permitting, bidding, and construction administration for infrastructure improvements to the existing ferric chloride dosing station and access drive. This scope encompasses all elements of the design process to ensure the successful execution of the project including all system updates recommended by District Staff for engineering services in its March 19, 2024, staff report to the Board.

PROJECT TEAM

PLSLWD	
PROJECT LEAD:	Emily Dick, District Project Manager
OTHER STAFF:	Jeff Anderson, Water Resources Coordinator
EOR	
PROJECT LEAD (HRS):	Kyle Crawford (62)
OTHER STAFF (HRS):	Brett Emmons (3), Carl Almer (9), Anne Wilkinson (7), Kajol Annaduzzaman (17), Ryan Fleming (7), Ellen Kimlinger (52), and John Sarafolean (41), Subconsultant – Adib Amini, Purpose Associates (10)

SUMMARY OF TASKS

TASK 1: Engineering, Design and Permitting	
SUMMARY:	In this phase, any data gaps or needs will be addressed. Preliminary and final design drawings will be prepared for various components such as the building modification, driveway improvements, pump and chemical feed tubing system, one double wall tank, and disposal of the existing tank and obtuberances. The initial construction cost estimate will be revisited and refined with preliminary plans and final plans. Specifications are also to be drafted to outline requirements and standards for the proposed improvements. Permitting assumes the building modification will warrant a Scott County permit, and MPCA will be informed, but a permit update is not anticipated only for replacement of aging equipment. Road authority permits are only anticipated to be simple grading and/or driveway permits. The task includes an allowance for involvement of a structural engineer for the building modifications.

DELIVERABLES:	1. Preliminary and final design drawings for the driveway, tank specifications, building modification, containment wall modification, door details, and other relevant components. 2. Preliminary and final engineers estimate of probable cost. 3. Agency coordination notes, permit application(s) and application support materials. 4. Specifications outlining the requirements and standards for the proposed improvements, facilitating the implementation phase of the project.
TIMELINE:	June 1 to August 1
ESTIMATED COSTS:	$22,800
TASK 2: Bidding Administration	
SUMMARY:	Tasks involve preparing and issuing a Request for Quote (RFQ) package, reviewing received quotes, and managing the project until completion. This includes compiling project details, ensuring clarity in the RFQ package, and recommending a contractor for award consideration.
DELIVERABLES:	1. Request for Quote (RFQ) Package including project details, specifications, and bid item SEQ (statement of quantities). 2. A memo for consideration of award summarizes the review of received quotes, recommends a contractor for award, and includes details pricing and timelines.
TIMELINE:	August 1 to October 1
ESTIMATED COSTS:	$6,100
TASK 3: Construction Administration	
SUMMARY:	This task involves assisting the District in executing contract(s) with the awarded contractor, issuing a Notice(s) to Proceed, reviewing material submittals for compliance with project specifications, pre-construction meeting, processing of pay requests, closeout inspection, punch-list, and project closeout materials. Cost assumes 32 hours of onsite construction oversight.
DELIVERABLES:	1. Executed contract(s) between the District and the awarded contractor(s). 2. Notice(s) to Proceed issued to the contractor, officially authorizing the start of the project. 3. Construction observation reports (e.g., erosion and sediment control inspection forms)
TIMELINE:	October 1 to May 31
ESTIMATED COSTS:	$10,500

ESTIMATED COST SUMMARY

DESCRIPTION		HOURS	ESTIMATED COST
TASK 1:	Engineering, Design and Permitting	111	$22,800
TASK 2:	Bidding Administration	30	$6,100
TASK 3:	Construction Administration	67	$10,500
EXPENSES:	Mileage Equipment rental	****Included in the above estimated costs****	
		TOTAL	**$39,400**

NOTE: Actual costs may differ from the estimated task costs, but the project must not exceed the TOTAL.

ASSUMPTIONS: The estimated cost summary for the execution of the tasks in this Scope of Services is based upon the following assumptions:

1) Scope is inclusive of structural engineering consultation for building modifications, with an allowance of $5,000.
2) Existing concrete containment wall system will be modified. Three of the four containment walls would remain in place and one side would be fully removed for installation of the tank. If the District would like to have a removable containment wall at the opening, this would include additional scope and cost.
3) Permitting and Construction Administration costs that exceed the budgeted amounts due to factors outside of our control (e.g., multiple permitting requests, delayed timelines controlled by contractor) may warrant additional engineering costs, and will be billed hourly, with up front communication with District staff.

SIGNATURES:

The services described in this Scope of Services are being provided in accordance with the Master Services Consulting Agreement between PLSLWD and EOR dated January 17, 2024. Any changes to the project team, tasks, deliverables, timeline, or total cost will require a signed amendment/update to this Scope of Services.

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District		Emmons & Olivier Resources, Inc.	
Signature:		Signature:	
Name:	Joni Giese	Name:	Carl K. Almer
Title:	District Administrator	Title:	Water Resources Lead
Date:		Date:	May 15, 2024