



**Title:** Contract Award for West Auburn Carp Barrier

**Resolution number:** 21-004

**Prepared by:** Name: Anna Brown  
Phone: (952) 641-4522  
abrown@minnehahacreek.org

**Reviewed by:** N/A

**Recommended action:** Authorize the District Administrator to execute a contract with Blackstone Contractors for the construction of a carp barrier at the outlet of West Auburn Lake

**Schedule:** February 2021: Carp Barrier Construction

**Budget considerations:** Fund name and code: SMCHB Habitat Restoration Program (5-5007)  
Fund budget: \$567,000  
Expenditures to date: \$389,345  
Requested amount of funding: \$37,500 (\$34,120 + 10% contingency)

**Past Board action:** Res # 17-036 Authorization to request funding from the Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Council  
Res # 18-021 Contract award for carp barrier design  
Res # 19-102 Approval of plans and authorization to solicit quotes for carp barrier construction  
Res # 20-079 Approval of design scope for West Auburn barrier design  
Res # 20-096 Approval of plans for Auburn barrier construction

**Summary:**

In September 2017, the Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Council recommended the Six Mile Creek-Halsted Bay (SMCHB) Habitat Restoration Project for \$567,000 to the Minnesota State Legislature. The funding bill was approved by the legislature and the grant period began on July 1, 2018.

Consistent with the accomplishment plan approved by the Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Council, the grant funds will be used to pay for the capital cost of barrier installation, utility installation for aeration, and the fish removal contracts. The District match includes equipment for removal and monitoring, the aeration units, and design services.

In March 2018, the MCWD Board of Managers awarded a contract with Wenck Associates to design barriers at four locations. The first three barriers – Wassermann, Crown College, and Highland Road – were designed in 2018 and constructed in the winter of 2019.

The design for the fourth barrier, at the outlet of West Auburn Lake, was first completed in December 2019 and quotes were competitively solicited. The barrier location presented some construction challenges, including sediment accumulation requiring channel dredging and difficult construction access. Furthermore, the relatively warm weather and high water conditions last winter created further uncertainty for construction. As such, the quote submitted by Blackstone Contractors exceeded the project budget, and staff determined that evaluating relocation of the barrier was prudent.

After examining alternative barrier locations, staff recommended moving the barrier upstream to co-locate it with a culvert under Carver Park Road. In October 2020, the Board approved a design scope for the redesign of the barrier at that location.

In December 2020, the Board approved the final plans for the Auburn carp barrier and authorized staff to solicit quotes for construction. Staff solicited quotes from three contractors – Blackstone Contractors, US Site Work, and Sunram Construction, and received two responses, both determined to be accurate and complete:

|              | Blackstone | US Site Work |
|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Quoted Price | \$34,120   | \$45,785     |

The LSOHC budget for this project barrier is \$30,000. Staff recommend awarding the contract to Blackstone Contractors, and will pursue a budget amendment to accommodate the additional cost. Staff are further seeking the establishment of a 10% contingency fund, for a total not to exceed budget of \$37,500.



**RESOLUTION**

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WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution 14-047 the MCWD Board of Managers has identified the Six Mile Creek-Halsted Bay (SMCHB) Subwatershed as a priority area for focusing District planning activities and coordination efforts with subwatershed partners; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 2016, MCWD led in the development of a comprehensive restoration strategy for the SMCHB subwatershed to achieve the District’s goals of protecting and improving water quality, water quantity, ecological integrity, and thriving communities through land use and water integration, and includes rough fish management as a principal strategy for restoration;

WHEREAS, in September of 2017, the Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Council recommended the SMCHB Habitat Restoration project for \$567,000 in funding, and the funding was approved by the MN Legislature in May of 2018;

WHEREAS, in October 2020, the MCWD Board of Managers authorized a contract with Wenck Associates to complete barrier design for the West Auburn barrier, including the development of plans and specification;

WHEREAS, on December 17, 2020, the MCWD Board of Managers approved the plans and specifications for the West Auburn barrier and authorized staff to solicit quotes for construction;

WHEREAS, District staff solicited quotes from three contractors, and received quotes from two, and Blackstone Contractors submitted the low quote of \$34,120.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers authorizes the District Administrator, on advice of counsel, to execute a contract with Blackstone Contractors for \$34,120.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers establishes a not to exceed budget of \$37,500, and authorizes the District Administrator to issue change orders up to that amount.

Resolution Number 21-004 was moved by Manager \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by Manager \_\_\_\_\_. Motion to adopt the resolution \_\_\_ ayes, \_\_\_ nays, \_\_\_ abstentions. Date: 1/14/2021

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 Secretary Date: \_\_\_\_\_