



MINNEHAHA CREEK
WATERSHED DISTRICT
QUALITY OF WATER, QUALITY OF LIFE

Meeting: Board of Managers
Meeting date: 7/13/2023
Agenda Item #: 7.1
Board Consent Item

Title: Recognition of MCWD's Technical Advisory Committee Members for the Land & Water Partnership Initiative

Resolution number: 23-037

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Recommended action: Approve the resolution recognizing MCWD's Technical Advisory Committee members for their contributions to the Land & Water Partnership Initiative

Past Board action: Res #: 22-051 Title: Appointment of Technical Advisory Committee for Land & Water Partnership Initiative

Summary:

At the June 23, 2023 Policy and Planning Committee (PPC) meeting, staff provided a report to the Board of Managers on the outcomes of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) process for the Land & Water Partnership Initiative. As discussed at the PPC meeting, to express gratitude to the TAC members for their valuable contributions to this initiative, staff has prepared a resolution of recognition for the TAC. This resolution will be sent with a personalized cover letter from the District Administrator to each TAC member and their respective manager or administrator.



RESOLUTION

Resolution number: 23-037

Title: Recognition of MCWD’s Technical Advisory Committee Members for the Land & Water Partnership Initiative

WHEREAS, in early 2022, the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) initiated its Land & Water Partnership Initiative, which is focused on strengthening partnerships that support MCWD’s work building impactful, collaborative projects that benefit the watershed and communities;

WHEREAS, as part of this initiative, MCWD solicited the participation of interested technical staff from municipalities, counties, and local agencies to advise on program and policy changes designed to promote partnership and improve coordination, including:

- Land & Water Partnership Program: Development of a new program to provide funding and technical support for partner projects that provide significant water resource benefit
- Permitting Program Improvements: Streamlining the MCWD’s regulatory process and rules to improve customer service, align with state requirements, and reduce duplication of efforts
- Coordination Improvements: Identifying and building sustainable connections for ongoing coordination;

WHEREAS, in August 2022, the MCWD Board of Managers appointed its Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), including 19 staff and consultant representatives, and 13 alternates, as listed below:

Organization	Primary Representative	Alternate
City of Edina	Jessica Vanderwerff Wilson	Ross Bintner
City of Hopkins	Ryan Krzos	
City of Maple Plain	Dylan Hoflock	
City of Medina	Dusty Finke	
City of Minneapolis	Elizabeth Stout	Shahram Missaghi
City of Minnetonka	Sarah Schweiger	Leslie Yetka
City of Orono	Melanie Curtis	Laura Oakden
City of Plymouth	Chris LaBounty	Ben Scharenbroich
City of Richfield	Mattias Oddsson	Chad Donnelly
City of St. Louis Park	Erick Francis	Phil Elkin; Mike Bahe
City of Victoria	Cara Geheren	
City of Wayzata	Mike Kelly	Emily Goellner
Bolton and Menk, representing cities of Greenwood, Mound, St. Bonifacius, Shorewood, Woodland	Bob Bean	
WSB, representing cities of Deephaven, Excelsior, Minnetrista, Tonka Bay	Rebecca Haug	
Carver Soil and Water Conservation District	Mike Wanous	
Hennepin County	Drew McGovern	Karen Galles; Kris Guentzel
Metropolitan Council	Jen Kostrzewski	
Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board	Madeline Hudek	Adam Arvidson
Three Rivers Park District	Jami Markle	Kelly Grissman

WHEREAS, through a series of eight meetings, surveys, and other engagement methods, the TAC provided valuable input that has helped improve MCWD programs and identify opportunities to strengthen coordination between MCWD and its public partners, including:

- Vetting the new Land & Water Partnership Program and improving clarity of the program scope, eligibility, evaluation criteria, and process;
- Providing recommendations to improve clarity of the MCWD's rules and streamline the regulatory process for low-risk projects;
- Promoting the identification of regional water resource improvement project opportunities for integration into city land use plans;
- Advising on plans to formalize regulatory partnerships to reduce redundancy and improve coordination and role clarity in the areas of permit administration and enforcement;
- Identifying effective methods for ongoing coordination for regular data sharing, discussion of plans and priorities, identification of partnership opportunities, and relationship building;

WHEREAS, the TAC members' participation in the initiative has helped strengthen relationships between the MCWD and its communities; and

WHEREAS, the MCWD Board of Managers and staff appreciate the significant commitment of time and energy and the valuable input that each TAC member contributed to this process;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers hereby formally acknowledges each of the members for their service on the TAC and expresses its deep gratitude for their contributions to the Land & Water Partnership Initiative.

Resolution Number 23-037 was moved by Manager _____, seconded by Manager _____. Motion to adopt the resolution ___ ayes, ___ nays, ___ abstentions. Date: 7/13/2023

Secretary Date: _____