

MEETING DATE: September 25, 2014

TITLE: Authorization to apply for BWSR Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 14-080

PREPARED BY: Becky Houdek

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REVIEWED BY: Administrator Counsel Program Mgr. (Name): _____
 Board Committee Engineer Other

WORKSHOP ACTION:

<input type="checkbox"/> Advance to Board mtg. Consent Agenda.	<input type="checkbox"/> Advance to Board meeting for discussion prior to action.
<input type="checkbox"/> Refer to a future workshop (date): _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Refer to taskforce or committee (date): _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Return to staff for additional work.	<input type="checkbox"/> No further action requested.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): <u>Not reviewed at a workshop</u>	

PURPOSE or ACTION REQUESTED:

Authorization to apply for FY 2015 BWSR Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants

PROJECT/PROGRAM LOCATION: N/A

PROJECT TIMELINE:

Grant applications due September 26, 2014

PROJECT/PROGRAM COST: N/A

PAST BOARD ACTIONS: N/A

SUMMARY:

The application period for the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Clean Water Fund Grants for 2015 closes on September 26, 2014. Local government units can apply for funds to protect and improve water quality in their communities. Staff has assessed the District's Capital Improvement Plan and coordinated with communities to identify projects that are well positioned to apply for grant funding in 2015.

The Board requested that they be notified when staff are seeking grant funding. Staff intends to apply for FY2015 BWSR Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants for the following projects:

1. Arden Park Area Improvements - Partnership with City of Edina to (1) implement stormwater best management practices as part of the City's 2015 street reconstruction in the Arden Park neighborhood and (2) improve riparian vegetation throughout Arden Park.

2. Mud Lake Drainage Analysis – Partnership with the City of St. Bonifacius and Hennepin County to assess a large drainage area contributing to Mud Lake. The study will aim to address both the significant nutrient loads contributed by this drainage area (as identified by the Six Mile Diagnostic), and the flooding and erosion problems occurring along the channel that flows through St. Bonifacius.
3. Minnetonka Regional Park Ravine – Partnership with the City of Minnetrista and Three Rivers Park District to stabilize an eroding ravine in Minnetonka Regional Park using bioengineering practices.

In addition, staff has been coordinating with and will be listed as a partner agency on applications by the following:

1. City of Chanhassen – Ravine stabilization project on the south side of Christmas Lake using bioengineering practices.
2. City of Minneapolis/Metro Blooms – Installation of stormwater BMP's as part of the ongoing Lake Nokomis Neighbors for Clean Water partnership.

Staff will work with BWSR and project partners to determine the amount of funding requested for each grant application to ensure each project application is competitive.

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WHEREAS, the MCWD Board requested that they be notified of grant opportunities and, when time allows, authorize staff to apply for grants;

WHEREAS, the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) offers Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants to protect and improve water quality in their communities;

WHEREAS, applicants are encouraged to work cooperatively with other governmental and non-governmental organizations to develop proposals for joint, multi-purpose projects; and

WHEREAS, for 2015, staff plans to apply for grant funds for the following projects:

1. Arden Park Area Improvements - Partnership with City of Edina to (1) implement stormwater best management practices as part of the City's 2015 street reconstruction in the Arden Park neighborhood and (2) improve riparian vegetation throughout Arden Park.
2. Mud Lake Drainage Analysis – Partnership with the City of St. Bonifacius and Hennepin County to assess a large drainage area contributing to Mud Lake. The study will aim to address both the significant nutrient loads contributed by this drainage area (as identified by the Six Mile Diagnostic), and the flooding and erosion problems occurring along the channel that flows through St. Bonifacius.
3. Minnetonka Regional Park Ravine – Partnership with the City of Minnetrista and Three Rivers Park District to stabilize an eroding ravine in Minnetonka Regional Park using bioengineering practices.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers authorizes staff to apply for FY2015 BWSR Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants.

Resolution Number 14-080 was moved by Manager _____, seconded by Manager _____.
Motion to adopt the resolution ___ ayes, ___ nays, ___ abstentions. Date: _____.

_____ Date: _____
Secretary