

**MEETING DATE:** December 21, 2017

**TITLE:** Authorization to Contract for Invasive Vegetation Management at Wassermann West

**RESOLUTION NUMBER:** 17-077

**PREPARED BY:** Laura Domyancich

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**TELEPHONE:** 952-641-4582

**REVIEWED BY:**  Administrator  Counsel  Program Mgr.: Tiffany Schaufler  
 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): Not reviewed at Board Workshop. Seeking approval at December 21, 2017 Board Meeting.	

**PURPOSE or ACTION REQUESTED:**

Final authorization is requested to enter into a contract with Minnesota Native Landscapes (MNL) for invasive vegetation maintenance at the Wasserman West property in the amount of \$13,332 and establish a not-to-exceed budget of \$14,665.

**PROJECT/PROGRAM LOCATION:**

Wasserman West property, Victoria, MN. See Attachment 1: Site Map

**PROJECT TIMELINE:**

2017-2018

**PROJECT/PROGRAM COST:**

Fund name and number: Planning – Six Mile / Halsted Bay Planning (2002)

Current budget: \$200,000

Expenditures to date: \$122,000

Requested amount of funding: \$14,665

**PAST BOARD ACTIONS:**

- February 23, 2017: 17-014 Authorization to Execute a Purchase Agreement for properties 650230600 and 650230700 in Victoria
- May 11, 2017: 17-035 Authorization to Execute a Cooperative Agreement with the City of Victoria for the Wassermann West Park and Natural Resource Improvement
- November 16, 2017: 17-071 Approval of Design Scope and Authorization to Award Preliminary Design Contract for the Wassermann West Park and Natural Resource Improvement

**DRAFT for discussion purposes only and subject to Board approval and the availability of funds.  
Resolutions are not final until approved by the Board and signed by the Board Secretary.**

**SUMMARY:**

The District’s strategic plan identifies the development of high impact capital projects, integrated with non-water initiatives through multi-jurisdictional partnerships, as the District’s highest organizational priority. To assist the District in delivering this priority, the Project Maintenance and Land Management (PMLM) program has developed a comprehensive approach to the assessment and management of District lands and capital improvements. The future resiliency of a capital project is dependent on a number of variables including the success of its vegetation restoration. In an effort to ensure a capital project is successful, the PMLM program contributes vegetation and restoration recommendations during the project design phase to ensure that new projects are successful and cost-efficient to maintain in the long-term.

This assessment and responsive management will be demonstrated in the proposed invasive vegetation management for Wassermann West. Timing of the project affords the District an opportunity to perform vegetation management in *advance* of project construction, which will provide an advantage in reducing invasive species cover long-term, removing existing hazards on site, and establishing a good baseline vegetation condition as planning and park design advances.

It is anticipated that the Wassermann West parcels will be conveyed by the District to the City of Victoria during the term of this contract. A separate Irrevocable License Agreement has been executed administratively, which allows the District and its contractor to enter and perform work on the property the City owns at any given time during the term of the license.

Ideal timing for woody invasive species removal is during the winter months with follow up treatments for resprouts and herbaceous invasive species during the following spring. As such, this contract will begin in winter 2017-2018 with follow up treatments to be completed in spring and fall 2019. The District has solicited quotes for invasive vegetation management from five contractors and has received five quotes for a specified scope of work. The quotes received are listed below:

CONTRACTOR	Wassermann West Invasive Vegetation Management Contract Quote
Minnesota Native Landscapes	\$13,332.00*
Native Resource Preservation	\$13,782.50
Wetland Habitat Restorations	\$14,815.00
Applied Ecological Services	\$22,160.50
Prairie Restorations, Inc.	\$24,982.60

\* Low Quote

Staff recommends awarding the Wassermann West Invasive Vegetation Management contract to Minnesota Native Landscapes in the amount of \$13,332 and establishing a not-to-exceed budget of \$14,665.

**ATTACHMENT:** Site map with management units.

**RESOLUTION**

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**RESOLUTION NUMBER:**    17-077

**TITLE:**            **Authorization to Contract for Invasive Vegetation Management at Wassermann West**

WHEREAS,    the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) engages in regional capital improvement projects as described in its Water Resources Management Plan; and

WHEREAS,    pursuant to Resolution 14-047 the MCWD Board of Managers has identified the Six Mile Creek subwatershed as a priority area for focusing District planning and coordination efforts; and

WHEREAS,    the District has developed a plan for the Six Mile Creek-Halsted Bay subwatershed that identifies implementation strategies 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

WHEREAS,    on March 26, 2015, the District entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Victoria (the City), outlining opportunities to collaborate and integrate mutual efforts in the realms of coordinated planning of local water and land use plans, assessment of specific water management issues, and coordinated regulatory review of water and land development; and

WHEREAS,    District and City staff have worked together under this planning framework to proactively identify areas for coordinated project development at the urban fringe; and

WHEREAS,    on February 23, 2017, the MCWD Board of Managers authorized the execution of a purchase agreement for the Wassermann West Property and further authorized staff to develop a design scope for ecological enhancement and public access improvements for the property; and

WHEREAS,    success in ecological enhancement is dependent on phenology, site access, and optimum application of vegetation management responsive to those factors. District staff have identified specific management that is advantageous to undertake prior to proposed improvements; and

WHEREAS,    MCWD staff have solicited quotes for invasive vegetation maintenance services for the Wassermann West project and have received quotes from five contractors. Minnesota Native Landscapes submitted a low and responsive quote of \$13,332.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the District Administrator is authorized, on advice from District Counsel, to enter into a contract with Minnesota Native Landscapes in the amount of \$13,332 for Wassermann West invasive vegetation management; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board establishes a project maintenance budget in the not-to-exceed amount of \$14,665 and authorizes the District Administrator, in his judgement, to authorize change orders obligating the District up to that aggregate amount.

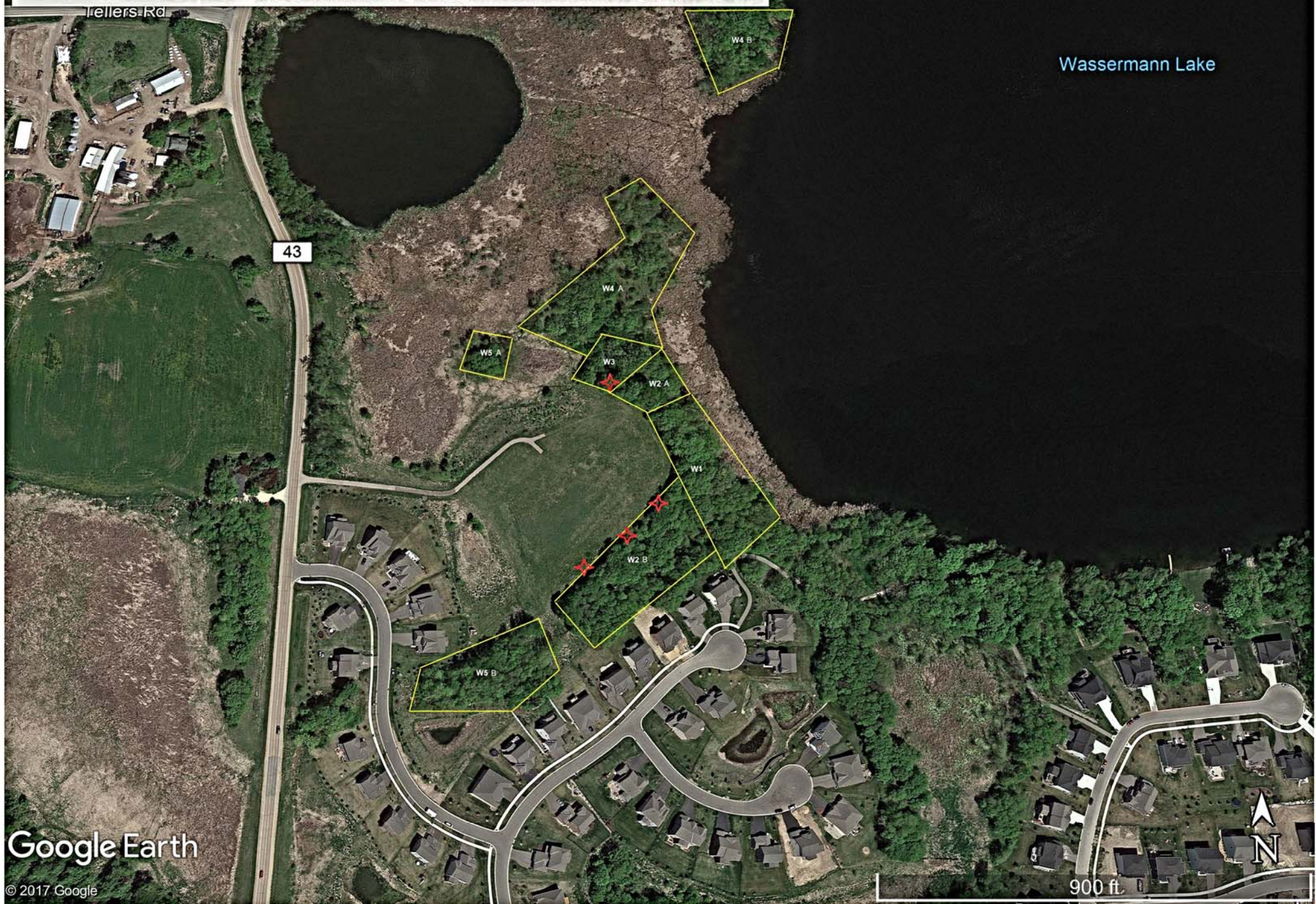
Resolution Number 17-077 was moved by Manager \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by Manager \_\_\_\_\_.  
Motion to adopt the resolution \_\_\_ ayes, \_\_\_ nays, \_\_\_ abstentions. Date: \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary

# Wassermann West Woody Invasives Management

Areas of woody invasives management outlined in yellow.  Barbed wire fencing

Legend



Google Earth

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900 ft