

Minnehaha Creek Watershed District

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

MEETING DATE: March 28, 2019

TITLE: Authorization to award contract for Wassermann West Alum Treatment

RES. NUMBER: 19-035

PREPARED BY: Anna Brown

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REVIEWED BY: Administrator Counsel Program Mgr.: Michael Hayman
 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>Approval at the March 28, 2019 Board Meeting</u>	

PURPOSE or ACTION REQUESTED:

Authorization to award a contract to HAB Aquatic Solutions for alum treatment of the pond on the Wassermann West site.

PROJECT/PROGRAM LOCATION:

Wassermann West Property, Victoria, MN

PROJECT/PROGRAM COST:

Fund name and number: 300-3153
Current Budget: \$103,267 for alum treatment
Expenditures to date: \$0
Requested funding: \$65,930.00 (\$59,937.00 + 10% contingency)

PAST BOARD ACTION:

Feb. 23, 2017 Authorization for the District to acquire the Wassermann West property (17-014)
Nov. 17, 2017 Approval of design contract for park design and alum feasibility (17-071)
Sept. 27, 2018 Approval of grant agreement with BWSR for Wassermann West alum treatment (18-100)

SUMMARY:

In June 2017, the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (District) and the City of Victoria (City) partnered to acquire the 33.5 acre parcel now referred to as Wassermann West. In advance of that acquisition, the District and City entered into an agreement stating that the two agencies would collaborate to develop a park design that provides public access and enjoyment of the site while restoring its wetland and woodland areas and implementing water quality improvements.

**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.**

In November 2017 a contract was awarded for preliminary design for park amenity and natural resources improvements at the Wassermann West site. A component of that design scope was the development of specifications for alum treatment of the six acre pond on the site. Prior analysis had identified this pond as a significant source of phosphorus into Lake Wassermann, an impaired water body, with approximately 39 lbs/year due to internal nutrient release from the pond.

Under that scope, Wenck Associates prepared a technical memo and specifications for alum treatment. The project would reduce phosphorus export to Lake Wassermann by an estimated 35 lbs/year. The proposed treatments would occur over three years, with years one and three being active treatment years. The estimated cost for the first two treatments was \$34,100 per treatment. The memo recommends the District plan for a third contingency dose sometime in the following two to five year window, which would be informed by effectiveness monitoring.

In September 2018 the District was awarded a grant of \$93,879 through the Clean Water Pilot program for alum treatment of the Wassermann West pond. The grant requires a 10% match for a total grant budget of \$103,267.00. The grant anticipated that, should the total alum costs fall below the grant budget, additional funds would be applied towards stream stabilization on site.

Also in September 2018, staff solicited quotes for the first application of alum from four contractors, which did not generate any responses. The primary reason cited for declining to quote was a significant change in water temperature causing the window for an effective application to close more rapidly than anticipated.

On March 1, 2019, staff re-solicited quotes from the same four vendors. The District received one response during that quote period that was substantially higher than budget, forcing the District to reject the response. Staff consulted with the vendor that originally responded and one other vendor regarding project requirements, and based on their feedback, made adjustments to reduce project uncertainty and contingency costs. Staff then re-solicited quotes from the two vendors based on those modifications and received the following responses:

HAB Aquatic Solutions	Clarke Aquatic Services
\$59,937.00	\$69,565.00

Based on these quotes, it is staff's recommendation to award the contract to HAB as the low quote.

It should be noted that both quotes exceed the engineer's estimate developed in April of 2018. After consulting with several vendors, it is staff's understanding that the chemical costs for alum have risen substantially within the last year and are anticipated to continue to rise. Therefore, while staff recommends proceeding with the project under the quoted costs, staff also recommends a complimentary investigation led by the Research and Monitoring Department that will assess the alum treatment effectiveness at various depths, potentially reducing the amount of alum required for subsequent treatments. This investigation will not only improve the cost benefit analysis for future alum treatments at this site, but can also inform treatments on other water bodies. The authorization for the alum treatment investigation is under resolution 19-036 and will be presented at the March 28, 2019 in conjunction with this request.

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 19-035

TITLE: **Authorization to Award a Contract for Wassermann West Alum Treatment**

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, in January 2018, the MCWD Board of Managers adopted the MCWD Watershed Management Plan (WMP), which incorporated 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;

WHEREAS, the WMP includes a capital improvement plan, which lists the Wassermann West External Load Reduction and Landscape Restoration as a 2018-2019 implementation project;

WHEREAS, in November 2017, the MCWD Board of Managers approved a contract with Wenck Associates for the Wassermann West Park and Natural Resource Improvements, including the development of feasibility and specifications for alum treatment;

WHEREAS, in September 2018, the MCWD Board of Managers accepted a grant award of \$93,879 through the Board of Water and Soil Resources Watershed-Based Funding Pilot Program for the Wassermann West Project;

WHEREAS, in October 2018, the MCWD Board of Managers authorized staff to solicit quotes for the first alum treatment of the Wassermann West pond, which resulted in no responses being received;

WHEREAS, in March 2019, staff re-solicited quotes from four vendors for alum treatment, which resulted in one response that was substantially higher than the budget, resulting in a rejection of the quote;

WHEREAS, staff subsequently modified project requirements and received quotes from two qualified firms, and HAB Aquatic Solutions submitted the low quote of \$59,937.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers authorizes the District Administrator, on advice counsel, to enter into a contract with HAB Aquatic Solutions for \$59,937.00;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MCWD Board of Managers establishes a budget in the not-to-exceed amount of \$65,930.00 and authorizes the Administrator, in his judgment, to authorize change orders obligating the District up to that amount.

Resolution Number 19-035 was moved by Manager _____, seconded by Manager _____.
Motion to adopt the resolution ___ ayes, ___ nays, ___ abstentions. Date: _____.

Secretary

Date: _____