

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Managers

From: Kailey Kreatz, Water Quality Technician

CC: Kelly Dooley and Yvette Christianson

Date: January 28, 2016

RE: STATUS UPDATE ON LAKE NAME CHANGES IN THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH

Summary: The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) is seeking to reaffirm the names of three basins located within the Gleason Lake subwatershed in the City of Plymouth. The naming discrepancy dates back to the 1960's when an inventory was done on Minnesota lakes. It is likely that during this process the names of the basins got switched.

Inconsistent naming of the basins has made data management and data sharing between local and state level agencies quite challenging. Future confusion will be eliminated if all parties have consistent names based on what they are referred to locally. The proposed name changes are already in local use and match the names of neighborhood associations, subdivisions, and permanent signage.

MCWD began the process at the start of 2015 and has been working closely with the City of Plymouth, Hennepin County, and the MNDNR. The City of Plymouth passed a resolution in January, 2015 supporting the proposed changes. Petitions were submitted to Hennepin County in the fall of 2015, and a public hearing date has been set for March 8th, 2016. Please see Figure 1 for a map of the current and proposed names of the basins.

Next Steps: The decision to accept the changes ultimately lands with the MNDNR. However, the MNDNR would like to follow the formal process and get a recommendation in support of the changes from Hennepin County. Pending the recommendation, the MNDNR will assume the lead in the lake name change process.

Figure 1. Maps of the three basins with current and proposed names.

