

Minnehaha Creek Watershed District

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

MEETING DATE: March 24, 2016

TITLE: 2016 Watercraft Inspection Cost-Share Grant with Carver County

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 16-022

PREPARED BY: Eric Fieldseth, AIS Program Manager

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REVIEWED BY: Administrator Counsel Director (Name): Craig Dawson
 Board Committee Engineer Other

BOARD 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): Recommend Approval	

PURPOSE or ACTION REQUESTED:

The MCWD provided a cost-share grant to Carver County to perform watercraft inspections for aquatic invasive species (AIS) in 2015. Carver County has submitted a proposal and request for funding in 2016. MCWD funding for the program would be the same in 2016, per the approved workplan. The Board of Managers should adopt a resolution that authorizes execution of an agreement with Carver County, and authorize the District Administrator, upon advice of counsel and with such further minor revisions as may be necessary to effect the intent of the parties, to enter into this agreement.

PROJECT/PROGRAM LOCATION:

Lake Minnewashta

PROJECT TIMELINE:

May 14 through September 30, and weekends October 1 through October 30 as staffing capacity allows

PROJECT/PROGRAM COST:

Fund name and number: AIS - 5005

Requested amount of funding: \$17,600

Is a budget amendment requested? No

Is additional staff requested? No

PAST BOARD ACTION:

The MCWD provided cost-share grants for AIS watercraft inspections in 2012; the percentage of costs reimbursed varied among the grantees. Grants were awarded to Carver County (Lake Minnewashta), LMCD (Lake Minnetonka), Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (Lakes Calhoun, Harriet and Nokomis), and City of Shorewood (Christmas Lake).

In 2013, grants were awarded on a design to reimburse 50 percent of costs above expenditures incurred in 2011, so that grantees would receive at least as much as they did in 2012, and be encouraged to provide more service in 2013.

In 2014, the Board authorized a cost-share grant with Carver County for up to \$14,500. April 24, 2014 Board Meeting. Resolution number 14-031.

In 2015, the Board authorized a cost-share grant with Carver County for up to \$18,000. April 23, 2015 Board Meeting. Resolution number 15-038.

SUMMARY:

The MCWD began cost-share grants for watercraft inspection for AIS in 2012. The inspections were designed and continue to be education activities to prevent the introduction and spread of AIS. Authority for inspections lies with the DNR, and the DNR authority can be provided to local government units through an agreement (often referred to as a “delegation agreement”). As the MCWD has awarded cost-share grants, grantees must demonstrate that they have a valid DNR agreement in place.

Grantees must provide an estimate of cost for their inspection services, and this estimate becomes the maximum amount that will be awarded. The District reimburses the lesser of this estimate or the cost actually incurred. The grants are released in lump-sums after the boating season and after the grantee has provided a report summarizing the inspection activities performed.

The proposal for cost-share funding with Carver County is as follows:

Carver County / Lake Minnewashta:

Inspections will be performed 5:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. daily, May 14 through September 30, and to be considered their base service. Weekends (including Fridays) starting October 1 through October 30 will be eligible for coverage as staffing capacity allows, and will be considered their extended service. 50 hours will be used as flex hours if a 2nd inspector is needed on-site to overlap or work with scheduled inspector to handle demand. 2,342 potential total hours of inspection to be performed. Park hours during the boating season is from 5:00 am to 10:00 pm. Estimated grant amount: \$17,600

In 2015, approximately 2,115 hours of inspections services were performed, and 4,481 watercraft were inspected. 104 incoming watercraft were found to be potentially contaminated with AIS, and four were confirmed with zebra mussels and denied launch.

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 16-022

TITLE: Authorization to Enter into Cost-Share Agreement with Carver County to Provide Watercraft Inspection Services at Lake Minnewashta in 2016

WHEREAS, in 2012 the MCWD initiated a cost-share program with local units of government to augment the level of effort they had planned for inspection of watercraft for the presence of aquatic invasive species, and the subsequent education of watercraft operators of proper equipment cleaning and compliance with AIS laws; and

WHEREAS, the Board approved continuation for these activities in its 2016 budget; and

WHEREAS, the District has communicated its 2016 cost-share funding program wherein it would provide 50 percent of the cost for these services; and

WHEREAS, the District has provided cost-share grant funding in 2015 through an agreement with Carver County for the performance of watercraft inspection at the Lake Minnewashta public access; and

WHEREAS, Carver County has requested cost-share grant funding in 2016, presented a proposed schedule to perform watercraft inspections totaling 2,342 hours of service from May 14 through September 30, 2016, and on weekends (including Fridays) from October 1 through October 30 as staffing capacity allows, with an estimated the cost-share amount to be \$17,600; and

WHEREAS, Carver County's request is consistent with the District's cost-share grant program for 2016; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers authorizes the execution of an agreement with Carver County to provide AIS education through these watercraft inspection services at the Lake Minnewashta public access, with the District's cost-share grant not to exceed \$17,600.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Managers authorize the District Administrator to enter into this agreement contingent that applicant demonstrate its AIS and lake management plans and related activities are consistent with the goals of the MCWD's Comprehensive Waster Resource Management Plan and upon advice of counsel and with such further minor revisions as may be necessary to effect the intent of the parties.

Resolution Number 16-022 was moved by Manager _____, seconded by Manager _____. Motion to adopt the resolution _ ayes, _ nays, _ abstentions. Date: March 24, 2016.

Date: _____

Secretary