

Minnehaha Creek Watershed District

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

MEETING DATE: March 24, 2016

TITLE: 2016 Watercraft Inspection Cost-Share Grant with Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 16-023

PREPARED BY: Eric Fieldseth, AIS Program Manager

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REVIEWED BY: Administrator Counsel Department 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 the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) to perform watercraft inspections for aquatic invasive species (AIS) in 2015. MPRB 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 MPRB, 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:

Lakes Calhoun, Harriet and Nokomis

PROJECT TIMELINE:

May 1 (or earlier) through December 1

PROJECT/PROGRAM COST:

Fund name and number: 5005 - AIS
Requested amount of funding: \$86,000
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 the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board for up to \$78,945. April 24, 2014 Board Meeting. Resolution Number 14-033

In 2015, the Board authorized a cost-share grant with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board for up to \$88,500. March 26, 2015 Board Meeting. Resolution Number 15-026.

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 the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board is as follows:

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) / Lakes Calhoun, Harriet and Nokomis

Inspections will be performed daily from May 1 (or as conditions permit for the start date) to September 18, 6:00 am – 10:00 pm; daily September 19 through October 16, 6:00 am – 9:00 pm; daily October 17 through November 6, 7:00 am – 8:00 pm; and daily November 7 through December 1, 7:00 am – 6:00 pm (on-call only with weekend flexibility to add for good weather days). 10,369 hours of services are proposed, depending on on-call hours actually needed in the fall. The boat launches are closed outside these hours. Estimated grant amount: \$86,000.

In 2015, approximately 10,020 hours of inspections services were performed, and 8,489 watercraft were inspected. 276 incoming watercraft were found to be potentially contaminated with AIS, and 12 were confirmed with zebra mussels and denied launch. The total cost of inspection program was \$169,857. As the District’s funding was to be 50 percent of costs incurred, the final cost-share grant was \$84,928.

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 16-023

TITLE: Authorization to Enter into Cost-Share Agreement with Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to Provide Watercraft Inspection Services at Lakes Calhoun, Harriet and Nokomis 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 Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board for the performance of watercraft inspection at public accesses to Lakes Calhoun, Harriet and Nokomis; and

WHEREAS, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board has requested cost-share grant funding in 2016, presented a proposed schedule to perform watercraft inspections totaling 10,369 hours of service from May 1 through December 1, 2016, and estimated the cost-share amount to be \$86,000; and

WHEREAS, the Park Board'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 the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to provide AIS education through these watercraft inspection services at public accesses to Lakes Calhoun, Harriet and Nokomis, with the District's cost-share grant not to exceed \$86,000.

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 16-023 was moved by Manager _____, seconded by Manager _____. Motion to adopt the resolution _ ayes, _ nays, _ abstentions. Date: March 24, 2016.

Secretary Date: _____