

Minnehaha Creek Watershed District

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

MEETING DATE: March 24, 2016

TITLE: Authorization to enter into agreement with Carver County for Roaming Watercraft Inspector Services

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 16-024

PREPARED BY: Eric Fieldseth, AIS Program Manager

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REVIEWED BY: Administrator Counsel Dept. 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 2016 Workplan for the AIS Program includes funding for “roaming” watercraft inspectors. These services have been provided since 2013 by contracting with Carver County and Three Rivers Park District. This arrangement would continue in 2016, with the District again paying for 100 percent of the cost of the services. The Board of Managers should authorize execution of an agreement with Three Rivers Park District for these services, 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:

Piersons, Parley and Wassermann Lakes

PROJECT TIMELINE:

May 14 through September 18. Weekends September 23 through October 31 as staffing capacity allows.

PROJECT/PROGRAM COST:

Fund name and number: AIS, 5005
Requested amount of funding: \$40,000

PAST BOARD ACTION:

In 2013, the Board authorized an agreement with Carver County for roaming watercraft inspector services for an amount not to exceed \$35,000. March 28, 2013 Board Meeting. Resolution number 13-033.

In 2014, the Board authorized an agreement with Carver County for roaming watercraft inspector services for an amount not to exceed \$39,509. April 24, 2014 Board Meeting. Resolution number 14-035.

In 2015, the Board authorized an agreement with Carver County for roaming watercraft inspector services for an amount not to exceed \$41,000. April 23, 2015 Board Meeting. Resolution number 15-043.

SUMMARY:

In 2013, the District began another approach to AIS prevention through watercraft inspection using “roaming inspectors” who would cover lakes within the MCWD that have public boat launches and are not already covered by regularly-scheduled inspectors. The presence of these educators/inspectors is spread through other parts of the District and provides at least some level of protection for more lakes with public accesses.

Roaming inspectors rotate periodically among various lakes to provide watercraft inspection services. Their schedules with specific lakes are flexible and designed to coincide with higher-use times on the lakes. Since 2013, the District has contracted with Three Rivers Park District and Carver County to provide these services on several lakes.

As the roaming inspector concept has been initiated by the MCWD, the District will bear the full cost of contracting for this service. It is not a cost-share activity proposed by the agencies, under which the MCWD would pay 50 percent of the cost. The proposal for the roaming inspector program with Carver County for 2016 is as follows:

Carver County

Carver County would provide inspection services at Piersons, Parley and Wassermann Lakes. The estimated cost of these services is \$40,000, and is based on a schedule with varied hours of service ranging between 6am – 6pm daily, from May 14 through September 18. In addition, weekends starting September 23 through October 31st would be eligible for coverage as staffing capacity allows. There would be a maximum of 2,658 hours of service.

In 2015, Carver County provided 1,833 hours of service. It performed 2,563 inspections (Piersons – 1231; Parley – 680; Wassermann – 652). 21, or about 1.5%, of the incoming watercraft inspected were potentially contaminated with AIS. There were no reports of watercraft with zebra mussels in 2015.

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 16-024

TITLE: Authorization to Enter into Agreement with Carver County to Provide Roaming Watercraft Inspection Services in 2016.

WHEREAS, the "roaming inspector" program begun in 2013, continued in 2014 and 2015, and is planned to be continued in 2016, in order to provide AIS watercraft inspections on a rotating periodic basis at public launches throughout the District; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Managers has approved the 2016 Workplan for the AIS Program; and

WHEREAS, no inspection activities would occur on Piersons, Parley and Wassermann without the MCWD roaming inspector funds; and

WHEREAS, MCWD and Carver County staff have developed a program in which the District would contract with Carver County to provide these services at Piersons, Parley and Wassermann Lakes for an estimated cost of \$40,000 in 2016; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers authorize the execution of an agreement with Carver County to provide these watercraft inspection services at a cost not to exceed \$40,000; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Managers 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.

Resolution Number 16-024 was moved by Manager _____, seconded by Manager _____.
Motion to adopt the resolution ___ ayes, ___ nays, ___ abstentions. Date: _____.

Secretary Date: _____