

Minnehaha Creek Watershed District

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

MEETING DATE: March 24, 2016

TITLE: Authorization to enter into agreement with Three Rivers Park District for Roaming Watercraft Inspector Services

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 16-025

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:

Zumbra, Steiger and Auburn Lakes (Carver Park Reserve). Lake Minnetonka Regional Park.

PROJECT TIMELINE:

May 28 through September 7 for Carver Park Reserve Lakes. May 28 through September 25 for Lake Minnetonka Regional Park.

PROJECT/PROGRAM COST:

Fund name and number: AIS, 5005
Requested amount of funding: \$14,560

PAST BOARD ACTION:

In 2013, the Board authorized an agreement with Three Rivers Park District for roaming watercraft inspector services for an amount not to exceed \$10,000. March 28, 2013 Board Meeting. Resolution number 13-034.

In 2014, the Board authorized an agreement with Three Rivers Park District for roaming watercraft inspector services for an amount not to exceed \$8,000. May 22, 2014 Board Meeting. Resolution number 14-044.

In 2015, the Board authorized an agreement with Three Rivers Park District for roaming watercraft inspector services for an amount not to exceed \$14,560. April 23, 2015 Board Meeting. Resolution number 15-042.

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 Three Rivers Park District for 2016 is as follows:

Three Rivers Park District

Three Rivers Park District would provide inspection services at Zumbra, Steiger and Auburn Lakes, all within the Carver Park Reserve. Additional coverage would be provided at Lake Minnetonka Regional Park, focused on outbound inspections to further prevent the spread of zebra mussels from Lake Minnetonka to other area lakes. The estimated cost of these services is \$14,560, with an estimated 200 hours to Zumbra Lake, 200 hours to Auburn Lake, 200 hours to Steiger Lake and 856 hours to Lake Minnetonka Regional Park.

In 2015, Three Rivers provided 1376 hours of service. It performed 293 inspections at Zumbra, Steiger and Auburn, and another 4,047 at Lake Minnetonka Regional Park, which the District contributed towards. 2 incoming watercraft inspected were potentially contaminated with AIS at Auburn and Steiger, while 72 with potential AIS were stopped at Minnetonka Regional Park. There were no reports of watercraft with zebra mussels at Zumbra, Steiger and Auburn, but 8 were stopped entering Minnetonka Regional Park and were denied launch.

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 16-025

TITLE: Authorization to Enter into Agreement with Three Rivers Park District 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 Zumbra, Steiger and Auburn without the MCWD roaming inspector funds; and

WHEREAS, outbound inspections at Lake Minnetonka are vital to preventing the spread of zebra mussels from Minnetonka to other District lakes; and

WHEREAS, MCWD and Three Rivers Park District staff have developed a program in which the District would contract with Three Rivers to provide these services at Zumbra, Steiger and Auburn Lakes, as well as more outbound inspection services as Lake Minnetonka Regional Park, for an estimated cost of \$14,560 in 2016; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers authorize the execution of an agreement with Three Rivers Park District to provide these watercraft inspection services at a cost not to exceed \$14,560; 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 16-025 was moved by Manager _____, seconded by Manager _____.
Motion to adopt the resolution ___ ayes, ___ nays, ___ abstentions. Date: _____.

Secretary Date: _____