

MEETING DATE: April 23, 2015

TITLE: 2015 Watercraft Inspection Cost-Share Grants

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 15-038 (Carver County)
15-039 (LMCD)
15-040 (City of Shorewood)

PREPARED BY: Eric Fieldseth, AIS Program Manager

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

COMMITTEE ACTION:

<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____	

PURPOSE or ACTION REQUESTED:

The MCWD provided cost-share grants to four local governments to perform watercraft inspections for aquatic invasive species (AIS) in 2014. Each of these governments have provided proposals and requests for funding in 2015, with MPRB already receiving approval by the MCWD Board on March 26, 2015. MCWD funding for the programs would be slightly increased in 2015, per the approved workplan.

The Board of Managers should adopt resolutions for each of the grantees that authorize execution of an agreement with each, and further 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:

Carver County:	Lake Minnewashta
Lake Minnetonka Conservation District:	Lake Minnetonka
City of Shorewood:	Christmas Lake

PROJECT TIMELINE:

Carver County:	May 9 through September 27, and weekends October 3 through October 31 as staffing capacity allows.
LMCD:	May 22 through September 7
City of Shorewood:	April 30 through October 31

PROJECT/PROGRAM COST:

Fund name and number: AIS - 2206
Requested amount of funding: \$72,500
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 same formulaic approach was applied and the Board adopted resolutions 14-031 through 14-034 authorizing cost-share grants with Carver County, LMCD, MPRB and City of Shorewood.

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 proposals for cost-share funding during 2015 are as follows:

Carver County / Lake Minnewashta:

Inspections will be performed 5:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. daily, May 9 through September 27, and to be considered their base service. Weekends starting October 3 through October 31 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. 2,360 potential total hours of inspection to be performed. Estimated expense eligible for grant: \$36,000. Cost-share grant request: \$18,000.

In 2014, approximately 1,962 hours of inspections services were performed, and 3,375 watercraft were inspected. 100 watercraft were found to be potentially contaminated, and five were confirmed with zebra mussels. The total cost of inspection program was \$28,110.15. As the District’s funding was to be 50 percent of costs incurred, the final cost-share grant was \$14,055.08.

Lake Minnetonka Conservation District (LMCD) / Lake Minnetonka:

Inspections will be performed May 22 through September 7 from 11:00 am – 7:00 pm Fridays, and 6:00 am – 6:00 pm Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays. LMCD-arranged inspectors will be present at the public launches at Carsons, Cooks, Halstead, and Wayzata bays. In 2015, LMCD is contracting with Three Rivers Park District, who will provide and supervise watercraft inspectors. 2,176 hours of inspection to be performed. Estimated expense eligible for grant: \$39,000. Cost-share grant request: \$19,500.

In 2014, approximately 1,932.4 hours of inspections services were performed, and 4,207 watercraft were inspected, which also includes some inspections by DNR inspectors at these launches. 777 watercraft (of which 339 were inbound) were found to have plants or animals present. The total cost of inspection program was \$35,449.65. As the District's funding was to be 50 percent of costs incurred, the final cost-share grant was \$17,724.84.

City of Shorewood / Christmas Lake:

Inspections will be performed daily from April 30 (or as conditions permit for the start date) through October 31, 6:00 am – 8:00 pm. Approximately 2,800 hours of inspection to be performed. Estimated expense eligible for grant: \$70,000. Cost-share grant request: \$35,000.

In 2014, approximately 1,513.75 hours of inspections services were performed, and 1,788 watercraft were inspected. 14 watercraft were found to be potentially contaminated with AIS. The total cost of inspection program was \$24,371.38. As the District's funding was to be 50 percent of costs incurred, the final cost-share grant was \$12,158.69. The City of Shorewood collected the remaining amount from the Christmas Lake Homeowners Association. The inspection program was stopped early due to the District finding zebra mussels in the lake in mid-August, and the City and DNR subsequently closing the access to allow for the rapid response to the infestation.

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 15-038

TITLE: **Authorization to Enter into Cost-Share Agreement with Carver County to Provide Watercraft Inspection Services at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park in 2015**

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 and increased levels of funding for these activities in its 2015 budget; and

WHEREAS, the District has communicated its 2015 cost-share funding program wherein it would provide 50 percent of the cost for these services above what a local unit of government had expended for them in 2011; and

WHEREAS, the District has provided cost-share grant funding in 2014 through an agreement with Carver County for the performance of watercraft inspection at public accesses to Lake Minnewashta within Lake Minnewashta Regional Park; and

WHEREAS, Carver County has requested cost-share grant funding in 2015, presented a proposed schedule to perform watercraft inspections totaling 2,360 hours of service from May 9 through September 27, 2014, and on weekends from October 3 through October 31 as staffing capacity allow, with an estimated cost to provide the service to be \$36,000; and

WHEREAS, the County's request is consistent with the District's cost-share grant program for 2015; and

WHEREAS, at the MWCD Board Operations and Programs Committee on March 5, 2015 it was recommended to be forwarded to the Board Meeting as a consent item for final action.

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 accesses in Lake Minnewashta Regional Park, with the District's cost-share grant not to exceed \$18,000.

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 15-038 was moved by Manager _____, seconded by Manager _____.
Motion to adopt the resolution ___ ayes, ___ nays, ___ abstentions. Date: _____.

Secretary

Date: _____

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 15-039

TITLE: **Authorization to Enter into Cost-Share Agreement with the Lake Minnetonka Conservation District to Provide Watercraft Inspection Services at Public Accesses to Lake Minnetonka in 2015**

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 and increased levels of funding for these activities in its 2015 budget; and

WHEREAS, the District has communicated its 2015 cost-share funding program wherein it would provide 50 percent of the cost for these services above what a local unit of government had expended for them in 2011; and

WHEREAS, the District provided cost-share grant funding in 2014 through an agreement with Lake Minnetonka Conservation District (LMCD) for the performance of watercraft inspection at public accesses to Lake Minnetonka; and

WHEREAS, the LMCD has requested cost-share grant funding in 2015, presented a proposed schedule to perform watercraft inspections totaling 2,176 hours of service from May 22 through September 7, 2015, and estimated the cost to provide the service to be \$39,000; and

WHEREAS, at the MWCD Board Operations and Programs Committee on March 5, 2015 it was recommended to be forwarded to the Board Meeting as a consent item for final action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers authorizes the execution of an agreement with the Lake Minnetonka Conservation District to provide AIS education through Level 1 AIS watercraft inspection services as proposed by the LMCD at the public accesses at Carsons, Cooks, Halsted, and Wayzata bays on Lake Minnetonka, with the District's cost-share grant not to exceed \$19,500.

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 15-039 was moved by Manager _____, seconded by Manager _____.
Motion to adopt the resolution ___ ayes, ___ nays, ___ abstentions. Date: _____.

Secretary Date: _____

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 15-040

TITLE: **Authorization to Enter into Cost-Share Agreement with City of Shorewood to Provide Watercraft Inspection Services at Christmas Lake Public Access in 2015**

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 and increased levels of funding for these activities in its 2015 budget; and

WHEREAS, the District has communicated its 2015 cost-share funding program wherein it would provide 50 percent of the cost for these services above what a local unit of government had expended for them in 2011; and

WHEREAS, the District provided cost-share grant funding in 2014 through an agreement with the City of Shorewood for the performance of watercraft inspection at the City's public access to Christmas Lake; and

WHEREAS, the City of Shorewood has requested cost-share grant funding in 2015, presented a proposed schedule to perform watercraft inspections for 2,800 hours of service from April 30 through October 31, 2015, and estimated the cost to provide the service to be \$70,000; and

WHEREAS, the City's request is consistent with the District's cost-share grant program for 2015; and

WHEREAS, at the MWCD Board Operations and Programs Committee on March 5, 2015 it was recommended to be forwarded to the Board Meeting as a consent item for final action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers authorizes the execution of an agreement with the City of Shorewood to provide AIS education through these watercraft inspection services at the Christmas Lake public access with the District's cost-share grant not to exceed \$35,000.

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 15-040 was moved by Manager _____, seconded by Manager _____.
Motion to adopt the resolution ___ ayes, ___ nays, ___ abstentions. Date: _____.

Secretary

Date: _____