

PAYEE:

NAME Coalition for a Clean Minnesota River FUND **77-LMRWD**
 ADDRESS P. O. Box 488 1099
 City/State New Ulm, MN 56073 SERVICE DATE **2021**
 VENDOR # 25067 WARRANT TYPE **C** CONTRACT # _____
 CONTRACT BALANCE AMOUNT _____
 CAPITAL ASSET APPROVAL DATE _____

DECLARATION: I declare under the penalties of law (MS 471.391) that this account claim or demand is just and correct and that no part of it has been paid, and adheres to County policy and procedures.

The attached invoice has been verified for goods received or services performed

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE *Linda Storms* DATE 7/1/2021

INVOICE #	FUND #	DEPT #	PROG	ACTIVITY	ACCOUNT #	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
2020 WSI	77	702		0113	6260	2nd half of matching funds for Water Storage Initiative	\$5,000.00
TOTAL							\$5,000.00

Presented to the County Board on _____, 20__ and \$ _____ allowed _____
 Approved for Disbursement _____ Date _____ Initials _____
 Chairman County Board

Manager Raby asked if other money has been raised. Mr. Sparlin said they have raised about \$3,000 for this effort and they will continue to seek additional funding.

Administrator Loomis asked if it would be easier for Mr. Sparlin to raise money if there were a match. The board discussed contributing funds as matching funds. Manager Raby said he would be comfortable matching up to \$5,000 each year. Manager Raby asked if this was in the LMRWD budget. Administrator Loomis said that funding was in the budget for a different project in the MN River Basin that could be redirected to this project. Mr. Sparlin said a match would help and he mentioned some of the groups that he is speaking to about supporting this initiative.

Mr. Sparlin asked for an endorsement letter saying the LMRWD board is in support of seeking funding from the state of MN to create a significant water storage program.

Manager Raby made a motion to agree to match up to \$5,000 in 2019 and 2020 based upon a 1 to 1 match and write a letter of endorsement. The motion was seconded by President Hartmann. The motion carried unanimously.

Manager Hartmann asked where the water comes from for irrigation. Mr. Sparlin said groundwater wells, but there are a few permits that do come from tributaries.

Manager Frey asked if Mr. Sparlin has spoken to Ducks Unlimited. Mr. Sparlin said that is in progress. Manager Frey said he thinks there would a lot of support for this proposal from the hunting community if the proposal will increase habitat.

Manager Raby asked that the LMRWD submit a resolution to MAWD.

C. Remote meeting participation

Administrator Loomis said this is for the Board's information. Manager Raby asked if there was schedule to complete. Administrator Loomis said there was not a schedule. She said she will ask for a timeframe.

D. Dredge Management

i. Review Process for funding of maintenance of Navigation Channel

Administrator Loomis said she received communication from MNDOT that attorneys for MNDOT do not believe the LMRWD qualifies for funding under the Port Development Assistance Program. She and Lisa Frenette are arranging a meeting with Patrick Phenow, Navigation Director for MNDOT.

ii. Vernon Avenue Dredge Material Management site

Administrator Loomis said the hearing for the amendment to the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) is tomorrow night. Manager Raby said it looks like the condition for removing material when there is a flood was not being removed from the permit. Ms. Della Young stated that the site is being designed so that there will be no rise in the flood elevation. The city has received a no rise certification from LMRWD engineers and the CUP will be worded so that removal of material from the site will not be necessary.

The condition that a three day notice be given to the City when material is being removed from the dredge site will be removed from the CUP.

iii. Private Dredge Material Placement

Private slips have not yet been dredged. Last year's material is in the process of being removed.

E. Watershed Management Plan

Statement for Match Funding to The Lower Minnesota River Watershed District
 From The Coalition for a Clean Minnesota River (CCMR)
 By Scott Sparlin Coordinator/Facilitator Minnesota River Congress/ Ex. Dir. CCMR

Hours specific to **Water Storage Initiative** for Minnesota River Congress @ \$40 hr.

2020

January	35 hrs.
February	40 hrs.
March	46 hrs.
April	40 hrs.
May	30 hrs.
June	4 hrs.
July	0 hrs.
August	0 hrs.
September	0 hrs.
October	0 hrs.
November	10 hrs.
December	0 hrs.

2021

January	50 hrs.
February	45 hrs.
March	40 hrs.
April	20 hrs.

Total Hrs. 360 = \$14,400

In person meetings

Mileage @ .52 per mile

St. Paul (2) 440, Mankato (2) 140, Henderson (1) 90, St. Peter (3) 180

Nicollet 70,

Total 920 miles = \$478,40

Total WSI expenses from January 2020 thru April 18, 2021 \$14,878.40

Money secured and designated for **Water Storage Initiative** to date

Nicollet Conservation Club	\$1500
New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen	1000
Fundraiser American Legion	970
CCMR	1500
CURE	100
Mn Ag Water Resource Center	100
Crystal Waters Project	100
Minnesota Wastewater Operators Assn.	100
Friends of Pool 2	100
Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Coop.	100
Mankato Paddling and Outing Club	100
Doug Thomas	100
Darby and Geri Nelson	500
Total	\$6,270.00

Minnesota River Congress/CCMR Water Storage Legislative Initiative
Work Plan-Timeline 7-1-19 to 7-1-21

Final Report
accomplishments are highlighted in yellow.

July 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019

Continue to solicit, collect, compile and adapt input to be used to develop the various components of the bill. This requires face to face meetings and communicating with the potential implementers of the legislation including SWCD's, Watershed Districts, BWSR, State Agencies and numerous others. This will also be an on-going communication task given the nature of bill creation and perpetual negotiations with legislators. I will also meet with bill authors to share the compiled input in order to create first version of the bill in this time frame. This also requires face to face consultations. The bill is projected to be introduced this upcoming session of the legislature as previously indicated to me and other members of the Minnesota River Congress by the authors in both the State House and Senate.

I will continue to work with Minnesota State University Mankato Water Resources Center staff to compile and create a packet of existing data and associated documentation from various compelling studies. This will be made to distribute to legislators and partners for use in proving the need for water storage and securing support for the legislation from all parties and the public.

Do comprehensive targeted outreach, meet, as well as communicate with key water related, conservation, natural resource and agricultural entities to secure all levels of backing such as partnerships, resolutions and letters of support. This task is a focus of this time frame but will continue to be a task for the entire time as well.

I have met and will be meeting in person with Governor's past federal staff. I am confident I will ultimately obtain a meeting with Governor through those contacts and my past relationship with the Governor during his time in the U.S. House of Representatives. I will attempt to persuade the Governor to champion the water storage legislation and the river system in general going forward. He has close ties to Mankato and served as the House of Representatives chair of the "Sportsman's Caucus"

In consultation with authors we will also explore the potential for working within existing legislation to modify content which will likely take the same route of activity and actions by myself and others as laid out here.

Total \$3500 Includes on-going full 2-year period tasks from above

December 1, 2019 to May 15, 2020

Meet in person and continue distribution of created information packets to legislators from both political parties in both houses of the legislature to obtain sponsorship and sign on to the bill.

Continue meetings with SWCD's for advancement of basin resolutions in support of a water storage bill to be taken to the state level for confirmation vote.

Work with bill authors to introduce the bill and obtain first hearings in both house and senate and foster progress.

When hearings are scheduled, we will arrange for testimony from important key affected individuals and entities such as agricultural producers, farming organization representatives, The Lower Minnesota River Watershed District, conservation organizations, city, county and state entities that deal with infrastructure maintenance.

We will develop an infrastructure protection awareness document and identify and secure point communication persons able to articulate the potential for infrastructure damages if something is not done on a larger scale such as we propose.

We will work with key partners to develop regular press releases and other means of media communications to increase public awareness about the nature and status of the bill.

We will participate in and work with organizers of "Water Action Day" at the State Capitol to include it as a priority talking point with all state legislators and see that information about it is included in the packet handout for the day by participants.

We will solicit and request statements in support from the Governor. To accomplish this task, I will set up a meeting with staff, provide information and consultation as to what we want to convey to the greater public.

Time frame total \$2000

May 15, 2020 to December 31, 2020

I will work with the bills authors and sponsors to obtain committee hearings and consult with them to make any critical changes to ensure progress.

I will continue to foster the progress of the bill and advocate for its enactment. I will also seek out additional member support. This task requires trips to St. Paul and face to face meetings with legislators.

I will meet in person with federal elected house and senate members to explore options for federal partner funding if the state were to sign a water storage bill. The bill will be under more serious consideration at this time and federal funding opportunities can become a critical incentive for the state to enact a water storage bill if significant dollars are accessible at the federal level. Given that circumstance we will work to communicate these opportunities to the public and work in consultation with federal legislators and staff to develop the communication strategy and plea for public support at the state level to access the federal funding.

I will explore the potential for private foundation funding by meeting face to face with officers to discuss the feasible possibilities if the state were to enact the water storage bill.

I will explore the potential for Legacy Amendment funding through the LSOHF and Clean Water Fund by meeting with officers and discussing face to face the feasible possibilities if the state were to enact the water storage bill.

I will explore and compile other forms of funding to partner with by meeting with organizations and businesses who may want to play a part in creating and or enhancing water storage.

Time frame total \$2500

January 1, 2021 to July 1, 2021

I and the authors of the bill will continue to shepherd and monitor the bill through the next critical final phases. This task involves trips to the capitol for hearings and meetings to strategize with various legislators, staff and other key partners and people. I will set up and help coordinate testimony people in consultation with legislative staff as needed.

Working with bill authors and sponsors we will secure committee hearings and get a vote on a final water storage bill passage.

I will work with federal partners to strategize on process for accessing federal dollars available after the legislation is passed and enacted.

I will provide a final report on the initiative **Time frame total \$2000**