



LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

July 2021 Administrator report
From: Linda Loomis, Administrator
To: LMRWD Board of Managers

In addition to items on the meeting agenda, the following District projects and issues were addressed during the month:

Other Work

Salt Symposium

The Salt Symposium was held on August 3rd & 4th. It was well attended. Metrics about the number of people that joined the presentation were provided to the District in an email afterward. Even though they have been conducting the symposium for several years, they always seemed to find new information to present.

The email with metrics is attached.

One Watershed One Plan Lower Minnesota River East

A meeting was scheduled for Thursday, August 19, 2021 to weigh in with city partners in the One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) planning process for the Lower MN River East. The meeting has been cancelled due to a lack of interest by the cities. A smaller group may meet to discuss models and tools to help develop the 1W1P.

Nonylphenol Report

Freshwater completed the report on nonylphenols and its ethoxylates. The report was provided to the Board and has been posted to the website. The report can be accessed on the website using this link. Carrie Jennings is planning to attend the September meeting to present the report and answer any question the Board may have.

Manager residency

Manager Raby informed the Board that he plans to resign from the Board and Manager Mraz has moved outside the boundaries of the LMRWD. State law requires that Managers be voting residents of the District and that if a Manager moves outside the boundaries of the District a vacancy exists on the Board. However, State Law also allows that Managers may continue to serve on the Board until a replacement is appointed by the County Board.

I consulted legal counsel because it seems there is a conflict in the statutory language with respect to whether Managers can continue serving on the Board if they do not reside in the District. This is the response from counsel; "Counsel reads the conflict in the statutory language most liberally to achieve the purpose and intent of the watershed law and to serve the best interest of the watershed district. The district must be allowed to function with a reasonable compliment of managers. The district for too long endured what I believe was dangerously unlawful with only two managers. In this case, I advise that Manager Mraz may continue to serve (at her discretion) until her replacement is appointed and qualified. The position, however, is vacant. The appointing county must be notified and make a reasonable effort to find a replacement. With this opinion, I also advise that Manager Mraz be notified that while she may continue to serve until her replacement is

appointed and qualified, she is not required to do so. In theory, if the county dragged its feet she could continue indefinitely – though I do not recommend this as a viable alternative to county appointment.”

Manager Mraz was advised of this and would like to continue. I have also advised the appointing County, that Manager Mraz will continue, if she is willing, until a replacement is appointed, or her term expires.

I would suggest that Manager Raby be given the same option.

Highway 169 Coalition

The Coalition had asked for assistance in arranging a tour of the Minnesota River. They wanted to begin at CHS and head upstream from there. None of the touring boats were willing to head upstream because of the low water levels and the navigation ends at the Savage terminals at River Mile Post 14.7. The Coalition was willing to tour downstream from CHS to hear a program about. The Coalition cancelled any tour this year because of the recent increase in COVID cases.

Upper Mississippi River Basin Association (UMRBA)

Manager Salvato informed me that Rita Weaver from BWSR was scheduled to attend the quarterly meeting of the UMRBA to speak about the Water Storage Initiative. I joined the meeting to hear about BWSR plans to distribute the funds granted to this program by the legislature.

Ms. Weaver said BWSR was planning to seek input from stakeholders. I later communicated with Ms. Weaver that the LMRWD would be interested in being part of a stakeholder group. I also recommended several people familiar with the issues of the Minnesota River be invited to provide input, such as Dr. Carrie Jennings, Dr. Patrick Belmont and Dr. Karen Gran. All of these individuals were involved with the Collaborative Sediment Source Reduction project that was conducted by Dr. Peter Wilcox' group out of the University of Utah.

Watershed Plan Projects

Gully Inventory and condition assessment: The Interns are prepared to make a presentation to the Board at the August meeting.

Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/mn-river-corridor-management-project>

Eden Prairie Area #3 Stabilization: LMRWD staff is working with Inter-Fluve to close out the contract with Inter-Fluve. Once the contract is closed and the LMRWD is in possession of all of the work product developed, a meeting will be set up with the City of Eden Prairie. The timeline for scheduling a meeting with the City is September.

Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/mn-river-corridor-management-project>

Seminary Fen ravine stabilization project: No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/bwsr-clean-water-fund-grant-administration>

East Chaska Creek: (Carver County Watershed Based Funding): This project is complete and will be part of the tour for the Managers in September.

Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/east-chaska-creek-bank-stabilization>

Schroeder Acres Park (Scott County Watershed Based Funding): There is no new information to report since last update.

Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/schroeder-acres-parkeagle-creek-sub-watershed-stormwater-study>

Shakopee Downtown BMP Retrofit (Scott County Watershed Based Funding): There is no new information to report since last update.

Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/targeted-bmps-downtown-shakopee>

PLOC (Prior Lake Outlet Channel) Restoration (Scott County Watershed Based Funding): This project is also called Ridge Creek Park. There is no new information to report since last update..

Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/prior-lake-outlet-channel-realignmentwetland-restoration>

Dakota County Fen Gap Analysis and Conceptual Model (Dakota County Watershed Based Funding): LMRWD staff has been working with the Dakota SWCD (Soil & Water Conservation District) to close out the project.

Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/dakota-county-fen-study-management-plan>

Hennepin County Chloride Project (HHCI) (Hennepin County Watershed Based Funding): There is no new information to report on either the county-wide project or the Lower Minnesota River project. A virtual meeting of the stakeholder group is scheduled for September 20, 2021. Grant details for the Lower Minnesota River project can be found on the LMRWD website using this link

<http://lowermnriverwd.org/news/chloride-reduction-grants-available>

Vegetation Management Plan: No new information since last update.

Sustainable Lake Management Plan: Trout Lakes: No new information to report since last update.

Geomorphic Assessment of Trout Streams: No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/geomorphic-assessment-trout-streams>

Spring Creek Cost Share: Work continues on the hydrology study of the Spring Creek Watershed.

West Chaska Creek Re-meander: No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/1695a2cf90b44ddba730aad399196405>

Seminary Fen Ravine Restoration Area C2: No new information to report since last update.

MN River Corridor Plan: Staff continues to work on this plan. The District is preparing to send out a survey to stakeholders and set up focus groups.

Project Reviews

The District discovered that the automated email system that was set up for permit application has not been working correctly since June 2, 2021. HDR, the District's webmaster was able to retrieve all emails that were sent and LMRWD has been able to manage all the application that were received in the intervening period.

Canterbury Senior Living Center: - City of Shakopee- This project is for a Senior Living facility in the Canterbury Park development area. Staff is reviewing the application

MN Mash: - City of Savage – This development will replace the Watermark project that was envisioned at the intersection of McColl Drive and Dakota Avenue South. A pre-application meeting has been scheduled for August 25, 2021

Circle K/Holiday Station Store: - City of Savage – An application was received for a Holiday gas station in Savage at 7800 126th Street. Staff is reviewing the application which is scheduled for consideration by the Board at the September 15, 2021 Board meeting.

South Park Jeep: - City of Burnsville - A building expansion is planned for the auto dealership at 1408 Highway 13 West in Burnsville. Staff is reviewing the application.

Trunk Highway (TH) 55: - MNDOT - Bloomington Road to TH 52, Mendota Heights - The LMRWD received an application for a permit to resurface the roadway, improve drainage, make pedestrian accessibility improvements and rehabilitate bridges on MN 55 from the east end of bridge over Bloomington Road in Minneapolis to junction US 52 in Inver Grove Heights and on I35E at MN 55 lighting and Construct restricted crossing intersection at Hwy 55 and Louis Lane in Eagan and extend turn lane at south junction Hwy 149. The District has received the 100% design plans and is reviewing them. Project website: <https://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/hwy55mpls-invergroveheights/>

Burnsville Sanitary Landfill (BSL): - City of Burnsville – (This information is from the July report) Waste Management has proposed to increase the permitted capacity of its BSL, reduce the footprint of the landfill and increase the permitted peak elevation of the landfill located along the Minnesota River in Burnsville. A portion of the BSL is unlined. The unlined portion of the BSL has been closed and capped. An Environmental Impact Statement was prepared in 2005. A supplemental EIS was released June 1, 2021 and was reviewed by LMRWD staff. LMRWD comments were sent to the MPCA and the comments are included in the July 21, 2021 meeting packet. A public meeting was held on June 23, 2021. A recording of the meeting can be viewed on YouTube using this [link](#). Project website: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/regulations/burnsville-sanitary-landfill-expansion-project>

DEM-CON Landfill: - City of Shakopee – (This information is from the July report) In late 2019, Great River Energy (GRE) closed its waste to energy plant in Elk River. Based on the amount of waste that was accommodated by GRE, the MPCA notified landfills located in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area that applications for additional capacity were being accepted. Dem- Con landfill in Shakopee was one of four area landfills that submitted an application. (Waste Management's Burnsville Sanitary Landfill was another one of the four). There was a public meeting that discussed the process for determining Certificates of Need for metro-area landfills. You can view the meeting on YouTube using this [link](#). An Environmental Impact Study will have to be prepared for this application.

4905 TH Highway 13: - City of Savage - Caribou Coffee has planned a new store at this location. The site is located within the 100 year floodplain. Permit approval of this project is on the August 2021 agenda.

TH 169 Pedestrian Bridge: - City of Shakopee – The LMRWD has not received an application for this project. A report on the wetland delineation and the no-loss application are in the July 21, 2021 meeting packet. Project website: <https://www.shakopeemn.gov/recreation/parks-trails-projects/highway-169-pedestrian-bridge>

2021 Safety & Security Center Phase 1: - Metropolitan Airport Commission – There is no new information to report since the last update.

106th Street Transportation Improvement Project: - City of Bloomington – This project was conditionally approved at the June 2, 2021 Board meeting. The approval was for the improvements planned by the City of Bloomington. There are additional improvements being planned by MNDOT. The District is working to schedule a meeting with MNDOT to address the proposed drainage plan.

Burnsville Cemetery Expansion: - City of Burnsville - This project will expand the area available for burial plots by tree removal and re-grading. The Cemetery is located at 400 State Hwy 13 E. Staff is reviewing the application. No new information to report since last update.

Capstone 35: - City of Burnsville – This project was approved at the May 2021 Board meeting.

Jefferson Court: - City of Shakopee – This project was approved at the June 2, 2021 Board meeting.

TH 41/CSAH 61: - City of Chaska - This project is for transportation improvements to TH 41 in downtown Chaska, including the intersection of TH 41 with CSAH 61. No new information to report since last update.

CSAH 61 Drainage Channel Extension: - Carver County - The LMRWD received an application for this project which will alter the course of a channel that runs underneath CASH 61. This channel is the one that has been filling the box culvert with sediment. No new information to report since last update.

494 River Bridge: - 494 & MN River - This project is part of a MNDOT improvement project for I- 494. The project proposes to repairs bridges from 34th Avenue to TH 13 (including the 494 bridge over the MN River). It will widen and reconstruct the existing trail, replace lighting and deteriorated concrete median, repair concrete pavement and reconstruct bituminous shoulder. No new information to report since last update.

Credit River Outfall Repair: - City of Savage - This project is to repair the Credit River outfall where it daylight after going under TH 13 in Savage. There is no new information to report since the last update.

Southbridge Crossing 6th Addition/Core Crossing: - City of Shakopee - Permit approval for this project is on the July 2021 meeting agenda.

Project website: <https://www.shakopeemn.gov/business-development/current-development/southbridge-crossings>

Veterans Memorial Bridge: City of Shakopee - No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <https://www.shakopeemn.gov/recreation/parks-trails/parks-trails-projects/memorial-park-bridge>

Quarry Lake Park Improvements: City of Shakopee – There are three components to this project; 1) a mountain bike trail in the southern portion of the site, 2) improvements to the park area and changes to accommodate the water-ski club and 3) an outlet of the lake to the Prior Lake Outlet Channel (PLOC). The City recently met with the LMRWD to discuss the permit for the outlet.

Project website: <https://www.shakopeemn.gov/recreation/parks-trails/parks-trails-projects/quarry-lake-park>

Prairie Heights: City of Eden Prairie - This project is a residential housing development in Eden Prairie that is partially in the LMRWD and partially in Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District (RPBCWD). It is not in a High Value Resource Area or the Steep Slope Overlay zone. Permitting authority was given to RPBCWD. No new information to report since the last update.

Carver County CSAH 10: City of Chaska - No new information to report since the last update.

Project website: <https://www.co.carver.mn.us/departments/public-works/projects-studies/highway-10-study-victoria-chaska-area>

Keyland Development/Whispering Waters: - City of Shakopee – This permit was approved at the June 16, 2021 Board meeting.

Hentges Industrial park: City Shakopee - A portion of this property is being developed as Southwest Logistics Center (SLC). A permit for SLC was approved at the March 2021 meeting of the LMRWD Board of Managers. Additional developments are planned for this property.

Project website: <https://www.shakopeemn.gov/business-development/current-development/hentges-industrial-park>

9960 Deerbrook, Chanhassen: No new information to report since last update.

Summerland Place Residential Development: Shakopee - No new information since last update.

Project website: <https://www.shakopeemn.gov/business-development/current-development/summerland-place>

Timber Creek Residential Development EAW: Carver - No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <https://www.cityofcarver.com/timber-creek/>

MNDOT TH13 Improvement: The LMRWD received notification of an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) on this project. LMRWD comments are included as part of the July 21, 2021 meeting packet. A permit application was received on this project. An extension of the 60-day approval period for this project is on the July 21, 2021 agenda.

Project website: <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/hwy13savageburnsville/index.html>

Historic Fort Snelling Revitalization: No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/input/environmentalreview/upperpost/index.html>

MNDOT ADA Trail improvements in Mendota: No new information since last update.

MNDOT trail drainage improvements in Lilydale: No new information since last update.

Dakota County - MN River Greenway: An Environmental Assessment Worksheet was prepared for this project and was reviewed by the LMRWD. Comments were sent to Dakota County. Staff will be meeting with consultants for the project to discuss LMRWD permitting.

Project website: <https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/parks/About/TrailPlanning/Pages/minnesota-river.aspx>

City of Burnsville - Freeway Dump and Landfill: No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/waste/freeway-landfill-and-dump>

City of Eden Prairie - Peterson Wetland Bank: No new information to report since last update.

City of Chanhassen - TH 101 Improvements: There is no new information to report since the last update.

Project website: <https://www.highway101improvements.com/>

City of Bloomington - MN Valley State Trail: No new information to report since last update.

Project website: https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_trails/minnesota_valley/plans.html

MNDOT - I35W Bridge Replacement: No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <https://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/i35wbloomington/index.html>

MNDOT - I494 from TH169 to Minnesota River: MNDOT – (This information is from the July report) MNDOT held a meeting on this project on July 7, 2021. This project has received partial funding and MNDOT plans to move forward are being developed. The project proposes to construct E-ZPass lanes (formerly MnPass lanes) and to eliminate flooding of freeway at Penn Avenue and between Nicollet Avenue and TH 77/Cedar Avenue. Penn Avenue stormwater will be directed to Penn Lake in Bloomington. Stormwater from freeway between I-35W and MN River will flow to underground storage that will control rate of stormwater release to the MN River. Initial will be replacement of bridges over I-494 between I-35W and MN River.

Project website: <https://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/i494-airport-hwy169/index.html>

MAC/LMRWD/MCWD boundary realignment: No new information to report since last update.

USACOE/USFWS - Bass Ponds, Marsh & Wetland: No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <https://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Home/Projects/Article/1467604/upper-mississippi-river-restoration-program-bass-ponds-marsh-wetland-habitat-re/>

Upcoming meetings/events

- UMWA monthly meeting- Thursday, August 19, 2021, 1:00 pm; Virtual meeting – contact administrator to attend.
- 2021 USACE River Resource Forums -August 24, 2021, 8:00am to 3:00pm, Virtual meeting - contact administrator to attend
- Metro MAWD, Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Thank you for your support!

1 message

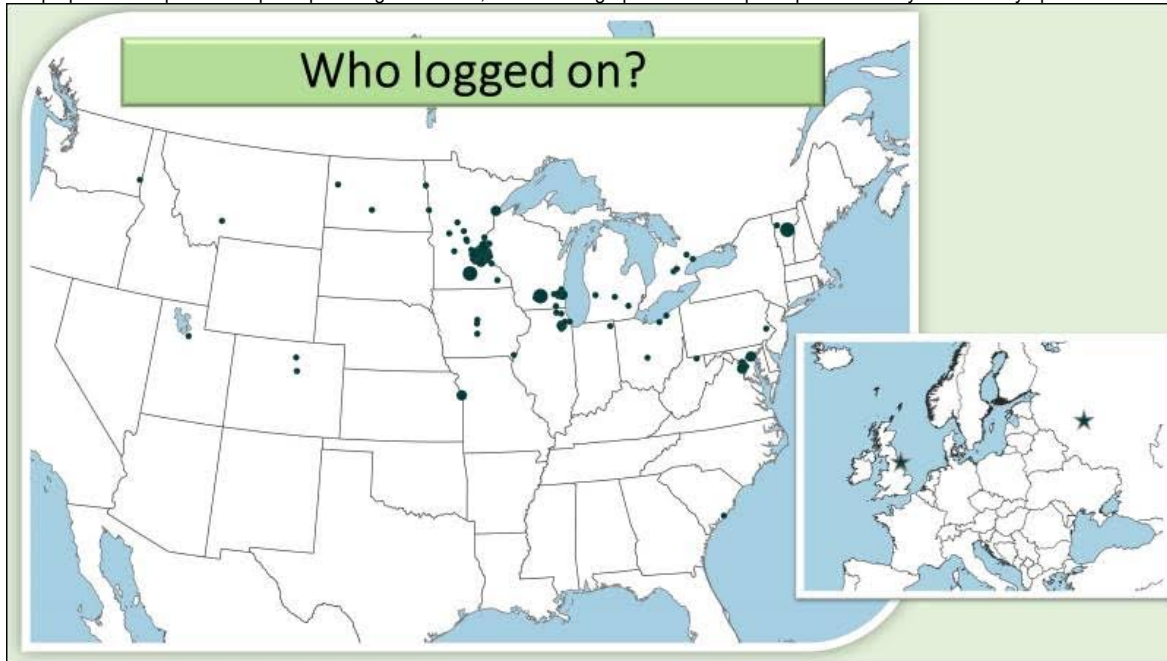
Douglas Klimbal <Doug@fortinconsulting.com>
To: "naiadconsulting@gmail.com" <naiadconsulting@gmail.com>

Mon, Aug 9, 2021 at 12:46 PM

Hello Linda!

I want to reach out and thank you for supporting Salt Symposium. Thanks to your sponsorship, we were able to provide discounted registrations to many individuals who otherwise would not have been able to attend. These include student researchers, retired professionals, citizen scientists, and a variety of interns and volunteers. Your sponsorship also helped compensate us manage some rather large groups of attendees from public works, utilities, and watershed management organizations from across the US.

I've prepared a map of where participants signed in from, as well as a graph that shows participation in this year's Salt Symposium based on poll results.



Estimated Attendance for 2021 Salt Symposium



We hope you enjoyed this year's Salt Symposium, and appreciate any feedback on how we can make the next one even better for Salt Symposium 2022 which we can announce will be held August 2-3. Let's stay in touch on how you can help us build next year's event into an even greater success! If you'd like to sign up as a sponsor, let me know and we'll be sure to keep you notified.

From all of us at FCI – thank you!

Douglas Klimbal

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Celebrating 25 years!