

VLAWMO TECHNICAL COMMISSION MEETING

8:00 AM July 12, 2023

Vadnais Heights City Hall, Council Chambers, 800 County Road E East, Vadnais Heights, MN 55127

Action items: \checkmark

- I. Call to Order 8:00am
- II. Approval of Agenda 🖌
- III. Approval of Minutes (June 14, 2023) 🖌
- IV. Administration & Operations
 - A. Financial Report for July and Authorization for Payment- (<u>Report will be sent to TEC members on</u> <u>Monday July 10 via email and hard copies also provided at meeting</u>). ✓ – Phil

V. Programs

- A. 40th Anniversary Campaign update- Nick Pg. 9
- B. SHG 2023-02 McCarthy Raingarden ★- Lauren Pg. 12
- C. LL1 2023-04 Hill Shoreline Lauren Pg. 9
- VI. Projects Pg. 10 (all)
 - A. Update on East Vadnais Lake Subwatershed Resiliency Study Lauren
 - B. Update on Spent Lime project at Oak Knoll Pond Dawn
 - C. Update on Wilkinson deep-water wetland restoration project bid process- Dawn
 - D. Update on Amelia Flowering Rush project- Dawn
 - E. Update Polar Lakes Park stormwater reuse feasibility study Brian

VII. Commissioner Reports

- VIII. NOHOA
- IX. Ramsey Soil & Water Conservation Division
- X. St. Paul Regional Water Services
- XI. Public Comment
- XII. Next Meetings: TEC: August 9th, Board Meeting: August 23rd
- XIII. Adjourn

Upcoming Events:

WBL Methodist presentation: July 18th WBL MarketFest: July 27th Westfield Park Bioswale Kick-off: Aug 3rd Native Plant Tour at WB Montessori: Aug 9th Neighborhood tour: Aug 17th VH Heritage Days: Aug 19th 40th Anniversary with RCSWCD: Aug 24th

Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization Technical Commission (TEC) Minutes June 14, 2023 Vadnais Heights City Hall, Council Chambers 800 County Road E East, Vadnais Heights, MN 55127

Commission Members Present:

Nick Ousky	Vadnais Heights (VH) (Alternate)
Andy Nelson	Lino Lakes (LL)
Gloria Tessier	Gem Lake
Jami Philip	White Bear Township (WBT)
Susan Miller	North Oaks (NO)

Absent:

Terry Huntrods, White Bear Lake (WBL)

Others in attendance: Phil Belfiori, Brian Corcoran, Lauren Sampedro, Nick Voss, Dawn Tanner (VLAWMO staff), Jeremy Erickson (SPRWS).

I. Call to Order

Administrator Belfiori called the meeting to order at 8:01 am.

A. Selection of Meeting Chair

Administrator Belfiori called for nominations of a meeting chair. Vice Chair Tessier volunteered to serve as Chair.

II. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Nelson to approve the June 14, 2023 TEC agenda Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

III. Election of Officers

Gloria Tessier: Chair Susan Miller: Vice Chair Andy Nelson: Treasurer Terry Huntrods: Liaison to the Board It was moved by Commissioner Philip and seconded by Commissioner Nelson to approve the 2023 officer roles as outlined: Gloria Tessier (Chair) Susan Miller (Vice Chair), Andy Nelson (Treasurer), Terry Huntrods (Liason to Board). Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

IV. Approval of Minutes (May 10, 2023)

It was moved by Commissioner Nelson and seconded by Commissioner Miller to approve the May 10, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

V. Administration & Operations

A. Financial Report for June and Authorization for Payment

Administrator Belfiori outlined the financial report as included in the May TEC packet. Notable items included revenue from 50% match with the City of White Bear Lake for the spent lime project at Oak Knoll pond and lab and engineering costs for the Wilkinson deep-water wetland project.

It was moved by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Nelson to approve the June financial report and authorization for payment. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

A. TEC Report to Board

Administrator Belfiori presented the June TEC report to the Board as included in the TEC packet. Notable items include consideration at the June Board meeting of construction contract for the spent lime project at Oak Knoll Pond in White Bear Lake. He also noted that public drainage gullies are being inspected with Ramsey County. The deep-water wetland effort at Wilkinson Lake is set to move into its final stateges of design and consideration of solicitation of bids at the June Board meeting.

It was moved by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Nelson to approve the June TEC report to Board. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

VI. Programs

A. SHG 2023-01 Charley Lake Condo Association Turf Replacement

Sampedro presented an overview of the proposed project near Charley Lake in North Oaks. Maps and photos were included of the location to be converted into a pollinator meadow/prairie. The seed mix for the effort was adjusted to include more native species, and this is the cause for having two cost estimates in the grant materials. Sampedro highlighted the "revised" cost estimate that reflects the new seed mix.

Commissioner Miller commented her appreciation for the townhome association's project and hopes that this becomes common for homeowner's associations across the watershed.

Chair Tessier asked about ongoing maintenance. Sampedro noted that the maintenance is combined with hiring and volunteering, and she noted that there is a sense of enthusiasm among the community for the project.

It was moved by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Nelson to approve SHG-2023-01 Charley Lake Condo Association Turf Replacement. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

B. LL1 2023-01 Wendland Vegetated Swales

Sampedro described the background and details of this project which converts existing ditches to vegetated swales. Sampedro noted that the neighborhood was included in a 2015 stormwater retrofit analysis report that recommended converting the ditches to vegetated swales and raingardens post-development.

Commissioner Nelson asked about the proposed plant species that are cultivars and if the species should be fully native for the grant. Sampedro noted that those species are extra edible plants that arenot included in the grant but will be planted at the same time.

Chair Tessier asked about what happens if the property transfers to new ownership. Sampedro noted that VLAWMO doesn't have a policy to carry over the grant contract to new property owners through recording the project to the property, but the current property owners have a 10-year agreement for maintenance.

It was moved by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Nelson to approve LL1 2023-01 Wendland Vegetated Swales. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

C. LL1 2023-02 Olinger Permeable Pavers

Sampedro outlined this project proposal near Black Lake in North Oaks. Sampedro noted the potential for using the project as a neighborhood spotlight. She noted that the applicant is motivated toreduce stormwater impact on their property.

Commissioner Miller asked whether VLAWMO has approved grants for permeable pavement in the past. Sampedro responded that VLAWMO has.

Commissioner Nelson asked if the 10-year maintenance plan applies to this project as well. Sampedro confirmed that this is accurate for this project and that the maintenance procedure was discussed in detail prior to the application including the use of specialized equipment to remove accumulated sediment and debris from the pavers.

It was moved by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Nelson to approve LL1-2023-02 Olinger Permeable Pavers. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

D. LL1-2023 -3 NOHOA Shoreline Restoration on Pleasant Lake - Walk-up Application

Sampedro described the proposed project site, which consists of a steep bank that contains bare and exposed soil that is beginning to erode. The effort includes stabilizing this slope and introducing shade-tolerant native groundcover species. All trees will be left remaining except for one declining ash tree.

Commissioner Miller noted that NOHOA is excited about the possibility to partner with landowners adjacent to Pleasant Lake. She commented that buckthorn and erosion is a large concern around the lake, and she noted appreciation for VLAWMO for offering a venue to help the process along.

Commissioner Philip inquired about other ash trees in the area and whether they'll be in decline as well. Sampedro noted that NOHOA has a tree survey that manages these decisions beyond this project site.

Commissioner Nelson inquired how the VLAWMO grant funds are dispersed and whether they're first come, first served. Sampedro confirmed this is accurate and that is routinely part of the discussion and introduction as applicants approach VLAWMO.

It was moved by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Nelson to approve LL1 2023-03 NOHOA Shoreline Restoration on Pleasant Lake. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

D. Website renovation: Mock-up approval

Voss provided a summary of the website renovation. He noted that the project is entering the final stage with the consultant HDR. He also stated that the project is in two stages: this stage 1 is coming to an end and is being summarized today. HDR provided 10 web page mock ups, interchangeable calendar features, and several other updated formats to the VLAWMO website. Voss then presented several graphics that demonstrated what the new webpages would look like in the proposed renovated layout. Commissioner Miller

asked if someone is interested in a particular lake, can they go into the website and find all the documents for that lake? Voss answered yes, everything related to that waterbody will be under that lake page on the site.

It was moved by Commissioner Philip and seconded by Commissioner Miller to approve the website mock-up. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

E. Field Days and irrigation campaign update

Voss provided a short summary of the field days that recently occurred at the Rotary Nature Preserve in the City of White Bear Lake. The two-part field day was held in collaboration with Birch Lake Elementary School and presentations were given to several grades of students. VLAWMO, the City of White Bear Lake, and Rotary members led outdoor activities for students. He noted the high level of interest and fun of the students involved. The Rotary volunteers were outstanding in their participation with the effort.

Voss then provided a summary of the smart irrigation and water conservation campaign that is presented on the VLAWMO website, June newsletter, and in the White Bear Press. He thanked the staff from the City of Vadnais Heights and White Bear Township for their partnership.

F. 40th Anniversary Campaign update

Voss summarized the ongoing 40th anniversary campaign. The events associated with this campaign include an August 24th joint celebration at Vadnais Sucker Lake Regional Park with the Ramsey County Soil and Water Conservation Division (RCSWCD) and three neighborhood cost share program tours. He invited TEC members to attend the joint celebration and presented the coaster that will be used as reminder for the campaign and for prizes during the event.

VII. Projects

A. Pleasant/Deep Lake carp update

Tanner provided a recap of current carp activities. She explained approximately 10,000 lbs of carp were successfully removed from Pleasant lake this year.. A 5-year plan with Carp Solutions is being prepared this summer and will be brought to the TEC and Board at an upcoming meeting. This plan will provide planning and budget guidance for continuing the carp removal program.

B. Wilkinson deep-water wetland restoration update

Tanner presented that Houston Engineering has provided a bid package for the next stages of the Wilkinson project. A supplemental agreement, that was highlighted as a need in the MOU with North Oaks Company, is ready for Board signature. The bid package and supplemental agreement will be presented to the VLAWMO June 2023 Board meeting.

C. Pleasant and Birch Lake surveys with RCSWCD

Tanner provided a status update on aquatic vegetation surveys in Pleasant Lake with RCSWCD staff. Discussions are scheduled with the MN Department of Health regarding potential future chemical treatment of invasive Curly-leaf pondweed.

Tanner noted that the efforts for Eurasian watermilfoil treatment in Birch Lake have been successful. VLAWMO is working with BLID and Dive Guys to coordinate this effort, which focuses on hand removal of the invasive species. Tanner thanked BLID for their assistance and is looking forward to future partnership efforts.

D. Alum feasibility for Wilkinson and Tamarack update

Tanner described recent field sampling for the internal loading treatment feasibility study that is ongoing this summer with Barr Engineeringfor Wilkinson and Tamarack Lakes.

E. Munch Bunch arrival at VH City Hall

Tanner provided a status update for the partnership project with the City of Vadnais Heights to continue buckthorn removal in the City Hall wooded wetland. The Munch Bunch goats are currently on-site. They will be back later this summer/fall.

Commissioner Philip commented that, from personal experience with goats, she knows how effective they are with land and plant management.

Commissioner Ousky commented that the goats have been well received by City staff and the public and have been part of a broader conversation on conservation.

F. Spent Lime project update and quotes for Board

Tanner presented VLAWMO is working with Barr Engineering to obtain quotes for the spent lime project at Oak Knoll pond. One bid was received and Barr staff recommended moving forward with it. It will be brought to the Board for recommendation at theJune 2023 meeting.

I. Commissioner Reports

None

II. NOHOA

None

III. Ramsey Soil & Water Conservation Division None

IV. St. Paul Regional Water Services

Jeremy Erickson provided an update that SPRWS staff will be on Sucker Lake this summer regarding zebra mussels. A product called Earth Tech will be used to strive to lower the zebra mussel population. The application will be applied at the Pleasant Lake gatehouse and monitored weekly at Sucker Lake. Sediment and macroinvertebrate communities will be monitored as part of this effort.

Erickson noted that the safety risk that the zebra mussel presence poses is significant and that the SPRWS hopes to reduce the time spent in the confined space water conduit leading into the Sucker Lake channel beneath highway 96.

He also noted that a 10-year SPRWS lead service line replacement effort is taking place and it's currently in its second year.

V. Public Comment

None

VI. Next Meetings:

Next TEC meeting July 12th. Next BOD meeting June 28th.

XIII. Adjourn

It was moved by Commissioner Ousky and seconded by Commissioner Miller to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 am. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

Minutes compiled by Nick Voss.



TEC Staff Memo – July 12, 2023

IV. Administration & Operations

A. Financial report for July and Authorization for Payment

Please find the July financial report and authorization to pay bills in the ePacket for review and approval.

V. Programs

A. 40th Anniversary Campaign update

Nick will provide an update on the series of summer events that compose the VLAWMO 40th anniversary celebration. Examples include neighborhood BMP tours from past grant program participants and a shared celebration with the Ramsey County Soil and Water Conservation Division. A 40th anniversary celebration summary is posted at VLAWMO.org, containing a summary of VLAWMO's major efforts and successes by decade. Read more here: https://www.vlawmo.org/about/40th-anniversary/

B. SHG 2023-02 McCarthy Raingarden

Landowner Tracy McCarthy submitted a Soil Health grant application for a 225 square foot downspout raingarden at her property in White Bear Lake. The raingarden would capture runoff from the roof of her home and front sidewalk, and will create pollinator habitat. The project area drains to Lambert Creek, which is impaired for bacteria. It is also located within VLAWMO's targeted volume reduction priority zone. The work will be completed by Bella Verde Landscaping for the basin construction and planting work. Mulch will be added by the applicant. Landscaping flagstone pavers and boulders were included in the landscaper's cost estimate, but will not be covered with the grant and is noted with red strikeout text. The revised total estimated cost is \$2,096.39. Staff recommends approval of SHG 2023-02 in the amount of \$1,250.

C. LL1 2023-04 Hill Shoreline

Landowner Kristi Hill submitted a Landscape Level 1 grant application for a shoreline restoration project on about 110 linear feet of shoreline along the southeast side of Birch Lake in White Bear Lake. Over time the shoreline has been reduced from soil loss due to wave action and the lack of deep-rooted vegetation. The shoreline would be restored by removing the existing turf grass and replacing with native species over an area of 1,200 square feet. An additional 2,400 square feet of upland native buffer will be added to further enhance pollinator habitat and capture runoff from South Birch Lake Boulevard. The estimated pollutant reductions are about 4.84 tons/year of TSS and 4.11 lbs/year of total phosphorus. The applicant received two bids for the project; one from Minnesota Native Landscapes at \$11,013.96 and another from Natural Shore Technologies. The Natural Shore Technologies' (NST) bid included maintenance costs, which will not be covered with the grant and is noted with red strikeout text. The adjusted NST bid is \$10,748. Staff recommends approval of LL1



2023-04 in the amount of \$5,000. <u>A hard copy of the application packet will be provided at the meeting.</u>

VI. Projects

A. East Vadnais Lake Subwatershed Resiliency Study Update

The City of Vadnais Heights, Ramsey County, and SPRWS have signed MOUs with VLAWMO to partner on completing a resiliency study for the East Vadnais Lake subwatershed. The MOU includes partners sharing professional services costs. The City of Vadnais Heights and Ramsey County have each committed to providing up to \$20,000 for the study and SPRWS has committed up to \$10,000. The MOU also includes that VLAWMO will provide oversight over the hiring process for engineering consultants and the management of the resiliency study.

The MOUs between the three partners and VLAWMO and a Request for Services (RFS) was approved at the June 26th Board meeting. As part of the recommendation to the Board, staff recommended the RFS be provided to five engineers from VLAWMO's engineering pool. Staff sent the RFS to Barr Engineering, Houston Engineering, SEH, SRF Consulting Group, and Stantec on June 29th following the Board meeting. The next steps are the engineers to submit proposals for completing the resiliency study by the end of July. VLAWMO and/or partners will score the proposals in August. Staff will provide another update on this process at a future TEC meeting.

B. Spent Lime project update

The spent lime quote and contract documents were approved by the VLAWMO Board at the June 28 regular meeting. The WBL City Council will be considering the quote and contract documents at their July 11, 2023, meeting.

C. Wilkinson deep-water wetland restoration bid process

The VLAWMO Board approved the bid package and process with Houston Engineering. The bid announcement is now available on Quest CDN to interested contractors. The notice is published on the VLAWMO and Houston websites and being printed in Press Pubs and League of Minnesota Cities. Bid opening is scheduled for August 3, 2023, and a recommendation will be brought to the VLAWMO Board at the August regular meeting.

D. Amelia Flowering rush update

RCSWCD completed the invasive Flowering rush survey on Amelia Lake during June. No Flowering rush was detected. MN DNR has been contacted to determine if Amelia can now be delisted for Flowering rush, following 3 consecutive years of survey and no detection. A wetland infestation of Flowering rush, that was identified by VLAWMO staff while conducting a stakeholder meeting for SLMR development, is being treated by RCSWCD in cooperation with the landowner. Multiple treatments are being conducted this summer. VLAWMO will be providing native seed for RCSWCD to reseed the area once treatment is completed. We appreciate this leadership from our partners.

E. Polar Lakes Park stormwater reuse update

Polar Lakes Park is an approximately 50-acre public park located just south of White Bear Township headquarters on Hammond Rd. The park includes numerous athletic fields that are currently irrigated



from the Township potable water system (which relies on groundwater as the water supply source). There are two irrigation systems at the park. The lower system irrigates four (4) ball fields and uses between 0.6 and 3.0 million gallons per year. The upper system irrigates four (4) soccer fields and uses between 1.0 and 3.0 million gallons per year. Additionally, the park is located in the North and East Metro Groundwater Management Area and within 5 miles of White Bear Lake and can be subject to Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MnDNR) appropriations use restrictions.

The VLAWMO Board approved a stormwater reuse feasibility study that will look into utilizing water from the constructed (mitigation) wetland located on the southwest corner of the site for field irrigation.

A Partnership Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between VLAWMO and White Bear Township for 50/50 cost split for the Barr Engineering Polar Park Stormwater Reuse Feasibility Scope of Work was also approved.

Soil Health Grant Application



luticit.Sumpcurvevia	Landscaper - Bella Verde Landscaper 9
Applicant Informa	
Name:	612.483.5984
	Tracy Mae McCathy
Address:	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
	4370 Whitaker Caut
City/Township, State, Zip:	D
	White Bear Lake, MN 55110
Phone:	
	651.261.4936
Email:	
	tracysevents equail. com

Project Summary:

PROJECT TYPE:

ESTIMATED TOTAL PROJECT COST	100000 mag	Downspout/Small Raingarden
(\$)	\$2,096.39	Native Restoration/
AMOUNT REQUESTED		() Pollinator Garden
(\$1,000 MAX or \$1,250 in Priority Area)	\$1,250	Turfgrass
EXPECTED PROJECT COMPLETION		Replacement
(Month, Year)	Julyzom	Other
	2073	

If other, please describe the proposed project:

Project Background:

ridjoor buonBroanar	
Describe your property.	
What is the purpose of your project?	BZIN genden. To protect our wetlands + protect grandwater from polluting.
Does your property connect to a lake, stream, ditch, or wetland in VLAWMO?	Touseplants to princle pollineter habitet + Dayn water + not become mosque to yes. Breeching sound.
	Do Nativeplants! Also to protect from where we aller.

1

Project Background: Continued

Describe how your project will support the goals of the Soil Health Grant Program. (See grant policy)	This rain garden will allowingth to sook into the grand, instead - f running off into the sheet+ protect my wethends. Help mainbin waterlevels. Stimie also be a habitat yes bees, natur succes, + add beauty to the property as a today bonus !
Briefly describe the planned installation and maintenance activities for your project.	As seen as project is approved i, the landsraper will begin installation Mid-July 2023. Us are just montaing year year ak! b, along with suddree yoom the landscaper will maintein, AND improved as necessary - i.e adding, replacing Native plants, I doing any necessary depairs

Project Specifications:

TOTAL PROPERTY AREA (Acres)	4570 Whiter Ct (2) on a 0.28 Acre 106.	
Total PROJECT SIZE (SQ FT)	225 mar feet.	
IF APPLICABLE: DEPTH OF RAINGARDEN BASIN (Inches)	(74H) 2 feet.	

6-9 inch depth

Required Attachments:

- ⇒ Detailed drawing or plan of the proposed project. ✓
- ⇒ Detailed project budget estimate with itemized costs and materials that equal your total estimated cost. Attached

278 J.UK

VLAWMO Soil Health Grant Agreement

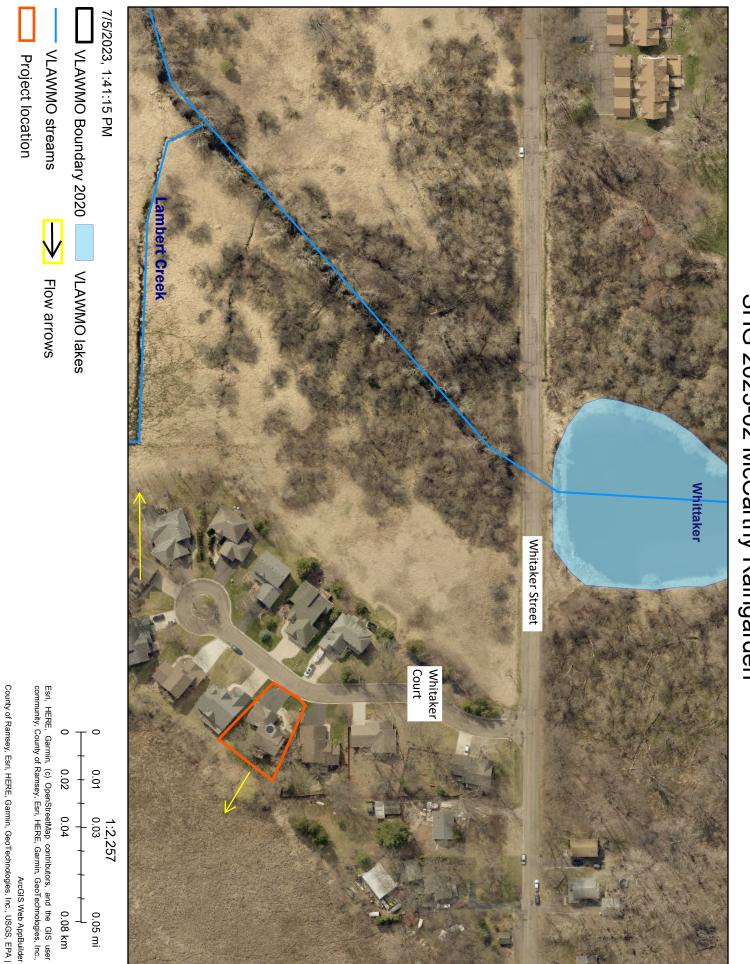


It is understood that:

- 1. The grantee is responsible for maintaining the project for at least 5 years after its installation. VLAWMO is not responsible for completing maintenance activities.
- 2. The grantee will participate in VLAWMO's outreach and project sharing efforts.
- 3. A project may be visited and inspected by a VLAWMO representative during the 5-year maintenance period.
- 4. Grant awards will expire within 1 year of grant approval unless the project is extended with VLAWMO approval.

The applicant's signature indicates their agreement to the above terms and certifies the grant application information is true and accurate. A VLAWMO staff signature will constitute an approved and executed grant agreement between the grantee and the VLAWMO.

Applicant/Grantee	
Signature Leacy May MChily	Date 6.19.23
Print Tracy Mae McCathy	
VLAWMO Staff	
Signature	Date
Print	



SHG 2023-02 McCarthy Raingarden

Balla vende bandscapile DavidCalFar 60.483 5984 Tracy's Rain gordan Design G Ro Loung (BA) (A) (AY) Span 3 AG Frein A 412 (A3 ATT Bre AT A 3 3647 Costs Plants - \$1,000+ minimum 51trulas-\$150 Hardscape 30000 LAbor - \$1200 Migc C Al wild geranium @ BI Dwm FBush Hungschald Flagstone A2 wild gingen @ BZ Silly Daywood () 2 11 Plants strubs \$Z A3 Fox Sedge 3 C3 SEATING Butten Fly werd (3) CH French Drain A.4 BLUE Slag Iris (6) Plants continued AS All Prairie Asta 2 p6 Jozpya wate 3 AIZ CARLINALFlowerz A7 PRAIRIE BLAZING HAR 3 A8 Colombune, Red 3 MACOW heater come Flower 3 Ag A 10 Brown Eyed Susper (3)

Item	Cost	quantity	total	Notes
Plants				
Wild geramium	25.987	6	155.922	
wild giner	12.987	6	77.922	
Fox Sedge	16.887	3	50.661	
Butterfly Weed	12.987	3	38.961	
Blue Flag iris	25.987	6	155.922	
Joe Pye weed	19.487	3	58.461	
Prairie Blazing star	12.987	3	38.961	
Columbine	12.987	3	38.961	
cone flower	12.987	3	38.961	
Brown eyed susan	19.487	3	58.461	
Prairie Aster	19.487	2	38.974	
Cardinal Flower	12.987	2	25.974	
Shrubs				
dwarf bush honeysuckle	28.587	3	85.761	
silky dogwood	32.487	1	32.487	
			896.389	
Hardscape				
Flagstone	52	6	312	
Boulder	45.5	2	- 91	
Seating		2		n/a
French Drain	-	1		Labor to fix
Labor	50	24	1200	
			2499.38 9	

\$2,096.39

a E

k

V.B. McCarthy Raingarden

SHG 2023-02 Grant Application

Lauren Sampedro TEC Meeting 7/12/2023

