

January 2017

RE: Request for Proposal for legal consultation

To whom it may Concern,

The Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization (VLAWMO) is seeking legal counsel who can be available on an as-needed basis. VLAWMO is a 25 square mile Joint Powers water management organization in the north east metropolitan area. Our member communities include: Gem Lake, Lino Lakes, North Oaks, Vadnais Heights, White Bear Lake and White Bear Township. VLAWMO has used legal assistance very sparingly in the past. The projects and programs undertaken by VLAWMO have increased substantially over the last three to four years. With increased activity, the need for legal guidance may also increase. More information on our watershed is available on the about section of the VLAWMO website: www.vlawmo.org/about.

VLAWMO is looking for a legal firm with experience in municipal and environmental law. Background specifically in water law would be very helpful. VLAWMO prefers an attorney advising the watershed to not already represent one of our communities thus avoiding a potential conflict of interest.

In the past, VLAWMO has sought legal counsel for a variety of topics: setting up the storm sewer utility to fund the much of the watershed budget, contract review, legal boundary updates, Wetland Conservation Act appeals and enforcement action and joint powers agreement updates.

The VLAWMO Board of Directors hopes to appoint the legal counsel for the watershed at its February 22nd meeting. Please contact me with questions or letters of interest before **February 8, 2017**. Proposals should include relevant background, other water management organizations or municipalities who could serve as references and who in your firm would be your main contact.

Your consideration and response is much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Stephanie McNamara, Administrator Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization 800 County Road E East, Vadnais Heights, MN 55127 651-204-6073; <u>Stephanie.o.mcnamara@vlawmo.org</u>