



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS – June 28, 2023 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Attendance		Present	Absent
Jim Lindner, Chair	City of Gem Lake	x	
John Shuman	City of North Oaks	x	
Rob Rafferty	City of Lino Lakes		x*
Ed Prudhon	White Bear Township	x	
Dan Jones, Vice Chair	City of White Bear Lake	X	
Katherine Doll Kanne	City of Vadnais Heights	x	
Phil Belfiori	Administrator	x	
Brian Corcoran	Water Resources Mgr.	x	
Dawn Tanner	Program Development Coord.	x	
Nick Voss	Education & Outreach Coord.	x	
Lauren Sampedro	Watershed Tech & Program Coord.	x	

\*= with prior notice

**Others in attendance:** Connie Taillon (City of White Bear Lake), Greg Wilson (Barr Engineering), Chris Otterness (HEI), Terry Huntrods (VLAWMO TEC/City of White Bear Lake)

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Lindner.

**II. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda for the June 28, 2023 Board meeting was presented for approval.

A motion was made by Director Jones and seconded by Director Doll Kanne to approve the June Board meeting agenda. Vote: Shuman: aye, Doll Kanne: aye, Lindner: aye, Prudhon: aye, Jones: aye. Motion passed.

**III. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the April 26, 2023 Board meeting were placed on the agenda for approval, as presented. No comments from the Directors.

A motion was made by Director Prudhon and seconded by Director Doll Kanne to approve the April 26th meeting minutes. Vote: Shuman: aye, Doll Kanne: aye, Lindner: aye, Prudhon: aye, Jones: abstain. Motion passed.

**IV. Visitors and Presentations**

**A. TEC Report to the Board and June Finance Report**

Terry Huntrods presented the June finance report and June TEC report to the Board as included in the packet. Notable items included three level one grant applications, the website rebuild mock-up, requests for bid for the Oak Knoll spent lime project, and carp

removal in Pleasant Lake. Huntrods also updated the BOD on the recent vacancy in the TEC chair position, which was elected to Gloria Tessier.

**Discussion:** None

**B. Public Visitors**

None

**V. Consent Agenda** 🐦

Chair Lindner asked if any Board members wished to speak on any of the consent agenda items, no requests were made from directors.

Consent agenda items on the agenda and included in the February Board packet were as follows:

- A. **Consider Landscape Level 1 Grant applications (3)**
- B. **Consider LMC Liability Waiver Form for Insurance Renewals**
- C. **Consider Mock-up and Templates for New Website Rebuild**
- D. **Consider adding Juneteenth as Holiday in VLAMWO employee manual**
- E. **Update on 2023 events calendar and VLAMWO 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary campaign**
- F. **Pleasant/Deep Lake Carp Removal update**
- G. **Partnership with SPRWS for 50% of sheet pile loan payment to MPCA**
- H. **Pleasant and Birch Lake surveys with RCSWCD**
- I. **Munch bunch/goats at the Vadnais Heights City Hall**

Discussion:

A motion was made by Director Shuman and seconded by Director Jones to approve the consent agenda. Vote: Shuman: aye, Doll Kanne: aye, Lindner: aye, Prudhon: aye, Jones: aye. Motion passed.

**VI. Business**

**A. Administration**

Administrator Belfiori presented the discussion on the proposed 2024 budget referring to item VI. A. from the Board packet. Belfiori noted that the proposed budget presented is consistent with the April 26<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors meeting and the May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 budget subcommittee consensus. Examples of Capital Improvement Projects outlined in the 2024 budget that were listed include Wilkinson/Tamarack TMDL implementation for a possible alum project, continued implementation of the Wilkinson Lake deep water wetland BMP, ongoing public ditch maintenance and inspection, among others.

The 2024 budget anticipates \$327,500 in outside grant and other partnership revenue/income, in addition to the SSU. He noted the proposed budget also identifies using a budget fund balance of approximately \$300,000 to \$800,000 to implement program areas. . This balance is subject to uncertainty due to timing, partnership development and commitments, or other unforeseen circumstances. Belfiori noted that each project is subject to timeline adjustments, but the budget enables VLAMWO to be prepared for the project, and

that future Board meetings will help guide these decisions and planning needs. Belfiori also noted that the planning for a new 10-year water plan will begin in 2024.

**Discussion:**

Director Lindner noted that the budget is ambitious yet realistic and valuable for keeping VLAWMO active to the needs at hand.

**1. Consider proposed 2024 budget: Resolution 02-2023** 

**Resolution 02-2023**  
Of the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization (VLAWMO)  
**Approving the 2024 Budget**

Resolution 02-2023 was moved by Director\_Jones\_ and seconded by Director \_Prudhon\_:

**Whereas**, the Board of the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization has considered the 2024 Budget as recommended by the 2024 Budget /Finance Subcommittee and the attendant information. The 2024 budget and footnotes are attached to this Resolution, and

**Whereas**, Total revenue for 2024 is projected at \$1,970,811 of which \$1,145,431 is from the VLAWMO Storm Sewer Utility (5% increase in the VLAWMO Storm Sewer Utility from 2023) and the remainder of the revenue being from a MPCA 319 Grant, BWSR Watershed-based grant, partnership from local communities/partners, proposed project agreement with North Oaks Company, Fund balance carryover from 2023, and fees/investment income.

**Whereas**, the total expenditures for 2024 is projected at \$1,970,811 which will be paid utilizing: 1) \$1,643,311 of VLAWMO funds/ carry over funds from 2023, and 2) \$327,500 of loans, grants and partnerships funds.

**Therefore** be it resolved that the 2024 Budget, dated 6-28-2023 is approved.

The question was on the adoption of the resolution and there were 5 yeas and 0 nays as follows:

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>
<i>Dan Jones</i>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Ed Prudhon</i>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Rob Rafferty</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
<i>John Shuman</i>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Katherine Doll Kanne</i>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Jim Lindner</i>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Discussion:**

A motion was made by Director Jones and seconded by Director Prudhon to approve Resolution 02-2023 adopting the 2024 Budget. Vote: Shuman: aye, Doll Kanne: aye. Lindner: aye, Prudhon: aye, Jones: aye. Resolution passed.

## B. Projects and Programming

### 1. Consider construction contract for Oak Knoll Spent Lime project and temporary easement signatures: Resolution 03-2023

Tanner highlighted the project team in attendance and presented the quote received for the spent lime Oak Knoll Pond project. Tanner noted that the current study started with previous studies at smaller waterbodies, and has moved up to Oak Knoll pond as a larger site in the progression of the series of studies. The subcommittee authorized requesting quotes at their meeting on May 24, 2023.

Greg Wilson outlined the contract documents, explaining that 22 work days of pond treatment with spent lime is expected. A permit condition from the MPCA is to keep the pond pH between 6 and 9. Because spent lime typically brings the pH up, this could be a factor that limits application. Five back-up days are also included in the contract and requested schedule. Work hours are to be determined by the City of White Bear Lake, ensuring the work is completed by October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023. A copy of the temporary easement with the residents living around the pond was included in the contract.

Tanner stated that next steps for the project are to bring the contract/quote to the White Bear Lake City Council for approval. Upon approval, the project will commence, and will take 1.5-2 months. Resolution 03-2023 was presented to encompass next steps and authorization requested.

#### Discussion:

Director Jones inquired about how quickly pH is able to bounce back to the desired range if it goes out of the range. Wilson noted that existing monitoring at the pond indicates that the pond is expected to be fairly stable; however, deeper depths of the pond have lower pH closer to the sediment.

Director Prudhon inquired about which depths of the pond are tested during monitoring. Wilson stated that monitoring would be conducted in 1-foot increments from the surface to the bottom.

Director Doll Kanne asked about the potential to add additional substances to potentially counter act pH changes. Wilson noted that adding new chemicals may demand additional permits, and that in terms of a study, the focus on spent lime allows for the targeted understanding before other additives potentially alter the results. Doll Kanne suggested future studies and efforts in this area explore the use of additional chemical additives to be used at certain pH thresholds.

Director Jones asked about whether alum has the same pH restrictions. Wilson noted that the same issues occur with alum, but in the opposite direction on the pH scale. MPCA permits require the same range of 6 to 9 for alum treatments as well, as going outside of 6 to 9 is the range that risks harm to aquatic life.

Chair Lindner noted that receiving more than one quote would have been beneficial; however, the project scope and contract aligns with VLAWMO's mission and thus keeps VLAWMO moving in the direction it wants to go.

Director Doll Kanne noted that the contract appeared to be highly specialized and was thus not surprised that one bid was received.

**RESOLUTION NO. 03-2023**  
**Of the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization (VLAWMO)**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE QUOTE RECEIVED FOR THE SPENT LIME DEMONSTATION PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$60,500 ON OAK KNOLL POND/WOOD LAKE, AUTHORIZING CONTRACT DOCUMENTS THROUGH BARR ENGINEERING, AND NOTIFY PROJECT PARTNER CITY OF WBL**

**Resolution 03-2023 was moved by Director Doll Kanne and second by Director Jones.**

WHEREAS, Oak Knoll Pond is a public water wetland that functions as a stormwater pond and receives runoff from the surrounding neighborhoods;

WHEREAS, Oak Knoll Pond is located in the Goose Lake subwatershed. East Goose Lake is on the State of Minnesota’s Section 303(d) impaired waters list for excess nutrient through the Clean Water Act;

WHEREAS, internal load feasibility study and implementation, detention pond retrofit and maintenance, and emerging technologies demonstrations were identified as Goose Lake nutrient reduction strategies in the 2014 VLAWMO Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Implementation Plan;

WHEREAS, the VLAWMO Board authorized participation in the research project with Barr Engineering and experimental spent lime treatment of Ash Street Pond in Lino Lakes during 2021;

WHEREAS, Barr Engineering reported that internal load was reduced and such reductions were maintained in treatment ponds (~0.5 acres in size) that were part of the spent lime research project that was conducted in 2021;

WHEREAS, the VLAWMO Board authorized the spent lime feasibility study with Barr Engineering to study a larger waterbody to see if spent lime treatment is a technology for water quality improvement that can be scaled up;

WHEREAS, field samples were collected, monitoring conducted, and lab analyses were conducted to determine that Oak Knoll Pond/Wood Lake is a suitable waterbody for spend lime treatment due to water and sediment chemistry;

WHEREAS, Barr Engineering, in a recently completed and approved feasibility study (attached in the April 26, 2023, Board packet) determined that the Project is socially and technically feasible and cost effective for a spent lime demonstration project on Oak Knoll pond;

WHEREAS, the City of White Bear Lake has been an active participant and financial partner during each step of the spend lime demonstration project development to date and has budgeted for a cost share in the currently proposed demonstration project;

WHEREAS, VLAWMO and City have a signed MOU for 50% payment each of the attached scope of work from Barr Engineering and demonstration project;

WHEREAS, the approved Barr Engineering Feasibility Study dated April 18, 2023, identified an engineer’s cost estimate of \$15,000 for development of plans and specs, and project oversight and also provided a cost estimate for completion of the Project at \$60,500, with a recommended 10% contingency;

WHEREAS, the VLAWMO subcommittee authorized the contract document and solicitation of quotes on May 24, 2023, and

WHEREAS, one qualified quote was received on June 9, 2023, and a recommendation to accept the quote was provided by Barr Engineering (attached in the packet).

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Vadnais Lake Area Watershed Management Organization Board of Directors:

- 1) The contract for the 2023 SPENT LIME TREATMENT FOR OAK KNOLL POND WHITE BEAR LAKE, MINNESOTA Project is awarded to Chad Mitchell at Erosion Works, Nowthen, MN, for the contract price of \$60,500;
- 2) The Administrator or Board Chair is authorized to sign and transmit the notice of award/selection, sign the contractor services agreement, issue the notice to proceed on advice of project engineer and counsel and when prerequisites for issuance have been met by the contractor, and transmit contract information to the City of WBL for consideration by the City Council;
- 3) The Administrator is authorized to sign change orders increasing the contract price in an aggregate net amount not exceeding \$7,600;
- 4) The Board Chair and Secretary are authorized to sign the temporary easements for the Project.
- 5) The VLAWMO Board recognizes in this resolution that above 4 items are dependent upon the acceptance of the quote/contract by White Bear Lake City Council

Adopted this 28<sup>th</sup> day of June 2023 on a vote of 5 yeas and 0 nays as follows:

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Dan Jones	<u>X</u>	<u>□</u>	<u>□</u>
Ed Prudhon	<u>X</u>	<u>□</u>	<u>□</u>
Rob Rafferty	<u>□</u>	<u>□</u>	<u>X</u>
John Shuman	<u>X</u>	<u>□</u>	<u>□</u>
Katherine Doll Kanne	<u>X</u>	<u>□</u>	<u>□</u>
Jim Lindner	<u>X</u>	<u>□</u>	<u>□</u>

**BY THE VLAWMO BOARD**

A motion was made by Director Doll Kanne and seconded by Director Jones to approve Resolution 03-2023, Vote: Shuman: aye, Doll Kanne: aye, Lindner: aye, Prudhon: aye, Jones: aye. Motion passed.

**2. Consider Wilkinson Lake deep water wetland plans and specs, supplement at agreement with NOC, and authorize soliciting bids: Resolution 04-2023** 🐦

Tanner introduced the topic referring to the attachments included in part IV. B. 2. in the Board packet. The project dashboard conveyed that all project items have been completed as scheduled including preliminary design and specs, final plan and specs, permitting, review, and for this Board meeting the authorization of bids. Signed letters from the North Oaks Company and Minnesota Land Trust stating their review and approval of the plans/specs is included in the packet.

Chris Otterness discussed the plan documents included in the packet. He noted that the grading plan pertains to the excavation of the deep-water wetland. The excavation is designed to be an organic shape that delivers both water quality function and provides useful wetland habitat. Construction is going to require de-watering, leveling, and re-grading the surface. Otterness anticipates the contractor to utilize machine-controlled GPS, in which case the dimensions are entered into the equipment to conduct the excavation on-site with precision. A wetland seed mix is included to support vegetation re-establishment. Project plans have taken into consideration a nearby eagle’s nest according to USFWS requirements.

Tanner described the supplemental agreement in the packet, noting that it covers construction and contract administration ongoing construction inspection, payment of each parties’ final cost-share obligation, and any long-term rights and maintenance responsibilities between the parties. This agreement was developed by VLAWMO’s legal counsel and agreed upon by both parties. HEI will facilitate the bid process through Quest CDN. A mandatory meeting for potential contractors is to be held July 26, 2023, and bid opening will occur on August 3, 2023.

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-2023  
Of the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization (VLAWMO)**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FOLLOWING FOR THE WILKINSON LAKE DEEP WATER WETLAND RESTORATION PROJECT (Project): ACCEPTING FINAL BID PACKAGE, DIRECTING SOLICITATION OF BIDS, APPROVING SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH NOC/NOF AND AUTHORIZING BOARD CHAIR AND SECRETARY TO SIGN, AND REQUEST RECOMMENDATION FROM BID PROCESS AT THE AUGUST BOARD MEETING**

**Resolution 04-2023 was moved by Director \_Shuman\_ and second by Director \_\_Doll Kanne.**

WHEREAS, in 2013, VLAWMO led coordination of the MS4 entities in development of the Vadnais Lake Area WMO Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and Protection Study, and 2014 Implementation Plan that included Wilkinson Lake;

WHEREAS, load reductions required to meet the TMDL are high and regional multipurpose projects are necessary to meet water-quality goals and improve Wilkinson Lake;

WHEREAS, Wilkinson Lake BMPs are identified within the implementation section of the of the approved VLAWMO Watershed Management Plan (2017-2026), funding has been planned for these years, and load reductions in Wilkinson Lake remain a high priority;

WHEREAS, priority locations for BMPs have been identified from multiple feasibility studies leading toward development of the current project and identified the current proposed, which is strategically located to treat the maximum area of upstream watershed before discharge into Wilkinson Lake, including receiving stormwater from five of the seven TMDL identified responsible parties for MS4 reductions (White Bear Township, City of White Bear Lake, North Oaks, Ramsey County, and MnDOT);

WHEREAS, in 2019, the VLAWMO Board of Directors (“Board”) participated in the in-person interview as part of the MPCA selection process for the 319/small priority watershed grant program and authorized approval of VLAWMO’s selection as a small priority watershed for 319 grant funding;

WHEREAS, in 2020/2021, the Board authorized submission to MPCA/EPA following final approval by MPCA of the Nine Key Element document (NKE) which was prepared by VLAWMO staff with coordination from MPCA;

WHEREAS, in 2021, the Board authorized the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Maintenance Agreement with North Oaks Company/North Oaks Farms (NOC/NOF) for the Wilkinson BMP Project and location in North Oaks that is property of NOF;

WHEREAS, in 2021, the Board authorized the partner grant that St. Paul Regional Water Services (SPRWS) authored with VLAWMO staff to the Minnesota Department of Health to match funds in VLAWMO’s Wilkinson subwatershed budget for a total cost of \$20,000 (\$10,000 in grant funds and \$10,000 in cash match) to continue preparation for the Wilkinson BMP Project, and VLAWMO has used those funds to develop and secure an easement, including engineering support, legal guidance, and property boundary survey for the Project;

WHEREAS, in 2021, the Board authorized the Project Workplan and Budget for the current grant round of funding, understanding that the total project budget is \$534,510 (\$320,706 in grant funds and \$213,804 in cash match);

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Land Trust, NOC/NOF, and VLAWMO signed the proposed project easement (February 2022), which was reviewed by VLAWMO legal counsel for access to the project site for construction and maintenance;

WHEREAS, the MPCA and VLAWMO signed the project grant agreement, which contractually binds VLAWMO to implementation of the Project utilizing funding from 60% grant funds and 40% local cash match (February 2022);

WHEREAS, the Board authorized the RFP for engineering and hired Houston Engineering, Inc. (HEI), to design, complete permitting, go out for bid, and supervise construction in June 2022;

WHEREAS, HEI has worked with VLAWMO, MLT, and NOC to complete design, permitting, public engagement, and produced a final design with bid package as submitted to the Board in June 2023;

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the plans and specifications for the Project;

WHEREAS, the Supplemental Agreement, which has been review and approved by NOC/NOF, serves as the cooperative agreement contemplated in the previous MOU for construction of the Project.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Vadnais Lake Area Watershed Management Organization Board of Directors as follows. The Board:

1. Accepts the Specs/Bid Package for the construction of the Wilkinson Deep Water Wetland Restoration Project dated 6/13/23
2. Directs solicitation of bids according to the Engineer’s recommendation for implementation of the Project
3. Approves the Supplemental Agreement with NOC/NOF and authorizes the Board Chair and Secretary to sign and return the final executed document to partners, and
4. Requests HEI to process bids received, analyze, and provide a recommendation to the Board for consideration at the August Board meeting.

Adopted this 28<sup>th</sup> day of June 2023 on a vote of 5\_\_ yeas and \_0\_ nays as follows:

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Dan Jones	<u>X</u>	<u>□</u>	<u>□</u>
Ed Prudhon	<u>X</u>	<u>□</u>	<u>□</u>
Rob Rafferty	<u>□</u>	<u>□</u>	<u>X</u>
John Shuman	<u>X</u>	<u>□</u>	<u>□</u>
Katherine Doll Kanne	<u>X</u>	<u>□</u>	<u>□</u>
Jim Lindner	<u>X</u>	<u>□</u>	<u>□</u>

**BY THE VLAWMO BOARD**

A motion was made by Director Shuman and seconded by Director Doll Kanne to approve Resolution 04-2023 (1) Accepting the Specs/Bid Package for the construction of the Wilkinson Deep Water Wetland Restoration Project dated 6/13/23 (2) Directing solicitation of bids according to the Engineer’s recommendation for implementation of the project (3) Approving the Supplemental Agreement with NOC/NOF and authorizes the Board Chair and Secretary to sign and return the final executed document to partners, and (4) Requests HEI to process bids received, analyze, and provide a recommendation to the Board for consideration at the August Board meeting. Vote: Shuman: aye, Doll Kanne: aye. Lindner: aye, Prudhon: aye, Jones: aye. Resolution passed.

**3. Consider 3 MOUs and a request for services for East Vadnais Lake subwatershed resiliency study** 🐦

Sampedro began highlighting the East Vadnais Lake subwatershed flooding issues, documented as early as 1978. Sampedro noted that this type of flooding isn't new, but is expected to intensify with climate change. The proposed resiliency study builds on an existing Ramsey County flood feasibility study at the intersection of Edgerton Street and Centerville Road. The resiliency study expands this flood feasibility study by targeting additional project sites upstream from the flood feasibility study intersection.

Sampedro noted that the City of Vadnais Heights, Ramsey County, and Saint Paul Regional Water Services (SPRWS) have signed a MOU for completing the resiliency study. VLAWMO, the City, and Ramsey County are proposing to cover 28.6% of the study cost and SPRWS 14.3%. If costs exceed \$70,000, staff propose VLAWMO covers the remaining costs as the lead of the study.

Highlights of the study include identification of five BMP options, development of existing and future conditions hydraulic and hydrologic models, stormwater and water quality models for flood risk and water quality improvement options, and identification of external grant opportunities. If the request for services (RFS) is approved, staff propose distributing the RFS to five engineers from VLAWMO's engineering pool. Proposals would be collected by July 27<sup>th</sup> and scored in the first two weeks of August, with results of the bidding to be brought to the VLAWMO August Board meeting with a staff recommendation.

#### **Discussion:**

Director Shuman provided that it appears to be a public safety issue as well as an environmental one. He voiced a hope that the effort goes quickly due to the public safety component.

Chair Lindner noted a personal memory of intensive flooding at the intersection and at the Vadnais Heights Walmart parking lot.

A motion was made by Director Prudhon and seconded by Director Jones to approve the attached MOUs with the City of Vadnais Heights, Ramsey County, and Saint Paul Regional Water Services with any non-material changes and on advice of counsel, and to authorize the Board Chair and Administrator to sign. Vote: Shuman: aye, Doll Kanne: aye. Lindner: aye, Prudhon: aye, Jones: aye. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Director Jones and seconded by Director Doll Kanne to approve the attached RFS with any non-material changes and on advice of counsel, and to authorize the distribution of the RFS to the recommended list of engineering consultants from VLAWMOs engineer pool. Vote: Shuman: aye, Doll Kanne: aye. Lindner: aye, Prudhon: aye, Jones: aye. Motion passed.

#### **4. Consider feasibility study for Polar Lake Park water reuse and MOU with White Bear Township**

Corcoran introduced this partnership with White Bear Township at Polar Lakes Park. Corcoran explained that there are eight ball fields at the site, currently using about 1.6 million gallons of water each year in irrigation. The Feb 28<sup>th</sup> Board meeting approved smart irrigation devices, and these are currently in the process of being installed.

Proposed water reuse for irrigation would utilize water from a mitigated wetland that drains from the Birch Lake and Rotary Nature Preserve area and then into Polar Lakes Park. . The

feasibility study will include two water reuse concepts, one for just the lower ball fields and the other for the entire park system. It will also include storage optimization and planning for costs.

VLAWMO would propose to enter into an MOU with White Bear Township in a 50/50 cost split for the feasibility study scope of work. The MOU has been approved by the Township Board on June 5, 2023. With VLAWMO Board approval, the feasibility report is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2023 pending any unforeseen issues.

**Discussion:**

Director Prudhon acknowledged the White Bear Lake lawsuit and existing pressure to conserve water. The Township has attempted to search for contractors to utilize surface water for irrigation in the past.

Director Jones asked about the potential consequences of taking a significant draw from wetlands in the area. Corcoran noted that this topic will be further explored in the feasibility study. He noted that there the system is highly managed and there are multiple points that runoff enters the system.

Director Prudhon noted that the process appears to be surprisingly more complicated than simply drawing water out of a pond. Chair Lindner noted that the soccer season must demand higher watering rates. Director Prudhon noted that the lower ball fields in the park include drain tile to also prevent the fields from flooding.

Chair Lindner commented that the strategy seems to carve out a water cycle between the pond and the field on an appropriate scale.

A motion was made by Director Prudhon and seconded by Lindner to approve the 5/16/2023 Barr Engineering Polar Park Stormwater Reuse Feasibility Scope of Work & Partnership MOU with White Bear Township for 50% cost share. Vote: Shuman: aye, Doll Kanne: aye, Lindner: aye, Prudhon: aye, Jones: aye. Motion passed.

**VII. Discussion and Administration Communication**

**1. August 24<sup>th</sup> VLAWMO 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event**

Voss presented the 2023 summer event series commemorating VLAWMO's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, including a shared event with Ramsey County Soil and Water Conservation Division who is celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, on August 24, 2023. VLAWMO coasters are included as a prize for the general public to be used in a trivia activity, and coasters were provided to the Board as a token of appreciation. Voss explained an overview of what the summer series events will look like and what the August 24<sup>th</sup> event will include, noting that the Board, TEC, volunteers, and the greater VLAWMO community are all invited.

**VIII. Adjourn**

A motion was made by Director Prudhon and seconded by Director Jones to adjourn at 8:15 pm. Vote: Shuman: aye, Doll Kanne: aye, Lindner: aye, Prudhon: aye, Jones: aye. Motion passed.

Minutes compiled and submitted by Nick Voss.