



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA 7:00 PM

June 25, 2025

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

- I. Call to Order Chair, Jim Lindner
- II. Approval of Agenda 🥸
- III. Approval of April 23, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes 👂 p. 3
- IV. Visitors and Presentations
 - A. TEC Report to the Board for June & Finance Report June 2025 Susan Miller p. 15
 - B. Public visitors Non-Agenda Items
- V. Consent Agenda *Directors may request to move any item to business agenda for discussion
 - A. Consider Draft MOU for Partnership with City of Vadnais Heights for City-Wide Resiliency Study Development p. 25
 - B. Consider Draft MOU for Partnership with City of Vadnais Heights for East Vadnais Lake Subwatershed Stormwater Improvement Project Design p. 27
 - C. Consider Rotary Park Wetland Restoration Project Contract and Scope of Work with NST p. 29
 - D. Consider Authorizing Phase 3 of Tamarack Lake Alum Project and Engineering Scope of Work p. 37
 - E. Consider EPA 319 Grant Remaining Scope of Work for Phase 1 p. 39
 - F. Consider LMCIT Liability Waiver Form p. 41
 - G. Consider Ramsey County GIS User Group 2026-2030 JPA Renewal p. 43
 - H. Update on Recent LCCMR Grant Application Process p. 45
 - I. Update on Community Blue Grant for Incarnation Lutheran Church p. 47
 - J. Update on Recent Outreach Activities p. 49
 - K. Update on Carp Management & Birch AIS p. 51
- VI. Business
 - A. Projects and Studies/Plans
 - Consider Resolution 04-2025 Regarding Initiating the "60 day" Draft VLAWMO
 Watershed Management Plan Review Rachel (HEI) Phil / Dawn № (20 mins) p. 53
 - 2. Consider Resolution 05-2025 Regarding Authorizing the Distribution of the Updated VLAWMO JPA to Member Communities for Adoption Phil /Troy Gilchrist (15 mins) p. 67
 - B. Budget
 - 1. Consider Proposed 2026 Budget- Resolution 06-2025 Phil (20 mins.) p. 123
- VII. Discussion / Administration Communication August 5, 2025 VLAWMO Annual Project Board Tour
- VIII. Adjourn: Next Regular Meeting: August 27, 2025

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Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization

800 County Road E East, Vadnais Heights, 55127 651-204-6070 Website: www.vlawmo.org; Email: office@vlawmo.org

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS - APRIL 23, 2025, REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Attendance		Present	Absent
Jim Lindner, Chair	City of Gem Lake	X	
Rob Rafferty	City of Lino Lakes		X*
Sara Shah	City of North Oaks	X	
Ed Prudhon	White Bear Township	Х	
Andrea West	City of White Bear Lake	X	
Katherine Doll Kanne	City of Vadnais Heights	X	
Phil Belfiori	Administrator	X	
Dawn Tanner	Program Development Coord.	X	
Brian Corcoran	Water Resources Mgr.	X	
Lauren Sampedro	Watershed Tech & Program Coord.	X	
Angela Hugunin Communication & Outreach Coord		X	

^{*=} with prior notice

Others in attendance: Chris Knopik and Frost Bowen-Bailey (CliftonLarsonAllen LLP); Troy Gilchrist (VLAWMO Attorney)

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 April 23, 2025 Board meeting was presented for approval.

A motion was made by Director Shah and seconded by Director Doll Kanne to approve the April Board meeting agenda. Vote: all: aye. Motion passed.

III. Approval of Minutes 🦠

The minutes from the February 26, 2025 Board meeting were placed on the agenda for approval, as presented. No comments from the Directors.

A motion was made by Director Doll Kanne and seconded by Director West to approve the February 26, 2025 minutes. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

IV. Visitors and Presentations

A. TEC Report to the Board for April & Finance Report

Administrator Belfiori provided an overview of the April TEC Report to the Board on behalf of TEC member Susan Miller. He highlighted action items from the April 9 TEC meeting including presentation of the annual report and monitoring report, the approval of two grant applications, an update on the WMP and JPA, as well as the 319 grant program. Administrator Belfiori also shared that the TEC+ met after the April TEC meeting, with local and state agency partners in attendance. Chair Lindner thanked Administrator Belfiori for this update.

^{**=} alternate

B. Public Visitors - Non-agenda items

None.

V. Consent Agenda 🥸

Chair Lindner asked if any Board members wished to take items off of the consent agenda for discussion.

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

- A. Consider LL2 2025-01 Charley Lake Condo Association Smart Irrigation Controller Grant Application
- B. Consider VLAWMO Website Update HDR Scope of Work and Updated Contract
- C. Consider WCA Replacement Plan Update for Polar Industrial
- D. Consider WCA Replacement Plan Wilkinson Waters in City of Lino Lakes
- E. Update on Various Spring Projects
- F. Consider MN Watershed Annual Resolution Packet
- G. Consider Pay Request from Lake Restoration Inc. for Tamarack Lake Alum
- H. Consider ISG Feasibility Study for Completion and Authorize Payment to NOC

A motion was made by Director Prudhon and seconded by Director West to approve the consent agenda. Vote: all: aye. Motion passed.

VI. Business

A. Administration and Projects

1. Consider 2024 Audit

Representatives from CliftonLarsonAllen LLP presented VLAWMO's 2024 audit results. Knopik began by sharing VLAWMO's decision to change auditing procedure for 2024 to Regulatory Basis Accounting. He noted that, while the auditing report may look different this year, this is a viable method with less staff time involved and lower fees. He confirmed that VLAWMO received a clean audit opinion for 2024.

Knopik explained that Regulatory Basis (cash basis) accounting does not follow U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), so the auditors are required to give an adverse opinion in the Independent Auditors' Report. He clarified that this language is standard to a governmental entity reporting under a cash basis and that overall, VLAWMO has received an unmodified opinion (clean opinion) on the Regulatory Basis of Accounting that is now being followed instead. The appearance of any adverse language is not an item of concern for the organization and no audit adjustments or compliance-related concerns were found.

Director West asked about the reasoning behind the transition to the cash basis audit from an accrual basis. Knopik answered that the choice was made to reduce the financial burden of the audit, as well as the amount of time required by both VLAWMO staff and the auditor for the audit process.

Director Doll Kanne noted a difference between GAAP (Accrual Basis) accounting and the new regulatory (Cash) basis, pointing out that the GAAP basis has a focus on recording

expenses as they are incurred, rather than when checks are sent. Knopik confirmed this understanding, adding that although there are no longer accounts payable and accounts receivable included in the face of the audited financial statements, unaudited schedules of accounts payable and accounts receivable are included as other information at the end of the report.

Bowen-Bailey then gave an overview of financial results for 2024, noting that total 2024 disbursements increased over 2023 expenditures due to increased general and administrative costs. Total 2024 receipts increased over 2023 revenues due to increased charges for services, interest income, and miscellaneous revenue related to Projects.

Director West asked about Bowen-Bailey's statement that VLAWMO has approximately 14 months of reserve. She asked what a good standard would be for an organization of VLAWMO's size. In response, Knopik recommended looking at how much is actually in reserves. Based on the audit numbers, reserves include approximately 65% of the FY25 approved budget, which aligns with what the Auditors would expect. This amount was above the minimum recommendation of 50% in reserves.

Staff recommended the Board accept the 2024 Financial Report and audit documents and direct them to be distributed to the appropriate state and local agencies.

Discussion:

<u>Director Shah motioned and Director West seconded to approve the 2024 Financial Report and audit documents and direct them to be distributed to the appropriate state and local agencies.</u> Vote: all: aye. Motion passed.

2. Consider First Draft of VLAWMO JPA and Authorize Release for Review/Comment

Administrator Belfiori and Troy Gilchrist, VLAWMO Attorney, presented the first draft of the VLAWMO JPA. They began by sharing background on the current JPA, explaining that VLAWMO was established by a JPA. The current JPA was adopted by VLAWMO's member communities in 2016 and will expire on December 31, 2026. Administrator Belfiori explained staff's work with Gilchrist to begin aligning the JPA update concurrently with the VLAWMO Watershed Plan update.

Gilchrist noted that the draft of the JPA included in the Board packet includes updates that better align text with VLAWMO's actual operations and functioning.

Administrator Belfiori and Gilchrist highlighted key substantive changes in the draft JPA, such as added recitals, clarity of Board roles, calling out the SSU as the organization's primary funding source, and updating budget processes. The draft JPA proposes a 20-year term rather than 10-year term to reduce costs and identifies that it can be amended at any time as needed. Administrator Belfiori noted that the updated VLAWMO boundary is included as the only attachment for the JPA.

Staff and VLAWMO attorney recommended approving the draft JPA for VLAWMO, with non-material changes, and authorizing VLAWMO staff to send the draft JPA to member community staff for review and comment.

Discussion:

Director Doll Kanne asked about limitations to the types of amendments that could happen under the JPA. Gilchrist clarified that a JPA is an agreement between communities, so administratively it can be burdensome to amend. However, if changes are consistent with state law, communities are free to make changes as desired.

Director Doll Kanne requested a redlined version of the draft JPA. Gilchrist confirmed it can be provided.

Director Prudhon inquired about the benefit of going with a blanket JPA rather than individual agreements between VLAWMO and member communities. Gilchrist responded that a Joint Powers Organization (JPO) always utilizes a single agreement because it altogether creates one entity and is consistent with other watershed management organizations, but the nature of JPAs is such that they can take more time administratively. Director Prudhon clarified that, with individual communities, there are likely differing interests, and each specific change involves back and forth.

Director Shah asked for clarification on the JPA timeline, confirming that at the June meeting there will be a second round of JPA draft review. She asked if further steps will be needed beyond the June meeting or if at that point it will be ready for 2027. Administrator Belfiori responded that it will depend on the degree and depth of follow-up that different communities require or request in the interim. If there are significant questions or comments, that may add extra time. Once all entities have signed at their level, the JPA will be ratified.

Gilchrist noted that with other organizations, he has prepared mock staff reports and resolutions to reduce workload for community staff. Chair Lindner noted that this would be helpful for communities with limited staff as they approach review.

Director Doll Kanne asked whether the JPA needs to be executed in 2026 to be implemented in 2027. Director Shah followed by asking about the interest in a critical deadline with this process.

Administrator Belfiori confirmed that the JPA is often looked at with the same lens as the WMP, so it can be helpful to provide them for review by member communities at a similar time. For instance, if more funding or a different funding mechanism is desired for a particular project, there is time to adjust one or both documents for interplay that may exist between the JPA and the WMP implementation section.

<u>Director Doll Kanne motioned and Director West seconded to approve the draft of the JPA for VLAWMO, with non-material changes, and approve VLAWMO staff to send draft JPA to member community staff for review and comment. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.</u>

3. Consider VLAWMO 2024 Annual Report and Monitoring Report

Hugunin gave an overview of VLAWMO's requirements as a water management organization to submit annual reporting documents to the Board of Water & Soil Resources. She summarized VLAWMO's four annual reporting documents, noting the differences between document contents and audience. She noted that the annual report is required by BWSR within 120 days of calendar year's end and that the audit and financial statements are required within 180 days of the organization's fiscal year end. Documents will be posted on the VLAWMO website after Board approval.

Hugunin highlighted that the annual report document includes required components like monitoring trends, annual communication programs, status of local water plan adoptions, and extra materials like project and program highlights. She noted the grant program statistics of 23 grants awarded last year. The annual report also includes goals for the following year and financial standing of our organization. Hugunin showed the annual report summary, which makes our work more tangible for the public. Highlighted projects included the Wilkinson Lake deep-water wetland restoration, the Deep Lake shoreline restoration, and WMP outreach. Other projects included groundwater conservation initiatives, the White Bear Lake street rehabilitation project, and the Elmwood Park raingarden project.

Corcoran gave an update on monitoring program highlights from 2024, noting key nutrient sampling locations throughout the watershed. He shared that 14 lakes and 6 sites on CD14 are monitored by staff, with monitoring starting the first week of May and going through September. He highlighted pollutant indicators that are monitored by staff and special projects that are monitored over and above the usual monitoring program like spent lime project and BMP sampling, testing for iron, chloride, etc.

Director Shah asked about Black Lake and why it is not shown on the TSI graph. Corcoran answered that it is VLAWMO's best quality lake and access to the lake is difficult, so it was not sampled in 2024. Director Doll Kanne asked what the threshold line is on the TP graph. Corcoran described the shallow lake threshold.

Chair Lindner noted that some of the lakes are still below the threshold and that in 2024, they were higher than previous years. Corcoran said we had 4 inches more precipitation than average, which may have caused a spike in nutrients through more stormwater runoff on some of the lakes.

Staff requested Board consideration and approval of the 2024 Annual Report and Water Monitoring Report. Staff also requested that the VLAWMO Board authorize final submission of the 2024 VLAWMO Annual Report to the Board of Water and Soil Resources and the JPA member communities.

Director Doll Kanne motioned and Director Shah seconded to approve the 2024 Annual Report and Water Monitoring Report and to authorize final submission of the 2024 VLAWMO Annual Report to the BWSR and JPA member communities. Vote: all: aye. Motion passed.

B. Projects and Programming

 Consider LL2 2025-02 WBL Sports Center Bioswale Grant Application and MOU with City of WBL and Ramsey County SWCD

Sampedro presented a Landscape Level 2 grant application for a biofiltration swale in the southwestern corner of the White Bear Lake Sports Center in White Bear Lake. She gave background on the project site and described the findings of the proposed project's feasibility study, which was completed on November 11, 2024 by SRF Consulting Group, Inc. through a partnership between VLAWMO, the City of White Bear Lake, and Ramsey County Soil and Water Conservation Division. She shared that construction-ready designs were completed on February 10, 2025.

Sampedro gave an overview of the 9 bids received by the City of White Bear Lake. She noted the use of BWSR WBIF funding in conjunction with VLAWMO's Birch Lake subwatershed funds. The MOU for consideration would allow VLAWMO to partner with the City and RCWSCD on the construction of this project. Sampedro noted the financial obligations of the various organizations. Under the MOU, the City would manage the contract and VLAWMO would participate in meetings and collaborate on public signage. The City and RCSWCD have approved this MOU, with signed copies available.

Staff recommended the VLAWMO Board of Directors approve funding for the LL2 2025-02 City of White Bear Lake Sports Center Bioswale grant application; approve the MOU between VLAWMO, the City of White Bear Lake, and RCSWCD; and authorize the Board Chair and VLAWMO Administrator to execute the MOU.

Director Shah pointed out that the proposed project area parking lot becomes busy on certain nights and asked whether there is a fence. Sampedro confirmed there is a fence and noted that construction would occur after some known crowd-drawing events have occurred, likely beginning in May. She also noted that traffic control and signage will help.

Director Prudhon asked if staff was familiar with the low bid contractor. Sampedro noted that VLAWMO has worked with them several times in the past and has been pleased with their work and communication.

A motion was made by Director West and seconded by Director Prudhon to:

- 1. Approve the Landscape Level 2 grant application 2025-02, not to exceed \$89,791.65 in accordance with VLAWMO staff's recommendations, and established VLAWMO and BWSR WBIF program guidelines; and
- 2. Approve the MOU for construction of the White Bear Lake Sports Center swale retrofit project and authorize the Board Chair and VLAWMO Administrator to execute the MOU. Vote: all: aye. Motion passed.

2. Consider CLP Grant Agreement, Rotary Park Project MOU with City of WBL and Contract with Contractor – Resolution 03-2025

Tanner provided background on the Rotary Park project and explained that the City of White Bear Lake led preceding restoration work at the project site. This project phase will cover 20.5 acres. The Board approved the submission of a draft CLP grant proposal in August, which was then submitted in partnership with the City. Partners were notified in December that the project was awarded funding that will go through the end of 2028, with a 10% cash match (less a VLAWMO in-kind contribution) to be shared between VLAWMO and the City.

Tanner explained that the TEC recommended authorizing the CLP grant contract and signing a MOU with the City at their February meeting. The City brought the MOU to their City Council and had it signed. Quotes were requested for the project. Two were received from MNL and NST.

Staff requested that the Board approve a Resolution 03-2025 recommendation to authorize signing the grant contract with CPL/MN DNR, authorize signing the MOU with the City of White Bear Lake and request staff to return the fully executed MOU to the City, accept the quote received from NST, and authorize VLAWMO staff to work with legal counsel to prepare a contract with NST to complete the restoration elements as identified in their scope and the attached documentation.

A motion was made by Director Prudhon and seconded by Director Doll Kanne to approve Resolution 03-2025 recommendation to authorize signing the grant contract CPL/MN DNR, authorize signing the MOU with the City of White Bear Lake and request staff to return the fully executed MOU to the City, accept the quote received from NST, and authorize VLAWMO staff to work with legal counsel to prepare a contract with NST to complete the restoration elements as identified in their scope and the attached documentation. Vote: all: aye. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 03-2025 of the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization (VLAWMO)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING the SELECTION OF A CONTRACTOR AND ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT for the ROTARY NATURE PRESERVE WETLAND RESTORATION PROJECT Resolution 03-2025 was moved by Director West and seconded by Director Doll Kanne

WHEREAS, the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization ("VLAWMO") entered into a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") with the City of White Bear Lake to work cooperatively on a multi-phase project to improve the Rotary Nature Preserve, including the upland and buffer areas of the property ("Rotary Project");

WHEREAS, to help facilitate wetland restoration as part of the Rotary Project, VLAWMO developed a five-year work plan for the Rotary Nature Preserve Wetland Restoration Project ("Restoration Project"), sought, and received a Conservation Partners Legacy Grant from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources in the amount of \$110,250 for four of the five years of the project;

WHEREAS, the total cost for the grant-funded portion of the Restoration Project is \$122,500, which means the required match amount is \$12,250;

WHEREAS, VLAWMO and the City of White Bear Lake have agreed to share project costs equally;

WHEREAS, VLAWMO requested and received two written quotes from contractors for the Restoration Project, the TEC and City of WBL have reviewed, and a recommendation for a contractor has been provided to the VLAWMO Board to accept the quote from Natural Shore Technologies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the VLAWMO Board of Directors as follows:

- 1. The VLAWMO Board authorizes the Board Chair and Administrator to sign the grant contract with the Conservation Partners Legacy Program with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.
- 2. The VLAWMO Board authorizes the Board Chair to fully execute the MOU with the City of White Bear Lake for the project and authorizes staff to return to the fully executed MOU to the City.

3. The VLAWMO Board authorizes VLAWMO staff to work with legal counsel to accept the quote received by Natural Shore Technologies (NST) and prepare and execute a contract with NST to allow restoration work to commence.

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

	<u>Yea</u>	Nay	<u>Absent</u>
Andrea West	Χ		
Ed Prudhon	Χ		
Jim Lindner	Χ		
Katherine Doll Kanne	Χ		
Rob Rafferty			X
Sara Shah	Χ		

Upon vote, the Chair declared the Resolution adopted on this 23rd day of April 2025.

Board Chair	Dated: April_23,2025
	-
_Attest	Dated: April_23,2025

3. Consider 319 Grant Phase 2 Work Plan

Tanner presented an update on VLAWMO's work with project partners and the MPCA to prepare a work plan for phase 2 of the 319 Small, Priority Watershed grant program. Tanner shared that the MPCA requested a work plan be submitted to them by May 1, 2025. The MPCA anticipates final approval in August and anticipates the potential for ongoing financial uncertainty as it relates to federal funding.

Tanner explained that North Oaks Company (NOC)/North Oaks Farm is the landowner for the proposed project areas. She highlighted the potential project sites being considered for the project that would benefit Wilkinson Lake.

Staff requested that the Board approve the MPCA Work Plan for 319 Grant Phase 2 Project(s) with non-material changes and authorize submittal of the work plan to the MPCA by the May 1, 2025 deadline.

Chair Lindner asked whether there is a contingency plan regarding federal funding. Tanner responded that partners may need to reduce the project size if funding doesn't come through and noted a smaller project addressing erosion control could be pursued in the area.

Director Shah asked why target dates were not included in the materials. Tanner replied that the phase 1 work plan had been utilized as a model for these documents, and the MPCA had recommended removing timelines from that phase, as it avoids the need to go back for amendments if the timeline needs adjusting throughout the term of the grant.

Director Shah asked what sort of date range would be anticipated or targeted. Tanner replied that timing would depend upon timing of approval of the grant, completion of plans and specs, and anticipated optimal weather conditions that may be required for construction of potential

projects (e.g., there may be a need to construct during dry or frozen conditions). The grant timeframe will be 4 years. Once funding is finalized and as design work continues, stakeholder meetings and updates will be shared in advance and as available.

A motion was made by Director Doll Kanne and seconded by Director West to approve the MPCA Work Plan for 319 Grant Phase 2 Project(s) (attachment 2 in Board packet) with non-material changes and authorize submittal of the work plan to the MPCA by the May 1, 2025 deadline. Vote: all: aye. Motion passed.

C. Budget

1. Discussion and Consideration of Long Range Partnership Projects Table

Administrator Belfiori gave an update on a draft long-range partnership projects table. Belfiori explained that this was developed through discussions with representatives from VLAWMO's various member communities.

Administrator Belfiori drew attention to the project table's focus: maintaining momentum for pursuing long-range projects. He noted that the table will be shared again in June as part of the implementation section of the WMP.

Administrator Belfiori provided four budget scenarios with varying degrees of SSU rate modifications and fund balance estimated outcomes. He shared scenario four appears to be the best alternative for current reality from a high-level planning perspective. He shared that budgets may need to be adjusted due to the likelihood of costs going beyond originally-anticipated costs.

Administrator Belfiori provided a comparison of property tax levy amounts from other Ramsey County watershed management organizations compared to VLAWMO's SSU rates.

Staff requested that the Board review the attached long-range partnership project table and consider if the attached table generally captures a high-level plan for partnership projects for VLAWMO. Staff also requested that the Board discuss the long-range budgeting graphs and provide staff with input.

Director Prudhon asked whether Belfiori tracks other watersheds to see their costs. He then asked how VLAWMO ranks when the SSU goes up 5-7%. Belfiori answered that other neighboring watersheds' property tax rates also fluctuate based on project demand and have over time generally gone up as shown in the graphs.

Director Doll Kanne said she would be interested in a comparison with revenue collected per square mileage.

Director Doll Kanne and Chair Lindner expressed interest in a surface water comparison with cost in the future. Director Doll Kanne added the watershed management organization comparison feels like an apples to oranges comparison, given that VLAWMO is smaller. Belfiori responded that these comparisons were done in an effort to show watersheds with similar land use. He suggested to modify the table to show square mileage.

Director Doll Kanne noted the average home value comparison is confusing.

Administrator Belfiori clarified that in VLAWMO, landowner charges are based on stormwater runoff rather than a tax based on property evaluation as with other watershed management organizations.

Chair Lindner asked whether other watersheds budget annually like VLAWMO, as it is harder to project out beyond an annual basis. He shared the goal of making sure the budget is consistently discussed so that funding allows for meaningful work that accomplishes VLAWMO's mission.

Administrator Belfiori responded that this agenda item is meant to decipher whether VLAWMO is on the right path and ensuring adequate funds are available for the partnership projects that member communities are hoping to pursue long term. From a long-range perspective, where do member communicates and VLAWMO want to end up in 5-10 years?

Director Doll Kanne expressed concerns with scenario four due to a decreasing fund balance in 2028-2030. She noted this could lead to VLAWMO doing less. Chair Lindner noted risk of inflation and cuts to account for.

Administrator Belfiori affirmed Director Doll Kanne's comments and highlighted that if projects are desired and there isn't available grant funding, VLAWMO will have to decide either to not pursue some of these projects or to pursue them later on/push them farther back in the 10-year table. Difficult decisions will need to be made as part of the annual budgeting process regarding which projects are pursued in the short term versus long term.

Director Prudhon asked whether these items are expressed in a priority order. Administrator Belfiori responded that these are not presented in a priority order, but rather a long range list of projects and a rough estimate of when those projects may be ready for implementation.

Director Doll Kanne shared that at the April 3 Board subcommittee, it was recommended by the three directors that the VLAWMO Board should continue to pursue the planned level of project implementation that is being done rather than needing to scale back due to financial constraints and lack of grants dollars being available. She said a 7% SSU rate was suggested, but now thinks a higher percentage, such as 10%, could be considered, especially with inflation and other potential budget pressures.

Director Prudhon stated that every community's budgets have gone up 8, 10, or even 25% and tonight's proposed budget helps justify an increase in the SSU rate for VLAWMO.

Director West asked whether the others were suggesting going to 10% rather than 7%.

Director Doll Kanne suggested not voting yes on 7 or 8%, but said she wasn't sure they would need to go to 10% as she didn't see what it looked like modeled. She clarified that she was not saying staff needed to provide every possible iteration, but rather that if the Board decides on 10%, they don't yet know what that will yield.

Chair Lindner asked to return to the requested Board discussion and action for this item. Administrator Belfiori clarified the focus of the two different budget agenda items on tonight's agenda, noting that this current agenda item is to get this type of high-level budget planning feedback from the directors that they are providing. He also noted that the VLAWMO subcommittee will have further discussion and will be providing their final recommendation to the full Board on the 2026 budget and 2026 SSU rate at their next meeting. The Board will then consider the subcommittee's recommended 2026 budget at the June 25th meeting.

Director Shah asked whether tonight's vote was to decide on the table. Administrator Belfiori answered that the vote would serve as an advisory note at this point to see whether from a high level budget planning perspective if the partnership projects and which of the various scenarios most generally aligned with the Board's visions.

Chair Lindner reminded the Board of the proposed motion provided in the staff presentation and asked the Board if someone would like to make a motion on this item.

A motion was made by Director Shah and seconded by Director Doll Kanne to approve that the attached long-range partnership project table (Attachment 1) generally captures a high-level long range plan for partnership projects for VLAWMO. Vote: all: aye. Motion passed.

2. Discussion and Authorization of VLAWMO Subcommittee to Provide Recommendations on Rough Draft Preliminary 2026 Budget

Administrator Belfiori shared a preliminary rough draft of the 2026 budget, which was developed using the long-range table previously discussed and reviewed at the April subcommittee meeting. The subcommittee identified no concerns, but there were questions from the subcommittee to follow up with City staff and revise two specific budget items according to City staff recommendation.

Administrator Belfiori explained that the 2026 budget process primarily involves managing uncertainty from varied factors such as technical feasibility, project timing, partnership uncertainties, and uncertainties surrounding the outcome of federal and state grant funding. The general approach for the 2026 budget is to include some level of funding, but in many cases not the entire estimated project cost amount. Belfiori noted that there are a number of important and very high impact projects included in the 2026 draft budget and explained that some projects will be feasible, some will not be, and some won't be affordable for VLAWMO and partners without finding outside sources of revenue. The budget is a critical tool that allows VLAWMO to be "at the table" for these key projects.

Administrator Belfiori briefly highlighted key capital improvement projects from each of the subwatersheds, noting particularly large or high profile or high-cost proposed projects and potential partnerships. He also shared cost estimates from various proposed programs.

Administrator Belfiori noted projected income or revenue for 2026, projected grant revenue for 2026, and gave an overview of proposed next steps for the development of the 2026 budget.

Staff requested that the Board authorize the subcommittee to review the draft 2026 budget materials and provide the full Board recommendation(s) at the June 25 meeting.

A motion was made by Director Shah and seconded by Director Doll Kanne to authorize the subcommittee to review the draft 2026 budget materials and provide the full Board recommendation(s) at the June 25 meeting.

VII. Discussion – Discuss 6/25/25 June Board Meeting Date per Subcommittee Request

Administrator Belfiori identified that per the VLAWMO subcommittee request at their April 3rd meeting, it was asked to include this agenda item to discuss the currently Board approved

June 25th Board meeting. Director Shah shared she will not to be attending the June 25 meeting and will work to send an alternative representative from the City of North Oaks and identified that she will work to get them up to speed prior to the meeting. Director Doll Kanne said Vadnais Heights will not be represented at the meeting given all council members to her understanding are planning to attend the LMC conference. Director West noted that she will not be attending and said an alternative representative will be present from White Bear Lake. Director Prudhon stated he will be present. Director Shah expressed concern over what will be on the agenda and said there will need to be a certain level of confidence going in. At the end of the discussion Chair Lindner noted that it appears from the discussion that two alternatives are anticipated to attend alongside himself and Director Prudhon which would allow for achieving the required quorum number of four and therefore he decided to stay with the June 25th approved meeting date.

VIII. Administration Communication- Discussion on Scheduling Late May/Early June Board Subcommittee Meeting (possible dates: 6/2, 6/4 or 6/5)

Administrator Belfiori asked which subcommittee meeting dates would work for the subcommittee members. He noted the meeting would likely be at 6:30 pm in the Lakes Room at Vadnais Heights City Hall.

Chair Lindner said that any of the proposed dates would work for him. Director Doll Kanne said she could meet on the 2nd or 5th, which Director West echoed. Administrator Belfiori confirmed that an email invitation would follow with details for the subcommittee meeting which will be scheduled based on this feedback for either June 2nd or June 5th.

XI. Adjourn

A motion was made by Director Doll Kanne and seconded by Director West to adjourn at 8:46 pm. Vote: all: aye. Motion passed.

TEC Report to Board -June 2025

		ı — —	TEO Roport to Bo							
Programs & Projects	Effort Level LOW MED HIGH	Completion Date	Comments							
Projects	•	•		Administrat	ion & Opera	ation				
E. Vadnais Lake Subwatershed Resiliency Study		Ongoing	Staff are continuing to work with the City of Vadnais Heights on Phase 2 of the study. A state grant application for further investigation and construction plan development for the recommended BMPs identified in the study was submitted in March. News about the grant will be received in June.	Audit		2024	2024 Audit was	s approved at the	e April BOD me	eeting and Submitted to BWSR etc.
Rotary Park partnership		2025-29	Contract with NST and first task order underway	Budget		for 2026 budget	The 2026 VLAWN	/IO Budget will be	e considered a	at the June 25, 2025 Board meeting.
Vadnais Heights Resiliency Study (Whole City)		2025	The City of Vadnais Heights has completed a contract with the MPCA for accepting grant funding to complete a resiliency study that will cover the rest of the City not covered by the completed E. Vadnais Lake Resiliency Study. Staff are working with the City on the project and are bringing a partnership MOU to the June Board meeting.	Personnel /HR		ongoing		Staff continuing to pursuing training opportunities		aining opportunities
MPCA 319 /Wilkinson Lake BMPs		Complete by Aug 2025	Completing remaining project items for phase 1	SSU		ongoing		Working with Elhers on necessary SSU boundary changes based on approved updated RCWD/VLAWMO Boundary. Work on 2026 certifications will start in the summer.		
Pleasant Lake Carp Management		Ongoing	3 antenna locations monitoring, and spring removals at Deep Lake; biomass survey during summer to inform 2026 efforts	2027-2036 Watershed Mgmt. Plan		2023-2025		"60-day draft" of the Plan at the June meeting		
Tamarack Alum Project and Birch AIS		2025-26	Phase 2 completed; preparation for phases 3 and 4 ongoing for Tamarack. Pre survey completed, AIS removal underway, post survey to be scheduled for Birch							
Programs										
City/Township MS4		Ongoing	Updated pet waste materials distributed in May per annual outreach requirements. Ongoing work to determine needs of MS4 partners, prepare for end of permit cycle, and update outreach materials.	FIN	IANCIAL SU	MMARY as of 6/2	1/2025]		
Education/Outreach		Ongoing	2024 annual reporting documents were approved at April TEC & BOD meetings and submitted to BWSR. Staff hosted a May 15 workshop on Gardening for Monarchs and Clean Water and collaborated with partners to support the May Rotary Nature Preserve field day with Birch Lake Elementary. Events to continue through summer months, including June 10 Neighborhood Garden Tours featuring VLAWMO grant-funded projects.	4М Ассоц	4M Account (1.10) 4M Plus (1.23)		Total			
Website		Ongoing	Current website continues to be updated as needed. New website planning and design underway.	\$583	3,828	\$257,319	\$841,147			
WAV		Ongoing	opportunities with VLAWMO member communities.							_
Cost Share & BWSR WBIF		Ongoing	Site visits have ramped up for the season and there continues to be strong interest in water conservation and turfgrass replacement projects. WBIF projects: A pre-construction meeting for the White Bear Lake Sports Center project was held in May. Construction is expected to begin this month when conditions are dry. The Elmwood park raingarden will be planted this month. The WBL curb cut raingarden projects were also planted and completed on 5/28.		Budget Summary	Actual Expense YTD	2025 Budget "working"	Remaining in Budget	% YTD	
GIS		Ongoing	The online GIS viewer has been updated to reflect the 2025 VLAWMO boundary and license renewal is underway.		Operations	\$439,574	\$1,065,008	\$625,434	41%	
Monitoring		Ongoing	2025 season is underway		CIP	\$213,037	\$1,533,199	\$1,320,162	14%	Į
WCA		Ongoing	Administering WCA as needed.]	Total	\$652,611	\$2,598,207	\$1,945,596	25%	

VLAWMO Finance Summary: June 2025

Jun-25		Actual 6/1/25			tual to Date 2024 Board from 2024 to Remaining in Remaini		2025 Available (Dec. 2024 Board approved)	Act vs. Budget
				,	2025		Board approved)	
BUDGET #		T		INCOME	<u> </u>	T .	T .	_
5.11	Storm Water Utility		\$528,269	\$1,202,703		\$674,434	\$1,202,703	44%
5.12	Service Fees			\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	0%
5.13	Interest + mitigation acct	\$3,309	\$24,361	\$30,000	\$0	\$5,639	\$30,000	81%
5.14	Misc. income - WCA admin & other	\$100	\$3,406	\$3,000	\$0	(\$406)	\$3,000	114%
5.15	Other Income Grants/ <u>loan</u>		\$84,648	\$238,960	\$0	\$154,312	\$238,960	35%
5.16	Transfer from reserves			\$1,180,708	\$180,796	\$1,361,504	\$1,361,504	0%
	TOTAL	\$3,409	\$640,684	\$2,656,371	\$180,796	\$2,196,483	\$2,837,167	24%
				EXPENSES				
3.1	Operations & Adminis	stration						
3.110	Office - rent, copies, post tel supplies	\$2,191	\$13,358	\$33,851	\$0	\$20,493	\$33,851	39%
3.120	Information Systems	\$2,530	\$11,477	\$33,850	\$0	\$22,373	\$33,850	34%
3.130	Insurance			\$12,000	\$0	\$12,000	\$12,000	0%
3.141	Consulting - Audit		\$14,045	\$23,000	\$0	\$8,955	\$23,000	61%
3.142	Consulting - Bookkeeping	\$44	\$292	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,208	\$1,500	19%
3.143	Consulting - Legal	\$67	\$1,125	\$8,000	\$0	\$6,875	\$8,000	14%
3.144	Consulting - Eng. & Tech.	\$9,913	\$10,133	\$50,000	\$0	\$39,867	\$50,000	20%
3.150	Storm Sewer Utility		\$8,013	\$22,500	\$0	\$14,487	\$22,500	36%
3.160	Training (staff/board)			\$18,000	\$0	\$18,000	\$18,000	0%
3.170	Misc. & mileage	\$491	\$1,019	\$7,276	\$0	\$6,257	\$7,276	14%
3.191	Administration - staff	\$36,419	\$226,811	\$470,287	\$13,165	\$256,641	\$483,452	47%
3.192	Employer Liability	\$11,794	\$69,761	\$144,579	\$0	\$74,818	\$144,579	48%
3.2	Monitoring and Studi	es						
3.210	Lake and Creek lab analysis	\$3,237	\$3,237	\$18,000	\$3,000	\$17,763	\$21,000	15%
3.220	Equipment			\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000	0%
3.230	Wetland assessment & management			\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	0%
3.240	Watershed planning /special study	\$23,096	\$74,537	\$150,000	\$0	\$75,463	\$150,000	50%
3.3	Education and Outre	ach						
3.310	Public Education		\$2,033	\$6,000	\$0	\$3,967	\$6,000	34%
3.320	Comm., Outreach & Marketing	\$1,531	\$3,733	\$20,000	\$20,000 \$5,000		\$25,000	15%
3.330	Community Blue Ed Grant			\$12,000	\$0	\$12,000	\$12,000	0%
Monitoring	functions: Ops, . Education	\$91,313	\$439,574	\$1,043,843	\$21,165	\$625,434	\$1,065,008	41%
	provement Projects and							
3.4	Subwatershed Activit	y I		#05.000	**	¢0F.000	\$0E.000	004
3.410	Gem Lake			\$25,000	\$0 \$0	\$25,000 \$160,000	\$25,000 \$160,000	0%
3.420	Lambert Creek		640.004	\$160,000	\$0 ¢o	\$160,000 \$10,284	\$160,000 \$29,569	.
3.421	Lambert Lake Loan		\$19,284	\$38,568	\$0	\$19,284	\$38,568	50%

	Total of Core Operations & CIP	\$116,950	\$652,611	\$2,417,411	\$180,796	\$1,945,596	\$2,598,207	25%
	Total CIP & Program	\$25,637	\$213,037	\$1,373,568	\$159,631	\$1,320,162	\$1,533,199	14%
3.510	Engineer Plan review		\$270	\$5,000	\$0	\$4,730	\$5,000	5%
3.5	Regulatory							
3.485	Facilities Maintenan/ Pub. Ditch Main.	\$10,000	\$15,136	\$70,000	\$0	\$54,864	\$70,000	22%
3.483	Project Research & feasibility			\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	0%
3.482	Landscape 2/BWSR WBF		\$23,616	\$80,000	\$28,207	\$84,591	\$108,207	22%
3.481	Landscape 1			\$50,000	\$26,900	\$76,900	\$76,900	0%
3.480	Soil Health Grant	\$94	\$1,225	\$20,000	\$4,524	\$23,299	\$24,524	5%
3.48	Programs							
3.460	Sucker Vadnais		\$45,406	\$250,000	\$0	\$204,594	\$250,000	18%
3.450	Pleasant Charley Deep		\$26,660	\$150,000	\$0	\$123,340	\$150,000	18%
3.440	Gilf Black Tam Wilk Amelia	\$14,508	\$65,405	\$375,000	\$100,000	\$409,595	\$475,000	14%
3.430	Birch Lake	\$1,035	\$16,035	\$70,000	\$0	\$53,965	\$70,000	239
3.425	Goose Lake			\$75,000	\$0	\$75,000	\$75,000	09

Fund Balance		5/1/2025	6/1/2025
4M Accoun	t	\$685,375	\$583,828
4M Plus Sa	avings	\$256,389	\$257,319
Total		\$941,764	\$841,147

Restricted for	6/1/2025	
Mitigation Sa	\$0	
Term Series		\$300,000

Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization Check Detail

11:15 AM 06/03/2025

May 15 through June 11, 2025

	Туре	Num	Date	Name	Item	Account	Paid Amount	Original Amount
	Check	eft	05/16/2025 U	JS Bank		Checking - 1987		-44.43
						3.142 · Bookkeeping help	-44.43	44.43
TOTA	L						-44.43	44.43
	Check	eft	05/19/2025 F	Reliance Standard		Checking - 1987		-428.30
						Insurance Benefit	-428.30	428.30
TOTA	L						-428.30	428.30
	Check	5979	06/11/2025 [Dawn Tanner		Checking - 1987		-112.70
						3.170 · Misc. & mileage	-112.70	112.70
TOTA	L						-112.70	112.70
	Check	5980	06/11/2025 L	_auren Sampedro		Checking - 1987		-118.50
						3.170 · Misc. & mileage	-118.50	118.50
TOTA	L						-118.50	118.50
	Check	5981	06/11/2025 A	Angela Hugunin		Checking - 1987		-94.24
						3.170 · Misc. & mileage	-94.24	94.24
TOTA	L						-94.24	94.24
	Check	5982	06/11/2025 E	Brian Corcoran		Checking - 1987		-165.90
						3.170 · Misc. & mileage	-165.90	165.90
TOTA	L						-165.90	165.90
	Check	5983	06/11/2025 N	Metro - Inet		Checking - 1987		-1,697.00
						IT Support	-1,697.00	1,697.00
TOTA	L						-1,697.00	
	Check	5984	06/11/2025 H	Houston Engineering, Inc		Checking - 1987		-31,208.75
						3.144 · Eng. & Tech.	-3,758.00	3,758.00
						3.144 · Eng. & Tech.	-5,614.75	5,614.75
						3.240 · Watershed Plan Amendment	-2,946.00	2,946.00
						3.240 · Watershed Plan Amendment	-18,890.00	18,890.00
TOTA	L						-31,208.75	31,208.75
	Check	5985	06/11/2025 N	Nystrom Publishing Company		Checking - 1987		-230.56
						3.320 · Marketing	-230.56	230.56
TOTA	L						-230.56	230.56

Check 5986 06/11/2025 Barr Engineering Co	Checking - 1987		-7,405.00
	3.440 · Gilfillan Black Tamarack Wilkin	-7,405.00	7,405.00
TOTAL	-	-7,405.00	7,405.00
Check 5987 06/11/2025 Jennifer Rogers	Checking - 1987		-93.74
	3.480 · Soil Health Grant	-93.74	93.74
TOTAL	•	-93.74	93.74
Check 5988 06/11/2025 Metro Blooms	Checking - 1987		-1,300.00
	3.320 · Marketing	-1,300.00	1,300.00
TOTAL	•	-1,300.00	1,300.00
Check 5989 06/11/2025 City of Vadnais Heights	Checking - 1987		-2,190.85
	Rent	-1,815.00	1,815.00
	Phone/Internet/Machine Overhead	-325.00	325.00
	Postage	-12.21	12.21
	Copies	-38.64	38.64
TOTAL		-2,190.85	2,190.85
Check 5990 06/11/2025 Ramsey County Public Works	Checking - 1987		-10,000.00
	3.485 · Facilities & Maintenance	-10,000.00	10,000.00
TOTAL	-	-10,000.00	10,000.00
Check 5991 06/11/2025 North Oaks Company	Checking - 1987		-7,103.32
	3.440 · Gilfillan Black Tamarack Wilkin	-7,103.32	7,103.32
TOTAL	•	-7,103.32	7,103.32
Check 5992 06/11/2025 Town Law Center, PLLP	Checking - 1987		-2,902.50
	3.144 · Eng. & Tech.	-540.00	540.00
	3.143 · Legal	-67.50	67.50
	3.430 · Birch Lake	-1,035.00	1,035.00
	3.240 · Watershed Plan Amendment	-1,260.00	1,260.00
TOTAL		-2,902.50	2,902.50
Check 5993 06/11/2025 City of White Bear Lake	Checking - 1987		-47,784.63
	payroll	-36,419.24	36,419.24
	Administration FICA	-2,683.97	2,683.97
	Administration PERA	-2,731.46	2,731.46
	Insurance Benefit	-5,695.04	5,695.04
	Admin payroll processing	-254.92	254.92
TOTAL	-	-47,784.63	47,784.63
Check 5994 06/11/2025 RMB Environmental Laboratories, Inc.	Checking - 1987		-3,237.42

3.210 · Lake & Creek lab analysis	-762.85	762.85
3.210 · Lake & Creek lab analysis	-31.35	31.35
3.210 · Lake & Creek lab analysis	-76.29	76.29
3.210 · Lake & Creek lab analysis	-1,653.19	1,653.19
3.210 · Lake & Creek lab analysis	-564.30	564.30
3.210 · Lake & Creek lab analysis	-149.44	149.44
	-3,237.42	3,237.42

TOTAL

Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization Profit & Loss

06/03/2025

11:19 AM

May 15 through June 11, 2025

Cash Basis

	May 15 - Jun 11, 25
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Misc.	100.00
5.1 · Income	
5.13 · Interest	3,308.80
Total 5.1 · Income	3,308.80
Total Income	3,408.80
Gross Profit	3,408.80
Expense	
3.1 · Administrative/Operations	
3.110 · Office	
Copies	38.64
Phone/Internet/Machine Overhead	325.00
Postage	12.21
Rent	1,815.00
Total 3.110 · Office	2,190.85
3.120 · Information Systems	
IT Support	1,697.00
IT Systems - Hardware	832.72
Total 3.120 · Information Systems	2,529.72
3.142 · Bookkeeping help	44.43
3.143 · Legal	67.50
3.144 · Eng. & Tech.	9,912.75
3.170 · Misc. & mileage	491.34
3.191 · Employee Payroll	
payroll	36,419.24
Total 3.191 · Employee Payroll	36,419.24
3.192 · Employer Liabilities	
Admin payroll processing	254.92
Administration FICA	2,683.97
Administration PERA	2,731.46
Insurance Benefit	6,123.34
Total 3.192 · Employer Liabilities	11,793.69
Total 3.1 · Administrative/Operations	63,449.52
3.2 · Monitoring and Studies	
3.210 · Lake & Creek lab analysis	3,237.42
3.240 · Watershed Plan Amendment	23,096.00
Total 3.2 · Monitoring and Studies	26,333.42
3.3 · Education and Outreach	
3.320 · Marketing	1,530.56
Total 3.3 · Education and Outreach	1,530.56

3.430 · Birch Lake	1,035.00
3.440 · Gilfillan Black Tamarack Wilkin	14,508.32
Total 3.4 · Capital Imp. Projects/Programs	15,543.32
3.48 · Programs	
3.480 · Soil Health Grant	93.74
3.485 · Facilities & Maintenance	10,000.00
Total 3.48 · Programs	10,093.74
Total Expense	116,950.56
Net Ordinary Income	-113,541.76
Net Income	-113,541.76

Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization Custom Transaction Detail Report

April 1 through June 1, 2025

11:12 AM 06/03/2025 Accrual Basis

	Туре	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Clr	Split	Amount	Balance
Apr 1 - Jun 1, 25										
	Credit Card C	04/02/2025		Google*SVCAPPS_VLAWM		US Bank CC	\checkmark	WEB	41.99	41.99
	Credit Card C	04/14/2025		Dollar Tree Stores	WAV mtg supplies	US Bank CC	\checkmark	3.310 · Public Education	4.06	46.05
	Credit Card C	04/14/2025		Fresh Thyme	WAV mtg snacks	US Bank CC	\checkmark	3.310 · Public Education	29.16	75.21
	Credit Card C	04/14/2025		Zoom	subscription april25-april26	US Bank CC	\checkmark	Software	149.90	225.11
	Transfer	04/21/2025			Funds Transfer	US Bank CC	\checkmark	Checking - 1987	-331.20	-106.09
	Credit Card C	04/26/2025		Canva	design program	US Bank CC	\checkmark	Software	120.00	13.91
	Credit Card C	04/28/2025		Adobe "Creative Cloud		US Bank CC	\checkmark	Software	32.50	46.41
	Credit Card C	05/02/2025		Google*SVCAPPS_VLAWM		US Bank CC	\checkmark	WEB	42.00	88.41
	Credit Card C	05/15/2025		ESRI	ArcGIS yearly fee 2025	US Bank CC		IT Systems - Hardware	832.72	921.13
Apr 1 - Jun 1, 25									921.13	921.13

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To: VLAWMO Board of Directors

From: Lauren Sampedro, Watershed Technician & Program Coordinator

Date: June 16, 2025

Re: V. A. Consent - Consider MOU for Partnership with City of Vadnais Heights for City-Wide Resiliency

Study Development

Introduction

VLAWMO and the City of Vadnais Heights are seeking Board approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the development of a City-wide resiliency study that expands on the completed East Vadnais Lake Subwatershed Resiliency Study.

Background

At the October 23, 2024 VLAWMO Board meeting, the Board of Directors authorized VLAWMO staff to support the City of Vadnais Heights with a Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Planning Grant for Stormwater, Wastewater, and Community Resilience application and approve partnership funding if the grant application is successful. The grant application was for the development of a City-wide resiliency study that will cover the areas of the City that were not included in the completed East Vadnais Lake Subwatershed Resiliency Study. The goal of the City-wide resiliency study is to reduce current flooding challenges and mitigate future vulnerability to flooding. The completed study will result in an inventory of flooding risks and vulnerabilities and the development of conceptual designs for up to five projects that would alleviate the risks/vulnerabilities.

On February 6, 2025 The MPCA notified the City of Vadnais Heights that its grant application was successful and approved a \$149,498.30 grant award. The City and the MPCA executed the grant agreement for the funding on April 23, 2025 and the City is ready to begin the project.

VLAWMO and the City drafted a MOU to partner on the development of the City-wide resiliency study. The MOU identifies the City staff will coordinate the selected consultant's development of the study, provide overall management of the study, complete the MPCA grantee duties, and serve as the fiscal agent for the MPCA grant. VLAWMO staff will participate in the discussions related to the preparation of the study, and provide data, technical assistance, and review of study materials. VLAWMO and the City propose sharing 50% of the local cash match for the professional services costs to complete the study and prepare for its implementation, not to exceed \$85,000 each.

The draft MOU is attached for Board consideration. SEH Inc. provided a Supplemental Letter Agreement (MOU Attachment 1) to the City describing the proposed scope, schedule, and costs needed to complete the City-wide resiliency study, which the City is considering, along with the proposed MOU, at its June 17, 2025 Council meeting.

Staff Recommendation

VLAWMO staff recommend the Board of Directors approve the attached MOU and authorize its execution with the City of Vadnais Heights.

Proposed Motion

It was moved by Director	_and seconded by Director	to approve the attached MOU with
the City of Vadnais Heights with a	any non-material changes and	on advice of counsel, and to authorize the
Board Chair and Administrator to	sign.	

Attachment
MOU between VLAWMO and the City of Vadnais Heights LINK: https://www.vlawmo.org/index.php/download_file/5175



To: VLAWMO Board of Directors

From: Lauren Sampedro, Watershed Technician & Program Coordinator

Date: June 16, 2025

Re: V. B. Consent - Consider MOU for Partnership with City of Vadnais Heights for East Vadnais Lake Subwatershed Stormwater Improvement Plan Development

Introduction

VLAWMO and the City of Vadnais Heights are seeking Board approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the development of a stormwater improvement plan for the priority area from the completed East Vadnais Lake Subwatershed Resiliency Study.

Background

At the October 23, 2024 VLAWMO Board meeting, the Board of Directors authorized VLAWMO staff to support the City of Vadnais Heights with a Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grant (OSG) and approve partnership funding if the grant application is successful. The grant application was for the development of design plans for green and gray stormwater infrastructure improvements to help reduce current flooding challenges and mitigate future vulnerabilities to flooding in the East Vadnais Lake subwatershed, which will be focused on the priority area located on the undeveloped land behind the Vadnais Heights City Hall. Plan development work will include additional data collection and site investigation, modeling, and feasibility analysis in order to develop final project designs that are ready for construction.

On February 6, 2025 The MPCA notified the City of Vadnais Heights that its grant application was successful and approved a \$150,000 grant award. The City and the MPCA are currently signing the grant agreement, and will be ready to begin the project after the agreement is fully executed.

VLAWMO and the City drafted a MOU to partner on the development of the plans for the green and gray infrastructure improvements behind City Hall. The MOU identifies the City staff will coordinate the selected consultant's development of the plans, provide overall management of the plan development, complete the MPCA grantee duties, and serve as the fiscal agent for the MPCA grant. VLAWMO staff will participate in the discussions related to the preparation of the design plans, and provide data, technical assistance, and review of plan materials. VLAWMO and the City propose sharing 50% of the local cash match for the professional services costs to complete the design plans and prepare for their implementation, not to exceed \$30,000 each.

The draft MOU is attached for Board consideration. SEH Inc. provided a Supplemental Letter Agreement (MOU Attachment 1) to the City describing the proposed scope, schedule, and costs needed to complete the plan development, which the City is considering, along with the proposed MOU, at its June 17, 2025 Council meeting.

Staff Recommendation

VLAWMO staff recommend the Board of Directors approve the attached MOU and authorize its execution with the City of Vadnais Heights.

Proposed Motion

It was moved by Director	_and seconded by Director	to approve the attached MOU with
the City of Vadnais Heights with a	any non-material changes and	on advice of counsel, and to authorize the
Board Chair and Administrator to	sign.	

Attachment
MOU between VLAWMO and the City of Vadnais Heights LINK: https://www.vlawmo.org/index.php/download_file/5176/



To: VLAWMO Board of Directors

From: Dawn Tanner, Phil Belfiori, and Connie Taillon

Date: June 18, 2025

Re: V. C.: Consider Rotary Park Project Contract and Task Order 1

VLAWMO staff worked with legal counsel to prepare a contract and have received the first task order for the Rotary Nature Preserve Restoration project. The first task order will begin during summer 2025 and continue through approximately July of 2026. This will allow evaluation of initial steps and inform the second task order for the project. The contract and task order were recommended by the TEC at their meeting on June 11, 2025.

Requested action: VLAWMO staff request that the Board authorize and sign the contractor services agreement with NST and accept and authorize signed Task Order 1 with NST.

Attachments:

- 1. CONTRACTOR SERVICES AGREEMENT with Natural Shore Technologies (NST)-LINK: https://www.vlawmo.org/index.php/download_file/5177/
- 2. Rotary Park Wetland Restoration Task Order 1 from NST



Date: May 28, 2025

To: Dawn Tanner, PhD, Ecologist, VLAWMO

Project name: Rotary Park Wetland Restoration - Task Order 1

Description: Main restoration elements detailed in a Natural Shore report titled, "Rotary Nature Preserve Wetland – Plant Community Assessment and Management Recommendations" are listed below. Please refer to page 18 of the report for a summary of restoration tasks. When conducting this project, we will adhere to the Minnesota Department of Labor's prevailing wage schedule and submit all necessary reports. This task order covers activities to be completed through July of 2026.

Methods summary and timeline:

Year	Task #	Plant Community	Restoration Elements
2025- 26	1	WMn82b and MRn93	Spot herbicide, weed whip, and cut outlier patches of cattail below water level – winter cutting if conditions allow, wick individual plants with herbicide in late summer, fall
	2	Perimeter around WMn82b stands	Target RCG/PL and RCG/PL/CT stands around WMn82b – implement appropriate treatment methods (We will target control efforts around areas identified in Fig.1)
	3,5	RCG, MRn93 and WMn82b1	Spring/summer mowings and fall herbicide treatments – RCG Plant areas north and south of the boardwalk (14,000 SF) with aggressive wetland and emergent plant species – 1,500 4" containers @ 3' spacing. (Fig. 2)

Seed and plant a 4,400 SF area in front of the observation platform with aggressive wetland species, including showy forbs – 1,100 3-4" containers @ 2' spacing. (Fig. 3)
(species lists will be developed from our experience – 25 yrs and communications with U of MN researchers)

Cost not to exceed:

Project Management, Meetings, Mobilization		
2025		\$2,128.00
2026		\$2,128.00
Site preparation, herb. trts, cutting, clearing		
2025		\$2,000.00
2026		\$1,120.00
Invasive weed control (e.g., cattail and reed canary grass around high quality wetland areas)		
2025		\$7,400.00
2026		\$3,000.00
2,600 Wetland Plants - 3-4" - containers installed		
2025		\$10,995.00
2026		\$16,000.00
	Total in 2025	\$22,523
	Total in 2026 for task order 1	000010
	(through July 2026)	\$22,248
	Grand total =	\$44,771.00

If you would like to proceed with the above outlined task order, please sign the contract below.

Client name:		
Signed:	Date	

Contractor: Natural Shore Technologies, Inc.

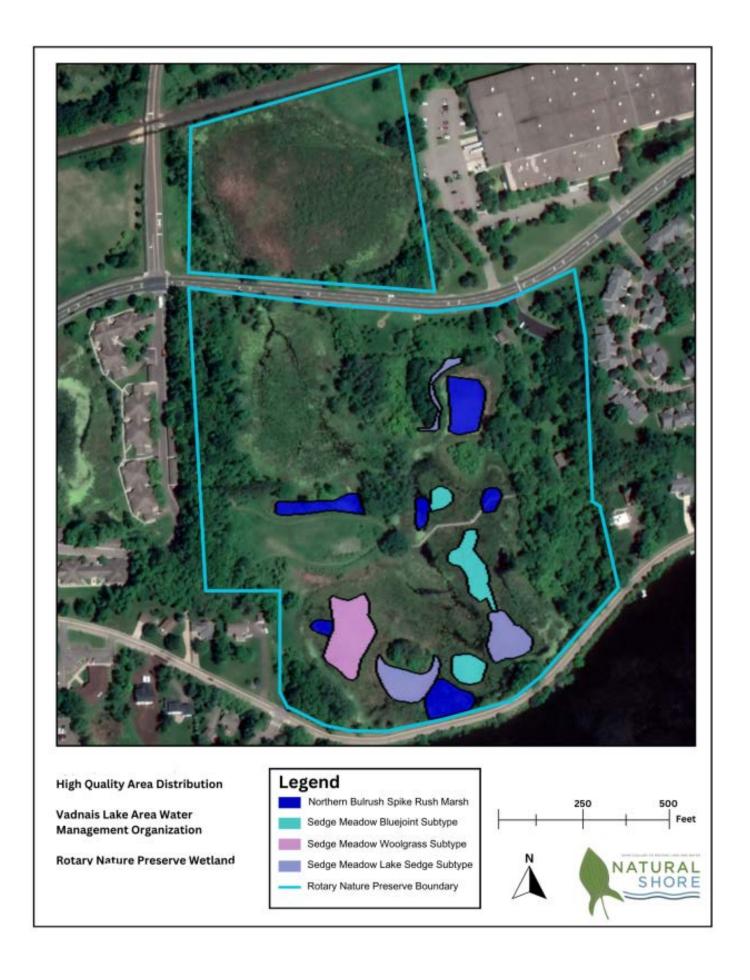
Signed: Contract Date: Contract Date for 30 Day term

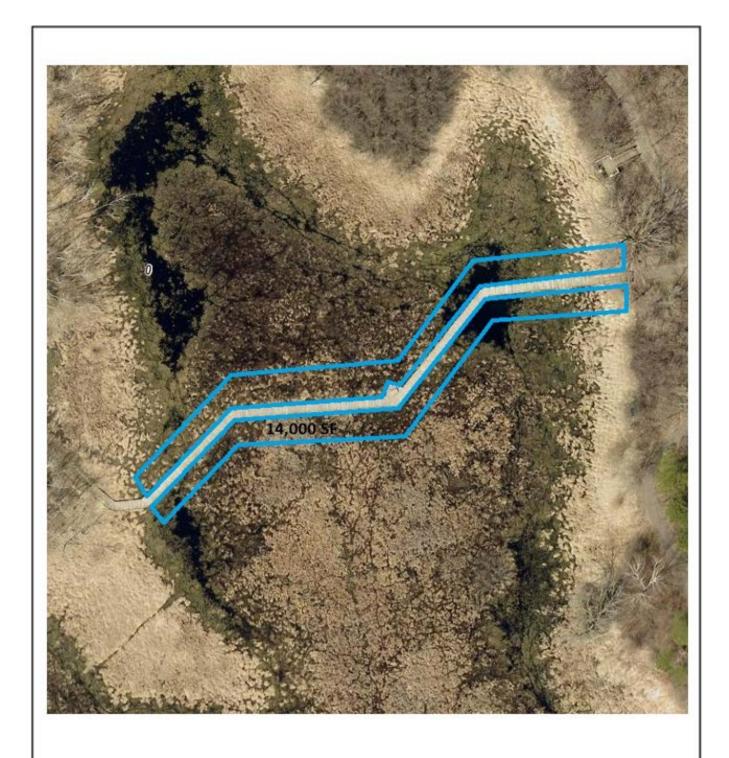
MM. Tops

William M. Bartodziej, M.S., Senior Restoration Ecologist

Please return a signed copy of this contract and a check to:

Natural Shore Technologies, Inc. 6275 Pagenkopf Rd. Maple Plain, MN 55359





Boardwalk - Restoration Area 14,000 SF





Observation platform – Restoration Area 4,400 SF





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To: VLAWMO Board of Directors

From: Dawn Tanner
Date: June 18, 2025

Re: V. D.: Consider Tamarack alum phase 3 amendment with Lake Restorations, Inc. (LRI)

and engineering scope for phases 3 and 4 with Barr Engineering

Tamarack phase 2 alum was completed in April. Following successful completion and payment of phase 2, an amendment was prepared for phase 3 of the project. LRI has signed the amendment and returned it to VLAWMO for signature. Phase 3 is anticipated to be completed during fall 2025. The TEC recommended the amendment to the Board at their May 14, 2025, meeting.

Barr Engineering has expended funds that were approved for preparation and completion of Tamarack Alum Phases 1 and 2, including oversight, real-time monitoring during application, and inspection. At VLAWMO's request, Barr has provided a scope and letter agreement for engineering oversight and inspection for Phases 3 and 4 in the amount of \$13,600. The TEC recommended authorizing the scope at their June 11, 2025, meeting.

Requested action: VLAWMO staff request that the Board authorize and sign the Second Amendment to the Contractor Services Agreement for phase 3 pricing for the Tamarack alum project, for a total of \$27,380, and authorize staff to return the fully executed amendment to LRI and coordinate phase 3 in the fall. VLAWMO staff also request that the Board authorize and sign the Agreement for Tamarack Lake Phases 3 and 4 Alum Treatment Engineering Services in the amount of \$13,600.

Attachments:

- 1. SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE CONTACTOR SERVICES AGREEMENT (Tamarack Lake Alum Treatment Project)-
 - LINK: https://www.vlawmo.org/index.php/download-file/5178/
- 2. Agreement for Tamarack Lake Phases 3 and 4 Alum Treatment Engineering Services LINK: https://www.vlawmo.org/index.php/download_file/5179/



To: VLAWMO Board of Directors

From: Dawn Tanner

Date: June 18, 2025

Re: V. E.: Approve remaining minor tasks to complete the Wilkinson deep-water wetland project

VLAWMO staff have worked with MPCA to approve completion of the following activities during the summer and prior to the grant expiration at the end of August 2025. Due to the low bid received for the project, the deep-water wetland was expanded by 30% over the original design. The project, including the addition, was completed under budget. The additional tasks described below are planned to be completed this summer.

- **Objective 3**: Vegetation maintenance and enhancement/contract with NST for 2025 growing season: \$3,685. Currently, \$3,275.36 is remaining in this category. We will expend these funds, plus an additional \$409.64 of cash match.
- Objective 2: Grant funds remaining currently: \$47,589.69

 Cash match: \$25,103.17 currently remaining in Objective 2 (including cash match that was previously moved from Objective 1). Subtract \$409.64 that will be over cash match spent in Objective 3 and \$1,054.72 that is currently over in in-kind contribution in Objective 4 = \$23,638.81.

Remaining expenditures during summer 2025 to complete Objective 2: BMP implementation/construction								
Transplant effort to increase submerged vegetation diversity and extent	\$1,365 (RCSWCD staff per transplant trip) x 5 trips = \$6,825	\$6,825.00						
Education sign	Design, print, and deliver for installation with Vacker Sign = \$2,500 Design time by VLAWMO	\$3,083.29						
	Design time by VLAWMO \$64.81 x 9 hrs = \$583.29							

Taking into account the remaining tasks during summer 2025, it is estimated that there will be:

\$61,320.21 remaining at the end of the project.

That will include:

\$36,792.13 of grant funds to return; \$24,528.09 of cash match that will not be spent.

Requested action: VLAWMO staff and the TEC request that the Board approve completion of the remaining tasks as described above and work with MPCA to return remaining funds/close out the grant project once final invoices are received.





To: VLAWMO Board of Directors

From: Phil Belfiori

Date: June 18, 2025

Re: V.F. Consent – Consider LMC Liability Waiver Form for Insurance Renewals

Consistent with past years, staff is working on submission on LMC Liability Insurance application. As part of this process, the application asks if VLAWMO wishes to waive statutory tort limits. Per the recommendation of Marc Bullis, VLAWMO insurance representative, the proposed motion below identifies the that the Board wish to NOT waive its monetary limits on liability. Last year the Board did not waive.

Pro	pose	d M	otion

Director	moves that VLAWMO wish to NOT WAIVE the monetary limits on
municipal tort liabilit	established by Minn.Stat. § 466.04.

Attached:

LMC Liability waiver form



LIABILITY COVERAGE WAIVER FORM

Members who obtain liability coverage through the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT) must complete and return this form to LMCIT before their effective date of coverage. Email completed form to your city's underwriter, to pstech@lmc.org, or fax to 651.281.1298.

The decision to waive or not waive the statutory tort limits must be made annually by the member's governing body, in consultation with its attorney if necessary.

Members who obtain liability coverage from LMCIT must decide whether to waive the statutory tort liability limits to the extent of the coverage purchased. The decision has the following effects:

- If the member does not waive the statutory tort limits, an individual claimant could recover no more than \$500,000 on any claim to which the statutory tort limits apply. The total all claimants could recover for a single occurrence to which the statutory tort limits apply would be limited to \$1,500,000. These statutory tort limits would apply regardless of whether the member purchases the optional LMCIT excess liability coverage.
- If the member waives the statutory tort limits and does not purchase excess liability coverage, a single claimant could recover up to \$2,000,000 for a single occurrence (under the waive option, the tort cap liability limits are only waived to the extent of the member's liability coverage limits, and the LMCIT per occurrence limit is \$2,000,000). The total all claimants could recover for a single occurrence to which the statutory tort limits apply would also be limited to \$2,000,000, regardless of the number of claimants.
- If the member waives the statutory tort limits and purchases excess liability coverage, a single claimant could potentially recover an amount up to the limit of the coverage purchased. The total all claimants could recover for a single occurrence to which the statutory tort limits apply would also be limited to the amount of coverage purchased, regardless of the number of claimants.

Claims to which the statutory municipal tort limits do not apply are not affected by this decision.

LMCIT Member Name:	
Check one: The member DOES NOT WAIVE the monetary limits Minn. Stat. § 466.04.	on municipal tort liability established by
The member WAIVES the monetary limits on municipa 466.04, to the extent of the limits of the liability coverage	Control of the contro
Date of member's governing body meeting:	
Signature:	Position:



800 County Road E East, Vadnais Heights, MN55127 www.vlawmo.org; Office@vlawmo.org

To: VLAWMO Board of Directors

From: Brian Corcoran

Date: June 18, 2025

Re: V. G. Ramsey County GIS Users Group 2026-2030 JPA Renewal

VLAWMO is and has been a member of the Ramsey County GIS Users Group (RCGISUG) since 2008. The RCGISUG is a collective Joint Powers of government organizations within Ramsey County that pools money for GIS projects and programs, such as aerial imagery and GIS datasets (impervious surface data). Ramsey County often pays the majority of these data costs, and the RCGISUG helps pay a percentage of these costs. VLAWMO's annual member contribution is \$254.26, it has remained unchanged since joining in 2008, and nets us access to extremely beneficial and invaluable data and partnering that directly support VLAWMO's mission for improved water quality.

The 2021-2025 RCGISUG JPA is set to expire at the end of 2025, and a new 2026-2030 JPA (attachment 1) is ready to sign to continue our membership with the Users Group. Also attached (attachment 2) is a Statement of Purpose explaining who the RCGISUG is, the goals and objectives, costs, funding and group achievements. Staff is recommending the Board review and authorize the Board Chair to signing into the 2026-2030 Ramsey County GIS Users Group JPA

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Board review and authorize the Board Chair to signing into the 2026-2030 Ramsey County GIS Users Group JPA

Requested Motion

Director ______moves and Director _____ seconds for authorization and approval to sign and enter into the renewed 2026-2030 Ramsey County GIS Users Group Joint Powers Agreement. Vote:

Attachments:

RCGISUG JPA 2026-2030 (attachment 1)

LINK: https://www.vlawmo.org/index.php/download_file/5180/

• RCGISUG Statement of Purpose (attachment 2)

LINK: https://www.vlawmo.org/index.php/download_file/5181/



800 County Rd E East, Vadnais Heights, MN 55127 www.VLAWMO.org office@vlawmo.org (651) 204-6070

To: VLAWMO Board of Directors

From: Lauren Sampedro, Watershed Technician & Program Coordinator

Date: June 16, 2025

Re: V. H. Consent - Update on Recent LCCMR Grant Application Process

Introduction

The Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) grant application proposal submitted in partnership with the City of Vadnais Heights was selected by the LCCMR for further consideration.

Background

At the February 25, 2025 Board meeting, the VLAWMO Board of Directors approved submitting letters of support for two LCCMR ENRTF proposals: one for White Bear Township and the second for the City of Vadnais Heights. The White Bear Township proposal was for construction of the Polar Lakes Park reuse for irrigation project and the Vadnais Heights proposal was for the construction of a water quality improvement, water quantity reduction, and recreation project in the undeveloped area behind the City Hall.

The LCCMR ENRTF funding source has \$103 million available for projects beginning in 2026. 403 proposals were received by the LCCMR for this funding with a total amount requested of \$358,770,000. On June 12, 2025 the City of Vadnais Heights was notified its proposal, titled "Vadnais Lake: Nature-Based Recreation and Drinking Water Protection" was selected by the LCCMR to present before the commission for further consideration for funding. The proposal was ranked #80 out of the 403 proposals.

The City of Vadnais Heights was invited to present the proposal to the LCCMR on June 24, 2025, which is the first day of presentations. The LCCMR will be holding five days of presentations and will meet on July 18, 2025 to make the final selection of proposals and funding allocation decisions. If the City's proposal is selected in July, the LCCMR will present the project to the 2026 Minnesota Legislature.



800 County Rd E East, Vadnais Heights, MN 55127 www.VLAWMO.org office@vlawmo.org (651) 204-6070

To: VLAWMO Board of Directors

From: Angela Hugunin, VLAWMO Communication and Outreach Coordinator

Date: 6/16/2025

Re: V. I. Update on CB 2025-01 Application: Incarnation Lutheran Church

Incarnation Lutheran Church in North Oaks submitted a Community Blue grant application for rain garden renovations and related outreach initiatives and events. Their application was reviewed and approved by the VLAWMO TEC at their June 11th meeting.

The church has an 11-acre property located along Hodgson Road. Their approved project involves the revitalization of two central rain gardens, one in their parking lot and one adjacent to the parking lot and a children's play area. The proposed rain garden renovations will capture runoff from the approximately 3-acre area of surrounding parking lot. Furthermore, they will add native plants that provide pollinator habitat and create gathering space for the congregation and surrounding community members. Congregants will be involved in various phases of the project, from planting to sediment removal to education. Community members will also be invited to a day of blessing for the garden.

In addition to renovating the rain gardens, a range of education and outreach activities will be conducted through the remainder of this year. Signage will be developed to provide education on the rain gardens' functionality and impact on water quality. A series of four youth educational programs featuring Water Hero puppets will be shared with congregation youth, and a subsequent workshop on water stewardship actions will ensure community members of various ages are knowledgeable about best practices that protect local waters. In addition, volunteers will hold an event centering on storm drains and their impact on nearby waterbodies, with activities ranging from storm drain stenciling where feasible to distribution of educational materials and possible exhibit sharing. The total estimated project cost \$12,390. The applicant requested \$10,000 through the Community Blue grant program. Staff recommended approval of CB 2025-01 in the amount of \$10,000, and this was approved by the VLAWMO TEC at their June 11th meeting.

Attachments:

1. Application materials as submitted by Incarnation Lutheran Church and approved by VLAWMO TEC on 6/11

link: https://www.vlawmo.org/index.php/download_file/5172

2. Presentation of CB 2025-01 application slides shared with VLAWMO TEC on 6/11

link: https://www.vlawmo.org/index.php/download_file/5174/



800 County Rd E East, Vadnais Heights, MN 55127 www.VLAWMO.org office@vlawmo.org (651) 204-6070

To: VLAWMO Board of Directors

From: Angela Hugunin, VLAWMO Communication and Outreach Coordinator

Date: 6/16/2025

Re: V. J. Update on Recent Outreach Activities

Recent weeks have held numerous community outreach events throughout the VLAWMO watershed. On May 10, a group of new and returning members of the Watershed Action Volunteers (WAV) group gathered at Vadnais-Sucker Lake Park for a cleanup event. The group spent the morning picking up trash along Vadnais Lake. VLAWMO appreciates the dedication of these individuals.

May 15 brought a new workshop to the VLAWMO community: Gardening for Monarchs and Clean Water. This topic was informed by a recent grantee survey and conversations with watershed residents; pollinators are a major topic of interest for many. A guest speaker from Monarch Joint Venture shared the basics of monarch ecology and offered practical wisdom for plantings that benefit monarchs and other pollinators, as well as water. VLAWMO staff gave an overview of grant programs, and multiple site visits have been scheduled as a result of the evening's conversations.

The Vadnais Heights Green Team gathered for an Adopt-a-Drain cleanup event on May 17. VLAWMO staff was invited to give a kick-off talk for attendees. Staff also supplied educational materials from the Adopt-a-Drain team, thanks to membership in the Metro Watershed Partners group. Attendees ventured to storm drains around Vadnais Heights to clear them from debris and protect local lakes, streams, and wetlands.

On May 29, VLAWMO staff partnered with members of the Rotary Club of White Bear Lake and the City of White Bear Lake to host a field day at the Rotary Nature Preserve. Birch Lake Elementary students from kindergarten through second grade rotated through stations including a nature hike, story time with the new Adopt-a-Drain children's book, and a macroinvertebrate lab. Students studied wetland macroinvertebrates up close and learned how these insects can give us clues about the health of a waterbody. VLAWMO staff appreciates the opportunity to be involved in this continued community effort.

June 10th brought the return of neighborhood garden tours to VLAWMO. MN Water Steward Ceci Shapland coordinated the event with VLAWMO staff. Attendees visited a series of projects throughout the watershed that received VLAWMO grant funding. Landowners generously shared their projects with attendees, explained the grants they received, and offered lessons learned from their gardens. Attendees said they enjoyed seeing the tour stops up close and learning about clean water planting practices.

On June 11th, staff attended the Vadnais Heights Ice Cream Social. Attendees enjoyed the interactive Blue Thumb roots display, the Adopt-a-Drain bean bag toss, and discussions about how they can keep local waters healthy. Interactions generated interest in grant site visits and upcoming events.

Attachment:

1. Update on Recent Outreach Activities - PowerPoint slides

link: https://www.vlawmo.org/index.php/download_file/5171/



To: VLAWMO Board of Directors

From: Dawn Tanner

Date: June 18, 2025

Re: V. K.: Spring project update: Common carp removal and Birch Lake AIS

Common carp removal: Small removals of invasive common carp were completed through April and May. Native big-mouth buffalo were moved over the barrier during each removal. The spawning run was later than previous years. A total of approximately 100 carp (2,000 pounds) have been removed at the time of packet preparation. Antennae monitoring is ongoing, and a biomass estimate will be completed later this season to inform plans for 2026.

The Birch Lake: A pre-survey for hybrid Eurasian watermilfoil and Curly-leaf pondweed was completed with RCSWCD on April 16, 2025. Following completion of the pre-survey, the permit from MN DNR for EWM and CLP was received. Hand-pulling removal by Dive Guys and paid by BLID was completed on May 29 and 30. Hybrid EWM and CLP were removed. A final report has not yet been received. A post-survey was completed on June 12, 2025, with RCSWCD. The final map from that survey will be provided to MN DNR once it is received.



To: VLAWMO Board of Directors

From: Phil Belfiori, Dawn Tanner, and Rachel Olm

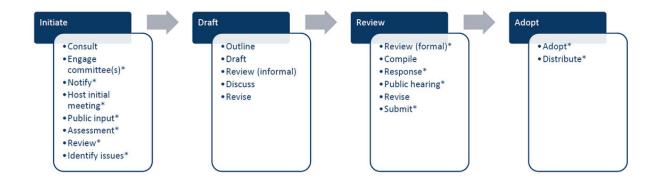
Date: June 18, 2025

Re: VI. A. 1: Consider Resolution 04-2025 regarding initiating the "60 day" draft VLAWMO

Watershed Management Plan Review

The Watershed Management Plan (WMP) Initiate and Draft phases are now complete. At the June 11, 2025, meeting, the TEC authorized a recommendation to the Board to review the completed WMP 2027-2036 draft and authorize staff to complete the steps to initiate the 60-day formal Review at the June 25 regular Board meeting.

Figure 1: BWSR Metro Watershed Management Plan Update Process



The attached PowerPoint provides a recap of the WMP process and VLAWMO's draft Plan that is now ready for Formal Review. HEI will give this presentation during the Board meeting and be available to respond to any questions Board members may wish to ask. The attached Resolution 04-2025 provides additional procedural steps that have been completed with dates where relevant and provides the recommendation to the Board to authorize Formal Review.

Requested action: Staff request that the Board approve Resolution 04-2025 which authorizes the draft Plan dated June 25, 2025, for filing and authorizes staff to send to the draft Plan to required agencies and partners for 60-day review and comment according to Minnesota Statutes §103B.231 Subd. 7.

Proposed Motion:

Director _____ moves and Director _____ seconds to approve Resolution 04-2025 which authorizes staff to send to the draft Plan to required agencies and partners for 60-day review and comment according to Minnesota Statutes §103B.231 Subd. 7.



Linked Attachments:

• VLAWMO's WMP Formal Review Draft June 25, 2025

Link: https://www.vlawmo.org/index.php/download_file/5169

• WMP Appendix Formal Review Draft June 25, 2025

Link: https://www.vlawmo.org/index.php/download_file/5170

Attachments

- 1. PowerPoint Presentation
- 2. Resolution 04-2025

Attachment 1

VI. A. 1.

Watershed Management Plan Overview

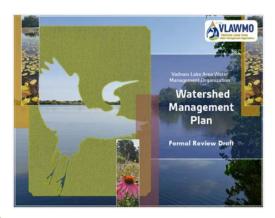
Review of Watershed Management Plan process to date and consider Resolution 04-2025 regarding initiating the "60 day" draft VLAWMO Watershed Management Plan Review

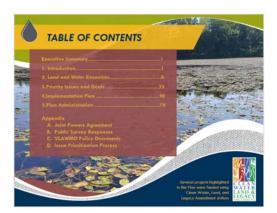
Phil Belfiori, Dawn Tanner, and Rachel Olm June 25, 2025 VLAWMO Board Meeting

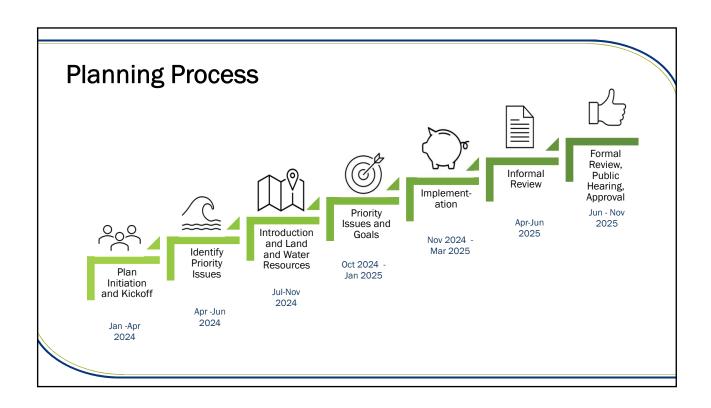


Goals for today's meeting

Review the full plan







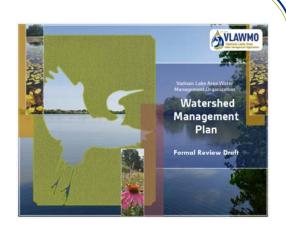
Drafting Process

Plan content guided by:

- 60-Day Responses
- Public Survey
- New and existing reports and data
- State rules / statute

Draft plan a result of local and stakeholder feedback:

- VLAWMO Staff
- TEC
- TEC+ (note- did not review last section)
 - Included a full comment / response process and facilitated group discussion



Section 1: Introduction

Introduces the:

- Organization
- History
- Mission
- Administration
- Past and future implementation
- Plan development/Community Engagement

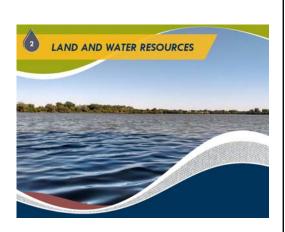
THE MISSION OF VLAWMO IS TO PROTECT AND ENHANCE THE WATER AND NATURAL RESOURCES WITHIN THE WATERSHED THROUGH WATER QUALITY MONITORING, EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROJECTS, WETLAND PROTECTION, AND WATER QUALITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS.



Section 2: Land and Water Resources

Contains discussion on:

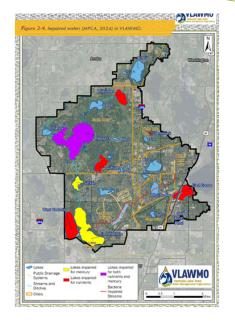
- VLAWMO communities
- Historic conditions
- · Land cover and land use
- · Geology and soils
- Surface water
- · Groundwater and drinking water
- Stormwater and wastewater
- Habitat and species
- Climate
- Flooding, peak discharge, and resiliency
- Demographics



Section 2: Land and Water Resources

Maps showing:

- Pre-settlement vegetation
- · Land use
- Impaired Waters
- DWSMAs
- · Groundwater use sites
- Surface water used as drinking water
- Environmental Justice areas



Section 3: Priority Issues and Goals

Issues:

- Issues were determined and prioritized with:
 - 60-day letters
 - Relevance to future projects
 - Public, TEC, and Board input
- 14 issues that are prioritized in this plan
- Low priority issues became plan themes





Section 3: Priority Issues and Goals

Goals:

- Goals include the issue(s) addressed, background information, a measurable goal, and a partnership/grant dependent measure
- Measures are connected to implementation via toggles and program or project IDs









Indicates that a program technical work, or project indirectly benefits a measurable goal, but is not used to measure it Surface Water Quality Goal: Protect and improve water quality through implementation of capital improvement projects, associated technical work, and VLAWMO programs.

Partnership/Grant Dependent Measure: Pursue partnership project implementation of up to 12 projects or associated technical work that improve surface water and drinking water quality, including at least three funded by 319 Small, Priority Watershed Program



See Implementation Table: 403A, 403B, 403C, 403D, 403J, 401G, 401A, 305E, 405E, 306B, 306F, 307B

Partnership/Grant Dependent Measure: Continue annual implementation of VLAWMO programs to protect and improve water quality.

See Implementation Table: 200A, 200B, 200C, 200D, 200E, 200F, 200G, 200H

Section 3: Priority Issues and Goals: Example

 Surface Water Quality Goal: Protect and improve water quality through implementation of capital improvement projects, associated technical work, and VLAWMO programs.

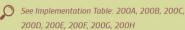
Partnership/Grant Dependent Measure: Pursue partnership project implementation of up to 12 projects or associated technical work that improve surface water and drinking water quality, including at least three funded by 319 Small, Priority Watershed Program.



See Implementation Table 403A, 403B, 403C, 403D, 403J, 401G, 401A, 305E, 405E, 3068



Partnership/Grant Dependent Measure: Conti implementation of VLAWMO programs to protect and improve water quality.

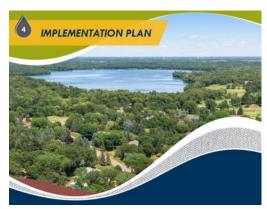


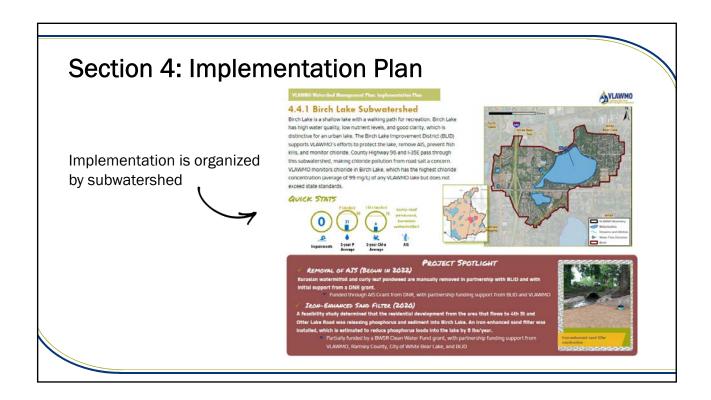
Gilfilla	n-Tamarack-Black-Wilkinson-Amelia (303/403)			
303B	Small Watershed Technical Work (3rd 319 Small Watershed Grant)	0	swo	
303C	Small Watershed Technical Work (4th 319 Small Watershed Grant)	0	swo	
303D	Amelia Drainage Technical Work	3	SWQ	E
303E	Wilkinson Lake Wetland Project Maintenance	•	NFH	V
303F	Local Partnership- Tamarack Nature Center	0	SWQ	1
303G	Township /City BMP Retrofits	(8)	SMS	. 1
303H	Cities/Township/NOHOA /NOC Partnership Water Quality / Groundwater Conservation Projects	0	GW	9
303L	Future Subwatershed Technical Work	030	SWQ	9
403A	Small Watershed Projects (2nd 319 Small Watershed Grant Project)	•	swq	Г
403B	Small Watershed Projects (3rd 319 Small Watershed Grant Project)	0	SWQ	Е
403C	Small Watershed Projects (4th 319 Small Watershed Grant Project)		SWQ	
403D	Amelia Drainage Project		swQ	E
403H	Cities/Township/NOHOA /NOC Partnership Water Quality / Groundwater Conservation Projects	0	GW	S

Section 4: Implementation Plan

Core Activities:

- Administration
- Implementation Programs
 - AIS
 - Communication, Outreach, and Education
 - Monitoring
 - Capital Improvements- Early Coordination
 - Regulatory and Policy
 - General Analysis and Technical Work
 - Grants and Partnerships
 - Operations and Maintenance
- Project Technical Work
- Capital Improvement Projects





Section 4: Implementation Plan

Planned projects are described within each subwatershed

Table 4-5 is the full implementation table that includes Program and Project:

- Description
- Progress towards goals
- Priority
- **Partners**
- Estimated annual cost



entering the filter and decrease filter maintenance.

Birch Lake Outlet Channel Technical Work- 301B repairs and stabilization to improve water quality leading to Wilkinson

Shoreline, Wetland, or Water Quality Partnership Technical Work — 301C

Partner with the City of White Bear Lake to identify Birch Lake sho upstream wetland, or water quality projects that would reduce nutrient loading to Birch Lake.

Subwatershed Neighborhood Technical Work -

that could include rain gardens or other stormwater BMPs to protect Birch

Sports Center Shoreline Technical Work - 301F Review potential project for Birch Lake shoreline restoration at the Whit Bear Lake Sports Center, then based on findings implement a BMP.

Rotary Park Restoration - 401G quality upstream in Wilkinson Lake and enhance habitat functions. Future Technical Work / Capital Improvement Projects = 301H / 401H

VLAWMO will technically and financially support technical work as opportunities arise in the Birch Lake Subwatershed. VLAWMO will technically and financially support the design and construction of CIPs identified in technical work or as opportunities arise.

Implementation Table

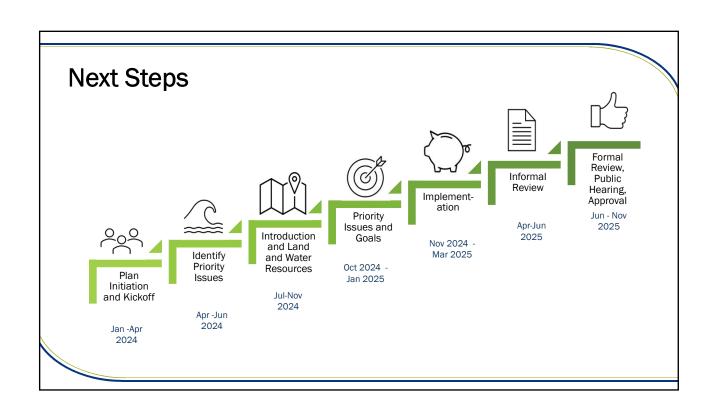
10	Autoria Creatifution			10000	1		Printerly	Partners	2021	2009	2029	2030	2031	2022	2033	20104	2035	2008
Admin	stration - 100																	
Krimeta	MINERAL CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROP							-	\$1,000,000	\$185,000	1111,000	\$197,000	8203,000	1309.000	\$255 ANS	\$225.000	\$100 MM	E2100.000
100	Earnery Administration	_	_	_	_	_		lava .	-	-	-	No. of Concession, Name of Street, or other party of the Concession, Name of Street, or other pa	The second second	100000	-	-	-	-
100	Office Space, Supplies, and Support	-	-	-	-	-	1	20.0	4									
100	Staff Training	_	-	_	_	_		NA.	1									
100		-	-	-	_	-		N/A	4									
	Equipment	-	-	_	_	-			4									
100	Office Operations		_	_	_		C	N/A										
	AO Implementation Programs - 200																	
VLAWN	AO Implementation Programs								\$754.000	\$779,000	\$804,000	8625,000		\$879,000	\$804,000	\$800,000		\$945.000
200A	Aquatic Invasive Species Management Program	6	two	oc	$\overline{}$	$\overline{}$	-	Courties, Municipalities, NOICA,	104,000	\$16,000	\$66,000	\$75,000	\$72,000	\$14,000	\$76,000	\$79,000	\$80,000	\$82,000
						_	-	SPECKS										
2006	Communication, Outreach, and Education Program	(O		SWC			- 6	Municipalities, Counties	\$83,000 ·	\$85,000	\$86,000	\$91,000	\$94,000	\$97,000	\$100,000	\$150,000	\$106,000	1009,000
200C	Monitoring Program	•	WM	OEC	999	0w	6	NPCA SPWID, County Counties, Municipalities, MINCA	\$80,000	\$90,000	\$95,000	\$96,000	\$101,000	\$104,000	\$107,000	\$130,000	8113,000	8116,000
2000	Capital Improvements - Early Coordination Program	(C)	SWQ	E39	100	CX	6:	Churtee, Municipalities, NOVCA,	\$30,000	\$31,000	\$32,000	\$33,000	\$34,000	\$35,000	\$36,000	\$37,000	\$36,000	\$39,000
2006	Regulatory and Policy Program	•	500	SMS	WOL	99	-	Municipalities, Countries, MrQCF	\$90,000	\$20,000	\$16,000	199,200	\$102,000	\$105,000	\$108,000	\$111,000	\$114,000	\$517,000
2009	General Analysis and Technical Work Program	-		694	CB	TAKE	1	Musicipalities, Counties	\$105,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$109,000	\$112,000	\$115,000	\$118,000	\$122,000	\$126,000	\$130,000
		-	MIN			-	_	Municipalities, Counties, Private	\$149,000	9153,000	\$158,000	\$163,000	\$366,000		\$178,000	\$183,000	\$180,000	\$194,000
2006	VLAWMO Grants and Partnerships Program			536	GW.	sed	0	Critics						\$173,000				
200H	Operations and Maintenance Program		. VP	POS	889		C .	Hunz qualities, Counties	\$153,000	\$154,000	\$16L000	\$166,000	\$171,000	\$176,000	\$18L000	\$186,000	\$192,000	\$196,000
Project	Technical Work (300) & Capital Improvement Projects (400)																	
Bleet, 1	ate (201/401)					1			\$205,000	MIS.000	100,000	400.000	185.000	1100.000	#100.000	\$10,000	100.00	\$205,000C
SOSA	Premiument BMP Technical Work		1000	tart.		-	_	Management Counties	\$5,000									
3018	BixIn Lake Outlet Channel Technical Work			580	-	-	1		2,500	_	_	_	<u> </u>			\$25,000	\$15,500	
301C	Shoreline, Wetland, or Water Quality Partnership Technical Work	-	530	500	MH	-	1	Municipathia, BLO	_	_	\$20,000	85,000	\$5,000	\$25,000	_	\$20,000	\$20,000	_
303D	Subvetershed Neighborhood Technical Work		3945	100		_	1	Styricpallies, Private Drillian	\$15,000	\$35,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$11,000	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
		-	390	1000	-	-	-	Phonoster, SLC	85,000	\$5,000	85,000	85,000	85,000	85,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	15,000
3038	AG Management	-		-		-	-		E5.000		85,000	80,000		85,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
301F	Sports Center Shoreline Technical Work and Project		155		MH	-	-	Municipalities		\$13,000			\$11,000					
302H	Future Subwatershed Technical Work.	1 20	949	5849	GW		1.5	Municipalities, County, Private Soldies	1					\$25,000				
401A	Pretreatment BMP (Costream of Iron Enhanced Sand Filter)	60	two	SMS.	50	-	0	Municipalities, County	\$190,000	_	\$20,000	_	95,000	\$25,000	_			
4050	Rotary Park Restoration	-		540	mC4	-	-	Marie Conflict	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	85,000	95,000	85,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
401H	Future Subwetershed Capital Improvement Projects	-		2005	104	100	1	Musicottes Courtes	120,000	100,000	100,000	PLONE	95,050	85,000	\$73,000	\$1,000	. 85,000	\$1,000
	the (302/A02)	_	1 100	1945	- 100		_	Procedurate Constant	F10.000	110,000	10.00	100.000	\$195.000	410.000	12000	130,000		105.00
						,			820,000	110,000	110000		B100000	E10,000	\$20,000	ERGO.	#146,000	
302A	Commercial Area Retrofit Technical Work	1.30	1941	580				Municipatities, County				\$25,000				0		\$25,000
305B	Smart Imgeton and Groundwater Conservation	100	OW					Private Drillies			\$20,000							
302C	Regional, Subwatershed, or Neighborhood BMPs	1.00	SMC	SMS	APH	CH	1.7	Municipalities, Private Erithma	\$30,000	\$50,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$30,000
3020	Future Subwatershed Technical Work	1.00	swo	Sarts.	DW		1.1	Municipatities, Countries								\$25,000		
402A	Commercial Area Retrofit Project	-	1945	999		-	-	Municipalities, Counties		_		_	\$150,000		\$10,000		\$10,000	\$10,000
4020	Future Subwetershed Capital Improvement Projects	100	190	DAG	OW	-	-	Municipalities, Courties									\$125,000	
2077/79	Tamana Barat William Land Charles (1975)	_		_		_	_		\$305.000	anecour.	\$5.60 (000)	\$275,000	BRITS SAN	\$175.MK	\$295.000	\$618,000	100	E245.000
	THE RESERVE OF THE PROPERTY OF	_	_	_	_	_	_		-	100000	100000	100000	The Real Property lies	and the same of the same of	1000000	The second second	-	and the second
3038	Small Watershed Technical Work (3rd 319 Small Watershed Grant)	;-T00	SWQ.				0	Municipalities, NOC, SPRINTS, MPCK			\$50,000							
		130	580	_	-	_	_	Municipalities, MCC, SPRINS, MPCK	_	_	_	_	_	\$20,000	\$50,000		_	
303C	Small Watershed Technical Work (4th 319 Small Watershed Grant)	1.00	1980				6	municipament, HUC, SPRINS, MPCX						121,000	390,000			
20.00			-	135				Municipatites, Counties, Private					\$25,000					
3030	Amelle Drainage Technical Work	(30)	890	100				Critica					\$25,000					
3036	Wilkinson Lake Wetland Project Maintenance		NPH	WCK	1990		- 0	MOC	\$10,000	\$10,000	85,000	\$10,000	E10.000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$5,000	95,000	\$10,000
303F	Local Pertnership-Tamarack Nature Center	100	SWO	MH	WCA		1.0	Cinety	-						\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
3030	Township /City BMP Retrofits.	-	5945	99		_	1	Municipalities, Yoursetsp.		_	\$25,000		\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
andi.	Otios/Township/NOHOA /NOC Partnership Water Quality /Groundwater	-	_	20		-	-		_	_	440,000	_	***************************************	***************************************	440,000	***************************************	*********	125,000
303H	Conservation Projects	:30	OW.	840	638		10	Municipalities, NOHOA, NOC	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$25,000	£35,000	125,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$20,000
3034	Future Subwatershed Technical Work	(39	ineq	5845	.04		1.5	Municipation, County, Private Entities						\$25,000	\$20,000			
403A	Small Watershed Projects (2nd 319 Small Watershed Grant Project)	(C)	swo				6	Municipalities, NOC, SPRING, MPCK	\$113,500	\$50,000	\$20,000				\$30,000	0.00		100
403B	Small Watershed Projects (3rd 319 Small Watershed Grant Project)	•	two	135			6	Marriagettes, NOC SPRINT, MPCA				\$113,000	\$313,000	\$10,000		\$20,000		\$20,000
400C	Saruel Watersheel Prosects (4th 319 Seruel Watersheel Grant Prosect)	•		-		_	6.	Stancipathia, NOC SPINES, MPCs.		_	_		-			11111.000	\$113,000	\$40,000
-	prior residence ingress (see 222 Serial Water-Shed Grant Project)	-	1 -00		-	-	-	Ribers suppliers, County, Private		_	_	 				212,000	222.000	24100
							-	The second secon										

Section 5: Plan Administration

Section 5 describes:

- Funding sources
- Mandatory and discretionary roles and responsibilities
- Adopted Local Water Plans
- MS4 responsibilities and enforcement
- Annual work planning
- Annual report
- Biennial progress assessment
- Plan amendment process





Resolution 04-2025

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the VLAWMO Board of Directors approves the draft Plan dated June 25, 2025, for filing and authorizes staff to send to the draft Plan to required agencies and partners for 60-day review and comment according to Minnesota Statutes §103B.231 Subd. 7.

Requested Board Action

Proposed Motion

Director _____ moves and Director _____ seconds to approve Resolution 04-2025 which authorizes staff to send to the draft Plan to required agencies and partners for 60-day review and comment according to Minnesota Statutes §103B.231 Subd. 7.



Resolution to Initiate the Formal Review (of at least 60 days), as required by the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) pursuant to MS 103B.231 Sub. 7, for the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization's (VLAWMO) Watershed Management Plan

Resolution 04-2025

WHEREAS, VLAWMO has previously approved and adopted a comprehensive Watershed Management Plan ("Plan") as defined by Minnesota Statutes §103B, and Minnesota Rules §8410; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes §103B.231 requires the Plan to be updated every 10 years; and

WHEREAS, VLAWMO has identified the need to update its Plan dated (2017-2026), amended (2019, 2021, 2022); and

WHEREAS, VLAWMO must prepare a Plan and/or update in accordance to Minnesota Statutes §103B, and Minnesota Rules §8410; and

WHEREAS, VLAWMO completed the required steps as specified by BWSR to Initiate an updated Plan, which included (but is not limited to):

- Consulted with VLAWMO's BWSR Board Conservationist (November 13, 2024);
- Engaged with committees;
- Established a formal Advisory committee (VLAWMO's Technical Commission/TEC) (VLAWMO Board, December 13, 2023);
- Notified the required review agencies of the 60-day response period regarding Plan initiation (December 14, 2023);
- Conducted an Initial planning meeting (April 24, 2024);
- Developed and implemented a Public input process that included a public meeting (Implemented January-May 2024);
- Performed an Assessment (self-assessment to evaluate progress on current Plan)
- Reviewed relevant plans and programs
- Identified priority issues (VLAWMO Board, June 26, 2024).

WHEREAS, VLAWMO completed the required steps as specified by BWSR to conduct the Draft phase, which included:

- Developed an Outline and a Draft of each section in the Plan;
- Conducted Informal review with the TEC+ (TEC with the addition of invitations extended to all review authorities specified by BWSR) (In-person meetings held November 13, 2024; January 8, 2025; and April 9, 2025):
- Discussed comments received and developing a comment response sheet for tracking and response made to comments received;
- Revised draft of the Plan considering and or incorporating review comments received for consideration by the Board to initiate this 60-day review.

And WHEREAS, VLAWMO now seeks to Initiate Formal Review of the draft Plan for 60-day review and comment according to Minnesota Statutes §103B.231 Subd. 7.



NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the VLAWMO Board of Directors approves the draft Plan dated June 25, 2025, for filing and authorizes staff to send to the draft Plan to required agencies and partners for 60-day review and comment according to Minnesota Statutes §103B.231 Subd. 7.

The question wa	as on the adoption of th	e resolution ar	nd there v	were yeas and nays as follows:
	Bill Walsh (Alt.) Ed Prudhon Rob Rafferty Krista Wolter (Alt.) Katherine Doll Kanne Jim Lindner	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	Absent
Adopted this 2	5th day of June 2025	5.	BY THE	VLAWMO BOARD
			Chairpe	erson
Attest:				
Administrator				



To: VLAWMO Board

From: Phil Belfiori and Troy Gilchrist

Date: June 18, 2025

Re: VI. A. 2. Authorize VLAWMO JPA and request member communities' approval and

signatures

At the April 23, 2025 meeting, the Board approve the draft VLAWMO JPA and authorized it to be sent to member community staff for review and comment. The draft JPA was sent out with a request that comments be sent back to VLAWMO by May 28, 2025. We received comments from the following member community staff members:

- 1. City of Vadnais Heights Jim Hauth
- 2. City of Lino Lakes Mike Grochala
- 3. White Bear Township Chad Lemmons (Attorney)
- 4. City of White Bear Lake David Anderson (Attorney) and Connie Taillon

The updated JPA reflects revisions where relevant and or necessary per the above-mentioned comments. Many of the comments were non-substantive and involved minor revisions to language for clarification, consistency, or grammar.

The following highlights the substantive changes made to the draft JPA based on the received comments:

- 1. The voting requirement to approve the annual budget was revised to the previous language requiring a 2/3 vote (Sec. 3.14, and Sec. 6.1 (c)).
- 2. The language about the "final budget" needing to be adopted by December 31 was revised to reflect to indicate that any budget adjustments required to allocate carry-over funds need to be made by December 31 (Sec. 6.1(f))
- 3. If there was ever a member assessment, the date by which that decision needs to be made was changed from September 1 to July 1 to better accommodate the city budgeting process (Sec. 6.3).
- 4. The duration of the JPA was revised back to previous language, which was 10 years; (Sec. 7.1). The JPA can be amended at any time in the future if needed (Sec. 8.4).
- 5. The method for selecting a mediator if the parties cannot agree on a mediator under the dispute resolution process in Sec. 8.2 was revised to have the Chair make the selection or, if the Chair's community is involved, then to have the Vice-Chair make the selection.



6. Revisions to Sec 7.4 regarding the allocation of assets if VLAWMO was dissolved to remove references to real property.

The VLAWMO Subcommittee reviewed the updated JPA at their meeting on June 5, 2025. The Subcommittee provided a recommendation to accept the final JPA and requested one additional change. The Subcommittee requested adding "voting and present" to the two-thirds majority voting requirement for the annual budget and capital improvement program (Sec. 3.14, and Sec. 6.1 (c)). The red-lined version and updated clean version with the changes made since the Board approved the draft JPA at the April 23, 2025, meeting are included in the Board packet.

Attachments:

- 1. PowerPoint
- 2. Revised JPA with Redlines –(changes made since the Board approved the draft JPA at the April 23, 2025 VLAWMO Board meeting)
- **3.** Clean Revised JPA –(changes made since the Board approved the draft JPA at the April 23, 2025 VLAWMO Board meeting)
- **4.** Updated VLAWMO boundary map as exhibit to JPA
- **5.** Resolution 05-2025

Proposed Motion:		
Director which resolves:	_ moves and Director	seconds to approve Resolution 05-2025,

That the Board hereby approves the attached JPA be distributed and recommended:

- 1. The enclosed draft is hereby approved for distribution to the member communities, and the Board recommends the governing body of each member community review and approve it.
- 2. As the JPA is being processed, along with the updated VLAWMO Watershed Management Plan, member communities are requested to act on and return its signature page to VLAWMO by August 27, 2025.
- 3. VLAWMO staff is hereby authorized and directed to distribute to the member communities the enclosed JPA, a copy of this Resolution, and a sample staff memo and adoption resolution to help facilitate review and approval of the JPA.

VI. A. 2. Joint Powers Agreement (JPA):

Consideration of the VLAWMO JPA and authorizes VLAWMO staff to send JPA to member communities for adoption and signature

Phil Belfiori Troy Gilchrist June 25, 2025 VLAWMO Board Meeting



Background on the VLAWMO JPA

- VLAWMO was established by a JPA adopted by the member communities pursuant to the Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act (Minn. Stat. §§ 103B.201-103B.253).
- Foundational document that establishes VLAWMO's existence and defines authorities
 - General Purpose: to continue VLAWMO and its work on behalf of the Members to cooperatively adopt, administer, and update as needed the WMP, and to carry out the purposes identified in Minn. Stat. § 103B.201 and the other provisions of the Act. The plan and programs operate within boundaries of VLAWMO as identified in the official map filed with BWSR.
- All member communities need to sign and authorize prior to expiration date of current JPA

Background: Current JPA (2017-2026)

- Signed by member communities during summer 2016 in conjunction with the WMP update process
- There were two Amendments completed since 2016:
 - 2019 to update conditions for eligibility for League of MN Cities insurance
 - 2019 to allow VLAWMO to take on debt for Lambert loan sheet pile replacement
- The current JPA is set to expire on December 31, 2026 and once again the agreement needs to be updated and readopted

Process to update and provide new JPA

- VLAWMO staff worked with legal counsel to merge prior JPA, amendments, current procedures, and update with relevant State statutes
- The goal of this update is to better align the text with how VLAWMO actually operates, and has operated for many years, particularly after the creation of the storm sewer utility
- Changes were summarized to the Board at the April 23, 2025, meeting
- The Board approved the draft of the JPA at this April 23, 2025 meeting and authorized staff to send out the draft JPA to member community staff for review and comment

Process to update and provide new JPA

- The draft JPA was sent out with a request that comments be returned by May 28, 2025
- Comments were received from the following member community staff members:
 - 1. City of Vadnais Heights Jim Hauth
 - 2. City of Lino Lakes Mike Grochala
 - 3. White Bear Township Chad Lemmons (Attorney)
 - 4. City of White Bear Lake David Anderson (Attorney) and Connie Taillon

Process to update and provide new JPA

- The following highlights the substantive changes made to the draft JPA based on the comments received from member community staff:
 - 1. Voting requirement to approve the annual budget was revised to the previous language requiring a 2/3 vote (Sec. 3.14, and Sec. 6.1 (c))
 - 2. Language about the "final budget" needing to be adopted by December 31 was revised to reflect to indicate that any budget adjustments required to allocate carry-over funds need to be made by December 31 (Sec. 6.1(f))
 - If there was ever a member assessment, the date by which that decision needs to be made was changed from September 1 to July 1 to better accommodate the city budgeting process (Sec. 6.3)

Process to update and provide new JPA

- The following highlights the substantive changes made to the draft JPA based on the comments received by member community staff:
 - 4. The duration of the JPA was revised back to previous language, which was 10 years; (Sec. 7.1). The JPA can be amended at any time in the future if needed (Sec. 8.4)
 - 5. The method for selecting a mediator if the parties cannot agree on a mediator under the dispute resolution process in Sec. 8.2 was revised to have the Chair make the selection or, if the Chair's community is involved, then to have the Vice-Chair make the selection
 - 6. Revisions to Sec 7.4 regarding the allocation of assets if VLAWMO was dissolved to remove references to real property

Process to update and provide new JPA

- The Subcommittee reviewed the revised draft JPA that incorporated comments received from member community staff at its meeting on June 5, 2025
- The VLAWMO Subcommittee unanimously recommended the JPA as revised with one additional change requested:
 - Add voting and present to the 2/3 majority requirement for the annual budget and CIPs included therein (Sec. 3.14 and Sec. 6.1(c))
- Updated and Revised JPA (with red-line comparison of revisions made since the Board approved draft JPA at the April 23, 2025 Board meeting) was provided in the Board packet

Proposed Motion

Director _____ moves and Director _____ seconds to approve Resolution 05-2025

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the VLAWMO Board of Directors as follows:

That the Board hereby approves the attached JPA be distributed and recommended:

- 1. The enclosed draft is hereby approved for distribution to the member communities, and the Board recommends the governing body of each member community review and approve it.
- 2. As the JPA is being processed, along with the updated VLAWMO Watershed Management Plan, member communities are requested to act on and return its signature page to VLAWMO by August 27, 2025.
- 3. VLAWMO staff is hereby authorized and directed to distribute to the member communities the enclosed JPA, a copy of this Resolution, and a sample staff memo and adoption resolution to help facilitate review and approval of the JPA.

VADNAIS LAKE AREA WATER MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT

THIS JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT ("**Agreement**") is made and entered into by and between the participating units of local government of the Cities of Gem Lake, Lino Lakes, North Oaks, Vadnais Heights, and White Bear Lake and the Township of White Bear (individually a "**Member**" and collectively the "**Members**").

RECITALS

- A. The Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization ("VLAWMO") was organized in 1983 and is located in the northeast metro area within Ramsey and Anoka counties.
- B. VLAWMO is responsible for an approximately 24.2 square mile watershed that encompasses the City of North Oaks, along with portions of the Cities of White Bear Lake, Gem Lake, Vadnais Heights, Lino Lakes, and White Bear Township and includes 17 lakes, 1 creek, and over 1000 wetlands as shown on the map maintained by VLAWMO.
- C. Local government units in the metropolitan area are required by the Metropolitan Water Management Program (Minn. Stat. §§ 103B.201 to 103B.255) ("Act") to plan for and manage surface water.
- D. Under the Act, one of the options available to local government units to satisfy its requirements is to adopt a joint powers agreement pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 471.59 to establish a watershed management organization to jointly plan for and manage surface water within a watershed.
- E. The Members elected to exercise their authority under the Act to adopt a joint powers agreement establishing the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization ("VLAWMO") VLAWMO to cooperatively manage and plan for the management of surface water within the watershed.
- F. The original joint powers agreement has been updated over time and the term of the current joint powers agreement expires on December 31, 2026.
- G. VLAWMO is funded in large part by storm sewer utility fees certified to the <u>respective</u> County <u>Auditor Auditors</u> and imposed by the <u>County Counties</u> on properties within the watershed as authorized by special legislation adopted by the Minnesota Legislature in 2008 (2008 Minn. Laws Chap. 366, Art. 6, Sec. 47).
- H. The Members previously acted pursuant to their authority to establish the "Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization Board of Directors" ("**Board**") and said Board is hereby reaffirmed as the entity charged with the authority and responsibility to manage the VLAWMO.

- I. VLAWMO has also established a Technical Commission that performs a variety of functions to assist with VLAWMO's operations and assist with developing VLAWMO's annual budget.
- J. The Board has previously acted to adopt a Watershed Management Plan for the watershed and has regularly updated the Watershed Management Plan in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 103B.231, Minn. R., chap. 8410, and such other law as may apply.
- K. The <u>partiesMembers</u> desire to enter into this Agreement to reaffirm VLAWMO and the Board in furtherance of its efforts to continue working cooperatively to prepare and administer a <u>surface waterwatershed</u> management plan to manage surface water within the watershed in accordance with the Act and Minn. R., chap. 8410.

AGREEMENT

In consideration of the mutual promises and agreements contained herein, the <u>partiesMembers</u> mutually agree as follows:

SECTION I ESTABLISHMENT AND GENERAL PURPOSE

- 1.1 <u>Reaffirming the Establishment</u>. The Members hereby reaffirm and ratify the establishment and continued operation of the "Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization" pursuant to the Act and such other laws and rules as may apply.
- 1.2 General Purpose. The general purpose of this Agreement is to continue VLAWMO and its work on behalf of the Members to cooperatively adopt, administer, and update as needed the Watershed Management Plan, and to carry out the purposes identified in Minn. Stat. § 103B.201 and the other provisions of the Act. The plan and programs shall operate within the boundaries of VLAWMO as identified in the official map filed with the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources. The most current version of the official map defining the boundaries of the Watershed is incorporated herein by reference. The boundaries of the Watershed are subject to change utilizing the procedure set out in Minn. Stat. § 103B.225 as may be needed to better reflect the hydrological boundaries of the Area.

SECTION II DEFINITIONS

- 2.1 <u>Definitions</u>. The definitions contained in Minn. Stat. § 103B.205 and Minn. R., part 8410.0020 are hereby adopted by reference, except that the following terms shall have the meanings given them in this section.
 - (a) "Agreement" means this Agreement developed pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 103B.211 & 471.59 and which reestablishes and continues the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization.

- (b) "Alternate Commissioner" means the person appointed by a Member to serve as its alternate to represent the Member on the Technical Commission in the absence or disability of its appointed Commissioner.
- (c) "Alternate Director" means the person appointed by a Member to serve as its alternate to represent the Member on the Board in the absence or disability of its appointed Director.
- (d) "Area" means the boundaries of the Vadnais Lake Area Watershed as set forth on the official map incorporated herein by reference.
- (e) "Board of Directors" or "Board" means the governing board of VLAWMO consisting of one elected official from each of the Members which are parties to this Agreement.
- (f) "Capital Improvement" means a physical improvement that has an extended useful life. A capital improvement is not directed toward maintenance of an in-place system during its life expectancy. A study or a research project do not constitute a capital improvement that must be included in the Watershed Management Plan.
- (g) "Capital Improvement Program" means an itemized program for at least a five-year prospective period, and any amendments to it, subject to at least biennial review, setting forth the schedule, timing, and details of specific contemplated capital improvements by year, together with their estimated cost, the need for each improvement, financial sources, and the financial effect that the improvements will have on the local government unit or watershed management organization.
- (h) "Commissioner" means a person appointed by each Member to the Technical Commission.
- (i) "Director" means the elected official appointed by each Member as its representative on the Board of Directors.
- (j) "Governing Body" means the city council of a Member city or the town board of the Member town.
- (k) "Local Water Management Plan" or "Plan" means a plan adopted by the each of the Members pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 103B.235 and Minn. R., part 8410.0160.
- (l) "Member" means each of the cities and the town that are parties to this Agreement.
- (m) "Special Legislation" means 2008 Minn. Laws Chap. 366, Art. 6, Sec. 47, which was approved by the Members 47.
- (n) "Storm Sewer Utility" or "SSU" means the public utility established by VLAWMO pursuant to the Special Legislation. The Board establishes and certifies to the

- County for collection within the Area a Storm Sewer Utility fee for the management of surface water.
- (o) "Technical Commission" or "TEC" means the commission established herein that is composed of technically skilled persons, one appointed by each Member.
- (p) "Vadnais Lake Area <u>Watershed</u>" or "Watershed" means the area contained within a line drawn around the extremities of all terrain whose surface drainage is tributary to Vadnais Lake as shown on the official watershed map incorporated herein by reference.
- (q) "VLAWMO" means the "Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization" that is reestablished and continued pursuant to this Agreement.
- (r) "Watershed Management Plan" means a plan adopted by VLAWMO pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 103B.231.

SECTION III ORGANIZATION OF VLAWMO

- 3.1 <u>Board of Directors</u>. The governing body of VLAWMO shall be the "Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization Board of Directors." The Board of Directors is comprised of a total of six (6) Directors. The parties hereby reaffirm the establishment and continued operation of the Board of Directors, which shall carry out the purposes and have the powers as provided in this Agreement.
- 3.2 <u>Appointment of Directors</u>. Each Member shall appoint one representative to serve as the Member's Director on the Board. The appointment process shall comply with the requirements in Minn. Stat. § 103B.227, subds. 1 and 2.
- 3.3 <u>Appointment of Alternate Directors</u>. Each Member shallmay appoint one representative to serve as the Member's Alternate Director on the Board. A Member's Alternate Director may attend the meetings of the Board, but shall only be <u>counted as part of the quorum and be</u> allowed to vote on <u>any</u> matters before the Board in the absence of the same Member's Director.
- 3.4 <u>Eligibility to Serve</u>. Each Member shall determine the eligibility or qualification standards for its Director and Alternate Director appointments. Only current elected officials on the governing body of the Member are eligible to serve as a <u>Member Director</u> or Alternate <u>Member Director</u>.
- 3.5 <u>Terms of Office</u>. Directors and Alternate Directors serve three-year terms of office, which shall commence from the date of their appointment and will continue until their successors are selected. <u>Members Each Member</u> shall notify the VLAWMO Administrator of its appointments.

- 3.6 <u>Removal.</u> Directors and Alternate Directors shall serve at the will and consent of the Members that appointed them. If a Member removes a Director or Alternate Director, it shall provide VLAWMO written notice within 10 days of the removal. The governing body of the Member shall act within 90 days to appoint an elected official to fill the vacancy and shall promptly provide VLAWMO written notice of such appointment.
- 3.7 <u>Vacancies</u>. A Member shall notify VLAWMO in writing within 10 days of the occurrence of a vacancy in its Director or Alternate Director positions. VLAWMO will notify BWSR of the vacancy within 30 days of receiving the notice of a vacancy as required by Minn. Stat. § 103B.227, subd. 1. The Member shall comply with the requirements of Minn. Stat. § 103B.227, subd. 2 and appoint someone to fill the vacancy. The Member shall promptly notify VLAWMO of the appointment in writing. The appointed person shall serve the unexpired term of the position.
- 3.8 <u>Appointment of Technical Commission Commissioners</u>. Each Member to this Agreement shall appoint one Commissioner, and may also appoint one Alternate Commissioner, to serve on the Technical Commission. A Member shall promptly appoint someone to fill a vacancy in <u>theirits</u> Commissioner or, <u>if applicable</u>, Alternate Commissioner positions.
- 3.9 <u>Compensation</u>. Directors, Alternate Directors, <u>Commissioners</u>, and <u>Alternate</u>
 Commissioners shall serve without compensation and without an expense allowance from VLAWMO. <u>AA Director or Alternate</u> Director may be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses incurred on VLAWMO business with the approval of the Board. A Member may compensate its Director, Alternate Director, Commissioner, and Alternate Commissioner for their service, in the discretion of the Member.
- 3.10 <u>Annual Meeting</u>; <u>Election of Officers</u>. At a meeting of the Board held no later than April of each calendar year, also known as the Annual Meeting, the Board shall elect from among the Directors a Chair, Vice Chair, a Secretary-Treasurer, and such other officers as it deems necessary to conduct its meetings and affairs. An Alternate Director may not serve as an officer of VLAWMO.

3.11 <u>Duties of Board Officers</u>.

- (a) <u>Chair</u>. The Chair shall preside over meetings of the Board, sign checks, and review audits. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair shall perform the Chair's duties. In the absence of the Chair or Vice Chair, the Secretary-Treasurer shall serve as the presiding officer at the Board meeting. The Chair shall retain all rights of a Director to speak, make motions, and vote on matters coming before the Board.
- (b) <u>Vice Chair</u>. The Vice Chair shall preside at meetings when the Chair is absent and shall automatically be promoted to complete the annual term of the Chair if the then currentelected Chair resigns or is removed from the Board.
- (c) <u>Secretary-Treasurer</u>. The Secretary-Treasurer shall maintain a record of the proceedings of the Board, be responsible for the custody of the Board's records, see

that notices are duly given, and complete such other duties as the Board may assign. The Secretary-Treasurer shall also be responsible for all monies of VLAWMO and shall periodically report the fiscal condition of VLAWMO to the Board. The Secretary-Treasurer may delegate one or more of its duties to another officer or the VLAWMO Administrator. If the duties of the Secretary-Treasurer are delegated to another person, the Secretary-Treasurer shall supervise the performance of those duties.

- 3.12 <u>Quorum</u>. A majority of the <u>MembersDirectors</u> shall constitute a quorum at all Board meetings. No business or decision of the Board may be made without a quorum.
- 3.13 Meetings. Regular meetings of the Board shall be held on a seheduledschedule adopted by the Board. All meetings of the Board are subject to the Minnesota Open Meeting Law. Notice of the time and place of each meeting shall be sent to all Members and public notice shall be provided as required by Minn. Stat. § 13D.04. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with rules adopted by the Board.
- 3.14 <u>Voting</u>. Each Director shall have one (1) vote in all matters coming before the Board in accordance with the following:
 - (a) Approval of the proposed annual VLAWMO operating budget and the capital improvement program, which typically occurs at the Board's meeting in June, shall require approval of a simple majority two-thirds of all-Directors; present and voting; and
 - (b) Approval of all others matters will be determined by a simple majority of Directors present and voting.
- 3.15 <u>Committees</u>. The Board may establish such committees and subcommittees as it deems appropriate. At least one Board member shall be—the appointed as the Chairperson of each committee and all committees shall regularly report their activities to the Board.
- 3.16 <u>Public Participation</u>. The Board may appoint such committees and subcommittees composed of citizens as needed to provide for public participation and input in watershed activities and the responsibilities of VLAWMO. Such citizen committees shall be advisory.

SECTION IV POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

4.1 <u>Policies and Procedures</u>. The Board shall adopt rules and regulations as it deems necessary to carry out its duties and the purpose of this Agreement. Such rules and regulations may be amended from time to time in either a regular or special meeting of the Board. No such amendment shall be adopted unless the language of the proposed amendment is included in the packet for the meeting at which it is considered. These rules and regulations, after adoption, shall be recorded in the VLAWMO policy book.

- 4.2 <u>Watershed Management Plan (Plan)</u>. The Board shall adopt a water management plan, as required by the Act. The Plan shall be subject to the appropriate governmental unit review as required by the Act.
- 4.3 <u>Data</u>. The Board, in order to give effect to the purposes of the Act, may:
 - (a) Acquire and record appropriate data within the Area; and
 - (b) Establish and maintain devices for acquiring and recording hydrological or other data within the Vadnais Lake Area Watershed.
- 4.4 <u>Local Studies</u>. Each Member reserves the rightStudies. VLAWMO is authorized to conduct studies as it deems appropriate to carry out its purposes and to further the goals of the Watershed Management Plan. Nothing in this Agreement limits the authority of Members to conduct separate or concurrent studies on any matter under study by VLAWMO. The Member shall make every effort to coordinate its studies with the VLAWMO in order to maximize the use of resources.
- 4.5 <u>Transfer of Drainage System</u>. VLAWMO shall have the authority to accept the transfer of drainage systems in the watershed, to repair, improve, and maintain the transferred drainage systems, and to construct all new drainage systems and improvements of existing drainage systems in the watershed. All such activities and projects shall be carried out in accordance with the powers and procedures set forth in <u>Minn. the ActStat. §§ 103B.205 to 103B.255</u> and must be in conformance with the Watershed Management Plan.
- 4.6 Storm Sewer Utility Fee. VLAWMO is authorized pursuant to the Special Legislation and this Agreement developed pursuant to Minn. Stat. 103B.211 to establish and impose on nonexempt properties within the Area a storm sewer utility fee pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 444.075 to pay for the management of water within the watershed. The storm sewer utility fee shall be approved by the Board and, as required by the Special Legislation, certified to the County Auditor Auditors in Anoka County and Ramsey County by November 30th each year to be placed on property taxes payable in the following year.
- 4.7 <u>Capital Improvements</u>.
 - (a) <u>Authority</u>. VLAWMO is authorized to undertake, construct, and maintain capital improvements within the Area and may cooperate with one or more Members in the construction and maintenance of such improvements.
 - (b) New Capital Improvements. A proposed new capital improvement may be initiated by VLAWMO, the TEC, or by one or more Members. If the Board agrees to include the proposed capital improvement in its Capital Improvement Program, it will undertake the process to include it in the Watershed Management Plan, its budget, and to work cooperatively with the affected Member as needed to complete the Capital Improvement.

- (c) <u>Costs</u>. VLAWMO may use funds budgeted by the Board for the capital improvement, as well as any funds received from grants and any other outside funding sources. If VLAWMO works cooperatively with one or more Members to construct a capital improvement, the parties will enter into a cooperative agreement that identifies the responsibilities and cost share of each party toward the project, including associated engineering, planning, legal, and administrative costs.
- (d) <u>County Levy</u>. Nothing in this Agreement limits the authority of VLAWMO to undertake capital improvements and to certify the costs to the County for collection in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 103B.251.
- 4.8 <u>Water Conveyances</u>. The Board may order any <u>local governmental unitMember</u> to construct, clean, repair, alter, abandon, consolidate, reclaim or change the course of terminus of any ditch, drain, storm sewer, water course, natural or artificial, that affects the Watershed in accordance with its adopted plans.
- 4.9 <u>Watershed Operations</u>. The Board may order any local government unit Member to acquire, operate, construct or maintain dams, dikes, reservoirs and appurtenant works in accordance with adopted plans.
- 4.10 <u>Storm and Surface Waters</u>. The Board shall regulate, conserve and control the use of storm and surface water within the Vadnais Lakes Area Watershed pursuant to its Watershed Management Plan.
- 4.11 Entrance upon Land. To the extent permitted by law, or with the owner's permission, the Board or its designated representatives may enter upon lands within or outside the Watershed to make surveys and investigations to accomplish the purposes of VLAWMO and the Act.
- 4.12 <u>Legal and Technical Assistance</u>. The Board may obtain and provide legal and technical assistance as it determines is needed, including in connection with its on-going operations and projects, any litigation, and on such other matters as the Board may request.
- 4.13 <u>Permits</u>. VLAWMO shall cooperate with appropriate local, state, and federal agencies in obtaining required permits and shall review permits issued by local units of government to accomplish the purposes identified in Section I of this Agreement.
- 4.14 Office. VLAWMO shall maintain an office within the Area. All notices to VLAWMO shall be mailed or delivered to such office.
- 4.15 <u>Insurance and Liability</u>. VLAWMO may contract for or purchase such insurance as the Board deems necessary for its protection. The Members agree as follows with respect to the liability of VLAWMO and the Members:

- (a) VLAWMO is a separate and distinct public entity to which the Members have transferred all responsibility and control for action taken pursuant to this Agreement.
- (b) VLAWMO shall defend and indemnify the Members, and their officers, employees, and volunteers, from and against all claims, damages, losses, and expenses, including attorney fees, arising out of the acts or omissions of the Board in carrying out the terms of this Agreement. This Agreement does not constitute a waiver on the limitations of liability set forth in Minn. Stat. § 466.04.
- (c) Nothing herein shall be construed to provide insurance coverage or indemnification to an officer, employee, or volunteer of any memberMember for any act or omission for which the officer, employee, or volunteer is guilty of malfeasance in office, willful neglect of duty, or bad faith.
- (d) To the fullest extent permitted by law, action by the Members to this Agreement are intended to be and shall be construed as a "cooperative activity," and it is the intent of the Members that they shall be deemed a "single governmental unit" for purposes of liability, as set forth in Minn. Stat. § 471.59, subd. 1a, and provided further that for purposes of that statute, each part to this Agreement expressly declines responsibility for the acts and omissions of another Member. The Members are not liable for the acts or omissions of another Member to this Agreement except to the extent they have expressly agreed in writing to be responsible for the acts or omissions of the other Members.
- (e) Any excess or uninsured liability shall be borne equally by all the Members, but this does not include the liability of any individual officer, employee or volunteer that arises from his or her own malfeasance, willful neglect of duty, or bad faith.
- 4.16 <u>Financial Records</u>. The Board shall maintain the books and accounts of VLAWMO consistent with generally accepted accounting principles.
- 4.17 <u>Audit</u>. The Board shall annually cause an independent certified audit of the books and accounts of VLAWMO.
- 4.18 <u>Claims</u>. To the extent required by Minnesota Statutes, VLAWMO shall be responsible for damages caused by it. All Minnesota Statutes governing notices of claims and limits on municipal liability shall be applicable to VLAWMO. To the extent permitted by Minnesota Statutes, VLAWMO shall be treated as a single municipal entity for municipal liability purposes.
- 4.19 <u>Employees</u>. The Board may employ or subcontract with such persons or entities as it determines are needed to fulfill defined responsibilities of VLAWMO with the approval of a majority of the Board.
- 4.20 <u>Contracts</u>. The Board may make such contracts and enter into such agreements as necessary to fulfill its obligations under this Agreement. Any such contract or agreement

- shall be in accordance with the Uniform Municipal Contracting Law or such and other applicable laws.
- 4.21 <u>Annual Report to Members</u>. The Board shall make and file a report with the administrator of each Members at least once each year that includes the following information:
 - (a) The financial condition of VLAWMO;
 - (b) The status of all VLAWMO projects and work; and
 - (c) The business transacted by VLAWMO and other matters which affect the interests of VLAWMO.
- 4.22 <u>Records.</u> VLAWMO's books, reports and records shall be available for and open to inspection at reasonable times.

4.23 Planning.

- (a) Watershed Management Plan (Plan). VLAWMO shall prepare and/or update a waterwatershed management plan as required by the Act. The Plan, either a new one or an updated one, shall be recommended to the Board for approval. The Plan shall be compliant with Minn. Stat., chap. 103B and applicable Minnesota Rules. The Plan shall be subject to the appropriate governmental unit review as required by the Act.
- (b) Local Water Management Plan. As provided in Minn. Stat. After the adoption of 103B.235, once VLAWMO adopts a new or revised watershed management plan, each Member and any other local government unit within the Area shall review its local water management plan for changes needed for it to be consistent with the new or revised Watershed Management Plan. Each local water management plan shall be consistent with the Plan and state law. After consideration, but before adoption of a new or revised local water management plan, each Member shall submit its water management plan to the Board. The Board shall within sixty (60) days approve or disapprove the plan or parts thereof. If the Board fails to complete its review within the prescribed period, and unless an extension is agreed to by the Member, the local plan shall be deemed approved consistent with applicable state laws.
- 4.24 Other Powers. The Board may exercise such other powers necessary and incidental to the implementation of the purposes set forth herein as authorized by the Members.
- 4.25 <u>Special Tax District</u>. Nothing in this Agreement limits the authority of a Member to establish a special tax district pursuant to its authority under Minn. Stat. 103B.245 or such other law as may apply.
- 4.26 <u>Amendments to this Agreement</u>. The Board may recommend changes in this Agreement to the Members. This Agreement may be amended only by the agreement of all of its Members.

SECTION V RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES OF TECHNICAL COMMISSION

- 5.1 <u>Establishment</u>. The Board has established, and shall maintain, a Technical Commission ("TEC") that provides technical expertise for the planning and operation of VLAWMO programs and projects. Each Member shall appoint one Commissioner, and <u>may appoint</u> one Alternate Commissioner, to serve on the TEC. Each Member shall determine the eligibility or qualification standards for its TEC appointments, following guidelines promulgated by the Board. The VLAWMO Administrator shall serve as a non-voting member of <u>VLAWMOthe TEC</u>.
- 5.2 <u>Duties and Responsibilities</u>. The TEC, through the VLAWMO Administrator and other VLAWMO employees, shall administer the day-to-day operations of VLAWMO and shall review VLAWMO expenditures. The TEC has the authority to review and approve VLAWMO's monthly expenditures and may approve capital improvements in accordance with a policy adopted by the Board. The Board may assign additional duties and responsibilities to the TEC as it may determine are appropriate.
- 5.3 <u>Technical Commission Officers</u>. At the first meeting of the TEC each calendar year the Commissioners shall appoint from among its members a Chair, Vice-Chair, Financial Officer, and Liaison to the Board. The TEC shall assign duties to the officers as it deems appropriate. An Alternate Commissioner may not serve as an officer of the TEC.
- 5.4 Meetings. Regular monthly meetings of the TEC shall be held on a day and time selected by the Commissioners. All meetings of VLAWMOthe TEC are subject to the Minnesota Open Meeting Law. Notice of the time and place of each meeting shall be sent to all Commissioners, and provided to the public requesting this information, and follow notice requirements outlined in Minn. Stat. § 13D.04. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the rules adopted by the TEC or, if a specific set of rules has not been adopted, then the latest version of Roberts Rules of Order. Each Commissioner shall have one vote. A majority of the Commissioners present shall constitute a quorum at all TEC meetings. In the absence of a quorum, a scheduled meeting shall be opened, re-scheduled, and adjourned.

SECTION VI FINANCING VLAWMO

- 6.1 <u>Annual Budget</u>. The annual VLAWMO budget, which includes both operational costs and capital improvement costs, shall be developed and approved as provided in this section.
 - (a) <u>Staff Prepares Draft</u>. VLAWMO staff shall work with the appropriate Member staff to prepare a preliminary draft long range budget, which shall include the proposed budget for the upcoming year and the proposed SSU rates.

- (b) <u>Budget Subcommittee Recommendation</u>. VLAWMO staff shall present the preliminary draft budget to the budget subcommittee. The budget subcommittee is responsible for reviewing and making a recommendation to the Board regarding the proposed budget and the SSU rates.
- (c) <u>Budget Approval</u>. The Board shall consider the annual budget as recommended by the budget subcommittee and act on the annual budget. <u>A two-thirds vote of Directors present and voting is required to approve the annual budget</u>. The Board may modify the annual budget proposed by the budget subcommittee. This review and approval of the annual budget typically occurs at the June Board meeting, but can occur at a different meeting as the Board may determine is appropriate.
- (d) <u>SSU Rate Approval</u>. The Board shall consider and act to approve the SSU rates. This review and approval typically occurs at the August Board meeting, but can occur at a different meeting as the Board may determine is appropriate.
- (e) <u>SSU Charge Certification</u>. The Board shall act by November 1st each year to certify the SSU charges to the County <u>Auditor Auditors</u> for collection on the upcoming year's property taxes.
- (f) <u>Final-Budget Approval</u>. The Board shall act to approve the final budget for the upcoming year before Adjustments. Before December 31st each year, the Board shall consider and make such adjustments to the annual budget as may be needed to allocate funds being carried over into the following year.
- 6.2 <u>Funding</u>. The annual budget is funded by one or more of the following:
 - (a) The primary source of funding for the annual budget is the SSU charges imposed on properties within the <u>watershed Watershed</u> each year pursuant to the <u>special legislation Special Legislation</u>.
 - (b) Member contributions toward specific capital improvement projects.
 - (b)(c) VLAWMO may also receive grants to help fund specific capital improvements.
 - (e)(d) If the funds collected from the SSU charges and grants are not sufficient to fully fund an approved budget, the Board may exercise any other authority available to it under law to fund the budget including, but not limited, Member assessments.

6.3 Member Assessments.

(a) <u>Authorized</u>. A Member assessment may be imposed to cover an anticipated shortfall in VLAWMO's annual budget. A Member assessment amount shall be calculated using the formula set out in this section. At least 10 days prior to the meeting at which the Board considers acting on a proposed Member assessment, VLAWMO shall provide each Member written notice of the proposed Member assessment that

identifies the amount to be paid by each Member. Members shall be given an opportunity to be heard at the meeting before the Board acts on the Member assessment. A Member assessment must be approved by at least a 2/3 majority of the full Board by no later than SeptemberJuly 1st for collection in the following year. If approved, VLAWMO shall notify each Member in writing of the approved Member assessment amount.

- (b) <u>Formula</u>. To the extent a Member assessment is established, it shall be calculated based upon the following formula:
 - (1) Forty percent (40%) based upon the assessed valuation of all real property of each government unit within the Area;
 - (2) Forty percent (40%) based upon the total area of the property within each governmental unit with the Area; and
 - (3) Twenty percent (20%) based upon the population of each governmental unit within the Area.
- (c) Payment. Each Member shall pay its Member assessment amount: (1) no later than January 31st in the year in which it is due; or pay one-half (1/2) of the assessment by January 31st of the year due and pay the second one-half (1/2) of the assessment by August 31st of the year due. If a Member fails to pay its assessment by the applicable due dates, it will be required to pay a one percent (1%) per month service on the unpaid amount due.
- 6.4 <u>Capital Improvement Program and Funding.</u>
 - (a) <u>Preparation</u>. Each year the Board shall prepare a Capital Improvement Program and budget for Capital Improvements anticipated to be started or completed in the following year as described in the Watershed Management Plan. Each proposed Capital Improvement shall be specifically identified and its estimated cost and time for completion shall be provided. Only Capital Improvements included in the Watershed Management Plan, or its amendments, may be included in the capital improvement budget.
 - (b) Funding. Capital Improvements may be funded by a combination of funds budgeted by VLAWMO as part of its annual budget, grants received by VLAWMO, and expenditures made directly by one or more Members. For jointly funded projects, VLAWMO shall agree in writing with the Members making direct contributions toward the Capital Improvement the amounts of funding and the responsibilities toward constructing and maintaining the Capital Improvement.
- 6.5 <u>Governmental Unit Financing</u>. Members may establish a watershed management tax district in the Area for the purpose of paying costs of the engineering and planning required to develop a watershed management plan for the Area. After the plan is adopted and

- approved, a tax district may be established for the purpose of paying capital costs of projects described in the plan (including normal and routine maintenance of projects). If required, the tax district shall be established by ordinance adopted after a hearing by a local government unit, following provisions of Minn. Stat., chap. 103B.
- 6.6 Reserve Funds. The Board may accumulate reserve funds for the purposes herein mentioned and may invest funds of the Board not currently needed for its operations in the manner and subject to the laws of Minnesota applicable to statutory cities. Any and all reserve funds must be clearly indicated on the annual financial audit provided to the Members.
- 6.7 <u>Gifts; Grants; Loans</u>. VLAWMO may, within the scope of this Agreement, accept gifts, apply for and use grants or loans of money or other <u>personal</u> property from the United States, the State of Minnesota, a unit of government, or other governmental unit or organization or any person or entity for the purposes described herein; may enter into any reasonable agreement required in connection therewith, shall comply with any laws or regulations applicable thereto, and may hold, use, and dispose of such money or <u>personal</u> property in accordance with the terms of the gift, grant, loan, or agreement related thereto.
- 6.8 <u>Disbursements</u>. VLAWMO disbursements on budget items shall be reviewed and approved by the Technical Committee. A report of all disbursements shall be sent to the Board's Secretary-Treasurer and the TEC's Finance Officer for review and a copy provided to the Board. Checks issued by VLAWMO shall be signed by the VLAWMO Administrator and the Board Chair. The Secretary-Treasurer shall maintain a bond in the amount of at least \$10,000. VLAWMO will be responsible for paying the premium on said bond.
- Revenue Bonds to Secure MPCA Loan. VLAWMO is given express authority to issue revenue bonds in a principal amount not to exceed \$800,000 (the "Bonds") to secure the Loan to finance the Project. The term "Bonds" shall also include bonds issued to refund and refinance the Bonds. As provided in Minn. Stat. § 471.59, subd. 11, the Bonds shall be revenue obligations of VLAWMO which are issued on behalf of the Members, and shall be issued subject to the conditions and limitations set forth in Minn. Stat. § 471.59, subd. 11. The Bonds shall be payable solely from VLAWMO's revenues including its storm water utility fees. VLAWMO may not pledge to the payment of the Bonds the full faith and credit or taxing power of the Members. No bonds, obligations or other forms of indebtedness other than the Bonds may be issued by VLAWMO without the prior consent of the Members.

SECTION VII DURATION OF THIS JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT

7.1 <u>Duration of Agreement</u>. Each Member agrees to be bound by the terms of this Agreement until December 31, 20462036, and that it may be continued thereafter at the option of the Members. This Agreement shall be in full force and effect upon the filing of certified copy of the resolution approving said Agreement by each Member.

- 7.2 <u>Termination of Agreement</u>. This <u>agreement Agreement</u> may be terminated prior to December 31, <u>20462036</u>, by the unanimous consent of the <u>partiesMembers</u>. If the <u>agreement Agreement is to be terminated</u>, a notice of the intent to <u>dissolve the VLAWMO</u> shall be sent to the Board of Water and Soil Resources and to Ramsey and Anoka Counties at least 90 days prior to the date of dissolution.
- 7.3 <u>Dissolution</u>. In addition to termination as provided above, any Member may petition the Board of Directors to dissolve this Agreement. Upon ninety (90) days' notice in writing to the clerk of each Member, the Board of Water and Soil Resources, and to Anoka and Ramsey County, the Board shall hold a hearing and upon a favorable vote by a majority of all eligible votes of then existing Board members, the Board may by <u>Resolutionresolution</u> recommend that <u>the VLAWMO</u> be dissolved. Said <u>Resolutionresolution</u> shall be submitted to each <u>member governmental unitMember</u> and if ratified by three-fourths of the governing bodies of all eligible Members within sixty (60) days, said Board shall dissolve the VLAWMO allowing a reasonable time to complete work in progress, pay any outstanding obligations, and to dispose of personal property owned by the VLAWMO.
- 7.4 Assets. Upon a set of findings and order for dissolution of VLAWMO by the State Board of Water and Soil Resources, all personal property of VLAWMO shall be transferred, either jointly or severally, to the Members. Such after all VLAWMO's obligations are paid. The Board may determine to allocate and transfer of VLAWMO assets may be madeto members in proportionaccordance with the total contribution of each formula set out herein for determining Member as required by the last annual operating budget. The transfer of real estate property of VLAWMO pursuant to this section shall not affect the benefits or damages for any improvement previously constructed by VLAWMO before dissolution. The real estate property affected shall remain liable for its proper share of any outstanding indebtedness of VLAWMO applying to the property before the dissolution, and levies assessed for the indebtedness continue in force until the debt is paid off-assessments.

SECTION VIII MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- 8.1 Adoption of Agreement. This Agreement shall be in full force and effect upon the filing of a certified copy of the resolution approving said agreement by all six members. Said resolutionresolutions shall be filed with the Chair of the existing. VLAWMO who shall notify all Members in writing of its effective date and shall set the date for the next meeting to be conducted under provide each a Member a fully executed copy of this Agreement.
- 8.2 <u>Dispute Resolution</u>. The Members agree that any dispute <u>related to this Agreement</u> that cannot be resolved by discussions among the Board and a Member shall be submitted to mediation. The mediation shall be conducted in accordance with a process agreed to by the parties <u>involved in the dispute</u>. If the parties are not able to mutually agree on a mediator, each party shall <u>selectprovide</u> a <u>mediator and the list of</u> two mediators to <u>VLAWMO</u>. The

Chair shall select the mediator from the combined list. If, however, the Chair is from a Member that is a party to the dispute, then the Vice-Chair shall select a third-the mediator from the combined list. Each party to the mediation shall be responsible for the cost of the mediator it selected and its own costs in mediation and shall share equally in the costs of the mediation and of the third mediator and all other costs of mediation. If the dispute is not resolved in mediation, the parties may agree to submit the dispute to binding arbitration or eitherany party may pursue any options available to it under law to seek a resolution of the dispute.

- 8.3 <u>Data Practices</u>. VLAWMO shall comply with the requirements of Minn. Stat., chap. 13, the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. ("MGDPA"). Any entity with which VLAWMO contracts is required to comply with the <u>ActMGDPA</u> as provided in Minn. Stat. § 13.05. The contractor shall be required to notify the Board if it receives a data request and to work with VLAWMO to respond to it.
- 8.4 <u>Amendments</u>. The Board may recommend changes and amendments to this Agreement to the governing bodies of the Members. Amendments shall be will only take effect if adopted by all governing bodies of the Members. Adopted amendments shall be evidenced by appropriate resolutions or certified copies of meeting minutes of the governing bodies of each party filed with the Board and shall, if no effective date is contained in the amendment, become effective as of the date all such filings have been completed.
- 8.5 <u>Waiver</u>. The delay or failure of any party of this Agreement at any time to require performance or compliance by any other party of any of its obligations under this Agreement shall in no way be deemed a waiver of those rights to require such performance or compliance.
- 8.6 <u>Headings and Captions</u>. The headings and captions of these paragraphs and sections of this Agreement are included for convenience or reference only and shall not constitute a part hereof.
- 8.7 Entire Agreement. This Agreement, including the recitals and the official boundary map (which are incorporated in and made part of this Agreement), contains the entire understanding amongof the Members concerning the subject matter hereof. This Agreement supersedes and replaces the prior joint powers agreement among the Members regarding VLAWMO and such prior agreement is hereby terminated. Any outstanding obligations of the Members under the prior agreement are not affected by the termination and shall be continued under this Agreement.
- 8.8 <u>Examination of Books</u>. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 16C.05, subdivision 5, the books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices of the Board are subject to examination by the State.
- 8.9 <u>Governing Law</u>. The respective rights, obligations, and remedies of the Members under this Agreement and the interpretation thereof shall be governed by the laws of the State of Minnesota which pertain to agreements made and to be performed in the State of

Minnesota.

- 8.10 <u>Counterparts</u>. This Agreement shall be executed in several counterparts and all so executed shall constitute one Agreement, binding on all of the Members hereto. Each party to the agreement shall receive a fully executed copy of the entire document following adoption by all Members.
- 8.11 <u>Notice</u>. To the extend this Agreement requires a notice to be mailed to a Member, the notice requirement may be satisfied by VLAWMO emailing the notice to its primary contact for the Member.
- 8.12 <u>Statutory References</u>. All references to statutes in this Agreement include any amendments made thereto and any successor provisions.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned governmental units, by action of their governing bodies, have caused this Agreement to be executed in accordance with the authority of Minn. Stat. §§ 103B.211 and 471.59.

CITY OF GEM LAKE	By	
		Mayor
Dated / /	Attest	
		City Clerk
Adopted on the of	2025.	
	BY T	HE CITY COUNCIL
	Mayo	44

CITY OF LINO LAKES———	By	
		Mayor
Dated/	Attest	
		City Clerk
Adopted on the of	2025.	
	BY	THE CITY COUNCIL
	May	

CITY OF NORTH OAKS——	By_	
		Mayor
Dated//	Attest _	at at t
		City Clerk
Adopted on the of	2025.	
		BY THE CITY COUNCIL
		M
		Mayor
Attest:		
Clerk		

CITY OF VADNAIS HEIGHTS—	By	
		Mayor
Dated//	Attest	
		City Clerk
Adopted on the of	2025.	
		BY THE CITY COUNCIL
•		<u>Mayor</u>

By-	
	Mayor
Attest_	
	City Clerk
2025	
2023.	
	BY THE CITY COUNCIL
	 Mayor

WHITE BEAR TOWNSHIP	By	
		Chair
Dated/	Attest	
		City Clerk
Adopted on the of	2025.	
	В	Y THE TOWN BOARD
		hairperson

VADNAIS LAKE AREA WATER MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT

THIS JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT ("**Agreement**") is made and entered into by and between the participating units of local government of the Cities of Gem Lake, Lino Lakes, North Oaks, Vadnais Heights, and White Bear Lake and the Township of White Bear (individually a "**Member**" and collectively the "**Members**").

RECITALS

- A. The Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization ("**VLAWMO**") was organized in 1983 and is located in the northeast metro area within Ramsey and Anoka counties.
- B. VLAWMO is responsible for an approximately 24.2 square mile watershed that encompasses the City of North Oaks, along with portions of the Cities of White Bear Lake, Gem Lake, Vadnais Heights, Lino Lakes, and White Bear Township and includes 17 lakes, 1 creek, and over 1000 wetlands as shown on the map maintained by VLAWMO.
- C. Local government units in the metropolitan area are required by the Metropolitan Water Management Program (Minn. Stat. §§ 103B.201 to 103B.255) ("Act") to plan for and manage surface water.
- D. Under the Act, one of the options available to local government units to satisfy its requirements is to adopt a joint powers agreement pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 471.59 to establish a watershed management organization to jointly plan for and manage surface water within a watershed.
- E. The Members elected to exercise their authority under the Act to adopt a joint powers agreement establishing VLAWMO to cooperatively manage and plan for the management of surface water within the watershed.
- F. The original joint powers agreement has been updated over time and the term of the current joint powers agreement expires on December 31, 2026.
- G. VLAWMO is funded in large part by storm sewer utility fees certified to the respective County Auditors and imposed by the Counties on properties within the watershed as authorized by special legislation adopted by the Minnesota Legislature in 2008 (2008 Minn. Laws Chap. 366, Art. 6, Sec. 47).
- H. The Members previously acted pursuant to their authority to establish the "Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization Board of Directors" ("**Board**") and said Board is hereby reaffirmed as the entity charged with the authority and responsibility to manage VLAWMO.
- VLAWMO has also established a Technical Commission that performs a variety of functions to assist with VLAWMO's operations and assist with developing VLAWMO's annual budget.

- J. The Board has previously acted to adopt a Watershed Management Plan for the watershed and has regularly updated the Watershed Management Plan in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 103B.231, Minn. R., chap. 8410, and such other law as may apply.
- K. The Members desire to enter into this Agreement to reaffirm VLAWMO and the Board in furtherance of its efforts to continue working cooperatively to prepare and administer a watershed management plan to manage surface water within the watershed in accordance with the Act and Minn. R., chap. 8410.

AGREEMENT

In consideration of the mutual promises and agreements contained herein, the Members mutually agree as follows:

SECTION I ESTABLISHMENT AND GENERAL PURPOSE

- 1.1 <u>Reaffirming the Establishment</u>. The Members hereby reaffirm and ratify the establishment and continued operation of the "Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization" pursuant to the Act and such other laws and rules as may apply.
- 1.2 General Purpose. The general purpose of this Agreement is to continue VLAWMO and its work on behalf of the Members to cooperatively adopt, administer, and update as needed the Watershed Management Plan, and to carry out the purposes identified in Minn. Stat. § 103B.201 and the other provisions of the Act. The plan and programs shall operate within the boundaries of VLAWMO as identified in the official map filed with the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources. The most current version of the official map defining the boundaries of the Watershed is incorporated herein by reference. The boundaries of the Watershed are subject to change utilizing the procedure set out in Minn. Stat. § 103B.225 as may be needed to better reflect the hydrological boundaries of the Area.

SECTION II DEFINITIONS

- 2.1 <u>Definitions</u>. The definitions contained in Minn. Stat. § 103B.205 and Minn. R., part 8410.0020 are hereby adopted by reference, except that the following terms shall have the meanings given them in this section.
 - (a) "Agreement" means this Agreement developed pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 103B.211 & 471.59 and which reestablishes and continues the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization.
 - (b) "Alternate Commissioner" means the person appointed by a Member to serve as its alternate to represent the Member on the Technical Commission in the absence or disability of its appointed Commissioner.

- (c) "Alternate Director" means the person appointed by a Member to serve as its alternate to represent the Member on the Board in the absence or disability of its appointed Director.
- (d) "Area" means the boundaries of the Vadnais Lake Area Watershed as set forth on the official map incorporated herein by reference.
- (e) "Board of Directors" or "Board" means the governing board of VLAWMO consisting of one elected official from each of the Members which are parties to this Agreement.
- (f) "Capital Improvement" means a physical improvement that has an extended useful life. A capital improvement is not directed toward maintenance of an in-place system during its life expectancy. A study or a research project do not constitute a capital improvement that must be included in the Watershed Management Plan.
- (g) "Capital Improvement Program" means an itemized program for at least a five-year prospective period, and any amendments to it, subject to at least biennial review, setting forth the schedule, timing, and details of specific contemplated capital improvements by year, together with their estimated cost, the need for each improvement, financial sources, and the financial effect that the improvements will have on the local government unit or watershed management organization.
- (h) "Commissioner" means a person appointed by each Member to the Technical Commission.
- (i) "Director" means the elected official appointed by each Member as its representative on the Board of Directors.
- (j) "Governing Body" means the city council of a Member city or the town board of the Member town.
- (k) "Local Water Management Plan" or "Plan" means a plan adopted by the each of the Members pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 103B.235 and Minn. R., part 8410.0160.
- (l) "Member" means each of the cities and the town that are parties to this Agreement.
- (m) "Special Legislation" means 2008 Minn. Laws Chap. 366, Art. 6, Sec. 47.
- (n) "Storm Sewer Utility" or "SSU" means the public utility established by VLAWMO pursuant to the Special Legislation. The Board establishes and certifies to the County for collection within the Area a Storm Sewer Utility fee for the management of surface water.

- (o) "Technical Commission" or "TEC" means the commission established herein that is composed of technically skilled persons, appointed by each Member.
- (p) "Vadnais Lake Area Watershed" or "Watershed" means the area contained within a line drawn around the extremities of all terrain whose surface drainage is tributary to Vadnais Lake as shown on the official watershed map incorporated herein by reference.
- (q) "VLAWMO" means the "Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization" that is reestablished and continued pursuant to this Agreement.
- (r) "Watershed Management Plan" means a plan adopted by VLAWMO pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 103B.231.

SECTION III ORGANIZATION OF VLAWMO

- 3.1 <u>Board of Directors</u>. The governing body of VLAWMO shall be the "Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization Board of Directors." The Board of Directors is comprised of a total of six (6) Directors. The parties hereby reaffirm the establishment and continued operation of the Board of Directors, which shall carry out the purposes and have the powers as provided in this Agreement.
- 3.2 <u>Appointment of Directors</u>. Each Member shall appoint one representative to serve as the Member's Director on the Board. The appointment process shall comply with the requirements in Minn. Stat. § 103B.227, subds. 1 and 2.
- 3.3 Appointment of Alternate Directors. Each Member may appoint one representative to serve as the Member's Alternate Director on the Board. A Member's Alternate Director may attend the meetings of the Board, but shall only be counted as part of the quorum and be allowed to vote on matters before the Board in the absence of the same Member's Director.
- 3.4 <u>Eligibility to Serve</u>. Each Member shall determine the eligibility or qualification standards for its Director and Alternate Director appointments. Only current elected officials on the governing body of the Member are eligible to serve as a Director or Alternate Director.
- 3.5 <u>Terms of Office</u>. Directors and Alternate Directors serve three-year terms of office, which shall commence from the date of their appointment and will continue until their successors are selected. Each Member shall notify VLAWMO Administrator of its appointments.
- 3.6 <u>Removal</u>. Directors and Alternate Directors shall serve at the will and consent of the Members that appointed them. If a Member removes a Director or Alternate Director, it shall provide VLAWMO written notice within 10 days of the removal. The governing body of the Member shall act within 90 days to appoint an elected official to fill the vacancy and shall promptly provide VLAWMO written notice of such appointment.

- 3.7 <u>Vacancies</u>. A Member shall notify VLAWMO in writing within 10 days of the occurrence of a vacancy in its Director or Alternate Director positions. VLAWMO will notify BWSR of the vacancy within 30 days of receiving the notice of a vacancy as required by Minn. Stat. § 103B.227, subd. 1. The Member shall comply with the requirements of Minn. Stat. § 103B.227, subd. 2 and appoint someone to fill the vacancy. The Member shall promptly notify VLAWMO of the appointment in writing. The appointed person shall serve the unexpired term of the position.
- 3.8 <u>Appointment of Technical Commission Commissioners</u>. Each Member to this Agreement shall appoint one Commissioner, and may also appoint one Alternate Commissioner, to serve on the Technical Commission. A Member shall promptly appoint someone to fill a vacancy in its Commissioner or, if applicable, Alternate Commissioner positions.
- 3.9 <u>Compensation</u>. Directors, Alternate Directors, Commissioners, and Alternate Commissioners shall serve without compensation and without an expense allowance from VLAWMO. A Director or Alternate Director may be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses incurred on VLAWMO business with the approval of the Board. A Member may compensate its Director, Alternate Director, Commissioner, and Alternate Commissioner for their service, in the discretion of the Member.
- 3.10 Annual Meeting; Election of Officers. At a meeting of the Board held no later than April of each calendar year, also known as the Annual Meeting, the Board shall elect from among the Directors a Chair, Vice Chair, a Secretary-Treasurer, and such other officers as it deems necessary to conduct its meetings and affairs. An Alternate Director may not serve as an officer of VLAWMO.

3.11 Duties of Board Officers.

- (a) <u>Chair</u>. The Chair shall preside over meetings of the Board, sign checks, and review audits. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair shall perform the Chair's duties. In the absence of the Chair or Vice Chair, the Secretary-Treasurer shall serve as the presiding officer at the Board meeting. The Chair shall retain all rights of a Director to speak, make motions, and vote on matters coming before the Board.
- (b) <u>Vice Chair</u>. The Vice Chair shall preside at meetings when the Chair is absent and shall automatically be promoted to complete the annual term of the Chair if the elected Chair resigns or is removed from the Board.
- (c) <u>Secretary-Treasurer</u>. The Secretary-Treasurer shall maintain a record of the proceedings of the Board, be responsible for the custody of the Board's records, see that notices are duly given, and complete such other duties as the Board may assign. The Secretary-Treasurer shall also be responsible for all monies of VLAWMO and shall periodically report the fiscal condition of VLAWMO to the Board. The Secretary-Treasurer may delegate one or more of its duties to another officer or the VLAWMO Administrator. If the duties of the Secretary-Treasurer are delegated to

- another person, the Secretary-Treasurer shall supervise the performance of those duties.
- 3.12 Quorum. A majority of the Directors shall constitute a quorum at all Board meetings. No business or decision of the Board may be made without a quorum.
- 3.13 <u>Meetings</u>. Regular meetings of the Board shall be held on a schedule adopted by the Board. All meetings of the Board are subject to the Minnesota Open Meeting Law. Notice of the time and place of each meeting shall be sent to all Members and public notice shall be provided as required by Minn. Stat. § 13D.04. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with rules adopted by the Board.
- 3.14 <u>Voting</u>. Each Director shall have one (1) vote in all matters coming before the Board in accordance with the following:
 - (a) Approval of the proposed annual VLAWMO operating budget and the capital improvement program, which typically occurs at the Board's meeting in June, shall require approval of two-thirds of Directors present and voting; and
 - (b) Approval of all others matters will be determined by a simple majority of Directors present and voting.
- 3.15 <u>Committees</u>. The Board may establish such committees and subcommittees as it deems appropriate. At least one Board member shall be appointed as the Chairperson of each committee and all committees shall regularly report their activities to the Board.
- 3.16 <u>Public Participation</u>. The Board may appoint such committees and subcommittees composed of citizens as needed to provide for public participation and input in watershed activities and the responsibilities of VLAWMO. Such citizen committees shall be advisory.

SECTION IV POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- 4.1 <u>Policies and Procedures</u>. The Board shall adopt rules and regulations as it deems necessary to carry out its duties and the purpose of this Agreement. Such rules and regulations may be amended from time to time in either a regular or special meeting of the Board. No such amendment shall be adopted unless the language of the proposed amendment is included in the packet for the meeting at which it is considered. These rules and regulations, after adoption, shall be recorded in the VLAWMO policy book.
- 4.2 <u>Watershed Management Plan (Plan)</u>. The Board shall adopt a water management plan, as required by the Act. The Plan shall be subject to the appropriate governmental unit review as required by the Act.
- 4.3 <u>Data</u>. The Board, in order to give effect to the purposes of the Act, may:

- (a) Acquire and record appropriate data within the Area; and
- (b) Establish and maintain devices for acquiring and recording hydrological or other data within the Vadnais Lake Area Watershed.
- 4.4 <u>Studies</u>. VLAWMO is authorized to conduct studies as it deems appropriate to carry out its purposes and to further the goals of the Watershed Management Plan. Nothing in this Agreement limits the authority of Members to conduct separate or concurrent studies on any matter under study by VLAWMO. The Member shall make every effort to coordinate its studies with VLAWMO in order to maximize the use of resources.
- 4.5 <u>Transfer of Drainage System</u>. VLAWMO shall have the authority to accept the transfer of drainage systems in the watershed, to repair, improve, and maintain the transferred drainage systems, and to construct all new drainage systems and improvements of existing drainage systems in the watershed. All such activities and projects shall be carried out in accordance with the powers and procedures set forth in the Act and must be in conformance with the Watershed Management Plan.
- 4.6 Storm Sewer Utility Fee. VLAWMO is authorized pursuant to the Special Legislation and this Agreement developed pursuant to Minn. Stat. 103B.211 to establish and impose on nonexempt properties within the Area a storm sewer utility fee pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 444.075 to pay for the management of water within the watershed. The storm sewer utility fee shall be approved by the Board and, as required by the Special Legislation, certified to the County Auditors in Anoka County and Ramsey County by November 30th each year to be placed on property taxes payable in the following year.

4.7 Capital Improvements.

- (a) <u>Authority</u>. VLAWMO is authorized to undertake, construct, and maintain capital improvements within the Area and may cooperate with one or more Members in the construction and maintenance of such improvements.
- (b) New Capital Improvements. A proposed new capital improvement may be initiated by VLAWMO, the TEC, or by one or more Members. If the Board agrees to include the proposed capital improvement in its Capital Improvement Program, it will undertake the process to include it in the Watershed Management Plan, its budget, and to work cooperatively with the affected Member as needed to complete the Capital Improvement.
- (c) <u>Costs</u>. VLAWMO may use funds budgeted by the Board for the capital improvement, as well as any funds received from grants and any other outside funding sources. If VLAWMO works cooperatively with one or more Members to construct a capital improvement, the parties will enter into a cooperative agreement that identifies the responsibilities and cost share of each party toward the project, including associated engineering, planning, legal, and administrative costs.

- (d) <u>County Levy</u>. Nothing in this Agreement limits the authority of VLAWMO to undertake capital improvements and to certify the costs to the County for collection in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 103B.251.
- 4.8 <u>Water Conveyances</u>. The Board may order any Member to construct, clean, repair, alter, abandon, consolidate, reclaim or change the course of terminus of any ditch, drain, storm sewer, water course, natural or artificial, that affects the Watershed in accordance with its adopted plans.
- 4.9 <u>Watershed Operations</u>. The Board may order any Member to acquire, operate, construct or maintain dams, dikes, reservoirs and appurtenant works in accordance with adopted plans.
- 4.10 <u>Storm and Surface Waters</u>. The Board shall regulate, conserve and control the use of storm and surface water within the Vadnais Lakes Area Watershed pursuant to its Watershed Management Plan.
- 4.11 Entrance upon Land. To the extent permitted by law, or with the owner's permission, the Board or its designated representatives may enter upon lands within or outside the Watershed to make surveys and investigations to accomplish the purposes of VLAWMO and the Act.
- 4.12 <u>Legal and Technical Assistance</u>. The Board may obtain and provide legal and technical assistance as it determines is needed, including in connection with its on-going operations and projects, any litigation, and on such other matters as the Board may request.
- 4.13 <u>Permits</u>. VLAWMO shall cooperate with appropriate local, state, and federal agencies in obtaining required permits and shall review permits issued by local units of government to accomplish the purposes identified in Section I of this Agreement.
- 4.14 Office. VLAWMO shall maintain an office within the Area. All notices to VLAWMO shall be mailed or delivered to such office.
- 4.15 <u>Insurance and Liability</u>. VLAWMO may contract for or purchase such insurance as the Board deems necessary for its protection. The Members agree as follows with respect to the liability of VLAWMO and the Members:
 - (a) VLAWMO is a separate and distinct public entity to which the Members have transferred all responsibility and control for action taken pursuant to this Agreement.
 - (b) VLAWMO shall defend and indemnify the Members, and their officers, employees, and volunteers, from and against all claims, damages, losses, and expenses, including attorney fees, arising out of the acts or omissions of the Board in carrying out the terms of this Agreement. This Agreement does not constitute a waiver on the limitations of liability set forth in Minn. Stat. § 466.04.

- (c) Nothing herein shall be construed to provide insurance coverage or indemnification to an officer, employee, or volunteer of any Member for any act or omission for which the officer, employee, or volunteer is guilty of malfeasance in office, willful neglect of duty, or bad faith.
- (d) To the fullest extent permitted by law, action by the Members to this Agreement are intended to be and shall be construed as a "cooperative activity," and it is the intent of the Members that they shall be deemed a "single governmental unit" for purposes of liability, as set forth in Minn. Stat. § 471.59, subd. 1a, and provided further that for purposes of that statute, each part to this Agreement expressly declines responsibility for the acts and omissions of another Member. The Members are not liable for the acts or omissions of another Member to this Agreement except to the extent they have expressly agreed in writing to be responsible for the acts or omissions of the other Members.
- (e) Any excess or uninsured liability shall be borne equally by all the Members, but this does not include the liability of any individual officer, employee or volunteer that arises from his or her own malfeasance, willful neglect of duty, or bad faith.
- 4.16 <u>Financial Records</u>. The Board shall maintain the books and accounts of VLAWMO consistent with generally accepted accounting principles.
- 4.17 <u>Audit</u>. The Board shall annually cause an independent certified audit of the books and accounts of VLAWMO.
- 4.18 <u>Claims</u>. To the extent required by Minnesota Statutes, VLAWMO shall be responsible for damages caused by it. All Minnesota Statutes governing notices of claims and limits on municipal liability shall be applicable to VLAWMO. To the extent permitted by Minnesota Statutes, VLAWMO shall be treated as a single municipal entity for municipal liability purposes.
- 4.19 <u>Employees</u>. The Board may employ or subcontract with such persons or entities as it determines are needed to fulfill defined responsibilities of VLAWMO with the approval of a majority of the Board.
- 4.20 <u>Contracts</u>. The Board may make such contracts and enter into such agreements as necessary to fulfill its obligations under this Agreement. Any such contract or agreement shall be in accordance with the Uniform Municipal Contracting Law and other applicable laws.
- 4.21 <u>Annual Report to Members</u>. The Board shall make and file a report with the administrator of each Members at least once each year that includes the following information:
 - (a) The financial condition of VLAWMO;
 - (b) The status of all VLAWMO projects and work; and

- (c) The business transacted by VLAWMO and other matters which affect the interests of VLAWMO.
- 4.22 <u>Records.</u> VLAWMO's books, reports and records shall be available for and open to inspection at reasonable times.

4.23 Planning.

- (a) <u>Watershed Management Plan (Plan)</u>. VLAWMO shall prepare and/or update a watershed management plan as required by the Act. The Plan, either a new one or an updated one, shall be recommended to the Board for approval. The Plan shall be compliant with Minn. Stat., chap. 103B and applicable Minnesota Rules. The Plan shall be subject to the appropriate governmental unit review as required by the Act.
- (b) Local Water Management Plan. As provided in Minn. Stat. § 103B.235, once VLAWMO adopts a new or revised watershed management plan, each Member and any other local government unit within the Area shall review its local water management plan for changes needed for it to be consistent with the new or revised Watershed Management Plan. Each local water management plan shall be consistent with the Plan and state law. After consideration, but before adoption of a new or revised local water management plan, each Member shall submit its water management plan to the Board. The Board shall within sixty (60) days approve or disapprove the plan or parts thereof. If the Board fails to complete its review within the prescribed period, and unless an extension is agreed to by the Member, the local plan shall be deemed approved consistent with applicable state laws.
- 4.24 <u>Other Powers</u>. The Board may exercise such other powers necessary and incidental to the implementation of the purposes set forth herein as authorized by the Members.
- 4.25 <u>Special Tax District</u>. Nothing in this Agreement limits the authority of a Member to establish a special tax district pursuant to its authority under Minn. Stat. 103B.245 or such other law as may apply.
- 4.26 <u>Amendments to this Agreement</u>. The Board may recommend changes in this Agreement to the Members. This Agreement may be amended only by the agreement of all of its Members.

SECTION V RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES OF TECHNICAL COMMISSION

5.1 <u>Establishment</u>. The Board has established, and shall maintain, a Technical Commission ("TEC") that provides technical expertise for the planning and operation of VLAWMO programs and projects. Each Member shall appoint one Commissioner, and may appoint one Alternate Commissioner, to serve on the TEC. Each Member shall determine the eligibility or qualification standards for its TEC appointments, following guidelines

- promulgated by the Board. The VLAWMO Administrator shall serve as a non-voting member of the TEC.
- 5.2 <u>Duties and Responsibilities</u>. The TEC, through the VLAWMO Administrator and other VLAWMO employees, shall administer the day-to-day operations of VLAWMO and shall review VLAWMO expenditures. The TEC has the authority to review and approve VLAWMO's monthly expenditures and may approve capital improvements in accordance with a policy adopted by the Board. The Board may assign additional duties and responsibilities to the TEC as it may determine are appropriate.
- 5.3 <u>Technical Commission Officers</u>. At the first meeting of the TEC each calendar year the Commissioners shall appoint from among its members a Chair, Vice-Chair, Financial Officer, and Liaison to the Board. The TEC shall assign duties to the officers as it deems appropriate. An Alternate Commissioner may not serve as an officer of the TEC.
- 5.4 Meetings. Regular monthly meetings of the TEC shall be held on a day and time selected by the Commissioners. All meetings of the TEC are subject to the Minnesota Open Meeting Law. Notice of the time and place of each meeting shall be sent to all Commissioners, and provided to the public requesting this information, and follow notice requirements outlined in Minn. Stat. § 13D.04. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the rules adopted by the TEC or, if a specific set of rules has not been adopted, then the latest version of Roberts Rules of Order. Each Commissioner shall have one vote. A majority of the Commissioners present shall constitute a quorum at all TEC meetings. In the absence of a quorum, a scheduled meeting shall be opened, re-scheduled, and adjourned.

SECTION VI FINANCING VLAWMO

- 6.1 <u>Annual Budget</u>. The annual VLAWMO budget, which includes both operational costs and capital improvement costs, shall be developed and approved as provided in this section.
 - (a) <u>Staff Prepares Draft</u>. VLAWMO staff shall work with the appropriate Member staff to prepare a preliminary draft long range budget, which shall include the proposed budget for the upcoming year and the proposed SSU rates.
 - (b) <u>Budget Subcommittee Recommendation</u>. VLAWMO staff shall present the preliminary draft budget to the budget subcommittee. The budget subcommittee is responsible for reviewing and making a recommendation to the Board regarding the proposed budget and the SSU rates.
 - (c) <u>Budget Approval</u>. The Board shall consider the annual budget as recommended by the budget subcommittee and act on the annual budget. A two-thirds vote of Directors present and voting is required to approve the annual budget. The Board may modify the annual budget proposed by the budget subcommittee. This review and approval of

- the annual budget typically occurs at the June Board meeting, but can occur at a different meeting as the Board may determine is appropriate.
- (d) <u>SSU Rate Approval</u>. The Board shall consider and act to approve the SSU rates. This review and approval typically occurs at the August Board meeting, but can occur at a different meeting as the Board may determine is appropriate.
- (e) <u>SSU Charge Certification</u>. The Board shall act by November 1st each year to certify the SSU charges to the County Auditors for collection on the upcoming year's property taxes.
- (f) <u>Budget Adjustments</u>. Before December 31st each year, the Board shall consider and make such adjustments to the annual budget as may be needed to allocate funds being carried over into the following year.
- 6.2 <u>Funding</u>. The annual budget is funded by one or more of the following:
 - (a) The primary source of funding for the annual budget is the SSU charges imposed on properties within the Watershed each year pursuant to the Special Legislation.
 - (b) Member contributions toward specific capital improvement projects.
 - (c) VLAWMO may also receive grants to help fund specific capital improvements.
 - (d) If the funds collected from the SSU charges and grants are not sufficient to fully fund an approved budget, the Board may exercise any other authority available to it under law to fund the budget including, but not limited, Member assessments.

6.3 Member Assessments.

- (a) Authorized. A Member assessment may be imposed to cover an anticipated shortfall in VLAWMO's annual budget. A Member assessment amount shall be calculated using the formula set out in this section. At least 10 days prior to the meeting at which the Board considers acting on a proposed Member assessment, VLAWMO shall provide each Member written notice of the proposed Member assessment that identifies the amount to be paid by each Member. Members shall be given an opportunity to be heard at the meeting before the Board acts on the Member assessment. A Member assessment must be approved by at least a 2/3 majority of the full Board by no later than July 1st for collection in the following year. If approved, VLAWMO shall notify each Member in writing of the approved Member assessment amount.
- (b) <u>Formula</u>. To the extent a Member assessment is established, it shall be calculated based upon the following formula:

- (1) Forty percent (40%) based upon the assessed valuation of all real property of each government unit within the Area;
- (2) Forty percent (40%) based upon the total area of the property within each governmental unit with the Area; and
- (3) Twenty percent (20%) based upon the population of each governmental unit within the Area.
- (c) Payment. Each Member shall pay its Member assessment amount: (1) no later than January 31st in the year in which it is due; or pay one-half (1/2) of the assessment by January 31st of the year due and pay the second one-half (1/2) of the assessment by August 31st of the year due. If a Member fails to pay its assessment by the applicable due dates, it will be required to pay a one percent (1%) per month service on the unpaid amount due.

6.4 Capital Improvement Program and Funding.

- (a) <u>Preparation</u>. Each year the Board shall prepare a Capital Improvement Program and budget for Capital Improvements anticipated to be started or completed in the following year as described in the Watershed Management Plan. Each proposed Capital Improvement shall be specifically identified and its estimated cost and time for completion shall be provided. Only Capital Improvements included in the Watershed Management Plan, or its amendments, may be included in the capital improvement budget.
- (b) <u>Funding</u>. Capital Improvements may be funded by a combination of funds budgeted by VLAWMO as part of its annual budget, grants received by VLAWMO, and expenditures made directly by one or more Members. For jointly funded projects, VLAWMO shall agree in writing with the Members making direct contributions toward the Capital Improvement the amounts of funding and the responsibilities toward constructing and maintaining the Capital Improvement.
- 6.5 Governmental Unit Financing. Members may establish a watershed management tax district in the Area for the purpose of paying costs of the engineering and planning required to develop a watershed management plan for the Area. After the plan is adopted and approved, a tax district may be established for the purpose of paying capital costs of projects described in the plan (including normal and routine maintenance of projects). If required, the tax district shall be established by ordinance adopted after a hearing by a local government unit, following provisions of Minn. Stat., chap. 103B.
- 6.6 Reserve Funds. The Board may accumulate reserve funds for the purposes herein mentioned and may invest funds of the Board not currently needed for its operations in the manner and subject to the laws of Minnesota applicable to statutory cities. Any and all reserve funds must be clearly indicated on the annual financial audit provided to the Members.

- 6.7 <u>Gifts; Grants; Loans.</u> VLAWMO may, within the scope of this Agreement, accept gifts, apply for and use grants or loans of money or other personal property from the United States, the State of Minnesota, a unit of government, or other governmental unit or organization or any person or entity for the purposes described herein; may enter into any reasonable agreement required in connection therewith, shall comply with any laws or regulations applicable thereto, and may hold, use, and dispose of such money or personal property in accordance with the terms of the gift, grant, loan, or agreement related thereto.
- 6.8 <u>Disbursements</u>. VLAWMO disbursements on budget items shall be reviewed and approved by the Technical Committee. A report of all disbursements shall be sent to the Board's Secretary-Treasurer and the TEC's Finance Officer for review and a copy provided to the Board. Checks issued by VLAWMO shall be signed by the VLAWMO Administrator and the Board Chair. The Secretary-Treasurer shall maintain a bond in the amount of at least \$10,000. VLAWMO will be responsible for paying the premium on said bond.
- Revenue Bonds to Secure MPCA Loan. VLAWMO is given express authority to issue revenue bonds in a principal amount not to exceed \$800,000 (the "Bonds") to secure the Loan to finance the Project. The term "Bonds" shall also include bonds issued to refund and refinance the Bonds. As provided in Minn. Stat. § 471.59, subd. 11, the Bonds shall be revenue obligations of VLAWMO which are issued on behalf of the Members, and shall be issued subject to the conditions and limitations set forth in Minn. Stat. § 471.59, subd. 11. The Bonds shall be payable solely from VLAWMO's revenues including its storm water utility fees. VLAWMO may not pledge to the payment of the Bonds the full faith and credit or taxing power of the Members. No bonds, obligations or other forms of indebtedness other than the Bonds may be issued by VLAWMO without the prior consent of the Members.

SECTION VII DURATION OF THIS JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT

- 7.1 <u>Duration of Agreement</u>. Each Member agrees to be bound by the terms of this Agreement until December 31, 2036, and that it may be continued thereafter at the option of the Members. This Agreement shall be in full force and effect upon the filing of certified copy of the resolution approving said Agreement by each Member.
- 7.2 <u>Termination of Agreement</u>. This Agreement may be terminated prior to December 31, 2036, by the unanimous consent of the Members. If the Agreement is to be terminated, a notice of the intent to dissolve VLAWMO shall be sent to the Board of Water and Soil Resources and to Ramsey and Anoka Counties at least 90 days prior to the date of dissolution.
- 7.3 <u>Dissolution</u>. In addition to termination as provided above, any Member may petition the Board of Directors to dissolve this Agreement. Upon ninety (90) days' notice in writing to the clerk of each Member, the Board of Water and Soil Resources, and to Anoka and

Ramsey County, the Board shall hold a hearing and upon a favorable vote by a majority of all eligible votes of then existing Board members, the Board may by resolution recommend that VLAWMO be dissolved. Said resolution shall be submitted to each Member and if ratified by three-fourths of the governing bodies of all eligible Members within sixty (60) days, said Board shall dissolve VLAWMO allowing a reasonable time to complete work in progress, pay any outstanding obligations, and to dispose of personal property owned by VLAWMO.

7.4 <u>Assets</u>. Upon a set of findings and order for dissolution of VLAWMO by the State Board of Water and Soil Resources, all personal property of VLAWMO shall be transferred, either jointly or severally, to the Members after all VLAWMO's obligations are paid. The Board may determine to allocate and transfer VLAWMO assets to members in accordance with the formula set out herein for determining Member assessments.

SECTION VIII MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- 8.1 Adoption of Agreement. This Agreement shall be in full force and effect upon the filing of a copy of the resolution approving said Agreement by all six members. Said resolutions shall be filed with the Chair. VLAWMO shall provide each a Member a fully executed copy of this Agreement.
- 8.2 <u>Dispute Resolution</u>. The Members agree that any dispute related to this Agreement that cannot be resolved by discussions among the Board and a Member shall be submitted to mediation. The mediation shall be conducted in accordance with a process agreed to by the parties involved in the dispute. If the parties are not able to mutually agree on a mediator, each party shall provide a list of two mediators to VLAWMO. The Chair shall select the mediator from the combined list. If, however, the Chair is from a Member that is a party to the dispute, then the Vice-Chair shall select the mediator from the combined list. Each party to the mediation shall be responsible for its own costs in mediation and shall share equally in the costs of the mediator and all other costs of mediation. If the dispute is not resolved in mediation, the parties may agree to submit the dispute to binding arbitration or any party may pursue any options available to it under law to seek a resolution of the dispute.
- 8.3 <u>Data Practices</u>. VLAWMO shall comply with the requirements of Minn. Stat., chap. 13, the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act ("MGDPA"). Any entity with which VLAWMO contracts is required to comply with the MGDPA as provided in Minn. Stat. § 13.05. The contractor shall be required to notify the Board if it receives a data request and to work with VLAWMO to respond to it.
- 8.4 <u>Amendments</u>. The Board may recommend changes and amendments to this Agreement to the governing bodies of the Members. Amendments will only take effect if adopted by all governing bodies of the Members. Adopted amendments shall be evidenced by appropriate resolutions or certified copies of meeting minutes of the governing bodies of each party filed with the Board and shall, if no effective date is contained in the

- amendment, become effective as of the date all such filings have been completed.
- 8.5 <u>Waiver</u>. The delay or failure of any party of this Agreement at any time to require performance or compliance by any other party of any of its obligations under this Agreement shall in no way be deemed a waiver of those rights to require such performance or compliance.
- 8.6 <u>Headings and Captions</u>. The headings and captions of these paragraphs and sections of this Agreement are included for convenience or reference only and shall not constitute a part hereof.
- 8.7 Entire Agreement. This Agreement, including the recitals and the official boundary map (which are incorporated in and made part of this Agreement), contains the entire understanding of the Members concerning the subject matter hereof. This Agreement supersedes and replaces the prior joint powers agreement among the Members regarding VLAWMO and such prior agreement is hereby terminated. Any outstanding obligations of the Members under the prior agreement are not affected by the termination and shall be continued under this Agreement.
- 8.8 <u>Examination of Books</u>. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 16C.05, subdivision 5, the books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices of the Board are subject to examination by the State.
- 8.9 Governing Law. The respective rights, obligations, and remedies of the Members under this Agreement and the interpretation thereof shall be governed by the laws of the State of Minnesota which pertain to agreements made and to be performed in the State of Minnesota.
- 8.10 <u>Counterparts</u>. This Agreement shall be executed in several counterparts and all so executed shall constitute one Agreement, binding on all of the Members hereto. Each party to the agreement shall receive a fully executed copy of the entire document following adoption by all Members.
- 8.11 <u>Notice</u>. To the extend this Agreement requires a notice to be mailed to a Member, the notice requirement may be satisfied by VLAWMO emailing the notice to its primary contact for the Member.
- 8.12 <u>Statutory References</u>. All references to statutes in this Agreement include any amendments made thereto and any successor provisions.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned governmental units, by action of their governing bodies, have caused this Agreement to be executed in accordance with the authority of Minn. Stat. §§ 103B.211 and 471.59.

CITY OF GEM L	AKE		
Adopted on the	of	2025.	
			BY THE CITY COUNCIL
			Mayor
Attest:Clerk		_	

025.
BY THE CITY COUNCIL
Mayor

CITY OF NORTI	H OAKS		
Adopted on the	of	2025.	
			BY THE CITY COUNCIL
			Mayor
Attest:			

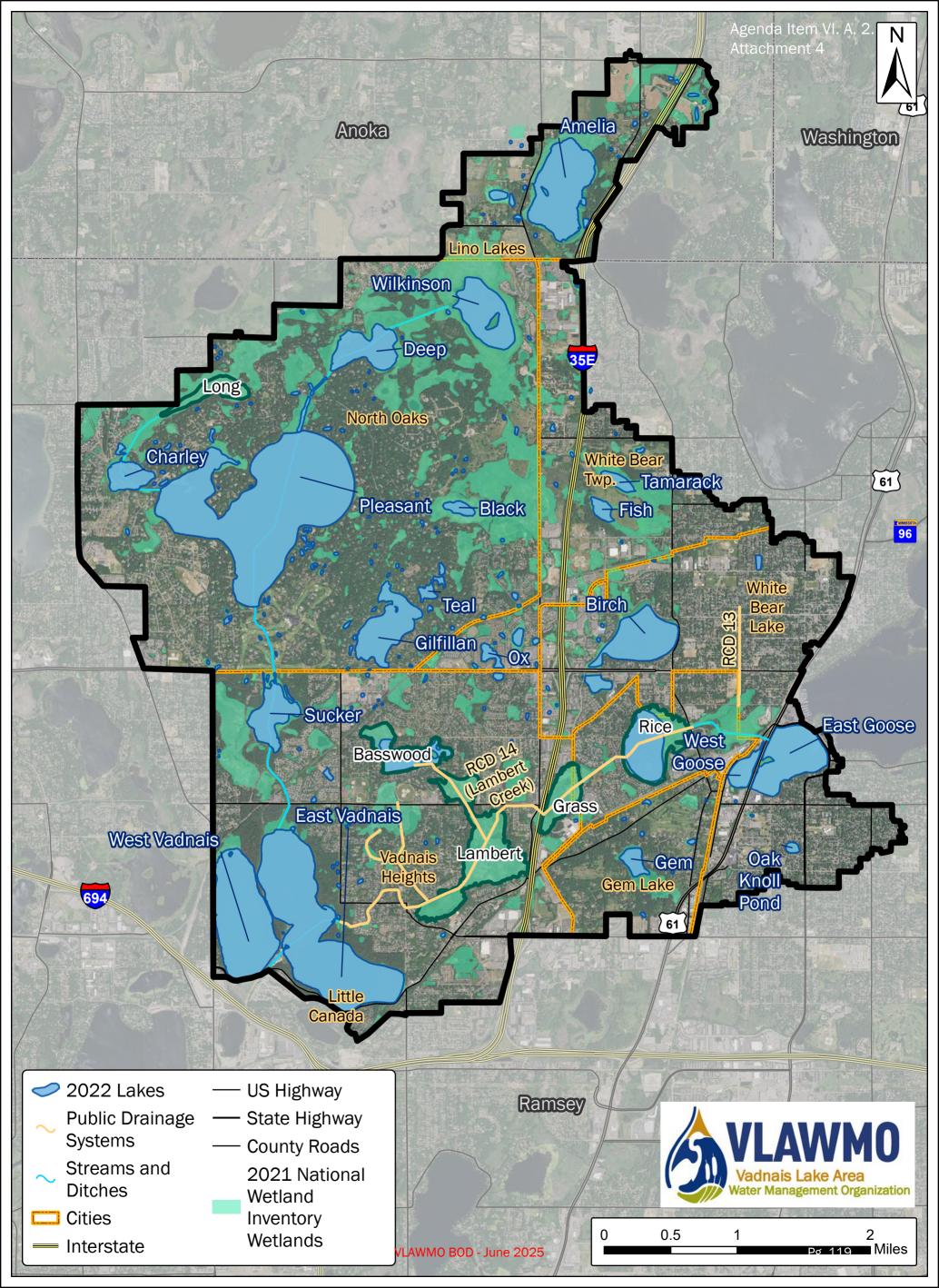
CITY OF VADNAIS HEIGHTS

Adopted on the	of	2025.	
			BY THE CITY COUNCIL
			Mayor
Attest:			

CITY OF WHITE BEAR LAKE

Adopted on the	of	2025.	
			BY THE CITY COUNCIL
			Mayor
Attest:			

WHITE BEAR TOWNSHIP



VADNAIS LAKE AREA WATER MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION Resolution No. 05-2025

RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE UPDATED JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT TO MEMBER COMMUNITIES FOR ADOPTION

WHEREAS, the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization ("VLAWMO") has worked with member communities over the last several months to update the expiring Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization Joint Powers Agreement ("JPA");

WHEREAS, the VLAWMO Board of Directors ("Board"), after reviewing the initial draft of the updated JPA, voted at its April 23, 2025, meeting to authorize staff to distribute it to member communities for their review and comment;

WHEREAS, VLAWMO received several comments and worked to address them in the updated JPA;

WHEREAS, the VLAWMO Subcommittee reviewed the revised JPA at its June 5, 2025, meeting, made one edit, and voted to forward it to the Board with a recommendation that it be approved for distribution to the member communities for final adoption;

WHEREAS, the Board considered the updated JPA at its June 25, 2025 meeting and determines it is in the best interests of VLAWMO and its members to recommend that the governing bodies act to adopt the JPA to provide for the continued operation of VLAWMO.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the VLAWMO Board of Directors as follows:

That the Board hereby approves the attached JPA be distributed and recommended:

- 1. The enclosed draft is hereby approved for distribution to the member communities, and the Board recommends the governing body of each member community review and approve it.
- 2. As the JPA is being processed, along with the updated VLAWMO Watershed Management Plan, member communities are requested to act on and return its signature page to VLAWMO by August 27, 2025.
- 3. VLAWMO staff is hereby authorized and directed to distribute to the member communities the enclosed JPA, a copy of this Resolution, and a sample staff memo and adoption resolution to help facilitate review and approval of the JPA.

The question w follows:	vas on the adoption of	the resolution	and there	e were yeas and nays as
	Bill Walsh (Alt.) Ed Prudhon Rob Rafferty Krista Wolter (Alt.) Katherine Doll Kanne Jim Lindner	Yea	<u>Nay</u>	Absent
Adopted this 2	5 th day of June 2025.			
			BY TH	IE VLAWMO BOARD
			Chairpe	erson
Attest:				

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Date: June 18, 2025

To: VLAWMO Board

From: Phil Belfiori, Administrator

Re: VI. B. 1. 2026 Budget Consideration

Background / Introduction

Pursuant to the consensus recommendation from the VLAWMO Subcommittee at their meeting on June 5, 2025 and consistent with the long term project planning discussion and preliminary 2026 budget discussion at April 23,2025 VLAWMO Board meeting, please find for your review and consideration the attached information related to the VLAWMO Subcommittee recommended 2026 VLAWMO budget.

As was approved at the Feb. 2025 Board meeting, the VLAWMO Subcommittee was comprised of Chair Lindner, and Directors Doll Kanne and West. The Board also approved TEC representative Terry Huntrods at this June 2026 Budget subcommittee discussion. The VLAWMO Board Subcommittee recommendation on the attached 2026 proposed budget was unanimous.

Summary of the Proposed 2026 Budget

The attached VLAWMO Subcommittee recommended proposed 2026 budget continues the focus on a more accelerated and comprehensive project implementation approach over the next 5 to 10 years as was discussed by the Board at the April 2025 meeting and has been identified in the long range partnership project table review and contained in the Draft VLAWMO Watershed Management Plan. This recommended 2026 budget also attempts to maintain some of the necessary momentum for critical project implementation in light of the anticipated reductions in State and Federal grant income.

It should be noted that the proposed 2026 budget includes some level of uncertainty related project timing and /or implementation feasibility connected to several proposed 2026 projects including (but not limited to):

- East Vadnais Lake Subshed Resiliency Project (pending feasibility, grant exists?,timing and partnerships);
- Polar Lakes Park Water Reuse Project (pending WBT partnership and grant application);
- Resiliency Study

 Vadnais Heights City-wide partnership (feasibility and timing and grants);
- Local match for 2nd 319 small watershed grant project design (if exists?, feasibility and timing and partnership);
- "Green" Streets Demonstration Project Planning/Implementation (feasibility and timing and grants);



- Water quality pretreatment project (upstream of Birch Lake IESF) (feasibility and timing and scale);
- Internal load/alum on Tamarack Lake (Timing);
- Oxygenation system (Pleasant) expanded dosing partnership (pending SPRWS partnership, feasibility and timing);
- Boundary Review (WVL area) (outcomes from discussion/negotiations with RWMWD and timing, partnership);
- Polar Chev/61 channel restoration /sediment in lake removal (MNDOT? And technical feasblity).
- Pleasant Lake project partnerships including Carp mngt, AIS, Shoreline management and city infrastructure plan development. (partner implementation and timing);
- Amount of public drainage maintenance needed per ongoing system inspections and City partnerships;
- Number of voluntary raingarden cost share applications in City street reconstruction projects and overall voluntary cost share programs budget uncertainty;

This project timing /results of studies (which is also mentioned in the attachment 3 footnotes document) may require budget revision /updates in the "working budget" proposed budget in December 2025 or in next year's budget process.

A few key highlights of the draft 2026 budget as identified in attachment 1, 2 and 3 include:

- 1. Consistent with 2026 Budget Subcommittee recommendation from their June 5, 2025 meeting, the proposed 2026 budget includes a 2026 SSU rate of \$75 /year for the single family home landuse classification (Assumes apx.11% increase from 2025). This recommended 2026 SSU rate provides for adequate funding of the 2026 proposed projects and program while also allowing for:
 - Anticipated necessary year end fund balance range in the amount to fund some of the projects listed with uncertain timing/ analysis above;
 - In light of diminishing federal and state grant opportunities and or dollars, keep the
 momentum to stay on track to aggressively continue to pursing a number of key
 long range projects identified in the long range project implementation budget in
 the Draft Watershed Management Plan as was presented at the April 23 Board
 meeting and at the earlier agenda item at tonight's VLAWMO Board meeting;
 - Overall project cost inflation.
- 2. If the Board were to approve the VLAWMO Subcommittee recommended increase in SSU rate, the average residential SSU rate would be apx. \$75/ yr. for the Residential 1-3 units



classification for 2026 (2025 SSU rate for residential was \$67.56). The SSU rate for all other classifications in 2026 (including but not limited to commercial, industrial and institutional land use classifications) would be apx. \$109.70/acre (2025 SSU rate for all other classifications was \$98.83/Ac). The above mentioned estimated % increase in SSU rate compared to 2025 SSU rate will be defined more specifically at the Aug. 2025 Board meeting given staff and Ehlers are currently analyzing updated parcel data from the recently approved revised VLAWMO boundary and subsequent parcel changes and other necessary parcel data updates.

- 3. Continuing progress towards implementation of high impact larger CIP type partnership projects like including but not limited to the projects listed above.
- 4. Implementation of key watershed programs including: finishing review of the 10 year watershed management plan and pursuing approval of new 10 year JPA, water quality monitoring, cost-share program including partnership on groundwater conservation and water quality project, project communication and education/ outreach, regulatory/ engineering, wetland assessment work and MS 4 partnerships.
- 5. Continuing a strong operations & administration program including the employee payroll (based on Board approved performance based salary adjustment policy and recently updated 2024 26 Salary Structure table) and approved employee benefits package. This information was reviewed and recommended approved by the VLAWMO Personnel Subcommittee as part of the VLAWMO subcommittee meeting on June 5, 2025. At this meeting, the Personnel Subcommittee did reach consensus to recommend and approve the budget identified on Rows 15 and 16 in Attachment 2 (lines "3.191 Employee Payroll" and line "3.192 Employee liability -benefits") which included specific salary and benefits budget for all five of the VLAWMO employees.

Options

The projects /programs listed in these attachments and as summarized in the attached PowerPoint presentation could be used by the Board to discuss possible options to either add projects/programs not included in the proposed 2026 budget and /or to make budget reductions if it wishes.

Recommendation

Consistent with unanimous 2026 Budget VLAWMO Subcommittee recommendation from their June 5, 2025 meeting and the discussion/direction provided by the Board members at the 2026 preliminary draft budget discussion and the discussion on the long range partnership project table at the April 2025 Board meeting, Staff recommends that the Board approve the attached 2026 VLAWMO Budget.



Attachments

- Attachment 1 Powerpoint presentation- proposed 2026 Budget
- Attachment 2 Spreadsheet identifying proposed 2026 budget
- Attachment 3- Footnotes of the key budget items identified in Attachment 2.
- Attachment 4 Background slides related to historical stormwater rates and comparable watersheds in Ramsey County
- Attachment 5- Proposed Resolution 06-2025 adopting the 2026 Budget

Discussion and Consideration of the Proposed 2026 Budget

Attachment 1



Board Meeting - June 25, 2025

Items Covered in this Presentation

- Background related to Recommended 2026 Budget
- Summary of recommended proposed budget for each fund (also see attachment 2 & 3 Spreadsheet and footnotes)
 - Operations / Administration
 - Programs
 - Projects
- Feedback from 2026 Budget Subcommittee from their meeting on June 5, 2025. Board members:
 - Lindner (Gem Lake), Doll Kanne (Vadnais Heights), West (White Bear Lake) and TEC member Huntrods
- The VLAWMO Board Subcommittee recommendation on the attached 2026 proposed budget was unanimous



Background- 2026 budget development process – how did we get here?

- As was presented at the April VLAWMO Board meeting, the 2026 VLAWMO budget development process started in Feb. 2025 when the draft long range project partnership table (which has now evolved into the 10 year project implementation table in the Draft Watershed Management Plan also in your Board packet) was sent to 11 city /partner staff from:
 - City of White Bear Lake (Connie T)
 - · City of Vadnais Heights (Jim H.)
 - City of Gem Lake (Jim L.)
 - City of Lino Lakes (Tom and Mike G.)
 - City of North Oaks (Kevin K. and Corry T.)
 - White Bear Township (Dale R. and Pete T.)
 - NOHOA (Damien L., Susan M. and Kristie E.)
 - St. Paul Water (Jeremy and Justine)
 - Ramsey County Public Works (Molly C.)
 - Ramsey Conservation Division (Ann W.)
 - North Oaks Company (Don P. and Lauren)
- Staff then held separate meetings with each of the above-mentioned staff in Feb/March 2025.

Background- 2026 budget development process – how did we get here?

- The draft long range project partnership table was then sent to all 6 VLAWMO Directors for review and comment. (staff met with 4 of the directors to discuss)
- The first draft of the 2026 budget was then developed using the long range project partnership table and the budget was reviewed and discussed at the Board subcommittee on April 3, 2025 (subcommittee identified it did not have any concerns on the rough draft 2026 budget table)
- The Full VLAWMO Board review and discussed the draft 2026 budget at the April 23, 2025 meeting and approved the VLAWMO Subcommittee to review the 2026 budget materials and provide the full Board their recommendation at this meeting.
- On June 5, 2025 the VLAWMO Subcommittee (Board members Lindner, Doll Kanne, West and TEC member Huntrods) met to review the draft 2026 budget.
- Upon further discussion, the Subcommittee came to a unanimous consensus recommendation to approve of the 2026 budget included in this board packet/ being presented tonight.

Background-2026 budget

- The attached Subcommittee recommended 2026 budget attempts to maintain some of the necessary momentum to implement some of the large scale high impact partnership projects in light of the anticipated reductions in State and Federal grant income.
- The attached 2026 budget also strikes a balance between the long range project budgeting and fund balance management needed for the high level project implementation scenarios identified in the approved project partnership table considered at the April 2025 Board meeting and which is included in the Draft 10-year Watershed Management Plan implementation section /table (Considered earlier tonight)

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Background-2026 budget highlights:

- Consistent with the unanimous consensus recommendation at the June 5, 2025 budget subcommittee meeting, the proposed budget includes a 2026 SSU rate of \$75 /year for the single family home- residential 1-3 unit land use classification (apx. 11% increase from 2025).
- The SSU rate for all other classifications in 2026 (including but not limited to commercial, industrial and institutional) would be apx. \$109.70/Acre/year (2025 SSU rate for all other classifications was \$98.83/Ac).
 - The above mentioned estimated % increase in SSU rate compared to 2025 SSU rate will be defined more specifically at the Aug. 2025 Board meeting given staff and Ehlers are currently analyzing updated parcel data from the recently approved revised VLAWMO boundary and subsequent parcel changes and other necessary parcel data updates.

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Background-2026 budget highlights:

- <u>The recommended 2026 budget continues progress towards implementation of high</u> impact, larger CIP type partnership projects (including but not limited to):
- East Vadnais Lake Subshed Resiliency Project
- Polar Lakes Park Water Reuse Project
- Resiliency Study

 Vadnais Heights City-wide partnership
- Local match for 2nd 319 small watershed grant project design in the Wilkinson Birch Lakes Subwatershed
- "Green" Streets Demonstration Project Planning/Implementation
- Water quality pretreatment project (upstream of Birch Lake IESF)
- Internal load/alum on Tamarack Lake
- Oxygenation system(Pleasant Lake)-studying the potential for expanded dosing partnership
- Polar Chev/61 channel restoration /sediment in lake removal
- Pleasant Lake project partnerships including Carp mngt, AIS, Shoreline management and city infrastructure plan development.

Background-2026 budget highlights

- Anticipates approximately \$180,000 in outside grant and other partnership revenue /income (in addition to the SSU).
- A projected year end 2026 fund balance range (at the end of the year December 31, 2026) is estimated between \$800,000 to \$1,300,000 (within the range of Board policy for fund balance).
- Recommended adjustments in employee payroll and benefits based on the Personnel Subcommittee approval and Board approved salary policy.

Background-2026 budget highlights

- The following are some of the bigger proposed 2026 projects have a <u>high level</u> of uncertainty including (but not limited to) [I will not present given time]:
- East Vadnais Lake Subshed Resiliency Project (pending feasibility, grant exists?,timing and partnerships);
- Polar Lakes Park Water Reuse Project (pending WBT partnership and grant application);
- Resiliency Study- Vadnais Heights City-wide partnership (feasibility and timing and grants);
- Local match for 2nd 319 small watershed grant project design (if exists?, feasibility and timing and partnership);
- "Green" Streets Demonstration Project Planning/Implementation (feasibility and timing and grants);
- Water quality pretreatment project (upstream of Birch Lake IESF) (feasibility and timing and scale);
- Internal load/alum on Tamarack Lake (Timing);
- Oxygenation system (Pleasant) expanded dosing partnership (pending SPRWS partnership, feasibility and timing);
- Polar Chev/61 channel restoration /sediment in lake removal (MNDOT? And technical feasibility).
- Pleasant Lake project partnerships including Carp mngt, AIS, Shoreline management and city infrastructure plan development. (partner implementation and timing);

This timing and other factors may require later budget revision /updates and will potentially and likely change the fund balance predictions in the future.

Summary of recommended 2026 budget

Operations / Administration

- \$904,177
 - Employee Payroll: recommends Increases and market adjustments for VLAWMO employees based on Board approved Policy and 24-26 salary structure table. <u>Recommended by Personnel Subcommittee on June 5,</u> 2025.
 - **Employee benefits :** consistent with the approved updated employee benefits package.
 - Other operational funds Include: 1) Office, 2) Information systems, 3)
 Insurance, 4) Audit, 5) Bookkeeping, 6) Engineering 7) Legal 8) SSU 9)
 Training, 10) Mileage and Noticing

Summary of recommended 2026 budget

Projects (page 1 of 4)

Continuing progress towards critical implementation of partnership projects and technical work:

- Lambert Creek Subwatershed Budget \$455,000
 - "Green" Streets Demonstration Project planning and Implementation
 - Resiliency partnership plan /study and partnership project(s)
 - Whitaker wetland/Columbia Park repurpose/retrofit water quality study
 - Water qual project or wetland project on or upstream of public ditch
 - City partnership -environmental initiative
 - City groundwater conservation partnership
 - Water quality project in public spaces /parks
 - Lambert Pond project Loan Debt Service- \$38,568

Maintenance and Operation (including RCD 14) - \$50,000

- RCD 14 main stem ditch maintenance per the pub. drainage policy
- Inspection and feasibility report development Branch and/or main stem
- Required maintenance for previously grant-funded projects (not ditch)

Summary of recommended 2026 budget

Projects (page 2 of 4)

- Gilfillan Black Tamarack Wilkinson Amelia Subwatershed- \$383,000
 - Local match for 2nd 319 small watershed grant project (Wilkinson-Birch Subwatershed)/water quality BMP /wetland rest.
 - Wilkinson Lk. Deep Water Wetland Project ongoing maintenance
 - partnership w/Lino Lks. Amelia north drainageway partnership project
 - Internal load/alum Tamarack Lake
 - NOC partnership -reuse /groundwater conservation
 - Township /City BMP retrofits
 - Polar Lakes Park water reuse project
 - City/Township/NOHOA /NOC partnership water qual /GW conservation projects



Summary of recommended 2026 budget

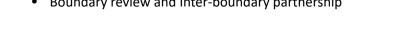
Projects (page 3 of 4)

Pleasant Charley Deep Subwatershed \$115,000

- Carp mgmt implementation (Pleasant Lake)
- Vegetation mgmt (Pleasant & Deep)AIS
- Pleasant shoreline /subshed partnerships
- Nutrient / partnership projects /studies
- Subwatershed/ neighborhood BMPs projects
- Oxygenation system expanded dosing study and or partnership

Sucker Vadnais Subwatershed. \$271,000

- E Vadnais subshed resiliency partnership projects
- City of Vadnais Heights street project /public/ firestation partnership
- Trail project Vadnais Blvd to County Road E
- Vadnais-Sucker Lake Park ongoing restoration work
- Boundary review and Inter-boundary partnership



Summary of recommended 2026 budget Projects (page 4 of 4)

- Birch Lake Subwatershed-\$102,500
 - Water quality pretreatment project (upstream of IESF)
 - Rotary Park partnerships and restoration
 - Subwatershed BMP's
 - Birch Lake AIS partnership
 - Street sweeping demonstration project implementation or study

Gem Lake Subwatershed-\$10,000

• Feasibility retrofit study/ analysis and or implementation for a City partnership project

Goose Lake Subwatershed- \$40,000

- Polar Chev/61 channel restoration /sediment in lake removal
- City street partnership /neighborhood subshed BMPS

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Summary of recommended 2026 budget

Programs

- Water quality monitoring and studies \$25,000
- Cost Share landscape level 1 and 2 and groundwater conservation program- \$155,000
- Communication, education and outreach More focus on project communication, water steward, MS 4 assistance and web site-\$45,000
- Finishing work on 10-year VLAWMO Watershed Management Plan and special reports - salary survey- \$80,000



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Summary of recommended 2026 budget

Fund Balances

- \$1.57M was be carried over from 2024 into 2025 budget (per audit)
- Predicted fund balance range at end of 2025 is apx. \$1.2M \$1.5M
- The proposed 2026 budget anticipates utilizes a range between \$300,000 -\$800,000 of the projected fund balance
- The predicted fund balance range at next year end (December 31, 2026) is apx. \$800,000 \$1.3M (generally in line with approved fund bal. policy)



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Recommendation from 2026 Budget Subcommittee

- On June 5, 2025 the VLAWMO Subcommittee (Board members Lindner, Doll Kanne, West and TEC member Huntrods) met to review the draft 2026 budget.
- Staff provided a summary of specific fund project and programs budgets.
- After this discussion, the Personnel Subcommittee also approved the budget for salary adjustments and benefits for VLAWMO employees as recommended and based on Board approved policy and approved 24-26 salary structure table.
- Upon further discussion, the Subcommittee came to a unanimous consensus recommendation to approve of the 2026 budget included in this board packet/ being presented tonight.



Comments from Subcommittee member?

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Board consideration

- Proposed Board motion :
 - Proposed Motion _____ moves to approve Resolution 06-2025 related to approval of the 2026 VLAWMO Budget. Second by



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2026 VLAWMO Subcommittee Recommended Budget --- For consideration at the June 25, 2025 VLAWMO Board meeting

	E	VMO BUDGET EXPENSE	Approved 2025 "working" Budget	Projected/ Estimated 2025 expenditures	Recommended 2026 Budget	
.1		Operations & Administration	\$838,008 \$23,854	\$783,430	\$904,177	
ŀ	3.110	Office Information systems	\$33,851 \$33,850	\$33,851 \$25,000	\$35,544 \$37,150	-
ĺ		Insurance	\$12,000	\$11,000	\$12,000	
	3.141	Consulting -Audit	\$23,000	\$21,000	\$29,900	
ļ		Consulting - Bookkeeping	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$1,500	
ŀ		Consulting - Legal	\$8,000	\$3,500	\$9,000	
ŀ		Consulting - Eng. & Tech. Storm Sewer Utility	\$50,000 \$22,500	\$25,000 \$20,000	\$50,000 \$22,500	-
ŀ		Training - staff, board,TEC	\$18,000	\$20,000	\$18,000	
ŀ		mileage and noticing	\$7,276	\$5,000	\$7,276	
	0.404		A100 170	A100.000	A	Based on VLAWMO Personn Subcommittee Direction rela
ŀ		Employee payroll Employee liability /banefits)	\$483,452 \$144,579	\$480,000 \$144,579	\$511,724 \$169,583	2026 employee salaries/ben based on VLAWINO Personn Subcommittee Direction rela 2026 employee salaries/ben
2		Employee liability (benefits) Monitoring & Studies Lake & creek program lab analysis	\$184,000	\$143,500	\$108,000	2020 cmployee suidness ben
l	3.210 3.220	Equipment	\$21,000 \$3,000	\$18,000 \$3,000	\$25,000 \$3,000	
	3.230	Wetland assessment & management Watershed Planning and special	\$10,000	\$7,500	\$0	
		studies	\$150,000	\$115,000	\$80,000	
;		Education & Outreach	\$43,000	\$32,000	\$45,000	
t						
	3.310	Public Education	\$6,000	\$5,000	\$8,000	
		Communication, Outreach and marketing	\$25,000	\$20,000	\$25,000	
	3.330	Community Blue education grant	\$12,000	\$7,000	\$12,000	
ļ		Capital Improvement Projects and	\$1,528,199	\$618,069	\$1,625,068	
1		Subwatershed Activity	, =,==0 ±00	1023,000	, _, =, 0.000	
1		·				
	3.410	Gem Lake subwatershed	\$25,000	\$5,000	\$10,000	
		Lambert Creek subwatershed (Does NOT Include Debt Service)	\$160,000	\$60,000	\$455,000	
		Lambert Pond Project Loan Debt Service	\$38,568	\$38,569	\$38,568	
	3.425	Goose Lake subwatershed	\$75,000	\$10,000	\$40,000	
		Birch Lake subwatershed Gilfillan Black Tamarack Wilkinson	\$70,000	\$59,000	\$102,500	
	3.440		\$475,000	\$130,000	\$383,000	
ļ		Pleasant Charley Deep subwatershed	\$150,000	\$95,000	\$115,000	
		Sucker Vadnais subwatershed	\$250,000	\$60,000	\$271,000	
	3.481	Programs Soil Health Grant	\$24,524	\$25,000 \$35,000	\$25,000	
		Landscape 1 - cost-share Landscape 2	\$76,900 \$108,207	\$35,000	\$50,000 \$80,000	
l		Project research and MS 4 partnership work	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$5,000	
		Maintenance and operations (Facilities maintenance & Ditch				
	3.485	maintenance)	\$70,000	\$38,000	\$50,000	
5		Regulatory Engineering plan review	\$5,000 \$5,000	\$0 \$0	\$5,000 \$5,000	-
J		tal budget	\$5,000 \$2,598,207	\$0 \$1,576,999	\$5,000 \$2,687,245	-
1	10		+=10001=01	+ ±101 01000	+2,001,270	7
		INCOME				
1						A Subcommittee recommen 2026 SSU rate of \$75 /year f single family home landuse
	5 1 1	Storm Sewer Utility	\$1,202,703	\$1,202,703	\$1,335,000	classification (Assumes 11% increase from 2025).
ŀ		Fees for Service	\$1,202,703 \$1,000	\$1,202,703 \$1,000	\$1,335,000 \$1,000	2022 0111 2023 j.
ŀ		Interest	\$30,000	\$50,000	\$30,000	
j	5.14	Misc. income - WCA admin grant	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	
ſ		Total VLAWMO income	\$1,236,703	\$1,256,703	\$1,369,000	
	5.15	TOTAL- Other funding sources - grants, partnerships donations	\$238,960	\$238,960	\$180,000	2026 possible funding sourc
Į	BWSR WE	BF 23 - 25	\$73,960	\$73,960	\$60,000	BWSR WBF grant (grant cyc
J	roposed	I MPCA 319 Wilkinson Lake BMP	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	319 MPCA grant implementa (start of 2nd project design of
н	NOC		\$60,000	\$60,000	\$20,000	NOC Partnership?
ľ			\$25,000	\$25,000	\$20,000	City /County for project part
ľ		ounty/SDDWC	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	SPRWS
ľ		ounty/SPRWS	\$30,000	\$30,000		
ŀ	Cities/ Co	Range for predicted fund balance				
ŀ		at end of 2025 and 2026 Minimum fund balance required	Apx. \$900,000- \$1,400,000	Apx. \$1,200,000- \$1,500,000	Apx. \$800,000- \$1,300,000	
ŀ		at end of 2025 and 2026	Apx. \$900,000- \$1,400,000 \$909,000	Apx. \$1,200,000- \$1,500,000 \$909,000	Apx. \$800,000- \$1,300,000 750,000 - 1,072,000	

<u>Footnotes</u> for the recommended draft 2026 VLAWMO Budget-

This document is meant to be read at the same time as Attachment 1- "2026 VLAWMO Subcommittee Recommended Budget --- For consideration at the June 25, 2025 VLAWMO Board meeting"

1. 3.110 - \$35,544. Office. The 3 year 2024 – 2026 office lease was approved in 2023 with the City of Vadnais Heights. The proposed 2026 rent is based on this current lease with the City. Details are in the table below. Rent includes the main office, 4 cubicles, storage space and access to conference rooms, Postage, copies and supplies are estimated.

Office expense	2025	Proposed 2026 (5%)
Rent	\$22,373	\$23,492
Tel /Internet/		
machine use	\$4,047	\$4,249
Postage	\$726	\$762
Copies	\$1,228	\$1,289
Supplies	\$2,397	\$2,517
Contingency (10%)*	\$3,077	\$3,235
Total	\$33,851	\$35,544

2. 3.12 - \$37,150. Information systems. -This covers the critical IT annual maintenance costs, hardware updates and software licenses. Does not include overall comprehensive web site update. Increases and contingency anticipated given some advanced GIS work and or website related technical services may be necessary.

Information systems	2026	Notes
	Budget	
Roseville – Metro INET.	\$ 21600	Metro INET – assume
		\$1800/mo.
Website hosting, maintenance	\$2500	
on web site, support & email		HDR
Microsoft outlook email	\$1235	
(transition)		May occur in 2026
Google apps for government	\$496	
Zoom	\$193	
GIS web hosting & update to	\$1500	May include work with
the GIS mapping system		Houston Eng or RCD
ESRI ArcView license renewal	\$965	
& GIS User group		

Software updates	\$1184	For new/existing systems
Hardware updates (including	\$3500	For one new system with
laptops)		all accessories and labor
Adobe software	\$600	
Total	\$37,150	Includes 10% contingency

- **3. 3.13 - \$12,000. Insurance-** Includes cost of the League of MN Cities insurance including worker's compensation and property /casualty insurance and membership. Worker's compensation insurance tracks with payroll costs so may see slight increase from 2026.
- **4. 3.141 \$29,900**. **Consulting Audit**. VLAWMO will go out for bid for audit services in late 2025 for 2026 and 2027 years. As has been documented, cost for audits have been going up quickly throughout the State. Budget in 2025 was \$23,000.
- **5. 3.142** \$1,500. Consulting Bookkeeping. Continue to do quickbook effectively in house. It has proven very useful to ask for special Quick books assistance at year-end.
- **6. 3.143 \$9,000. Consulting Legal** Increased from \$8,000 in 2025. Legal assistance and review of possible project partnership agreements and related work.
- 7. 3.144 \$50,000. Engineering and Technical. In 2026 staff would propose to use this fund for work with the various engineering firms in the approved VLAWMO engineering "pool" to 1) "assign" small and or limited technical assistance tasks to any of the pre-qualified firms in the pool and 2) utilize the list of firms in the pool for professional services solicitations or selection with Board authorization.
- **8. 3.150 \$22,500. Storm Sewer Utility. -** This budget item provides consultant assistance to translate our annual budget into SSU fees for each of 11,000+ parcels within VLAWMO and assistance certifying those parcels to two Counties. This assistance is critical to the SSU, the main source of VLAWMO funding. Consulting fees vary slightly from year to year. For 2026 includes \$6,000 for analysis / GIS review of charges of priority parcels. (16,500 + 6,000= \$22,500)
- **9. 3.160** \$18,000. Training: staff, Board, TEC. Five staff and some volunteers taking advantage of occasional excellent workshops. \$1000 is included the training budget to provide the beginning of the educational assistance. At average of \$1150 /staff person for training. 2026 budget include \$7,500 for MW dues.
- **10. 3.170. \$7,276. Mileage and Noticing.** Mileage at federal rates, legal notices and other expenses are paid with this budget item.
- 11. 3.191 & 3.192. Administration or staff payroll: = \$ 511,724 + \$169,583 (employer liability FICA, PERA, health insurance)

Employee Payroll: - \$511,724. Includes VLAWMO personnel Subcommittee approved projected salary adjustment for the 2026 budget. Increases/ adjustments based on Board approved policy and 2024-26 approved salary survey from Gallagher.

Employee Liability:—**\$169,583.** Per health benefits package approved by the Board in previous years. Paying staff is our biggest single expense, but critical to all other programs. VLAWMO benefits include vacation and sick leave (based on length of service), paid holidays, health /dental /vison insurance & HSA, PERA (required public pension), life insurance and short term disability.

- **12. 3.21.** \$25,000. Lake and creek lab analysis. This budget has gone up from 2025 due to additional specific project monitoring. 2025 budget was \$21,000.
- **13. 3.22.** \$3,000. Equipment. This pays for maintenance, replacement costs on essential water quality equipment, bacteria processing supplies, ice & dry ice for transport and other supplies.
- **14. 3.23. \$0. Wetland assessment & management.** No work is anticipated in this fund for 2026.
- **15. 3.240 \$80,000.** Watershed Planning and or special studies /reports. This fund provides completing work related to development of the next 10 year VLAWMO Watershed Management Plan. Would also fund special studies/reports /technical work related to 2027 29 salary survey/study, watershed modeling, plan development and or partnership requests.
- **16. 3.310 \$8,000**. **Public Education -** This budget item provides funding for MS 4 partnership for education, training and outreach. It pays dues to partner organizations such as Blue Thumb, and Watershed Partners. This is for expenses associated with the Annual Report.
- **17. 3.320** \$25,000. Communication, Outreach and marketing. This portion of the budget would fund brochures, community event materials, and project-related signage. Flyers, e-news distribution, educational resources, MS4 outreach assistance, and branding material are included. Budget also includes funding to continue updates and maintenance of the VLAWMO website.
- **18. 3.330** \$12,000. Community Blue Education grant. An education grant program that partners with community groups within the watershed to promote water resource stewardship. Fund also includes funding for water stewards program.
- **19. 3.410** \$10,000 Gem Lake Subwatershed. Budget includes funding subwatershed BMPs and or implementation for a City partnership project.
- 20. 3.420 \$455,000. Lambert Creek Subwatershed (does NOT include debt service).
- 21. This amount could be revised later /at the December 2026 Board meeting as part of the proposed carry over "working" budget pending scope or work cost /partnership amount for resiliency study, scope or work cost /partnership amount for "green" streets planning, Whitaker wetland repurpose /retrofit, and/ or status of BMPs work and or other necessary work in subwatershed.

Proposed Subwatershed Projects	Budget	Notes
Resiliency Partnership Project –	\$80,000	
Planning		City partnership funding

Resiliency partnership Project(s) -	\$150,000	
implementation		City partnership funding
"Green " Streets Demonstration	\$25,000	
Project - Planning		City partnership funding
"Green" Streets Demonstration	\$150,000	
Project – Implementation		City partnership funding
City Groundwater conservation	\$10,000	
partnership		City partnership funding
City partnership / environmental	\$10,000	
initiatives		City partnership funding
Water quality or wetland	\$10,000	
enhancement partnership projects		
on /upstream of Branch public		
ditches		City partnership funding
Whitaker wetland repurpose	\$10,000	
/retrofit project		County /city partnership
water quality project in public	\$10,000	
spaces /parks etc.		City partnership funding
Total	\$455,000	

22. 3.421 \$38,568. Lambert Pond Project Loan Debt Service. Thru 2032

23. 3.425 \$40,000. Goose Lake Subwatershed. This amount could be revised later /at the December 2025 Board meeting as part of the proposed carry over "working" budget pending results of possible Polar Chev. Project, and/ or status of BMPs work and or other necessary work in subwatershed.

Proposed Subwatershed Projects	Budget	Notes
Neighborhood or Subwatershed	\$20,000	
BMPs (also Gem Lk. Subshed)		County /City partnership
		funding
Polar Chev. Channel project-	\$20,000	
implementation and or analysis		
/study		MNDOT/City /County
		partnership
Total	\$40,000	

24. 3.430 \$102,500. Birch Lake Subwatershed. This amount could be revised later /at the December 2025 Board meeting as part of the proposed carry over "working" budget pending results of possible partnership with City for pretreatment BMP project located upstream of IESF, raingarden project(s), street sweeping demonstration project and or restoration projects in Rotary Park.

Proposed Subwatershed	Budget	Notes
Projects		
Rotary Park partnerships and	\$2,500	
restoration		City partnership
Water quality pretreatment	\$75,000	
project (upstream of IESF)		City partnership
Subwatershed BMP's	\$10,000	
		City partnership
Street sweeping demonstration	\$10,000	
project implementation or study		City Partnership
Birch Lake AIS partnership	\$5,000	
		BLID partnership
Total	\$102,500	

25. 3.440 \$383,000. Gilfillan Black Tamarack Wilkinson Amelia

Subwatershed. This amount could be revised later /at the December 2025 Board meeting as part of the proposed carry over "working" budget pending: findings /results from the NOC feasibility study for both GW conservation BMP, if can successfully obtain grant for the Polar Lake Park reuse project, timing of 319 small watershed grant, cost of alum for Tamarack project, status /timing for Amelia North drainage system partnership, and/ or status of BMPs work and or other necessary work in subwatershed.

Proposed Subwatershed	Budget	Notes
Projects		
Internal load/alum Tamarack	\$50,000	Could also include veg.
		management
NOC partnership on GW	\$25,000	
conservation		NOC Partnership
Township /City BMP retrofits	\$10,000	
		Township /City partnership?
Partnership w/City of Lino Lks.	\$10,000	
Amelia North drainageway		
partnership study /project		City partnership
Polar Lakes Park water reuse	\$150,000	
project		
		Township Partnership
Local match for 2nd 319 small	\$113,000	
watershed grant project design		Possible NOC partnership
City/Township/NOHOA /NOC	\$20,000	
partnership water qual /GW		
conservation projects		
Wilkinson BMP maintenance	\$5,000	
		NOC partnership
Total	\$383,000	

26. 3.450 \$115,000. Pleasant Charley Deep Subwatershed. This amount could be revised later /at the December 2025 Board meeting as part of the proposed carry over "working" budget pending results of 2025 carp management (and if program can be reduced in 2026), results of Pleasant oxygenation study for dosing, status of BMPs work and or interest of partners listed.

Proposed Subwatershed	Budget	Notes
Projects		
Pleasant Shoreline /subshed	\$25,000	
BMP partnerships		
		Partnership with NOHOA
Oxygenation system expanded	\$ 25,000	
dosing partnership study and or		
implementation		Partnership with SPRWS
Vegetation mgmt. (Pleasant &	\$10,000	
Deep)AIS		
		Partnership with NOHOA
Nutrient /Lake Mgnt. partnership	\$20,000	
projects /studies		City /local partners funding
		collaboration.
Infrastructural planning /studies	\$25,000	
/partnerships		
		Partnership with City
Carp mgmt. implementation	\$10,000	
(Pleasant)		Partnership with NOHOA
Total	\$115,000	

27. 3.460 \$271,000. Sucker Vadnais Subwatershed. This amount could be revised later /at the December 2025 Board meeting as part of the proposed carry over "working" budget pending if grant successfully obtained for E Vadnais subshed resiliency projects, and status of discussions on Boundary change process, and status of Vadnais Blvd. trail project planning.

Proposed Subwatershed	Budget	Notes
Projects		
E Vadnais subshed Resiliency	\$200,000	
partnership projects -planning,		
design and or implementation		County /City /SPRWS
		Partnership
Boundary Review and Inter-	\$30,000	
boundary partnership		
City of Vadnais Heights Street	\$10,000	
/firestation/public property		
project partnership		City Partnership

Trail project planning - Vadnais	\$25,000	
Blvd to County Road E		City partnership
Sucker Vadnais regional park	\$6,000	
restoration		Pending interest of partners
Total	\$271,000	

- 28. 3.481 \$25,000. Soil Health Grant (includes \$500 for rain barrel program).
- **29. 3.482** \$50,000. Landscape Level 1 Grant. This program remains effective at putting the funds directly back into BMP's in the ground. This fund also includes funding for groundwater quantity conservation cost share program.
- **30. 3.483 \$80,000.** Landscape Level 2 Grant. This cost share funding source is for those larger (greater than \$5,000) projects brought to VLAWMO by community partners who otherwise could not implement their best management practice. This fund also includes funding for groundwater quantity conservation cost share program. This budget could also serve as the local (min. 10%) cash match for 2025 -27 BWSR WBF grant.
- 31. 3.484 \$5,000. Project research, MS 4 assistance and feasibility watershed wide. This funding provides technical assistance to the community partners for their MS 4 program and related project research and feasibility.

32. 3.485 \$50,000. Maintenance and operations (including public ditch maintenance and management as well as VLAWMO Facilities maintenance).

Proposed Projects	Budget	Notes
Inspection and related technical	\$5,000	
report if needed - Branch and/or		
main stem		
Existing Creek project/program	\$5,000	
maintenance and inspection		
Required maintenance for	\$40,000	
drainage program and or		
previously grant-funded projects		
(VLAWMO facilities)		
Total	\$50,000	

33. 3.510 \$5,000. Plan reviews – engineering assistance. This review, if needed, can also utilize fund 3.114 consulting engineering and tech. fund identified above.

INCOME. 5.11 \$1,369,000. Storm Sewer Utility fees. – (see orange section of spreadsheet). 2026 recommended budget proposes a VLAWMO Subcommittee recommended 2026 SSU rate of \$75 /year for the single family home landuse classification (Assumes apx.11% increase from 2025). This recommended SSU rate for 2026 is based on the need to fund the identified large high impact projects and programs listed above. The increase in SSU aligns with discussion at April 2025 VLAWMO Board meeting as well as the April and June 2025 VLAWMO Subcommittee meetings where Board Directors discussed maintaining a fund balance on the larger size of the spectrum and to allow for implementation of the many longer-term planned partnership projects as

identified in the Draft 10 year Watershed Plan and the approved long range project partnership planning table. The VLAWMO Subcommittee also discussed that this SSU rate is needed to attempt to maintaining momentum for critical project implementation in light of the likely and anticipated reductions in State and Federal grant income. Last year in 2025 the SSU revenue was \$1,202,703. (See **Attachment 3 powerpoint** for SSU rate background graphs). Last year the rate for the single family home was \$67.56. The above mentioned estimated % increase in SSU rate compared to 2025 SSU rate will be defined more specifically at the Aug. 2025 Board meeting given staff and Ehlers are currently analyzing updated parcel data from the recently approved revised VLAWMO boundary and subsequent parcel changes and other necessary parcel data updates.

- **34. 5.12** Service fees (\$1000) based on actual to date although this income varies from year to year.
- 35. 5.13 Interest (\$30,000) has been increased to better reflect current interest rates.
- *36.* **5.14 WCA subgrant & misc. income** (\$3000) this is dependent on what development activity is happening during the year.
- 37. 5.15 Other funding sources grants, donations. (see peach color cells on attachment 1)

2025 actual estimated income from "other" funding sources is projected at \$180,000 (see peach section on spreadsheet). Rough estimate and likely to change.

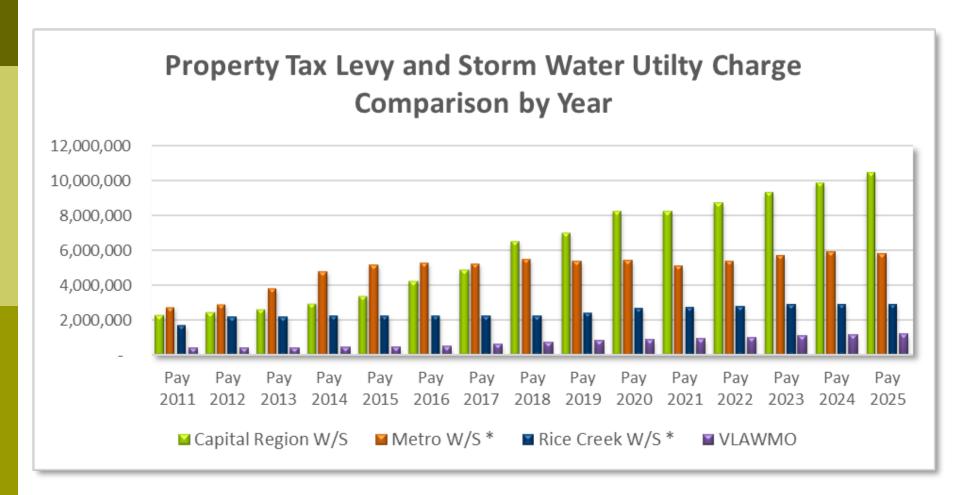
Grant or Partnership Income Source	Amount of Income anticipated in 2025
BWSR WBF grant (assume ½ of 25-27	
project year)	
	\$60,000
NOC Partnership?	
	\$20,000
319 MPCA grant implementation (start	
of 2 nd project design of 4)	
	\$50,000
City /County for project partnerships	\$20,000
SPRWS partnerships	\$30,000
TOTAL	\$180,000

38. 5.17 Range of Predicted Fund Balance at year end - The projected year end 2026 fund balance range (at the end of the year December 31, 2026) is between \$800,000 to \$1,300,000. This range of estimated fund balance is within the range of Board policy for fund balance. Some additional year end fund balance (over the minimum fund balance policy amount) is recommended due to several possible/likely future "uncertainties" (including technical feasibility, project timing, partnerships uncertainty, outcomes of possible State grant applications)

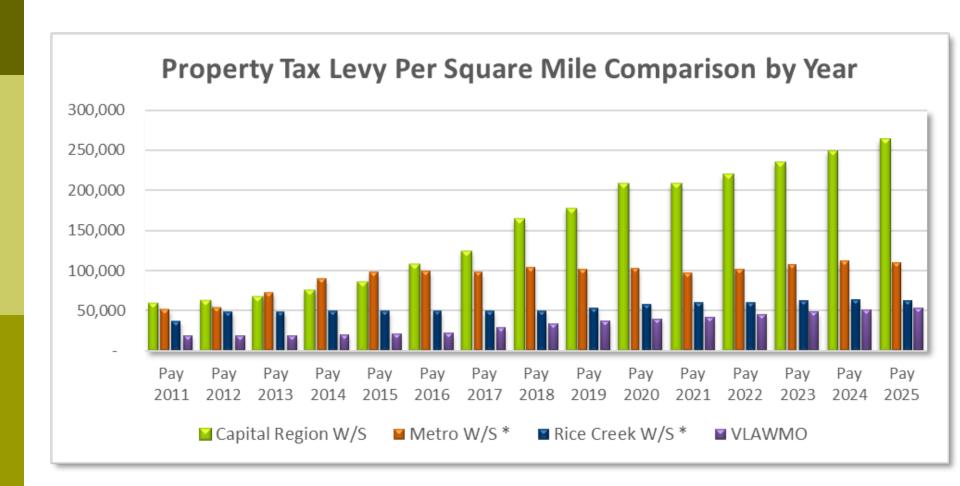
associated with several partnership based project /program areas including (but not limited to):

- East Vadnais Lake Subshed Resiliency Project (pending feasibility, grant exists?,timing and partnerships);
- Polar Lakes Park Water Reuse Project (pending WBT partnership and grant application);
- Resiliency Study– Vadnais Heights City-wide partnership (feasibility and timing and grants);
- Local match for 2nd 319 small watershed grant project design (if exists?, feasibility and timing and partnership);
- "Green" Streets Demonstration Project Planning/Implementation (feasibility and timing and grants);
- Water quality pretreatment project (upstream of Birch Lake IESF) (feasibility and timing and scale);
- Internal load/alum on Tamarack Lake (Timing);
- Oxygenation system (Pleasant Lake) expanded dosing partnership (pending SPRWS partnership, feasibility and timing);
- Boundary Review (WVL area) (outcomes from discussion/negotiations with RWMWD and timing, partnership);
- Polar Chev/61 channel restoration /sediment in lake removal (MNDOT? And technical feasibility).
- Pleasant Lake project partnerships including Carp mngt, AIS, Shoreline management and city infrastructure plan development. (partner implementation and timing);
- Amount of public drainage maintenance needed per ongoing system inspections and City partnerships;
- Number of voluntary raingarden cost share applications in City street reconstruction projects in the City of Vadnais Heights and City of White Bear Lake. Overall voluntary cost share programs budget uncertainty;

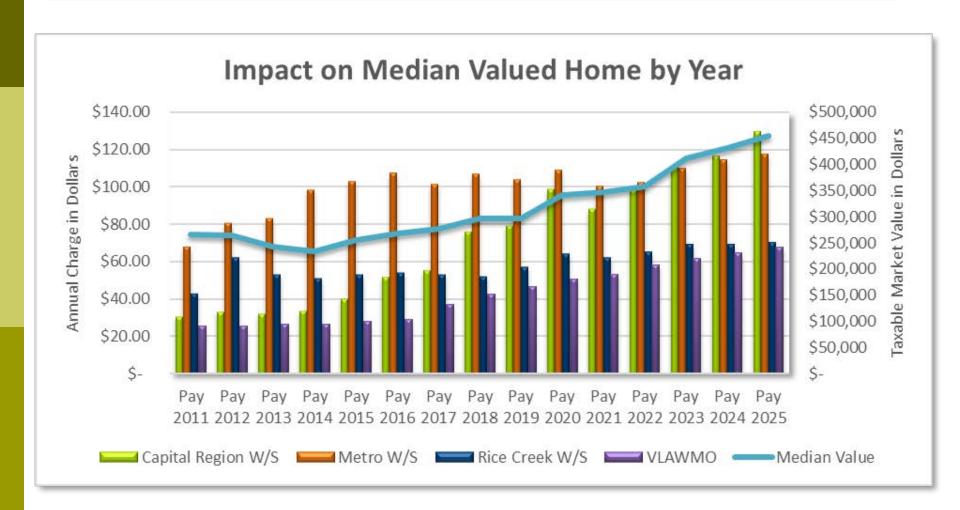
Comparing Total Tax Levy Income of WD's in Ramsey County to VLAWMO's SSU income



Comparing Total Tax Levy Income per square mile for WD's in Ramsey County vs. VLAWMO's SSU income per square mile (requested at April Board meeting).



Comparing Tax Levy Rate on Median Value Residential Property in Ramsey County's WDs to VLAWMO's SSU Residential Rate





Attachment 5

Resolution 06-2025 Of the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization (VLAWMO) Approving the 2026 Budget

Resolution 06-2025 was moved:	I by Directo	or	and seconde	d by Director
Whereas, the Board of the Vadnais considered the 2026 Budget as re the attendant information. The 202 and	commended	by the 20	26 VLAWMO Subcom	mittee and
Whereas, Total revenue for 2026 is the VLAWMO Storm Sewer Utility a grants, partnership from local com carryover from 2025, and fees/inv	nd the rema munities/pa	inder of th rtners, VL	e revenue being from	a State of MN
Whereas, the total expenditures fo utilizing: 1) \$2,507,245 of VLAWM of loans, grants and partnerships f	O funds/ ca			
Therefore be it resolved that the 20	026 Budget,	dated 6-2	5-25 is approved.	
The question was on the adoption follows:	of the resolu	ition and t	here were yeas an	d nays as
Bill Walsh (Alt.) Ed Prudhon Rob Rafferty Krista Wolter (Alt.)	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>	
Katherine Doll Kanne Jim Lindner				
			Board Chair Da	ite
			Attest Date	