

## VLAWMO TECHNICAL COMMISSION MEETING

**8:15 AM August 13, 2025**

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

Action items: ☀

- I. Call to Order – 8:15am – Chair Ousky
- II. Approval of Agenda ☀
- III. Approval of Minutes (July 9, 2025) ☀
- IV. Administration & Operations
  - A. Financial Report for August and Authorization for Payment - Phil ☀ Pg. 8
  - B. TEC Report to the Board for August – Phil ☀ Pg. 16
- V. Programs – Angela
  - A. Highlights from July Outreach Activities Pg. 17
- VI. Projects - Lauren, Dawn
  - A. Update on Vadnais Heights LCCMR Application Proposal Pg. 19
  - B. 319 Update: Phase 1 Final Reporting and NOC Savanna Restoration Pg. 19
  - C. Update on Birch Lake 2025 Memo and Report from Dive Guys Pg. 24
  - D. Update on Rotary Nature Preserve Pg. 24
  - E. Update on Tamarack Alum Monitoring & Vegetation Survey Pg. 27
  - F. Carp Solutions Revised Biomass Estimate Pg. 30
- VII. Commissioner Reports
- VIII. NOHOA
- IX. Ramsey Soil & Water Conservation Division
- X. St. Paul Regional Water Services
- XI. Public Comment
- XII. Next meetings: TEC: September 10, 2025, Board Meeting: August 27, 2025
- XIII. Adjourn ☀

### Upcoming Events: Visit [vlawmo.org/events](https://www.vlawmo.org/events)

Vadnais Heights Kids' Day  
Neighborhood Garden Tour  
Rain Garden Maintenance Workshop

August 16<sup>th</sup>  
August 19<sup>th</sup>  
September 11<sup>th</sup>

**Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization  
Technical Commission (TEC) Minutes  
July 9, 2025  
Vadnais Heights City Hall, Council Chambers  
800 County Road E East, Vadnais Heights, MN 55127**

**Commission Members Present:**

Gloria Tessier	Gem Lake (GL)
Susan Miller	North Oaks (NO)
Tom Hoffman	City of Lino Lakes (LL)
Jami Philip	White Bear Township (WBT)
Terry Huntrods	City of White Bear Lake (WBL)

**Absent:** Nick Ousky, Vadnais Heights (VH).

**Others in attendance:** Phil Belfiori, Brian Corcoran, Dawn Tanner, Lauren Sampedro, Angela Hugunin (VLAWMO staff); Ed Shapland (WAV), Jim Hauth (City of Vadnais Heights).

**I. Call to Order**

Vice Chair Tessier called the meeting to order at 8:14 am.

**II. Approval of Agenda**

It was moved by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Philip to approve the July 9, 2025 TEC agenda as presented. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

**III. Approval of Minutes (June 11, 2025)**

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffman and seconded by Commissioner Philip to approve the June 11, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

**IV. Administration & Operations**

**A. July Financial Report and Consider Authorization for Payment**

Administrator Belfiori summarized the July financial statement as included in the meeting materials. He noted income from interest and highlighted key expenditures including one of the final MPCA grant reimbursements for the Wilkinson deep-water wetland project in North Oaks. He highlighted expenses including payments to Carp Solutions for the Pleasant/Deep Lake carp project, a Soil Health Grant reimbursement, and he noted a relatively small amount of project expenses in the month of July. Staff recommended approval of the July financial report for payment.

It was moved by Commissioner Huntrods and seconded by Commissioner Hoffman to approve the July financial report and authorize for payment. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

#### B. Update on 2026 VLAWMO Budget

Administrator Belfiori provided an update on VLAWMO's 2026 budget, explaining that the VLAWMO Board approved the 2026 annual budget at its June 25, 2025 meeting. As approved, budgeted planned expenditures for 2026 will be \$2,687,245. Administrator Belfiori thanked Commissioner Huntrods for his involvement in the Board Subcommittee budget discussions.

Administrator Belfiori explained that Subcommittee approval of the 2026 budget was unanimous. He noted that the budget's project categories will evolve over time as they move through feasibility and design, then toward implementation. He highlighted some of the key approved projects in the 2026 budget, as included in the packet materials.

### V. Programs

#### A. SHG 2025-10 Shapland Turfgrass Replacement Application

Sampedro presented a grant application for a turfgrass replacement project in Vadnais Heights. Landowners Ceci and Ed Shapland submitted a Soil Health Grant application for replacing turfgrass with native plantings over an area of 568 square feet at their property. Sampedro highlighted an existing shade garden project that was the result of a previous grant project with VLAWMO. The proposed project will build on the momentum from the first grant project, by expanding the shade pollinator garden and removing the remaining turfgrass on one side of the house and replacing it with Pennsylvania Sedge.

This project will improve pollinator habitat, reduce runoff in an area that drains to an adjoining wetland, then directly to East Vadnais Lake, and provide a significant education and outreach opportunity. Sampedro shared that this project is located within an HOA, with the front yard being highly visible. Furthermore, the Shaplans will be a stop on the August neighborhood grant tours event. Sampedro noted that this proposed project is expected to be installed prior to the August tour.

Staff recommended approval of SHG 2025-10 in the amount of \$1,000.

Vice Chair Tessier noted that this project seems like a good opportunity. She thanked the Shaplans for their involvement with VLAWMO and their good stewardship actions in the watershed.

It was moved by Vice Chair Tessier and seconded by Commissioner Miller to approve the SHG 2025-10 grant application in the amount of \$1,000. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

## B. Elmwood Park and White Bear Lake Curb Cut Rain Garden Update

Sampedro shared an update on two recently completed rain gardens as part of partnership efforts with the City of Vadnais Heights and the City of White Bear Lake. The City of Vadnais Heights had a curb cut rain garden project approved for 2024 funding through the Landscape Level 2 grant program and Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Watershed Based Implementation Funding program. The project was planted with native plants this spring. Sampedro noted that the summer newsletter from the City features a writeup on this partnership effort. She also described the City's incorporation of a "story walk" near the rain garden, where residents can learn about pollinators while discovering the rain garden itself.

The City of White Bear Lake's curb cut rain garden project, approved for 2024 VLAWMO funding through the Landscape Level 2 grant program and BWSR Watershed Based Implementation Funding program, was also completed this June. The five rain gardens are various sizes based on the space available for these projects.

Sampedro explained that the development of educational signage is underway for both locations to highlight the funding sources that made these projects possible, as well as to connect residents with VLAWMO and to provide background information on rain gardens and how they function.

Commissioner Miller asked which street the White Bear Lake curb cut rain gardens are located on. Sampedro responded 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Krech Avenue, and Birch Lake Avenue.

## C. Update on Recent Outreach Activities

Huginin provided an overview of outreach activities that occurred in June, including the first neighborhood garden tours of the season. She highlighted that the June tour was a big success and featured four homeowners. This event was an opportunity to share grant programs with residents. Huginin thanked volunteers Ed and Ceci Shapland for their work planning the tour. The tour highlighted several project types including rain gardens, turfgrass replacement projects, and wetland buffers. The homeowners shared their experience with the grant programs and their projects.

Huginin discussed the Vadnais Heights Ice Cream Social that occurred in June, noting unexpectedly high attendance despite heavy rain before the event. Staff had a lot of conversations with Vadnais Heights residents and made good connections on grant programs and other educational opportunities.

She highlighted a Ramsey County Master Gardeners presentation that highlighted VLAWMO's grant programs. Staff presented to about 70 Master Gardenervolunteers, then the recording of their presentation was shared with the rest of the 400 Ramsey County Master Gardeners. Staff learned they are always looking for more educational opportunities.



Hugunin gave an overview of upcoming outreach events, including a North Oaks Garden Club tour date on July 23, White Bear Lake's Marketfest, Vadnais Heights Kids' Day, and the August 19<sup>th</sup> date for neighborhood garden tours.

#### D. SPRWS Wellhead Protection Plan Story Map

Corcoran gave an overview of a new story map and brochure from the St. Paul Regional Water Service (SPRWS), which currently uses the Mississippi River as its primary source water. He explained that SPRWS also operates ten groundwater wells as a secondary source of drinking water. In order to protect their groundwater supply, SPRWS has developed a Wellhead Protection Plan (WHPP).

Corcoran explained that the SPRWS runs a surface water treatment plan on Rice Street that then pumps water through the VLAWMO watershed. He noted that the featured resources are part of larger efforts to inform residents about the need to protect drinking water, and VLAWMO is an important part of spreading the word on this initiative.

Corcoran presented the Story Map, that is available to share with the public, noting key information categories including drinking water sources, groundwater sources, wellhead protection, Drinking Water Supply Management Area (DWSMA) vulnerability, active wells, unused wells, Class V Wells and links to educational material.

Commissioner Miller asked how often the water utility has to rely on groundwater. Corcoran answered that they used to rely on the groundwater wells more often in the summertime. His understanding is that this process has slowed down, but he believes that they are used occasionally during the year. The wells are located just south of the Vadnais Lakes.

## VI. Projects

#### A. WMP 60-Day Review Update

Tanner provided an update on the continued development of the 2027-2036 Watershed Management Plan (WMP). The draft plan was successfully sent out, with the 60-day review period set to close on August 25. She thanked the TEC for their work with this process.

#### B. 319 Update: Remaining Scope for Phase 1 Status

Tanner shared that the Board authorized remaining scope of work items to complete the phase 1 project/Wilkinson deep-water wetland.

Tanner noted Natural Shore Technologies (NST) completed a native plant enhancement in the deep-water wetland and Stantec will soon meet with North Oaks Company to continue coordinating a savanna and wetland restoration adjacent to the deep-water wetland. Seed mixes and plant enhancements used at the deep-water wetland have been shared with Stantec so they

can support native plants coming up and work to add similar species where possible. There is also an upcoming meeting to continue investigating what lies ahead for phase 2. All these updates are part of efforts to improve water quality in Wilkinson Lake, which is impaired for nutrients.

#### **C. Rotary Nature Preserve Restoration Contract and First Scope Update**

Tanner shared that the Board authorized and signed the contract for the project and task order 1 at their June meeting. NST is now authorized to conduct work included in task order 1. Efforts this fall will be focused on treating invasives.

VLAWMO staff was invited to give a presentation to the Rotary Club of White Bear Lake in June to give an overview of the project, and attendees were engaged and very supportive of the project.

#### **D. Tamarack Alum Phase 3 Update**

Tanner described the Board's authorization and signing of the amendment for phase 3 of the project, as well as the engineering oversight, monitoring, and inspection scope for phases 3 and 4 at the June Board meeting. Lake Restorations, Inc. (LRI) has shared that their anticipated timeline for the beginning of phase 3 is mid-October. That tentative timeframe has been shared with project partners.

### **VII. Commissioner Reports**

None.

### **VIII. NOHOA**

None.

### **IX. Ramsey Soil & Water Conservation Division**

None.

### **X. St. Paul Regional Water Services**

None.

## **XI. Public Comment**

None.

## **XII. Next Meetings**

TEC Meeting: August 13, 2025 at 8:15 a.m.; Board Meeting: August 27, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

## **XIII. Adjourn**

It was moved by Commissioner Huntrods and seconded by Commissioner Miller to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 am. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

# VLAWMO Finance Summary: August 2025

Aug-25		Actual 8/1/25	Actual to Date	2025 Budget (June 2024 Board Approved)	Carry over from 2024 to 2025	Remaining in Budget	2025 Available (Dec. 2024 Board approved)	Act vs. Budget
BUDGET #	INCOME							
5.11	Storm Water Utility	\$651,606	\$651,606	\$1,202,703	\$0	\$551,097	\$1,202,703	54%
5.12	Service Fees			\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	0%
5.13	Interest + mitigation acct	\$12,077	\$39,208	\$30,000	\$0	(\$9,208)	\$30,000	131%
5.14	Misc. income - WCA admin & other		\$7,058	\$3,000	\$0	(\$4,058)	\$3,000	235%
5.15	Other Income Grants/ <u>loan</u>		\$90,423	\$238,960	\$0	\$148,537	\$238,960	38%
5.16	Transfer from reserves			\$1,180,708	\$180,796	\$1,361,504	\$1,361,504	0%
	TOTAL	\$663,683	\$788,295	\$2,656,371	\$180,796	\$2,048,872	\$2,837,167	30%
EXPENSES								
3.1	Operations & Administration							
3.110	Office - rent, copies, post tel supplies	\$2,202	\$17,874	\$33,851	\$0	\$15,977	\$33,851	53%
3.120	Information Systems	\$1,697	\$15,006	\$33,850	\$0	\$18,844	\$33,850	44%
3.130	Insurance	\$3,686	\$9,693	\$12,000	\$0	\$2,307	\$12,000	81%
3.141	Consulting - Audit		\$14,045	\$23,000	\$0	\$8,955	\$23,000	61%
3.142	Consulting - Bookkeeping	\$44	\$379	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,121	\$1,500	25%
3.143	Consulting - Legal		\$1,125	\$8,000	\$0	\$6,875	\$8,000	14%
3.144	Consulting - Eng. & Tech.		\$10,133	\$50,000	\$0	\$39,867	\$50,000	20%
3.150	Storm Sewer Utility		\$10,095	\$22,500	\$0	\$12,405	\$22,500	45%
3.160	Training (staff/board)			\$18,000	\$0	\$18,000	\$18,000	0%
3.170	Misc. & mileage	\$395	\$1,747	\$7,276	\$0	\$5,529	\$7,276	24%
3.191	Administration - staff	\$36,419	\$299,649	\$470,287	\$13,165	\$183,803	\$483,452	62%
3.192	Employer Liability	\$11,801	\$93,356	\$144,579	\$0	\$51,223	\$144,579	65%
3.2	Monitoring and Studies							
3.210	Lake and Creek lab analysis	\$4,180	\$11,112	\$18,000	\$3,000	\$9,888	\$21,000	53%
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	\$15,007	\$91,206	\$150,000	\$0	\$58,794	\$150,000	61%
3.3	Education and Outreach							
3.310	Public Education	\$1,000	\$3,033	\$6,000	\$0	\$2,967	\$6,000	51%
3.320	Comm., Outreach & Marketing		\$3,833	\$20,000	\$5,000	\$21,167	\$25,000	15%
3.330	Community Blue Ed Grant			\$12,000	\$0	\$12,000	\$12,000	0%
Total Core functions: Ops, Monitoring, Education		\$76,431	\$582,286	\$1,043,843	\$21,165	\$482,722	\$1,065,008	55%
Capital Improvement Projects and Programs								
3.4	Subwatershed Activity							
3.410	Gem Lake			\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000	0%
3.420	Lambert Creek			\$160,000	\$0	\$160,000	\$160,000	0%
3.421	Lambert Lake Loan		\$19,284	\$38,568	\$0	\$19,284	\$38,568	50%

3.425	Goose Lake			\$75,000	\$0	\$75,000	\$75,000	0%
3.430	Birch Lake		\$16,193	\$70,000	\$0	\$53,807	\$70,000	23%
3.440	Gilf Black Tam Wilk Amelia	\$6,047	\$77,227	\$375,000	\$100,000	\$397,773	\$475,000	16%
3.450	Pleasant Charley Deep	\$3,600	\$44,547	\$150,000	\$0	\$105,453	\$150,000	30%
3.460	Sucker Vadnais		\$45,406	\$250,000	\$0	\$204,594	\$250,000	18%
3.48	<b>Programs</b>							
3.480	Soil Health Grant	\$2,792	\$7,059	\$20,000	\$4,524	\$17,465	\$24,524	29%
3.481	Landscape 1			\$50,000	\$26,900	\$76,900	\$76,900	0%
3.482	Landscape 2/BWSR WBF		\$23,616	\$80,000	\$28,207	\$84,591	\$108,207	22%
3.483	Project Research & feasibility			\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	0%
3.485	Facilities Maintenanc/ Pub. Ditch Main.		\$15,136	\$70,000	\$0	\$54,864	\$70,000	22%
3.5	<b>Regulatory</b>							
3.510	Engineer Plan review		\$270	\$5,000	\$0	\$4,730	\$5,000	5%
	<b>Total CIP &amp; Program</b>	\$12,439	\$248,738	\$1,373,568	\$159,631	\$1,284,461	\$1,533,199	16%
	<b>Total of Core Operations &amp; CIP</b>	<b>\$88,870</b>	\$831,024	\$2,417,411	\$180,796	<b>\$1,767,183</b>	\$2,598,207	<b>32%</b>

Fund Balance		7/1/2025	8/1/2025
4M Account		\$480,388	\$1,048,224
4M Plus Savings		\$258,219	\$259,152
Total		\$738,607	\$1,307,376

Restricted funds		8/1/2025
Mitigation Savings		\$0
Term Series		\$300,000

**Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization**  
**Check Detail**  
**July 10 through August 13, 2025**

11:24 AM

08/04/2025

	Type	Num	Date	Name	Item	Account	Paid Amount	Original Amount
	Check	eft	07/10/2025	further		Checking - 1987		-7.00
					Insurance Benefit		-7.00	7.00
TOTAL							-7.00	7.00
	Check	eft	07/23/2025	US Bank		Checking - 1987		-44.31
					3.142 · Bookkeeping help		-44.31	44.31
TOTAL							-44.31	44.31
	Check	eft	07/23/2025	Reliance Standard		Checking - 1987		-428.30
					Insurance Benefit		-428.30	428.30
TOTAL							-428.30	428.30
	Check	6012	08/13/2025	Dawn Tanner		Checking - 1987		-89.60
					3.170 · Misc. & mileage		-89.60	89.60
TOTAL							-89.60	89.60
	Check	6013	08/13/2025	Angela Hugunin		Checking - 1987		-70.39
					3.170 · Misc. & mileage		-70.39	70.39
TOTAL							-70.39	70.39
	Check	6014	08/13/2025	Brian Corcoran		Checking - 1987		-161.68
					3.170 · Misc. & mileage		-161.68	161.68
TOTAL							-161.68	161.68
	Check	6015	08/13/2025	Lauren Sampedro		Checking - 1987		-72.94
					3.170 · Misc. & mileage		-72.94	72.94
TOTAL							-72.94	72.94
	Check	6016	08/13/2025	Town Law Center, PLLP		Checking - 1987		-1,350.00
					3.240 · Watershed Plan Amendment		-1,350.00	1,350.00
TOTAL							-1,350.00	1,350.00
	Check	6017	08/13/2025	carp solutions		Checking - 1987		-3,600.00
					3.450 · Pleasant Charley Deep		-3,600.00	3,600.00
TOTAL							-3,600.00	3,600.00
	Check	6018	08/13/2025	Metro - Inet		Checking - 1987		-1,697.00
					IT Support		-1,697.00	1,697.00
TOTAL							-1,697.00	1,697.00



Check 6019 08/13/2025 Carol C Steenson	Checking - 1987	-1,000.00	
	3.480 · Soil Health Grant	-1,000.00	1,000.00
TOTAL		-1,000.00	1,000.00
Check 6020 08/13/2025 Freshwater Society	Checking - 1987	-1,000.00	
	3.310 · Public Education	-1,000.00	1,000.00
TOTAL		-1,000.00	1,000.00
Check 6021 08/13/2025 North Oaks Company	Checking - 1987	-6,046.66	
	3.440 · Gilfillan Black Tamarack Wilkin	-6,046.66	6,046.66
TOTAL		-6,046.66	6,046.66
Check 6022 08/13/2025 Caitlin Troyer	Checking - 1987	-701.45	
	3.480 · Soil Health Grant	-701.45	701.45
TOTAL		-701.45	701.45
Check 6023 08/13/2025 City of Vadnais Heights	Checking - 1987	-2,202.06	
	Rent	-1,815.00	1,815.00
	Phone/Internet/Machine Overhead	-325.00	325.00
	Postage	-12.90	12.90
	Copies	-49.16	49.16
TOTAL		-2,202.06	2,202.06
Check 6024 08/13/2025 City of White Bear Lake	Checking - 1987	-47,784.60	
	payroll	-36,419.26	36,419.26
	Administration FICA	-2,683.92	2,683.92
	Administration PERA	-2,731.46	2,731.46
	Insurance Benefit	-5,695.04	5,695.04
	Admin payroll processing	-254.92	254.92
TOTAL		-47,784.60	47,784.60
Check 6025 08/13/2025 Alex Smith	Checking - 1987	-1,000.00	
	3.480 · Soil Health Grant	-1,000.00	1,000.00
TOTAL		-1,000.00	1,000.00
Check 6026 08/13/2025 Charlie Nelson	Checking - 1987	-90.72	
	3.480 · Soil Health Grant	-90.72	90.72
TOTAL		-90.72	90.72
Check 6027 08/13/2025 League of MN Cities Insurance Trust WC	Checking - 1987	-3,686.00	
	3.130 · Insurance	-3,686.00	3,686.00
TOTAL		-3,686.00	3,686.00
Check 6028 08/13/2025 Houston Engineering, Inc	Checking - 1987	-13,657.00	

	3.240 · Watershed Plan Amendment	-1,384.25	1,384.25
	3.240 · Watershed Plan Amendment	-1,446.00	1,446.00
	3.240 · Watershed Plan Amendment	-10,826.75	10,826.75
TOTAL		-13,657.00	13,657.00

**Check 6029 08/13/2025 RMB Environmental Laboratories, Inc.**

**Checking - 1987**

**-4,180.01**

	3.210 · Lake & Creek lab analysis	-564.30	564.30
	3.210 · Lake & Creek lab analysis	-76.29	76.29
	3.210 · Lake & Creek lab analysis	-1,433.74	1,433.74
	3.210 · Lake & Creek lab analysis	-564.30	564.30
	3.210 · Lake & Creek lab analysis	-1,433.74	1,433.74
	3.210 · Lake & Creek lab analysis	-31.35	31.35
	3.210 · Lake & Creek lab analysis	-76.29	76.29
TOTAL		-4,180.01	4,180.01

**Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization**  
**Profit & Loss**  
 July 10 through August 13, 2025

11:27 AM

08/04/2025

Cash Basis

**Jul 10 - Aug 13, 25**

<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
5.1 · Income	
5.11 · Storm Water Utility	651,605.53
5.13 · Interest	12,076.60
<b>Total 5.1 · Income</b>	<b>663,682.13</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>663,682.13</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>663,682.13</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
3.1 · Administrative/Operations	
3.110 · Office	
Copies	49.16
Phone/Internet/Machine Overhead	325.00
Postage	12.90
Rent	1,815.00
<b>Total 3.110 · Office</b>	<b>2,202.06</b>
3.120 · Information Systems	
IT Support	1,697.00
<b>Total 3.120 · Information Systems</b>	<b>1,697.00</b>
3.130 · Insurance	3,686.00
3.142 · Bookkeeping help	44.31
3.170 · Misc. & mileage	394.61
3.191 · Employee Payroll	
payroll	36,419.26
<b>Total 3.191 · Employee Payroll</b>	<b>36,419.26</b>
3.192 · Employer Liabilities	
Admin payroll processing	254.92
Administration FICA	2,683.92
Administration PERA	2,731.46
Insurance Benefit	6,130.34
<b>Total 3.192 · Employer Liabilities</b>	<b>11,800.64</b>
<b>Total 3.1 · Administrative/Operations</b>	<b>56,243.88</b>
3.2 · Monitoring and Studies	
3.210 · Lake & Creek lab analysis	4,180.01
3.240 · Watershed Plan Amendment	15,007.00
<b>Total 3.2 · Monitoring and Studies</b>	<b>19,187.01</b>
3.3 · Education and Outreach	
3.310 · Public Education	1,000.00
<b>Total 3.3 · Education and Outreach</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>
3.4 · Capital Imp. Projects/Programs	
3.440 · Gilfillan Black Tamarack Wilkin	6,046.66
3.450 · Pleasant Charley Deep	3,600.00

Total 3.4 · Capital Imp. Projects/Programs	9,646.66
3.48 · Programs	
3.480 · Soil Health Grant	2,792.17
Total 3.48 · Programs	<u>2,792.17</u>
Total Expense	<u>88,869.72</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>574,812.41</u>
Net Income	<u><u>574,812.41</u></u>

Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization  
**Custom Transaction Detail Report**  
 June 1 through August 1, 2025

11:22 AM

08/04/2025

Accrual Basis

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Clr	Split	Amount	Balance
Jun 1 - Aug 1, 25									
Credit Card Charge	06/02/2025		Google*SVCAPPS_VLAWM		US Bank CC	✓	WEB	42.00	42.00
Credit Card Charge	06/10/2025		mnl	gift cards for grant tour hosts	US Bank CC	✓	3.310 · Public Education	50.00	92.00
Credit Card Charge	06/12/2025		Rogue Water Lab	water communication conference Angela	US Bank CC	✓	3.160 · Training (staff/board)	325.00	417.00
Credit Card Charge	06/18/2025		Best Buy	laptop charger Dawn	US Bank CC	✓	Hardware	43.34	460.34
Transfer	06/20/2025			Funds Transfer	US Bank CC	✓	Checking - 1987	-79.92	380.42
Credit Card Charge	06/24/2025		Adobe "Creative Cloud		US Bank CC	✓	Software	37.92	418.34
Credit Card Charge	07/02/2025		Google*SVCAPPS_VLAWM		US Bank CC	✓	WEB	42.00	460.34
Credit Card Credit	07/07/2025		Rogue Water Lab	water communication conference Angela (refund)	US Bank CC		3.160 · Training (staff/board)	-325.00	135.34
Jun 1 - Aug 1, 25								<b>135.34</b>	<b>135.34</b>

## TEC Report to Board -August 2025

Programs & Projects	Effort Level	Completion Date	Comments																									
	LOW																											
	MED																											
	HIGH																											
Projects				Administration & Operation																								
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 MPCA Sewer Overflow & Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grant for the design of a Phase 2 project was successful in the amount of \$150,000. A LCCMR grant proposal for the construction of the project was recommended for \$2,842.000 in funding, which will be reviewed by the Legislature in 2026.	Audit		2025	2024 Audit was approved at the April BOD meeting and Submitted to BWSR etc.																					
Rotary Park partnership		2025-29	First task order with NST underway.	Budget		for 2026 budget	The 2026 VLAWMO Budget was approved at the June 25, 2025 Board VLAWMO Board meeting.																					
Vadnais Heights Resiliency Study (Whole City)		2026	The City of Vadnais Heights and VLAWMO are working on next steps for beginning a resiliency study that will cover the rest of the City not part of the E. Vadnais Lake Resiliency Study. Staff met with the City for a kick off meeting in July and a meeting to plan public engagement for the study.	2026-2036 JPA updated		2026	JPA has been distributed to member communities for consideration by City Councils /Town Board																					
MPCA 319 /Wilkinson Lake BMPs		Phase 1 complete by Aug 2025	Completing remaining invoicing and reporting for phase 1; planning for phase 2 ongoing.	SSU		Charges considered at Aug. Board mtg.	Working with Elhers on 2026 charges to be considered at the August VLAWMO Board meeting. Also working on necessary SSU boundary changes based on approved updated RCWD/VLAWMO Boundary.																					
Pleasant Lake Carp Management		Ongoing	Biomass survey completed; planning for 2026.	2027-2036 Watershed Mgmt. Plan		2026	Formal review deadline August 25, 2025.																					
Tamarack Alum Project		2025-26	Preparation for phases 3 and 4 ongoing; aquatic veg survey completed in June.	<table><tr><th colspan="5">FINANCIAL SUMMARY as of 8/1/2025</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>4M Account (1.10)</td><td>4M Plus (1.23)</td><td colspan="3">Total</td></tr><tr><td>\$1,048,224</td><td>\$259,152</td><td colspan="3">\$1,307,376</td></tr></table>					FINANCIAL SUMMARY as of 8/1/2025										4M Account (1.10)	4M Plus (1.23)	Total			\$1,048,224	\$259,152	\$1,307,376		
FINANCIAL SUMMARY as of 8/1/2025																												
4M Account (1.10)	4M Plus (1.23)	Total																										
\$1,048,224	\$259,152	\$1,307,376																										
Programs																												
City/Township MS4		Ongoing	Event opportunities shared with communities for community outreach; ongoing work to determine needs of MS4 partners, prepare for end of permit cycle, and update outreach materials.																									
Communication & Outreach		Ongoing	VLAWMO staff attended the NO Garden Club Tour event and WBL Marketfest in July, sharing educational materials with community members. Outreach materials continue to be updated. Tour stops are solidified for the August 19th neighborhood garden tours with VLAWMO grant-funded projects, and a Blue Thumb rain garden maintenance workshop will be hosted in the watershed on Sept. 11.																									
Website		Ongoing	Current website continues to be updated as needed. Continued planning and design work is underway for the new website.																									
WAV		Ongoing	WAV members continue to share VLAWMO opportunities with friends and neighbors, including at National Night Out. WAV support at Marketfest and VH Kids Day tabling.																									
Cost Share & BWSR WBIF		Ongoing	Site visits are continuing including several project close out visits. Staff met with Met. Council and RCSWCD on a potential future partnership at a Park & Ride lot that builds on E Vadnais Lake Resiliency Study work. WBIF projects: the White Bear Lake Sports Center project was constructed in July and the Elmwood park rain garden was also completed in July. A few wrap up tasks remain for closing out the projects.																									
GIS		Ongoing	Updating online GIS viewer as needed.																									
Monitoring		Ongoing	2025 season is underway																									
WCA		Ongoing	Administering WCA as needed.																									
				<table><tr><th>Budget Summary</th><th>Actual Expense YTD</th><th>2025 Budget "working"</th><th>Remaining in Budget</th><th>% YTD</th></tr><tr><td>Operations</td><td>\$582,286</td><td>\$1,065,008</td><td>\$482,722</td><td>55%</td></tr><tr><td>CIP</td><td>\$248,738</td><td>\$1,533,199</td><td>\$1,284,461</td><td>16%</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>\$831,024</td><td>\$2,598,207</td><td>\$1,767,183</td><td>32%</td></tr></table>					Budget Summary	Actual Expense YTD	2025 Budget "working"	Remaining in Budget	% YTD	Operations	\$582,286	\$1,065,008	\$482,722	55%	CIP	\$248,738	\$1,533,199	\$1,284,461	16%	Total	\$831,024	\$2,598,207	\$1,767,183	32%
Budget Summary	Actual Expense YTD	2025 Budget "working"	Remaining in Budget	% YTD																								
Operations	\$582,286	\$1,065,008	\$482,722	55%																								
CIP	\$248,738	\$1,533,199	\$1,284,461	16%																								
Total	\$831,024	\$2,598,207	\$1,767,183	32%																								

Budget Summary	Actual Expense YTD	2025 Budget "working"	Remaining in Budget	% YTD
Operations	\$582,286	\$1,065,008	\$482,722	55%
CIP	\$248,738	\$1,533,199	\$1,284,461	16%
Total	\$831,024	\$2,598,207	\$1,767,183	32%



## TEC Staff Memo – August 13, 2025

### IV. Administration & Operations

#### A. August Financial Report and Consider Authorization for Payment

Please find the August financial report and authorization to pay bills for consideration and approval.

#### B. TEC Report to the Board for August

Please find the August TEC report to the Board attached in the ePacket for review and approval.

### V. Programs

#### A. Highlights from July Outreach Activities

VLAWMO was invited to North Oaks resident Damien Lepoutre's property as part of the North Oaks Garden Club (NOGC) Garden Tour event. Lepoutre received a Soil Health grant from VLAWMO earlier this year. As he was out of town for the tour date, he wanted an educational presence there to share the intentional choice to incorporate native plants in the project. Staff attended the tour and interacted with garden tour attendees, garnering interest in upcoming VLAWMO events, grant programs, and native plants themselves.



*Above: NOGC Garden Tour attendees discovered links between native plants and water quality. Learners of all ages enjoyed the roots display.*

VLAWMO staff attended the WBL Environmental Resources Expo along with WAV member Gina Schmidt. Attendees learned about the importance of keeping pollutants off our streets and away from storm drains. Interest was stirred for

upcoming events and grant programs. Staff appreciates the opportunity to connect with community members at events such as these.



**Above:** Gina Schmidt, WAV member, joined VLAWMO staff for tabling at Marketfest, offering her perspective on VLAWMO's grant programs and volunteer opportunities.



**Above:** The Adopt-a-Drain exhibit helped table visitors deepen their understanding of everyday actions we can take to protect local lakes and streams.



## VI. Projects

### A. Update on Vadnais Heights LCCMR Application Proposal

At the March 12, 2025 TEC meeting, staff provided an update that the City of Vadnais Heights and VLAWMO partnered on a Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) grant application proposal for construction of a water quality improvement project, trail network, and educational features behind City Hall. This project is a result of recommendations from the completed East Vadnais Lake Resiliency Study and builds on a successful Minnesota Pollution Control Agency grant application for completing designs for the project. The City received notice on July 22<sup>nd</sup> that the proposal was selected to recommend to the 2026 Legislature for funding from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF). This was one of the 109 proposals selected for funding out of 400 proposals received by the LCCMR. The LCCMR is recommending \$2,842,000 for the project. VLAWMO and the City have started working on the next step, which is filling out a draft work plan for the LCCMR's review. The LCCMR will finalize the legislative bill language for 2026 funding recommendations by December of this year and will present to the Legislature during the 2026 session starting in February of 2026. Final approval of the funding will be known by July 2026. Staff will provide another update to the TEC on if the LCCMR-recommended funding is secured after the 2026 Legislative session has completed.

### B. 319 Update: Phase 1 Final Reporting and NOC Savanna Restoration

Staff are working on final invoicing and reporting to close out the phase 1 deep-water wetland project. The shoreline vegetation enhancement is continuing to grow in well and is being maintained by NST. Vacker Sign has completed the design and ordered the educational sign. NOC contributed comments during review and will be installing the sign when it is received. RCSWCD completed transplant sessions to support submerged plant establishment in the wetland. At the time of packet preparation, RCSWCD and VLAWMO have scheduled and are working to conduct the survey of submerged plant establishment. Photos from the survey will be shared by VLAWMO staff at the TEC meeting. Prior to the TEC meeting, a final invoice will be sent to MPCA from VLAWMO and close-out reporting will be initiated.

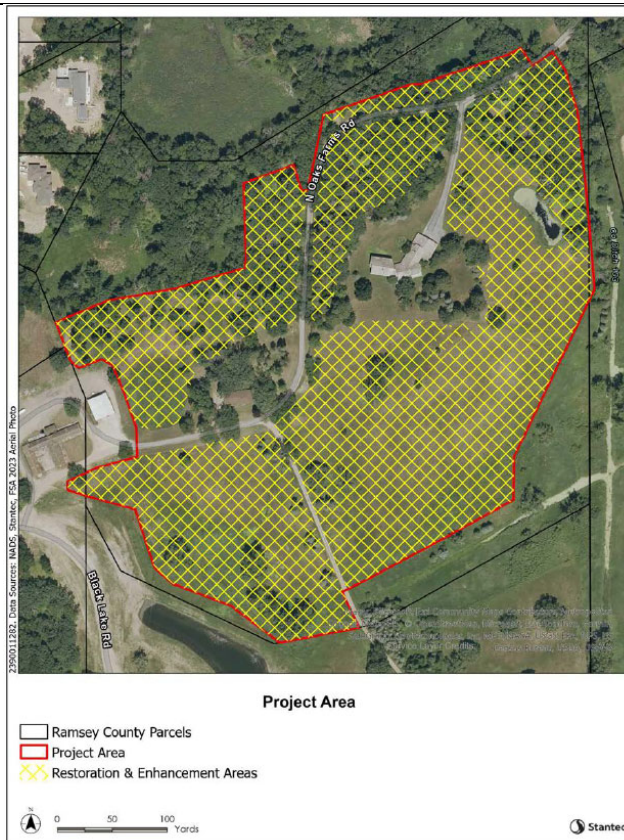
In the home property area next to the deep-water wetland, NOC is working with Stantec to complete a comprehensive savanna, wetland, and prairie restoration. The full area is 25 acres. Smaller wetland pockets with healthy native vegetation are coming in on the berm and in lower areas that were seeded after construction was completed. The seed mix is coming in well; it's doing so well that Stantec is working to spot treat and conduct enhancement in areas, focusing more intensive efforts on areas with high coverage of invasive plant species. This adjacent restoration will support the deep-water wetland and may reduce maintenance needs in the project area over time. A burn was conducted for this restoration on August 5. The project design and burn area are shown below. These figures were included in a notice sent

to North Oaks residents as part of a notification about the upcoming burn. Post-burn photos will be shared by VLAWMO staff at the TEC meeting.

### Shoreline vegetation enhancements spring 2025



25-acre restoration being done by NOC and Stantec adjacent to the deep-water wetland, project area





**Field meeting with NOC, Stantec, and VLAWMO in the 25-acre restoration area**



**Small wetland patch with healthy native vegetation reestablishing from the seedbank**





**Oak savanna restoration area, with buckthorn removed from the understory**



**25-acre restoration being done by NOC and Stantec adjacent to the deep-water wetland, burn area**

July 30, 2025  
Page 3 of 3

Reference: Upcoming controlled burn for ecological restoration at the Hill home site



Burn unit shown in orange



**Education sign for Wilkinson deep-water wetland restoration**

## Wilkinson Lake Deep-Water Wetland Restoration

(Constructed 2023-2024)

Wetlands improve water quality, provide flood control, and are important wildlife habitat. They also slow water down and remove pollutants.



Pre-construction



During construction



Post-construction

Constructed wetlands like this one are an important tool toward improving Wilkinson Lake. This wetland area receives water from 3,115 upstream acres and includes communities, highways, and roads. Water flows into Wilkinson Lake and becomes part of the drinking water chain for St. Paul and surrounding communities.




**Making it happen**



Site excavation based on engineering plans



Native aquatic plants added to provide habitat and remove pollutants

**Look for these residents**



Fledged immature Bald eagle siblings



Sandhill crane



River otter

**Look for these plants**



Allegheny monkeyflower



Blackberries



Black-eyed susans



Obedient plant

**Project partners:**




**Project partners:**  
 VLAWMO, North Oaks Cemetery, Minnesota Land Trust, Ramsey County Soil and Water Conservation Division, St. Paul Regional Water Services  
 Project designed by: Houston Engineering, Inc.

The project was funded as part of the Small, Priority Watershed grant program that is administered by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) with funds from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

### C. Update on Birch Lake 2025 Memo and Report from Dive Guys

BLID and VLAWMO received the final report from Dive Guys following completion of the hand-pulling effort this year. VLAWMO provided a package of documentation including a memo, the Dive Guys report, and pre- and post-survey maps from RCSWCD. The packet is included in this month's TEC packet and will be provided to the Board at the August meeting.

**Attachment:** BLID and VLAWMO partnership AIS hand-pulling in Birch Lake 2025

link: [https://www.vlawmo.org/index.php/download\\_file/5192/](https://www.vlawmo.org/index.php/download_file/5192/)

### D. Update on Rotary Nature Preserve

The Rotary Nature Preserve restoration phases that precede the 5-year wetland restoration are showing results. The restoration areas that are underway in partnership with the City of White Bear Lake, the Rotary Club, and VLAWMO, were completed and enhanced with additional plantings by Natural Shore Technologies this summer. It's worth a trip to walk through this area and see the restoration effort underway, as we begin work on the wetland areas.



**Blooming restoration area with ongoing establishment of native vegetation**







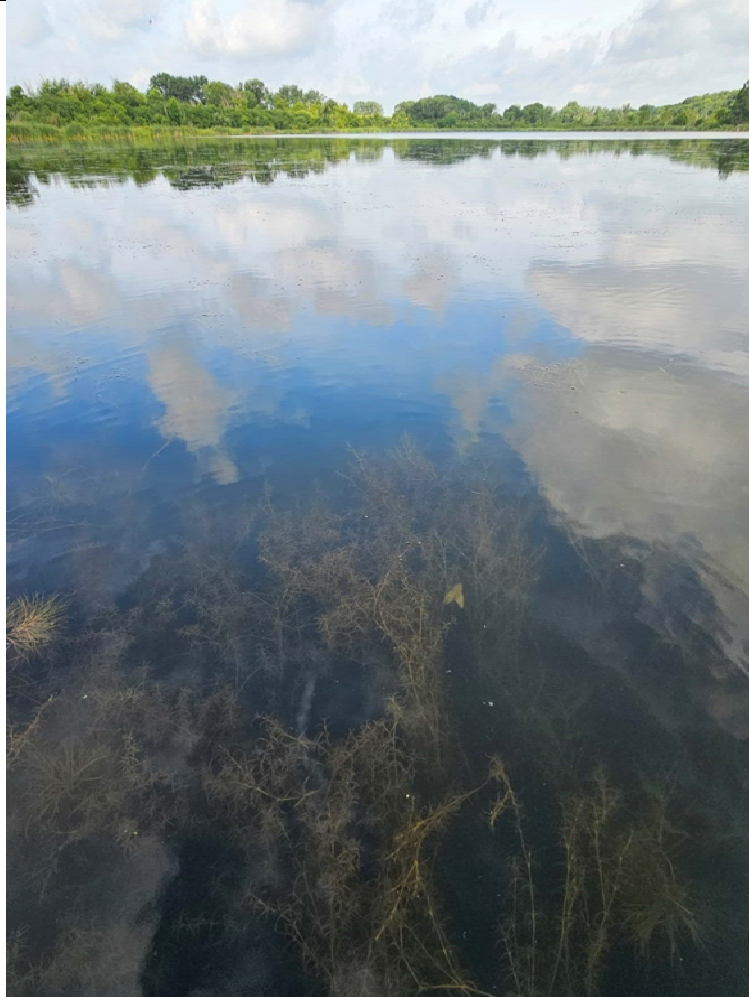
#### **E. Update on Tamarack Alum Monitoring & Vegetation Survey**

An aquatic vegetation survey that is part of the monitoring of the Tamarack Lake Alum project monitoring was completed by RCSWCD and VLAWMO staff in July. Native aquatic vegetation is responding very well. Native vegetation is growing well in littoral areas. Numerous native species were present. No invasive plant species were detected. A report including maps will be provided by RCSWCD later this fall. The lake will be surveyed again in 2026 to continue to document and describe the vegetation response to the alum treatment.

#### **Tamarack Lake aquatic vegetation survey, July 22 2025**

Native Sago pondweed and Southern naiad are now abundant in littoral areas of Tamarack Lake









**F. Carp Solutions Revised Biomass Estimate**

Carp Solutions completed three separate survey days using boat-based electroshocking to reassess the biomass of invasive common carp in Pleasant Lake following the past two years of spring carp removals. No carp were detected on any of the three days. A report and recommendations are anticipated following completion of this survey.