

VLAWMO TECHNICAL COMMISSION MEETING

8:15 AM October 8, 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 (September 10, 2025) 🍁 Pg. 2
- IV. Administration & Operations - Phil
 - A. Financial Report for October and Authorization for Payment 🍁 Pg. 8
 - B. TEC Report to Board for October 🍁 Pg. 15
- V. Programs – Angela
 - A. Highlights from September Outreach Activities Pg. 16
- VI. Projects – Brian & Dawn
 - A. Tamarack Lake Fish Survey Update – Brian Pg. 17
 - B. Tamarack Lake Phase 3 Alum Update Pg. 17
 - C. Carp Solutions Recommendation for 2026 Update Pg. 17
 - D. Rotary Park Fall Activities Update Pg. 18
- VII. Commissioner Reports
- VIII. NOHOA
- IX. Ramsey Soil & Water Conservation Division
- X. St. Paul Regional Water Services
- XI. Public Comment
- XII. Next meetings: TEC: November 12, 2025, Board Meeting: October 22, 2025
- XIII. Adjourn 🍁

Upcoming Events: Visit vlawmo.org/events

Autumn Water Social
WAV Meeting
Fall Cleanup at Vadnais-Sucker Lakes Regional Park

October 23rd
October 28th
November 8th

**Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization
Technical Commission (TEC) Minutes
September 10, 2025
Vadnais Heights City Hall, Council Chambers
800 County Road E East, Vadnais Heights, MN 55127**

Commission Members Present:

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

Absent:

Others in attendance: Phil Belfiori, Brian Corcoran, Dawn Tanner, Lauren Sampedro, Angela Hugunin (VLAWMO staff); Jeremy Erickson (SPRWS); Ed Shapland (WAV).

I. Call to Order

Chair Ousky called the meeting to order at 8:15 am.

II. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Commissioner Philip and seconded by Commissioner Huntrods to approve the September 10, 2025 TEC agenda as presented. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

III. Approval of Minutes (August 13, 2025)

It was moved by Commissioner Philip and seconded by Commissioner Tessier to approve the August 13, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

IV. Administration & Operations

A. September Financial Report and Consider Authorization for Payment

Administrator Belfiori summarized the September financial statement as emailed to the TEC and distributed at the meeting. He noted income from interest and highlighted key expenditures including a new staff computer consistent with VLAWMO's five-year replacement policy, expenses for ongoing project work including closing out the Wilkinson project, and Soil Health Grant project close outs. Staff recommended approval of the September financial report for payment.

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

V. Programs

A. SHG 2025-11 Lamb Turfgrass Replacement Application

Sampedro presented a Soil Health Grant application for a turfgrass replacement project over an area of 5,000 square feet at a 0.24-acre property in Vadnais Heights. Sampedro showed an aerial view of the project area, explaining that the location falls within a VLAWMO priority zone for volume reduction before runoff drains to Lambert Creek.

Sampedro described the applicant's plan to overseed much of the backyard with low mow/no mow fescue grass to replace the turfgrass. The applicant proposes adding a 375-square foot pollinator garden as well as the addition of two new rain barrels. Plant species were specifically selected to conserve water and provide valuable pollinator habitat. Sampedro also noted two outreach connections with this applicant: first, that they adjusted their plan after attending the August Neighborhood Garden Tour, and second, that their front yard's visibility makes the proposed pollinator garden a valuable outreach opportunity.

The total estimated project cost is \$1,677.58. Staff recommended approval of SHG 2025-11 in the amount of \$1,250.

It was moved by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Huntrods to approve the SHG 2025-11 grant application in the amount of \$1,250. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

B. SHG 2025-12 Ballering Turfgrass Replacement Application

Sampedro presented a Soil Health Grant application for a turfgrass replacement project in North Oaks. This proposal is the first phase of the applicant's proposed multi-phase turfgrass replacement and stormwater project at her 1.3-acre property, which is located on East Pleasant Lake Road. Sampedro explained that the property drains to a wetland before reaching Pleasant Lake. She also noted the landowner's commitment to improving pollinator habitat, reducing stormwater runoff from her property and surrounding areas for the benefit of water quality, and her desire to increase her yard's overall resilience.

Sampedro highlighted the first phase would be replacing turfgrass with bee lawn seed mix, over an area of approximately 4000 square feet. A later phase will incorporate a rain garden to capture runoff along the street, as well as the addition of native plants along the driveway in an area where erosion is currently occurring. Sampedro shared that this may be the first bee lawn in North Oaks. Sampedro stated that the total estimated project cost is \$3,756.38. Staff recommended approval of SHG 2025-12 in the amount of \$1,000 for phase 1.

Commissioner Tessier asked whether the applicant has started to kill her turfgrass yet. Sampedro responded that the applicant has not yet, noting that one area will not require removal as it is already bare soil from construction activities. She shared that the landowner will be doing some of the work herself and hiring a contractor as needed for preparing the land for bee lawn establishment.

It was moved by Commissioner Philip and seconded by Commissioner Miller to approve the SHG 2025-12 grant application in the amount of \$1,000 for phase 1. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

C. Update on LL2 2025-03 Estates of Evergreen Ponds HOA Smart Irrigation Controller Project

Sampedro provided an update on a Landscape Level 2 Grant application submitted by the Estates of Evergreen Ponds HOA. Their proposal involved irrigation system upgrades including the installation of a smart irrigation controller that will serve a 9.23-acre neighborhood in Vadnais Heights. She noted that the application was brought directly to the Board due to a tight project timeline.

Sampedro explained that the applicant completed an irrigation system audit through the City of Vadnais Heights' water conservation rebate program to identify potential areas of improvement. These improvement areas will be implemented as part of the proposed project as the HOA will upgrade their existing irrigation system with a newer-technology Hydrowise smart irrigation controller that is ultimately expected to conserve 672,000 gallons of water per season. The applicant will also be applying to the City of Vadnais Heights' rebate program to help cover costs for updating their sprinkler heads, a further step toward conserving water.

Sampedro noted that while the HOA obtained two bids for the project, one of them was incomplete. She shared that the total estimated cost of the second, complete bid that the HOA selected is \$11,575.00. Staff recommended a 90% grant funding level up to \$10,417.50 to the Board of Directors at their August 27th meeting and the Board approved the application.

D. Highlights from August Outreach Activities and Resiliency Study Outreach Update

Huginin provided an overview of outreach activities that occurred in August including the launch of the City of Vadnais Heights' flood resiliency map, which seeks to gather community input on flooding in the city. She shared that the map's first time being shared with the public was the Senior Picnic, part of Vadnais Heights Days, where VLAWMO staff joined City staff to gather initial community comments on the flooding map. VLAWMO's table at Vadnais Heights Kids' Day was supported by Minnesota Water Stewards (MWS) Ed & Ceci Shapland and VLAWMO staff, and attendees of all ages came to the booth to discover water-themed educational activities. The second and final neighborhood garden tour was held on August 19th and was well attended, with participants ranging in experience level and motivation for attending. Staff appreciates the coordination of MWS Ceci Shapland and the willingness of grant

recipient hosts to share their projects with community members. Hugunin also gave a brief overview of upcoming watershed events.

VI. Projects

A. City of Vadnais Heights LCCMR Proposal Drone Video

Sampedro reminded the TEC of the City of Vadnais Heights' LCCMR proposal project, a partnership effort with VLAWMO. She explained that the multi-faceted project will incorporate a blend of water quality improvement, recreational features, and education. Sampedro presented the drone video that was included in the City of Vadnais Heights' LCCMR proposal, which was submitted along with the application for the potential resiliency partnership project located behind the City Hall.

As the video played, Sampedro called out key locations of impervious surfaces along the path of stormwater as it flows toward East Vadnais Lake. She pointed out proposed project elements and where they would be incorporated along the way.

Sampedro explained that this video is a key way of illustrating the path of stormwater and thanked Chair Ousky for his work on the video, as well as the collaboration with the City. In addition, the drone path could be revisited during construction and beyond if the grant is awarded.

Commissioner Miller commended Chair Ousky's drone capabilities and the proposed project.

B. WMP 60-day Comments Received and JPA Status Update

Tanner gave an update on the Watershed Management Plan (WMP) 60-day comment period, which closed on August 25, 2025. She explained that comments were received from multiple entities, including the Board of Soil and Water Resources, the City of White Bear Lake, the Metropolitan Council, the Minnesota Department of Health, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, and Rice Creek Watershed District.

Tanner expressed VLAWMO's gratitude to the entities who participated in the TEC+ process and provided comments to help improve the WMP. Tanner explained that VLAWMO and HEI are working to organize comments, coordinate responses, and provide draft revisions to the WMP.

Commissioner Miller asked whether there had been any comments that surprised staff. Tanner responded that comments were within the realm of what staff anticipated. She shared that there will be further negotiation and conversation to make sure everyone is in alignment as the Plan moves toward finalization.

Tanner also shared that the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) has been authorized by all six member communities and received by VLAWMO. She noted that this document is an important source of support for the organization moving forward, and she thanked the TEC for their involvement.

C. 319 Update: Phase 1 and 2

Tanner gave an update on the 319 grant program, stating that the MPCA notified staff that the final report for phase 1 has been accepted. VLAWMO has not yet received notification that the grant is closed out.

Staff are awaiting notification about the phase 2 project work plan, final budget, and anticipated grant contract timing. HEI has completed survey work to continue to develop the next iteration of design, and work on that design is underway.

D. Carp Solutions Recommendation for 2026 Update

Tanner shared an update from Carp Solutions, who recently provided VLAWMO with cost information regarding potential activities for 2026. Staff are discussing options. More information, along with a recommendation are anticipated to be provided to the TEC and Board at October meetings.

Tanner explained that staff received three scenarios from Carp Solutions with discussions to come. She noted that staff anticipates scaled back efforts in 2026 given the success from recent years and low biomass of carp remaining in the lake.

Commissioner Miller asked whether we have carp in other waterbodies. Tanner said that carp move among connected lakes. No additional attempted spawning sites have been identified. Carp detected in Pleasant Lake are also detected at the Chickadee Lane location and Charley Lake, moving among connected lakes. There are not indications of separate populations that have been missed at this time. There are also signs of improvement in the aquatic vegetation coverage in connected lakes that had open areas with carp feeding and large areas of uprooted plants prior to initiation of the removal program.

E. Invasive Flowering Rush Planting by RCSWCD Update

Tanner gave an update on a multi-year effort of invasive flowering rush removal. She explained that RCSWCD staff has worked on flowering rush removal since its identification at a VLAWMO stakeholder meeting for Amelia Lake in 2022. In 2023, RCSWCD began chemical treatment on the site. After that, they transitioned to hand pulling in 2024 and 2025. This summer, RCSWCD determined that removal was at an appropriate level that native plants should be added. Working with VLAWMO, RCSWCD added plants instead of seed to help accelerate native plant establishment and expansion.

VII. Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Philip shared that White Bear Township has Township Day coming up on September 20th. She invited all to join if they are available.

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: October 8, 2025 at 8:15 am; Board meeting: October 22, 2025 at 7:00 pm.

XIII. Adjourn

It was moved by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Huntrods to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 am. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

VLAWMO Finance Summary: October 2025

Oct-25		Actual 10/1/25	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	\$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	\$3,988	\$47,817	\$30,000	\$0	(\$17,817)	\$30,000	159%
5.14	Misc. income - WCA admin & other		\$7,058	\$3,000	\$0	(\$4,058)	\$3,000	235%
5.15	Other Income Grants/loan	\$7,890	\$99,821	\$238,960	\$0	\$139,139	\$238,960	42%
5.16	Transfer from reserves			\$1,180,708	\$180,796	\$1,361,504	\$1,361,504	0%
	TOTAL	\$11,878	\$806,302	\$2,656,371	\$180,796	\$2,030,865	\$2,837,167	30%
EXPENSES								
3.1	Operations & Administration							
3.110	Office - rent, copies, post tel supplies	\$2,211	\$22,361	\$33,851	\$0	\$11,490	\$33,851	66%
3.120	Information Systems	\$1,697	\$9,785	\$33,850	\$0	\$24,065	\$33,850	29%
3.130	Insurance		\$9,693	\$12,000	\$0	\$2,307	\$12,000	81%
3.141	Consulting - Audit	\$271	\$14,316	\$23,000	\$0	\$8,684	\$23,000	62%
3.142	Consulting - Bookkeeping	\$45	\$469	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,031	\$1,500	31%
3.143	Consulting - Legal		\$1,170	\$8,000	\$0	\$6,830	\$8,000	15%
3.144	Consulting - Eng. & Tech.	\$1,932	\$17,106	\$50,000	\$0	\$32,894	\$50,000	34%
3.150	Storm Sewer Utility		\$10,095	\$22,500	\$0	\$12,405	\$22,500	45%
3.160	Training (staff/board)	\$170	\$170	\$18,000	\$0	\$17,830	\$18,000	1%
3.170	Misc. & mileage	\$268	\$2,335	\$7,276	\$0	\$4,941	\$7,276	32%
3.191	Administration - staff	\$36,419	\$390,697	\$470,287	\$13,165	\$92,755	\$483,452	81%
3.192	Employer Liability	\$11,808	\$119,716	\$144,579	\$0	\$24,863	\$144,579	83%
3.2	Monitoring and Studies							
3.210	Lake and Creek lab analysis	\$4,786	\$19,441	\$18,000	\$3,000	\$1,559	\$21,000	93%
3.220	Equipment	\$23	\$53	\$3,000	\$0	\$2,947	\$3,000	2%
3.230	Wetland assessment & management			\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	0%
3.240	Watershed planning /special study	\$4,505	\$95,711	\$150,000	\$0	\$54,289	\$150,000	64%
3.3	Education and Outreach							
3.310	Public Education	\$250	\$3,347	\$6,000	\$0	\$2,653	\$6,000	56%
3.320	Comm., Outreach & Marketing	\$435	\$4,268	\$20,000	\$5,000	\$20,732	\$25,000	17%
3.330	Community Blue Ed Grant			\$12,000	\$0	\$12,000	\$12,000	0%
Total Core functions: Ops, Monitoring, Education		\$64,820	\$720,733	\$1,043,843	\$21,165	\$344,275	\$1,065,008	68%
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		\$21,193	\$70,000	\$0	\$48,807	\$70,000	30%

3.440	Gulf Black Tam Wilk Amelia		\$93,334	\$375,000	\$100,000	\$381,666	\$475,000	20%
3.450	Pleasant Charley Deep		\$44,547	\$150,000	\$0	\$105,453	\$150,000	30%
3.460	Sucker Vadrnais		\$45,406	\$250,000	\$0	\$204,594	\$250,000	18%
3.48	Programs							
3.480	Soil Health Grant		\$10,309	\$20,000	\$4,524	\$14,215	\$24,524	42%
3.481	Landscape 1		\$1,192	\$50,000	\$26,900	\$75,708	\$76,900	2%
3.482	Landscape 2/BWSR WBF	\$1,600	\$60,843	\$80,000	\$28,207	\$47,364	\$108,207	56%
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	Regulatory							
3.510	Engineer Plan review		\$270	\$5,000	\$0	\$4,730	\$5,000	5%
	<i>Total CIP & Program</i>	\$1,600	\$311,514	\$1,373,568	\$159,631	\$1,221,685	\$1,533,199	20%
	Total of Core Operations & CIP	\$66,420	\$1,032,247	\$2,417,411	\$180,796	\$1,565,960	\$2,598,207	40%

Fund Balance		9/1/2025	10/1/2025
4M Account		\$964,966	\$830,242
4M Plus Savings		\$260,088	\$260,984
Total		\$1,225,054	\$1,091,226

Restricted funds		10/1/2025
Mitigation Savings		\$0
Term Series		\$300,000

Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization
Check Detail September 11 through October 8, 2025

7:56 AM

10/02/2025

	Type	Num	Date	Name	Item	Account	Paid Amount	Original Amount
	Check	eft	09/11/2025	further		Checking - 1987		-7.00
					Insurance Benefit		-7.00	7.00
TOTAL							-7.00	7.00
	Check	eft	09/12/2025	US Bank		Checking - 1987		-45.05
					3.142 · Bookkeeping help		-45.05	45.05
TOTAL							-45.05	45.05
	Check	eft	09/17/2025	Reliance Standard		Checking - 1987		-428.30
					Insurance Benefit		-428.30	428.30
TOTAL							-428.30	428.30
	Check	eft	09/30/2025	further		Checking - 1987		-7.00
					Insurance Benefit		-7.00	7.00
TOTAL							-7.00	7.00
	Check	6048	10/08/2025	Dawn Tanner		Checking - 1987		-19.60
					3.170 · Misc. & mileage		-19.60	19.60
TOTAL							-19.60	19.60
	Check	6049	10/08/2025	Lauren Sampedro		Checking - 1987		-77.63
					3.170 · Misc. & mileage		-77.63	77.63
TOTAL							-77.63	77.63
	Check	6050	10/08/2025	Brian Corcoran		Checking - 1987		-193.67
					3.170 · Misc. & mileage		-170.80	170.80
					3.220 · Equipment		-22.87	22.87
TOTAL							-193.67	193.67
	Check	6051	10/08/2025	Houston Engineering, Inc		Checking - 1987		-6,436.75
					3.144 · Eng. & Tech.		-1,931.75	1,931.75
					3.240 · Watershed Plan Amendment		-4,505.00	4,505.00
TOTAL							-6,436.75	6,436.75
	Check	6052	10/08/2025	RMB Environmental Laboratories, Inc.		Checking - 1987		-4,786.11
					3.210 · Lake & Creek lab analysis		-637.45	637.45
					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	-76.29	76.29
TOTAL		-4,786.11	4,786.11
Check 6053 10/08/2025 Metro - Inet	Checking - 1987		-1,697.00
	IT Support	-1,697.00	1,697.00
TOTAL		-1,697.00	1,697.00
Check 6054 10/08/2025 HDR Engineering, Inc.	Checking - 1987		-434.58
	3.320 · Marketing	-434.58	434.58
TOTAL		-434.58	434.58
Check 6055 10/08/2025 BWSR	Checking - 1987		-170.00
	3.160 · Training (staff/board)	-170.00	170.00
TOTAL		-170.00	170.00
Check 6056 10/08/2025 Ramsey County	Checking - 1987		-1,600.00
	3.482 · Landscape 2	-800.00	800.00
	3.482 · Landscape 2	-800.00	800.00
TOTAL		-1,600.00	1,600.00
Check 6057 10/08/2025 Press Publications	Checking - 1987		-270.98
	3.141 · Audit	-270.98	270.98
TOTAL		-270.98	270.98
Check 6058 10/08/2025 City of White Bear Lake	Checking - 1987		-47,784.63
	payroll	-36,419.26	36,419.26
	Administration FICA	-2,683.95	2,683.95
	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 6059 10/08/2025 City of Vadnais Heights	Checking - 1987		-2,210.56
	Rent	-1,815.00	1,815.00
	Phone/Internet/Machine Overhead	-325.00	325.00
	Postage	-21.76	21.76
	Copies	-48.80	48.80
TOTAL		-2,210.56	2,210.56
Check 6060 10/08/2025 Big Wood Brewery	Checking - 1987		-250.00
	3.310 · Public Education	-250.00	250.00
TOTAL		-250.00	250.00

Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Orga
Profit & Loss
September 11 through October 8, 2025

7:59 AM

10/02/2025

Cash Basis

Sep 11 - Oct 8, 25

Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
5.1 · Income	
5.13 · Interest	3,987.93
Total 5.1 · Income	3,987.93
6.6.6 · Grants	7,890.14
Total Income	11,878.07
Gross Profit	11,878.07
Expense	
3.1 · Administrative/Operations	
3.110 · Office	
Copies	48.80
Phone/Internet/Machine Overhead	325.00
Postage	21.76
Rent	1,815.00
Total 3.110 · Office	2,210.56
3.120 · Information Systems	
IT Support	1,697.00
Total 3.120 · Information Systems	1,697.00
3.141 · Audit	270.98
3.142 · Bookkeeping help	45.05
3.144 · Eng. & Tech.	1,931.75
3.160 · Training (staff/board)	170.00
3.170 · Misc. & mileage	268.03
3.191 · Employee Payroll	
payroll	36,419.26
Total 3.191 · Employee Payroll	36,419.26
3.192 · Employer Liabilities	
Admin payroll processing	254.92
Administration FICA	2,683.95
Administration PERA	2,731.46
Insurance Benefit	6,137.34
Total 3.192 · Employer Liabilities	11,807.67
Total 3.1 · Administrative/Operations	54,820.30
3.2 · Monitoring and Studies	
3.210 · Lake & Creek lab analysis	4,786.11
3.220 · Equipment	22.87
3.240 · Watershed Plan Amendment	4,505.00
Total 3.2 · Monitoring and Studies	9,313.98
3.3 · Education and Outreach	
3.310 · Public Education	250.00
3.320 · Marketing	434.58

Total 3.3 · Education and Outreach	684.58
3.48 · Programs	
3.482 · Landscape 2	1,600.00
Total 3.48 · Programs	<u>1,600.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>66,418.86</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>-54,540.79</u>
Net Income	<u><u>-54,540.79</u></u>

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

7:53 AM

10/02/2025

Accrual Basis

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Clr	Split	Amount	Balance
Aug 1 - Oct 1, 25									
Credit Card Charge	08/04/2025		Ace Hardware	fasteners	US Bank CC	√	3.220 · Equipment	11.71	11.71
Credit Card Charge	08/04/2025		University of Minnesota	Dawn AIS showcase	US Bank CC	√	3.160 · Training (staff/board)	50.00	61.71
Credit Card Charge	08/04/2025		University of Minnesota	Dawn technical writing training	US Bank CC	√	3.160 · Training (staff/board)	440.00	501.71
Credit Card Charge	08/04/2025		Google*SVCAPPS_VLAWM		US Bank CC	√	WEB	42.00	543.71
Credit Card Charge	08/19/2025		mnl	tour host thank you's	US Bank CC	√	3.310 · Public Education	30.00	573.71
Credit Card Charge	08/21/2025		Canva	stickers	US Bank CC	√	3.220 · Equipment	30.40	604.11
Credit Card Charge	08/25/2025		Adobe "Creative Cloud		US Bank CC	√	Software	37.92	642.03
Credit Card Charge	08/26/2025		Gopher Sign Company	Elmwood sign	US Bank CC	√	3.482 · Landscape 2	1,143.30	1,785.33
Credit Card Charge	09/01/2025		hologram	account refill	US Bank CC	√	3.210 · Lake & Creek lab analysis	30.00	1,815.33
Credit Card Charge	09/02/2025		Google*SVCAPPS_VLAWM		US Bank CC	√	WEB	42.00	1,857.33
Transfer	09/20/2025			Funds Transfer	US Bank CC	√	Checking - 1987	-581.63	1,275.70
Aug 1 - Oct 1, 25								1,275.70	1,275.70

TEC Report to Board -October 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, including data collection and exploring potential construction of the recommended project from the study, as well as LCCMR work plan changes.	Audit		2025	2 proposals have been received for the biannual solicitation.Staff is currently reviewing proposals.																																																																		
Rotary Park partnership		2025-29	Fall invasive species treatment in progress.	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)		Ongoing	Staff are continuing to work with the City of Vadnais Heights on a whole-City resiliency study. Public engagement is in progress and a stakeholder kickoff meeting is scheduled for around the end of October.	2026-2036 JPA updated		2026	JPA completed and fully executed.																																																																		
MPCA 319 /Wilkinson Lake BMPs		Ongoing	Final report completed and accepted by MPCA for phase 1; planning for phase 2 ongoing.	SSU		For 2026 charges	11,000+ parcels will be considered for certification of charges at the October Board meeting.																																																																		
Pleasant Lake Carp Management		Ongoing	Carp Solutions is preparing scope for 2026 work.	2027-2036 Watershed Mgmt. Plan		2026	Comments received from formal review; HEI prepared response table for discussion with BWSR.																																																																		
Tamarack Alum Project		2025-26	Phase 3 planned for October; following completion of Phase 3, a new temporary access agreement will be pursued for Phase 4.	<table><tr><th colspan="5">FINANCIAL SUMMARY as of 10/1/2025</th></tr><tr><td colspan="2"></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Communication & Outreach</td><td></td><td>Ongoing</td><td>August held the final Neighborhood Garden Tours of the year, featuring projects that received VLAWMO grant funding. Staff attended the NO Garden Club native plant panel, WBT Celebration Day, and hosted a Blue Thumb Rain Garden Maintenance workshop in September. Outreach materials continue to be updated.</td><td>4M Account (1.10)</td><td>4M Plus (1.23)</td><td>Total</td></tr><tr><td>Website</td><td></td><td>Ongoing</td><td>Current website continues to be updated as needed. Continued design work, layout, and development is underway for the new website.</td><td>\$830,242</td><td>\$260,984</td><td>\$1,091,226</td></tr><tr><td>WAV</td><td></td><td>Ongoing</td><td>WAV members continue to share VLAWMO opportunities with friends and neighbors and support community events such as VH Kids' Day. Volunteer registration is open for WAV planning meeting and cleanup day.</td><td colspan="3"></td></tr><tr><td>Cost Share & BWSR WBIF</td><td></td><td>Ongoing</td><td>Site visits have increased as the weather shifts including several project close out visits and site visits from interested attendees from outreach events like the NO Garden Club Pollinator presentation. Staff are continuing tasks for wrapping up 3 WBIF projects (White Bear Lake Sports Center, WBL curb cut rain gardens, and Elmwood Park rain garden) including planning permanent signage and BWSR reporting.</td><td colspan="3"></td></tr><tr><td>GIS</td><td></td><td>Ongoing</td><td>Updating online GIS viewer as needed and providing files to partners.</td><td>Operations</td><td>\$720,733</td><td>\$1,065,008</td><td>\$344,275</td><td>68%</td></tr><tr><td>Monitoring</td><td></td><td>Ongoing</td><td>2025 monitoring season is complete, beginning data analysis and report writing.</td><td>CIP</td><td>\$311,514</td><td>\$1,533,199</td><td>\$1,221,685</td><td>20%</td></tr><tr><td>WCA</td><td></td><td>Ongoing</td><td>Administering WCA as needed.</td><td>Total</td><td>\$1,032,247</td><td>\$2,598,207</td><td>\$1,565,960</td><td>40%</td></tr></table>					FINANCIAL SUMMARY as of 10/1/2025										Communication & Outreach		Ongoing	August held the final Neighborhood Garden Tours of the year, featuring projects that received VLAWMO grant funding. Staff attended the NO Garden Club native plant panel, WBT Celebration Day, and hosted a Blue Thumb Rain Garden Maintenance workshop in September. Outreach materials continue to be updated.	4M Account (1.10)	4M Plus (1.23)	Total	Website		Ongoing	Current website continues to be updated as needed. Continued design work, layout, and development is underway for the new website.	\$830,242	\$260,984	\$1,091,226	WAV		Ongoing	WAV members continue to share VLAWMO opportunities with friends and neighbors and support community events such as VH Kids' Day. Volunteer registration is open for WAV planning meeting and cleanup day.				Cost Share & BWSR WBIF		Ongoing	Site visits have increased as the weather shifts including several project close out visits and site visits from interested attendees from outreach events like the NO Garden Club Pollinator presentation. Staff are continuing tasks for wrapping up 3 WBIF projects (White Bear Lake Sports Center, WBL curb cut rain gardens, and Elmwood Park rain garden) including planning permanent signage and BWSR reporting.				GIS		Ongoing	Updating online GIS viewer as needed and providing files to partners.	Operations	\$720,733	\$1,065,008	\$344,275	68%	Monitoring		Ongoing	2025 monitoring season is complete, beginning data analysis and report writing.	CIP	\$311,514	\$1,533,199	\$1,221,685	20%	WCA		Ongoing	Administering WCA as needed.	Total	\$1,032,247	\$2,598,207	\$1,565,960	40%
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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 and share outreach materials for the fall season.																																																																						
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Budget Summary	Actual Expense YTD	2025 Budget "working"	Remaining in Budget	% YTD
Operations	\$720,733	\$1,065,008	\$344,275	68%
CIP	\$311,514	\$1,533,199	\$1,221,685	20%
Total	\$1,032,247	\$2,598,207	\$1,565,960	40%

TEC Staff Memo – October 8, 2025

IV. Administration & Operations

A. October Financial Report and Consider Authorization for Payment

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

B. TEC Report to the Board for October

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

V. Programs

A. Highlights from September Outreach Activities

September held a variety of events in the VLAWMO watershed. Early in the month, VLAWMO was joined by staff from Metro Blooms and Blue Thumb for a Rain Garden Maintenance workshop at Vadnais Heights Elementary. Residents experienced hands-on learning while cleaning up the school's rain garden and garnering tips they can use in their own rain gardens.

Mid-month, VLAWMO presented at a North Oaks Garden Club educational program focused on native plants and pollinators. Staff shared a watershed perspective on the benefits of native plants and provided information on VLAWMO's grant programs. Several site visits were generated by staff's attendance.

Two final events completed September's outreach efforts: tabling at White Bear Township's Celebration Day on September 20th and leading an educational station at the Metro Children's Water Festival in partnership with the City of Vadnais Heights.



Above: Attendees of the Rain Garden Maintenance Workshop gathered near the garden for plant identification and examples of best practices for maintenance.



Above: Fourth graders at the Metro Children's Water Festival completed puzzles with clues about practices that keep our lakes, streams, and wetlands clean.

VI. Projects

A. Tamarack Lake Fish Survey Update

Staff was directed by the Tamarack Lake alum dosing engineer to conduct a fish survey to determine species of fish within Tamarack Lake. The results of the fish survey will help direct next steps for alum dosing. Staff will present photos and results of the Tamarack fish survey at the TEC meeting.

B. Tamarack Lake Phase 3 Alum Update

Lake Restorations, Inc., is planning to begin phase 3 of the alum project on October 13, 2005 (weather dependent). They plan to have the work completed by October 24. Scheduling is focused on having the work completed ahead of the annual Halloween event at Tamarack Nature Center.

Partners have been notified of the plans. Barr will be conducting monitoring during the application. VLAWMO staff will conduct pre/post pH monitoring.

C. Carp Solutions Recommendation for 2026 Update

VLAWMO staff worked with Carp Solutions to understand costs for possible options for the carp removal project in 2026. VLAWMO staff sought to maximize funds already spent to build and install the temporary barrier at Chickadee Lane and reduce effort in 2026 due to apparent low biomass resulting from the successful project. Carp Solutions advised that the cost to run the barrier with low removals and continue to

monitor with an antenna was cost effective compared to removing and storing the barrier for possible deployment at a later date. Staff requested a scope for 2026 to include leaving the barrier in place for one more season and running the antenna (cost estimate: \$7,500) and conduct low-level removals up to a total budget of \$10,000, consistent with the allocated funds for 2026. If additional removals are warranted due to larger than anticipated numbers of carp arriving at the barrier, Carp Solutions will advise VLAWMO on a per day basis as removals occur. Carp Solutions plans to have the scope for 2026 ready for the November TEC meeting.

D. Rotary Park Fall Activities Update

Natural Shore Technologies was onsite at Rotary Park during the week of September 22, 2025, conducting invasive species treatment throughout the wetland area. The team was able to reach the intended locations. They plan to continue to treat narrow-leaf cattail in the SE section of the wetland, around the higher quality patches of sedges. They will be cutting and treating individual cattail plants over the next couple of weeks. This is necessary because invasive cattail is growing on floating mats in the wetland, so these plants cannot be effectively cut and flooded out as is often done in the winter for firmly rooted stands.

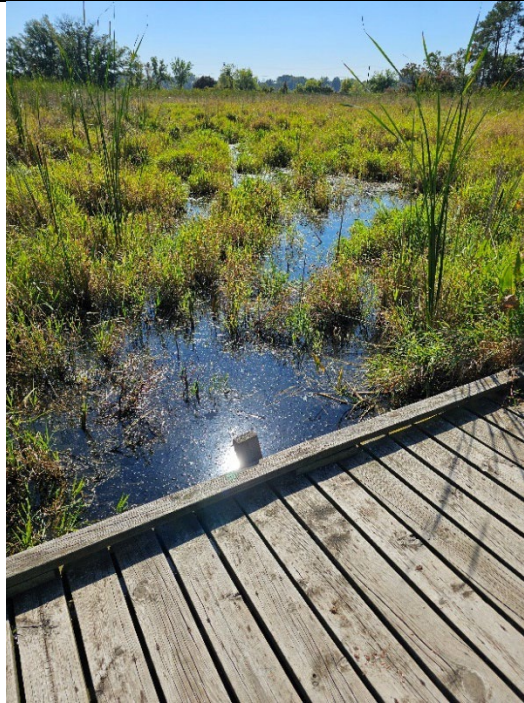
NST did a comprehensive survey of purple loosestrife while they were doing invasive treatment. They did not detect much feeding damage on the plants. NST recommends that VLAWMO consider rearing and introducing loosestrife beetles consistent with MN DNR guidance, potentially as part of a volunteer project, for introduction in 2026.

Bumblebees were quite active in the adjacent restoration buffer area, with dozens on each individual goldenrod plant.

Signage at the observation platform alerts visitors to ongoing restoration activities



Priority areas are located along the boardwalk for increased viewing and education opportunities



Access throughout the wetland is challenging



NST staff made their way back to the boardwalk before rejoining the rest of the team near the high-quality/priority areas



Bumblebees enjoying the remaining flowers still in bloom

