



**TO:** (CLFLWD) Board of Managers

**DATE:** October 19, 2023

**RE:** Administrator's Report for the October 26, 2023, Regular Board Meeting

### Administration (1000 series)

- 1001 – Board Administration
  - MN Watersheds Annual Conference: This item is on the October 26<sup>th</sup> agenda for discussion regarding attendance. **Additionally, the CLFLWD's Legacy Cost-Share Program is a finalist for the Program of the Year Award! Award winners will be announced during the conference.**
- 1003 – General Administration
  - Staff have posted job announcements for the Office Manager and Education & Outreach Coordinator/Specialist. We are starting to receive applications, and we'll hold interviews within the coming weeks.

### Programs (3000 series)

- 3002 – Permitting
  - Permitting Activity from September 16 to October 16, 2023: Three new permits were closed out, two permits were approved and activated, and five new permit applications were received. One hundred and forty-three inspections took place in the timeframe with an average compliance rate of 97 percent.
- 3003 – Monitoring and Data Assessment
  - The week of October 16<sup>th</sup> is the last week of CAMP lake monitoring. District staff will coordinate with CAMP volunteers to collect their samples and deliver them to Metropolitan Council's labs.
  - As the end of the monitoring season comes to an end, staff is busy removing and repairing all field monitoring equipment.
- 3004 – Non-Point Source Pollution Abatement (Cost-Share)
  - Site visits continue to be conducted throughout the District to promote cost-share programs and provide technical assistance. Four additional mini -grants were approved. The totals for 2023 so far are 32 site visits conducted (23 in 2022), and 11 projects approved (7 in 2022).

- 3005 – Education and Outreach
  - Hiring for the Education & Outreach Coordinator/Specialist position is underway.
  - Recent Events: Forest Lake Alum Treatment Kickoff Meeting (September 26<sup>th</sup>), Bone Lake Shoreline Tour (September 26<sup>th</sup>),
  - Upcoming Events: Fall Yard Maintenance (October 21<sup>st</sup>), District Open House (November 8<sup>th</sup>). Visit [www.clflwd.org](http://www.clflwd.org) for more information.
- 3006 – Technical Resource Sharing and Interagency Communication
  - Staff met with technical staff from WCD for a scheduled Q3 coordination meeting. Topics discussed included improving coordination and resource allocation, joint agriculture outreach efforts, and the renewal of the service agreement for 2024.
  - The Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership Policy Committee meeting is on Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. The CLFLWD will give a presentation on the Sunrise River/Highway 61 Wetland Enhancement Project.
- 3009 – Grant Research and Preparation
  - The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) has an additional \$7,750,000 available from the FY22-23 Watershed Based Implementation Funding (WBIF) appropriation, state-wide. BWSR is soliciting requests for supplemental funding to implement approved comprehensive watershed management plans. Staff will work with the Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership to apply for this funding. Staff has identified several CLFLWD projects which would be applicable to this pool of funds.
- 3010 – Operations and Maintenance
  - Staff is in the process of completing all fall O&M tasks including removal of the Bixby and Bone Lake weir boards.
- 3011 – Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention and Management
  - District staff have completed all AIS related field work for the season. Work has now begun on yearend program reports and grant reports writing.
  - District staff have collected the zebra mussel sampler plates from volunteers and will work on inspecting, counting, and cleaning them.
  - The Forest Lake common carp population assessment survey was completed on October 4<sup>th</sup>. WSB will use the data collected to estimate their population size in Forest Lake. A report is anticipated sometime in early-November.

- 3012 – Land Acquisition
  - Staff continue to work toward the Bone Lake South Wetland Acquisition. This item is on the October 26<sup>th</sup> agenda for board discussion.
- 3013 – Watershed Planning & Resiliency
  - Floodplain Vulnerability Assessment tasks 1 and 2 are underway, as approved by the Board at the September 28<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.

### **Projects (5000 series)**

- Moody Lake:
  - Moody Capstone: Contracting underway. Project open house scheduled for Nov 8<sup>th</sup> at the CLFLWD offices. Project on track for implementation this winter/spring.
- Little Comfort Lake:
  - Heath Ave Area: continued outreach to landowners regarding a potential project site. EOR is in the process of developing project concepts and modeling potential nutrient reductions.
- Forest Lake:
  - Alum Treatment: Phase 1 of the alum treatment was completed the last week of September, and water monitoring showed pH within the acceptable range. Staff are working on utilizing the photos and videos to create an educational video about the project.
  - CR50 IESF: Project complete. Waiting on final documents from the contractor to close out the project contract.
  - Wjd6 Western Tributary Wetland: Contract executed. Project open house scheduled for Nov 8<sup>th</sup> at the CLFLWD offices. Project on track for implementation this winter.
- Comfort Lake:
  - Hwy 61 Sunrise River Wetland: Project complete. Close out documents to be presented to the Board at the October 26<sup>th</sup> board meeting.