



## MEMORANDUM

Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District

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### MEETING NOTES OF THE COMFORT LAKE-FOREST LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Present:** Tom Furey, Ted Hansen, Mike Miron

**Others:** Manager Dave Bakke, Aidan Read, Tori Philippi, Jen Oknich

#### 1. Watershed Update & New Staff Introduction

Ted Hansen brought the meeting to order and called for a round of introductions for new attendees. Aidan Read, Land Management Specialist, introduced Tori Philippi, the new office manager. Ms. Philippi provided some background on her education and experiences and was welcomed by the Committee. Mr. Read introduced Jen Oknich who was in attendance. Ms. Oknich provided some background on her experiences working with the District. The remainder of the Committee provided brief introductions.

Mr. Read provided an update on activities around the District, including the activation of the aerators in January, and the hiring of a new Education and Outreach Coordinator. Further updates were provided for projects including the Moody Capstone, JD6, and the NSTNA restoration. More details were given on the Moody Capstone project regarding the spoils deposited on a residential property east of Bone Lake. Mr. Read also gave an update on pending grant applications.

#### 2. Letters of Support

Two applications were introduced along with requests for letters of support from the Committee. The first letter of support request was for the District's application to be a 2024 GreenCorps host site. The District hosted Jess Hall as a GreenCorps member in 2023-24 and had a very positive experience. The application this year will be for a similar role, but more focused on shoreline restoration and education. The Committee directed staff to draft the letter of support and authorized Ted Hansen to sign on behalf of the CAC.

The second letter of support was requested for the Laura Jane Musser Fund. The District is putting together a request for funds to use for shoreline restoration on public property. The targeted property for these funds is the North Shore Circle Park.



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Depending on other grants awarded, funds could be used for other publicly owned shoreline properties that have been identified by staff.

The Committee had a good discussion on the merits of this application, and reviewed the shoreline restoration plans for North Shore Circle Park. Ted Hansen asked for more details on the involvement of the city, WCD, and the anticipated maintenance. Mr. Reaad explained that projects on city property require agreements on maintenance, and in the past the District takes on maintenance of projects on city property. Depending on the budget, an installation contract would cover the maintenance through the grant period, and then District staff will take on maintenance for the life of the project. For maintenance, Mr. Read estimated two hours of staff time a year following the end of the grant cycle.

The Committee directed Mr. Read to draft a letter of support for the Laur Jane Musser Fund application to be signed by Ted Hansen on behalf of the Committee.

### **3. 2023 AIS Report Review**

Mr. Read gave a brief summary of the 2023 AIS Report as presented to the Board of Managers in January. The report will be distributed for the members to review further, and this item may be brought to a future meeting.

### **4. Closing & Election of Chair**

Upcoming agenda items were reviewed, and Tom Furey was elected Chair for the April Meeting. A March Chair was not elected and will be the first agenda item of the March meeting. The Manager in attendance at the March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting will be Stephen Schmaltz.