

#### VLAWMO TECHNICAL COMMISSION MEETING

#### 8:15 AM - March 12, 2025

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

Action items: \*\*



- I. Call to Order - 8:15 am - Chair Ousky
- Approval of Agenda 🍍 II.
- Approval of Minutes (Feb. 12, 2025) III.
- IV. Administration & Operations - Phil
  - A. March Financial Report and Consider Authorization for Payment Phil 🏞 Pg.8
- ٧. Programs - Lauren, Angela
  - A. LL2 2025-01 Charley Lake Condo Association Smart Irrigation Application Pgs. 16 & 20
  - B. Grant Programs Evaluation Survey Pg.16
- VI. Projects - Lauren, Brian, Dawn
  - A. Update on BWSR Watershed-based Implementation Funding Grant Program Pg.17
  - B. Update on Two LCCMR Application Proposals Pg.17
  - C. Update on CR J WCA Replacement Plan Pg.17
  - D. Update on Feasibility Study Partnership with City of Lino Lakes and North Oaks Company Pg.18 & 26
  - E. Update on WMP and Next TEC+ Meeting Pg.19
- VII. Commissioner Reports
- VIII. NOHOA
- IX. Ramsey Soil & Water Conservation Division
- Χ. St. Paul Regional Water Services
- XI. **Public Comment**
- XII. Next meetings: Board Meeting: April 23, 2025; TEC: April 9, 2025 (8:15 am); TEC+: April 9, 2025 (9:00 am)
- XIII. Adjourn 🎏

# **Upcoming Events:**

# Visit vlawmo.org/events

Blue Thumb Healthy Soils workshop (Minneapolis): Thursday, March 27 Monarch Joint Venture's Monarch Essentials course (online): April 1, 8, 15 Watershed Action Volunteers (WAV) spring kick-off meeting: April 14

## Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization Technical Commission (TEC) Minutes February 12, 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)

Jami Philip White Bear Township (WBT

Susan Miller North Oaks (NO)

Terry Huntrods City of White Bear Lake (WBL)

**Absent:** Tom Hoffman, City of Lino Lakes (LL)

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

#### L. Call to Order

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

#### II. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Commissioner Tessier and seconded by Commissioner Miller to approve the February 12, 2025 TEC agenda. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

#### III. Approval of Minutes (January 8, 2025)

It was moved by Commissioner Huntrods and seconded by Commissioner Tessier to approve the January 8, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

#### IV. Administration & Operations

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

Administrator Belfiori summarized the February financial statement as included in the meeting materials. He highlighted income from VLAWMO's partnership with NOHOA. He also noted payments for Watershed Partners membership, payment to NOHOA for the Wilkinson Deep-Water Wetland restoration, payment to the City of Vadnais Heights for Elmwood Park Raingarden and East Vadnais Lake resiliency work, and Landscape Level 2 reimbursements. Staff recommended approval of the February financial report for payment.

<u>It was moved by Commissioner Huntrods and seconded by Commissioner Miller to approve the February financial report and authorize for payment. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.</u>

#### B. February TEC Report to the Board

Administrator Belfiori presented the February TEC Report to the Board. He highlighted the East Vadnais Lake Resiliency Study's follow up work and the continued seeking of grant funds for the Polar Lakes Park Reuse Project. Administrator Belfiori noted updates on the Tamarack Lake alum treatment project, carp management, and the annual report. He highlighted continued work to prepare the Watershed Management Plan with the TEC+ and member communities, as well as meetings at the staff level to go more into depth on Plan content. Staff recommended approval of the TEC Report to the Board for February.

It was moved by Commissioner Tessier and seconded by Commissioner Huntrods and Commissioner Miller to approve the February TEC Report to the Board. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

#### V. Programs

#### A. SHG 2025-01 Raeth Pollinator Garden

Sampedro provided an overview of the proposed project location, explaining that it is in a VLAWMO priority zone for volume reduction and in the Lambert Creek subwatershed. Sampedro shared visuals of the proposed project area in the homeowner's yard and explained that the landowner has already begun preparing removal of the lawn. Sampedro highlighted a number of unique outreach opportunities for this project site and noted that the applicant's neighbors have already been curious about this project. Staff recommended approval of this grant application.

Commissioner Miller asked if the applicant had been successful with initial efforts to smother the turfgrass, which Sampedro affirmed. Commissioner Miller shared that it is nice to see such a comprehensive project plan.

It was moved by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Tessier to approve SHG 2025-01 in the amount of \$1,250. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

#### B. SHG 2025-02 Addis & Zink Native Plant Restoration

Sampedro shared a grant application for a proposed native plant restoration project in North Oaks. Sampedro described the potential of this project for outreach opportunities given the site's proximity to a walking path, also noting that these landowners have already expressed interest in eventually becoming a tour stop on future neighborhood grant recipient tours. Sampedro gave background on the current nature of the site, noting the project's goal to restore the area's native plant community. Sampedro shared species highlights for the proposed plan. Staff recommended approval of this application.

Commissioner Miller asked if the requested funding would go primarily to seed. Sampedro confirmed and noted that funding will also cover some trees and shrubs.

It was moved by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Huntrods to approve SHG 2025-02 in the amount of \$1,000. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

#### C. Update on FY '24-25 BWSR WBIF Grant Program Process

Sampedro shared an update on BWSR's Watershed-Based Implementation Funding Program for water quality-based projects. An initial convene meeting was held, where partners agreed VLAWMO would serve as the grantee and provide the 10% match. Partners also agreed the funding should go to supporting additional Landscape Level 2 grant program projects.

## VI. Projects

#### A. Sports Center Bioswale Partnership Project

Sampedro shared that VLAWMO has partnered with the City of White Bear Lake and Ramsey County Soil and Water Conservation Division on this project, which aims to reduce the amount and speed of stormwater flowing into Birch Lake. Filtration was deemed the most effective way to combat this issue. 100% construction plans have been received from SRF Consulting Group, and the Technical Commission can expect a grant application relating to the project this spring/summer.

# B. Update on BWSR Accelerated Implementation Grant Application with City of Vadnais Heights

Sampedro gave an update on this new BWSR grant opportunity. VLAWMO partnered with the City of Vadnais Heights to submit a proposal exploring the possibility of a Green Streets project for Greenhaven Drive. Sampedro shared that a "Green Street" reduces stormwater runoff by incorporating various BMPs and reduced roadway widths. The City was awarded \$250,000 to explore a Green Streets approach for Greenhaven Drive. Commissioners can expect more project updates over time.

Commissioner Miller expressed excitement for the project, noting curiosity about whether permeable pavement will be built into the roadway. Chair Ousky noted that Greenahven is one of the City's widest streets, so there is exploring to be done there.

#### C. Update on WMP and Next TEC+ Meeting

Tanner gave an update on the development of the 2027-2036 Watershed Management Plan and requested a recommendation to bring revised sections 1 and 2 to the Board of Directors.

Development is ongoing for sections 3 and 4. Tanner noted the proposed TEC+ meeting timing of April 9, 2025.

It was moved by Commissioner Huntrods and seconded by Commissioner Miller to recommend presenting sections 1 and 2 of the draft WMP to the Board at the meeting on February 26, 2025.

#### D. Update on Partnership with NOHOA for Deep Lake Shoreline Restoration

Tanner explained that work is ongoing for the Deep Lake shoreline restoration, which is now entering its third year of partnership. Tanner noted that NOHOA and NOC are moving forward with their work, advancing the project toward complete restoration this year. Yellow iris removal efforts are complementary to this work.

Commissioner Miller noted that this restoration work has been transformative for the area.

#### E. Tamarack Alum Amendment

Tanner shared the amendment, noting the negotiations and approvals it has gone through so far. Tanner explained that phase two of this project will begin after iceout, noting the prepared amendment to bring to the next BOD meeting. Staff requested a recommendation to the Board.

It was moved by Commissioner Philip and seconded by Commissioner Tessier and Commissioner Miller to recommend to the Board the authorization and signing of the Tamarack Lake contract amendment at its regular meeting in February.

# F. SEH Memo on Potential Wilkinson Meander Project and Feasibility in Partnership with RCSWCD

Tanner gave an update on project origins, noting that the SEH memo was also shared with Ramsey County. Staff requested a recommendation to the Board to accept the Wilkinson Lake Field Investigations SEH memo, as well as approval to share the memo with NOC.

It was moved by Commissioner Huntrods and seconded by Commissioner Miller to recommend to the Board the acceptance of the Wilkinson Lake Field Investigations SEH memo and to share the memo with NOC.

#### G. Update on Rotary Park CPL Grant Process and MOU with City of WBL

Tanner provided updates on the Rotary Park wetland restoration project, which was selected for MN DNR CPL grant funding. VLAWMO staff has partnered with the City of White Bear Lake to prepare materials and accept the grant contract. Staff anticipate bringing this to the

Board in February. Staff requested a recommendation to the Board to authorize and sign the grant contract, as well as to authorize signing the MOU and returning it to the City of White Bear Lake.

It was moved by Commissioner Huntrods and seconded by Commissioner Miller to recommend to the Board the authorization and signing of the grant contract with the MN DNR/CPL program for the Rotary Nature Preserve Wetland Restoration in partnership with the City of WBL, and to authorize signing the MOU and returning the fully executed MOU to the City of WBL.

#### H. Carp Solutions 2024 Annual Report

Tanner gave an update on the 2024 Annual Report for Carp Solutions, noting that this report documented information that was shared with the TEC throughout the last year.

It was moved by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Philip to recommend to the Board the acceptance of the 2024 Pleasant Lake System Carp Management Report.

#### I. RCSWCD and Great River Greening Biochar Demonstration Event

Tanner highlighted a recent collaborative event between RCSWCD and Great River Greening. Tanner provided context on the problem of biomass, explaining the challenge of organic material left after events such as Emerald Ash Borer infested tree removal and buckthorn removal. Tanner explained that creating biochar is one possible use of material. Tanner gave an overview of the biochar demonstration event, noting that this could be of interest for VLAWMO.

#### **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**

Board Meeting: February 26, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.; TEC: March 12, 2025 at 8:15 a.m.; TEC+: April 9, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

## XIII. Adjourn

<u>It was moved by Commissioner Tessier and seconded by Commissioner Miller to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 am. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.</u>



Mar-25		Actual 3/1/25	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		\$528,269	\$1,202,703	\$0	\$674,434	\$1,202,703	44%
5.12	Service Fees			\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	0%
5.13	Interest + mitigation acct	\$3,827	\$13,761	\$30,000	\$0	\$16,239	\$30,000	46%
5.14	Misc. income - WCA admin & other	\$306	\$3,306	\$3,000	\$0	(\$306)	\$3,000	110%
5.15	Other Income Grants/ <u>Ioan</u>		\$5,021	\$238,960	\$0	\$233,939	\$238,960	2%
5.16	Transfer from reserves			\$1,180,708		\$1,361,504	\$1,361,504	0%
	TOTAL	\$4,133	\$550,357	\$2,656,371	\$180,796	\$2,286,810	\$2,837,167	21%
	1			EXPENSES				
3.1	Operations & Adminis	stration					1	
3.110	Office - rent, copies, post tel supplies	\$2,223	\$6,621	\$33,851	\$0	\$27,230	\$33,851	20%
3.120	Information Systems	\$1,697	\$5,283	\$33,850	\$0	\$28,567	\$33,850	16%
3.130	Insurance			\$12,000	\$0	\$12,000	\$12,000	0%
3.141	Consulting - Audit	\$9,555	\$9,555	\$23,000	\$0	\$13,445	\$23,000	42%
3.142	Consulting - Bookkeeping	\$44	\$136	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,364	\$1,500	9%
3.143	Consulting - Legal	\$203	\$1,013	\$8,000	\$0	\$6,987	\$8,000	13%
3.144	Consulting - Eng. & Tech.		\$220	\$50,000	\$0	\$49,780	\$50,000	0%
3.150	Storm Sewer Utility	\$2,481	\$7,878	\$22,500	\$0	\$14,622	\$22,500	35%
3.160	Training (staff/board)			\$18,000	\$0	\$18,000	\$18,000	0%
3.170	Misc. & mileage	\$110	\$266	\$7,276	\$0	\$7,010	\$7,276	4%
3.191	Administration - staff	\$36,419	\$117,554	\$470,287	\$13,165	\$365,898	\$483,452	24%
3.192	Employer Liability	\$11,796	\$34,377	\$144,579	\$0	\$110,202	\$144,579	24%
3.2	Monitoring and Studi	es						
3.210	Lake and Creek lab analysis			\$18,000	\$3,000	\$21,000	\$21,000	0%
3.220	Equipment			\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000	0%
3.230	Wetland assessment & management					\$10,000	\$10,000	0%
3.240	Watershed planning /special study	\$16,101	\$26,439	\$10,000 \$150,000	\$0 \$0	\$123,561	\$150,000	18%
3.3	Education and Outre	ach		Ψ130,000	Ψ0			
3.310	Public Education	<u> </u>	\$2,000	\$6,000	\$0	\$4,000	\$6,000	33%
3.320	Comm., Outreach &	\$300	\$820	\$20,000	\$5,000	\$24,180	\$25,000	3%
3.330	Community Blue Ed Grant			\$12,000	\$0	\$12,000	\$12,000	0%
	functions: Ops,	\$80,929	\$212,162	\$1,043,843	\$21,165	\$852,846	\$1,065,008	20%
Monitoring, Education Capital Improvement Projects and Programs								
3.4	Subwatershed Activit							
3.410	Gem Lake	Ly		#0F 000	*^	\$25,000	\$25,000	0%
3.410	Lambert Creek			\$25,000	\$0 ¢o	\$160,000	\$25,000	0%
3.4∠0	Lambert Creek Lambert Lake Loan			\$160,000 \$38,568	\$0 \$0	\$160,000	\$160,000	0%

3,425	Goose Lake			\$75.000	\$0	\$75,000	\$75,000	0%
3.430	Birch Lake		\$15,000	\$70,000	\$0	\$55,000	\$70,000	21%
3.440	Gilf Black Tam Wilk Amelia	\$3,846	\$14,170	\$375,000	\$100,000	\$460,830	\$475,000	3%
3.450	Pleasant Charley Deep	\$500	\$15,500	\$150,000	\$0	\$134,500	\$150,000	10%
3.460	Sucker Vadnais	\$1,500	\$45,406	\$250,000	\$0	\$204,594	\$250,000	18%
3.48	Programs							
3.480	Soil Health Grant		\$1,000	\$20,000	\$4,524	\$23,524	\$24,524	4%
3.481	Landscape 1			\$50,000	\$26,900	\$76,900	\$76,900	0%
3.482	Landscape 2/BWSR WBF		\$23,170	\$80,000	\$28,207	\$85,037	\$108,207	21%
3.483	Project Research & feasibility			\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	0%
3.485	Facilities Maintenan/ Pub. Ditch Main.	\$3,958	\$5,136	\$70,000	\$0	\$64,864	\$70,000	7%
3.5	Regulatory							
3.510	Engineer Plan review			\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	0%
	Total CIP & Program	\$9,804	\$119,382	\$1,373,568	\$159,631	\$1,413,817	\$1,533,199	8%
	Total of Core Operations & CIP	\$90,733	\$331,544	\$2,417,411	\$180,796	\$2,266,663	\$2,598,207	13%
Fund Balance		2/1/2025	3/1/2025		Restricted funds		3/1/2025	
4M Accou	nt	\$946,151	\$790,502		Mitigation Savings		\$0	
4M Plus S	avings	\$253,708	\$254,548		Term Series		\$300,000	
Total		\$1,199,859	\$1,045,050					

# Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization Check Detail

1:00 PM 03/04/2025

February 13 through March 12, 2025

Туре	Num	Date	Name	Item	Account	Paid Amount	Original Amount
Check	eft	02/13/2025 US	Bank	Che	ecking - 1987		-43.77
				3.14	42 · Bookkeeping help	-43.77	43.77
AL						-43.77	43.77
Check	eft	02/24/2025 Re	liance Standard	Che	ecking - 1987		-428.30
				Inst	urance Benefit	-428.30	428.30
AL						-428.30	428.30
Check	5938	03/12/2025 Da	wn Tanner	Che	ecking - 1987		-40.60
				3.1	70 · Misc. & mileage	-40.60	40.60
AL					3	-40.60	40.60
Check	5939	03/12/2025 An	gela Hugunin	Che	ecking - 1987		-50.92
				3.1	70 · Misc. & mileage	-50.92	50.92
AL						-50.92	50.92
Check	5940	03/12/2025 Ph	il Belfiori	Che	ecking - 1987		-18.20
				3.1	70 · Misc. & mileage	-18.20	18.20
AL						-18.20	18.20
Check	5941	03/12/2025 Ho	uston Engineering, Inc	Che	ecking - 1987		-18,209.25
				Will	k 319 cash match \$182,137	-2,108.50	2,108.50
				3.24	40 · Watershed Plan Amendment	-3,174.50	3,174.50
AL				3.24	40 · Watershed Plan Amendment	-12,926.25 -18,209.25	12,926.25 18,209.25
Check	5942	03/12/2025 SE	н	Che	ecking - 1987		-882.25
				3.44	40 · Gilfillan Black Tamarack Wilkin	-882.25	882.25
AL						-882.25	882.25
Check	5943	03/12/2025 Cit	y of White Bear Lake	Che	ecking - 1987		-47,786.91
				pay	roll	-36,419.23	36,419.23
				Adr	ministration FICA	-2,686.26	2,686.26
				Adr	ministration PERA	-2,731.46	2,731.46
				Inst	urance Benefit	-5,695.04	5,695.04

	Admin payroll processing	-254.92	254.92
TOTAL		-47,786.91	47,786.91
Check 5944 03/12/2025 Town Law Center, PLLP	Checking - 1987		-1,057.50
	3.143 · Legal	-202.50	202.50
	3.440 · Gilfillan Black Tamarack Wilkin	-855.00	855.00
TOTAL		-1,057.50	1,057.50
Check 5945 03/12/2025 Metro Blooms	Checking - 1987		-300.00
	3.320 · Marketing	-300.00	300.00
TOTAL	•	-300.00	300.00
Check 5946 03/12/2025 CliftonLarsonAllen	Checking - 1987		-9,555.00
	3.141 · Audit	-9,555.00	9,555.00
TOTAL	-	-9,555.00	9,555.00
Check 5947 03/12/2025 City of Vadnais Heights	Checking - 1987		-2,223.10
	Rent	-1,815.00	1,815.00
	Phone/Internet/Machine Overhead	-325.00	325.00
	Postage	-21.63	21.63
	Copies	-61.47	61.47
TOTAL	•	-2,223.10	2,223.10
Check 5948 03/12/2025 Great River Greening	Checking - 1987		-1,500.00
	3.310 · Public Education	-1,500.00	1,500.00
TOTAL	-	-1,500.00	1,500.00
Check 5949 03/12/2025 carp solutions	Checking - 1987		-500.00
	3.450 · Pleasant Charley Deep	-500.00	500.00
TOTAL	•	-500.00	500.00
Check 5950 03/12/2025 Department of Corrections	Checking - 1987		-2,550.00
	3.485 · Facilities & Maintenance	-2,550.00	2,550.00
TOTAL	•	-2,550.00	2,550.00
Check 5951 03/12/2025 Ehlers & Associates, Inc.	Checking - 1987		-2,481.25
	3.150 · Storm Sewer Utility	-2,481.25	2,481.25
TOTAL	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	-2,481.25	2,481.25
Check 5952 03/12/2025 Metro - Inet	Checking - 1987		-1,697.00

TOTAL IT Support -1,697.00 1,697.00 -1,697.00 1,697.00

# **Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization Profit & Loss**

1:16 PM

03/04/2025

I TOIL & LOSS	03/04/2025
February 13 through March 12, 2025	Cash Basis
	Feb 13 - Mar 12, 25
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Misc.	306.00
5.1 · Income	
5.13 · Interest	3,826.88
Total 5.1 · Income	3,826.88
Total Income	4,132.88
Gross Profit	4,132.88
Expense	
3.1 · Administrative/Operations	
3.110 · Office	
Copies	61.47
Phone/Internet/Machine Overhead	325.00
Postage	21.63
Rent	1,815.00
Total 3.110 · Office	2,223.10
3.120 · Information Systems	
IT Support	1,697.00
Total 3.120 · Information Systems	1,697.00
3.141 · Audit	9,555.00
3.142 · Bookkeeping help	43.77
3.143 · Legal	202.50
3.150 · Storm Sewer Utility	2,481.25
3.170 · Misc. & mileage	109.72
3.191 · Employee Payroll	
payroll	36,419.23
Total 3.191 · Employee Payroll	36,419.23
3.192 · Employer Liabilities	
Admin payroll processing	254.92
Administration FICA	2,686.26
Administration PERA	2,731.46
Insurance Benefit	6,123.34
Total 3.192 · Employer Liabilities	11,795.98
Total 3.1 · Administrative/Operations	64,527.55
3.2 · Monitoring and Studies	
3.240 · Watershed Plan Amendment	16,100.75
Total 3.2 · Monitoring and Studies	16,100.75
3.3 · Education and Outreach	
3.320 · Marketing	300.00
Total 3.3 · Education and Outreach	300.00
3.4 · Capital Imp. Projects/Programs	

3.440 · Gilfillan Black Tamarack Wilkin

Wilk 319 cash match \$182,137	2,108.50
3.440 · Gilfillan Black Tamarack Wilkin - Other	1,737.25
Total 3.440 · Gilfillan Black Tamarack Wilkin	3,845.75
3.450 · Pleasant Charley Deep	500.00
3.460 · Sucker Vadnais	1,500.00
Total 3.4 · Capital Imp. Projects/Programs	5,845.75
3.48 · Programs	
3.485 · Facilities & Maintenance	3,958.00
Total 3.48 · Programs	3,958.00
Total Expense	90,732.05
Net Ordinary Income	-86,599.17
Net Income	-86,599.17

# Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization Custom Transaction Detail Report

January 1 through March 1, 2025

1:06 PM

03/04/2025

**Accrual Basis** 

	Туре	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Clr	Split	Amount	Balance
Jan 1 - Mar 1, 25										
	Credit Card Charge	01/02/2025		Prairie Moon Nursery	city hall seed	US Bank CC		3.485 · Facilities & Maintenance	1,327.00	1,327.00
	Credit Card Charge	01/02/2025		Ramsey County League of Local Governments	2025 RCLLG membership	US Bank CC		3.170 · Misc. & mileage	300.00	1,627.00
	Credit Card Charge	01/02/2025	(	Google*SVCAPPS_VLAWM		US Bank CC		WEB	42.00	1,669.00
	Credit Card Charge	01/03/2025	,	VHEDC	2025 partner for good cohort	US Bank CC		$3.330\cdot \text{Community Blue Education Grant}$	100.00	1,769.00
	Credit Card Charge	01/03/2025	ı	hologram	account refill	US Bank CC		3.210 · Lake & Creek lab analysis	30.00	1,799.00
	Transfer	01/20/2025			Funds Transfer	US Bank CC		Checking - 1987	-2,577.21	-778.21
	Credit Card Charge	01/27/2025		Adobe "Creative Cloud		US Bank CC		Software	32.50	-745.71
	Credit Card Charge	01/31/2025	;	Survey Monkey	2025 renewal	US Bank CC		3.320 · Marketing	468.00	-277.71
	Credit Card Charge	02/03/2025		Google*SVCAPPS_VLAWM		US Bank CC		WEB	42.00	-235.71
	Credit Card Charge	02/26/2025	1	Prairie Moon Nursery	city hall seed	US Bank CC		3.485 · Facilities & Maintenance	1,408.00	1,172.29
Jan 1 - Mar 1, 25									1,172.29	1,172.29



# TEC Staff Memo - March 12, 2025

#### IV. Administration & Operations

A. March Financial Report and Consider Authorization for Payment

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

#### V. Programs

A. LL2 2025-01 Charley Lake Condo Association Smart Irrigation Application

The Charley Lake Condo Association (CLCA) submitted a Landscape Level 2 grant application to install a smart irrigation controller that would serve 19 homes in an 18-acre neighborhood in North Oaks (see attachment 1). CLCA recently switched from a private well to the City of Shoreview water and found several issues with the existing irrigation system during the switch process including leaking heads, limited ability to turn off the irrigation system during rain events, and increases in water usage and irrigation costs. The application proposes installing a Hunter smart irrigation controller with a quick response weather-based sensor and a flow sensor that will allow the association to more easily monitor and reduce water usage. Wiring and equipment needs updating to support the smart technology as well. The association is actively working to reduce water use and previously received a Soil Health Grant award in 2023 to convert some turf grass areas into native prairie. CLCA has begun monitoring water usage after switching to City water in 2024, which will allow the association and VLAWMO staff to review water use changes after the smart irrigation controller is installed. Two bids were received for the project and the total estimated cost is based on the lowest bid of \$19,875. Staff recommends approval of LL2 2025-01 in the amount of 90% of eligible project expenses, not to exceed \$17,887.50 in accordance with program guidelines.

#### B. Grant Programs Evaluation Survey

In preparation for the 2025 growing season, staff have developed a grantee survey to discern who VLAWMO grants have served, how recipients have learned about grant opportunities, how VLAWMO can adapt its offerings to better support residents, and how VLAWMO can improve resident engagement beyond the initial awarding of grants.

The survey was sent via VLAWMO's grant program recipient e-newsletter list on February 27<sup>th</sup>. It will remain open through March 9<sup>th</sup>. As of March 3rd, eight responses were recorded, with multiple residents offering to participate in future events or spotlight articles. Review of initial responses has revealed overall positive reception of VLAWMO's grant offerings, with the average reported project satisfaction at 86%.



Survey responses will allow staff to better understand which materials have served watershed residents, as well as which knowledge gaps we want to address through physical materials, online communication, workshops, or events.

#### VI. Projects

A. Update on BWSR Watershed-based Implementation Funding Grant Program
At the February 26, 2025 Board Meeting, the Board authorized signing the BWSR
Watershed Based Implementation Funding (WBIF) grant agreement between
VLAWMO and BWSR for accepting the \$147,921 allocated to the Vadnais Lake
Area Watershed Planning Area. The process is almost complete for securing these
funds. The last step is for BWSR to execute the grant agreement and review and
approve the grant work plan. VLAWMO and partners have discussed several
projects that could be pursued with this funding source include the Sports Center
bioswale project, a potential partnership project with the City of Lino Lakes and
North Oaks Company, and the Green Streets project with the City of Vadnais
Heights.

#### B. Update on Two LCCMR Application Proposals

The Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) released its 2026 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) Request for Proposals in January 2025. This State funding source is available for a variety of projects to address the LCCMR's priorities to protect, conserve, preserve, and enhance Minnesota's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources. \$103 million is available for projects. VLAWMO is working with both White Bear Township and the City of Vadnais Heights on two separate LCCMR grant application proposals. The Township application is for a surface water reuse project at Polar Lakes Park. The City of Vadnais Heights application is for a water quality improvement project, trails, and educational features behind City Hall. These applications are due March 19th. The VLAWMO Board approved a letter of support for both applications at their February meeting and both the Township and City of Vadnais Heights approved resolutions to move forward with the application process. If the grant proposals are successful, staff will provide an update a future TEC meeting.

#### C. Update on CR J WCA Replacement Plan

A wetland replacement permit application was prepared and approved by the VLAWMO Board at their February meeting for the Interstate 35E and County Road J (Ash Street) Interchange in Anoka and Ramsey Counties. There will be 0.105 acre of WCA wetland impact replaced via banking credits at 2:1. This approval is contingent on applicant submitting documentation / confirmation of wetland bank purchase through an approved bank in the same major watershed and bank service area as the impact.

 Update on Feasibility Study Partnership with City of Lino Lakes and North Oaks Company



Staff representatives from NOC, VLAWMO and the City of Lino Lakes have met several times over the past year to discuss the development of a feasibility study that would investigate possible "over and above" BMP's to be located within the proposed NOC development site located in the City of Lino Lakes. NOC hired the engineering consulting firm ISG as the design engineers for the proposed NOC development site. With design work for the development underway, the three partnering organizations have discussed the potential to capitalize and leverage the efficiencies within the development design process to develop this study and have subsequently asked ISG to develop a scope of work (Attachment 1). The main purpose of the study would be to assess and evaluate the feasibility of three key components related to the potential "over and above" regulatory standards water quality treatment practices on the site:

- 1. Regional Best Management Practice (BMP) for Stormwater: Assess BMP design to provide treatment to reduce nutrients and sediment loading to Wilkinson Lake.
- 2. **Water Reuse:** Evaluate the feasibility of reusing water for irrigation on the proposed development site in lieu of potable groundwater. Identify consistent volumes for decreased strain on infrastructure.
- 3. **Smart Irrigation Controllers Technology:** The implementation of electronic equipment in ground to monitor the soil to utilize less water for irrigation of vegetation. The study would assess what could be accomplished from a reuse water source. Vegetation types are also part of the solution that can be accommodated as part of the design.

A MOU between VLAWMO, NOC and City of Lino Lakes was approved by the VLAWMO Board at their December 2024 meeting and the study is underway.





#### E. Update on WMP and Next TEC+ Meeting

VLAWMO staff and HEI continue work on the WMP, sections 1-4. Section 3 has been revised, following the January TEC+ meeting and written comments received. Section 4 is in process and is anticipated to be the focus of a TEC+ meeting on April 9, 2025 (9:00 am). The draft section and comment table will be provided at least a week in advance of the meeting. Completed comment tables are requested by April 16 (emailed to <a href="mailto:dawn.tanner@vlawmo.org">dawn.tanner@vlawmo.org</a>).

# **LL2 Grant Application**

ent I

Submit completed application to: Lauren Sampedro lauren.sampedro@vlawmo.org

# **Applicant Information:**

Organization Name:	Charley Lake Condo Association (CLCA)
Project Contact:	Ann Slanga (property manager), Jim Clapper (board member)
Address:	8 Anemone Circle
City/Township, State, Zip:	North Oaks, MN 55127
Phone: 651-429-2223 (Advantage Townhome Manageme	
Email:	CLCA@advtm.com

# **Project Summary:**

ESTIMATED TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$19,875.00	
(Lowest responsible bid \$)		
AMOUNT REQUESTED	\$17,887.50	
EXPECTED PROJECT COMPLETION	June 2025	
(Month, Year)		

#### PROJECT TYPE:

	Water Quality Treatment
	Stormwater Rate and Volume Control
<b>(</b>	Groundwater Conservation
	Other

**Project Background:** 

If other, please describe the proposed project:

Describe the project location and water resources that will benefit from the project.

What issues will be addressed with this project?

This is an association of 19 homes. The irrigation system is original and serves 22 zones, the current system doesn't have a flow meter or master control valve or any rain sensing capabilities. CLCA are very concerned with water conservation and have already done some lawn removal by 2 wetland areas and restored native plantings with the help of VLAWMO. Current irrigation system now gushes due to increased water pressure after hooking up to City of Shoreview water, which is increasing water usage from the system. A new system will address ALL of these issues and will have Wi-Fi controls to monitor the system in real time. Currently we must go out after the fact and do detective work to see where the system is overwatering and dig to look for leaks.

# **Project Background: Continued**

**Provide estimated water** quality results, stormwater rate/volume reduction, or groundwater conservation benefits associated with the project.

We have reported the irrigation water use as reported to us by the city of Shoreview to the best of our ability. See separate supplement prepared by Jim Clapper. Previously CLCA was getting its water for both household and irrigation use from a municipal well that was meant for 120 units but ended up just servicing these 19 units and one single family home. The cost to the association was high and required monthly water testing. The association switched (after many years of research and engineering studies) to City of Shoreview and we now have one year of solid data with just one meter for all water. As part of this project, we will be purchasing a separate irrigation water meter from the City of Shoreview. The city and Mr. Clapper have worked on separating out the irrigation water usage based on their meter readings and actual times water was being used. CLCA hopes to reduce water by 10-15% with the new irrigation system.

Describe the public education and outreach efforts or signage planned for the project.

Currently CLCA has had several board members attend a VLAWMO meeting to learn about grants and possibilities for reducing water consumption and to prevent run off into wetlands. This has been communicated to all Homeowners and members of the entire North Oaks community at a meet and greet event back in 2023 and at various board meetings. We update owners via email blasts and volunteer gardeners have maintained the prairie restoration area where irrigation heads have been turned off. Photos of the project have been sent to VLAWMO to show how successful that project is. CLCA have prepared for this shift in landscaping practices. Once the project is approved we will share with City of North Oaks and homeowners via email with the anticipated positive impact.

List or describe any partnerships or other forms of support for the project, including external funding sources.

N/A-this is all self-funded. No outside sources.

# **Project Specifications:**

TOTAL PROPERTY AREA (Acres)	12.47 acres	Tot (Sq
IMPERVIOUS AREA DRAINING TO PROJECT (Sq Ft):	N/A	PEI TO

Total PROJECT SIZE (Sq Ft)	128,852 sq ft
PERVIOUS AREA DRAINING TO PROJECT (Sq Ft):	N/A

# **Required Attachments:**

- ⇒ Detailed final plan set of the proposed project that includes the estimated, quantitative outcomes of the project.
- ⇒ At least 2 bids for construction of proposed project.
- ⇒ Detailed project budget estimate with itemized materials and costs that equal the total project cost.

#### **ESTIMATE**

Nu Life Lawn Care & Snow Removal

3276 Fanum Rd Ste 500 Vadnais Heights, MN 55110 office@nulifelawn.com +1 (651) 439-0008 www.nulifelawn.com



Bill to

Charley Lake HOA 1310 E. Highway 96, Ste 214 White Bear Lake, MN 55110

Ship to Charley Lake HOA 1 Anemone Circle North Oaks, MN 55127

#### **Estimate details**

Estimate no.: 1039

Estimate date: 02/17/2025

# Date	Product or service	Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
1.	Irrigation	Install a Hunter Hydrawise HCC	1	\$27,241.58	\$27,241.58
		irrigation outdoor controller for all zones.			
		o Install a Hunter wireless Rain-Click			
		rain sensor.			
		o Install a 2" Hunter master valve along			
		with an HC flow meter that			
		communicates			
		directly to the HCC controller.			
		o Purchase a 2" water meter from the			
		city of Shoreview and install it.			
		o Install a green irrigation cabinet to			
		house the rpz and water meter above			
		the existing			
		irrigation pit.			
		o Move the Rpz from the irrigation pit			
		into the metal enclosure above the			
		ground.			
		o We will need to locate all valve boxes			
		and install new wire to each box.			
		o We will need to install new wire to the			
		existing valves around the complex.			
		o Pierce wire under roadway next to			
		the irrigation pit for the new wire.			
		Subtota	I		\$27,241.58
		Sales ta	х		\$2,281.48
		Total		\$2	29,523.06

Accepted date Accepted by



Job: Charley Lake Townhome Association

Job location: Anemone Circle

North Oaks, MN 55127

#### **Description of the work:**

- o Install a Hunter Hydrawise HCC irrigation outdoor controller for all zones.
- o Install a Hunter wireless Rain-Click rain sensor.
- Install a 2" Hunter master valve along with an HC flow meter that communicates directly to the HCC controller.
- Purchase a 2" water meter from the city of Shoreview and install it.
- Install a green irrigation cabinet to house the rpz and water meter above the existing irrigation pit.
- Move the Rpz from the irrigation pit into the metal enclosure above the ground.
- We will need to locate all valve boxes and install new wire to each box.
- O We will need to install new wire to the existing valves around the complex.
- o Pierce wire under roadway next to the irrigation pit for the new wire.

Note: The HCC controller will be installed along with the rain sensor on a post in the island near th
water source. An electrical outlet will need to be provided by the association on that post.

Acceptance	Date	

P.O. Box 64 Cedar, MN 55011

Sprinkler Cost: \$19,875

763-286-9781 Info@willistonirrigation.com

# V.A. Charley Lake Condo Association (CLCA) Smart Irrigation Controller

LL2 2025-01 Grant Application

Lauren Sampedro TEC Meeting 3/12/2025



LL2 2025-01 Location Aerial



# **Bid Summary**



Nu Life Lawn Care & Snow Removal	Williston Irrigation		
\$29,523.06	\$19,875		

- ➤ Install new Hunter Hydrawise HCC smart irrigation controller and wifi module
- ➤Install rain sensor and flow sensor
- ➤Install wiring and water meter for new smart irrigation system

#### Attachment 1

November 19, 2024

#### Mark Houge

President

North Oaks Company, LLC 5959 Centerville Road North Oaks, MN 55127

651.484.3361 ext. 405 mark@northoaks.com

## **RE:** Professional Services Proposal for

North Oaks Vadnais Lakes Area Watershed Management Organization Feasibility Study

Lino Lakes, Minnesota



Mark,

North Oaks Company, LLC is partnering with ISG on the Wilkinson Waters development in Lino Lakes, Minnesota within the Vadnais Lake Area Watershed Management Organization (VLAWMO). The City of Lino Lakes and VLAWMO (the partners) have expressed interest in a partnership to identify opportunities to reduce nutrient loading to Wilkinson Lake, an impaired lake west of the North Oaks' development site. Projects considered must exceed the development requirements, focus on improving the water quality of Wilkinson Lake, and leverage the design, permitting, and construction timelines resulting in project implementation efficiencies and reduced costs when compared to a stand-alone project. An area adjacent to the site holds potential for implementing a water quality treatment practice to address these concerns prior to discharge. While this project is separate from the development itself, synergies may be leveraged in terms of construction timing and cost reduction for mobilization and contracting.

This proposal addresses the discussions held during our meeting on March 26, 2024, involving representatives from North Oaks Company, VLAWMO, and the City of Lino Lakes. ISG was asked to conduct a feasibility study to assess and evaluate three key components related to the potential water quality treatment practice:

- Regional Best Management Practice (BMP) for Stormwater: Assess BMP design to provide treatment to reduce nutrients and sediment loading to Wilkinson Lake.
- Water Reuse: Evaluate the feasibility of reusing water for irrigation on the proposed development site in lieu of potable groundwater. Identify consistent volumes for decreased strain on infrastructure.
- Smart Irrigation Controllers Technology: The implementation of electronic equipment in ground to monitor the soil to utilize less water for irrigation of vegetation. The study would assess what could be accomplished from a reuse water source. Vegetation types are also part of the solution that can be accommodated as part of the design.

Based on our understanding, ISG will provide the following scope of services to complete the feasibility study.

# **SCOPE OF SERVICES**

# Feasibility Study for Water Quality Treatment

Task 1: Assess Regional Stormwater BMP Opportunities

To protect Wilkinson Lake, ISG will use and build off of the previous work of SEH to enhance the feasibility level of design,including soil borings and topographic survey completed by North Oaks Company. ISG will assess the BMP that will most reduce sediment and nutrients given the area's conditions for flow and constraints of the site. The regional BMP will be generally located to maximize treatment for the water flow north to south crossing Ash Street.

Pg. 26



#### **Geotechnical Evaluation**

This proposal includes subcontracting with a geotechnical consultant to obtain and evaluate three (3) additional soil borings that will be needed to determine site suitability. ISG will coordinate with the selected consultant to identify appropriate soil boring locations.

ISG will review all available data and reports, including the feasibility study that was completed by SEH. Upon review, ISG will assess potential alternatives to reduce loading into Lake Wilkinson to determine opportunities to address TMDL goals. Preliminary costs, permitting requirements, and feasibility for each alternative will be evaluated. It is assumed that the original model will be provided by the watershed.

#### Deliverable (Water Quality)

- Summary of preliminary review and evaluation of two (2) alternatives; each alternative will including maintenance schedule and access routes
- · Site plan with BMP opportunities
- Prepare P8 Model for the two (2) alternatives to evaluate water quality
- Engineer's opinion of probable costs
- Evaluation of project outcomes that advance progress on TMDL goals
- Permit matrix
- One (I) meeting with the partners to discuss results

# Task 2: Evaluate Water Reuse in the North Oaks Development Detention Basins + Stormwater BMPs

ISG will review the potential of water reuse from multiple sources in the area. This includes consideration of rainwater captured by the proposed stormwater BMP in Task I from runoff to the north of Wilkinson Lake and the proposed stormwater management infrastructure needed for the proposed private development at the southwest corner of Ash Street and Centerville Street. The stormwater BMP option will also include evaluating the quantity of water tributary to the proposed BMP location and the pollutant loads to confirm that the water is suitable as irrigation water for vegetation.

The proposed North Oaks Development will be evaluated for volume of water needed for the proposed green space, the necessary detention volume needed, and if a stormwater detention basin can be sized appropriately to draw captured stormwater, the necessary equipment to pump water from the basin to the irrigation system, and potential costs associated with the equipment.

Water in Motion will partner with ISG to identify the necessary water quantities on an average annual basis and help select the appropriate equipment and associated pricing at a conceptual pricing level.





#### **Deliverables (Options)**

- Summary of data collection and review
- Summary of ability to reuse water from the three (3) sources mentioned
- · Reuse concept development and optimization
- Conceptual level equipment needs and pricing for each source, if the source is found to be a viable reuse option

#### Task 3: Evaluate Smart Irrigation Controls for the North Oaks Development

ISG and Water in Motion will evaluate the possibility of utilizing smart irrigation controller options to manage the use of captured water on proposed irrigation areas and the equipment options available. The review will include a preliminary feasibility study, specifications, estimated potable groundwater reductions, general water use reduction, analysis of appropriate irrigation zones ,irrigation wiring and valve setup, sprinkler head distribution, scheduling and cost estimates. This will consider the use of flow sensors over soil moisture sensors for tracking water use.

#### Deliverable (Options)

• A summary of smart irrigation control options for each water source, if the source is found to be a viable reuse option

#### Task 4: Assess Nutrient + Sediment Reduction Loading to Wilkinson Lake

ISG will evaluate the combined impacts of the smart irrigation and the regional storm water BMP. In addition to evaluating the combined BMPs, ISG will identify where the most efficient and effective location would be to reduce the nutrient and sediment loading to Wilkinson Lake, specifically in the Wilkinson to Amelia subwatershed. This assumes that general research information states 90–100% of nutrient reduction is occurring with recycled water. This task does not include P8 water quality modeling to substantiate the nutrient reduction.

#### Deliverable (Location)

• Identification of the BMP type and optimal location for reducing nutrient and sediment loading to Wilkinson Lake. This is supported by an assessment of the combined effects of smart irrigation and regional stormwater BMPs.

#### **Task 5: Feasibility Report Preparation**

ISG will prepare a feasibility report with findings from the review and evaluation. We will identify potential local, state, and federal grant and funding resources and provide recommendations on the most suitable funding options. Any required permits will be identified within a permit matrix, along with required meetings. A draft of the feasibility report will be provided for review and comment. Feedback will then be incorporated into the final report.

#### Deliverables

- · Draft feasibility report for review and comment
- Partner meeting to make final refinements
- Final feasibility report



#### **ASSUMPTIONS**

The North Oaks Company will be responsible for developing a joint powers agreement between the City and VLAWMO. This proposal assumes the St. Paul Regional Water property is not part of this project since it is under a different ownership group.

## **SCHEDULE**

Regular project team meetings will be scheduled to ensure that the project is being proceeding in a manner that is satisfactory of all parties. The frequency and timing of the regular meetings is yet to be determined.

## **COMPENSATION**

ISG proposes to provide the scope of work described within this proposal for compensation in the amount listed below, which includes a 20% contingency for unanticipated needs. Anticipated reimbursable expenses such as travel, mileage, and printing are included. Sales tax is excluded from the compensation.

	Graduate Engineer	Civil Engineer	Senior Civil Engineer	Water in Motion	Total
Billing Rate (per hour)	\$135	\$165	\$185	\$165	
Effort Per Person	\$12,150	\$8,250	\$2,775	\$6,105	
Task 1: Assess Regional Stormwater BMP Opportunities	30	15	5	0	\$7,450
Task 2: Evaluate Water Reuse	20	10	0	18	\$7,320
Task 3: Evaluate Smart Irrigation Controls	5	5	0	19	\$4,635
Task 4: Assess Nutrient and Sediment Reduction Loading	20	10	5	0	\$5,275
Task 5: Feasibility Report Preparation	15	10	5	0	\$4,600
Three (3), 10-Foot Soil Borings					\$9,500
Total					\$38,780

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Pg. 29

November 19, 2024



## **Applicable Contract**

The General Terms and Conditions applicable to this Proposal are available at the link below and are hereby accepted and incorporated herein by reference. Upon acceptance of this Proposal, the parties can proceed with the project based on this signed Proposal, per its General Terms and Conditions, or for more complex projects, ISG, at its discretion, will prepare and require the use of an AIA or EJCDC Contract that will govern the project.



General Terms + Conditions bit.ly/termsconditions\_isg

# Acknowledgment of Acceptance

This proposal is valid for 30 days.

Accepted this \_\_\_\_\_ day

-£ 2024

Company:

Print

Name: \_

Print

Litle:

Print

Signature: \_

## **ADDITIONAL SERVICES**

ISG's goal for this proposal, like its services, is to be flexible with accommodating the requirements of this project. Upon request, ISG is able to provide a subsequent proposal to assist with additional professional design and construction phase services that will be necessary to facilitate this project as it moves forward.

ISG appreciates the opportunity to provide a solution tailored to the needs of North Oaks Company. Upon acceptance of this proposal, please sign the acknowledgment box and return a copy of the proposal to our office. We look forward to providing you with responsive service, a collaborative approach, and timely delivery.

Sincerely,

Julie Blackburn, CFM

Water Business Unit Leader

Moderal Philes

Jerremy Foss, PE, CNU-A

Civil Engineering Group Leader

Pg. 30