



Agenda

Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board Meeting
July 22, 2021, 1 p.m., In-person and Teleconference via Zoom

- | | | |
|--|-------------|---------|
| 1. Call to Order | | |
| 2. Roll Call | | |
| 3. Audience Comments on Items Not on the Agenda
<i>(please limit audience comments to five minutes)</i> | | |
| 4. Consent Agenda | Action | |
| a. Approval of Agenda | | Page 1 |
| b. Approval of Minutes from the April 22, 2021, Meeting | | Page 3 |
| c. Acceptance of Treasurer's Report | | Page 9 |
| d. Approval of the City of Elko New Market Comprehensive Stormwater Management Plan | | Page 11 |
| e. Schedule a Public Hearing to Receive Comments on the Draft VRWJPO 2022 Budget and Watershed Management Tax District Levy | | Page 13 |
| f. Authorization to Execute a Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Rosemount for an Irrigation System Audit Program in 2021 | | Page 15 |
| 5. Approval of Expenses | Action | Page 22 |
| 6. Business Items | | |
| a. Mid-term Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan Review | Information | Page 24 |
| 7. Staff Reports | | |
| 8. Adjourn | Action | |

Please note, the July 22, 2021 Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board meeting will take place **in-person** in Conference Room A at the Extension and Conservation Center, 4100 220th Street West, Farmington Minnesota **and via teleconference** on the web-based application, Zoom. The Extension and Conservation Center building remains locked. In-person participants must notify staff of their plan to be present beforehand or ring the doorbell at arrival for the meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://dakotacountymn.zoom.us/j/99215147174?pwd=VU5NR0FwUm0yZUJpVmInbndjYmE0UT09>

Meeting ID: 992 1514 7174

Passcode: 692710

One tap mobile

+16513728299,,99215147174#,,, *692710# US (Minnesota)



Dial by your location

+1 651 372 8299 US (Minnesota)

Meeting ID: 992 1514 7174

Passcode: 692710

Find your local number: <https://dakotacountymn.zoom.us/j/99215147174>

Other Information

Next Meeting Date: **August 26, 2021**, at 1 p.m.

You will be notified if the meeting is cancelled due to an anticipated lack of quorum.



Meeting Minutes

Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board Meeting

April 22, 2021, 1 p.m., Teleconference using Zoom

Board Members in Attendance

Dakota County Commissioner Mike Slavik, Chair

Scott County Commissioner, Tom Wolf, Vice-Chair

Dakota County Commissioner Mary Hamann-Roland, Secretary/ Treasurer

Others in Attendance

Mark Zabel, Dakota County, Watershed Administrator

Melissa Bokman Ermer, Scott County, Watershed Co-administrator

Travis Thiel, Dakota County, Senior Watershed Specialist

Mark Ryan, Dakota County, VRWJPO Watershed Engineer

Paula Liepold, Dakota County, Public Outreach and Communications

Helen Brosnahan, Dakota County, Assistant County Attorney

Bruce Johnson, Dakota County SWCD Supervisor

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Commissioners Slavik, Hamann-Roland, and Wolf were in attendance.

3. Audience Comments on Items Not on the Agenda

There were no comments from the audience.

4. Approval of Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Agenda
- b. Approval of Minutes from the March 25, 2021, meeting
- c. Acceptance of Treasurer's Report
- d. Authorization to Submit 2020 Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) Annual Activity Report and Financial Statement to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR)

Res. No. VRW 21-12: Motion by Commissioner Hamann-Roland, Second by Commissioner Wolf and passed on a 3-0 roll call vote to approve the consent agenda.

5. Approval of Expenses

Mark Zabel presented the current expenses for approval as shown on item 5.

Res. No. VRW 21-13: Motion by Commissioner Wolf, Second by Commissioner Hamann-Roland and passed on a 3-0 roll call vote to approve the expenses totaling \$48,414.61 incurred between March 13, 2021, and April 14, 2021.

Business Items**6a. Approval of Proposed Amendments to the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) 2021 Budget**

Mark Zabel presented the proposed amendments to the VRWJPO 2021 Budget. Budget amendments reflect revenue carryovers from the previous year, Watershed-Based Implementation Grant funds approved for 2021, expenses for new grants, adjustments for expected costs, and cash reserves. The overall amended budget is reduced by \$9,500 compared to the adopted Final VRWJPO 2021 Budget. Commissioner Wolf commented that the overall budget reduction was good to see. Commissioner Slavik asked about budgeting for changes in employment status with a current vacant position and potential new hire. Mark Zabel commented that budgeting for the VRWJPO is based on anticipated costs aligned with budget needs, and staffing is provided by the Counties. If there are additional needs, staff from other departments with other expertise can be utilized as needed. Paula Liepold is currently providing additional support to the VRWJPO for communications and outreach due to the current vacant position. Commissioner Slavik commented that he supports the increase to the feasibility study category because it supports implementing projects and attracts grant funding. Commissioner Hamann-Roland commented she also supports implementing projects.

Res. No. VRW 21-14: Motion by Commissioner Hamann-Roland, Second by Commissioner Wolf and passed on a 3-0 roll call vote to approve the proposed amendments to the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization 2021 Budget.

6b. Planning for future Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board meeting formats

Mark Zabel commented this item is a carryover from a previous meeting. Mark Zabel also stated that the May meeting of the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board has been cancelled the last two years due to light meeting agendas (no decision items) and this will likely be true again in 2021. Anticipating the cancellation of the May meeting, the Board may want to consider the format of its June meeting. Commissioner Slavik suggests planning for a virtual meeting in June and an in-person meeting in July and perhaps outdoors. There was consensus among the Board for continuing with a virtual meeting in June. Mark Zabel noted that he would keep this item on the agenda for discussion in June.

6c. Project Paths to the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO)

Mark Ryan introduced this item that was presented to the Vermillion River Watershed Planning Commission (WPC) at the request of one of the WPC members to both provide information for new members as well as to enhance background for existing members regarding how projects are proposed and selected for implementation by the VRWJPO. The primary document directing the VRWJPO is the Watershed Management Plan (Plan). There are studies that have been completed over the years assessing water quality issues in different geographic areas within the watershed that then guide where projects might be implemented. Cost share also allows the VRWJPO to provide support for projects that are suggested by partners. Mark Ryan provided an overview focusing on Goals, Objectives, and Actions Section and the Implementation Section of the Plan. Watershed-based studies, like the Watershed

Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS) study completed with Minnesota Pollution Control Agency funding, help inform the implementation process. The VRWJPO also pursues subwatershed assessments to help identify potential projects either in conjunction with the Soil and Water Conservation Districts or under contract with consultants. Mark Ryan provided a specific example of the subwatershed assessment process and project implementation for Alimagnet Lake. Another form of assessment is a geomorphic assessment which is more specific to assessing the stream or near stream environment. Cost share policy addresses how VRWJPO funding is allocated to projects in supporting their implementation with partner funding. Mark Ryan commented to aspects of long-term plans for implementation projects and funding, especially as there is now a more predictable state grant funding source. Commissioner Hamann-Roland expressed her appreciation for this background information and asked about grant funding and match. Mark Zabel commented that the VRWJPO sometimes partners with local units of government where the match requirement for a grant is supported by both the VRWJPO and the local unit, allowing the VRWJPO to reduce its contribution for the total match. Commissioner Slavik asked if there was specific feedback from the WPC. Mark Ryan shared that the WPC was interested in how projects are prioritized and the big picture planning to target the best projects and their distribution throughout the watershed. Commissioner Hamann-Roland asked how projects are prioritized among cities. Mark Ryan commented that there are tools, such as the subwatershed prioritization, that could be used to evaluate which project becomes a higher priority. Commissioner Slavik acknowledged that more stable funding allows better predictability and planning. Commissioner Slavik recommended the Board consider a half-day strategic planning session in about a year (2022 spring/early summer) to develop direction for the VRWJPO, including CIP, and that session could include an invitation for WPC members participation. Commissioner Hamann-Roland supported the added value of having WPC members join the Board.

Staff Reports

Travis Thiel reported a follow up to a request at last month's VRWJPB meeting to look at deadfalls and obstructions on the Vermillion River between Highway 52 and Highway 61 in Hastings. Travis completed a desktop inventory using available GIS tools and aerial photography and categorized deadfalls based on the level of resulting blockage. The categories Travis applied were: completely blocking for deadfalls fully across the stream, partially blocking for deadfalls across approximately 50% or more of the stream, limited blocking for which deadfalls block 50% or less of the stream, and leaners which refers to trees that may not be in the stream but may fall into the stream sometime in the future (5 to 10 years). Reviewing reaches of the river using the Public Land Survey, Section by Section, Travis quantified the following deadfalls: 46 completely blocking, 63 partially blocking, 156 limited blocking, and 426 leaners.

Commissioner Slavik commended Travis for compiling this information. Commissioner Slavik also noted, in reference to current work done near Cedar Avenue, that opening the river for recreation would be no small undertaking. Travis commented that he had mentioned the scale of the project at last month's meeting and agreed that the effort would require significant labor, time, and cost. If we were to engage a contractor for this purpose it will require addressing several issues including: coordination with landowners, access for equipment, timing of work (might include work in winter to avoid rutting things up), and removal of debris.

Commissioner Slavik contacted Hastings Environmental Protectors and Parks Department; some volunteers were very enthusiastic about working to clear the deadfalls. Logistically, this issue is more complicated. One challenge is that most of the area is private property on both banks. The completely blocking deadfall is of greatest concern and some of the perception that is conveyed is that the river is blocked in all these spots and holding back water causing flooding issues. That may not be the case, but

addressing some of that perception might be helpful. Commissioner Slavik also wondered if something can be done that has some impact and brings value to users and taxpayers for recreation while maintaining values for habitat. Commissioner Slavik requested input from staff for these issues. Mark Zabel commented that the next step would be to confirm the desktop inventory to accurately represent the current conditions on this reach of the river. This will involve getting on the river in canoes or kayaks and documenting the deadfalls present. Mark Zabel also reported that the previous iteration of the Vermillion River Watershed Board completed a similar project with a contractor in 1994. During that project the contractor removed some trees on private property resulting in the property owner suing and winning a settlement of \$80,000 for restitution. Care needs to be taken when addressing this issue and be limited to removing, or partially removing, obstructions actually in the river. Other issues including habitat will need to be addressed if this project moves forward. Staff will report back to the Board in June. Commissioner Wolf commented that trees along the stream are a natural occurrence and generally would be in favor of leaving things alone, although allowing for passage might be a good idea. Commissioner Wolf approved of completing the inventory. Commissioner Hamann-Roland liked the actions being taken in a considered manner and moving toward prioritization of addressing issues. She supported addressing obstructions that are completely blocking. Mark Ryan commented that landowner outreach will be an important consideration in determining feasibility for this and if a landowner(s) were to reach out to staff or Board members, perhaps there is an opportunity to develop a pilot project that could then inform how we approach this further. Commissioner Slavik commented confirming the desktop inventory should focus on deadfall completely blocking and partially blocking the stream.

Travis reported that there was an accidental spill of fertilizer in Ravenna Township. The incident was reported to the Duty Officer and the product was vacuumed up. Based on pictures provided, it appears to have been cleaned up effectively.

Mark Zabel reported that Chuck Clanton, who serves on the Local Advisory Team (LAT) for the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA), which is evaluating nitrate and fertilizer management issues in the Hastings Drinking Water Supply Management Area (DWSMA), is developing a list of Best Management Practices (BMPs) that, after adoption by the MDA, would be promoted within the DWSMA. Chuck forwarded the draft list of BMPs to VRWJPO staff for comments. After receiving comments from the VRWJPO, MDA staff requested a meeting with VRWJPO staff to discuss the comments. Mark Zabel summarized the comments provided to the WPC referencing the Minnesota Groundwater Protection Act. The MDA is charged with protecting groundwater from contamination from agricultural chemicals. In the case of nitrates in the Hastings DWSMA, one of the primary sources of nitrate is from nitrogen fertilizer use. Mark Zabel also summarized the MDA's current approach. Some of VRWJPO staff comments to the development of the list of BMPs is that we are often told that farmers in the area are already applying at rates recommended as BMPs; if that is the case we are not seeing improvements in the levels of nitrates in groundwater and surface water in the area due to the application of BMPs. MDA is putting in 27 monitoring wells in the Hastings DWSMA at which they will sample shallow groundwater for contaminants. But then they are developing this list of BMPs that are going to be adopted for promotion in the area and basically it's the same BMPs that we are told most farmers are already using. The BMPs won't be evaluated until three years down the road. Staff comments strongly recommend that MDA do their assessment now so that the level of BMP adoption is established and a determination can be made as to whether those BMPs are effective or if something else that better addresses the issue needs to be done. The list is still in development and so the LAT is supplying the list to MDA for adoption (probably this summer).

Mark Zabel also reported that the Lower Minnesota East Watershed, one of the Major Watersheds, involved in the statewide watershed planning efforts known as One Watershed, One Plan, is in the process of developing a Plan. The VRWJPO will not be involved in the planning process for this area (a large part of Scott County and portions of LeSueur and Rice Counties). The VRWJPO has a small portion of what the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources is calling Area 56 which is also part of the Lower Minnesota Watershed (the watershed not the Watershed District) which includes the Lebanon Hills and northwest Rosemount area within the VRWJPO. However, the VRWJPO will not be part of those processes because it is entirely within the Metro Area and the VRW allocation of Watershed Based Implementation Funding is set by the jurisdictional bound of the VRWJPO.

Mark Zabel also noted that Dakota County is in the process of interviews for the open position of Communications and Outreach Specialist for the VRWJPO.

Adjourn

Motion by Commissioner Wolf, Second by Commissioner Hamann-Roland, and passed 3-0 roll call vote to adjourn the meeting at 2:22 p.m.

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, June 24, 2021, at 1 p.m. Teleconference using Zoom.

Mark Zabel

Administrator for the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization

Attest

Commissioner Hamann-Roland

Secretary/ Treasurer

Date



2021 Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization Treasurer's Report

May 2021 - Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board Meeting

	<u>Budget Amounts</u>	<u>Expenses to Date</u>	<u>Expenses Pending</u>	<u>Account Balance</u>	<u>Budget Funding Sources</u>		
I. Administration & Operations (217002-0000)	\$ 240,500.00	\$ 61,842.21	\$ 11,364.58	\$ 167,293.21	Scott County Levy	\$	33,350.00
II. Research & Planning (217002-0130)	\$ 65,600.00	\$ 9,290.31	\$ 11,133.46	\$ 45,176.23	Dakota County Levy	\$	966,650.00
III. Monitoring & Assessment (217002-0230)	\$ 157,400.00	\$ 8,252.84	\$ 6,734.61	\$ 142,412.55	Expected 2019 Carryover (Fund Balance)	\$	336,000.00
IV. Public Communications & Outreach (217002-0330)	\$ 192,450.00	\$ 28,200.02	\$ 8,687.19	\$ 155,562.79	Special Use Permit	\$	2,500.00
V. Regulation (217002-0530)	\$ 65,900.00	\$ 13,476.45	\$ 3,396.21	\$ 49,027.34	CWF Grant (BWSR)	\$	370,000.00
VI. Coordination & Collaboration (217002-0531)	\$ 45,600.00	\$ 4,876.71	\$ 1,320.33	\$ 39,402.96	2019-2021 CWF Grant 1W1P (BWSR)	\$	218,100.00
VIII. Feasibility/Preliminary Studies (217002-0631)	\$ 240,000.00	\$ 54,616.06	\$ 8,524.46	\$ 176,859.48	2020-2023 CWF Grant WBIF (BWSR)	\$	243,600.00
X. Capital Improvement Projects (217092-0130)	\$ 296,300.00	\$ 31,025.80	\$ 3,268.10	\$ 262,006.10	Met Council Grant	\$	-
XI. Met Council Grant (217002-0832)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	CIP Reserve	\$	205,900.00
XII. CWF Grant - Alimagnet (217002-0836)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	CIP Reserve Grant Match	\$	101,800.00
XIII. CWF Grant - County Road 50 (217002-0837)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	Investment Earnings	\$	20,000.00
XIV. CWF Grant - South Branch (217002-0838)	\$ -	\$ 39.85	\$ -	\$ (39.85)	Total	\$	2,497,900.00
XV. CWF Grant - Lakeville (217002-0839)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
XVI. CWF Grant - South Creek (217002-0840)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
XVII. CWF Grant - Erickson Park St (217002-0841)	\$ 164,300.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 164,300.00			
XVIII. CWF Grant - Farmington Street (217002-0842)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
XIX. CWF Grant - Aronson Park Storm (217002-0843)	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00			
XX. CWF Grant - Webster Wetland (217002-0844)	\$ 67,000.00	\$ 64,585.98	\$ -	\$ 2,414.02			
XXI. CWF Grant - Technical Assistance (217002-0845)	\$ 19,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,500.00			
XXII. CWF Grant - Imminent Health T (217002-0846)	\$ 8,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,000.00			
XXIII. CPL Grant - South Creek at Hamburg (217002-0847)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
XXIX. FY2019 - Watershed Funding Grant (217002-0848)	\$ 23,700.00	\$ 2,994.24	\$ 332.96	\$ 20,372.80			
XXX. CWF Grant - Records Trail/Grade (217002-0849)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
XXXI. CWF Grant - 21st Street Ravine Outlet (217002-0850)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
XXXII. CWF Grant - Vermillion Falls Bio (217002-0851)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
XXXIII. CWF Grant - Middle Creek Restoration (217002-0852)	\$ 420,000.00	\$ 2,381.10	\$ 123.59	\$ 417,495.31			
Irrigation and Audit	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00			
XXXIV. WBIF Grant (BWSR) 2020-2023 North Creek Stabilization (217002-0853)	\$ 187,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 187,500.00			
XXXV. WBIF Grant 2020-2023 Farmington Direct Drainage (217002-0854)	\$ 16,630.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,630.00			
XXXVI. WBIF Grant (BWSR) 2020-2023 Hastings Direct Drainage (217002-0855)	\$ 16,630.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,630.00			
XXXVII. WBIF Grant (BWSR) 2020-2023 Ravenna Basins Restoration (217002-0856)	\$ 35,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,500.00			
XXXVIII. WBIF Grant (BWSR) 2020-2023 Rosemount Anti-Icing (217002-0857)	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00			
VRW JPO Revised Budget Expense TOTAL	\$ 2,297,510.00	\$ 281,581.57	\$ 54,885.49	\$ 1,961,042.94			



2021 Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization Treasurer's Report

June 2021 - Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board Meeting

	<u>Budget Amounts</u>	<u>Expenses to Date</u>	<u>Expenses Pending</u>	<u>Account Balance</u>	<u>Budget Funding Sources</u>	
I. Administration & Operations (217002-0000)	\$ 240,500.00	\$ 73,310.12	\$ 13,882.24	\$ 153,307.64	Scott County Levy	\$ 33,350.00
II. Research & Planning (217002-0130)	\$ 65,600.00	\$ 20,423.77	\$ 6,205.15	\$ 38,971.08	Dakota County Levy	\$ 966,650.00
III. Monitoring & Assessment (217002-0230)	\$ 157,400.00	\$ 15,887.45	\$ 3,273.33	\$ 138,239.22	Expected 2019 Carryover (Fund Balance)	\$ 336,000.00
IV. Public Communications & Outreach (217002-0330)	\$ 192,450.00	\$ 36,887.21	\$ 11,693.64	\$ 143,869.15	Special Use Permit	\$ 2,500.00
V. Regulation (217002-0530)	\$ 65,900.00	\$ 16,872.66	\$ 3,313.52	\$ 45,713.82	CWF Grant (BWSR)	\$ 370,000.00
VI. Coordination & Collaboration (217002-0531)	\$ 45,600.00	\$ 6,197.04	\$ 6,188.40	\$ 33,214.56	2019-2021 CWF Grant 1W1P (BWSR)	\$ 218,100.00
VIII. Feasibility/Preliminary Studies (217002-0631)	\$ 240,000.00	\$ 63,140.52	\$ 6,321.61	\$ 170,537.87	2020-2023 CWF Grant WBIF (BWSR)	\$ 243,600.00
X. Capital Improvement Projects (217092-0130)	\$ 296,300.00	\$ 34,293.90	\$ 2,215.63	\$ 259,790.47	Met Council Grant	\$ -
XI. Met Council Grant (217002-0832)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	CIP Reserve	\$ 205,900.00
XII. CWF Grant - Alimagnet (217002-0836)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	CIP Reserve Grant Match	\$ 101,800.00
XIII. CWF Grant - County Road 50 (217002-0837)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	Investment Earnings	\$ 20,000.00
XIV. CWF Grant - South Branch (217002-0838)	\$ -	\$ 39.85	\$ -	\$ (39.85)	Total	\$ 2,497,900.00
XV. CWF Grant - Lakeville (217002-0839)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
XVI. CWF Grant - South Creek (217002-0840)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
XVII. CWF Grant - Erickson Park St (217002-0841)	\$ 164,300.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 164,300.00		
XVIII. CWF Grant - Farmington Street (217002-0842)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
XIX. CWF Grant - Aronson Park Storm (217002-0843)	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00		
XX. CWF Grant - Webster Wetland (217002-0844)	\$ 67,000.00	\$ 64,585.98	\$ -	\$ 2,414.02		
XXI. CWF Grant - Technical Assistance (217002-0845)	\$ 19,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,500.00		
XXII. CWF Grant - Imminent Health T (217002-0846)	\$ 8,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,000.00		
XXIII. CPL Grant - South Creek at Hamburg (217002-0847)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
XXIX. FY2019 - Watershed Funding Grant (217002-0848)	\$ 23,700.00	\$ 3,327.20	\$ 119.61	\$ 20,253.19		
XXX. CWF Grant - Records Trail/Grade (217002-0849)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
XXXI. CWF Grant - 21st Street Ravine Outlet (217002-0850)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
XXXII. CWF Grant - Vermillion Falls Bio (217002-0851)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
XXXIII. CWF Grant - Middle Creek Restoration (217002-0852)	\$ 420,000.00	\$ 2,504.69	\$ 77.11	\$ 417,418.20		
Irrigation and Audit	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00		
XXXIV. WBIF Grant (BWSR) 2020-2023 North Creek Stabilization (217002-0853)	\$ 187,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 187,500.00		
XXXV. WBIF Grant 2020-2023 Farmington Direct Drainage (217002-0854)	\$ 16,630.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,630.00		
XXXVI. WBIF Grant (BWSR) 2020-2023 Hastings Direct Drainage (217002-0855)	\$ 16,630.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,630.00		
XXXVII. WBIF Grant (BWSR) 2020-2023 Ravenna Basins Restoration (217002-0856)	\$ 35,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,500.00		
XXXVIII. WBIF Grant (BWSR) 2020-2023 Rosemount Anti-Icing (217002-0857)	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00		
VRW JPO Revised Budget Expense TOTAL	\$ 2,297,510.00	\$ 337,470.39	\$ 53,290.24	\$ 1,906,749.37		

4d. Approval of the City of Elko New Market Comprehensive Surface Water Management Plan

Meeting Date: 7/22/2021
Item Type: Consent-Action
Contact: Mark Ryan
Telephone: 952-891-7596
Prepared by: Mark Ryan
Reviewed by: N/A

N/A

**PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED**

- Approval of the City of Elko New Market Comprehensive Surface Water Management Plan

SUMMARY

On June 23, 2016, the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) adopted a Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan pursuant to Minn. Stat. §103B.231, which details the existing physical environment; land use and development in the VRWJPO; issues and priorities; goals, objectives, and actions; an implementation plan; and Standards to protect and improve water resources, prevent flooding, and otherwise achieve the goals of Minn. Stat. §103B (VRW-16-33).

Minn. Stat. §103B.235 requires that the local government units within a watershed prepare a local water management plan, capital improvement program, and official controls necessary to bring local water management into conformance with watershed management plans. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. §103B.235, Subd. 3, the VRWJPO Board may approve or disapprove the local plan or parts of the plan. As part of its review of the local water management plans, the VRWJPO must consider comments submitted by the Metropolitan Council pursuant to Minn. Stat. §103B.235, Subds. 3 and 3a.

The City of Elko New Market (City) developed a Comprehensive Surface Water Management Plan (CSWMP) pursuant to Minn. Stat. §103B.235 and provided the draft version to the VRWJPO on December 18, 2019, for review and approval. The City's CSWMP describes the existing and proposed physical environment and land use, outlines goals, policies, and local controls, and sets forth an implementation plan in compliance with the Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan and Standards. The VRWJPO reviewed the City's CSWMP and provided comments on January 6, 2020. The Metropolitan Council provided comments on the CSWMP on March 11, 2020, and the VRWJPO reviewed the Metropolitan Council comments in accordance with Minn. Stat. §103B.235, Subd. 3a. The City provided a response to comments and a final draft version of the CSWMP that addressed the comments on June 15, 2021.

VRWJPO staff determined the City's CSWMP, incorporating comments as noted in the City's responses, is in conformance with the Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan and Standards. Based on the conformance of the City's final CSWMP, VRWJPO staff recommends approval of the City of Elko New Market's CSWMP.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACT

None

RESOLUTION

4d. Approval of the City of Elko New Market Comprehensive Surface Water Management Plan

WHEREAS, on June, 23, 2016, the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) adopted a Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan under Minnesota Statute § 103B.231, which details the existing physical environment; land use and development in the VRWJPO; issues and priorities; goals, objectives, and actions; an implementation plan; and Standards to protect and improve water resources, prevent flooding, and otherwise achieve the goals of Minn. Stat. §103B; and

WHEREAS, the City of Elko New Market (City) developed a Comprehensive Surface Water Management Plan (CSWMP) under Minnesota Statute § 103B.235 that describes the existing and proposed physical environment and land use, outlines goals, policies, and local controls, and sets forth an implementation plan in compliance with the Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan and Standards; and

WHEREAS, the City's CSWMP was submitted to the Metropolitan Council for review and comment, and comments received from the Metropolitan Council have been reviewed and considered by the VRWJPO; and

WHEREAS, the City provided a final draft version of the CSWMP, and the VRWJPO staff determined the CSWMP incorporating these edits conforms with the Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan and Standards.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board hereby approves the City of Elko New Market's Comprehensive Surface Water Management Plan, in accordance with Minnesota Statute § 103B.235 Subd. 3.

4e. Schedule a Public Hearing to Receive Comments on the Draft Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization 2022 Budget and Watershed Management Tax District Levy

Meeting Date: 7/22/2021
Item Type: Consent-Action
Contact: Mark Zabel
Telephone: 952-891-7011
Prepared by: Mark Zabel
Reviewed by: N/A

N/A

**PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED**

- Schedule a public hearing to receive comments on the draft Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) 2022 Budget and Watershed Management Tax District Levy

SUMMARY

Pursuant to the Joint Powers Agreement establishing the VRWJPO, by September 1 of each year the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board (VRWJPB) must adopt a budget for the following calendar year. VRWJPO staff is preparing a draft 2022 Budget by assessing the needs of the watershed, strategic planning with the VRWJPB, and following the implementation section of the 2016-2025 Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan.

Minn. Stat. § 103B.211, subd. 1(a)(5) provides that a watershed management organization has the authority of a watershed district under Minn. Stat. § 103D.911 to adopt a budget and determine the total amount to be raised from ad valorem tax levies to meet the budget. Minn. Stat. § 103D.911 requires a public hearing on the draft budget prior to its adoption. Notice of the hearing, along with a summary of the draft budget, must be published in one or more newspapers of general circulation in each county (Scott and Dakota) and must be published once each week for two successive weeks before the hearing.

Staff recommends that the VRWJPB schedule a public hearing on August 26, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. to receive comments on the draft VRWJPO 2022 Budget.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact from this action. At its August 26, 2021, meeting, the VRWJPB will need to approve a draft VRWJPO 2022 Budget and recommend an appropriate Watershed Management Tax District Levy to Dakota and Scott counties.

Supporting Documents:

Attachment A: Draft Public Notice for Hearing on VRWJPO 2022 Budget

Previous Board Action(s):

- ;

RESOLUTION

4e. Schedule a Public Hearing to Receive Comments on the Draft Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) 2022 Budget and Watershed Management Tax District Levy

WHEREAS, the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board (VRWJPB) is required to adopt a budget for the VRWJPO by September 1 for the following calendar year; and

WHEREAS, the VRWJPB is required, under Minn. Stat. § 103D.911, to hold a public hearing on the draft budget prior to its adoption.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the VRWJPB hereby schedules a public hearing for August 26, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. for the purpose of receiving comments on the draft VRWJPO 2022 Budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that VRWJPO staff is hereby directed to publish notice of the public hearing in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 103D.911.

4f. Authorization to Execute a Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Rosemount for an Irrigation System Audit Program in 2021

Meeting Date: 7/22/2021
Item Type: Regular-Information
Contact: Travis Thiel
Telephone: 952-891-7546
Prepared by: Mark Zabel
Reviewed by: N/A

N/A

**PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED**

- Authorization to execute a Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Rosemount for an irrigation system audit program in 2021

SUMMARY

The Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) staff is requesting the execution of a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) with the City of Rosemount to implement an irrigation system audit program in 2021.

In 2020, the VRWJPO and City of Rosemount collaboratively implemented a program that performed an irrigation system audit at one townhome association to identify how to improve water efficiency, decrease groundwater use, and potentially reduce water bills. The City of Rosemount is interested in an expanded irrigation system audit program at three townhome associations (Associations) in 2021.

Excessive groundwater use within the watershed affects the amount of groundwater available for residential, business/industrial, and agricultural uses. Excessive groundwater usage also impacts aquatic organisms and habitat within the watershed. A growing population increases the demand for groundwater and the infrastructure needed to supply it to watershed residents. To achieve the VRWJPO Watershed Plan's goal of maintaining a sustainable water supply, projects that conserve water are needed to ensure adequate water supply for the growing population.

Lawn maintenance and landscaping are the most consistent discretionary water uses in urban settings. By performing irrigation system audits in 2021, VRWJPO and City of Rosemount staff will use the recommendations from the audits to help the Associations achieve significant water savings, which will reduce costs and help maintain a sustainable water supply.

The audits are estimated to cost \$13,500. The City of Rosemount applied for and received a Metropolitan Council Water Efficiency grant, of which, \$2,000 can be used to help offset costs of an audit program. The grant requires a 25 percent local match, and the VRWJPO and City will provide \$5,675 and \$5,675, respectively, after subtracting a \$50 contribution from each Association. The VRWJPO has allocated \$10,000 in its 2021 Budget for audits and improvements, and \$5,675 will be drawn from this allocation. Staff is recommending the execution of the JPA with the City of Rosemount for the irrigation system audit program in 2021.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACT

The VRWJPO has allocated \$10,000 its 2021 Budget for audits and improvements.

Supporting Documents:

Attachment A: JPA with Rosemount for Irrigation Audit Program

Previous Board Action(s):

- ;

RESOLUTION**4f. Authorization to Execute a Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Rosemount for an Irrigation System Audit Program in 2021**

WHEREAS, in 2020, the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Power Organization (VRWJPO) and City of Rosemount collaboratively implemented a program that performed one irrigation system audit at a townhome association to aid in improving water efficiency, decrease groundwater use, and save residents money on their water bills; and

WHEREAS, in 2021 the City of Rosemount (City) has expressed interest in expanding an irrigation audit program at three townhome associations (Associations) within the City; and

WHEREAS, excessive groundwater use within the watershed affects the amount of groundwater available for other residents, businesses, agricultural production, and industries; and

WHEREAS, many of the watershed's water resources also rely on groundwater to sustain their volume and provide adequate habitat for aquatic organisms; and

WHEREAS, a growing population requires continued investments in infrastructure to ensure water supplies; and

WHEREAS, the VRWJPO has identified the goal of maintaining a sustainable water supply and various objectives and tasks to address this goal within the VRWJPO's Watershed Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, the most consistent discretionary water use in urban settings is for lawn maintenance and landscaping; and

WHEREAS, performing irrigation system audits (Project) that will reduce water use is an effective means to address VRWJPO and City water supply goals, objectives, and actions; and

WHEREAS, targeting Associations' irrigation systems is effective since most of these Associations have centrally-controlled irrigation systems where improvements made can result in larger water savings; and

WHEREAS, the City applied for and received a Metropolitan Council Water Efficiency grant, of which, \$2,000 can be used toward the costs of an audit program; and

WHEREAS, the grant requires a 25 percent local match, and the VRWJPO and City will provide \$5,675 and \$5,675, respectively, after subtracting a \$50 contribution from each Association; and

WHEREAS, the VRWJPO has allocated \$10,000 in its 2021 Budget for irrigation system audits.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board authorizes its chair to execute a Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Rosemount for the irrigation system audit program in 2021; subject to approval as to form by the Dakota County Attorney's Office.

**JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT FOR
IRRIGATION SYSTEM AUDIT PROGRAM
BETWEEN THE VERMILLION RIVER WATERSHED JOINT POWERS ORGANIZATION
AND
THE CITY OF ROSEMOUNT**

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 471.59 authorizes local governmental units to jointly or cooperatively exercise any power common to the contracting parties; and

WHEREAS, the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization is a watershed management body consisting of Dakota and Scott Counties (the "VRWJPO"), governed by the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board (the "VRWJPB"), and is charged with carrying out the duties set forth in Minn. Stat. § 103B.211 to 103B.255 and as otherwise provided by law; and

WHEREAS, the City of Rosemount (the "City") is a Minnesota municipal corporation and political subdivision of the State of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, many lakes, streams, and wetlands in the VRWJPO rely on groundwater to sustain their volume and support recreation and biological populations; and

WHEREAS, residents, businesses, agriculture, and industries rely almost solely on groundwater for their various needs; and

WHEREAS, modeling by the Metropolitan Council shows that continued development of groundwater sources to meet future demands will have an adverse effect on resources, and conversely shows benefit to regional aquifers if demand on groundwater is reduced; and

WHEREAS, due to population growth, continued investments in infrastructure are needed to reliably supply water; and

WHEREAS, maintaining a sustainable water supply is a goal of the VRWJPO's Watershed Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to provide information and promote activities that protect the source water aquifers within the City's Wellhead Protection Plan; and

WHEREAS, the most consistent discretionary water use in urban settings is for lawn maintenance and landscaping; and

WHEREAS, in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, approximately 20 percent of treated drinking water is used outdoors; and

WHEREAS, performing irrigation system audits (the "Audits") has been identified as an effective means to address VRWJPO and City water supply goals, objectives, and actions; and

WHEREAS, targeting townhome and homeowner association ("Association") irrigation systems is effective due to the centrally-controlled irrigation system used by most Associations where improvements can result in greater water savings; and

WHEREAS, the City was awarded a Metropolitan Council's 2019-2022 Water Efficiency Grant Program (the "Grant"); and

WHEREAS, the City has up to \$2,000 of Grant funding for the Audits, which requires a local match of 25% of awarded grant funds in an amount totaling \$500; and

WHEREAS, each Association will be required to pay \$50 directly to the VRWJPO for the cost of the Audits; and

WHEREAS, the VRWJPO and the City have agreed to each pay \$5,675 for the costs of Audits after applying the Associations' \$50 contribution; and

WHEREAS, the VRWJPO and the City wish to partner to perform Audits at Associations to reduce groundwater use and reduce association water costs (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the VRWJPO will hire the contractor necessary to perform the audits; and

WHEREAS, the City will coordinate audit contractor scheduling, reporting, and be the liaison with participant Associations; and

WHEREAS, the VRWJPO will serve as the fiscal agent for irrigation system Audits; and

WHEREAS, the VRWJPO and City have allocated money within their respective budgets to fund these Audits.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and benefits that the City and the VRWJPO shall derive from this Agreement, the VRWJPO and the City hereby enter into this Agreement for the purposes stated herein.

ARTICLE 1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this Agreement is to define the Project responsibilities and cost-sharing obligations of the parties.

ARTICLE 2 PARTIES

The parties to this Agreement are the VRWJPO and the City.

ARTICLE 3 TERM

This Agreement shall be effective the date of the signatures of the parties to this Agreement and shall remain in effect until December 31, 2022, or until completion by the parties of their respective obligations under this Agreement, whichever occurs first, unless earlier terminated by law or according to the provisions of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 4 COOPERATION

The VRWJPO and the City agree to cooperate and use their reasonable efforts to ensure prompt implementation of the various provisions of this Agreement and to, in good faith, undertake resolution of any dispute in an equitable and timely manner.

ARTICLE 5 PAYMENT BY CITY

5.1 The VRWJPO will administer all contracts and act as the paying agent for all payments to any contractors and Associations.

5.2 The City will reimburse the VRWJPO with Project-related activities up to \$5,675 from City funding and \$2,000 from Grant funding related to the Audits. The VRWJPO's maximum eligible reimbursement amount from the City is \$7,675.

5.3 The VRWJPO will provide up to \$5,675 in funding for Audits.

5.4 Upon confirmation of VRWJPO payment to any contractors or Associations, the City shall reimburse the VRWJPO for Project-related costs.

5.5 The City may refuse to pay claims not specifically authorized by this Agreement. Payment of a claim shall not preclude the City from questioning the propriety of the claim.

5.6 VRWJPO shall repay to the City any overpayment, disallowed claim, or costs not authorized in Section 6.1.

ARTICLE 6 GENERAL OBLIGATIONS

6.1 AUTHORIZED PURPOSE. The funds provided under the terms of this Agreement may only be used by the VRWJPO for the payment of costs directly related to the Project.

6.2 COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS/STANDARDS. The VRWJPO shall abide by all federal, state, or local laws, statutes, ordinances, rules, and regulations in implementing the Project, including obtaining all necessary permits to implement the Project.

6.3 PUBLICITY. The parties may take and disclose photographs of Project sites for use in publications or promotional material or on its website to highlight the VRWJPO's or the City's programs. Each party shall appropriately acknowledge the funding provided by the other party in any promotional materials, signage, reports, publications, notices, and presentations related to the Project. This section shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 7 INDEMNIFICATION

Each party to this Agreement shall be liable for the acts of its officers, employees or agents and the results thereof to the extent authorized by law and shall not be responsible for the acts of the other party, its officers, employees or agents. The provisions of the Municipal Tort Claims Act, Minn. Stat. Ch. 466 and other applicable laws govern liability of the VRWJPO and the City. Each party warrants that they are able to comply with the aforementioned indemnity requirements through an insurance or self-insurance program and that each has minimum coverage consistent with liability limits contained in Minn. Stat. Ch. 466. In the event of any claims or actions filed against either party, nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to allow a claimant to obtain separate judgments or separate liability caps from the individual parties. This section shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 8 AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES AND LIAISONS

8.1 AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES. The following named persons are designated the authorized representatives of the parties for purposes of this Agreement. These persons have authority to bind the party they represent and to consent to modifications, except that the authorized representative shall have only the authority specifically or generally granted by their respective governing boards. Notice required to be provided pursuant to this Agreement shall be provided to the following named persons and addresses unless otherwise stated in this Agreement, or an amendment of this Agreement:

TO THE VRWJPO:	Mike Slavik or successor, Chair Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization 14955 Galaxie Avenue Apple Valley, MN 55124 Telephone: (952) 891-7030
TO THE CITY:	Logan Martin or successor, City Administrator City of Rosemount 2875 145th Street West Rosemount, MN 55068 Telephone: (651) 322-2006

In addition, notification to the VRWJPO regarding termination of this Agreement by the City shall be provided to the Office of the Dakota County Attorney, Civil Division, 1560 Highway 55, Hastings, Minnesota 55033.

8.2 LIAISONS. To assist the parties in the day-to-day performance of this Agreement and to ensure compliance and provide ongoing consultation, a liaison shall be designated by the VRWJPO and the City. The VRWJPO and the City shall keep each other continually informed, in writing, of any change in the designated liaison. At the time of execution of this Agreement, the following persons are the designated liaisons:

VRWJPO Liaison:	Travis Thiel Telephone: (952) 891-7546 Email: travis.thiel@co.dakota.mn.us
City Liaison:	Jane Byron, Storm Water Specialist Telephone: (651) 322-2075 Email: jbyron@ci.rosemount.mn.us

ARTICLE 9 MODIFICATIONS

Any alterations, variations, modifications, or waivers of the provisions of this Agreement shall only be valid when they have been reduced to writing, approved by the parties' respective Boards, or as delegated by the parties' respective Boards, and signed by the Authorized Representatives, or delegated authority, of the VRWJPO and the City.

ARTICLE 10 TERMINATION

10.1 IN GENERAL. Either party may terminate this Agreement for cause by giving seven days' prior written notice of its intent to terminate the Agreement to the other party. Either party may terminate this Agreement for any reason by giving 30 days' prior written notice of its intent to terminate to the other party. Any such notice to terminate for cause shall specify the circumstances warranting termination of the Agreement. "Cause" shall mean a material breach of this Agreement and any supplemental agreements or amendments thereto. This Agreement may also be terminated immediately by either party in the event of a violation of any of the terms of this Agreement. Notice of termination shall be made by certified mail or personal delivery to the authorized representative of the other party. Termination of this Agreement shall not discharge any liability, responsibility or right of any party, which arises from the performance of or failure to adequately perform the terms of this Agreement prior to the effective date of termination.

10.2 TERMINATION BY CITY FOR LACK OF FUNDING. Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement to the contrary, the City may immediately terminate this Agreement if it does not obtain funding from the Minnesota Legislature, Minnesota Agencies, or other funding sources, or if it's funding cannot be continued at a level sufficient to allow payment of the amounts due under this Agreement. The City is not obligated to pay for any services that are provided after written notice of termination for lack of funding. The City will not be assessed any penalty or damages if the Agreement is terminated due to lack of funding. The City will pay for expenses incurred by the VRWJPO up to any notice of termination of work on the Project.

ARTICLE 11 MINNESOTA LAW TO GOVERN

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the substantive and procedural laws of the State of Minnesota, without giving effect to the principles of conflict of laws. All proceedings related to any dispute arising under this Agreement shall take place in the County of Dakota, State of Minnesota. This section shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 12 MERGER

This Agreement is the final expression of the agreement of the parties and the complete and exclusive statement of the terms agreed upon and shall supersede all prior negotiations, understandings, or agreements.

ARTICLE 13 SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this Agreement shall be deemed severable. If any part of this Agreement is rendered void, invalid, or unenforceable, such rendering shall not affect the validity and enforceability of the remainder of this Agreement unless the part or parts that are void, invalid or otherwise unenforceable shall substantially impair the value of the entire Agreement with respect to either party.

ARTICLE 14 GOVERNMENT DATA PRACTICES

The parties must comply with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minn. Stat. Chapter 13, as it applies to all data provided, created, collected, received, stored, used, maintained, or disseminated under this Agreement. The civil remedies of Minn. Stat. § 13.08 apply to the release of the data referred to in this clause by either the City or the VRWJPO.

ARTICLE 15 SURVIVABILITY

The provisions of sections 6.3 (Publicity), 7 (Indemnification), and 14 (Government Data Practices) survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 16 DEFAULT: FORCE MAJEURE

Neither party shall be liable to the other party for any loss or damage resulting from a delay or failure to perform due to unforeseeable acts or events outside the defaulting party's reasonable control, providing the defaulting party gives notice to the other party as soon as possible. Acts and events outside the defaulting party's reasonable control may include, but are not limited to, acts of God or nature, acts of terrorism, war, fire, flood, epidemic, acts of civil or military authority, and natural disasters.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement on the date(s) indicated below.

CITY OF ROSEMOUNT

By _____
Logan Martin or successor, City Administrator
Date of Signature: _____

By _____
Erin Fasbender, City Clerk
Date of Signature: _____

**VERMILLION RIVER WATERSHED
JOINT POWERS ORGANIZATION**

By _____
Mike Slavik or successor, Chair
Date of Signature: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/ Helen R. Brosnahan 7/9/21
Assistant Dakota County Attorney/Date
KS-21-284



Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization

4100 220th St. W., Suite 103, Farmington, MN 55024

Date: June 24, 2021
To: Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board
From: Staff
Subject: Joint Powers Organization Expenses

Agenda Item 5
July 2021

Expenses from the invoices submitted between April 15, 2021 and May 11, 2021 totalled \$120,244.30

The invoices submitted between May 12, 2021 and June 11, 2021 are listed below:

<u>Invoice</u>	<u>Vendor</u>		<u>Amount</u>
May 2021	DC Staff Time	\$	35,898.97
April 2021	DC Legal Fees	\$	548.24
IN27114	Scott County	\$	1,411.87
1002	Freshwater Society	\$	2,500.00
2010761420	U of M Regents	\$	10,745.57
12100854	Wenck	\$	2,546.25
21-108002-12	144Design	\$	95.00
P0078883	Grainger :	\$	322.66
1/10/1980	MN Native Landscapes	\$	725.00
PCard-Burkhart	Chem Crete	\$	91.88
Total expense as approved on June 24, 2021		\$	54,885.44

Action Requested: Approve expenses as presented above on July 22, 2021



Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization

4100 220th St. W., Suite 103, Farmington, MN 55024

Date: July 22, 2021
To: Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board
From: Staff
Subject: Joint Powers Organization Expenses

Agenda Item 5
July 2021

Expenses from the invoices submitted between May 12, 2021 and June 11, 2021 totalled \$54,885.44

The invoices submitted between June 12, 2021 and July 12, 2021 are listed below:

<u>Invoice</u>	<u>Vendor</u>		<u>Amount</u>
	DC Staff Time	\$	41,430.55
May	DC Legal Fees	\$	685.35
IN27172	Scott County	\$	528.09
2010767819	U of M Regents	\$	5,317.83
21-10800-13A	144Design	\$	95.00
6/23/2021	Hamline U: Metero Watershed Partners	\$	5,000.00
PCard: Zabel	PCard: Graphic Design Web	\$	119.40
P0078745	PCard: Amazon - Fiberglass poles	\$	51.87
PCard: Calvo	VRW Supplies	\$	62.14
Total expense as approved on July 22, 2021		\$	53,290.23

Action Requested: Approve expenses as presented above on July 22, 2021

6a. Mid-term Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan Review

Meeting Date: 7/22/2021
Item Type: Information
Contact: Mark Zabel
Telephone: 952-891-7011
Prepared by: Mark Zabel

**PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED**

- Mid-term Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan Review

SUMMARY

The Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board adopted the 2016-2025 Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan (Plan) in June 2016. The Vermillion River Watershed Management Organization (VRWJPO) has been working toward achieving the goals, objectives, and actions identified in the Plan since its adoption. Each year the staff review the Plan Implementation Section to identify those areas listed for action and incorporate activities into work plans, develop feasibility studies, or pursue grant proposals, as appropriate. Each year the VRWJPO also prepares and publishes an annual activity report listing accomplishments from the previous year.

This is the mid-point of the term of the current Plan, and therefore it is time to review the progress made and to identify any adjustments required for Plan implementation. Considerations for changes to the Plan could include: identifying any amendments that would need to be processed formally, identifying any emergent issues that were not anticipated in the development of the 2016-2025 Plan and actions appropriate to address them, and reviewing existing programs.

Staff will present a review of the actions identified in the 2016-2025 Plan for discussion with the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board. A spreadsheet summarizing the actions listed in Section 6 of the Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan and their status as identified by VRWJPO staff is included as Attachment A for discussion.

Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan: Section 6						
Goal	Sec. 6 page#	Role	Item ID	Status	Action	Objective
A	3	Administration and Operations	A&O 1a	Done	Identify key indicators for sub-watershed water resources (e.g., phosphorus loading reduction in Lake Alimagnet or nitrate reduction in South Branch).	Define outcome measures for waterbodies or stream reaches in each sub-watershed, based on statutory classifications, designated uses, impairments, current conditions, and in consultation with local governments and partners.
A	3	Administration and Operations	A&O 1b	Future	Set baseline measures reflecting current data for high and low flows.	Define outcome measures for waterbodies or stream reaches in each sub-watershed, based on statutory classifications, designated uses, impairments, current conditions, and in consultation with local governments and partners.
A	3	Administration and Operations	A&O 1c	Future	Estimate changes resulting from sub-watershed BMPs installed the previous year	Define outcome measures for waterbodies or stream reaches in each sub-watershed, based on statutory classifications, designated uses, impairments, current conditions, and in consultation with local governments and partners.
A	3-4	Administration and Operations	A&O 1d	Ongoing	Report outcomes for key indicators in the annual activity report, financial statement, and other reports	Define outcome measures for waterbodies or stream reaches in each sub-watershed, based on statutory classifications, designated uses, impairments, current conditions, and in consultation with local governments and partners.
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 2a	Done	Identify and prioritize projects using the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS), geomorphic assessments, restorable wetlands inventory, and the Vermillion River Monitoring Network.	Prepare a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) annually that focuses resources on highest-priority subwatershed problems
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 2b	Ongoing	Develop an approved project list with input from potential partners and stakeholders.	Prepare a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) annually that focuses resources on highest-priority subwatershed problems
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 2c	Ongoing	Fund high-priority projects using VRWJPO CIP dollars, cost-sharing with partners, grant funding or a combination of strategies	Prepare a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) annually that focuses resources on highest-priority subwatershed problems
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 3a	Ongoing	Develop annual budgets with levy requests based on a transparent public process	Adopt VRWJPO budgets that are transparent, allocate levy amounts fairly, and include accountability measures. (applies to all goals)
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 3b	Ongoing	Develop annual budgets with levy requests based on the watershed tax capacity in each county	Adopt VRWJPO budgets that are transparent, allocate levy amounts fairly, and include accountability measures. (applies to all goals)
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 3c	Ongoing	Provide expense and treasurer's reports on the website and in the full packet for each VRWJPB meeting	Adopt VRWJPO budgets that are transparent, allocate levy amounts fairly, and include accountability measures. (applies to all goals)
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 4a	Ongoing	Apply (solely or in partnership) for grants to conduct special projects, studies, and demonstrations, and fund best management practices	Use VRWJPO dollars to leverage additional funding for watershed management
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 4b	Ongoing	Report on leveraged federal, state and local dollars in cost-share	Use VRWJPO dollars to leverage additional funding for watershed management
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 5a	Done	Develop capacity to hold webinars and videoconferences to plan, consult, and share information with partners.	Simplify VRWJPO procedures for working with partners in other levels of government
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 5b	Done	Develop the website capacity to include more partner information	Simplify VRWJPO procedures for working with partners in other levels of government
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 5c	Ongoing	Facilitate acquisition and restoration of restorable wetlands suitable for wetland banking	Simplify VRWJPO procedures for working with partners in other levels of government
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 5d	Done	Facilitate development of a wetland bank, using income from wetland credit sales for further wetland resoration	Simplify VRWJPO procedures for working with partners in other levels of government
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 5e	Done	Use restorable wetland tools and inventories to develop partnerships and implement restoration projects	Simplify VRWJPO procedures for working with partners in other levels of government
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 6a	Ongoing	Meet routinely with "key leaders" in water resource management to exchange information, solve problems, identify opportunities, or streamline processes	Seek recommendations, solutions, and balanced representation from advisory groups
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 6b	Future	Convene one-time "summits" or short-term task forces that engage people with specific skills, knowledge, or interests to advise the VRWJPO staff or VRWJPB on unique watershed issues or problems (e.g., Water Monitoring Summit, WRAPS Watershed Engagement Team)	Seek recommendations, solutions, and balanced representation from advisory groups
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 6c	Ongoing	Discuss critical watershed issues and seek recommendations from the citizen advisory Watershed Planning Commission (WPC)	Seek recommendations, solutions, and balanced representation from advisory groups
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 6d	Ongoing	Discuss and resolve technical or scientific issues affecting the watershed in consultation with the TAG.	Provide information to and seek recommendations from the public in developing VRWJPO policies, plans, and programs.
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 7	Ongoing		Seek representative and timely consultation with the public in developing VRWJPO policies, plans, and programs

F	18	Administration and Operations	A&O 1a	Future	Develop procedures to operate wetland banks and sustain wetland restorations in the Vermillion River Watershed, creating a revolving fund that rolls fees from purchasers back into further wetland restorations	Establish wetland banks in the watershed
F	18	Administration and Operations	A&O 2	Future		Establish a riparian habitat improvement program that includes tree shading in critical reaches
A	5	Regulation	Reg 8a	Done	Update Standards to ensure that requirements minimize land disturbance impacts on water resources and adopt updated Standards as part of Plan adoption.	Update, adopt, and enforce VRWJPO Standards/Rules.
A	5	Regulation	Reg 8b	Future	Consider new watershed standards to respond to changes in legislation, new scientific information, or altered conditions.	Update, adopt, and enforce VRWJPO Standards/Rules.
A	5	Regulation	Reg 9a	Ongoing	Ensure that VRWJPO regulations minimize water quality impacts from land-disturbing activities.	Ensure that local governments include the VRWJPO Standards in Local Water Management Plan revisions and implement them through official controls.
A	5	Regulation	Reg 9b	Future	Consider an "above and beyond" Stormwater Management certification for (re-) development interests seeking documentation of higher performance (e.g., conserve water or meet a sustainability goal).	Ensure that local governments include the VRWJPO Standards in Local Water Management Plan revisions and implement them through official controls.
A	5	Regulation	Reg 9c	Ongoing	Require local governments to submit proposed land alteration plans to the VRWJPO for review and comment, prior to issuing a permit, if plans include any of the following: 1. Variances from local ordinances that affect surface water or impact surface water/groundwater interactions 2. Diversions 3. Intercommunity flows (to or from) 4. Project site size of 40 acres or more 5. Activities directly adjacent to the Vermillion River, its tributaries, a lake, or protected wetland.	Ensure that local governments include the VRWJPO Standards in Local Water Management Plan revisions and implement them.
A	5	Regulation	Reg 10a	Ongoing	Enforce buffer standards tied to changes in land use in rural areas.	Increase lake and riparian shoreline miles with managed vegetated buffers/filter strips to mitigate stormwater runoff impacts.
A	5	Regulation	Reg 10b	Done	Support consistent enforcement of existing state and local government buffer regulations.	Increase lake and riparian shoreline miles with managed vegetated buffers/filter strips to mitigate stormwater runoff impacts.
A	5	Regulation	Reg 10c	Future	Provide information on riparian easements and buffer benefits, requirements, and incentives on the VRWJPO website.	Increase lake and riparian shoreline miles with managed vegetated buffers/filter strips to mitigate stormwater runoff impacts.
A	5	Regulation	Reg 11a	Ongoing	Meet annually with MS4 communities to review implementation of local water management plan.	Establish procedures to review implementation of local water management ordinances.
A	5	Regulation	Reg 11b	Ongoing	Require annual reporting on permits and inspections from non-MS4 communities fully or partly within the watershed.	Establish procedures to review implementation of local water management ordinances.
A	5	Regulation	Reg 11c	Ongoing	Spot check individual permits for compliance with VRWJPO Standards. Where deficiencies exist, investigate why and determine solutions.	Establish procedures to review implementation of local water management ordinances.
D	13	Regulation	Reg 1	Done		Use Vermillion River Hydrologic Model to set intercommunity flow Standards that are consistent and science-based to prevent conflicts about water flows among neighboring jurisdictions
D	13	Regulation	Reg 2a	Ongoing	Require local governments to enforce ordinances that are consistent with VRWJPO Standards	Support requirements for local governments to identify, protect, and reconnect floodplains
D	13	Regulation	Reg 2b	Ongoing	Require cities and townships to obtain easements for flood, flood drainage, maintenance access, and emergency overflow routes during development and/or building permit processes	Support requirements for local governments to identify, protect, and reconnect floodplains
D	13	Regulation	Reg 2c	Ongoing	Assist responsible government units in ensuring that structures are properly located relative to the floodplain before permits are issued	Support requirements for local governments to identify, protect, and reconnect floodplains
D	13	Regulation	Reg 2d	Ongoing	Limit floodplain alterations to obtain "no net loss" of floodplain storage, and preserve, restore and manage floodplain wetlands	Support requirements for local governments to identify, protect, and reconnect floodplains
D	13-14	Regulation	Reg 2e	Done	Encourage local governments to require compensatory storage at 2:1 level for filling in floodplain	Support requirements for local governments to identify, protect, and reconnect floodplains
D	14	Regulation	Reg 3a	Future	Continue to document intergovernmental hydrology through use and maintenance of the watershed hydrologic model	Address known flooding/erosion/flow diversion or alteration problems that cross community boundaries
D	14	Regulation	Reg 3b	Ongoing	Coordinate mediation with affected local government units to find practical and equitable solutions	Address known flooding/erosion/flow diversion or alteration problems that cross community boundaries
D	14	Regulation	Reg 3c	Ongoing	Ensure that local water management plans incorporate consensus solutions to intercommunity flow issues	Address known flooding/erosion/flow diversion or alteration problems that cross community boundaries

D	14	Regulation	Reg 4a	Ongoing	Assess public outreach and communication needs of MS4 permit holders and identify gaps or opportunities for collaboration	Assist cities and counties in meeting MS4 permit requirements
D	14	Regulation	Reg 4b	Done	Promote Stewardship Grants to help cities or local groups undertake one time water quality improvement projects that would help in meeting MS4 permit requirements	Assist cities and counties in meeting MS4 permit requirements
G	20	Regulation	Reg 1a	Ongoing	Require local water management plans (and comprehensive wetland management plans, where existing) to take reasonable measures to avoid impacts of land-disturbing activities on known sensitive habitats and communities and rare species	Protect sensitive habitats and communities, and rare species
G	20	Regulation	Reg 1b	Ongoing	Review projects and plans for land-disturbing activities within the VRWJPO's jurisdiction for potential impacts on sensitive habitats and communities and rare species, and propose reasonable measures to avoid the impacts	Protect sensitive habitats and communities, and rare species
A	5	Research and Planning	R&P 12a	Done	Review updates of Dakota and Scott County Comprehensive Plans for potential conflicts or synergies with the Vermillion River Watershed Plan.	Review relevant planning documents for potential conflicts or synergies with the Vermillion River Watershed Plan.
A	5	Research and Planning	R&P 12b	Done	Review updates of Dakota County Groundwater Plan for potential conflicts or synergies with the Vermillion River Watershed Plan.	Review relevant planning documents for potential conflicts or synergies with the Vermillion River Watershed Plan.
A	5	Research and Planning	R&P 13a	Ongoing	Remain engaged in professional water management networks that discuss issues, trends, and technology.	Track emerging issues, legislation, trends, and technologies with potential watershed management impacts.
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 13b	Ongoing	Maintain contacts with agencies developing or revising statutes or rules, pollutant standards, detection limits, testing recommendations, grant opportunities, or information resources.	Track emerging issues, legislation, trends, and technologies with potential watershed management impacts.
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 13c	Ongoing	Maintain contact with educational/research institutions studying watershed management, developing new technologies, or providing conferences, demonstrations, and training.	Track emerging issues, legislation, trends, and technologies with potential watershed management impacts.
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 13d	Ongoing	Maintain contact with environmental education, communication, civic engagement, and survey research professionals to be more informed about effective approaches.	Track emerging issues, legislation, trends, and technologies with potential watershed management impacts.
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 13e	Done	Explore implementation of BWSR's "One Watershed, One Plan" principles as a means of addressing watershed-wide needs.	Track emerging issues, legislation, trends, and technologies with potential watershed management impacts.
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 14a	Ongoing	Integrate WRAPS recommendations for high-priority restoration and protection projects into the VRWJPO's CIP	Complete and implement the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS)
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 14b	Ongoing	Assist communities with municipal separate storm sewer system permits (MS4s) to meet required pollutant load reductions to impaired waters	Complete and implement the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS)
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 14c	Ongoing	Provide MS4s with technical assistance, cost-share, or grant funding to install best management practices (BMPs) identified in the WRAPS and/or the CIP	Complete and implement the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS)
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 14d	Future	Provide townships and MS4 communities with waste load allocations an annual summary of BMPs installed using VRWJPO cost share (including Landscaping for Clean Water program projects) and estimated pollutant reduction	Complete and implement the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS)
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 14e	Ongoing	Apply and partner with others to apply for grant funding to implement high-priority restoration and protection projects.	Coordinate with partners in grant applications implementing high-priority restoration and protection projects.
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 15a	Done	Review existing research on aggregate mining impacts on water and groundwater, in conditions comparable to the watershed.	Study how aggregate mining affects surface water and groundwater quality, quantity, or inflow in the Vermillion River and its tributaries
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 15b	Future	Discuss research needs to evaluate cumulative landscape-scale impacts of aggregate mining in the watershed with partners	Study how aggregate mining affects surface water and groundwater quality, quantity, or inflow in the Vermillion River and its tributaries
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 15c	Done	Evaluate need for new Watershed Standards on aggregate mining, if research shows potential water resource impacts	Study how aggregate mining affects surface water and groundwater quality, quantity, or inflow in the Vermillion River and its tributaries
B	9	Research and Planning	R&P 1a	Ongoing	Coordinate with other agencies to monitor condition and trends in groundwater levels and contaminant concentrations	Help advance research on the watershed's groundwater system and groundwater management strategies
B	10	Research and Planning	R&P 1b	Future	Assist partners in study of groundwater/surface water interactions in the watershed	Help advance research on the watershed's groundwater system and groundwater management strategies
B	10	Research and Planning	R&P 1c	Done	Seek partnerships to develop and implement collaborative groundwater projects and programs (e.g., Hastings Area Nitrate Study future phases, Vermillion River Headwaters Groundwater Study)	Help advance research on the watershed's groundwater system and groundwater management strategies
C	12	Research and Planning	R&P 1a	Future	Consider developing Water Conservation Standards for the watershed	Assist partners in preventing reductions to the river's base flow and to normal levels in lakes and wetlands
C	12	Research and Planning	R&P 1b	Future	Facilitate discussions with appropriate agencies (e.g., DNR and Southwest Metro Groundwater Workgroup) about well interference water appropriation conflicts, and groundwater management	Assist partners in preventing reductions to the river's base flow and normal levels in lakes and wetlands

C	12	Research and Planning	R&P 2a	Future	Review 2006 inventory of groundwater recharge areas and update, if needed	Identify and protect groundwater recharge areas in the watershed
C	12	Research and Planning	R&P 2b	Done	Request County GIS to create a DCGIS layer for groundwater recharge areas identified in the inventory	Identify and protect groundwater recharge areas in the watershed
E	15	Research and Planning	R&P 1a	Ongoing	Incorporate appropriate recommendations from “Perspectives on Minnesota Water Resources: A Survey of Sand Creek and Vermillion River Watershed Landowners,” a University of Minnesota 2012 survey; WRAPS civic engagement plan; and annual Dakota County Residential Survey into the VRWJPO communication plan	Update the VRWJPO communication plan
E	15	Research and Planning	R&P 1b	Done	Conduct a follow-up of watershed landowners in 2017 (five years after the University of Minnesota survey).	Update the VRWJPO communication plan
F	18	Research and Planning	R&P 3	Done		Use the VRWJPO hydrologic model in planning decisions with local communities to prevent adverse impacts to intercommunity flows
G	20	Research and Planning	R&P 2a	Future	Review recommendations from prior VRWJPO research on thermal trading and thermal reduction BMPs	Research emerging scientific information and technology for reducing thermal impacts to streams from stormwater runoff to protect species sensitive to elevated temperature or low dissolved oxygen conditions
G	20	Research and Planning	R&P 2b	Future	Propose demonstration or research projects that have the potential to protect the brown trout population from thermal impacts	Research emerging scientific information and technology for reducing thermal impacts to streams from stormwater runoff to protect species sensitive to elevated temperature or low dissolved oxygen conditions
A	6	Monitoring and Assessment	M&A 16a	Ongoing	Conduct synoptic surveys to pinpoint specific pollution sources and target prevention or restoration activities	Update the VRWJPO’s surface water quality monitoring program to assess conditions and track trends
A	6	Monitoring and Assessment	M&A 16b	Ongoing	Collect and analyze surface water quality monitoring data and report annually on condition, trends, and recommendations for improvement	Update the VRWJPO’s surface water quality monitoring program to assess conditions and track trends
A	6	Monitoring and Assessment	M&A 16c	Ongoing	Coordinate with the USGS for maintenance of the Empire monitoring station	Update the VRWJPO’s surface water quality monitoring program to assess conditions and track trends
A	6	Monitoring and Assessment	M&A 16d	Ongoing	Coordinate with the MN DNR for flow-gaging assistance to develop and maintain rating curves	Update the VRWJPO’s surface water quality monitoring program to assess conditions and track trends
A	6	Monitoring and Assessment	M&A 16e	Ongoing	Provide surface water quality monitoring data online and summarize data for public information	Update the VRWJPO’s surface water quality monitoring program to assess conditions and track trends
A	7	Monitoring and Assessment	M&A 17a	Done	Complete geomorphic assessments on priority subwatersheds	Complete assessments of all Vermillion River reaches and tributary sub-watersheds within 10 years to identify potential improvement projects
A	7	Monitoring and Assessment	M&A 18c	Done	Develop prioritization criteria for restoration projects identified through the assessments and integrate highest priority restoration projects into the VRWJPO’s CIP.	Complete assessments of all Vermillion River reaches and tributary sub-watersheds within 10 years to identify potential improvement projects
G	20	Monitoring and Assessment	M&A 3a	Done	Consider modifying monitoring frequency after sufficient fish and macroinvertebrate trends have been identified	Update and continue implementing the VRWJPO Biomonitoring Plan
G	20	Monitoring and Assessment	M&A 3b	Done	Continue partnerships with the DNR, volunteers, students, and others to sample fish and macroinvertebrates	Update and continue implementing the VRWJPO Biomonitoring Plan
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 18a	Ongoing	Coordinate with county SWCDs to provide technical assistance to landowners in the Dakota and Scott County portions of the watershed	Ensure that technical assistance is available to landowners considering BMPs for water quality or habitat improvement
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 18b	Ongoing	Provide technical assistance or referrals to assistance providers to watershed landowners that contact the VRWJPO	Ensure that technical assistance is available to landowners considering BMPs for water quality or habitat improvement
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 18c	Future	Assist Dakota County in its agricultural outreach	Ensure that technical assistance is available to landowners considering BMPs for water quality or habitat improvement
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 19a	Done	Update and clarify the VRWJPO’s cost-share policy’s eligibility requirements, types of BMPs covered, cost-share percentages, application process, selection criteria, and other details	Provide cost-share and other incentives to watershed landowners implementing best management practices
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 19b	Ongoing	Promote cost-share funding and other incentives to targeted audiences, including cities; townships; homeowners associations; and public, business, and agricultural landowners	Provide cost-share and other incentives to watershed landowners implementing best management practices
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 19c	Done	Cost-share or stack incentives for demonstrations of new or innovative BMPs that are potentially more effective at reducing impacts to surface waters, less expensive, or easier to maintain	Provide cost-share and other incentives to watershed landowners implementing best management practices
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 19d	Future	Consider cost-share or other incentives to fund the long-term operation and maintenance of BMPs	Provide cost-share and other incentives to watershed landowners implementing best management practices
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 19e	Future	Annually review the cost-share program to ensure that identified priorities are being addressed	Provide cost-share and other incentives to watershed landowners implementing best management practices

A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 20a	Ongoing	Prioritize projects that provide multiple benefits, multiple pollutant reductions, system-wide improvement, or synergy with other projects	Optimize cost share funding to achieve the greatest benefits for the least expenditure of public money
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 20b	Ongoing	Target projects to water resources that have problems that are urgent, pose potential health risks, threaten public infrastructure, or adversely affect people, property, or natural resources	Optimize cost share funding to achieve the greatest benefits for the least expenditure of public money
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 20c	Ongoing	Measure project outcomes in reducing pollutants and estimate derived benefits	Optimize cost share funding to achieve the greatest benefits for the least expenditure of public money
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 21a	Ongoing	Estimate soil loss, sediment, and phosphorus reduction from practices that reduce sheet and rill erosion; stabilize gully, stream bank, or ditch erosion; or act as filter strips or buffers	Use standard pollutant-reduction calculators to estimate cost-effectiveness of BMPs installed or cost-shared by the VRWJPO
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 21b	Ongoing	Estimate water use reduction from various water conservation actions	Use standard pollutant-reduction calculators to estimate cost-effectiveness of BMPs installed or cost-shared by the VRWJPO
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 21c	Ongoing	Estimate thermal reductions from volume or temperature control BMPs	Use standard pollutant-reduction calculators to estimate cost-effectiveness of BMPs installed or cost-shared by the VRWJPO
C	12	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 3a	Ongoing	Promote and cost share bio-infiltration BMPs for new development, redevelopment, and stormwater retrofits	Continue policies and programs to conserve groundwater by use of plant species' drought and water tolerances
C	12	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 3b	Ongoing	Promote and cost share infiltration and native species planting through raingarden programs	Continue policies and programs to conserve groundwater by use of plant species' drought and water tolerances
C	12	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 3c	Ongoing	Require certified native seed mixes where appropriate for VRWJPO-funded restoration projects	Continue policies and programs to conserve groundwater by use of plant species' drought and water tolerances
C	12	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4a	Ongoing	Promote and cost-share BMPs that infiltrate stormwater and replenish groundwater, where feasible and not a threat to groundwater quality	Promote and cost-share BMPs that conserve water
C	12	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4b	Ongoing	Promote and cost-share BMPs that use stormwater for irrigating urban landscapes	Promote and cost-share BMPs that conserve water
C	12	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4c	Future	Consider cost-share of demonstration projects that re-use treated industrial or municipal wastewater	Promote and cost-share BMPs that conserve water
C	12	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4d	Future	Research strategies for water use, re-use, or infiltration that minimize groundwater use at mining sites	Promote and cost-share BMPs that conserve water
D	14	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 5a	Ongoing	Identify urban/suburban developed areas without adequate stormwater infrastructure	Target and prioritize cost-share, incentives, and outreach activities for retrofits in developed areas, to reduce stormwater flow rates and volumes
D	14	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 5b	Ongoing	Evaluate developed areas to prioritize those with the greatest impacts on flow and volume fluctuations	Target and prioritize cost-share, incentives, and outreach activities for retrofits in developed areas, to reduce stormwater flow rates and volumes
D	14	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 5c	Future	Develop outreach and cost-share incentives for homeowners, homeowners' associations and businesses in areas without stormwater controls to install stormwater rate and volume control BMPs	Target and prioritize cost-share, incentives, and outreach activities for retrofits in developed areas, to reduce stormwater flow rates and volumes
D	14	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 5d	Future	Research and make recommendations about BMPs suitable for ultra-urban conditions (no room to integrate most BMPs).	Target and prioritize cost-share, incentives, and outreach activities for retrofits in developed areas, to reduce stormwater flow rates and volumes
D	14	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 6a	Ongoing	Identify bank stabilization projects and restore damaged banks at priority locations	Mitigate the impact of past increases in stormwater discharge on downstream conveyance systems
D	14	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 6b	Future	Collaborate with SWCDs, federal, State and local programs to cost share for stream bank restoration projects	Mitigate the impact of past increases in stormwater discharge on downstream conveyance systems
D	14	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 7a	Ongoing	Identify and prioritize gully erosion problems using geomorphic or other relevant assessments	Address gully erosion problems in the watershed
D	14	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 7b	Future	Consider proposals to work with Goodhue County to resolve gully and erosion problems that originate in Goodhue County but have infrastructure and property impacts in Dakota County	Address gully erosion problems in the watershed
F	18	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4a	Future	Consider providing 100 percent capital costs of BMPs not commonly used or well-understood by landowners that have high potential to mitigate flow, precipitation, or temperature extremes	Develop, implement, and promote demonstration projects of BMPs that help mitigate high flows, flooding, high temperatures, drought, and severe weather events
F	18	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4b	Future	Work with media outlets to call attention to demonstration projects with significant benefits or results	Develop, implement, and promote demonstration projects of BMPs that help mitigate high flows, flooding, high temperatures, drought, and severe weather events
F	18	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4c	Ongoing	Promote and cost share BMPs that manage stormwater through disconnection of stormwater from impervious surfaces	Develop, implement, and promote demonstration projects of BMPs that help mitigate high flows, flooding, high temperatures, drought, and severe weather events
F	19	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 5a	Ongoing	Assist partners in acquisition of shoreland easements along the Vermillion River corridor	Increase resilience of the river system to changing precipitation and temperature patterns through riparian buffers/filter strips, shading, in-stream restorations, and shoreland/floodplain management

F	19	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 5b	Ongoing	Promote the benefits of buffers/filter strips for water quality improvement and watershed resilience to landowners along the river and tributaries	Increase resilience of the river system to changing precipitation and temperature patterns through riparian buffers/filter strips, shading, in-stream restorations, and shoreland/floodplain management
F	19	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 5c	Ongoing	Cost-share in-stream restorations that increase shade, dissolved oxygen, and bank stability, such as riffles, root wads, lunger structures, toe wood, refuge pools, and other features	Increase resilience of the river system to changing precipitation and temperature patterns through riparian buffers/filter strips, shading, in-stream restorations, and shoreland/floodplain management
F	19	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 5d	Future	Consider options for re-routing treated wastewater effluent to supplement base flow during drought conditions	Increase resilience of the river system to changing precipitation and temperature patterns through riparian buffers/filter strips, shading, in-stream restorations, and shoreland/floodplain management
F	19	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 5e	Ongoing	Encourage and promote alternative perennial crops and cover crops in agricultural areas of the watershed	Increase resilience of the river system to changing precipitation and temperature patterns through riparian buffers/filter strips, shading, in-stream restorations, and shoreland/floodplain management
G	20	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4a	Ongoing	Collect data from the Vermillion River Monitoring Network annual sampling regime to identify sensitive species, analyze TSS, and locate sediment sources from the highest sediment-yielding subwatersheds	Identify and implement sediment-reducing BMPs in the highest sediment-yielding subwatersheds
G	20	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4b	Ongoing	Target locations where implementing BMPs would effectively reduce sediment loading	Identify and implement sediment-reducing BMPs in the highest sediment-yielding subwatersheds
G	20	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4c	Ongoing	Incorporate potential BMPs for sediment-load reduction in the CIP	Identify and implement sediment-reducing BMPs in the highest sediment-yielding subwatersheds
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 22a	Ongoing	Promote existing information on programs, funding, and resources for best management practices (e.g MDA's Ag BMP Handbook).	Refer individuals and organizations to other federal, state, regional, or local agencies with services or resources not available from the VRWJPO.
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 22b	Ongoing	Consult or partner with cities, townships, or other public entities on applications for public and private grants.	Refer individuals and organizations to other federal, state, regional, or local agencies with services or resources not available from the VRWJPO.
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 22c	Ongoing	Assist Dakota County, the MPCA, and cities in implementing the Wetland Health Evaluation Program	Refer individuals and organizations to other federal, state, regional, or local agencies with services or resources not available from the VRWJPO.
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 22d	Ongoing	Continue to support agricultural outreach by the counties, MDA, University of Minnesota Extension and other partners	Refer individuals and organizations to other federal, state, regional, or local agencies with services or resources not available from the VRWJPO.
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 22e	Ongoing	Assist Dakota County and Scott County Land Protection programs in acquiring permanent conservation easements in riparian areas in the Vermillion River Watershed	Refer individuals and organizations to other federal, state, regional, or local agencies with services or resources not available from the VRWJPO.
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 23a	Ongoing	Assist agencies that provide information and technical assistance on point and non-point source pollution prevention and remediation to feedlot operators and agricultural landowners	Collaborate to reduce non-point source pollution from agricultural activities
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 23b	Ongoing	Coordinate with other agencies to identify potential agricultural point and non-point pollution sources	Collaborate to reduce non-point source pollution from agricultural activities
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 23c	Future	Work with livestock owners and public agencies to eliminate direct livestock access to natural water bodies (e.g., wetlands, rivers, streams).	Collaborate to reduce non-point source pollution from agricultural activities
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 23d	Future	Work with landowners and other agencies to eliminate fencing across public waters and associated potential liabilities (e.g., Vermillion River and tributaries).	Collaborate to reduce non-point source pollution from agricultural activities
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 23e	Ongoing	Promote participation in conservation programs, such as Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Dakota County Land Protection, and Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP), and others.	Collaborate to reduce non-point source pollution from agricultural activities
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 24a	Ongoing	Review the status of lake water quality and management plans on at least a five-year basis as part of VRWJPO planning	Assist local governments in management of recreational lakes in the watershed
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 24b	Ongoing	Collaborate with existing programs to cost-share landowner lakeshore restoration projects	Assist local governments in management of recreational lakes in the watershed
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 24c	Ongoing	Assist state and local programs in preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species (e.g., zebra mussels).	Assist local governments in management of recreational lakes in the watershed
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 25a	Future	Initiate discussions with local government units about barriers to stormwater infrastructure maintenance	Work with local government units to ensure that stormwater infrastructure is maintained and functions effectively over time
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 25b	Future	Consider providing stormwater management system maintenance guidance for watershed communities	Work with local government units to ensure that stormwater infrastructure is maintained and functions effectively over time
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 26a	Ongoing	Assist with buffer acquisition, riparian plantings, shoreline restoration, acquisition and/or removal of structures that degrade the corridor	Work with public agencies and landowners to improve the ecological quality of the Vermillion River corridor and main tributaries
A	8-9	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 27	Ongoing		Evaluate impacts of proposed land uses on surface water and groundwater when commenting on environmental reviews prepared by local governments, such as Environmental Assessment Worksheets (EAW), Alternative Urban Area Reviews (AUAR), and Environmental Impact Statements (EIS).

A	9	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 28	Ongoing		Build partnerships with professionals engaged in land-use change (developers, planners, environmental consultants, lenders, builders, real estate agents, development agencies, and others) to achieve water-quality improvements in development and redevelopment that add value or benefit to property
A	9	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 29a	Future	Consider implementing demonstration projects with VRWJPO funds to bring attention to promising innovative technologies and BMPs for water quality improvement	Build partnerships, exchange ideas, and problem-solve with agricultural producers to improve water quality
A	9	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 29b	Future	Foster partnerships with groups and individuals working closely with farmers using broadly based civic engagement methods	Build partnerships, exchange ideas, and problem-solve with agricultural producers to improve water quality
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 2a	Done	Continue support for Dakota County's ambient groundwater monitoring program	Assist federal, state, and local partners in monitoring, restoring, and maintaining groundwater quality
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 2b	Future	Collaborate with Scott County on groundwater monitoring for the Scott County portion of the watershed	Assist federal, state, and local partners in monitoring, restoring, and maintaining groundwater quality
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 3a	Ongoing	Supprt and consult partners (MPCA, MDA for fertilizer and pesticides) when historical land uses (spills, leaks, dump sites) may pose a threat to groundwater or surface water in the watershed	Continue contributing to groundwater information networks tracking current and emerging issues and trends.
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 3b	Ongoing	Consult hazardous waste and remediation resources to ensure that land-disturbing BMPs for which the VRWJPO is providing cost share do not have a documented history of site contamination	Continue contributing to groundwater information networks tracking current and emerging issues and trends.
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 3c	Ongoing	Consult databases of confirmed remediation sites, industrial wastewater permits, and other point sources of pollution when investigating groundwater and surface water incidents or complaints	Continue contributing to groundwater information networks tracking current and emerging issues and trends.
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 4a	Future	Assist the MPCA in requiring communities to implement a septic system inventory, inspection, and upgrade program	Collaborate to reduce levels of fecal coliform/E. coli bacteria, nitrate, and other pollutants in groundwater and surface water through improved management of septic systems in the watershed
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 4b	Future	Assist Dakota County's efforts to inventory failing/noncompliant systems, prioritize areas for upgrades, and use cost-share or loans to fund upgrades if the state delegates this authority to the county	Collaborate to reduce levels of fecal coliform/E. coli bacteria, nitrate, and other pollutants in groundwater and surface water through improved management of septic systems in the watershed
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5a	Ongoing	Assist in identifying potential impacts on public or private drinking water supplies during plan and permit reviews	Assist state and local agencies in managing wells (installation, testing, placement, or sealing) to protect groundwater quality
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5b	Ongoing	Assist partners in identifying natural and constructed conduits from the ground surface to the groundwater (e.g., Karst features, improperly abandoned wells) with potential to introduce pollutants into drinking water	Assist state and local agencies in managing wells (installation, testing, placement, or sealing) to protect groundwater quality
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5c	Future	Assist Dakota and Scott counties with inventory, assessment, and sealing of abandoned wells	Assist state and local agencies in managing wells (installation, testing, placement, or sealing) to protect groundwater quality
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5d	Ongoing	Assist Dakota and Scott counties with increasing landowner awareness of well information and participation in well sealing programs	Assist state and local agencies in managing wells (installation, testing, placement, or sealing) to protect groundwater quality
B	11	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6a	Future	Assist communities in assessing septic systems in wellhead protection areas and upgrading, replacing, or removing noncompliant systems	Assist MDH and other agencies in implementing wellhead protection programs and plans in the watershed
B	11	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6b	Ongoing	Support use of appropriate stormwater best management practices in wellhead protection areas	Assist MDH and other agencies in implementing wellhead protection programs and plans in the watershed
B	11	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 7a	Done	Request that county GIS managers obtain MDH data on wellhead protection, management zones and drinking water supply management zones and incorporate into local data layers	Work with Dakota and Scott County Geographic Information Systems (GIS) managers on improving data access to help users to identify areas sensitive to groundwater contamination.
B	11	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 7b	Done	Make local data layers including wellhead protection and drinking water supply management zones available to GIS users	Work with Dakota and Scott County Geographic Information Systems (GIS) managers on improving data access to help users to identify areas sensitive to groundwater contamination.
C	13	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5a	Ongoing	Promote water-use assessment/audits to help permitted high-volume users identify strategies that would conserve water and save money	Assist state and local partners in promoting and implementing water conservation
C	13	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5b	Done	Review and comment on DNR groundwater appropriation permits with potential impacts on the watershed's water resources	Assist state and local partners in promoting and implementing water conservation
C	13	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6a	Future	Promote consultations between producers and irrigation experts (such as the UM Extension irrigation specialist) on technological advances in irrigation management and scheduling	Assist partners in promoting and cost-sharing practices that conserve groundwater in agricultural settings
C	13	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6b	Ongoing	Assist federal, state and local partners in promoting irrigation water management and BMPs	Assist partners in promoting and cost-sharing practices that conserve groundwater in agricultural settings
C	13	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6c	Done	Consider cost-sharing improvements to irrigation equipment to gain water efficiency	Assist partners in promoting and cost-sharing practices that conserve groundwater in agricultural settings

C	13	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6d	Ongoing	Promote cover crops, no-till, conservation tillage, conservation cropping rotation, and other BMPs that help maintain water in the soil	Assist partners in promoting and cost-sharing practices that conserve groundwater in agricultural settings
D	14	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 8	Future		Request state agencies to evaluate the impacts of increased drain tiling on river flows and develop a strategy with stakeholders to minimize the impacts
D	14	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 9	Ongoing		Continue collaboration with SWCDs and communities to include and cost-share Low Impact Development (LID) features that may include Minimal Impact Design Standards (MIDS)
D	15	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 10a	Future	Work with partners to develop assessment techniques for channel blockages, define appropriate criteria for potential removal/ management, and identify funding sources to achieve identified removal/ management activities. Ensure that removing blockages does not adversely affect river pattern, structure, wildlife, or habitat	Work with partners to ensure that the Vermillion River and its tributaries are managed properly for large debris, beaver dams, and other channel blocking features to avoid flooding with property/ infrastructure damage, and other flow related issues
D	15	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 10b	Future	Implement a targeted program to inform landowners about liabilities associated with artificial river blockages located on or originating from private land	Work with partners to ensure that the Vermillion River and its tributaries are managed properly for large debris, beaver dams, and other channel blocking features to avoid flooding with property/ infrastructure damage, and other flow related issues
E	15	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 2a	Ongoing	Support Dakota and Scott Counties' role and participation in the annual Children's Water Festival	Identify and develop an appropriate role for the VRWJPO in K-12 education in cooperation with teachers, environmental educators, and other key education stakeholders
E	15-16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 2b	Future	Collaborate with educators, including DNR's Project WET, to determine an appropriate role for the VRWJPO in water education	Identify and develop an appropriate role for the VRWJPO in K-12 education in cooperation with teachers, environmental educators, and other key education stakeholders
E	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 3a	Ongoing	Support Dakota County, local communities, and volunteers participating in the Wetland Health Evaluation Program	Assist in public education and civic engagement regarding the fish, macroinvertebrates, plants, and wildlife in the Vermillion River Watershed
E	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 3b	Ongoing	Collaborate with county and city parks on programs, classes, and activities that focus attention on the fish, macroinvertebrates, plants, and wildlife in the watershed	Assist in public education and civic engagement regarding the fish, macroinvertebrates, plants, and wildlife in the Vermillion River Watershed
E	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 3c	Ongoing	Assist science teachers conducting field education classes or projects in the watershed	Assist in public education and civic engagement regarding the fish, macroinvertebrates, plants, and wildlife in the Vermillion River Watershed
E	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 4a	Ongoing	Employ existing communication channels (VRWJPB, WPC, TAG, Dakota and Scott Counties, Agricultural Outreach, newsletters, website, other) to update key stakeholders about groundwater quality issues of importance to the watershed	Assist state and local partners in providing information and education on protecting groundwater quality and quantity
E	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 4b	Ongoing	Update existing public information and education materials on groundwater, private well testing, and the connection between land use and groundwater quality	Assist state and local partners in providing information and education on protecting groundwater quality and quantity
E	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 4c	Future	Collaborate with partners to develop a consistent message on the low cost of groundwater protection and the high cost of groundwater remediation	Assist state and local partners in providing information and education on protecting groundwater quality and quantity
E	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 4d	Ongoing	Collaborate with partners to develop public awareness about the connectivity of groundwater and surface water	Assist state and local partners in providing information and education on protecting groundwater quality and quantity
E	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 4e	Future	Develop a consistent message about protecting areas sensitive to groundwater contamination from land-use impacts and practices	Assist state and local partners in providing information and education on protecting groundwater quality and quantity
E	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 4f	Ongoing	Provide education opportunities to local governments and residents regarding the hydrologic cycle, groundwater, groundwater/surface water interactions, groundwater recharge areas, and groundwater conservation	Assist state and local partners in providing information and education on protecting groundwater quality and quantity
F	19	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6a	Ongoing	Work with partners and landowners to preserve and protect healthy meandered river and stream reaches through conservation easement, buffers/filter strips, invasive species control, and other stabilization practices	Preserve and restore the Vermillion River watershed's pre-development hydrology to the extent practicable
F	19	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6b	Ongoing	Work with partners and landowners to restore straightened river or stream reaches through remeandering projects, streambank stabilization, buffers, revegetation, habitat improvement or other techniques	Preserve and restore the Vermillion River watershed's pre-development hydrology to the extent practicable
F	19	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6c	Future	Work with partners and landowners to protect and restore wetlands with strategic value in flood protection and pollutant filtration through conservation easements, restoration, revegetation, and other techniques	Preserve and restore the Vermillion River watershed's pre-development hydrology to the extent practicable
F	19	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6d	Ongoing	Encourage cities and developers to integrate LID practices when feasible	Preserve and restore the Vermillion River watershed's pre-development hydrology to the extent practicable
F	19	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 7	Future		Collaborate with local and regional land-use planning partners to address potential cumulative impacts of specific land-use changes that affect Vermillion River Watershed water resources or natural hydrology (e.g., expansive aggregate mining, widespread drainage management practices, impervious cover expansion)

G	20	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5a	Ongoing	Collaborate with Dakota Land Conservation staff to identify and prioritize riparian and upland habitat and assist in easement acquisition and restoration or protection through cost-share and incentives	Coordinate with partners to identify, prioritize, protect, connect, restore, and maintain lands with impacts or connectivity to riparian habitat
G	20	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5b	Ongoing	Collaborate with Scott County Land Conservation staff to identify high priority riparian habitat and assist in easement acquisition and restoration or protection through cost-share and incentives	Coordinate with partners to identify, prioritize, protect, connect, restore, and maintain lands with impacts or connectivity to riparian habitat
G	20	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5c	Ongoing	Collaborate with other partners, agencies and groups (Pheasants Forever, Trout Unlimited, DNR, for example) to identify high priority riparian habitat and assist with restorations or protection by providing technical assistance, volunteers, cost-share, or incentives	Coordinate with partners to identify, prioritize, protect, connect, restore, and maintain lands with impacts or connectivity to riparian habitat
G	20-21	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5d	Ongoing	Collaborate with other agencies, organizations, and private landowners to develop fish and wildlife habitat corridors that connect open spaces, lakes, wetlands, stream corridors, and other critical habitat	Coordinate with partners to identify, prioritize, protect, connect, restore, and maintain lands with impacts or connectivity to riparian habitat
G	21	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6a	Done	Support and cost-share projects to protect and enhance refuge areas for in-stream restorations (such as stream remeanders).	Coordinate with partners to protect and enhance refuge areas in the Vermillion River trout streams.
G	21	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6b	Future	Work with partners to develop and fund a cooperative strategy to manage beavers and remove dams that create poor conditions in cold-water reaches for sensitive biological communities	Coordinate with partners to protect and enhance refuge areas in the Vermillion River trout streams.
G	21	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 7a	Done	Consult the MPCA for the potential to include brown trout as a native cold-water species equivalent in development, application, and calculation of the Index of Biological Integrity (IBI) for fish within the Vermillion River Watershed	Consult with state agencies in review of the Index of Biotic Integrity metrics as applied to the Vermillion River and its tributaries
G	21	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 7b	Future	Encourage DNR to consider the potential to stock native cold-water species in suitable habitat reaches of the Vermillion River	Work with state agencies to review the applicability of specific standards and classifications to the Vermillion River and its tributaries
G	21	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 8	Ongoing		Assist federal, state, and local public health agencies to address water-related health and safety issues, such as high bacteria levels or toxic algae blooms in recreational waters
G	21	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 9	Ongoing		Provide educational materials to help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species
A	9	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 30a	Future	Identify and suggest partnerships with organizations or community leaders representing Southeast Asian, Hispanic/Latino, and other cultural groups that farm or rent land in the watershed	Develop contacts and networks inclusive of all ages, cultural backgrounds, educational attainment, economic status, or faith to participate in watershed management planning, events, or initiatives
A	9	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 30b	Future	Collaborate with park agencies to identify how different populations use public natural resources for fishing, swimming, or recreation	Develop contacts and networks inclusive of all ages, cultural backgrounds, educational attainment, economic status, or faith to participate in watershed management planning, events, or initiatives
A	9	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 30c	Done	Consider developing social media for the Vermillion River Watershed to engage younger audiences	Develop contacts and networks inclusive of all ages, cultural backgrounds, educational attainment, economic status, or faith to participate in watershed management planning, events, or initiatives
A	9	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 31	Ongoing		Provide opportunities for Vermillion Stewards volunteers on targeted watershed priorities
B	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8a	Ongoing	Assist Dakota County's agricultural outreach program activities (Crop Days, Field Days, and newsletter) that focus on economically optimal nitrogen rates in rural communities	Collaborate with partners to promote nutrient management practices that protect groundwater from nitrate contamination while maintaining viable agricultural production and urban landscapes
B	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8b	Done	Provide cost-share or other incentives for producers using cover crops or nutrient management plans	Collaborate with partners to promote nutrient management practices that protect groundwater from nitrate contamination while maintaining viable agricultural production and urban landscapes
B	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8c	Ongoing	Assist in implementation of MDA's Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan	Collaborate with partners to promote nutrient management practices that protect groundwater from nitrate contamination while maintaining viable agricultural production and urban landscapes
B	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8d	Ongoing	Consider agricultural demonstrations of bioreactors in tiled land and saturated buffers. Partner with County and Extension outreach to introduce demonstrations via Field Days, Crop Days, and the Ag News	Collaborate with partners to promote nutrient management practices that protect groundwater from nitrate contamination while maintaining viable agricultural production and urban landscapes
B	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8e	Future	Assist partners in assessing nitrogen application rates in high infiltration areas of the watershed and promoting nitrogen application rate reductions	Collaborate with partners to promote nutrient management practices that protect groundwater from nitrate contamination while maintaining viable agricultural production and urban landscapes

B	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8f	Ongoing	Collaborate with partners on turf and fertilizer management workshops for facility managers of businesses, parks, schools, and others	Collaborate with partners to promote nutrient management practices that protect groundwater from nitrate contamination while maintaining viable agricultural production and urban landscapes
B	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8g	Future	Consider outreach on nutrient management practices to turf-intensive developments, such as homeowners associations, golf courses, business campuses, and other urban/suburban users of fertilizers	Collaborate with partners to promote nutrient management practices that protect groundwater from nitrate contamination while maintaining viable agricultural production and urban landscapes
B	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8h	Future	Consider facilitating a watershed- or county-wide outreach and education campaign to increase awareness about the urban and rural land use contributions to nitrate contamination of groundwater	Collaborate with partners to promote nutrient management practices that protect groundwater from nitrate contamination while maintaining viable agricultural production and urban landscapes
B	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 9a	Future	Provide the well-owner's handbook (or link) on the VRWJPO website	Collaborate with the Dakota County Groundwater Unit to promote the MDH's well-owner handbook
B	11-12	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 9b	Future	Consider outreach to real estate agents, to distribute the handbook to purchasers of property with a private well	Collaborate with the Dakota County Groundwater Unit to promote the MDH's well-owner handbook
B	12	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 9c	Future	Consider outreach to visitors' bureaus and "welcome" organizations to include in information packets for new homeowners with a private well	Collaborate with the Dakota County Groundwater Unit to promote the MDH's well-owner handbook
C	13	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 7	Future		Work with partners to develop a public outreach campaign designed to mitigate drought conditions for implementation during persistent drought
E	16	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 5a	Future	Consult with local community leaders on appropriate methods to build community pride in water quality achievements	Recognize and celebrate stewardship in the Vermillion River Watershed
E	16	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 5b	Ongoing	Host VRWJPO watershed tours for elected and appointed officials to highlight demonstrations of innovative technology, successful water quality and quantity improvement practices, and restoration activities	Recognize and celebrate stewardship in the Vermillion River Watershed
E	16	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 5c	Future	Assist Vermillion Stewards, a coordinated volunteer program to raise awareness of the importance of watershed protection; involve community members in stewardship and education activities; and provide a recognition program for volunteers	Recognize and celebrate stewardship in the Vermillion River Watershed
E	16	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 5d	Future	Publish stories recognizing stewardship activities online, in the newsletter, and other public venues	Recognize and celebrate stewardship in the Vermillion River Watershed
E	16	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 5e	Ongoing	Write and post CIP project fact sheets on the VRWJPO website	Recognize and celebrate stewardship in the Vermillion River Watershed
E	16-17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 5f	Ongoing	Consider establishing kiosks, signs, or other location-specific educational displays at VRWJPO CIP projects, public access, and open spaces	Recognize and celebrate stewardship in the Vermillion River Watershed
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 6a	Future	Build capacity among individuals and groups interested in watershed protection and improvement to participate in, lead, or develop civic engagement actions	Support and create opportunities for people to work together on projects that will improve water quality, water quantity, or habitat
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 6b	Ongoing	Support and participate in the Scott Clean Water Education Program	Support and create opportunities for people to work together on projects that will improve water quality, water quantity, or habitat
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 6c	Ongoing	Assist Scott and Dakota counties in planning and implementing their respective Outdoor Education Days	Support and create opportunities for people to work together on projects that will improve water quality, water quantity, or habitat
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 6d	Done	Promote and implement the Stewardship Grant program for short-term events and activities that educate and engage people to improve or protect water quality	Support and create opportunities for people to work together on projects that will improve water quality, water quantity, or habitat
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 6e	Ongoing	Develop and maintain a VRWJPO presence at community events with relevance to the watershed (Earth Week events, clean-up events, lake association meetings, community festivals, park opening events, for example)	Support and create opportunities for people to work together on projects that will improve water quality, water quantity, or habitat

E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 6f	Ongoing	Facilitate multi-partner solutions to water quality or habitat restoration issues	Support and create opportunities for people to work together on projects that will improve water quality, water quantity, or habitat
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 7a	Ongoing	Continue working with WaterShed Partners to educate the general public (through publications, ads, television, and other media) on water resources and stewardship behaviors and choices	Increase public awareness of the Vermillion River and its major tributaries as a valued resource
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 7b	Ongoing	Promote the recreational opportunities and other initiatives to increase appreciation and enjoyment of the Vermillion River system	Increase public awareness of the Vermillion River and its major tributaries as a valued resource
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8a	Ongoing	Post all VRWJPB, WPC, and TAG agendas, background materials and meeting minutes	Maintain and expand the VRWJPO website as a comprehensive information source about the watershed and the VRWJPO
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8b	Ongoing	Post all major proposed plans and projects and request public comment through published notices and news releases	Maintain and expand the VRWJPO website as a comprehensive information source about the watershed and the VRWJPO
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8c	Ongoing	Post all progress, activity, and financial reports	Maintain and expand the VRWJPO website as a comprehensive information source about the watershed and the VRWJPO
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 9	Ongoing		Publish a VRWJPO e-newsletter at least once a year
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 10	Future		Submit articles on the watershed and its activities to publications of partners (e.g., MPCA Water Line, Scott County Scene) and news media (newspapers, magazines).
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 11	Future		Continue to implement targeted education programs on responsible land use and stewardship for elected officials, inspectors, real-estate professionals, and other key groups
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 12a	Ongoing	Promote and support programs to learn about, design, and install residential raingardens and shoreline restorations	Increase resilience of the watershed through direct preparedness, outreach, and engagement efforts
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 12b	Ongoing	Promote and support Vermillion Stewards hands-on educational events/workshops	Increase resilience of the watershed through direct preparedness, outreach, and engagement efforts
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 12c	Ongoing	Consider continuing workshops on ice/snow management and turfgrass maintenance	Increase resilience of the watershed through direct preparedness, outreach, and engagement efforts
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 12d	Future	Work with partners to develop a watershed-wide education and outreach effort on preparing property to achieve flood/storm resilience	Increase resilience of the watershed through direct preparedness, outreach, and engagement efforts
E	18	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 13a	Future	Update water resource management governance diagram to illustrate and concisely explain the roles of various government organizations in water resource management in the Vermillion River Watershed	Provide clear information to landowners and other stakeholders on how to navigate the multiple layers of water governance
E	18	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 13b	Future	Develop or adapt a “by-topic” web-based tool to refer landowners and other stakeholders to the appropriate agency or organization to answer questions about regulations, permits, or resources	Provide clear information to landowners and other stakeholders on how to navigate the multiple layers of water governance
E	18	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 13c	Future	Encourage local governments and interested parties to coordinate a review meeting at one time and place for projects with potential water resource impacts	Provide clear information to landowners and other stakeholders on how to navigate the multiple layers of water governance
F	19	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8	Future		Increase awareness and understanding of the benefits of maintaining natural hydrology