



Agenda

Vermillion River Watershed Planning Commission

November 16, 2022 – 4:30 p.m., In-person and Teleconference via Microsoft Teams

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Audience Comments on Items Not on the Agenda
(please limit audience comments to five minutes)
4. Approval of Agenda Action
5. Approval of Minutes from the September 14, 2022 Meeting Action
6. Business Items
 - a. Recommend Adoption of the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization 2023 Final Draft Budget and Watershed Management Tax District Levy Action
 - b. Recommendation to Execute a Grant Agreement with the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources for Fiscal Year 2023 Watershed-Based Implementation Funding Action
 - c. Recommendation to Execute a Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Lakeville for the Middle Creek at Dodd Boulevard Stream Restoration Project Action
 - d. Approve the 2023 Vermillion River Watershed Planning Commission Meeting Dates Action
 - e. Update on Vermillion River Watershed Planning Commission Member Terms and Status Information
 - f. Options for Consideration for Changes to Watershed Planning Commission Membership and Scheduling Information
 - g. Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources Performance Review and Assistance Program Report Information
7. Updates
 - a. Chairperson's Report
 - b. Staff Updates
8. Adjourn Action

Please note, the November 16, 2022 Watershed Planning Commission 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, Microsoft Teams.



Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 210 694 230 068

Passcode: YQamuL

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 651-273-3070,,703411342#](#) United States, St. Paul

Phone Conference ID: 703 411 342#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

Other Information

Next Meeting Date: **January 11, 2023** at 4:30 p.m.

Please confirm your attendance by contacting Mark Zabel at mark.zabel@co.dakota.mn.us

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



Minutes

Vermillion River Watershed Planning Commission Meeting

September 14, 2022 – 4 p.m.

In-person and Microsoft Teams Videoconference

WPC Members in Attendance

Mark Henry James Kotz
Josh Borton Andy Riesgraf
Steve Hamrick
Chuck Clanton

Staff in Attendance

Mark Ryan, VRWJPO
Brita Moore-Kutz, VRWJPO
Mark Zabel, VRWJPO
Travis Thiel, VRWJPO

Others in Attendance

Curt Coudron, Dakota County SWCD
Linda Larson, Rosemount resident

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4 p.m.

2. Roll Call

All members present.

3. Audience Comments on Items Not on the Agenda

None.

4. Approval of Agenda

Chair Henry asked for approval of the agenda.

Motion by Commissioner Clanton, second by Commissioner Borton, to approve the agenda as distributed. The agenda was approved by a 6-0 vote.

5. Approval of Minutes from the July 13, 2022 Meeting

Chair Henry requested any adjustments to the minutes as presented.

Motion by Commissioner Clanton, second by Commissioner Borton, to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2022 meeting, as presented. The minutes were approved by a 6-0 vote.

6. Business Items

- a. **Recommend Adoption of Amendment to the Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan Implementation Section**

Mark Zabel introduced the procedural requirement for the item to appear before the Vermillion River Watershed Planning Commission as the two primary functions for Citizen Advisory Committees (WPC in our case) identified in Minnesota Rules 8410 is for input to updates to Watershed Plans and when Plans are amended. This amendment to the Plan is considered a minor amendment by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources in their review of its content; but it is a major consideration on the part of our organization because it is going to allow us to implement projects going forward. Thus, it is important for your review and recommendation.

Travis Thiel noted that the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board authorized release of the amendment for comment on July 20, 2022. That provided 30 days to collect comments from the public and review agencies. The VRWJPO received three comments which were supportive of the amendment as presented.

Motion by Commissioner Clanton, second by Commissioner Kotz, recommending adoption of the amendment to the Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan Implementation Section to the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

7. Updates

a. Chairperson's Report

Chair Henry introduced Linda Larson who is an applicant to serve on the Vermillion River Watershed Planning Commission. Linda provided information on her background and interest stating that she is a resident of the City of Rosemount in a rural residential setting. She is a member and President of the Dakota County Chapter of Farmer's Union, though she is no longer farming. She is concerned about water, generally, but that interest was piqued when there was a proposal to appropriate water in Dakota County and ship it by rail to the southwest United States or other areas of high need of potable water. Linda does not claim expertise in water resources but has a strong interest. Mark Zabel noted that the people who serve are expected to provide a broad range of voices with varied interests. Linda's application is currently the only application in consideration and with support from the review team will be on the agenda for appointment at the next meeting of the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board.

Commissioner Clanton asked about any changes regarding meeting time for the WPC. Commissioner Riesgraf noted that coming from his work location in downtown Minneapolis to get to the meeting on time can be challenging. A discussion about what might be an appropriate meeting time took place.

Motion by Commissioner Clanton, second by Commissioner Kotz, to change the start time of meetings to 4:30PM. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Commissioner Clanton asked about the new email security system that encrypts outgoing emails. Mark Zabel explained that Dakota County has applied this new email security system as an added layer of cyber security. The system seems to apply when attachments are added to an

email. The work around would be to send a link to the meeting packet on our website instead of sending it as an attachment. If members are comfortable downloading the packet from the website we can proceed with sending the link as the solution. If there are issues with that approach, Zabel asked members to contact him and staff can work on another solution.

Commissioner Kotz asked about member terms and that question led into a brief discussion about membership issues. Mark Zabel indicated that the members of the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board are very aware of the recruitment and appointment of new members and have asked staff to explore this and bring them some alternatives to consider. Staff will be bringing suggested alternatives forward for discussion and recommendations over the next few months. Any significant change may require amending the empowering joint powers agreement, which would require action by the Dakota and Scott County Boards. Linda Larson asked how well known the Vermillion River Watershed Planning Commission is among the public. She suggested perhaps making a trifold brochure that could be placed in County park and library kiosks that might introduce the WPC to more people and spark interest with those who might be willing to serve as members. Mark Ryan suggested that one change to consider might be the number of meetings. Commissioner Riesgraf noted that the primary target audience for recruitment are those who have time to devote to this activity such as retirees and was wondering if we are reaching that target audience.

b. Staff Updates

Brita Moore-Kutz reported that she will be a presenter at the Outdoor Education Days put on by the Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District in the next week. She will be staffing the water station talking about the overall scarcity of water worldwide, and will be presenting around a storm drain model conveying the vulnerability of stormwater. "We Are Water MN" exhibit will be launched on October 13, 2022, at the Pleasant Hill Library in Hastings and will be there until December 5, 2022. There will also be a smaller outdoor "We Are Water MN" exhibit at Lebanon Hills Regional Park Visitor Center. There will be a feature article about this in the VRWJPO Fall Newsletter.

Curt Coudron of the Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District reported that we are now fully in project installation activities. Cover crops will be going in following harvest over the next month, a stream bank stabilization was just completed in Lakeville, there is a bioretention project in Rosemount that is being completed this Fall, and there are a couple of native prairie projects that are going in.

Mark Ryan reported that the Conservation Corps Minnesota (CCM) Crew was out at Empire Linear Park removing some deadfalls (dead and downed trees) from the river in areas where there was some accelerated erosion and flow stagnation caused by the deadfalls. Curt and Matt from the Dakota County SWCD will be returning to the area with the CCM Crew placing some cedar revetments to provide some erosion protection in this area. Commissioner Borton asked how much of the river received this treatment. Mark responded that only a small reach in the publicly owned park was treated. Mark Zabel noted that removing deadfalls as a general practice if widely implemented is not beneficial to the river as the natural occurrence of woody

debris in the stream provides habitat and feeds the stream with organic matter (supporting the food web of the stream). Mark Ryan also noted that clearing or partially clearing deadfalls from the stream for supporting recreation is a larger conversation and generally doing this type of work to clear large sections of the river is time, labor, and cost intensive. Mark Ryan mentioned that he and Travis have been working on a couple of construction projects, one being the restoration of sediment control basins in Ravenna Township, another being the nitrate treatment wetland south of Farmington that is in need of some maintenance. Mark Ryan informed members that he would be attending the upcoming Township Officers Meeting to discuss the plan amendment and talk about ordinance updates for those townships that haven't yet updated their ordinances to incorporate the updated VRWJPO Standards.

Travis Thiel reported VRWJPO staff having applied to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for a Clean Water Fund Grant in August for a potential fish barrier project near East Lake in the City of Lakeville. Staff have applied two other times to different grant sources unsuccessfully, and this is one of the last possibilities for outside funding to support this capital improvement project. The purpose of the project is to create a barrier to movement of carp and goldfish in and out of East Lake, and then other potential in-lake efforts to reduce populations to manageable levels can be implemented and water quality improved. We would expect notification on this application sometime in December. Commissioner Clanton asked about costs. Travis responded that this project is estimated at approximately \$315,000. This would be a low voltage electric barrier similar to what has been implemented in other locations in Minnesota. Commissioner Clanton asked if the VRWJPO might fund this in partnership with the City of Lakeville if the grant proposal is rejected. Mark Zabel responded that this could be a discussion for 2024 and could include other partners. Travis noted that once we have exercised all outside funding options we would return to discussions with partners for potential options for local funding. Commissioner Riesgraf asked if East Lake has been commercially fished for rough fish removal. Travis responded that it has not. Mark Ryan added that this is an option to be considered after placement of the fish barrier. Travis and Mark Zabel noted that there is a high likelihood of repopulation from local wetlands without placement of a fish barrier. Commissioner Riesgraf mentioned that rough fish harvest is something that has been employed with some success in driving down the biomass in other lakes and settings and that it could be implemented independently of placement of a fish barrier. In addition, Travis reported that he has been inspecting previously completed watershed CIP projects for current conditions, as these projects have maintenance agreements associated with them. Travis did not have any major concerns to report as a result of these inspections, and staff are working with city partners on addressing minor issues. Commissioner Henry asked about requirements for permitting for culvert cleanouts. Staff commented that permitting may be required from DNR and that any permit requirement may revolve around timing for spawning periods and offered to inquire with the DNR on this issue related to local roads.

Mark Zabel reported that the VRWJPO is expecting the report from the BWSR Performance Review and Assistance Program on their Organizational Review for the VRWJPO. BWSR staff will be reporting to the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board at this month's meeting on September 22, 2022 and we expect to have a report at the next WPC meeting.

8. Adjourn

Motion by Commissioner Clanton, second by Commissioner Borton, to adjourn the meeting at 4:49 p.m. The motion passed on an 6-0 vote.

DRAFT

6a. Recommend Adoption of the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization 2023 Final Draft Budget and Watershed Management Tax District Levy

Meeting Date: 11/16/2022
Item Type: Regular-Action
Contact: Mark Zabel
Telephone: 952-891-7011
Prepared by: Mark Zabel
Reviewed by: N/A

N/A



PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

- Recommend adoption of the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization 2023 Final Draft Budget and Watershed Management Tax District Levy

SUMMARY

The proposed Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) 2023 Final Draft Budget (included as Attachment – VRWJPO Final Draft 2023 Budget) is \$3,421,830 including cash reserves, Clean Water Fund grants, and Watershed-Based Implementation Fund grants. The draft VRWJPO 2022 Budget recommends a Watershed Management Tax District Levy of \$1,000,000: \$35,100 in the Scott County portion of the watershed and \$964,900 in the Dakota County portion. This total levy is unchanged from the overall Watershed Management Tax District levy compared to 2022. The draft budget reflects recommendations from VRWJPO staff, partners, and items from the implementation section of the Watershed Plan.

An approved 2023 budget will remain “draft” until such time as the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board (VRWJPB) approves a final budget and the Dakota County and Scott County Boards approve the Watershed Management Tax District Levy in December of 2022.

RESOLUTION

6b. Recommendation to Adopt the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization 2023 Final Draft Budget and Watershed Management Tax District Levy

WHEREAS, the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization requires a budget and the subsequent levy to implement the programs and projects described in its Watershed Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Vermillion River Watershed Planning Commission has reviewed and discussed the VRWJPO 2022 Final Draft Budget and Vermillion River Watershed Management Tax District Levy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vermillion River Watershed Planning Commission hereby recommends approval of the VRWJPO 2023 Final Draft Budget totaling \$3,421,830 and recommends a Vermillion River Watershed Management Tax District Levy of \$1,000,000 (\$35,100 in the Scott County portion of the watershed and \$964,900 in the Dakota County portion of the watershed).

VRWJPO Draft 2023 Budget

<u>Category</u>		<u>Budget Items</u>	<u>2023 Draft Budget Amount</u>	<u>Budget % of Total</u>	<u>2022 Final Budget Amount</u>	<u>Budget % of Total</u>
EXPENSES						
Administration and Operations -2170020000	1	Dakota County VRW Staff	\$180,500	5.3%	\$180,500	9.3%
	2	Scott County VRW Staff	\$15,000	0.4%	\$15,000	0.8%
	3	Other Dakota County Staff Time	\$12,000	0.4%	\$12,000	0.6%
	4	Legal Support	\$25,000	0.7%	\$25,000	1.3%
	5	Miscellaneous Expenses (per diems, mileage, postage, etc.)	\$6,000	0.2%	\$6,000	0.3%
	6	Training, Conferences, and Certifications	\$2,000	0.1%	\$2,000	0.1%
Subtotal Administrative			\$240,500	7.0%	\$240,500	12.4%
Research and Planning -2170020130	1	Dakota SWCD Incentive Program Policy Assistance	\$1,600	0.0%	\$1,600	0.1%
	2	Scott County Staff	\$2,000	0.1%	\$2,000	0.1%
	3	VRW Staff	\$15,000	0.4%	\$12,000	0.6%
Subtotal Research and Planning			\$18,600	0.5%	\$15,600	0.8%
Monitoring and Assessment -2170020230	1	Vermillion River Monitoring Network in Dakota Co.				
	1a	Staff Time for Sample Collection, Equipment Installation, Maintenance	\$39,000	1.1%	\$39,000	2.0%
	1b	Data analysis, database management, data reporting, FLUX modeling	\$17,000	0.5%	\$17,000	0.9%
	1c	Water Quality Sample Analysis and QA/QC samples	\$19,000	0.6%	\$19,000	1.0%
	1d	Equipment and Supplies	\$8,000	0.2%	\$8,000	0.4%
	2	Vermillion River Monitoring Network in Scott Co	\$9,800	0.3%	\$9,800	0.5%
	3	USGS Cost Share for Blaine Ave. Station	\$8,900	0.3%	\$8,900	0.5%
	4	DNR Flow Gaging Assistance	\$9,700	0.3%	\$9,700	0.5%
	5a	Biological and Habitat Assessments	\$7,000	0.2%	\$7,000	0.4%
	5b	Electrofishing	\$16,000	0.5%	\$16,000	0.8%
	6	Monitoring Programs Review and Evaluation	\$15,000	0.4%	\$15,000	0.8%
	7	General GIS support (Dakota SWCD)	\$5,000	0.1%	\$5,000	0.3%
	8	Nitrate Treatment Practice Sampling	\$1,000	0.0%	\$1,000	0.1%

VRWJPO Draft 2023 Budget

<u>Category</u>	<u>Budget Items</u>	<u>2023 Draft Budget Amount</u>	<u>Budget % of Total</u>	<u>2022 Final Budget Amount</u>	<u>Budget % of Total</u>
	9 Iron Enhanced Sand Filter Performance Sampling	\$2,000	0.1%	\$2,000	0.1%
Subtotal Monitoring and Data Analysis		\$157,400	4.6%	\$157,400	8.1%
Public Communications and Outreach -2170020330	1 Communication and Outreach Staff	\$100,000	2.9%	\$100,000	5.1%
	2 Vermillion River Watch Program	\$6,000	0.2%	\$6,000	0.3%
	3 Vermillion River Stewards	\$0	0.0%	\$0	0.0%
	4 Scott County Outreach Efforts	\$2,250	0.1%	\$2,250	0.1%
	5 Vermillion River Watershed Projects Signage and Map Updates	\$10,000	0.3%	\$5,000	0.3%
	6 Newsletter, Mailings, Website, General Communication Materials	\$10,000	0.3%	\$10,000	0.5%
	7 Landscaping for Clean Water Workshop Program (Dakota SWCD)	\$30,400	0.9%	\$30,400	1.6%
	8 K-12 Classroom Presentations (Dakota SWCD)	\$4,000	0.1%	\$4,000	0.2%
	9 Watershed Tours	\$0	0.0%	\$0	0.0%
	10 Local Standards/ Ordinance and Turf/ Salt Workshops	\$3,500	0.1%	\$3,500	0.2%
Subtotal Public Outreach and Communication		\$166,150	4.9%	\$161,150	8.3%
Regulation -2170020530	1 Scott SWCD Assistance with Plan Review	\$900	0.0%	\$900	0.0%
	2 Engineering Assistance and Review	\$35,000	1.0%	\$35,000	1.8%
	3 VRW Staff Local Program Assistance	\$20,000	0.6%	\$20,000	1.0%
Subtotal Regulation		\$55,900	1.6%	\$55,900	2.9%
Coordination and Collaboration -2170020531	1 Coordination VRW Staff	\$32,000	0.9%	\$32,000	1.6%
	2 Wetland Health Evaluation Program Cost Share	\$0	0.0%	\$0	0.0%
	3 Children's Water Festival Support	\$600	0.0%	\$600	0.0%
	4 Watershed Partners	\$5,000	0.1%	\$5,000	0.3%
	5 Master Water Stewards	\$5,000	0.1%	\$5,000	0.3%
Subtotal Coordination and Collaboration		\$42,600	1.2%	\$42,600	2.2%
Land and Water Treatment					
Capital Improvement	1 Cost Share Programs in Dakota County (SWCD)	\$80,000	2.3%	\$80,000	4.1%

VRWJPO Draft 2023 Budget

<u>Category</u>		<u>Budget Items</u>	<u>2023 Draft Budget Amount</u>	<u>Budget % of Total</u>	<u>2022 Final Budget Amount</u>	<u>Budget % of Total</u>
Projects	2	Cost Share Programs in Scott County (SWCD)	\$31,300	0.9%	\$31,300	1.6%
-2170920130	3	Cost-share	\$250,000	7.3%	\$215,550	11.1%
	4	WBIF match	\$70,000	2.0%	\$0	0.0%
Subtotal Capital Improvement Projects			\$431,300	12.6%	\$326,850	16.8%
Maintenance	1	Past projects maintenance/ repair	\$70,000	2.0%	\$40,000	2.1%
-2170920130	2	CIP construction oversight, maintenance/ repair staff costs	\$25,000	0.7%	\$25,000	1.3%
Subtotal Maintenance			\$95,000	2.8%	\$65,000	3.3%
Feasibility/Preliminary Studies		Preliminary Design, Technical Assistance and Marketing for Capital Improvements (Dakota SWCD)	\$40,000	1.2%	\$40,000	2.1%
-2170020631	2	Preliminary Design, Technical Assistance and Marketing for Capital Improvements	\$180,000	5.3%	\$150,000	7.7%
Subtotal Feasibility/Preliminary Studies			\$220,000	6.4%	\$190,000	9.8%
Irrigation Audit and Cost Share Program	1	Irrigation Audits	\$10,000	0.3%	\$5,000	0.3%
2170020431	2	Irrigation Cost-Share	\$10,000	0.3%	\$5,000	0.3%
Subtotal Irrigation Audit and Cost Share			\$20,000	0.6%	\$10,000	0.5%
2020-2023 WBIF Grant (BWSR) North Creek	1	North Creek Stabilization	\$337,500	9.9%	\$288,700	14.9%
-2170020853	2	VRWJPO cash match	\$50,000	1.5%	\$50,000	2.6%
Subtotal 2020-2023 WBIF Grant North Creek Stabilization			\$387,500	11.3%	\$338,700	17.4%
2020-2023 WBIF Grant (BWSR) Farmington Direct	1	Farmington Direct Drainage Assessment	\$0	0.0%	\$13,300	0.7%
-2170020854	2	VRWJPO cash match	\$0	0.0%	\$3,330	0.2%
Subtotal 2020-2023 WBIF Grant Hastings/ Farmington Direct Drainage			\$0	0.0%	\$16,630	0.9%
2020-2023 WBIF Grant (BWSR) Hastings Direct	1	Hastings Direct Drainage Assessment	\$26,700	0.8%	\$26,700	1.4%

VRWJPO Draft 2023 Budget

<u>Category</u>	<u>Budget Items</u>		<u>2023</u> <u>Draft Budget</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>Budget %</u> <u>of Total</u>	<u>2022</u> <u>Final Budget</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>Budget %</u> <u>of Total</u>
-2170020855	2	VRWJPO cash match	\$3,330	0.1%	\$3,330	0.2%
Subtotal 2020-2023 WBIF Grant Hastings/ Farmington Direct Drainage			\$30,030	0.9%	\$30,030	1.5%
2020-2023 WBIF Grant						
(BWSR) Ravenna Basins	1	Ravenna Basins Restoration	\$0	0.0%	\$59,000	3.0%
-2170020856	2	VRWJPO cash match	\$0	0.0%	\$26,000	1.3%
Subtotal 2020-2023 WBIF Grant Ravenna Basins Restoration			\$0	0.0%	\$85,000	4.4%
CWF Competitive Grant						
(BWSR) Foxborough TSS	1	Foxborough Park TSS Project	\$346,500	10.1%		
-2170020859	2	VRWJPO cash match	\$30,000	0.9%		
Subtotal CWF Competitive Grant Foxborough Park TSS Project			\$376,500	11.0%		
CWF Competitive Grant						
(BWSR) Ravenna Trail	1	Ravenna Trail Ravine Stabilization	\$495,000	14.5%		
-2170020860	2	VRWJPO cash match	\$50,000	1.5%		
Subtotal CWF Competitive Grant Ravenna Trail Ravine Stabilization			\$545,000	15.9%		
CWF Grant (BWSR)						
-2170020848	1	WBF Grant Admin	\$17,700	0.5%	\$17,700	0.9%
Subtotal WBF Grant Admin			\$17,700	0.5%	\$17,700	0.9%
Weland Bank						
2170020930		Wetland Bank Restoration Funds Reserve	\$189,800	5.5%		
Subtotal Wetland Bank Restoration Funds			\$189,800	5.5%		
Subtotal of Expenditures			\$2,993,980	87.5%	\$1,753,060	90.2%
Cash Reserve			\$427,850	12.5%	\$189,540	9.8%
TOTAL Annual Expenses			\$3,421,830	100.0%	\$1,942,600	100.0%

VRWJPO Draft 2023 Budget

Category	Budget Items	2023	Budget % of Total	2022	Budget % of Total
		Draft Budget Amount		Final Budget Amount	
REVENUE					
	Wetland Bank	\$189,800	5.5%		
	CIP Reserve	\$350,000	10.2%	\$146,000	7.5%
	CIP Reserve Grant Match	\$133,330	3.9%	\$84,000	4.3%
	Fund Balance from Underspending in Previous Year	\$405,000	11.8%	\$456,000	23.5%
	Grant Carryover	\$664,350			
	CWF Grant (BWSR) Competitive	\$420,750	12.3%	\$0	0.0%
	CWF Grant WBIF (BWSR) 2020-2023	\$243,600	7.1%	\$243,600	12.5%
	Fees for Permitting Activities	\$1,000	0.0%	\$1,000	0.1%
	Dakota County Levy	\$964,900	28.2%	\$967,500	49.8%
	Scott County Levy	\$35,100	1.0%	\$32,500	1.7%
	Investment Earnings	\$14,000	0.4%	\$12,000	0.6%
TOTAL Annual Revenue		\$3,421,830	100.0%	\$1,942,600	100.0%

Vermillion River Watershed Management Tax District
Estimated Pay 2023 Taxes * (Dakota County)

Attachment B

Residential Property

Market	Tax	Proposed 2023 Levy								2022 Actual	2021 Actual	2020 Actual	2019 Actual	2018 Actual	2017 Actual	2016 Actual	2015 Actual	2014 Actual	2013 Actual	2012 Actual	2011 Actual	2010 Actual	2009 Actual
Value	Capacity	\$300,000	\$400,000	\$500,000	\$750,000	\$964,900	\$1,000,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,500,000	\$967,500	\$966,650	\$966,000	\$912,900	\$887,900	\$861,700	\$821,140	\$817,500	\$858,900	\$831,600	\$868,000	\$964,700	\$1,047,905	\$1,138,839
Rate		0.0620%	0.0950%	0.1290%	0.2130%	0.286%	0.2980%	0.3820%	0.4660%	0.3470%	0.3480%	0.3990%	0.4030%	0.4290%	0.4490%	0.4490%	0.4660%	0.5450%	0.5430%	0.5410%	0.5550%	0.5660%	0.3369%
Various Values																							
\$150,000	1,263	\$0.78	\$1.20	\$1.63	\$2.69	\$3.61	\$3.76	\$4.82	\$5.88	\$4.38	\$4.39	\$5.04	\$5.09	\$5.42	\$5.67	\$5.67	\$5.88	\$6.88	\$6.86	\$6.83	\$7.01	\$7.15	\$4.25
\$170,000	1,481	\$0.92	\$1.41	\$1.91	\$3.15	\$4.23	\$4.41	\$5.66	\$6.90	\$5.14	\$5.15	\$5.91	\$5.97	\$6.35	\$6.65	\$6.65	\$6.90	\$8.07	\$8.04	\$8.01	\$8.22	\$8.38	\$4.99
\$185,000	1,644	\$1.02	\$1.56	\$2.12	\$3.50	\$4.70	\$4.90	\$6.28	\$7.66	\$5.71	\$5.72	\$6.56	\$6.63	\$7.05	\$7.38	\$7.38	\$7.66	\$8.96	\$8.93	\$8.89	\$9.12	\$9.31	\$5.54
\$190,000	1,699	\$1.05	\$1.61	\$2.19	\$3.62	\$4.86	\$5.06	\$6.49	\$7.92	\$5.89	\$5.91	\$6.78	\$6.85	\$7.29	\$7.63	\$7.63	\$7.92	\$9.26	\$9.22	\$9.19	\$9.43	\$9.61	\$5.72
\$200,000	1,808	\$1.12	\$1.72	\$2.33	\$3.85	\$5.17	\$5.39	\$6.91	\$8.42	\$6.27	\$6.29	\$7.21	\$7.28	\$7.75	\$8.12	\$8.12	\$8.42	\$9.85	\$9.82	\$9.78	\$10.03	\$10.23	\$6.09
\$210,000	1,917	\$1.19	\$1.82	\$2.47	\$4.08	\$5.48	\$5.71	\$7.32	\$8.93	\$6.65	\$6.67	\$7.65	\$7.72	\$8.22	\$8.61	\$8.61	\$8.93	\$10.45	\$10.41	\$10.37	\$10.64	\$10.85	\$6.46
\$225,000	2,080	\$1.29	\$1.98	\$2.68	\$4.43	\$5.95	\$6.20	\$7.95	\$9.69	\$7.22	\$7.24	\$8.30	\$8.38	\$8.92	\$9.34	\$9.34	\$9.69	\$11.34	\$11.29	\$11.25	\$11.54	\$11.77	\$7.01
\$250,000	2,353	\$1.46	\$2.23	\$3.03	\$5.01	\$6.73	\$7.01	\$8.99	\$10.96	\$8.16	\$8.19	\$9.39	\$9.48	\$10.09	\$10.56	\$10.56	\$10.96	\$12.82	\$12.77	\$12.73	\$13.06	\$13.32	\$7.93
\$275,000	2,625	\$1.63	\$2.49	\$3.39	\$5.59	\$7.51	\$7.82	\$10.03	\$12.23	\$9.11	\$9.14	\$10.47	\$10.58	\$11.26	\$11.79	\$11.79	\$12.23	\$14.31	\$14.25	\$14.20	\$14.57	\$14.86	\$8.84
\$290,000	2,789	\$1.73	\$2.65	\$3.60	\$5.94	\$7.98	\$8.31	\$10.65	\$12.99	\$9.68	\$9.70	\$11.13	\$11.24	\$11.96	\$12.52	\$12.52	\$12.99	\$15.20	\$15.14	\$15.09	\$15.48	\$15.78	\$9.39
\$300,000	2,898	\$1.80	\$2.75	\$3.74	\$6.17	\$8.29	\$8.63	\$11.07	\$13.50	\$10.05	\$10.08	\$11.56	\$11.68	\$12.43	\$13.01	\$13.01	\$13.50	\$15.79	\$15.73	\$15.68	\$16.08	\$16.40	\$9.76
\$307,350	2,978	\$1.85	\$2.83	\$3.84	\$6.34	\$8.52	\$8.87	\$11.37	\$13.88	\$10.33	\$10.36	\$11.88	\$12.00	\$12.77	\$13.37	\$13.37	\$13.88	\$16.23	\$16.17	\$16.11	\$16.53	\$16.85	\$10.03
\$359,600	3,547	\$2.20	\$3.37	\$4.58	\$7.56	\$10.15	\$10.57	\$13.55	\$16.53	\$12.31	\$12.34	\$14.15	\$14.30	\$15.22	\$15.93	\$15.93	\$16.53	\$19.33	\$19.26	\$19.19	\$19.69	\$20.08	\$11.95
\$375,000	3,715	\$2.30	\$3.53	\$4.79	\$7.91	\$10.63	\$11.07	\$14.19	\$17.31	\$12.89	\$12.93	\$14.82	\$14.97	\$15.94	\$16.68	\$16.68	\$17.31	\$20.25	\$20.17	\$20.10	\$20.62	\$21.03	\$12.52
\$400,000	3,988	\$2.47	\$3.79	\$5.14	\$8.49	\$11.40	\$11.88	\$15.23	\$18.58	\$13.84	\$13.88	\$15.91	\$16.07	\$17.11	\$17.90	\$17.90	\$18.58	\$21.73	\$21.65	\$21.57	\$22.13	\$22.57	\$13.43
\$425,000	4,260	\$2.64	\$4.05	\$5.50	\$9.07	\$12.18	\$12.70	\$16.27	\$19.85	\$14.78	\$14.83	\$17.00	\$17.17	\$18.28	\$19.13	\$19.13	\$19.85	\$23.22	\$23.13	\$23.05	\$23.64	\$24.11	\$14.35
\$450,000	4,533	\$2.81	\$4.31	\$5.85	\$9.65	\$12.96	\$13.51	\$17.31	\$21.12	\$15.73	\$15.77	\$18.09	\$18.27	\$19.44	\$20.35	\$20.35	\$21.12	\$24.70	\$24.61	\$24.52	\$25.16	\$25.65	\$15.27
\$475,000	4,805	\$2.98	\$4.56	\$6.20	\$10.23	\$13.74	\$14.32	\$18.36	\$22.39	\$16.67	\$16.72	\$19.17	\$19.36	\$20.61	\$21.57	\$21.57	\$22.39	\$26.19	\$26.09	\$26.00	\$26.67	\$27.20	\$16.19
\$500,000	5,078	\$3.15	\$4.82	\$6.55	\$10.82	\$14.52	\$15.13	\$19.40	\$23.66	\$17.62	\$17.67	\$20.26	\$20.46	\$21.78	\$22.80	\$22.80	\$23.66	\$27.67	\$27.57	\$27.47	\$28.18	\$28.74	\$17.11

Proposed TCAP Pay 2023 (as of 10-20-2022)	296,688,610
Pay 2022 Median Value: 307,350 Pay 2023 Median Value: 359,600	

WHAT IF TAX COMPARISON PAY 2022 vs Pay 2023

FISCAL YEAR 2022			
8,697,417 GROSS TAX CAPACITY		\$	32,500 FINAL CERTIFIED LEVY
(11,047) 10% KV TRANS LINE (-)			
(456,738) FISCAL DISPARITY (-)		\$	(3,475) FISCAL DISPARITY (-)
8,229,632 NET TAX CAPACITY		\$	29,025 TAX LEVY OR SPREAD LEVY
Tax Rate		0.353%	
FISCAL YEAR 2023			
11,250,533 GROSS TAX CAPACITY		\$	35,100 PROPOSED LEVY OR CERTIFIED LEVY
(11,122) 10% KV TRANS LINE (-)			
(483,703) FISCAL DISPARITY (-)		\$	(3,475) FISCAL DISPARITY (-)
10,755,708 NET TAX CAPACITY		\$	31,625 TAX LEVY OR SPREAD LEVY
as of 6/30/2022 Tax Rate		0.294%	

6a: Attachment C

RESIDENTIAL IMPACTS

										Pay 2022	Pay 2023			Median & Average Values			
	% Value Range Inc/Dec	# of affected Properties	Average Market Value 2022	Average Market Value 2023	Value Exclusion 2022	Taxable Market Value 2022	Value Exclusion 2023	Taxable Market Value 2023	Taxable % Chg 2022-2023	Net Payable 2022	Net Payable 2023	Net Inc/Dec 2022 vs 2023	Net Difference % Change	2022 Median Values	2023 Median Values	2023 Average Values	2023 Value % Change
Elko New Mrkt City 1533	+15.01+%	1444	\$ 311,000	\$ 357,650	\$ 9,250	\$ 301,750	\$ 5,052	\$ 352,599	16.85%	\$ 10.64	\$ 10.37	\$ (0.27)	-2.583%	\$ 316,300	\$ 398,700	\$ 389,800	26.1%
	+10.01-15.00%	78	\$ 311,000	\$ 349,875	\$ 9,250	\$ 301,750	\$ 5,751	\$ 344,124	14.04%	\$ 10.64	\$ 10.12	\$ (0.52)	-4.925%				
	+5.01-10.00%	9	\$ 311,000	\$ 334,325	\$ 9,250	\$ 301,750	\$ 7,151	\$ 327,174	8.43%	\$ 10.64	\$ 9.62	\$ (1.02)	-9.608%				
	+0.01-5.00%	1	\$ 311,000	\$ 318,775	\$ 9,250	\$ 301,750	\$ 8,550	\$ 310,225	2.81%	\$ 10.64	\$ 9.12	\$ (1.52)	-14.291%				
	No Change	0	\$ 311,000	\$ 311,000	\$ 9,250	\$ 301,750	\$ 9,250	\$ 301,750	0.00%	\$ 10.64	\$ 8.87	\$ (1.77)	-16.632%				
	-0.01-5.00%	0	\$ 311,000	\$ 303,225	\$ 9,250	\$ 301,750	\$ 9,950	\$ 293,275	-2.81%	\$ 10.64	\$ 8.62	\$ (2.02)	-18.973%				
	-5.01-10%	0	\$ 311,000	\$ 287,675	\$ 9,250	\$ 301,750	\$ 11,349	\$ 276,326	-8.43%	\$ 10.64	\$ 8.12	\$ (2.52)	-23.656%				
	-10.01-15%	0	\$ 311,000	\$ 272,125	\$ 9,250	\$ 301,750	\$ 12,749	\$ 259,376	-14.04%	\$ 10.64	\$ 7.63	\$ (3.02)	-28.339%				
	-15.01+	1	\$ 311,000	\$ 264,350	\$ 9,250	\$ 301,750	\$ 13,449	\$ 250,902	-16.85%	\$ 10.64	\$ 7.38	\$ (3.27)	-30.680%				
New Market Twp 1147	+15.01+%	1082	\$ 484,200	\$ 556,830	\$ -	\$ 484,200	\$ -	\$ 556,830	15.00%	\$ 17.08	\$ 16.79	\$ (0.29)	-1.681%	\$ 463,200	\$ 592,500	\$ 614,500	27.9%
	+10.01-15.00%	46	\$ 484,200	\$ 544,725	\$ -	\$ 484,200	\$ -	\$ 544,725	12.50%	\$ 17.08	\$ 16.35	\$ (0.73)	-4.286%				
	+5.01-10.00%	8	\$ 484,200	\$ 520,515	\$ -	\$ 484,200	\$ -	\$ 520,515	7.50%	\$ 17.08	\$ 15.46	\$ (1.62)	-9.496%				
	+0.01-5.00%	1	\$ 484,200	\$ 496,305	\$ -	\$ 484,200	\$ -	\$ 496,305	2.50%	\$ 17.08	\$ 14.59	\$ (2.48)	-14.548%				
	No Change	2	\$ 484,200	\$ 484,200	\$ -	\$ 484,200	\$ -	\$ 484,200	0.00%	\$ 17.08	\$ 14.24	\$ (2.84)	-16.632%				
	-0.01-5.00%	1	\$ 484,200	\$ 472,095	\$ -	\$ 484,200	\$ -	\$ 472,095	-2.50%	\$ 17.08	\$ 13.88	\$ (3.20)	-18.716%				
	-5.01-10%	1	\$ 484,200	\$ 447,885	\$ -	\$ 484,200	\$ -	\$ 447,885	-7.50%	\$ 17.08	\$ 13.17	\$ (3.91)	-22.885%				
	-10.01-15%	5	\$ 484,200	\$ 423,675	\$ -	\$ 484,200	\$ -	\$ 423,675	-12.50%	\$ 17.08	\$ 12.46	\$ (4.62)	-27.053%				
	-15.01+	1	\$ 484,200	\$ 411,570	\$ -	\$ 484,200	\$ 199	\$ 411,371	-15.04%	\$ 17.08	\$ 12.10	\$ (4.98)	-29.171%				
County Wide		46,381	\$ 358,100	\$ 439,800	\$ 5,011	\$ 353,089	\$ -	\$ 439,800	24.56%	\$ 12.45	\$ 12.93	\$ 0.48	3.841%	\$ 321,400	\$ 393,900	\$ 439,800	22.6%

N/A



- Recommendation to execute a grant agreement with the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources for fiscal year 2023 Watershed-Based Implementation Funding

The Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) staff requests the Vermillion River Watershed Planning Commission (VRWPC) recommend the execution of a Grant Agreement with the BWSR for Watershed-Based Implementation Funding (WBIF) for projects and studies in the Vermillion River Watershed.

In 2022, the BWSR solicited prioritized projects and studies from local stakeholders in the Vermillion River Watershed that addressed water quality improvement for WBIF grant consideration. Projects and studies were submitted by local stakeholders, and those stakeholders reviewed the submittals. The outcome was an approved list of projects and studies submitted to the BWSR through a formal budget request for WBIF grant funding consideration. The BWSR has approved the budget request and has provided the VRWJPO with a Grant agreement (Attachment A).

Based on the preference for fiscal agent and grantee responsibilities, the WBI Grant does not include a comprehensive list of all projects and studies proposed within the Vermillion River Watershed, rather, it's just the projects and practices where the VRWJPO will serve as fiscal agent and grantee. The Grant with the VRWJPO will assist in paying for the following activities:

- a Middle Creek stream restoration in Lakeville
- an Alimagnet Lake alum treatment feasibility study

The Grant will provide \$396,000 toward the projects listed. The Grant has a ten percent local match requirement that is being met using a combination of City and VRWJPO funding.

VRWJPO staff request the VRWPC recommend executing a Grant Agreement (attachment A) with the BWSR for WBIF for projects and studies in the Vermillion River Watershed in an amount not to exceed \$396,000.

The VRWJPO will provide match up to \$9,000 from the Capital Improvement Projects portion of the VRWJPO Budget and will provide WBIF grant administration services.

RESOLUTION

6b. Recommendation to Execute a Grant Agreement with the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources for Fiscal Year 2023 Watershed-Based Implementation Funding

WHEREAS, in 2022, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWR) solicited prioritized projects and studies from local stakeholders in the Vermillion River Watershed that addressed water quality improvement for Watershed-Based Implementation Funding (WBIF) grant consideration; and

WHEREAS, projects and studies were submitted by local stakeholders, and those stakeholders reviewed the projects and studies; and

WHEREAS, a stakeholder-approved list of projects and studies were submitted to the BWSR through a formal budget request for WBIF grant funding consideration; and

WHEREAS, the BWSR has approved the budget request and has provided the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) with a grant agreement (Grant) totaling \$396,000 for projects and studies in the Vermillion River Watershed; and

WHEREAS, the Grant requires a minimum 10 percent local match, which will be provided using a combination of City and VRWJPO funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vermillion River Watershed Planning Commission recommends the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board authorize its chair to execute a Grant Agreement with the Board of Soil and Water Resources in an amount not to exceed \$396,000 for Watershed Based Implementation Funding for projects and studies in the Vermillion River Watershed; subject to approval as to form by the Dakota County Attorney's Office.



**FY 2023 STATE OF MINNESOTA
BOARD OF WATER and SOIL RESOURCES
WATERSHED-BASED IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING
GRANT AGREEMENT**

Vendor:	0000197289
PO#:	3000015494

This Grant Agreement is between the State of Minnesota, acting through its Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) and **Vermillion River Watershed JPO, 1431 Erickson Drive Hastings Minnesota 55033** (Grantee).

Fiscal Agent: Dakota County

<i>This grant is for the following Grant Programs :</i>		
C23-5040	FY2022-2023 WBIF Vermillion River Watershed JPO	\$396,000
Total Grant Awarded: \$396,000		

Recitals

1. The Laws of Minnesota 2019, 1st Special Session, Chapter 2, Article 2, Section 7(a), and the Laws of Minnesota, 2021, 1st Special Session, Chapter 1, Article 2, Sec. 6(a) appropriated Clean Water Funds (CWF) to the Board for the FY 2022-2023 Watershed-based Implementation Funding Program.
2. The Board adopted the FY 2022-2023 Clean Water Fund Watershed-based Implementation Funding Program Policy and authorized the allocation of funds for the FY 2022-2023 Watershed-based Implementation Funding Program. through Board Order #21-51.
3. The Grantee has submitted a Board-approved work plan for this Program which is incorporated into this Grant Agreement by reference.
4. The Grantee represents that it is duly qualified and agrees to perform all services described in this Grant Agreement to the satisfaction of the Board.
5. As a condition of the grant, Grantee agrees to minimize administration costs.

Authorized Representative

The State's Authorized Representative is James Adkinson, Grants Coordinator, BWSR, 520 Lafayette Road North, Saint Paul, MN 55155, 651-539-2588, or his successor, and has the responsibility to monitor the Grantee's performance and the authority to accept the services and performance provided under this Grant Agreement.

The Grantee's Authorized Representative is:

Mike Slavik, Chair
Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization
1590 Highway 55
Hastings, MN 55033-2343
(651) 438-4427

If the Grantee's Authorized Representative changes at any time during this Grant Agreement, the Grantee must immediately notify the Board.

Grant Agreement

1. **Terms of the Grant Agreement.**
 - 1.1. **Effective date:** The date the Board obtains all required signatures under Minn. Stat. § 16B.98, Subd. 5. **The Board will notify the Grantee when this Grant Agreement has been executed. The Grantee must not begin work under this Grant Agreement until it is executed.**
 - 1.2. **Expiration date:** **December 31, 2025**, or until all obligations have been satisfactorily fulfilled, whichever comes first.

- 1.3. **Survival of Terms:** The following clauses survive the expiration date or cancellation of this Grant Agreement: 7. Liability; 8. State Audits; 9. Government Data Practices; 11. Publicity and Endorsement; 12. Governing Law, Jurisdiction, and Venue; 14. Data Disclosure; and 19. Intellectual Property Rights.

2. **Grantee's Duties.**

The Grantee will comply with required grants management policies and procedures set forth through Minn. Stat. § 16B.97, Subd. 4(a)(1). The Grantee is responsible for the specific duties for the Program as follows:

- 2.1. **Implementation:** The Grantee will implement their work plan, which is incorporated into this Grant Agreement by reference and abide by the FY2022-23 Watershed-based Implementation Funding policy.
- 2.2. **Reporting:** All data and information provided in a Grantee's report shall be considered public.
- 2.2.1. The Grantee will submit an annual progress report to the Board by February 1 of each year on the status of Program implementation by the Grantee. Information provided must conform to the requirements and formats set by the Board. All individual grants over \$500,000 will also require a reporting expenditure by June 30 of each year.
- 2.2.2. The Grantee will prominently display on its website the Clean Water Legacy Logo and a link to the Legislative Coordinating Commission website.
- 2.2.3. Final Progress Report: The Grantee will submit a final progress report to the Board by February 1, 2026 or within 30 days of completion of the project, whichever occurs sooner. Information provided must conform to the requirements and formats set by the Board.
- 2.3. **Match:** The Grantee will ensure any local match requirement will be provided as stated in Grantee's approved work plan.

3. **Time.**

The Grantee must comply with all the time requirements described in this Grant Agreement. In the performance of this Grant Agreement, time is of the essence.

4. **Terms of Payment.**

- 4.1. Grant funds will be distributed in three installments: 1) The first payment of 50% will be distributed after the execution of the Grant Agreement. 2) The second payment of 40% will be distributed after the first payment of 50% has been expended and reporting requirements have been met. An eLINK Interim Financial Report that summarizes expenditures of the first 50% must be signed by the Grantee and approved by the Board. Selected grantees may be required at this point to submit documentation of the expenditures reported on the Interim Financial Report for verification. 3) The third payment of 10% will be distributed after the grant has been fully expended and reporting requirements are met. The final, 10% payment must be requested within 30 days of the expiration date of the Grant Agreement. An eLINK Final Financial Report that summarizes final expenditures for the grant must be signed by the Grantee and approved by the Board.
- 4.2. All costs must be incurred within the grant period.
- 4.3. All incurred costs must be paid before the amount of unspent funds is determined. Unspent grant funds must be returned within 30 days of the expiration date of the Grant Agreement.
- 4.4. The obligation of the State under this Grant Agreement will not exceed the amount listed above.
- 4.5. This grant includes an advance payment of 50 % of the grant's total amount. Advance payments allow the grantee to have adequate operating capital for start-up costs, ensure their financial commitment to landowners and contractors, and to better schedule work into the future.

5. **Conditions of Payment.**

- 5.1. All services provided by the Grantee under this Grant Agreement must be performed to the Board's satisfaction, as set forth in this Grant Agreement and in the Board-approved work plan for this Program. Compliance will be determined at the sole discretion of the State's Authorized Representative and in accordance with all applicable federal, State, and local laws, policies, ordinances, rules, FY 2022-2023 Clean Water Fund Watershed-based Implementation Funding Program Policy, and regulations. The Grantee will not receive payment for work found by the Board to be unsatisfactory or performed in violation of federal, State, or local law.
- 5.2. Minnesota Statutes § 103C.401 establishes the Board's obligation to assure Program compliance. If the noncompliance is severe, or if work under the Grant Agreement is found by the Board to be unsatisfactory or performed in violation of federal, State, or local law, the Board has the authority to require the repayment of grant funds or withhold payment on grants from other programs.

6. **Assignment, Amendments, and Waiver**

- 6.1. **Assignment.** The Grantee may neither assign nor transfer any rights or obligations under this Grant Agreement without the prior consent of the Board and a fully executed Assignment Agreement, executed and approved by the same parties who executed and approved this Grant Agreement, or their successors in office.

- 6.2. **Amendments.** Any amendments to this Grant Agreement must be in writing and will not be effective until it has been approved and executed by the same parties who approved and executed the original Grant Agreement, or their successors in office. Amendments must be executed prior to the expiration of the original Grant Agreement or any amendments thereto.
- 6.3. **Waiver.** If the Board fails to enforce any provision of this Grant Agreement, that failure does not waive the provision or its right to enforce it.

7. **Liability.**

The Grantee must indemnify, save, and hold the State, its agents, and employees harmless from any claims or causes of action, including attorney's fees incurred by the State, arising from the performance of this Grant Agreement by the Grantee or the Grantee's agents or employees. This clause will not be construed to bar any legal remedies the Grantee may have for the State's failure to fulfill its obligations under this Grant Agreement.

8. **State Audits.**

Under Minn. Stat. § 16B.98, Subd. 8, the Grantee's books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices of the Grantee or other party relevant to this Grant Agreement or transaction are subject to examination by the Board and/or the State Auditor or Legislative Auditor, as appropriate, for a minimum of six years from the end of this Grant Agreement, receipt and approval of all final reports, or the required period of time to satisfy all State and program retention requirements, whichever is later.

- 8.1. The books, records, documents, accounting procedures and practices of the Grantee and its designated local units of government and contractors relevant to this grant, may be examined at any time by the Board or Board's designee and are subject to verification. The Grantee or delegated local unit of government will maintain records relating to the receipt and expenditure of grant funds.

9. **Government Data Practices.**

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

10. **Workers' Compensation.**

The Grantee certifies that it is in compliance with Minn. Stat. § 176.181, Subd. 2, pertaining to workers' compensation insurance coverage. The Grantee's employees and agents will not be considered State employees. Any claims that may arise under the Minnesota Workers' Compensation Act on behalf of these employees and any claims made by any third party as a consequence of any act or omission on the part of these employees are in no way the State's obligation or responsibility.

11. **Publicity and Endorsement.**

- 11.1. **Publicity.** Any publicity regarding the subject matter of this Grant Agreement must identify the Board as the sponsoring agency. For purposes of this provision, publicity includes notices, informational pamphlets, press releases, research, reports, signs, and similar public notices prepared by or for the Grantee individually or jointly with others, or any subcontractors, with respect to the program, publications, or services provided resulting from this Grant Agreement.

- 11.2. **Endorsement.** The Grantee must not claim that the State endorses its products or services

12. **Governing Law, Jurisdiction, and Venue.**

Minnesota law, without regard to its choice-of-law provisions, governs this Grant Agreement. Venue for all legal proceedings out of this Grant Agreement, or its breach, must be in the appropriate State or federal court with competent jurisdiction in Ramsey County, Minnesota.

13. **Termination.**

- 13.1. The Board may cancel this Grant Agreement at any time, with or without cause, upon 30 days' written notice to the Grantee. Upon termination, the Grantee will be entitled to payment, determined on a pro rata basis, for services satisfactorily performed.
- 13.2. In the event of a lawsuit, an appropriation from a Clean Water Fund is canceled to the extent that a court determines that the appropriation unconstitutionally substitutes for a traditional source of funding.
- 13.3. The Board may immediately terminate this Grant Agreement if the Board finds that there has been a failure to comply with the provisions of this Grant Agreement, that reasonable progress has not been made or that the purposes for which the funds were granted have not been or will not be fulfilled. The Board may take action to protect the interests of the State of

Minnesota, including the refusal to disburse additional funds and requiring the return of all or part of the funds already disbursed.

14. Data Disclosure.

Under Minn. Stat. § 270C.65, Subd. 3, and other applicable law, the Grantee consents to disclosure of its social security number, federal employer tax identification number, and/or Minnesota tax identification number, already provided to the State, to federal and State tax agencies and State personnel involved in the payment of State obligations. These identification numbers may be used in the enforcement of federal and State tax laws which could result in action requiring the Grantee to file State tax returns and pay delinquent State tax liabilities, if any.

15. Prevailing Wage.

It is the responsibility of the Grantee or contractor to pay prevailing wage for projects that include construction work of \$25,000 or more, prevailing wage rules apply per Minn. Stat. §§ 177.41 through 177.44. All laborers and mechanics employed by grant recipients and subcontractors funded in whole or in part with these State funds shall be paid wages at a rate not less than those prevailing on projects of a character similar in the locality. Bid requests must state the project is subject to prevailing wage.

16. Municipal Contracting Law.

Per Minn. Stat. § 471.345, grantees that are municipalities as defined in Subd. 1 of this statute must follow the Uniform Municipal Contracting Law. Supporting documentation of the bidding process utilized to contract services must be included in the Grantee's financial records, including support documentation justifying a single/sole source bid, if applicable.

17. Constitutional Compliance.

It is the responsibility of the Grantee to comply with requirements of the Minnesota Constitution regarding the use of Clean Water Funds to supplement traditional sources of funding.

18. Signage.

It is the responsibility of the Grantee to comply with requirements for project signage as provided in Minnesota Laws 2010, Chapter 361, Article 3, Section 5(b) for Clean Water Fund projects.

19. Intellectual Property Rights.

The State owns all rights, title, and interest in all of the intellectual property rights, including copyrights, patents, trade secrets, trademarks, and service marks in the Works and Documents *created and paid for under this grant*. Works means all inventions, improvements, discoveries, (whether or not patentable), databases, computer programs, reports, notes, studies, photographs, negatives, designs, drawings, specifications, materials, tapes, and disks conceived, reduced to practice, created or originated by the Grantee, its employees, agents, and subcontractors, either individually or jointly with others in the performance of this grant. Work includes "Documents." Documents are the originals of any databases, computer programs, reports, notes, studies, photographs, negatives, designs, drawings, specifications, materials, tapes, disks, or other materials, whether in tangible or electronic forms, prepared by the Grantee, its employees, agents or subcontractors, in the performance of this grant. The Documents will be the exclusive property of the State and all such Documents must be immediately returned to the State by the Grantee upon completion or cancellation of this grant at the State's request. To the extent possible, those Works eligible for copyright protection under the United State Copyright Act will be deemed to be "works made for hire." The Grantee assigns all right, title, and interest it may have in the Works and the Documents to the State. The Grantee must, at the request of the State, execute all papers and perform all other acts necessary to transfer or record the State's ownership interest in the Works and Documents.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Grant Agreement to be duly executed intending to be bound thereby.

Approved:

Vermillion River Watershed JPO

Board of Water and Soil Resources

By: _____
(print)

(signature)

Title: _____

Date: _____

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

6c. Recommendation to Execute a Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Lakeville for the Middle Creek at Dodd Boulevard Stream Restoration Project

Meeting Date: 11/16/2022
Item Type: Regular-Action
Contact: Travis Thiel
Telephone: 952-891-7546
Prepared by: Travis Thiel
Reviewed by: N/A

N/A



PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

- Recommendation to execute a Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Lakeville for the Middle Creek at Dodd Boulevard Stream Restoration Project

SUMMARY

The Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) staff requests a recommendation to execute a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) with the City of Lakeville (City) to convey Watershed-Based Implementation Funding (WBIF) to the City for a Middle Creek at Dodd Boulevard stream restoration project.

In 2022, VRWJPO staff hosted convene meetings and compiled submittals from local communities for projects that could utilize WBIF. One of the projects that was approved by the convene meeting stakeholders for funding was a stream restoration project on Middle Creek in Lakeville. This project, and others in the watershed, were sent to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) for formal grant approval. This reach of Middle Creek, between Dodd Boulevard and Highview Avenue, has significant erosion and channel incision due to previous land practices. The project would address priority areas of erosion and channel incision, significantly reducing sediment loading to Middle Creek and the Vermillion River. This project would continue working upstream from previously completed Middle Creek channel work downstream of Highview Avenue.

The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources has notified VRWJPO staff that this project has been approved for WBIF funding. The estimated project cost is \$396,000. The WBIF grant would pay for up to \$360,000 in engineering and construction costs. The grant requires a ten percent local match. The City of Lakeville will provide up to \$36,000 in local match and the VRWJPO will provide grant administration services.

VRWJPO staff request a recommendation to execute a JPA (attachment A) with the City of Lakeville for the Middle Creek at Dodd Boulevard project in an amount not to exceed \$360,000.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACT

The VRWJPO will receive \$360,000 in grant revenues from the BWSR under the WBIF. The VRWJPO will pass through the WBIF grant funding to the City of Lakeville and will provide in-kind grant administration services.

RESOLUTION

6c. Recommendation to Execute a Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Lakeville for the Middle Creek at Dodd Boulevard Stream Restoration Project

WHEREAS, in 2022, the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) hosted convene meetings with stakeholders and compiled submittals that could utilize Watershed-Based Implementation Funding (WBIF) from the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR); and

WHEREAS, the City of Lakeville (City) submitted a stream restoration project on Middle Creek that would address bank erosion and channel incision; and

WHEREAS, the project will result in less sediment in Middle Creek and the Vermillion River, improving conditions and working toward removal of the Vermillion River from the impaired waters list; and

WHEREAS, the Middle Creek at Dodd Boulevard project (Project) is estimated to cost \$396,000; and

WHEREAS, the submittal from the City requested \$360,000 of WBIF for the Project; and

WHEREAS, the WBIF requires a ten percent local match and the City will provide up to \$36,000 in local match and the VRWJPO would provide grant administration services; and

WHEREAS, the BWSR approved the use of \$360,000 of WBIF for the Project; and

WHEREAS, the VRWJPO would be the recipient of the WBIF grant and would pass through funding to the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vermillion River Watershed Planning Commission recommend the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board authorizes its chair to execute a Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Lakeville in an amount not to exceed \$360,000 for the Middle Creek at Dodd Boulevard project; subject to approval as to form by the Dakota County Attorney's Office.

**JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT FOR
THE MIDDLE CREEK AT DODD BOULEVARD STREAM RESTORATION PROJECT
BETWEEN THE VERMILLION RIVER WATERSHED JOINT POWERS ORGANIZATION
AND
THE CITY OF LAKEVILLE
CITY PROJECT 22-60**

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 (VRWJPO) governed by the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board (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 Lakeville (City) is a governmental and political subdivision of the State of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, Middle Creek is a tributary to the Vermillion River; and

WHEREAS, the Vermillion River is identified on the EPA's 303d Impaired Waters List for total suspended solids; and

WHEREAS, Middle Creek has significant erosion that is contributing sediment to downstream reaches of Middle Creek and the Vermillion River; and

WHEREAS, restoration strategies were identified in the WRAPS report to identify and implement sediment reduction BMPs on public lands in the Middle Creek subwatershed; and

WHEREAS, reducing the sediment load in Middle Creek through channel restoration will improve conditions in Middle Creek and the Vermillion River and assist in removing the Vermillion River from the impaired waters list; and

WHEREAS, stream channel improvements were identified in the Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan's Implementation Section; and

WHEREAS, the estimated Project cost is \$396,000; and

WHEREAS, the VRWJPO was awarded a \$396,000 Watershed-Based Initiative Funding (Grant) from the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR); and

WHEREAS, the Project is proposing to use \$360,000 of the total BWSR Grant; and

WHEREAS, the Grant has a minimum match requirement equal to 10% of the amount of Grant monies received, either in the form of cash or in-kind services; and

WHEREAS, the City has included cash match of at least 10% of the Grant amount used for Project costs in their Capital Improvement Plan and will participate in the design and construction and related activities after applying Grant monies; and

WHEREAS, the VRWJPO, and as a result of this Joint Powers Agreement, the City will follow all applicable BWSR Grant policies and requirements that are relevant to each party.

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 Project cost-sharing obligations of the VRWJPO and the City.

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, 2025, 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 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 TECHNICAL AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

The VRWJPO and City will provide technical and quality assurance for the Project. Any engineer providing technical or quality assurance for the Project must be a licensed Professional Engineer in the State of Minnesota. The Project will be designed using appropriate practice standards for design, construction, operation, and maintenance. Appropriate practice standards from the United States Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service Field Office Technical Guide, Minnesota Stormwater Manual, or other scientifically appropriate and applicable standards can be used. Vegetative practices must follow the BWSR Board adopted Native Vegetation Establishment and Enhancement Guidelines. The Engineer providing technical and quality assurance will certify that the Project was installed or constructed in accordance with the applicable plans and specifications, including approved modifications, prior to authorization for payment by the VRWJPO. An as-built plan set will be provided to the VRWJPO by the Engineer immediately following Project completion as part of the required Project certification.

ARTICLE 6 PROJECT PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

The City is the lead agency for design and construction administration of this Project, effective upon execution of this Agreement by both parties. The VRWJPO and City shall approve the plans and specifications (Project Plans) prior to advertising for bids.

ARTICLE 7

PAYMENT

- 7.1** The City will administer the contracts and act as the paying agent for all payments to the contractor(s).
- 7.2** The Grant will reimburse project-related activities up to \$360,000 related to the engineering, permitting, bidding and construction of the Project (City eligible).
- 7.3** The Grant has a match requirement to the amount of monies received. The match shall be provided by the City in the amount of up to \$36,000 in cash match expended prior to release of Grant monies.
- 7.4** The VRWJPO will contribute in-kind grant administration services for the project.
- 7.5** The City's maximum eligible reimbursement is up to \$360,000.
- 7.6** No payment shall be made prior to approval of the Project Plans by both the VRWJPO and City.
- 7.7** The VRWJPO shall pay the City for engineering and construction costs on a reimbursement basis. Under the terms of the Grant, the VRWJPO will receive funds in the following disbursements: (a) 50% after execution of the Grant; (b) 40% after the first 50% has been expended and Grant reporting requirements are met; and (c) 10% after final Grant requirements are met. The VRWJPO will make progress payments to the City, if requested, on a reimbursement basis, contingent upon the VRWJPO's receipt of adequate Grant disbursements to make City requested payments. Ten percent (10%) of the Agreement maximum shall be withheld until the VRWJPO has verified that the Project has been installed in accordance with this Agreement and the Project Plans. All requests for payment shall be supported by itemized Project receipts and invoices determined by the VRWJPO to be practical and reasonable for completion of the Project.
- 7.8** The VRWJPO may refuse to pay claims not specifically authorized by this Agreement. Payment of a claim shall not preclude the VRWJPO from questioning the propriety of the claim. The VRWJPO reserves the right to be repaid for any overpayment or disallowed claim.
- 7.9** All services provided by the VRWJPO under the BWSR Grant Agreement, attached and incorporated herein as Exhibit 2, and services provided by the City to the VRWJPO through this Joint Powers Agreement must be performed to the State's satisfaction, as set forth in Exhibit 2 and in the BWSR approved work plan.,

ARTICLE 8 CITY OBLIGATIONS

- 8.1 AUTHORIZED PURPOSE.** The funds provided under the terms of this Agreement may only be used by the City for the payment of costs directly related to the Project.
- 8.2 CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS.** The Project shall be constructed in accordance with the Project Plans. The VRWJPO and City shall approve any modifications to the Project Plans.
- 8.3 CONSTRUCTION AND DESIGN FAILURES.** Any failure related to construction or design of the Project shall be addressed in the contracts with the construction firm or professional services firm.
- 8.4 RIGHT-OF-ENTRY.** The City hereby permits the VRWJPO, its employees, duly authorized representatives and agents to enter upon and have rights of ingress and egress over and access at reasonable times to the real property where the Project will be located for the purpose of inspecting the construction of the Project.

8.5 OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE. The City shall be responsible for on-going maintenance of the Project or will request shared responsibility with the VRWJPO for on-going maintenance of the Project upon completion for a minimum of 10 years unless necessitated by a failure due to Acts of God or Force majeure. On an annual basis, the VRWJPO and City will have within their collective Capital Improvement Plans 20 percent of the final project construction cost for repairs or project maintenance to ensure acceptable performance for 10 years from the time of project completion. Operation and Maintenance will follow the schedule, procedures, and actions identified in the Operation and Maintenance Plan (Exhibit 1).

8.6 COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS/STANDARDS. The City shall abide by all federal, state, or local laws, statutes, ordinances, rules, and regulations in constructing the Project, including obtaining all necessary permits to construct the Project.

8.7 PUBLICITY. The City hereby permits the VRWJPO to take and disclose photographs of the Project for use in publications or promotional material or on its website to highlight the VRWJPO's programs. The City shall appropriately acknowledge the funding provided by the VRWJPO, the State of Minnesota, and the Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment 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 9 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 10 AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES AND LIAISONS

10.1 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: Justin Miller, City Administrator, or successor
City of Lakeville
20195 Holyoke Avenue
Lakeville, MN 55044
Telephone: (952) 985-4400

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.

10.2 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: McKenzie Cafferty
Environmental Resources Manager
Telephone: (952) 985-4520
Email: mcafferty@lakevillemn.gov

ARTICLE 11 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 12 TERMINATION

12.1 IN GENERAL. Either party may terminate this Agreement for cause by giving seven days' written notice or without cause by giving 30 days' written notice, of its intent to terminate, to the other party. 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 by the City in the event of a default by the VRWJPO. 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.

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

ARTICLE 13 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 this Agreement shall be venued in the County of Dakota, State of Minnesota. This section shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 14 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 15 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 16 GOVERNMENT DATA PRACTICES

The City and the VRWJPO must comply with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minn. Stat. Ch. 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 17 SURVIVABILITY

The provisions of articles 8.3 (Construction and Design Failures), 8.5 (Operation and Maintenance), 9 (Indemnification) and 16 (Government Data Practices) survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 18 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 may include acts of God, 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 LAKEVILLE

By _____
Douglas P. Anderson or successor, Mayor
Date of Signature: _____

By _____
Ann Orlofsky, City Clerk
Date of Signature: _____

**VERMILLION RIVER WATERSHED
JOINT POWERS ORGANIZATION**

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

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Assistant Dakota County Attorney
Date of Signature: _____
VRW Res. No. _____
KS-

**FY 2023 STATE OF MINNESOTA
BOARD OF WATER and SOIL RESOURCES
WATERSHED-BASED IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING
GRANT AGREEMENT**

Vendor:	0000197289
PO#:	3000015494

This Grant Agreement is between the State of Minnesota, acting through its Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) and **Vermillion River Watershed JPO, 1431 Erickson Drive Hastings Minnesota 55033** (Grantee).

Fiscal Agent: Dakota County

<i>This grant is for the following Grant Programs :</i>		
C23-5040	FY2022-2023 WBIF Vermillion River Watershed JPO	\$396,000
Total Grant Awarded: \$396,000		

Recitals

1. The Laws of Minnesota 2019, 1st Special Session, Chapter 2, Article 2, Section 7(a), and the Laws of Minnesota, 2021, 1st Special Session, Chapter 1, Article 2, Sec. 6(a) appropriated Clean Water Funds (CWF) to the Board for the FY 2022-2023 Watershed-based Implementation Funding Program.
2. The Board adopted the FY 2022-2023 Clean Water Fund Watershed-based Implementation Funding Program Policy and authorized the allocation of funds for the FY 2022-2023 Watershed-based Implementation Funding Program. through Board Order #21-51.
3. The Grantee has submitted a Board-approved work plan for this Program which is incorporated into this Grant Agreement by reference.
4. The Grantee represents that it is duly qualified and agrees to perform all services described in this Grant Agreement to the satisfaction of the Board.
5. As a condition of the grant, Grantee agrees to minimize administration costs.

Authorized Representative

The State's Authorized Representative is James Adkinson, Grants Coordinator, BWSR, 520 Lafayette Road North, Saint Paul, MN 55155, 651-539-2588, or his successor, and has the responsibility to monitor the Grantee's performance and the authority to accept the services and performance provided under this Grant Agreement.

The Grantee's Authorized Representative is:

Mike Slavik, Chair
Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization
1590 Highway 55
Hastings, MN 55033-2343
(651) 438-4427

If the Grantee's Authorized Representative changes at any time during this Grant Agreement, the Grantee must immediately notify the Board.

Grant Agreement

1. **Terms of the Grant Agreement.**
 - 1.1. **Effective date:** The date the Board obtains all required signatures under Minn. Stat. § 16B.98, Subd. 5. **The Board will notify the Grantee when this Grant Agreement has been executed. The Grantee must not begin work under this Grant Agreement until it is executed.**
 - 1.2. **Expiration date:** **December 31, 2025**, or until all obligations have been satisfactorily fulfilled, whichever comes first.

- 1.3. **Survival of Terms:** The following clauses survive the expiration date or cancellation of this Grant Agreement: 7. Liability; 8. State Audits; 9. Government Data Practices; 11. Publicity and Endorsement; 12. Governing Law, Jurisdiction, and Venue; 14. Data Disclosure; and 19. Intellectual Property Rights.

2. **Grantee's Duties.**

The Grantee will comply with required grants management policies and procedures set forth through Minn. Stat. § 16B.97, Subd. 4(a)(1). The Grantee is responsible for the specific duties for the Program as follows:

- 2.1. **Implementation:** The Grantee will implement their work plan, which is incorporated into this Grant Agreement by reference and abide by the FY2022-23 Watershed-based Implementation Funding policy.
- 2.2. **Reporting:** All data and information provided in a Grantee's report shall be considered public.
- 2.2.1. The Grantee will submit an annual progress report to the Board by February 1 of each year on the status of Program implementation by the Grantee. Information provided must conform to the requirements and formats set by the Board. All individual grants over \$500,000 will also require a reporting expenditure by June 30 of each year.
- 2.2.2. The Grantee will prominently display on its website the Clean Water Legacy Logo and a link to the Legislative Coordinating Commission website.
- 2.2.3. Final Progress Report: The Grantee will submit a final progress report to the Board by February 1, 2026 or within 30 days of completion of the project, whichever occurs sooner. Information provided must conform to the requirements and formats set by the Board.
- 2.3. **Match:** The Grantee will ensure any local match requirement will be provided as stated in Grantee's approved work plan.

3. **Time.**

The Grantee must comply with all the time requirements described in this Grant Agreement. In the performance of this Grant Agreement, time is of the essence.

4. **Terms of Payment.**

- 4.1. Grant funds will be distributed in three installments: 1) The first payment of 50% will be distributed after the execution of the Grant Agreement. 2) The second payment of 40% will be distributed after the first payment of 50% has been expended and reporting requirements have been met. An eLINK Interim Financial Report that summarizes expenditures of the first 50% must be signed by the Grantee and approved by the Board. Selected grantees may be required at this point to submit documentation of the expenditures reported on the Interim Financial Report for verification. 3) The third payment of 10% will be distributed after the grant has been fully expended and reporting requirements are met. The final, 10% payment must be requested within 30 days of the expiration date of the Grant Agreement. An eLINK Final Financial Report that summarizes final expenditures for the grant must be signed by the Grantee and approved by the Board.
- 4.2. All costs must be incurred within the grant period.
- 4.3. All incurred costs must be paid before the amount of unspent funds is determined. Unspent grant funds must be returned within 30 days of the expiration date of the Grant Agreement.
- 4.4. The obligation of the State under this Grant Agreement will not exceed the amount listed above.
- 4.5. This grant includes an advance payment of 50 % of the grant's total amount. Advance payments allow the grantee to have adequate operating capital for start-up costs, ensure their financial commitment to landowners and contractors, and to better schedule work into the future.

5. **Conditions of Payment.**

- 5.1. All services provided by the Grantee under this Grant Agreement must be performed to the Board's satisfaction, as set forth in this Grant Agreement and in the Board-approved work plan for this Program. Compliance will be determined at the sole discretion of the State's Authorized Representative and in accordance with all applicable federal, State, and local laws, policies, ordinances, rules, FY 2022-2023 Clean Water Fund Watershed-based Implementation Funding Program Policy, and regulations. The Grantee will not receive payment for work found by the Board to be unsatisfactory or performed in violation of federal, State, or local law.
- 5.2. Minnesota Statutes § 103C.401 establishes the Board's obligation to assure Program compliance. If the noncompliance is severe, or if work under the Grant Agreement is found by the Board to be unsatisfactory or performed in violation of federal, State, or local law, the Board has the authority to require the repayment of grant funds or withhold payment on grants from other programs.

6. **Assignment, Amendments, and Waiver**

- 6.1. **Assignment.** The Grantee may neither assign nor transfer any rights or obligations under this Grant Agreement without the prior consent of the Board and a fully executed Assignment Agreement, executed and approved by the same parties who executed and approved this Grant Agreement, or their successors in office.

- 6.2. **Amendments.** Any amendments to this Grant Agreement must be in writing and will not be effective until it has been approved and executed by the same parties who approved and executed the original Grant Agreement, or their successors in office. Amendments must be executed prior to the expiration of the original Grant Agreement or any amendments thereto.
- 6.3. **Waiver.** If the Board fails to enforce any provision of this Grant Agreement, that failure does not waive the provision or its right to enforce it.

7. **Liability.**

The Grantee must indemnify, save, and hold the State, its agents, and employees harmless from any claims or causes of action, including attorney's fees incurred by the State, arising from the performance of this Grant Agreement by the Grantee or the Grantee's agents or employees. This clause will not be construed to bar any legal remedies the Grantee may have for the State's failure to fulfill its obligations under this Grant Agreement.

8. **State Audits.**

Under Minn. Stat. § 16B.98, Subd. 8, the Grantee's books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices of the Grantee or other party relevant to this Grant Agreement or transaction are subject to examination by the Board and/or the State Auditor or Legislative Auditor, as appropriate, for a minimum of six years from the end of this Grant Agreement, receipt and approval of all final reports, or the required period of time to satisfy all State and program retention requirements, whichever is later.

- 8.1. The books, records, documents, accounting procedures and practices of the Grantee and its designated local units of government and contractors relevant to this grant, may be examined at any time by the Board or Board's designee and are subject to verification. The Grantee or delegated local unit of government will maintain records relating to the receipt and expenditure of grant funds.

9. **Government Data Practices.**

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

10. **Workers' Compensation.**

The Grantee certifies that it is in compliance with Minn. Stat. § 176.181, Subd. 2, pertaining to workers' compensation insurance coverage. The Grantee's employees and agents will not be considered State employees. Any claims that may arise under the Minnesota Workers' Compensation Act on behalf of these employees and any claims made by any third party as a consequence of any act or omission on the part of these employees are in no way the State's obligation or responsibility.

11. **Publicity and Endorsement.**

- 11.1. **Publicity.** Any publicity regarding the subject matter of this Grant Agreement must identify the Board as the sponsoring agency. For purposes of this provision, publicity includes notices, informational pamphlets, press releases, research, reports, signs, and similar public notices prepared by or for the Grantee individually or jointly with others, or any subcontractors, with respect to the program, publications, or services provided resulting from this Grant Agreement.

- 11.2. **Endorsement.** The Grantee must not claim that the State endorses its products or services

12. **Governing Law, Jurisdiction, and Venue.**

Minnesota law, without regard to its choice-of-law provisions, governs this Grant Agreement. Venue for all legal proceedings out of this Grant Agreement, or its breach, must be in the appropriate State or federal court with competent jurisdiction in Ramsey County, Minnesota.

13. **Termination.**

- 13.1. The Board may cancel this Grant Agreement at any time, with or without cause, upon 30 days' written notice to the Grantee. Upon termination, the Grantee will be entitled to payment, determined on a pro rata basis, for services satisfactorily performed.
- 13.2. In the event of a lawsuit, an appropriation from a Clean Water Fund is canceled to the extent that a court determines that the appropriation unconstitutionally substitutes for a traditional source of funding.
- 13.3. The Board may immediately terminate this Grant Agreement if the Board finds that there has been a failure to comply with the provisions of this Grant Agreement, that reasonable progress has not been made or that the purposes for which the funds were granted have not been or will not be fulfilled. The Board may take action to protect the interests of the State of

Minnesota, including the refusal to disburse additional funds and requiring the return of all or part of the funds already disbursed.

14. Data Disclosure.

Under Minn. Stat. § 270C.65, Subd. 3, and other applicable law, the Grantee consents to disclosure of its social security number, federal employer tax identification number, and/or Minnesota tax identification number, already provided to the State, to federal and State tax agencies and State personnel involved in the payment of State obligations. These identification numbers may be used in the enforcement of federal and State tax laws which could result in action requiring the Grantee to file State tax returns and pay delinquent State tax liabilities, if any.

15. Prevailing Wage.

It is the responsibility of the Grantee or contractor to pay prevailing wage for projects that include construction work of \$25,000 or more, prevailing wage rules apply per Minn. Stat. §§ 177.41 through 177.44. All laborers and mechanics employed by grant recipients and subcontractors funded in whole or in part with these State funds shall be paid wages at a rate not less than those prevailing on projects of a character similar in the locality. Bid requests must state the project is subject to prevailing wage.

16. Municipal Contracting Law.

Per Minn. Stat. § 471.345, grantees that are municipalities as defined in Subd. 1 of this statute must follow the Uniform Municipal Contracting Law. Supporting documentation of the bidding process utilized to contract services must be included in the Grantee's financial records, including support documentation justifying a single/sole source bid, if applicable.

17. Constitutional Compliance.

It is the responsibility of the Grantee to comply with requirements of the Minnesota Constitution regarding the use of Clean Water Funds to supplement traditional sources of funding.

18. Signage.

It is the responsibility of the Grantee to comply with requirements for project signage as provided in Minnesota Laws 2010, Chapter 361, Article 3, Section 5(b) for Clean Water Fund projects.

19. Intellectual Property Rights.

The State owns all rights, title, and interest in all of the intellectual property rights, including copyrights, patents, trade secrets, trademarks, and service marks in the Works and Documents *created and paid for under this grant*. Works means all inventions, improvements, discoveries, (whether or not patentable), databases, computer programs, reports, notes, studies, photographs, negatives, designs, drawings, specifications, materials, tapes, and disks conceived, reduced to practice, created or originated by the Grantee, its employees, agents, and subcontractors, either individually or jointly with others in the performance of this grant. Work includes "Documents." Documents are the originals of any databases, computer programs, reports, notes, studies, photographs, negatives, designs, drawings, specifications, materials, tapes, disks, or other materials, whether in tangible or electronic forms, prepared by the Grantee, its employees, agents or subcontractors, in the performance of this grant. The Documents will be the exclusive property of the State and all such Documents must be immediately returned to the State by the Grantee upon completion or cancellation of this grant at the State's request. To the extent possible, those Works eligible for copyright protection under the United State Copyright Act will be deemed to be "works made for hire." The Grantee assigns all right, title, and interest it may have in the Works and the Documents to the State. The Grantee must, at the request of the State, execute all papers and perform all other acts necessary to transfer or record the State's ownership interest in the Works and Documents.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Grant Agreement to be duly executed intending to be bound thereby.

Approved:

Vermillion River Watershed JPO

Board of Water and Soil Resources

By: _____
(print)

(signature)

Title: _____

Date: _____

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____



Operation and Maintenance Plan

FY22-23 WBIF Middle Creek at Dodd Boulevard Streambank and Grade Stabilization Project

Grant Project Summary and Maintenance Agreement

The Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) is partnering with the City of Lakeville (City) to repair eroded reaches of Middle Creek that cause increased turbidity and impact biotic populations in Middle Creek and the Vermillion River. This project will directly repair areas of erosion and grade instability with stream stabilization practices. These improvements will result in significantly reduced erosion and downcutting of the channel that will lower stream turbidity levels and create conditions for healthier and more diverse biotic populations.

As described in the project work plan submitted to the Board of Soil and Water Resources (BWSR), operation and maintenance of the practice will be managed by incorporating it into the City's Capital Improvement Program maintenance plan for a minimum of 10 years. The City will request maintenance assistance from the VRWJPO as needed to address repairs and maintenance for the project. Access to the project location is guaranteed because it is located on City land (i.e., outlots and parkland) and is connected to City roads.

Inspection Schedule

This project will be inspected by City and/or VRWJPO staff once per year unless complaints or other notifications require an inspection more frequently, or if precipitation events of large size or high intensity occur near the project site. The inspection will evaluate the initial stabilization of the project, sufficient growth of planted vegetation, erosion beyond what would be considered geomorphologically acceptable, stability of grade control features, and to ensure that the project is allowing the creek to function as intended through the design.

Inspection Procedure

Inspections of the practice are anticipated to follow this procedure, but the procedure may be edited based on final construction or results of ongoing inspections. The City and VRWJPO are utilizing staff experience from other stream restoration and stormwater improvement projects to inform the procedure.

1. Visually verify growth of planted vegetation. If deficiency exists in vegetative growth, reseeding, controlled application of herbicides may be necessary to achieve acceptable growth, and periodic mowing may also be needed for establishing vegetation.
2. Inspect grade control features to ensure that the features are intact. Verify that water is not circumventing the feature (i.e., cutting around or below) and allowing the migration of the head cut further upstream. If a head cut has managed to circumvent or compromise a grade control feature, action will be taken to implement a grade control feature upstream of the head cut to prevent further head cut migration.
3. Ensure that stormwater outfalls discharging to the stream channel are stable, provide adequate energy dissipation, and are not causing excessive erosion to stream banks.
4. Inspect the stream channel for debris, deadfall trees, or other stream blocking or materials that redirect the flow of water toward a streambank that results in excessive erosion. If these types of materials are found and are causing excessive erosion, they will be removed promptly.
5. Visually inspect the banks for failure of any slope treatments including: destabilization of boulder and rock material, destabilization of wood toe material, and sloughing or erosion of soils and surface vegetation. Make repairs to any bank issues observed as necessary and ensure vegetation is adequate to prevent erosion.
6. Visually inspect areas with significant sediment deposition and investigate if the potential source of sediment has resulted from the streambank and grade stabilization project. If the source of sediment is from the project and appears to be a result of site-specific failure, the source of the failure should be promptly fixed. If the sediment deposition is impeding flow or redirecting flow such that it is compromising the stability of the stream channels, the deposition will be removed and a long-term solution to addressing sediment deposition in that location will be developed and implemented.

6d. Approve the 2023 Vermillion River Watershed Planning Commission Meeting Dates

Meeting Date: 11/16/2022
Item Type: Regular-Action
Contact: Mark Zabel
Telephone: 952-891-7011
Prepared by: Mark Zabel
Reviewed by: N/A

N/A

**PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED**

- Approve the 2023 Vermillion River Watershed Planning Commission (WPC) meeting dates

SUMMARY

In 2022, the WPC meetings were held on the second Wednesday of each month. Meetings transitioned from hybrid meetings to in-person meetings taking place in Conference Room A of the Dakota County Extension and Conservation Center. It is proposed that the 2023 WPC meetings continue the same schedule as 2022. Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday and because the Joint Powers Board (JPB) meets on December 7, 2022, the November meeting is scheduled for the third Wednesday of the month. Traditionally, there is no December meeting of the WPC.

The 2023 VRWPC proposed meeting schedule is as follows:

- January 11
- February 8
- March 8
- April 12
- May 10
- June 14
- July 12
- August 9
- September 13
- October 11
- November 15

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACT

None

RESOLUTION

6d. Approve the 2023 Vermillion River Watershed Planning Commission Meeting Dates

WHEREAS, the Vermillion River Watershed Planning Commission (VRWPC) is required by its Bylaws to hold regular meetings; and

WHEREAS, regularly scheduled meetings of the VRWPC are required to complete its business in a timely and responsible manner.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in calendar year 2023, the VRWPC will meet on the second Wednesday of the month (except in November and December) at 4:30 p.m., according to the following schedule:

- January 11
- February 8
- March 8
- April 12
- May 10
- June 14
- July 12
- August 9
- September 13
- October 11
- November 15

6e. Vermillion River Watershed Planning Commission Member Terms and Status

Meeting Date: 11/16/2022
Item Type: Information
Contact: Mark Zabel
Telephone: 952-891-7011
Prepared by: Mark Zabel



PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

- Presentation on the current member terms and their status coming at the end of the calendar year

SUMMARY

Members of the Vermillion River Watershed Planning Commission (WPC) are appointed to serve three-year terms by the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board (JPB). Appointed members of the WPC are eligible to serve two consecutive terms. Members are sometimes appointed to an open incumbent seat on the WPC completing the previous incumbent's existing term. In such cases fulfilling the previous incumbent term is not counted as a term of the newly appointed member thus retaining their eligibility to serve up to two full three-year terms in addition to completing the previous incumbent term.

There are nine citizen members appointed to the WPC, eight from Dakota County and one from Scott County. Requirements to be eligible to serve on the WPC stipulate commission members must be, and remain, residents of the watershed and the County from which they are appointed. WPC members terms are staggered such that three members' terms expire at the end of any given calendar year. When the three members' terms expire those with remaining eligibility must reapply to the VRWJPB for appointment if they wish to continue to serve. Seats for those whose eligibility is completed become vacant and open for a new appointee. Members who complete their eligibility can return to the WPC by applying to a future open seat but are not allowed to continue in their existing position.

At the end of this calendar year, 2022, terms for Joshua Borton, Chuck Clanton, and Mark Henry are expiring (see Attachment – WPC Term Spreadsheet). Joshua Borton has eligibility to serve an additional term and will need to reapply if he wishes to serve the additional term. Chuck Clanton and Mark Henry have served to the end of their eligibility. We would like to recognize Mark (current Chair) and Chuck (current vice-Chair) for their service to the VRWJPO and Dakota County during their tenure on the WPC. Chuck was appointed for his current service on the WPC on July 23, 2015. His perspective as a farmer and conservationist, as well as his expertise as a retired University of Minnesota professor, is well appreciated on the WPC. Mark was appointed to serve on the WPC on February 27, 2014. Mark has always been willing to share his knowledge and sentiment as a long-time conservation-oriented resident of the watershed, which is also well appreciated. Thank you both and all members for your service.

WPC MEMBER TERMS

	Previous Incumbent Term End	1st Term Appointment Date	1st Term Expiration Date	2nd Term Expiration Date*	Eligibility Ends**
Linda Larson	12/31/2021	9/22/2022	12/31/2024	12/31/2027	12/31/2030
Mark Henry	12/31/2013	2/27/2014	12/31/2016	12/31/2019	12/31/2022
Chuck Clanton	12/31/2016	7/23/2015	12/31/2016	12/31/2019	12/31/2022
Andrew Riesgraf	12/31/2020	1/28/2021	12/31/2023	12/31/2026	12/31/2026
James Kotz	12/31/2020	1/28/2021	12/31/2023	12/31/2026	12/31/2026
Tony Wotzka	12/31/2015	3/26/2016	12/31/2018	12/31/2021	12/31/2024
Carolyn Miller	12/31/2018	2/23/2017	12/31/2018	12/31/2021	12/31/2024
Joshua Borton	12/31/2019	7/27/2017	12/31/2019	12/31/2022	12/31/2025
Steve Hamrick	12/31/2017	6/25/2020	12/31/2020	12/31/2023	12/31/2026

*If a member chooses to continue serving on the VRWPC for a second term, this would be his or her term end date

** When appointed to finish out the term of an existing position on the WPC, the appointee is eligible to finish that term and serve two full three year terms in addition.

Eligibility reflects the full period that could be served by a current incumbent or an appointee to a currently vacant position.

6f. Options for Consideration for Changes to Watershed Planning Commission Membership and Scheduling

Meeting Date: 11/16/2022
Item Type: Information
Contact: Mark Zabel
Telephone: 952-891-7011
Prepared by: Mark Zabel



PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

- Presentation and discussion of several options for consideration for changes to Watershed Planning Commission membership and scheduling

SUMMARY

The empowering Joint Powers Agreement forming the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) stipulates the membership for the Vermillion River Watershed Planning Commission as follows:

“B. Membership. The WPC shall consist of nine members who are residents of the Vermillion River Watershed. One shall be from Scott County and eight shall be from Dakota County. WPC members shall be appointed to three-year staggered terms. WPC members must be and remain residents of the watershed and the County from which they were appointed. WPC members are limited to serving two consecutive terms.”

Minnesota Statutes 103D.331 defines advisory committee membership for watershed districts as follows:

“Subd. 2. Members. (a) The advisory committee consists of at least five members. If practicable, the advisory committee members selected should include a representative from each soil and water conservation district, a representative of each county, a member of a sporting organization, and a member of a farm organization. Other advisory committee members may be appointed at the discretion of the managers. The members must be residents of the watershed district, except representatives from soil and water conservation districts and counties, and serve at the pleasure of the managers.

(b) In addition, the managers may appoint other interested and technical persons who may or may not reside within the watershed district to serve at the pleasure of the managers.”

A change to the membership structure would require an amendment to the empowering Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) for the VRWJPO. An amendment to the empowering JPA could include representation for all or portions of representation described in Minnesota Statutes 103D.331.

Some things to consider for restructuring WPC membership include:

- Overall number of members
- Number of citizen/resident members (current type)
- Number of members representing government agencies
- Number of members representing specific interest groups
- Number of other membership interests (land ownership/management, business ownership/management., etc.)

Some other considerations that may make membership on the WPC more attractive without amending the empowering JPA could be:

- Changing the meeting date/time
- Changing the meeting frequency
- Changing the meeting location
- Other

This is an informational item to spur discussion and begin an exploration toward improving membership recruitment and potentially improving overall effectiveness and efficiency in the work of the WPC. We welcome all ideas relevant to this development and encourage everyone to share their thoughts and opinions.

6g. Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources Performance Review and Assistance Program Report

Meeting Date: 11/16/2022
Item Type: Regular-Information
Contact: Mark Zabel
Telephone: 952-891-7011
Prepared by: Mark Zabel



PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

- Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources Performance Review and Assistance Program Report.

SUMMARY

The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) implements the Performance Review and Assistance Program (PRAP) as a means of evaluating performance of local units of government responsible for the conservation of water and related land resources. The PRAP was authorized through State legislation adopted into law in 2007 (Minnesota Statutes 103B.102). An organizational assessment is performed with a local government unit (LGU) at least once every ten years evaluating operational effectiveness, partner relationships, and achievement in the implementation of LGU planning efforts (watershed management plan).

The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources has completed a PRAP review of the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization. VRWJPO staff will present report information including findings, conclusions and recommendations for consideration by the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACT

None.

Supporting Documents:

Attachment A: Performance Review and Assistance Program (PRAP) Report for the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization

Previous Board Action(s):

- ;

RESOLUTION**6g. Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources Performance Review and Assistance Program Draft Report**

Information only.

Organizational Assessment

Vermillion River

Watershed Management Organization

Local Government Unit Review

Final Report

September 30th, 2022

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

520 Lafayette Road North

St. Paul, MN 55155

651-296-0768

www.bwsr.state.mn.us

This page was intentionally left blank.

Table of Contents

Introduction	1
Executive Summary	2
Findings	4
Findings Part 1: Planning	4
Findings Part 2: Performance Standards	5
Findings Part 3: Internal and External Surveys	6
Internal Survey: Self-Assessment by VRWJPO staff and board members	6
External Survey: Assessment of VRWJPO by Partners	8
General Conclusions	9
Commendations	9
Action Items	9
Recommendations	10
LGU Comments and BWSR Responses	11
Appendix A. Plan Accomplishments	12
Appendix B. Performance Standards	22
Appendix C. Summary of External Survey Results	23
Appendix D. Comment Letter	27
Appendix E. Program Data	28

This report has been prepared for **Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization** by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) in partial fulfillment of the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.102, Subd.3.

Prepared by Jennifer Mocol-Johnson (jennifer.mocol-johnson@state.mn.us; 507-344-2820).

BWSR is reducing printing and mailing costs by using the Internet to distribute reports and information to wider audiences. This report is available in alternative formats upon request.

Organizational Assessment Report Summary	Vermillion River Watershed Joint Power Organization
<p>What is a PRAP Performance Review?</p> <p>The Board of Water and Soil Resources supports Minnesota's counties, watershed districts, watershed management organizations, and soil and water conservation districts that deliver water and related land resource management projects and programs. In 2007, the Board established a program (PRAP) to systematically review the performance of these local units of government to ensure their effective operation. Each year BWSR staff conduct routine reviews of several of these local conservation delivery entities. This document reports the results of one of those reviews.</p>	<p><u>Key Findings and Conclusions</u></p> <p>The Vermillion River Watershed JPO is commended for their education/outreach efforts, having strong technical capacity, and implementing projects within their Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan.</p> <p>The results of the performance standards checklist indicate the WD is compliant with 13 of 13 basic performance standards.</p> <p><u>Resource Outcomes</u></p> <p>The Vermillion River Watershed JPO adopted the 2016-2025 Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan which was reviewed in this process</p> <p><u>Action Items:</u></p> <p>Vermillion River Watershed JPO has no action items to address</p> <p><u>Commendations</u></p> <p>The Vermillion River Watershed JPO is commended for meeting 10 out of 12 High Performance Standards (applicable to the WD)</p> <p><u>Recommendations</u></p> <p>Recommendation 1: Create/Distribute Customer Service Survey to implementers</p> <p>Recommendation 2: Develop orientation and continuing education plan for board members and staff and keep records of trainings attended</p> <p>Recommendation 3 – Evaluate Needs of Partner Municipalities</p>

Introduction

This is an informational document prepared by the staff of the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) for the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization. It reports the results of a routine performance review of this organization's water management plan implementation and overall organizational effectiveness in delivery of conservation projects and programs. The findings and recommendations are intended to give local government units (LGUs) constructive feedback they can use to enhance their joint and individual delivery of conservation services.

For this review, BWSR has analyzed the LGU's reported accomplishments of their management plan action items, determined the organization's compliance with BWSR's Level I and II performance standards, and surveyed members of the organization and their partner organizations for feedback.

This routine evaluation is neither a financial audit nor an investigation and it does not replace or supersede other types of governmental review of local government unit operations.

While the performance review reported herein has been conducted under the authority granted to BWSR by Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103B.102, this is a staff report and has not been reviewed or approved by the BWSR board members.

What is PRAP?

PRAP is an acronym for BWSR's Performance Review and Assistance Program. Authorized by the 2007 Minnesota legislature, the purpose of PRAP is to support local delivery of conservation and water management by periodically reviewing and assessing the performance of local units of government that deliver those services. These include soil and water conservation districts, watershed districts, watershed management organizations, and the local water management functions of counties.

The PRAP program includes an Annual Statewide Summary, and three types of assessments. Depending on the program mandates and needs of the local government unit, review types include both routine and specialized. The Annual Statewide Summary annually tabulates all local governmental units' compliance with basic planning and reporting requirements.

Organizational Assessments, conducted by BWSR once every ten years for each local government unit, evaluate operational effectiveness, partner relationships, and whether the LGU has achieved county water plan, watershed management plan, and/or SWCD comprehensive plan implementation goals. This assessment also evaluates compliance with performance standards, and the Wetland Conservation Act, where applicable.

Watershed-based Assessments are routine reviews conducted with partnerships of local governments working together to implement comprehensive watershed management plans (CWMPs) developed through the One Watershed One Plan Program. This review evaluates progress on plan implementation and analyzes partners working relationships.

Special Assessments are conducted with LGUs experiencing significant obstacles or performance deficiencies and may include BWSR Board action to assign penalties as authorized by statute.

More details can be found on the BWSR PRAP webpage.

Executive Summary

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) staff met with the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) administrator to discuss an evaluation of the water management function of the VRWJPO in July 2022. The findings in this document represent the data collected over the course of approximately 60 days of review and the recommendations are a result of the observations and conclusions we have made based on that data. There are four distinct parts of an Organizational Assessment conducted via the BWSR Performance Review and Assistance Program (PRAP) as authorized by M.S. 103B.102, the VRWJPO was subject to only three as the VRWJPO does not implement the Wetlands Conservation Act.

Part 1: Evaluation of the progress made by water management entities toward goals stated in their approved and adopted local water management plans.

Part 2: Review of the entities' adherence to Level I and II standards as directed by statutes, policies, and guidelines via a performance standards certification checklist.

Part 3: Board member and staff surveys as well as partner surveys to assess internal and external perceptions of performance, communication, partnerships, and delivery of conservation programs and customer service.

Part 4 (not applicable): Wetlands Conservation Act (WCA) spot check to evaluate WCA program performance and delivery.

This Organizational Assessment of the Vermillion River Watershed JPO did not include Part 4. The Wetland Conservation Act Spot Check (Part 4) does not apply to the VRWJPO as they have no authority under the Minnesota Wetlands Conservation Act.

During an Organizational Assessment, BWSR staff thoroughly review data and feedback from an organization and their partners and develop a list of Actions and Recommendations to help guide the water management entities in their continued growth of program delivery. We do this to ensure they continue to meet basic standards as established in statutes and policy. We also develop a list of commendations for the great work these entities do as our partners in delivering conservation across the varied landscapes of Minnesota. Each of the above listed parts of the review are described in the findings section of this document, and the completed documents can be found in the notated appendices for further review. This report will be summarized in conjunction with other PRAP Annual Statewide Summary and Organizational Assessment reports collected in 2022 to be used as the official BWSR PRAP report delivered to the legislature as part of our reporting requirement under M.S. 103B.102.

Key Findings and Conclusions

The Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) is commended for their work in providing education and outreach, having strong technical capacity, and implementing projects within the watershed. The board and staff are viewed favorably by their partners and have made significant progress toward executing the activities within their watershed management plan.

Ongoing water management challenges in the metro area have created the necessity to forge stronger working relationships among partners to improve local water management within the watershed.

The VRWJPO is commended for meeting all applicable basic performance standards including completing required annual reports, maintaining an updated management plan, and keeping a dedicated website up to-date on projects and programs. They are also commended for meeting most high-performance standards, including monitoring hydrologic trends and maintaining cooperative partnerships.

Summary of Recommendations

The following recommendations were developed after analyzing the data and information collected during this review. BWSR relies heavily on our relationships with local government staff and representatives as well as the input of partners and board members to make sure we provide recommendations that are relevant, timely, and helpful for the LGUs to implement and improve their operations. The full text of the recommendations can be found in the conclusions section of this report.

Recommendation 1 – Create/Distribute Customer Service Survey to implementers

Recommendation 2: Develop orientation and continuing education plan for board members and staff and keep records of trainings attended

Recommendation 3 – Evaluate Needs of Partner Municipalities

Findings

This section describes what BWSR learned about the performance of the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) via the various collection methods as outlined below.

Findings Part 1: Planning

The findings in this section describe the Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan and action items and the accomplishments to-date.

As part of this review, the administrator for the VRWJPO prepared a table (See Appendix A) listing the accomplishments to-date for each of the action items for which they are responsible. The table contains a progress rating verified by BWSR to each item indicating whether it has been completed or its target was met, whether progress has been made and work is continuing, or whether it was dropped or not started yet.

In reviewing the Watershed Management Plan for VRWJPO, a total of 239 action items listed. A total of seven goals were established, which form the foundation of actions within the plan. The goals are:

- Protect or restore water quality in lakes, streams and wetlands
- Protect and restore groundwater quality
- Maintain a sustainable water supply
- Address more intense fluctuations (up and down) in river flow rate and volume
- Improve public awareness and stewardship of water resources
- Improve watershed resilience to changing precipitation and temperature patterns
- Protect or restore sensitive biological resources, such as plants, fish, insects, and wildlife

Within the plan, each goal includes sub-goals, objectives, and actions to identify how the goal would be addressed.

Typically, fewer action items in a long-range plan denote more broad, continuous activities and fewer specific goals. Conversely plans with a long list of action items may be too specific to be achievable within the plan timeframe. With regards to metro watershed management plans, the VRWJPO Watershed Management Plan appears to fall towards high detail, greater number of action items. A great number of activities are listed as continuous, and because of that, do not identify the desired measurable outcomes that the VRWJPO hopes to accomplish by the end of 10-year plan life (example language, *coordinate* or *collaborate with*). Plan goals tend to be broad high level, and the specific actions and objectives to address larger goals provide more specific clarity. Of the total 239 actions within the plan, 71 were identified as to be completed/worked on in the future. We found that 36 action items had been completed which is fairly consistent with plans of this type and age which have numerous ongoing activities.

The BWSR verified version of the Plan Progress Evaluation Table submitted by Vermillion River Watershed JPO staff is contained in Appendix A, pages 12-21.

Findings Part 2: Performance Standards

BWSR has developed a set of performance standards that describe both basic requirements and high-performance best management practices related to the overall operation of water management organizations. These standards are different depending on the type of LGU. Each set of standards addresses four areas of operation: administration, planning, execution, and communication/coordination. The basic standards describe practices that are either legally required and defined by state statute or fundamental to watershed management organization operations as determined by BWSR board policies. Each year BWSR tracks all of Minnesota's water management LGUs' compliance with a few of the basic standards to make sure our partners stay in compliance with statutory or other legislative requirements. These typically include annual report submittals for BWSR grant activities, website reporting requirements, and financial reporting requirements as well.

The high-performance standards describe practices that reflect a level of performance that exceeds the required practices and may be items found within BWSR guidance materials or best practices recommendations. While all local government water management entities should be meeting all of the basic standards, the more ambitious LGUs will also meet several high-performance standards. The performance standards checklists submitted and reviewed for Vermillion River Watershed JPO are contained in Appendix B, page 22.

For this Organizational Assessment, VRWJPO reports compliance with 13 of 13 applicable basic standards, and 10 of 12 applicable high-performance standards. The high achievements noted include:

- Track progress for Information and Education objectives in Plan
- Coordination with County, SWCD, City and Township officials
- Partnerships: cooperative projects/tasks with neighboring organizations, such as counties, SWCDs, WDs, tribal governments, Non-Government Organizations
- Water quality trends tracked for key water bodies
 - Biomonitoring program
- Watershed hydrologic trends monitored / reported

Findings Part 3: Internal and External Surveys

Part 3 of this performance assessment is based on responses to an on-line survey of LGUs' staff and board and an online survey to partner organizations. The board and staff were asked different survey questions than the partners. The survey questions are designed to elicit information about LGU successes and difficulties and assess the extent and quality of partnerships with other related organizations.

Internal Survey: Self-Assessment by VRWJPO staff and board members

A total of 10 staff and board members of the VRWJPO were invited to take the online survey, and six responses were provided (60%).

Please note: Information in this section has been analyzed and paraphrased to keep responses anonymous.

Survey participants were asked which programs or projects they consider to be particularly successful over the past few years. Examples given for VRWJPO were:

- Cost sharing for improvements in water quality at various locations within the watershed
- Networking, keeping everybody in the loop at the same time
- Irrigation Audit
- Cost Share Program
- Wetland Bank (x3)
- Stormwater Reuse project
- Stream restorations
- CIP Projects (x2)
- Irrigation water reduction project
- Work plans/contracts with SWCDs to provide technical and financial assistance with landowner BMPs

When asked why these projects and programs were successful, the following examples were given:

- Partnership with Dakota County SWCD
- Paid staff, their ability to work and communicate
- Coordination with partners
- Communication and partnership with cities
- On the ground results and solid return on investment

The Vermillion River Watershed JPO staff and Board were asked to provide examples of areas where the agencies' work has been difficult to implement, as well as potential explanations for the difficulties. Answers provided are summarized below.

Identified Difficulty	Examples/Causes provided in survey (<i>paraphrased</i>)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Master water stewards</i> • <i>Volunteer engagement program</i> • <i>Finding Planning Commissioners</i> • <i>Bacteria source identification and mitigation</i> • <i>Large rainwater capture/reuse project</i> • <i>Recreational enhancements (access development, recreational channel passage)</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Recruiting</i> • <i>“Competing” with other organizations</i> • <i>Finding public members for being commissioners</i> • <i>Bacteria- difficult and expense of clearly identifying source and lack of local landowner participation</i> • <i>Rainwater capture- Partner in grant funded project reassigned</i> • <i>Recreational enhancements- low priority under authorities of organization</i> • <i>Cost and level of effort</i>

VRWJPO staff and Board were asked to list partners they had good working relationships with:

- Dakota County SWCD
- Dakota County
- Cities (x4)- mention Lakeville, Rosemount, Appley Valley, Hastings
- Most regional and state agencies (x3)
- Some NGOs

The survey also asked participants to identify organizations with whom they would like to collaborate with more often:

- Townships in the watershed (x4)
- City of Farmington
- BWSR
- NGO
- Anything dealing with the legislature

Finally, the Vermillion River Watershed JPO staff and board were also asked to identify ways to improve the effectiveness of their organizations. Responses are summarized below:

- *We periodically review the status of our goals, objectives, and actions to make sure we are on target and reassess if needed*
- *Would like to see more effort put into budgets that addresses the VRWJPO’s Plan and needs rather than budgets that focus most on addressing fiscal concerns*
- *Organization is taking steps to enhance its communication and outreach efforts which is intended to improve civic engagement and public awareness.*

The full content of internal and external survey responses can be found in Appendix C, pages 23-26.

External Survey: Assessment of VRWJPO by Partners

Vermillion River Watershed JPO Partners Survey: BWSR was provided a list of 46 partners by VRWJPO staff. Twenty-six partners responded to the survey, a 57% response rate. The partners reported a wide range of interaction with the JPO over the past 2-3 years: A total of 38.5% of the respondents reported they interacted with the JPO *several times a year*. Another 23.1% indicated *monthly*, 34.6% stated *almost every week*, while the remaining 3.9% stated *daily*. 80.8% of respondents indicated that the amount of interaction they had with the VRWJPO was *about right*, while 19.2% indicated that there may be room for more collaboration in the future.

The partners were asked to assess their interactions with the VRWJPO in five operational areas within the survey. The partners' rating of the organization's work in these areas was largely "strong" or "good" indicating a very strong working relationship between the partners and VRWJPO. There was one single rating of *acceptable* and one of *poor* which was in relation to the VRWJPO's communication. Based off the rankings, the VRWJPO appears to be either meeting or exceeding their partners' expectations.

Performance Area	VRWJPO Partner Ratings (percent)				
	Strong	Good	Acceptable	Poor	Don't Know
Communication	57.7%	34.6%	3.9%	3.9%	0.0%
Quality of Work	69.2%	30.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Customer Relations	57.7%	42.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Initiative	69.2%	30.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Timelines/ Follow through	65.4%	30.8%	0.0%	0.0%	3.9%

The partners' overall rating of their working relationship with the VRWJPO was largely *powerful* (46.2%) or *strong* (42.3%). The JPO did receive scores stating *it could be better* (11.5%), indicating a potential area of growth.

When partners were asked for additional thoughts about how the VRWJPO could be more effective, responses received were as follows:

- The VRWJPO is one of the most technical and high functioning organizations I have worked with. With that approach, comes challenges of collaboration and engagement on competing priorities at times. They do well to integrate their local knowledge and perspective into larger state sponsored topics and programs.
- Travis Thiel and Mark Ryan are outstanding to work with
- The VRWJPO is very effective organization- they are proactive, and have great community partnership
- VRWJPO is a top-notch organization, led by capable, professional staff
- Our city is a closed basin. Very little drains to the Vermillion River and the plan over time is to outlet to the Mississippi River. We appreciate the efforts the Watershed has made in recent years to include us in watershed wide efforts and programs, but these programs are limited. We certainly understand why the focus of this organization has been on resource restoration. At the same time, it does sting a bit that more funding and assistance does not come back to the programs and projects within our boundaries. It would be helpful for the Watershed to continue to develop new and existing watershed wide education, grant, and technical assistance programs.

General Conclusions

After a thorough review of the provided information including water plan progress, performance standards, and reviewing the survey inputs we have developed some recommendations for the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO).

In brief review, the VRWJPO reports compliance with 13 of 13 applicable basic performance standards, and 10 of 12 applicable high-performance standards. The VRWJPO has demonstrated clear progress toward their plan goals and actions, effectiveness in implementation of projects and is a strong, reliable partner. The VRWJPO should continue to build upon their strong working relationships with partners to meet the water management and conservation challenges in the watershed. The 239 actions within the plan were reviewed and progress has been strong with 36 items reported as complete, 132 items ongoing, and the remaining 71 to be completed in the future.

Commendations

Commendations are based on achievement of BWSR's high performance standards (see Findings, Part 2 and Appendix B, page 22). These practices reflect above average operational effectiveness and level of effort.

The Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization is commended for:

- Water quality trends tracked for key waterbodies
 - Biomonitoring efforts
- Staff training: orientation and continuing education plan and record for each staff
- Operational guidelines for fiscal procedures and conflicts of interest exist and are current
- Coordination with County Board, SWCD Board, City/Township officials
- Meeting the High-Performance Standards identified in Appendix B

Action Items

Action items are based on compliance with BWSR's basic practice performance standards (see Findings, Part 2 and Appendix B, page 22). Action Items address lack of compliance with one or more basic standards.

The VRWJPO has no action items to address at this time due to their successful implementation of all applicable basic standards. Continue to work with your Board Conservationist to maintain this level of performance.

Recommendations

This section contains recommendations offered by BWSR to the board and administrator of the VRWJPO. The intention of these recommendations is to enhance the organization's delivery of effective water and related land resource management and service to the residents of the watershed. BWSR financial assistance may be available to support the implementation of some of these recommendations.

Recommendation 1 – Create/Distribute Customer Service Survey to implementers

Offering implementers within the watershed an opportunity to evaluate the assistance they were provided is a great opportunity for self-reflection and adaptation as necessary. Potential options for groups to distribute to, may include Municipalities, Townships, and TAC members. Distribution options could be as simple as providing a link within emails or mailing a post card requesting input after assistance was provided.

Recommendation 2 – Develop orientation and continuing education plan for board members and keep records of trainings attended

There are many training opportunities available for board members. A simple training plan provides a means of ensuring that members can continue to build the knowledge and skills necessary to carry out their respective duties. For example, board members maybe interested in attending educational training through AMC, which includes day training, conferences, or webinars located on the AMC website.

Recommendation 3 – Evaluate Needs of Partner Municipalities

While the majority of partner survey responses indicated that the amount of work they do with the VRWJPO is *about* right, 19% did indicate a desire to work together more often. *Of those same respondents*, there was a clear level of respect for the work of the JPO. Consider working with municipalities and other partners to identify activities that would be most beneficial to them, including watershed wide education initiatives, grant, and technical assistance programs.

LGU Comments and BWSR Responses

Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization board members and staff were invited to comment on the findings, conclusions and recommendations in the draft version of this report. The VRWJPO has provided a comment letter which can be found in Appendix D (pg. 27). BWSR Acknowledges the JPOs response and if BWSR can provide any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact.

The VRWJPO continues to focus on implementing the Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan. Working with stakeholders and partners to forward the mission of the VRWJPO and the goals, objectives and actions of the Plan. The VRWJPO is fortunate to have the support of many partners in collaborative efforts to manage and improve watershed resources. The VRWJPO strives to have positive working relationships with stakeholders at all levels from Federal and State Agencies to local landowners and citizens.

Recommendations:

The VRWJPO will take into consideration the recommendations provided and will attempt to address any concerns to the best of their ability.

Appendix A. Plan Accomplishments

Indicator symbol for Progress Rating: Not Started/Dropped/Future

Ongoing progress

Completed/target met

Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan 2016-2025: Section 6 - mid point implementation evaluation ranked by SUM (highest to lowest)

Goal	Sec. 6 page#	Role	Item ID	Status	MODE	SUM	Level of Effort	Action	Objective
A	5	Regulation	Reg 9a	Ongoing	3	20	H	Ensure that VRWJO regulations minimize water quality impacts from land-disturbing activities.	Ensure that local governments include the VRWJO Standards in Local Water Management Plan revisions and implement them through official controls.
D	14	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 6b	Future	3	20	H	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
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 14e	Ongoing	3	20	M	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.
F	19	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6c	Future	3	19	H	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 6b	Ongoing	3	19	H	Work with partners and landowners to restore straightened river or stream reaches through re-meandering 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
G	20	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 3c	Ongoing	3	19	H	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
A	5	Regulation	Reg 9c	Ongoing	3	19	M	Require local governments to submit proposed land alteration plans to the VRWJO 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 VRWJO Standards in Local Water Management Plan revisions and implement them.
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 26a	Ongoing	3	18	H	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
F	19	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6a	Ongoing	3	18	H	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	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 3c	Ongoing	3	18	H	Cost-share in-stream restorations that increase shade, dissolved oxygen, and bank stability, such as riffles, root wads,unker 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
G	20-21	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 3d	Ongoing	3	18	H	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
A	5	Regulation	Reg 10a	Ongoing	3	18	M	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.
F	19	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6d	Ongoing	3	18	M	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
B	9	Research and Planning	R&P 1a	Ongoing	3	18	L	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
D	14	Regulation	Reg 3c	Ongoing	3	18	L	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
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 3c	Ongoing	3	17	H	Facilitate acquisition and restoration of restorable wetlands suitable for wetland banking	Simplify VRWJO procedures for working with partners in other levels of government
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 4a	Ongoing	3	17	M	Apply (solely or in partnership) for grants to conduct special projects, studies, and demonstrations, and fund best management practices	Use VRWJO dollars to leverage additional funding for watershed management
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 20b	Ongoing	3	17	M	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	5	Regulation	Reg 8b	Future	3	17	M	Consider new watershed standards to respond to changes in legislation, new scientific information, or altered conditions.	Update, adopt, and enforce VRWJO Standards/Rules.
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 2b	Future	3	17	M	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
D	14	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 6a	Ongoing	3	17	M	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	13	Regulation	Reg 2a	Ongoing	3	17	M	Require local governments to enforce ordinances that are consistent with VRWJO Standards	Support requirements for local governments to identify, protect, and reconnect floodplains
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 13b	Ongoing	3	17	L	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.
C	13	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6d	Ongoing	3	17	M	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
F	18	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4b	Future	3	17	L	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

Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan 2016-2025: Section 6 - mid point implementation evaluation ranked by SUM (highest to lowest)

Goal	Sec. 6 page#	Role	Item ID	Status	MODE	SUM	Level of Effort	Action	Objective
F	19	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 5a	Ongoing	3	17	L	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
E	16	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 5c	Future	2	17	H	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
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 22e	Ongoing	2	17	M	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.
G	20	Regulation	Reg 1a	Ongoing	2	17	M	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	2	17	M	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	9	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 29b	Future	2	17	L	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
E	16	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 5d	Future	2	17	M	Publish stories recognizing stewardship activities online, in the newsletter, and other public venues	Recognize and celebrate stewardship in the Vermillion River Watershed
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 23c	Future	3	16	H	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
C	12	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4c	Future	3	16	H	Consider cost-share of demonstration projects that re-use treated industrial or municipal wastewater	Promote and cost-share BMPs that conserve water
F	19	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 7	Future	3	16	H		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)
F	19	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 5d	Future	3	16	H	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
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 2c	Ongoing	3	16	M	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	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 20a	Ongoing	3	16	M	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	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 23a	Ongoing	3	16	L	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
F	18	Administration and Operations	A&O 1a	Future	3	16	L	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	19	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 5e	Ongoing	3	16	L	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
A	5	Regulation	Reg 5b	Future	2	16	H	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.
D	14	Regulation	Reg 3a	Future	2	16	H	Continue to document intergovernmental hydrology through use and maintenance of the watershed hydrologic model	Address known flooding/erosion/flood diversion or alteration problems that cross community boundaries
G	20	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5a	Ongoing	2	16	H	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
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 23b	Ongoing	2	16	M	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	6	Research and Planning	R&P 14a	Ongoing	2	16	M	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)
C	13	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6b	Ongoing	2	16	M	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
D	15	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 10b	Future	2	16	M	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	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 6a	Future	2	16	M	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	2	16	L	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

Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan 2016-2025: Section 6 - mid point implementation evaluation ranked by SUM (highest to lowest)

Goal	Sec. 6 page#	Role	Item ID	Status	MODE	SUM	Level of Effort	Action	Objective
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 6c	Ongoing	2	16	L	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
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 2b	Ongoing	3	15	M	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	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 22c	Ongoing	3	15	M	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	9	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 28	Ongoing	3	15	M		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	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 20c	Ongoing	3	15	M	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
B	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8g	Future	3	15	M	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
C	12	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 3a	Ongoing	3	15	M	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
D	14	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 5b	Ongoing	3	15	M	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	13	Regulation	Reg 2b	Ongoing	3	15	M	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
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 3a	Ongoing	3	15	L	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	3	15	L	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 4b	Ongoing	3	15	L	Report on leveraged federal, state and local dollars in cost-share	Use VRWJPO dollars to leverage additional funding for watershed management
D	14	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 5a	Ongoing	3	15	L	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	13	Regulation	Reg 2c	Ongoing	3	15	L	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	3	15	L	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
G	20	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4c	Ongoing	3	15	L	Incorporate potential BMPs for sediment-load reduction in the CIP	Identify and implement sediment-reducing BMPs in the highest sediment-yielding subwatersheds
E	16-17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 3f	Ongoing	2	15	H	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
G	20	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5b	Ongoing	2	15	H	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
C	12	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4a	Ongoing	2	15	M	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
D	15	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 10a	Future	2	15	M	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
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 12b	Ongoing	2	15	M	Promote and support Vermillion Stewards hands-on educational events/workshops	Increase resilience of the watershed through direct preparedness, outreach, and engagement efforts
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 6a	Ongoing	2	15	L	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	8-9	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 27	Ongoing	2	15	L		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	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 19e	Future	2	15	L	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	5	Regulation	Reg 10c	Future	2	15	L	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.

Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan 2016-2025: Section 6 - mid point implementation evaluation ranked by SUM (highest to lowest)

Goal	Sec. 6 page#	Role	Item ID	Status	MODE	SUM	Level of Effort	Action	Objective
E	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 3c	Ongoing	2	15	L	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	2	15	L	Employ existing communication channels (VRWJPO, 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	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 7b	Ongoing	2	15	L	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
F	19	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 3a	Ongoing	3	14	H	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
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 23b	Future	3	14	M	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
D	14	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 7a	Ongoing	3	14	M	Identify and prioritize gully erosion problems using geomorphic or other relevant assessments	Address gully erosion problems in the watershed
G	20	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4a	Ongoing	3	14	M	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	3	14	M	Target locations where implementing BMPs would effectively reduce sediment loading	Identify and implement sediment-reducing BMPs in the highest sediment-yielding subwatersheds
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 22d	Ongoing	3	14	L	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 23e	Ongoing	3	14	L	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 24c	Ongoing	3	14	L	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	5	Research and Planning	R&P 13a	Ongoing	3	14	L	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.
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 3a	Ongoing	3	14	L	Support 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	3	14	L	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 3a	Ongoing	3	14	L	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	11	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6b	Ongoing	3	14	L	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	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8e	Future	3	14	L	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
E	16	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 3b	Ongoing	3	14	L	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	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 9	Ongoing	3	14	L		Publish a VRWJPO e-newsletter at least once a year
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 12a	Ongoing	3	14	L	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
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 23d	Future	2	14	H	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
C	12	Research and Planning	R&P 1a	Future	2	14	H	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
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 6f	Ongoing	2	14	H	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
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 6c	Ongoing	2	14	M	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	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 23a	Future	2	14	M	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

Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan 2016-2025: Section 6 - mid point implementation evaluation ranked by SUM (highest to lowest)

Goal	Sec. 6 page#	Role	Item ID	Status	MODE	SUM	Level of Effort	Action	Objective
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 22b	Ongoing	2	14	M	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	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 18b	Ongoing	2	14	M	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 21a	Ongoing	2	14	M	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	5	Regulation	Reg 11b	Ongoing	2	14	M	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.
C	12	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4b	Ongoing	2	14	M	Promote and cost-share BMPs that use stormwater for irrigating urban landscapes.	Promote and cost-share BMPs that conserve water.
D	14	Regulation	Reg 3b	Ongoing	2	14	M	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.
E	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 3b	Ongoing	2	14	M	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.
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 22a	Ongoing	2	14	L	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 24a	Ongoing	2	14	L	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	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 19d	Future	2	14	L	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.
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 4a	Future	2	14	L	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	2	14	L	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	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8f	Ongoing	2	14	L	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.
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 10	Future	2	14	L		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 6e	Ongoing	2	14	L	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 7a	Ongoing	2	14	L	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 12c	Ongoing	2	14	L	Consider continuing workshops on ice/snow management and turfgrass maintenance.	Increase resilience of the watershed through direct preparedness, outreach, and engagement efforts.
A	6	Monitoring and Assessment	M&A 16a	Ongoing	3	13	H	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	3	13	M	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	Research and Planning	R&P 14d	Future	3	13	M	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 14c	Ongoing	3	13	M	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).
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 3c	Ongoing	3	13	L	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.
F	18	Administration and Operations	A&O 2	Future	2	13	H		Establish a riparian habitat improvement program that includes tree shading in critical reaches.
A	3-4	Administration and Operations	A&O 1d	Ongoing	2	13	M	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	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 21b	Ongoing	2	13	M	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	9	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 31	Ongoing	2	13	M		Provide opportunities for Vermillion Stewards volunteers on targeted watershed priorities.

Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan 2016-2025: Section 6 - mid point implementation evaluation ranked by SUM (highest to lowest)

Goal	Sec. 6 page#	Role	Item ID	Status	MODE	SUM	Level of Effort	Action	Objective
E	15-16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 2b	Future	2	13	M	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	15	Research and Planning	R&P 1a	Ongoing	2	13	M	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
G	20	Research and Planning	R&P 2b	Future	2	13	M	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	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 18a	Ongoing	2	13	L	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	6	Monitoring and Assessment	M&A 16e	Ongoing	2	13	L	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	5	Regulation	Reg 11a	Ongoing	2	13	L	Meet annually with M54 communities to review implementation of local water management plan.	Establish procedures to review implementation of local water management ordinances.
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 13c	Ongoing	2	13	L	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	2	13	L	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.
B	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8a	Ongoing	2	13	L	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
C	12	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 3c	Ongoing	2	13	L	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
E	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 4c	Future	2	13	L	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	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 11	Future	2	13	L		Continue to implement targeted education programs on responsible land use and stewardship for elected officials, inspectors, real-estate professionals, and other key groups
G	21	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 7b	Future	2	13	L	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 6b	Future	1	13	M	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.
B	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8c	Ongoing	1	13	L	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
A	9	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 29a	Future	3	12	H	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
C	12	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4d	Future	3	12	M	Research strategies for water use, re-use, or infiltration that minimize groundwater use at mining sites	Promote and cost-share BMPs that conserve water
C	13	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 7	Future	3	12	M		Work with partners to develop a public outreach campaign designed to mitigate drought conditions for implementation during persistent drought
E	18	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 13b	Future	3	12	M	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
F	19	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8	Future	3	12	M		Increase awareness and understanding of the benefits of maintaining natural hydrology
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 15b	Future	3	12	L	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
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5b	Ongoing	3	12	L	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 5d	Ongoing	3	12	L	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
E	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 4d	Ongoing	3	12	L	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
D	14	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 3c	Future	2	12	H	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

Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan 2016-2025: Section 6 - mid point implementation evaluation ranked by SUM (highest to lowest)

Goal	Sec. 6 page#	Role	Item ID	Status	MODE	SUM	Level of Effort	Action	Objective
E	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 4e	Future	2	12	H	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	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 12d	Future	2	12	H	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
A	3	Administration and Operations	A&O 1c	Future	2	12	M	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	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 19b	Ongoing	2	12	M	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	5	Regulation	Reg 11c	Ongoing	2	12	M	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.
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 14b	Ongoing	2	12	M	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)
B	11	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6a	Future	2	12	M	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	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8d	Ongoing	2	12	M	Consider agricultural demonstrations of bio-reactors 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
C	13	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5a	Ongoing	2	12	M	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	12	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 3b	Ongoing	2	12	M	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
D	14	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 9	Ongoing	2	12	M		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	14	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 7b	Future	2	12	M	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
D	14	Regulation	Reg 4a	Ongoing	2	12	M	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
F	18	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4c	Ongoing	2	12	M	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
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 6d	Ongoing	2	12	L	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.
E	15	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 2a	Ongoing	2	12	L	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	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 3a	Ongoing	2	12	L	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 4b	Ongoing	2	12	L	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
G	21	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 9	Ongoing	2	12	L		Provide educational materials to help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species
G	20	Research and Planning	R&P 2a	Future	2	12	L	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
D	14	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 5d	Future	1	12	L	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	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 8	Future	2	11	H		Request state agencies to evaluate the impacts of increased drain tiling on river flows and develop a strategy with stakeholders to minimize the impacts
A	3	Administration and Operations	A&O 1b	Future	2	11	M	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	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 6b	Future	2	11	M	Convene one-time "summits" or short-term task forces that engage people with specific skills, knowledge, or interests to advise the VRWJPO staff or VRWJPO 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 7	Ongoing	2	11	M		Seek representative and timely consultation with the public in developing VRWJPO policies, plans, and programs
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 24b	Ongoing	2	11	M	Collaborate with existing programs to cost-share landowner lakeshore restoration projects	Assist local governments in management of recreational lakes in the watershed
B	10	Research and Planning	R&P 1b	Future	2	11	M	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
C	13	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6a	Future	2	11	M	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

Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan 2016-2025: Section 6 - mid point implementation evaluation ranked by SUM (highest to lowest)

Goal	Sec. 6 page#	Role	Item ID	Status	MODE	SUM	Level of Effort	Action	Objective
C	12	Research and Planning	R&P 1b	Future	2	11	M	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
E	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 4f	Ongoing	2	11	M	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
E	18	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 13c	Future	2	11	M	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	18	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4a	Future	2	11	M	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
G	21	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 8	Ongoing	2	11	M		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
A	6	Monitoring and Assessment	M&A 16d	Ongoing	2	11	L	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
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5c	Future	2	11	L	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	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 9a	Future	2	11	L	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
C	12	Research and Planning	R&P 2a	Future	2	11	L	Review 2006 inventory of groundwater recharge areas and update, if needed	Identify and protect groundwater recharge areas in the watershed
E	16	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 5e	Ongoing	2	11	L	Write and post CIP project fact sheets on the VRWJPO website	Recognize and celebrate stewardship in the Vermillion River Watershed
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8b	Ongoing	2	11	L	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
B	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8h	Future	1	11	M	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
A	9	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 30a	Future	2	10	H	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	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 21c	Ongoing	2	10	M	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
E	16	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 5a	Future	2	10	M	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	18	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 13a	Future	2	10	M	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
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 3c	Ongoing	2	10	L	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	6	Monitoring and Assessment	M&A 16c	Ongoing	2	10	L	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
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8c	Ongoing	2	10	L	Post all progress, activity, and financial reports	Maintain and expand the VRWJPO website as a comprehensive information source about the watershed and the VRWJPO
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 18c	Future	1	10	L	Assist Dakota County in its agricultural outreach	Ensure that technical assistance is available to landowners considering BMPs for water quality or habitat improvement
B	12	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 9c	Future	2	9	L	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
A	9	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 30b	Future	1	9	M	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
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8a	Ongoing	1	8	L	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

Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan 2016-2025: Section 6 - mid point implementation evaluation ranked by SUM (highest to lowest)

Goal	Sec. 6 page#	Role	Item ID	Status	MODE	SUM	Level of Effort	Action	Objective
B	11-12	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 9a	Future	1	7	L	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
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	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 3a	Done				Develop capacity to hold webinars and videoconferences to plan, consult, and share information with partners.	Simplify VRWJO procedures for working with partners in other levels of government
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 3b	Done				Develop the website capacity to include more partner information	Simplify VRWJO procedures for working with partners in other levels of government
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 3d	Done				Facilitate development of a wetland bank, using income from wetland credit sales for further wetland restoration	Simplify VRWJO procedures for working with partners in other levels of government
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 3e	Done				Use restorable wetland tools and inventories to develop partnerships and implement restoration projects	Simplify VRWJO procedures for working with partners in other levels of government
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 19a	Done				Update and clarify the VRWJO'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 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	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 VRWJO's CIP.	Complete assessments of all Vermillion River reaches and tributary sub-watersheds within 10 years to identify potential improvement projects
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	3	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 VRWJO Standards/Rules.
A	3	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	3	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	3	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	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 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 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	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	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.
B	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8a	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	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	13	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 3b	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 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	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
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

Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan 2016-2025: Section 6 - mid point implementation evaluation ranked by SUM (highest to lowest)

Goal	Sec. 6 page#	Role	Item ID	Status	MODE	SUM	Level of Effort	Action	Objective
D	13-14	Regulation	Reg 2c	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 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
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	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	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 remnants).	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 (BI) 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	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

Appendix B. Performance Standards

PRAP Organizational Assessment

Part 2-Performance Standards

2022

METRO WATERSHED DISTRICT and WMO PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

LGU Name: Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization

Performance Area	Performance Standard						Level of Review			Rating	
	★ High Performance standard	■ Basic practice or statutory requirement (see instructions for explanation of standards)	I Annual Compliance	II BWSR Staff Review & Assessment (1/10 yrs.)	Yes, No, or Value						
					YES	NO					
Administration	■ Activity report: annual, on-time		I		X						
	■ Financial report & audit completed on time		I		X						
	■ Drainage authority buffer strip report submitted on time		I		N/A						
	■ eLINK Grant Report(s): submitted on time		I		X						
	■ Rules: date of last revision or review – Please enter month/year (i.e., 01/20)		II		02/20						
	■ Personnel policy: exists and reviewed/updated within last 5 years		II		N/A						
	■ Data practices policy: exists and reviewed/updated within last 5 years		II		X						
	■ Manager appointments: current and reported		II		N/A						
	■ Consultant RFP: within 2 yrs. for professional services		II		X						
	■ WD/WMO has resolution assuming WCA responsibilities and appropriate delegation resolutions as warranted (N/A if not LGU)		II		N/A						
	■ WD/WMO has knowledgeable & trained staff that manages WCA program or has secured qualified delegate. (N/A if not LGU)		II		N/A						
	★ Administrator on staff		II		X						
	★ Board training: orientation and continuing education plan, record for each board member		II			X					
	★ Staff training: orientation and continuing education plan and record for each staff		II		X						
	★ Operational guidelines for fiscal procedures and conflicts of interest exist and current		II		X						
★ Public drainage records: meet modernization guidelines		II		N/A							
Planning	■ Watershed management plan: up-to-date		I		X						
	■ City/twp. local water plans not yet approved		II			X					
	■ Capital Improvement Program: reviewed every 2 years		II		X						
	★ Strategic plan or self-assessment completed in last 5 years		II		X						
	★ Strategic plan identifies short-term priorities		II		X						
Execution	■ Engineer Reports: submitted for DNR & BWSR review		II		N/A						
	■ WCA decisions and determinations are made in conformance with all WCA requirements. (if delegated WCA LGU)		II		N/A						
	■ WCA TEP reviews & recommendations appropriately coordinated. (if delegated WCA LGU)		II		N/A						
	★ Certified wetland delineator on staff or retainer		II			X					
	■ Total expenditures per year (past 10 yrs.)		II		see below						
	★ Water quality trends tracked for key water bodies		II		X						
	★ Watershed hydrologic trends monitored / reported		II		X						
Communication & Coordination	■ Website: contains information as required by MR 8410.0150 Subpart 3a, i.e. as board meeting, contact information, water plan, etc.		II		X						
	■ Functioning advisory committee(s): recommendations on projects, reports, 2-way communication with Board		II		X						
	■ Communication piece: sent within last 12 months		II		X						
	Communication Target Audience:										
	★ Track progress for Information and Education objectives in Plan		II		X						
	★ Coordination with County Board, SWCD Board, City/Township officials		II		X						
	★ Partnerships: cooperative projects/tasks with neighboring organizations, such as counties, SWCDs, WDs, tribal governments, Non-Government Organizations		II		X						
Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
Expenditures	\$908,950	\$883,230	\$988,020	\$937,530	\$1,778,830	\$1,425,150	\$2,021,280	\$1,360,530	\$1,411,770	\$1,530,200	

Appendix C. Summary of Survey Results

Internal Survey

Vermillion River Watershed JPO Board and Staff Questions and Responses

How often does your organization use your current management plan to guide decisions about what you do? (response percent)	
Always	83.3%
Usually	16.7%
Seldom	0.0%
Never	0.0%

- Always a starting point but might have slight changes as each site and application is specific and unique.
- Staff use the plan as their guiding document to identify where programs, projects, and policies will go. If the plan needs to be updated to reflect changes needed as more is learned, staff then pursue plan amendments as needed.

List your organization's most successful programs and projects during the past 3-5 years.

- Wetland bank in Castle Rock township
- Cost sharing for improvements in water quality at various locations within the watershed. Networking, keeping everybody in the loop at the same time.
- Irrigation Audit
- Cost-Share Program
- Wetland Bank
- Stormwater Reuse projects
- Stream restorations
- CIP projects (x2)
- Irrigation water reduction project
- Work plans/contracts with SWCDs to provide technical and financial assistance with landowner BMPs
- Braun wetland bank partnership

What helped make these projects and programs successful?

- Partnership with Dakota County SWCD
- Paid staff, their ability to work and communicate
- Coordination with Partners
- Communication and Partnership with Cities
- On the ground results and solid return on investment

During the past 3-5 years, which of your organization's programs or projects have shown little progress or been on hold?

- Master water stewards and volunteer engagement program
- Bacteria source identification and mitigation
- Large rainwater capture/reuse project
- Recreational enhancements (access development, recreational channel passage)
- Finding planning commission members

List the reasons why the organization has had difficulty with these projects and programs.

- Finding public members for being commissioners
- Recruiting and finding Master Water Stewards has been a challenge, and we often only find Stewards from outside the organization who perform work within our boundaries. With the volunteer engagement program, we're trying to develop a new program and "competing" with an organization has an established program in our watershed. It creates confusion and identify problems, aside from finding the participants necessary to implement a successful volunteer program.
- Bacteria- difficulty and expense of clearly identifying source and lack of local landowner participation
- Rainwater capture- Partner in grant funded project reassigned
- Use of project footprint area
- Recreational enhancements- low priority under authorities of organization, costs and level of effort

Regarding the various organizations and agencies with which you could cooperate on projects or programs...**List the ones with which you work well already**

Dakota County SWCD

Dakota County

Cities (x4)- mention Lakeville, Rosemount, Apple Valley and Hastings

Most regional and state agencies (x3)

Some NGOs

List the ones with which better collaboration would benefit your organization

Townships in the watershed (x4)

City of Farmington

BWSR

NGO

Anything dealing with the legislature

If you don't know much about your organization's working relationships with partners, enter "I don't know"**What steps could your organization take to increase your effectiveness in accomplishing your plan goals and objectives?**

- Unsure (x4)
- Organization is taking steps to enhance its communication and outreach efforts which is intended to improve our level of civic engagement and public awareness. The goal of these efforts is to improve participation in actions on both a personal and public level to assist in accomplishing plan goals and objectives
- More effort put into budgets that addresses the VRWJPO's Plan and needs rather than the budgets that focus most on addressing fiscal concerns.

How long have you been with the organization?**(response percent)****Less than 5 years**

16.7%

5 to 15 years

83.3%

More than 15 years

0.0%

External Survey

Vermillion River Watershed JPO Partner Organization Questions and Responses

Question: How often have you interacted with this organization during the past two to three years? Select the response closest to your experience. (response percent)	
Not at all	0.0%
A few times	0.0%
Several times a year	38.5%
Monthly	23.1%
Almost every week	34.6%
Daily	3.9%

Is the amount of work you do in partnership with this organization...	(percent)
Not enough, there is potential for us to do more together	19.2%
About right	80.8%
Too much, they depend on us for work they should be doing for themselves	0.0%
Too much, we depend on them for work we should be doing ourselves or with others	0.0%

Based on your experience working with them, please rate the organization in the following areas:					
Performance Characteristic	Rating (percent of responses)				
	Strong	Good	Acceptable	Poor	I don't know
Communication (they keep us informed; we know their activities; they seek our input)	57.7%	34.6%	3.9%	3.9%	0.0%
Quality of work (they have good projects and programs; good service delivery)	69.2%	30.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Relationships with Customers (they work well with landowners and clients)	57.7%	42.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Initiative (they are willing to take on new projects, try new ideas)	69.2%	30.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Timelines/Follow-through (they are reliable and meet deadlines)	65.4%	30.8%	0.0%	0.0%	3.9%

How is your working relationship with this organization? (percent)	
Powerful, we are more effective working together	46.2%
Strong, we work well together most of the time	42.3%
Good, but it could be better	11.5%
Acceptable, but a struggle at times	0.0%
Poor, there are almost always difficulties	0.0%
Non-existent, we don't work with this organization	0.0%

- We need to figure out how to be a better partner to the watershed. This comment is more reflective on our deficiencies, not the JPOs

- The VRWJPO does well to balance a variety of formal and informal interactions with MPCA. At times, some topics may be challenging or displeasing to either side, the VRWJPO still engages in the conversation to ensure a working relationship continues through it all and collaborative work moving forward where appropriate. Since my involvement, I would say overall we are more effective working together.

Do you have additional thought about how the “subject” organization could be more effective?

- The VRWMPO is one of the most technical and high functioning organizations I have had the pleasure of working with. With that approach comes challenges of collaboration and engagement on competing priorities at times, but they do well to integrate their extensive local knowledge and perspective into larger state sponsored topics and programs. The VRWJPO effectively keeps water resources paramount to their work and the constituents in the watershed in mind.
- Travis Thiel and Mark Ryan are outstanding to work with. We are constantly working on projects together. We have done many projects over the years, and they are a great resource and always provide valuable feedback and direction. We have done miles of stream restoration in the city along with many other water conservation and WQ projects
- VRWJPO is very effective. They are proactive and have great community partnerships.
- VRWJPO is a top-notch organization led by very valuable, professional staff. We love them.
- Our city is a closed basin. Very little of the City actually drains to the Vermillion River and the plan over time is to outlet to the Mississippi River. Additionally, we do not currently have any impaired waters (other than the Mississippi River theoretically) that we drain to. It means our residents are paying taxes for programs and projects that largely do not benefit them. We appreciate the efforts the Watershed has made in recent years to include us in watershed wide efforts and programs, but these programs are limited. We certainly understand why the focus of this organization has been on resource restoration. At the same, it does sting a bit that more funding and assistance does not come back to programs and projects within our boundaries. For our situation, it would be helpful for the Watershed to continue to develop new and existing watershed wide education, grant, and technical assistance programs.

How long have you been with your current organization?	(response percent)
Less than 5 years	30.8%
5 to 15 years	38.5%
More than 15 years	30.8%

Appendix D. Comment Letter



September 23, 2022
Jennifer Mocol-Johnson
Performance Review and Assistance Program Coordinator
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
11 Civic Center Plaza, Ste. 300
Mankato, MN 56001

Dear Ms. Mocol-Johnson,

On behalf of the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board (VRWJPB) I would like to thank you for your work in collecting and assessing information leading to the Performance Review and Assistance Program Report on the Organizational Assessment for the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO).

The VRWJPO continues its focus on implementing the Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan working with stakeholders and others in partnership to forward the mission of the VRWJPO and the goals, objectives, and actions of the Plan. The VRWJPO is fortunate to have the support of many partners in collaborative efforts to manage and improve watershed resources as has been evidenced in the PRAP Report. The VRWJPO strives to have positive working relationships with all our stakeholders at all levels from Federal and State Agencies to local landowners and citizens.

The VRWJPO will take into consideration the recommendations provided and will attempt to address any concerns to the best of our ability.

Thank you for the very positive review and commendations.

If you have questions, please contact Mark Zabel, VRWJPO Administrator

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Slavik".

Mike Slavik
Chair
Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board

c: Mike Slavik, Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board Chair
Mark Zabel, VRWJPO Administrator (Dakota Co.)
Melissa Bokman, VRWJPO Co-administrator (Scott Co.)

Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization
4100 220th Street W, Farmington, MN 55024

Appendix E. Program Data

Time required to complete this review

VRWJPO Staff: 20 Hours

BWSR Staff: 80 Hours

Schedule of Organizational Assessment Review

BWSR PRAP Performance Review Key Dates

- July 7th, 2022: Initial meeting with VRWJPO staff
- July 28th, 2022: Initial meeting with VRWJPO board
- August 26th, 2022: Survey of board, staff, and partners
- September 22nd, 2022: Presentation of Draft Report
- September 30th, 2022: Transmittal of Final Report to LGU

NOTE: BWSR uses review time as a surrogate for tracking total program costs. Time required for PRAP performance reviews is aggregated and included in BWSR's annual PRAP report to the Minnesota Legislature.