RCWD
RICE CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

JULY

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AUGUST

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RCWD BOARD OF MANAGERS WORKSHOP

Monday, July 7, 2025, 9:00 a.m.

Rice Creek Watershed District Conference Room
4325 Pheasant Ridge Drive NE, Suite 611, Blaine, Minnesota
Virtual Monitoring via Zoom Webinar

Join Zoom Webinar:
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88196721831?pwd=ZFgnntJcR5azGvDMzr0HBKDai5vbWN.1
Passcode: 129740
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
Webinar ID: 881 9672 1831
Passcode: 129740

Agenda

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- Anoka County Ditch 10-22-32 Alternative 4
- Anoka County Ditch 15 Outlet Channel Overflow Study
- Draft 2026 Budget

Administrator Updates (If Any)

Anoka County Ditch 10-22-32 Alternative 4

MEMORANDUM
Rice Creek Watershed District

Date: June 26, 2025
To: RCWD Board of Managers
From: Tom Schmidt, Drainage & Facilities Manager
Subject: Anoka County Ditch 10-22-32 Maintenance Alternative #4

Introduction

This agenda item provides a refresher on the evaluation and the status of Maintenance Alternative #4 for Anoka County Ditch 10-22-32 (ACD 10-22-32), located north of Pine Street, in preparation for Board action.

Background

At its June 14, 2023 Board meeting, the Board acted, directing staff and engineers to develop Maintenance Alternative #4 (ACSIC Option) for ACD 10-22-32 north of Pine Street, per its motion of:

1. Identifying and quantifying regulatory requirements.
2. Assessing the feasibility of the proposed alternative in consideration of regulatory requirements; and
3. Engaging with municipal partners, DNR, and other regulatory land use and road authorities to evaluate the feasibility of maintenance Alternative #4.

The development work for Maintenance Alternative #4 has been completed, and coupled with ongoing interest from landowners and municipalities, the Board is at a decision point. Staff and consultants will provide a short presentation on Maintenance Alternative #4 at the workshop, along with relevant materials for discussion, to refamiliarize the board with the particulars and details of the alternative.

One of the components of Alternative #4, the lowering of the culvert at West Pine Street, has been approved by the Board and is anticipated to be completed by the close of 2025.

This item was originally intended for the June 9, 2025, workshop and was postponed at the request of Manager Wagamon due to his Illness.

Staff Recommendation

This item is informational for the Board's deliberation.

Attachments

- HEI September 3, 2024, Memo ACD 10-22-32 Repair Alternative 4 Update on Regulatory Engagement
- ACD 10-22-32 Reference Materials
    - HEI January 23, 2023, ACD 10-22-32 Evaluation of Maintenance Alternatives
    - RCWD April 26, 2023, Board Approved Minutes Excerpt (Public Meeting: ACD 10-22-32 Evaluation of Maintenance Alternatives)
    - HEI May 23, 2023, ACD 10-22-32 Summary of Comments Received and Next Steps
    - RCWD June 14, 2023, Board Approved Minutes Excerpt (Board acts to develop Maintenance Alternative 4)

Technical Memorandum

To: Nick Tomczik, Administrator
Rice Creek Watershed District
Cc: Tom Schmidt
From: Chris Otterness, PE
Subject: ACD 10-22-32 Repair Alternative 4
Update on Regulatory Engagement
Date: September 3, 2024
Project #: R005555-0332

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this memorandum is to summarize findings on the feasibility of proposed repairs to Anoka County Ditch (ACD) 10-22-32, specifically "Alternative 4" identified in the January 23, 2023 memorandum *Anoka County Ditch 10-22-32 Evaluation of Maintenance Alternatives.* On June 14, 2023, the RCWD Board of Managers directed staff to develop maintenance Alternative #4 by:

1. Identifying and quantifying regulatory requirements
2. Assessing the feasibility of the proposed alternative in light of the regulatory requirements; and
3. Engaging with municipal partners, DNR, and other regulatory land use and road authorities as necessary to evaluate the feasibility of maintenance Alternative #4.

BOARD CONSIDERATION OF REPAIRS[1]

The Board's consideration of repair options for ACD 10-22-32 involves serval requirements of the drainage code and other law. Repair and maintenance obligations under the drainage code require the Board to consider whether "the repairs recommended are necessary for the best interests of the affected property owners". (103E.705 and .715). Affected property owners include all owners of property benefitted by the drainage system and responsible for costs of the drainage system.

The Board must also consider "conservation of soil, water, wetlands, forests, wild animals, and related natural resources, and to other public interests affected, together with other material matters as provided by law in determining whether the project will be of public utility, benefit, or welfare". (103E.015, subd. 2).

[1] The introductory comments in this section were provided by the District's drainage attorney.

"Public welfare" or "public benefit" includes an act or thing that tends to improve or benefit the general public, either as a whole or as to any particular community or part, including works contemplated by [the drainage code], that drain or protect roads from overflow, protect property from overflow, or reclaim and render property suitable for cultivation that is normally wet and needing drainage or subject to overflow. (103E.005, subd. 27).

The phrase, “other material matters as provided by law” implicates environmental policies and procedures of the state. One requirement, in particular, is the least impact alternative requirement found in the Minnesota Environmental Policy Act (MEPA), statutes chapter 116D. No state action significantly affecting the quality of the environment shall be allowed, nor shall any permit for natural resources management and development be granted, where such action or permit has caused or is likely to cause pollution, impairment, or destruction of the air, water, land or other natural resources located within the state, so long as there is a feasible and prudent alternative consistent with the reasonable requirements of the public health, safety, and welfare and the state's paramount concern for the protection of its air, water, land and other natural resources from pollution, impairment, or destruction. (116D.04, subd. 6).

Another material consideration is the State’s water policy -- it is in the public interest to preserve the wetlands of the state to conserve surface waters, maintain and improve water quality, preserve wildlife habitat, reduce runoff, provide for floodwater retention, reduce stream sedimentation, contribute to improved subsurface moisture, enhance the natural beauty of the landscape, and promote comprehensive and total water management planning. (103A.202).

Finally, in considering the scope and extent of repair, the courts recognize additional considerations and obligations. Drainage Authorities have an obligation to maintain ditches in a manner consistent with the policies established by the legislature in various environmental laws.

A clear articulation of this obligation was provided by the Court of Appeals in case brought by McLeod County, in its capacity as drainage authority, against the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

> The Minnesota Supreme Court has stated: Once a ditch system is established, the order creating it constitutes a judgment in rem. * * * Thereafter, every owner of land who has recovered damages or been assessed for benefits has a property right in the maintenance of the ditch in the same condition as it was when originally established. *Fischer v. Town of Albin,* 258 Minn. 154, 156, 104 N.W.2d 32, 34 (Minn.1960) (quoting *Petition of Jacobson v. Kandiyohi County,* 234 Minn. 296, 299, 48 N.W.2d 441, 444 (1951)).
>
> Thus, the landowners have a right to have the ditch maintained, and it is the [drainage authority] that must undertake the maintenance. However, as a political subdivision of the

> state, the [drainage authority] has a greater duty than does a private individual to see that legislative policy is carried out. As a creature of the state deriving its sovereignty from the state, the [drainage authority] should play a leadership role in carrying out legislative policy. *County of Freeborn v. Bryson,* 309 Minn. 178, 188, 243 N.W.2d 316, 321 (Minn.1976). Therefore, when the [drainage authority] undertakes the maintenance of a ditch, pursuant to statute, "it must do so in a way that is consistent with the objectives of the statute and other announced state policies." *Kasch v. Clearwater County,* 289 N.W.2d 148, 151 (Minn.1980).
>
> The supreme court has stated that Aldo Leopold's " 'land ethic simply enlarges the boundaries of the community to include * * * the land.' " *In re Application of Christenson,* 417 N.W.2d 607, 615 (Minn.1987) (quoting *Bryson,* 309 Minn. at 189, 243 N.W.2d at 322). The court has reaffirmed that the state's environmental legislation had given this land ethic the force of law, and imposed on the courts a duty to support the legislative goal of protecting our state's environmental resources. Vanishing wetlands require, even more today than in 1976 when *Bryson* was decided, the protection and preservation that environmental legislation was intended to provide. *Id.* Thus, the county has an obligation to maintain the ditch in a manner consistent with the policies established by the legislature in the Act.

McLeod Cnty. Bd. of Com'rs as Drainage Authority for McLeod Cnty. Ditch No. 8 v. State, Dept. of Natural Resources, 549 N.W.2d 630, 633–34 (Minn.App.,1996)

In the process of applying all of the above considerations and obligations, courts have concluded that the drainage authority, has discretion to determine the manner in which the ditch will be maintained – including the scope and extent of repair. *Slama v. Pine Cnty.*, No. A07-1091, 2008 WL 1972914 (Minn. Ct. App. May 6, 2008).

In reviewing this memorandum, the Board is strongly encouraged to consider the utility of any proposed action in the context of the above considerations and obligations.

ALTERNATIVE 4 COMPONENENTS

Maintenance Alternative #4 includes three components:

a) Lowering of the culvert under Pine Street at the ACD 10-22-32 Main Trunk;
b) Lowering of the culverts at a driveway west of Jodrell Street (referred to as "137th Ave."); and
c) Lowering of the culverts at Jodrell Street.

Lowering of the 137th Ave. culverts and Jodrell Street culverts requires regulatory engagement with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) since the culverts serve as the runout for public waters basins and thus changes at the culverts have the potential to impact these basins. Lowering of the Pine Street culvert does not have the potential to impact public waters but does have the potential to impact wetlands regulated under the state Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) and RCWD Rule F.

A memorandum dated October 31, 2023 by Houston Engineering, Inc. (HEI) provided an update on regulatory coordination complete to that date. Since then, additional coordination has occurred including RCWD application for a wetland replacement plan under WCA and DNR review of potential impacts to public waters.

This memorandum describes information gathered for addressing the Board-directed actions and points of consideration when evaluating the viability of maintenance options including balancing benefit and function versus cost and impact.

PINE STREET CULVERT

HEI completed a field delineation of wetlands along ACD 10-22-32 Main Trunk from Pine Street to 137th Ave. in September 2023. RCWD staff submitted the delineation report to the local government unit (LGU) in October 2023 for concurrence review. The technical evaluation panel (TEP) concurred with the delineation and RCWD approved the application.

HEI then prepared a wetland replacement plan which was submitted by RCWD staff to the LGU on May 17, 2024. The replacement plan includes mitigating 1.018 acres of wetland impact by withdrawing 2.036 acres of wetland credits from the Browns Preserve wetland bank. During the comment period, DNR staff provided correspondence indicating that rare plants have been identified within the vicinity of the project, and that a rare plant survey would be required.

The proposed work is entirely within the roadway and ditch which are exempt from endangered species permitting requirements per Minnesota Statute 84.0895 subd. 2(a)(1). The associated wetland drainage does not have the potential for a rare plant takings. Therefore, a rare plant survey is unnecessary and is not a reasonable use of public dollars. RCWD staff and its consultants are in discussion with DNR to address their concerns. The RCWD as LGU will then consider the wetland replacement plan prior to proceeding with culvert lowering. RCWD staff intends to complete this work once the replacement plan is complete and as soon as lowered water levels are conducive to the work.

137TH AVE. AND JODRELL STREET CULVERTS

DNR ENGAGEMENT

RCWD and HEI staff have had multiple interactions with DNR staff including meetings and exchanges of information (including modeling with additional detail) to inform DNR's consideration of the Alternative 4 repair and associated Public Waters regulation. DNR summarized its review within a letter dated July 10, 2024 (attached). The following is a summary of DNR's conclusions from this letter and other DNR correspondence related to this matter:

- A Letter of Permission from the DNR is required to complete the lowering of the 137th Ave. and Jodrell Street culverts as described in Alternative 4.

- A Letter of Permission will only be granted if the repair plan includes actions by the RCWD to mitigate impacts to the public waters.
- The state statute and rules are not prescriptive on how "impact" is to be evaluated for the proposed lowering of the culverts, and due to the rarity of such requests DNR does not have policy or substantial case history on the quantification of impacts. For this repair, DNR has considered the extent of inundation from the 2-, and 10-year rainfall events under existing and proposed (repaired conditions). Based on the model data and comparison to available storage, DNR has predicted 7.3 acres of impacts to wetlands resulting from Alternative 4.
- Likewise, state public waters laws are not specific on how public waters are to be mitigated. However, DNR staff has indicated that a starting point for mitigation is to utilize WCA requirements, though they may consider alternative mitigation approaches. Under WCA requirements, impacts to wetlands at this location would require replacement at a 2:1 ratio, or 14.6 acres in total. This could potentially be mitigated using the District's Browns Preserve wetland bank.
- As impacts within a public water are predicted to exceed 1 acre, an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) would be required. The responsible government unit (RGU) for considering the EAW could either be the District or DNR. Prior to proceeding with development of an EAW, the DNR recommends a meeting for concurrence on process and which entity is best situated to serve as RGU.

COSTS AND IMPACTS OF LOWERING 137TH AND JODRELL STREET CULVERTS

A Preliminary Opinion of Probable Construction Cost (POPCC) was developed for the recommended repairs and is included as **Appendix B**. **Table 1** displays a summary of project costs.

Table 1: Anticipated Costs for Lowering 137th and Jodrell St. Culverts

Category	Cost
Construction	$80,000
Construction Engineering	$25,000
EAW	$25,000
Rare species survey	$20,000
DNR Regulatory coordination	$20,000
Legal/staff time	$5,000
Total	**$175,000**

1. Notes on Cost
   Construction cost includes salvaging of four culverts, reinstalling the culverts, and extending the culverts to match the road slope. Also includes curb and gutter replacement, road pavement restoration, turf restoration, and traffic control
2. Engineering cost includes plan development, staking, and contract management.

3. EAW costs include cultural resource review, EAW text preparation, and response to comments.
4. DNR regulatory coordination includes preparation of a request for letter of permission; accompanying justification, and one meeting with DNR staff

In addition to these monetary costs, the work may require up to 14.6 credits of banked wetland credits from the District's Browns Preserve wetland bank. These credits cost roughly $12,000 per acre to generate, though the present-day value of the credits is likely substantially greater as the cost of developing wetland banks continues to rise. Market value of wetland credits in the north metro is as high as $100,000 / acre. Based on this range of credit cost, the value of the wetland credits needed for the lowering of these culverts ranges from $175,000 to $1,400,000.

Note that the cost estimate includes a rare species survey (which likely will be a required component of an EAW and/or DNR approval) but does not include the cost of a rare species taking permit (which may or may not be required depending on where and what type of rare species are identified).

BENEFITS OF LOWERING 137TH AND JODRELL STREET CULVERTS

Lowering the 137th St. and Jodrell St. culverts consistent with Alternative 4 will restore drainage function in the ACD 10-22-32 Main Trunk as close as possible to the condition as it was originally constructed in 1898 (as constructed and subsequently improved condition – ACSIC), noting that climatic variations and land use has placed additional burdens on the system that did not exist at the time of original establishment.

However, this work is not anticipated to convert wetland into non-wetland or significantly change the potential uses of adjacent lands. The peak water levels for the 2- and 10-year rainfall events on the properties potentially affected by the lowering of these culverts is wholly contained within a designated Public Water (see **Figures 1 and 2**). As such, most modifications to these lands that would enable a different land use would require a permit from the DNR. Further, given the position of these wetlands within a much larger wetland complex, numerous other complexities exist that make modification of these lands for a different land use expensive and improbable. As such, it is unlikely that any significant changes to land values or uses will result from the lowering of these culverts.

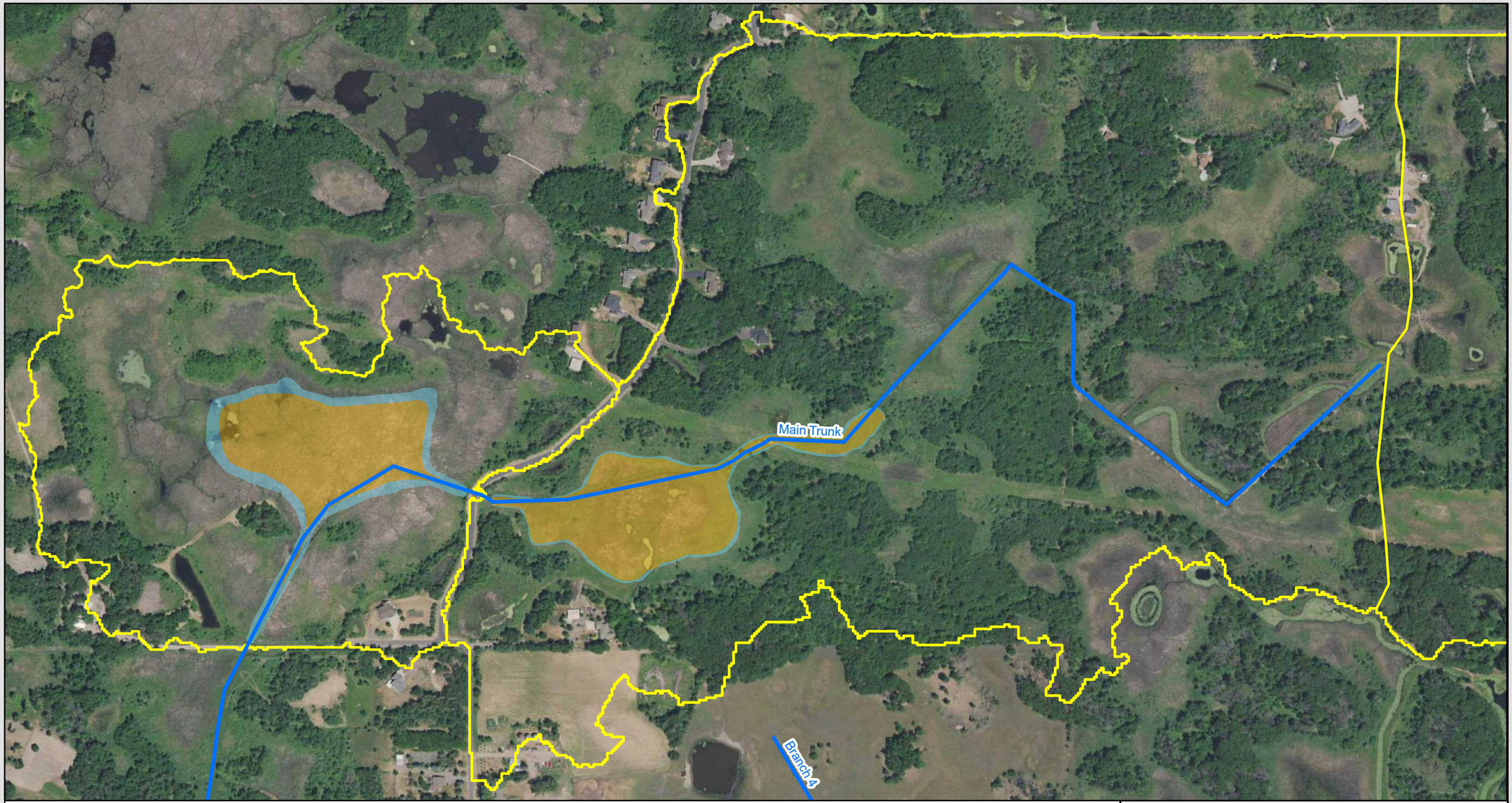
EVALUATING COST VS. BENEFIT

As noted in the drainage attorney's comments at the beginning of this memorandum, Minnesota Statute 103E identifies that Drainage Authorities must consider both monetary cost and environmental impacts in evaluating drainage system projects and repairs. Section 3.2.1 of RCWD's Watershed Management Plan also identifies the weighing of multiple factors in repairs, indicating that repairs "must plan for the current and future need of municipalities to use the public drainage system while considering and weighing other resource issues and needs." Further, the Plan states, "This means that a repair depth, in some cases, may be less than the ACSIC; or that the public drainage system may coexist within or adjacent to municipal stormwater management features."

In an ideal scenario, the feasibility of a project or other work would be evaluated by simply monetizing the benefits and costs and determining if there is a positive economic value that results. However, economic benefits and costs can be challenging if not infeasible to monetize for many types of projects. One of these types is drainage restoration on lands not in agricultural production. There is an intrinsic value of having predictable, efficient drainage that can perform for a variety of climatic and hydrologic conditions.

One frame of reference that is useful for decision making is to compare the costs and qualitative benefits of similar types of work that have been successfully completed. Only one District repair effort (Judicial Ditch 4) has required a similar amount of wetland mitigation (also 14.6 acres): The JD 4 repairs requiring this mitigation created a predictable, efficient outlet for agricultural land and a municipality where one did not exist previously; provided significant decrease in 2- and 10-year flood elevations over miles of the drainage system; and substantially increased the efficiency of the system. Other District repair efforts each have required less than 3 acres of wetland mitigation and had multiple miles of restoration in system efficiency for agricultural and/or urban landscapes.

Conversely, the proposed lowering of 137th St. and Jodrell St. culverts will only have an impact on the lands immediately upstream of each roadway crossing, on lands that are currently wetland and will continue to be wetland if the repairs are completed. The work will not improve the predictability of the system as an outlet, but rather will have its primary effect of lowering water levels in portions of wetland, designated as public waters, during dry weather periods. Although there is intrinsic value in having a lower outlet, it is far less valuable than restoration of efficiency and predictability, particularly when the land affected will not be made viable for agricultural or land development use as a result of the work.



Legend

- ACD 10-22-32
- Catchments
- Alt. 4 2-yr Flood Pool
- Existing Conditions 2-yr Flood Pool

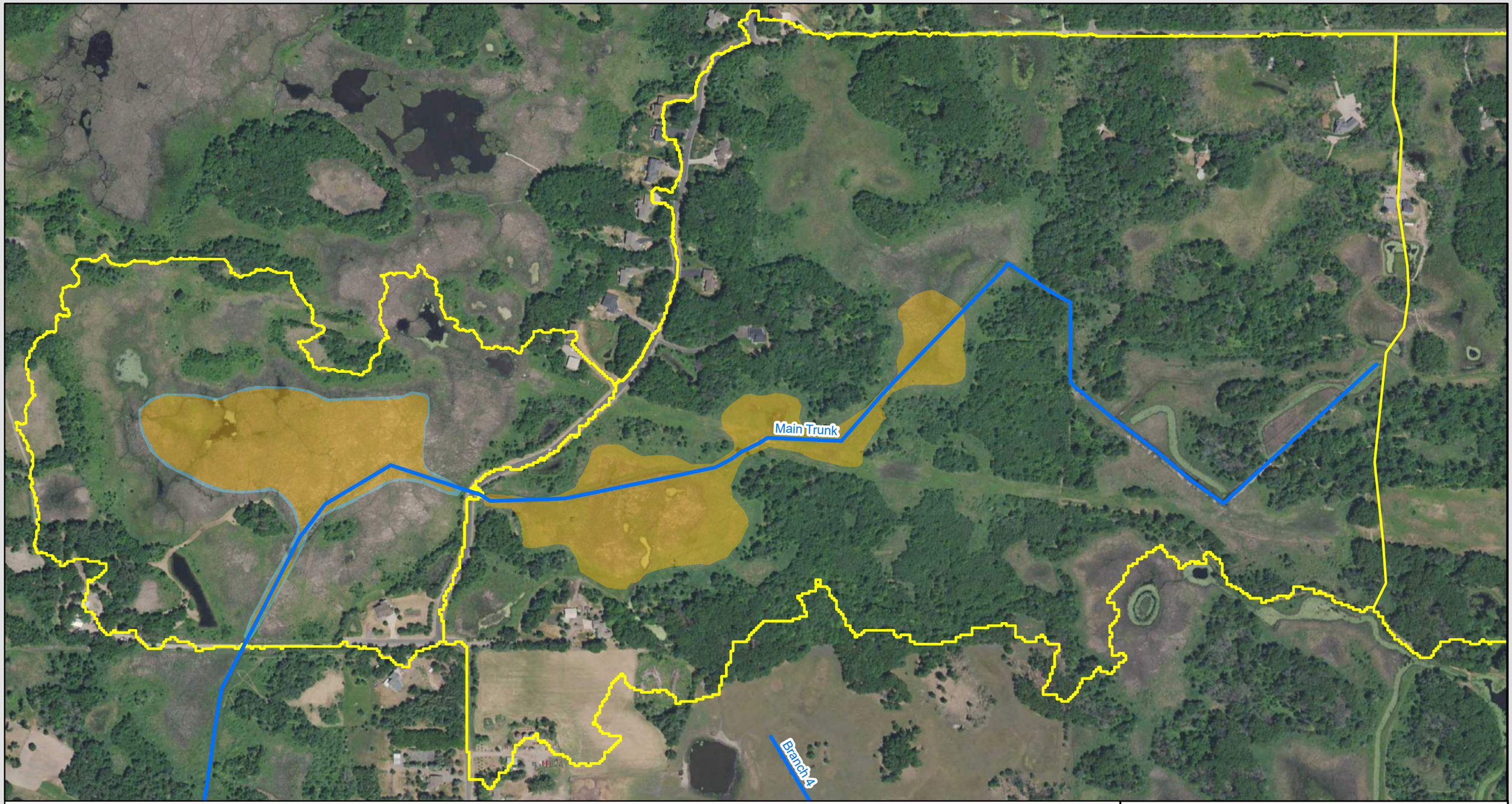
0 0.13 0.25 0.5 Miles

N W E S

Figure 1 - 2-yr Flood Extent

Scale:	Drawn by:	Checked by:	Project No.:	Date:	Sheet:
AS SHOWN	CJC	BTZ	5555-0333	8/22/2024	

HOUSTON engineering, inc.



Legend

- ACD 10-22-32
- Catchments
- Alt. 4 10-yr Flood Pool
- Existing Conditions 10-yr Flood Pool

0 0.13 0.25 0.5 Miles

N W E S

Figure 2 - 10-yr Flood Extent

Scale:	Drawn by:	Checked by:	Project No.:	Date:	Sheet:
AS SHOWN	CJC	BTZ	5555-0333	8/22/2024	

HOUSTON engineering, inc.

Anoka County Ditch
10-22-32
Reference Materials

Technical Memorandum

To: Nick Tomczik; Rice Creek Watershed District Administrator

From: Bret Zimmerman, PE
Cait Caswell, EIT

Through: Chris Otterness, PE

CC: Tom Schmidt, RCWD
Ashlee Ricci, RCWD

Subject: Anoka County Ditch 10-22-32 Evaluation of Maintenance Alternatives

Date: January 23, 2023

Project: 5555-0321

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this project is to evaluate potential alternatives to restore drainage capacity to a portion of Anoka County Ditch (ACD) 10-22-32, specifically those portions of the Main Trunk upstream (north) of Pine Street (see **Figure 1**). In 2021, the Rice Creek Watershed District (RCWD) completed a review of the As-Constructed and Subsequently Improved Condition (ACSIC) of ACD 10-22-32 north of Pine Street, which culminated in a reestablishment of the public drainage system record per Minnesota Statue 103E. The ACSIC review and associated survey indicated that three road crossings utilize culverts higher than the ACSIC grade. In addition, a pipeline managed by Flint Hills Resources / Minnesota Pipeline is just below the ACSIC grade (creating maintenance challenges), and another pipeline managed by Northern Natural Gas is a location of chronic beaver activity.

Per the RCWD drainage management flowchart, observed isolated deficiencies in capacity along the public drainage systems are addressed through evaluation of minor maintenance alternatives. To understand the benefit, cost, and feasibility of maintenance approaches, HEI evaluated several maintenance alternatives for restoring drainage capacity in this location. These alternatives were modeled, with peak water levels compared at critical locations along the drainage system. This report will summarize these results, along with performance, cost, and regulation considerations, and provide a recommendation for maintenance.

ALTERNATIVES AND MODELING

Modeling Approach

The analysis was performed using XPSWMM (v. 2019.1.3) hydrologic modeling software. All models used the Curve-Number (CN) hydrologic theory, which estimates runoff volumes based on the combination of rainfall input, soil type, and land use at any given location. Hydrologic parameters in all alternatives remain identical, so any changes are directly related to the changes in elevation and/or capacity of drainage system components. The modeling completed for this analysis is short-duration based analysis according to the 24-hour storm. As with all of the District's hydrology/hydraulics models, it does not account for subsurface flow through soil or other long-term hydrologic changes.

Alternative 1 – Existing Conditions

The existing conditions model assumes ACSIC grade in the ditch (including at the two pipeline crossings that have shallow cover) and that culverts are at elevations taken during recent survey in 2020 and 2021. This model was created as a baseline to compare the effectiveness/value of all other alternatives. Note that "existing conditions" along ACD 10-22-32 have changed substantially in the last 10 years as repairs and minor maintenance have been completed along the entire drainage system.

Alternative 2 – Pre-pipeline Hump Cleanout

The pre-pipeline hump cleanout model assumes ACSIC grade in the ditch, culverts at surveyed elevations, and a 2.5-foot-tall hump in the ditch to represent a beaver dam that existed at the Northern Natural Gas pipeline prior to the 2021 maintenance completed at this location by the RCWD. The field crossing culvert at station 275+03, the northernmost culvert, was also modeled at the size and elevation it was prior to the 2021 maintenance activity. This model was created to evaluate the hydraulic impact of this recent maintenance effort with respect to other alternatives.

Alternative 3 – Permitted Grade

The permitted grade model assumes ACSIC grade in the ditch and lowers Pine Street to ACSIC grade. The culverts at 137th Ave are both lowered to the permitted grade established in the 2015 DNR Public Waters Work Permit. All other crossings remain at their surveyed elevations, including Jodrell Street. This alternative is intended to represent the maximum maintenance to ACD 10-22-32 that can be completed without additional regulatory approvals from the DNR.

Alternative 4 – Full ACSIC

The full ACSIC model assumes ACSIC grade in the ditch and lowers the Pine Street, 137th Ave and Jodrell Street culverts to ACSIC grade. All other crossings remain at their surveyed elevations. This is intended to represent a full restoration of drainage system capacity to ACD 10-22-32 to the ACSIC.

Alternative 5 – Full ACSIC with Additional Capacity

The full ACSIC with additional capacity model assumes ACSIC grade in the ditch, lowers the Pine Street, 137th Ave and Jodrell Street culverts to ACSIC grade and adds an additional 24-inch HDPE culvert at all crossings. The purpose of this alternative is to evaluate whether increasing size/number of culvert crossings under any of the roadways will significantly change peak flooding elevations.

RESULTS

Modeling results for each of the five alternatives are provided in **Tables 1 and 2** for the 2-year rainfall (2.7 inches) and 10-year rainfall (4.1 inches), respectively. Peak water surface elevations are reported at seven different locations, each of which is upstream of an existing culvert crossing (see **Figure 1**).

From the modeling results, we can derive the following conclusions:

- The recent maintenance completed in 2021 drastically lowered peak water surface elevations upstream of the Northern Natural Gas pipeline crossing (up to 2-feet). No other maintenance on the public drainage system has the ability to significantly lower peak water surface elevations in this location.
- Lowering the culvert at Pine Street will substantially lower peak water levels on lands between 137th Ave and Pine Street (up to 1.3 feet)
- Lowering the 137th Ave. culvert to the previously permitted grade (Alternative 3) will reduce the peak water surface elevation by 0.3-0.4 feet between 137th Ave. and Jodrell Street and by 0.1 – 0.2 feet just upstream of Jodrell Street. Although this decrease will not substantially affect/enhance adjacent land use, lowering these culverts does provide a nominal increase in capacity and the cost is relatively low.
- Lowering the137th Ave. culverts and Jodrell Street culverts to the ACSIC grade will further lower peak elevations from 137th Ave to just upstream of Jodrell Street by 0.4-0.7 feet (compared to the Permitted Grade alternative). The benefit of this lowering of peak water elevation is relatively minimal, for a couple of reasons:
    - The decrease in peak water surface elevation extends only to approximately the Northern Natural Gas pipeline crossing. Upstream of the pipeline, these modifications have no discernable effect.
    - The land adjacent to the portion of the ditch affected by the Full ACSIC alternative consists of wetlands. The modeled peak flood events rise up out of the banks of the ditch, but not significantly higher than the grade variations within the wetland. As such, the difference in flood extent in this location for any alternative cannot be discerned when mapped. Further, the flooded areas (most of which are public waters) will remain wetlands under all alternatives due to the high water table in the area and lateral inflows. Therefore, there does not appear to be any significant flood extent change or land use value provided by this alternative
- Increasing the number or size of culverts under any of the crossings has no significant effect on peak flood elevations.

Table 1 – Peak water surface elevations during a 2-year rainfall event

2 year	Location 1 Sta. 275+03 Field Crossing		Location 2 Sta. 264+79 Field Crossing		Location 3 Sta. 230+16 Jodrell St		Location 4 Sta. 216+00 137th Ave [1]		Location 5 Sta. 204+54 Field Crossing		Location 6 Sta. 190+65 Field Crossing		Location 7 Sta. 185+90 Pine St	
	WSE[2]	Diff.[3]	WSE[2]	Diff.[3]	WSE[2]	Diff.[3]	WSE[2]	Diff.[3]	WSE[2]	Diff.[3]	WSE[2]	Diff.[3]	WSE[2]	Diff.[3]
Alt 1. Existing Conditions	901.0	---	900.8	---	900.4	---	900.3	---	899.5	---	899.5	---	899.5	---
Alt 2. Pre-pipeline Hump Cleanout	902.6	1.6	902.6	1.8	900.4	0.0	900.3	0.0	899.5	0.0	899.5	0.0	899.5	0.0
Alt 3. Permitted Grade	901.0	0.0	900.8	0.0	900.2	-0.2	899.9	-0.4	899.2	-0.3	898.9	-0.6	898.3	-1.2
Alt 4. Full ACSIC	901.0	0.0	900.8	0.0	899.5	-0.9	899.3	-1.0	899.3	-0.2	898.9	-0.6	898.3	-1.2
Alt 5. Full ACSIC with Additional Capacity	900.9	-0.1	900.8	0.0	899.5	-0.9	899.3	-1.0	899.2	-0.3	898.7	-0.8	898.2	-1.3

Table 2 – Peak water surface elevations during a 10-year rainfall event

10 year	Location 1 Sta. 275+03 Field Crossing		Location 2 Sta. 264+79 Field Crossing		Location 3 Sta. 230+16 Jodrell St		Location 4 Sta. 216+00 137th Ave [1]		Location 5 Sta. 204+54 Field Crossing		Location 6 Sta. 190+65 Field Crossing		Location 7 Sta. 185+90 Pine St	
	WSE[2]	Diff.[3]	WSE[2]	Diff.[3]	WSE[2]	Diff.[3]	WSE[2]	Diff.[3]	WSE[2]	Diff.[3]	WSE[2]	Diff.[3]	WSE[2]	Diff.[3]
Alt 1. Existing Conditions	902.1	---	901.7	---	900.8	---	900.6	---	900.1	---	900.0	---	900.0	---
Alt 2. Pre-pipeline Hump Cleanout	904.1	2.0	903.0	1.3	900.8	0.0	900.6	0.0	900.0	-0.1	900.0	0.0	899.9	-0.1
Alt 3. Permitted Grade	902.1	0.0	901.7	0.0	900.7	-0.1	900.3	-0.3	899.5	-0.6	899.5	-0.5	898.9	-1.1
Alt 4. Full ACSIC	902.1	0.0	901.7	0.0	900.2	-0.6	899.9	-0.7	899.9	-0.2	899.6	-0.4	899.0	-1.0
Alt 5. Full ACSIC with Additional Capacity	901.8	-0.3	901.7	0.0	900.2	-0.6	899.7	-0.9	899.7	-0.4	899.5	-0.5	899.2	-0.8

[1] Permitted Grade at 137th Ave is 899.60

[2] Peak Water Surface Elevation Upstream of Crossing

[3] Change Relative to Existing Conditions

RECOMMENDATION

Based on the analysis, the maintenance activities on ACD 10-22-32 providing the greatest impact to drainage system capacity are the continued maintenance of grades at the two pipeline crossings and the lowering of the Pine Street culvert. The RCWD should continue to monitor and maintain the open channel regularly and take actions to control the beaver populations, particularly at the two pipeline crossings. We recommend the RCWD proceed with repairs to lower the culvert under Pine Street. This will require a review of potential wetland impacts under the Wetland Conservation Act and may require a mitigation plan. This will also require coordination with the Cities of Columbus and Lino Lakes as joint road authorities.

Additionally, the culverts under 137th Ave should be lowered to the previously permitted elevation. Although the incremental decrease in water surface elevation is relatively small, there is minimal cost and regulatory engagement required to complete this action.

The analysis revealed no significant benefit or necessity of lowering 137th Ave and Jodrell Street culverts to ACSIC grade. Lowering these culverts to ACSIC grade would have no measurable reduction in flooding extent and will not affect the landowner's ability to modify their use of this land. Construction cost for lowering the Jodrell Street culvert would be substantially greater than any of the other maintenance activities, and feasibility and cost of obtaining regulatory approval from the DNR is uncertain.

The two pipeline crossings of the upper portion of ACD 10-22-32 (Flint Hills Resources pipeline between Pine Street and 137th Ave. and Northern Natural Gas pipeline east of Jodrell Street) are both lower than the as-constructed grade of ACD 10-22-32. Though they do not project into the ditch bottom, they have historically impacted maintenance of the public drainage system in multiple ways:

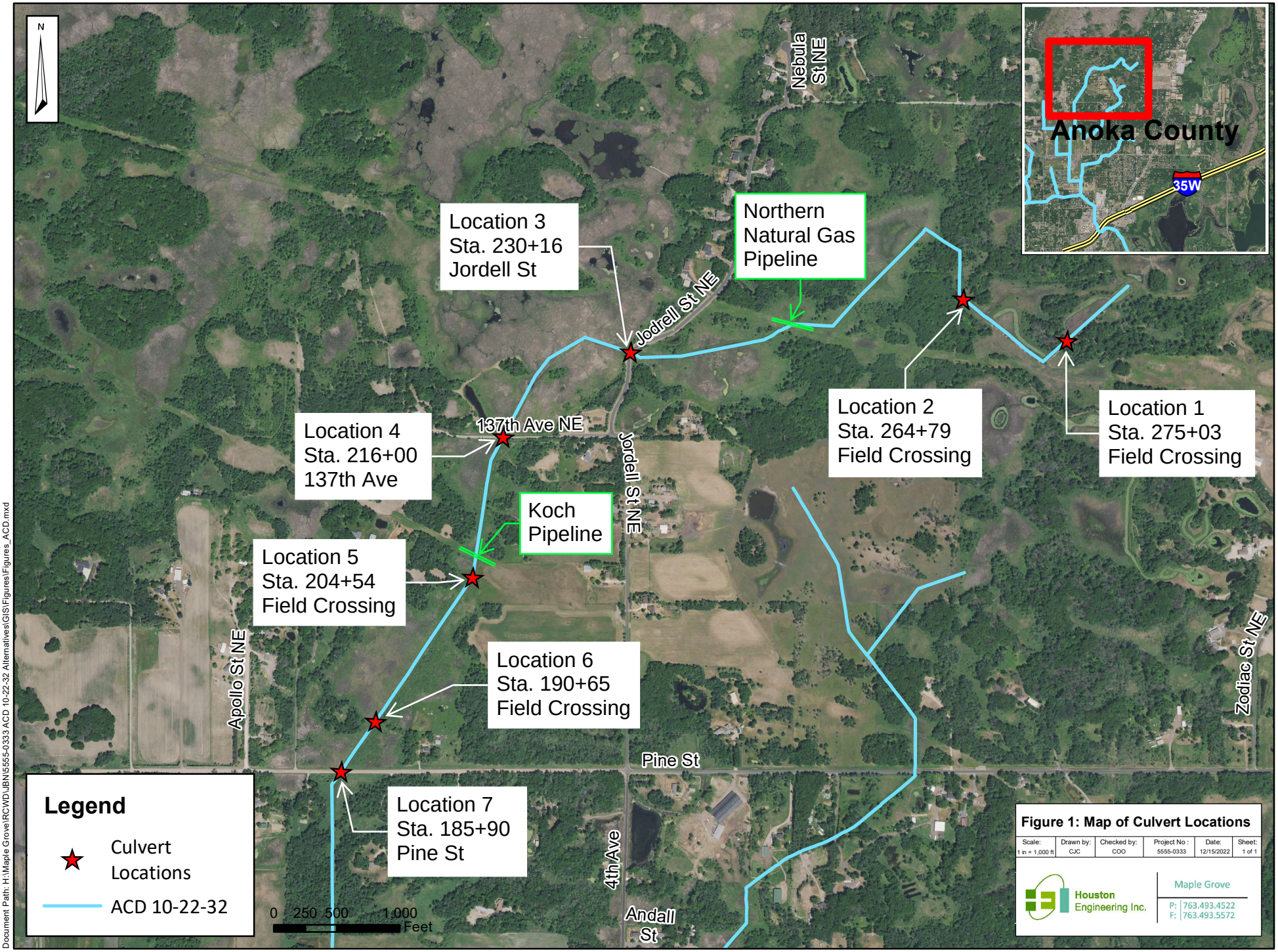
1. Cleanout of the ACD 10-22-32 ditch over each pipeline location has at times been disallowed by pipeline representatives citing pipeline safety guidelines. However, recent cleanout over the Northern Natural Gas pipeline crossing occurred successfully under the authorization and observation of pipeline representatives.

2. Work scheduling in these locations is subject to the availability of pipeline representatives to be onsite. This has delayed the initiation of work in these areas by weeks or even months, and has prevented timely response to observed deficiencies.

3. The elevated hump/berm providing cover over the pipeline on either side of the ditch creates an attractive location for beaver damming efforts. This requires more frequent inspection and maintenance than other portions of the District's public drainage systems.

The preferred solution to these maintenance issues is the lowering of the pipeline. However, due to the significant expense and impact of lowering a pipeline, and given that the pipelines in these locations are not projecting into the original ditch bottom, other near term solutions should be pursued. We recommend continued engagement with the pipeline companies to clarify process, responsibilities, and timeframes when addressing needed maintenance at these and other pipeline crossings in the RCWD.

ACD 10-22-32 Alternatives



PUBLIC MEETING: ANOKA COUNTY DITCH 10-22-32 EVALUATION OF MAINTENANCE ALTERNATIVES

Manager Wagamon stated after careful research into this issue, he has decided not to recuse himself from this matter and clarified that he had spoken with both District Attorney Smith and District Attorney Holtmann who were in support of this decision. He stated that he also contacted a private attorney and his analysis was that he was under no obligation to recuse himself from this matter and District Attorney Smith was comfortable with this because it was an informed decision.

District Administrator Tomczik stated that there has been a lot of interest in this topic and clarified that this is a public information meeting. He noted that some of the communications that have come to the District include terms that are in Statute and discussion needs to be careful about those and what the term means to the District as a governing entity of the public drainage system. He suggested care with the acronyms that are used during the meeting. He clarified that the District, as drainage authority, is not currently under drainage proceeding and this is a public information meeting.

Drainage Inspector Schmidt gave an overview of the background of the ACD 10-22-32 system and shared a brief history of the maintenance and management efforts over the last 17 years or so. He reviewed the acronym ACSIC and explained that it meant As Constructed and Subsequently Improved Condition and noted that it represents the as-built condition and the maximum depth and cross section of a public drainage system repair. He noted that the drainage authority is not required to repair to the ACSIC depth, and alternative repair depths are common in many parts of the State. He gave a brief explanation on why a drainage authority may elect for an alternative repair depth. He reviewed the system performance and original design and noted that it was not designed to facilitate rapid run-off for large events. He explained that it was designed for a 2 year storm event which limits the drainage authority's ability to go beyond that in a repair because the idea is to return it to the original function that it was designed for. He explained that the topography is flat and not conducive to natural drainage. He noted a communication sent by a resident prior to the construction of Jodrell Street indicating that temporary flooding was common in the area. He reviewed the various maintenance and management efforts and their outcomes including accelerated system flow, beaver dam removal, cleaning, and culvert replacements/modifications. He noted that he feels it is important to remember that the ACSIC profile, has been adopted.

District Engineer Otterness gave an overview on the maintenance alternatives for ACD 10-22-32. He stated that they were asked to begin this study based on continued landowner concerns regarding the function of the system, including the capacity and grade. He stated that they had completed a field survey in 2021 which indicated that there was relatively little sediment in the ditch. He reiterated that the District has been doing maintenance on the system for about the last 15 years and there are portions that have been cleaned out multiple times which has also involved excavating sediment out to the bottom, or hard pan of the open ditch. He noted that they found through their study that the culverts at 3 of the road crossings are higher than the as

built ditch grade. He stated that maintenance over and near the pipeline crossings continues to be a concern due to beaver activity that the District has been managing through trapping. He explained that they have proposed a study that would evaluate alternatives to drainage management in order to further restore drainage function. He gave an overview of Alternative 1 – maintain existing conditions; Alternative 2 – pre-pipeline hump cleanout; Alternative 3 – permitted grade; Alternative 4 – full ACSIC; and Alternative 5 – full ACSIC with additional capacity. He stated that in order to conduct this analysis, they utilized the District-wide modeling and evaluated 2 year and 10 year rainfall events. He reviewed the results they found in their report and outlined the comparison between existing conditions and each of the alternatives that were modeled. He noted the regulatory considerations that were part of the study of the alternatives as well as past challenges related to coordination with pipeline representatives. He reviewed value, cost and feasibility for a few of the options for Board consideration. He explained that their recommendation is to continue coordination with the road authorities to lower the Pine Street Culvert; reset the 137th culvert to the permitted grade; found that Jodrell Street is not substantively obstructing the public drainage system; that the road authority may elect to lower or increase capacity of culverts under the streets; and continue frequent inspections and maintenance of pipeline crossings, including beaver management.

Manager Weinandt asked if she was correct that ACD 10-22-32 was consolidated in 2015 and in doing so it meant that all the finances that were charged into each of the systems was them in one pot. She asked when they talk about work in the northern section, whether that meant that the payment for any work that occurs there is charged to the entire drainage system. She asked if the work that has been done previously had been at the 60/40 proportions.

Drainage Attorney Kolb stated that the consolidation of ACD 10-22-32 took place prior to 2015 and believes it was around 2010. He explained that at that time, none of the systems had functional financial accounts, so part of the consolidation process included a discovery and determination and adoption of functional alignments, profiles, capacities, and the consideration of how future expenditures and construction/repair costs on the system would be handled. He stated that, at the time, the Board established, with the consent of the local municipalities, a water management district for the watershed area of the newly consolidated drainage system. He stated that within the construct of the water management district charge system, the Board acknowledged that there was a historical impediment created by a lack of maintenance and some of those types of things. He explained that the Board adopted, as a matter of policy, a process to allocate costs between the water management district charge and ad valorem taxes which is what they are addressing in the 60/40 split. He noted that the major repairs that occurred to the portions of ACD 10-22-32 south of Pine Street were funding by the water management district charge throughout the entire watershed area of the consolidated system and apportioned by the ad valorem tax. He stated that future costs have been limited to ad valorem collected funds under the District's minor maintenance program. He noted that if there was a major reconstruction of a portion of ACD 10-22-32 north of Pine Street, as discussed, the Board would still have to make a decision about how it wanted to handle those costs. He explained that if it did become a major reconstruction, the likely outcome would be a recommendation from staff

to reinitiate the watershed management district charge for a percentage and allocate a percentage of costs to the ad valorem.

President Bradley noted that he wants to make sure that the questions and responses from the City of Lino Lakes are part of the record. He asked what the ditch bottom elevation would be at Jodrell under ACSIC and noted that he thought he had previously been told it was 898.5.

District Engineer Otterness stated that he does not have that information in front of him and would have to check the records to verify.

President Bradley asked if he could tell him what the ACSIC elevation would be at the permitted location at 137th Avenue.

District Engineer Otterness noted that he also did not know that elevation without checking the records.

President Bradley asked if he knew whether the permitted elevation at 137th Avenue was higher or lower than the ACSIC at Jodrell.

District Engineer Otterness stated that he believes that it is higher.

President Bradley noted that to him this shows that even if it is repaired, there will always be a pinch point at 137th Avenue because the ACSIC is higher at that point.

District Engineer Otterness stated that the permitted elevation of the culvert at 137th Avenue would be a little higher than what the ACSIC elevation at Jodrell would be.

Manager Waller expressed appreciation to District Administrator Tomczik for the reminder to be careful in the use of acronyms. He noted that there may be plans and records that show it was a different elevation but there has been an ACSIC adopted which is the permitted elevation that has been considered by the DNR and noted that the District does not have the authority to override the DNR. He noted that the culvert at 137th Avenue is going to be lowered back to the permitted elevation because a frost heave has pushed it up. He stated that it does not necessarily mean that what may have been in the past is the ACSIC.

President Bradley asked if Alternative 4 would lower 137th Avenue culvert below the current permitted level.

District Engineer Otterness stated that was correct and would lower it below the current permitted elevation.

Manager Weinandt asked about 137th and asked if it was a private crossing.

District Engineer Otterness stated that it is a driveway but the maps label it as 137th Avenue.

Manager Weinandt asked if it was considered part of the ditch system.

District Engineer Otterness explained that the driveway crosses the drainage system but is not a component of the drainage system.

Manager Weinandt asked if lowering it would be the responsibility of the private property owner or if it would be the ditch system's responsibility.

District Administrator Tomczik stated that the District's position on crossings is that the 'crosser' is responsible for their crossing and having it align with the public drainage system, however, in situations where there has been past District communications about the elevation and the size of the culvert to parties alternatives considered. He explained that the District has departed from that practice and has participated in the payment for those adjustments. He stated that for this culvert, they would need to take a look at the record and see what was communicated to the landowner.

President Bradley opened the meeting for public comment.

Mike Kettler, Civil Engineer, Sunde Engineering, stated that he was asked by Perry Wagamon to study the alternatives developed by the District as they relate to his property which is upstream of the Jodrell crossing. He explained that originally his property did not drain to ditch that is being discussed and noted that the natural drainage was towards what is now the Jodrell Street alignment. He noted that it was just because of the Jodrell Street construction that his drainage pattern changed to be directed to that existing ditch profile. He stated that part of the construction of Jodrell Street was a requirement from the Army Corps of Engineers to not impound water behind that roadway. He stated that he believes that the higher original culvert crossing of Jodrell Street essentially conflicted with that Corps requirement of impounding water and was essentially providing a pond behind the Jodrell Street crossing. He explained that Mr. Wagamon has witnessed significant flooding over a period of time on his property to his home, structures, septic, and other useable areas. He stated that he studied the alternatives that the District has presented and felt the modeling by District Engineer Otterness provided a lot of great information. He stated that it is very flat and would hesitate to even call it a ditch because it is essentially ponding water behind a lot of culvert crossings, which are storm sewer crossings. He stated that he believes it makes sense to provide in this model a 100 year storm event analysis and feels that would be beneficial information to see the relationship it would have to upstream flooding. He stated that he thinks for a 100 year storm event there would be a difference in water elevations behind the culvert crossings and asked that the District compare those flood elevations with some critical elevations on the Perry Wagamon property. He explained that Mr. Wagamon is essentially sitting in a landlocked area and feels that makes it a bit more relative to provide a 100 year storm event for an analysis and not just general pipe sizing in the District. He stated that he thinks all the alternatives that were presented are very well played out and thinks

Alternative 4 with some amendments, such as the 100 year event information, the Jodrell Street crossing, and making the pipe large enough to not flood upstream structures. He stated that it would basically either be amending Alternative 4 or creating a new Alternative 6. He stated that they feel lowering Jodrell down to the spirit of the Corps permit down to the original ditch bottom and not ACSIC in order to give Mr. Wagamon the condition that existed prior to the construction of Jodrell Street, which he believes was the intent of the Corps of Engineers. He explained that he believed this approach would be better suited for upstream flooding. He reiterated that he thought the model and the report given by District Engineer Otterness was very thorough but believes the other items should be considered for Mr. Wagamon's property.

President Bradley asked if he was correct that the Army Corps of Engineers was telling the city how it would build a road.

Mr. Kettler stated that he believed the jurisdiction of the Corps was some conditions on how they would allow the street construction when it took place.

President Bradley stated that the Board is here today to talk about how they are going to repair and maintain a ditch. He explained that part of that is that downstream will have effects on a particular road which means working within the city. He stated that they will not order the city in this proceeding to set culverts which would happen later in the process when the city comes to the District with a permit request because then they will have a proposal for the size of the culverts and those kinds of details. He noted that if the District did choose Alternative 4, they would not, as part of today's process, determine what the city would do as part of their responsibility as the road authority.

Drainage Attorney Kolb stated that this statement was correct to the extent that the road authority has separate and independent authority and planning jurisdiction over actions that would be taken to ensure that in the construction of its roadways is not causing an adverse condition and also to design the road and any hydraulic features of the road for the protection and integrity of both the road base and the traveling public.

President Bradley stated that it was also his understanding that whether or not the District using the 100 year rainfall event is not relevant to repair and maintenance of the ditch and is relevant to what the road authority will do with its culverts that cross out ditch. He noted that this would again be a separate proceeding. He stated that the information shared by Mr. Kettler is very important to the Board, but reiterated that today they were just trying to determine the elevation of the ditch. He stated that his question earlier about the original elevation of the ditch at 898.5 was relevant because he was looking at Mr. Kettler's drawing where he proposed it at 897.5, which is one foot lower than Alternative 4. He asked if Mr. Kettler had done any studies to see what impact that one foot difference would have.

Mr. Kettler stated that they have not done any studies and explained that his intent was not to recreate District Engineer Otterness' model because they think it is accurate, but would ask that the District plug in some different elevations and different storm events.

President Bradley explained that when the Board walks out of the room today he did not think they would have addressed the 100 year rainfall event or the bridge issue, but assured Mr. Kettler that he was not being ignored or that this information would not be considered if they adopt Alternative 4.

Perry Wagamon, stated that he has heard a lot of things today that he feels make a lot of sense regarding ditch cleaning. He stated that what does not make sense to him is that he lived in his home for 25 year prior to this road being constructed and had no flooding issues. He stated that the trees on his property that were killed by the flood were 40-50 years old. He stated that he does not think there is a question that when they built the road, it flooded, killed the trees, and ruined his home. He stated that he came to the District when the road was built and they were putting in the culvert. He explained that he had reported that a neighbor had told him that they were putting the culvert in 3 feet too high and requested help to take care of the flooding problem. He stated that they promised to do that and mentioned cleaning up ACD 10-22-32. He noted that he did not come to the District and ask them to clean ACD 10-22-32 because he did not know what that was, he just knew that his land was flooding. He reiterated that his land was not flooding prior to the road being built but did after it was built and the culvert was placed too high. He stated that he thinks it is obvious why his land was flooding and did not believe it should take a 15-20 year ditch cleaning process in order to take care of the problem. He stated that, to him, it would be common sense to go lower the culvert to the as constructed condition. He stated that if that would have been done, his land would not have been flooded, his property would not have been destroyed, and his trees wouldn't be dead. He stated that he feels this is a lot more simple than this group is trying to make it. He reiterated that he has never requested that any kind of kind of ditch cleaning be done and simply asked to have relief from the flooding. He expressed frustration that the expectation is that the Board would believe that it took them 15 years to figure out that there was a beaver dam over the pipeline and get it cleaned out. He stated that it was not a beaver dam and was a 2.5 foot obstruction that continued for 50-100 feet on either side of the pipeline. He explained that he mentioned that as an example of how much they can believe of what is being shared today.

Manager Wagamon asked if he could ask questions.

President Bradley clarified that he could ask questions as a Manager, but not as a son.

Mr. Wagamon stated that, in his opinion, there has to be some kind of nefarious reasons that they did not want to lower the culvert 3 feet.

President Bradley explained that the city had sent the District a letter outlining their position with regard to this situation and asked if there was a representative of the city who would like to place that into the record.

Kevin Bittner, Bolton & Menk, explained that he was also the appointed City Engineer for the City of Columbus. He stated that had provided the letter to the District and wanted to reiterate that, as a city, they are very supportive of activities that maintain the ditch systems within the city because they are very critical to their drainage. He stated that as it has been noted, Columbus is a very flat community so maintaining the ditches are critical. He stated that regarding the alternatives that were shared, from a technical perspective and his evaluation, he would support Alternative 4, but noted that they are open to consideration of other alternatives if other information comes forward. He noted that there was a statement from the presentation regarding lowering Jodrell culverts not measurably changing flood extent in upstream properties. He stated that he would agree with that from the perspective of the model, but when it comes to the event itself, he can see where the profiles may not change considerably based on the elevation of the culverts, but he thinks this is really a problem with saturation levels after the event is over. He stated that he believes at that point it acts less like a ditch and ends up being pools behind culverts and would say that the culverts play a really big part in controlling the saturation level and lowering them to the ASCIC level would be very beneficial.

Janet Hegland, Columbus City Council, stated that she has attended a few meetings and has learned a tremendous amount and understands the District has done a lot of work trying to solve this problem. She stated that the letter presented by Mr. Bittner reflect the position of the Columbus in terms of their interests, but noted that she had heard this morning that there is additional information and additional perspectives that may be considered. She stated that it would be very reassuring to the City of Columbus if that information was considered as part of the selection of the alternatives. She stated that the District has done a lot to try to solve this problem and it has been tremendously frustrating for Columbus to have residents have repeated flooding events and not get relief. She stated that the attempts that they have tried thus far, have not solved the problem. She stated that it may have kept them ahead of the development and increased pressure on the ditch system to handle storm water run-off, but it has not solved the problem. She stated that if it requires taking another meeting or two in order to look at the alternative perspectives and additional information and incorporate that into the selection process, that would offer some assurance to Columbus.

Manager Waller stated that he received a huge packet of information this morning from Mr. Wagamon and asked if Mr. Wagamon wanted this information to be added into the record.

Mr. Wagamon stated that he would like the information he submitted dated April 25, 2023 to become part of the official record. He explained that he had put this packet together because he did not think the Board had all the information they needed in order to vote on this issue.

President Bradley asked Ms. Hegland what other information she felt was available other than the information submitted by Mr. Kettler and Mr. Wagamon.

Ms. Hegland stated that she was referring to the information presented by Sunde Engineering. She clarified that she was asking the Board to consider the additional information as part of their alternative selection process.

President Bradley stated that it will be considered in part of their decision making process.

Ms. Hegland stated that what she heard from Sunde was something he referred to as Alternative 6 or that it be considered Alternative 4, with modifications.

Manager Weinandt stated that she believed the additional considerations as indicated, would happen with the District talks to the city about Jodrell and that would include some additional modeling on the 100 year event.

President Bradley stated that, for example, if Alternative 4 is selected, that adopts the ACSIC that this Board has previously approved as the goal and noted that the additional issues of what to do with Jodrell's ability to pass water and the additional question of whether they will or will not be successful in getting the DNR to cooperate.

Manager Waller stated that his understanding is that this is a public meeting to receive information and not necessarily to make a redetermination at this time. He stated that he wants to make sure that Columbus has presented all of the information that they want to present to the Board. He stated that Ms. Hegland made a statement that 'she had become aware of additional information' and would like to clarify that all of the information that she was aware of had been entered into the record.

Ms. Hegland stated that was correct.

Roger Nase, 6636 141st Avenue NE, Columbus, explained that this property is adjacent to the Wagamon property. He stated that they have 20 acres in that location and noted that he had also submitted a letter to the District. He stated that in wet years, they see a flow of water coming from the large pond at the Wagamon's that then flows onto his property behind the pole barn and noted that it can stay for a significant period of time. He stated that they have also had about 10 mature trees that have died. He expressed concern that the water level could be higher in year with heavier rainfall and make its way to the pole barn. He stated that he appreciates the effort and study that has been put into resolving this issue. He asked if the hump over the pipeline had already been removed or if it was just proposed.

District Engineer Otterness stated that the hump was removed a few years ago.

Mr. Nase stated that the property directly to the south of them had two 40 acre plots that were converted into commercial industrial property from residential property. He stated that in the last request for a CUP, they were permitted to allow 12-15 acres of the 30 acre plot to be impervious which was scheduled to flow into a pond, however the pond was at 904-906 in elevation and the wetland delineation line is right around 905-906 which means the pond will be full in the spring. He stated that if there was a large rain, their concern was that water would flow from the impervious surface and go toward the pond, but because it would be full it would then spill over onto his property and the Wagamon's property and exacerbate the problems that they are already seeing. He asked that Board to keep this in mind as they look at possibly having more water that could flow into the area.

Manager Waller asked for clarification on where Mr. Nase's property is located in relation to Mr. Wagamon's.

Mr. Nase gave a description of his property location in relation to Mr. Wagamon's and the impervious surface area he was referencing.

President Bradley noted that the material submitted by Mr. Nase would be included within the official record.

Scott Robinson, 8179 4th Avenue, Lino Lakes, stated that his property is directly south of this area and noted that he felt that drainage rights were property rights which give an intrinsic value to the property. He asked if there was representation from the City of Lino Lakes also present at today's meeting because they mentioned a culvert on Pine Street and asked if there was a proposed size that the cities want to install.

District Engineer Otterness explained that the cities had not yet proposed anything to the District for replacement. He stated that for the purposes of evaluation, they assumed that they would either reinstall the same pipe that is there or construct a new one at the same size, but a lower elevation. He noted that he believed the current pipe size was 24 inches.

Mr. Robinson asked if that would go to the ACSIC level or to the official profile of the ditch because those are two different things.

District Engineer Otterness stated that there is no official profile here but there is an ACSIC and that is t the baseline for the District's management of the systemto.

Mr. Robinson asked if the District was aware that there are areas of the watershed that the ACSIC level is not the official profile and is not the maintained level of the ditches.

District Engineer Otterness noted that there has historically been an extensive amount of private modification of the public drainage system throughout the system. He noted that as Drainage Inspector Schmidt had noted earlier the District identified a functional alignment and profile

through the drainage system back when they did the original development of repair efforts in 2011-2012. He stated that when tthe District completed the lowering of culverts and maintenance of the ditch to that functional profile, that profile now best replicates the ACSIC for that downstream area. He reiterated that this was heavily modified over the years from what the original establishment of the drainage system was.

Mr. Robinson stated that was correct but there were also surveys done of the ditch from south of the center of Section 6 which is a half mile south of Pine Street all the way down to the lake. He stated that there have been core samples done and they know the ditch was dug deeper at one time than what it was being maintained at now. He stated that his larger question is whether the Board decides to put in ACSIC upstream from them, what the effects will be on the water coming down to him when they are not doing to the ACSIC level below them and through them.

President Bradley stated that the District had received those exact questions from Lino Lakes and have responded in writing which will be included in the record. He asked District Engineer Otterness if he would summarize that response for Mr. Robinson.

District Engineer Otterness stated that it is important to note that lowering the culvert will not change the volume of water that is getting downstream and the same volume would be traveling despite the elevation of the Pine Street culvert. He stated that there may be some minor change in the flow that occurs for certain rainfall events but those will be minor and from the management of the drainage system, and the District has the right to manage to that ACSIC.

Mr. Robinson asked if the District's hands were tied by the Corps of Engineers and the DNR.

Drainage Attorney Kolb clarified that he would modify the comments made by District Engineer Otterness that they have the authority to do that, subject to regulation.

Mr. Robinson referenced a 10 year rain event and stated that he knows their back fields will be flooded because the downstream culverts are not adequate enough to handle it. He stated that if they put in a 48 inch culvert or two -24 inch culverts on Pine Street, they will be flooded. He stated that he feels there is no way that it will not flood because they are downstream and their culverts are smaller.

President Bradley stated that the District will deal with the size of the culverts as they proceed with implementation. He stated that District Engineer Otterness has indicated that the there is no intent, at this point in time, in making the culverts larger.

Mr. Robinson stated that he understood that but wanted to know if it was the District's testimony that they had done the study on downstream and have determined that they can take the water and that it will have no adverse effects.

District Engineer Otterness stated that they have done extensive modeling throughout the public drainage system in the area of study that they are looking at. He stated that they did not specifically look at modeled flood elevations for each alternative going all the back downstream, but based on what they have done in studies of other areas of the drainage system, the effects of lowering a culvert on Pine Street compared to the hydraulics a mile or two downstream, the changes are minor.

Manager Waller explained that an ACSIC already exists which is pretty much the permitted grade on Alternative 3. He stated that the only culverts that they are talking about lowering is to that ACSIC level. He stated that the District is accepting information about the possibility that there may be some change to it. He stated that as stated by District Engineer Otterness they are talking about keeping the culvert the same size, but lowering it to the profile that has already been adopted by the Board. He stated that the other Alternatives that have the word ACSIC in there, he feels are confusing.

Mr. Robinson stated that in a perfect world you would be able to say that the ACSIC is the official profile and have it maintained at that level. He stated that if the Board is doing to take the position that they will try to lower it to the ACSIC level, he would like to see that done District-wide and have it put down to the level where the ditches have been dug to.

Ron Moss, Tatonka Real Estate Advisors, stated that almost all of the discussion thus far today has been about the area north of Pine Street and he is representing a party who has property just south of Pine Street. He stated that this individual has 80 acres that they would like to sell and noted that it was platted back in 1980 as Pine Oaks Addition. He explained that at the time it was platted all the land was dry and right now, a reasonable amount of it is wet and he believes it is related to the topic being discussed today. He stated that they would like to sell it and have a potential buyer but the dryness of the land will have a great effect on the value of the land. He stated that he believes the decisions the Board makes will impact property owners south of Pine Street as well.

Manager Waller asked for more details on the location of the 80 acres he was referencing.

Mr. Moss referenced a map he brought with him and indicated the location of the 80 acres his client owns.

Mr. Wagamon expressed concern that, as he listens to the discussion, that this will go another 15 years in discussions about cleaning the ditch. He asked if that meant he would have to wait another 15 years with his property flooded to deal with the obvious reason for its flooding.

President Bradley stated that the time table would be determined by the DNR.

Mr. Wagamon asked if the Corps of Engineers would have the authority to change that and explained that they are the ones that permitted this.

President Bradley stated that he did not believe the District was in a position to comment on that process at this time. There being no additional comments, he closed the public meeting portion of the proceedings.

Drainage Authority Attorney Kolb asked to put a few things into context for the Board prior to them making a motion in order to frame their decision making. He stated that it is very important for the Board to receive all the comments that were shared today in order to better inform their decision. He stated that it is important to note that the Board is seated for a decision regarding ACD 10-22-32 as the drainage authority for that public drainage system and are limited in what they can do. He stated that they have been presented with a series of repair alternatives and their impact. He noted that one of the things to consider is that there is a threshold decision under the drainage code regarding repairs and that is if they are necessary and are they in the best interest of the land owners that utilize the drainage system. He stated that one important consideration is the purposes for which ACD 10-22-32, which is now a consolidated system, were originally constructed. He stated that the drainage system was not constructed to support industrial, commercial, residential development and was constructed to support agricultural uses where they were made more possible or improved by the construction of the system. He stated that when the Board listens today about a problem, he thinks it is fair to recognize that the problem is multi-faceted and the Board only has the authority to address one portion of that problem which is the function of this drainage system. He stated that its authority is not to fix a flooding problem that is caused by other things because that requires other proceedings and other regulatory approvals and possibly petitioned requirements for projects and other actions which is not before the Board at this time. He reiterated that what is in front of the Board at this time is the condition of this public drainage system and how they would proceed to meet the maintenance obligation/requirements of this ditch. He stated that the District believes the repairs are probably necessary given the fact that there are facts to indicate that there are known obstructions or impediments to the efficiency of the system. He explained that it is also important to note what constitutes a repair and noted that it is defined in the drainage code as 'to restore as nearly as practicable the originally constructed or subsequently improved hydraulic efficiency'. He stated that means sizing of culverts matters, grade lines of the ditch matter, geometric configurations matter, because they all contribute to hydraulic capacity. He stated that this Board has previously considered an abundance of data and information and has determined an ACSIC condition that included alignment, grade, configuration, hydraulic capacity of culverts and crossings. He noted that he had misspoken earlier when he gave the date of 2015 and noted that it was brought into Statute in 2013 and was the exact same processes that were used in determining an official profile or ACSIC hydraulic efficiency/capacity south of Pine Street and was further modified with the statutory process that resulted in the adoption of the ACSIC north of Pine Street. He stated that this represents the maximum extent to which you can reconstruct this ditch and still call it repair. He stated that if the District exceeds that by increasing hydraulic capacity, that would be considered 'improvement' which can only be accomplished through a petitioned process. He stated that if the District deepens the ditch beyond the ACSIC, as it has been established, that would also be considered an improvement, which requires a

petitioned process. He stated that when the engineer outlines Alternative 4, repair to the ACSIC, that is the maximum the District can do and anything beyond that would constitute an improvement to the system and would require a separate petitioned process as well as all the other involved regulatory processes. He noted one other consideration that the Board must give is that in any work on the ditch, including a repair, is consideration of the conservation of soil, water, wildlife, and natural resources and has to incorporate concepts found in the Minnesota Environmental Policy Act. He stated that the landowners cannot force the District to go head to head with the DNR in a fight over whether something should be approved or not. He stated that if the Board would decide that they want to repair back to ACSIC, that begins a whole separate process and they have to go see if they can get a permit to do this work. He stated that if a permit cannot be obtained, and that results in an impediment to the drainage rights of the individual land owners, the District is not obligated to vindicate that right for the landowners. He stated that even if the Board makes a decision that they want to proceed with Alternative 4, they may be prevented from doing that because they cannot get the regulatory approvals to do so. He noted that when they are considering repair to one portion of the drainage system, it is not considered in isolation which addresses the comments shared by Mr. Robinson and others. He stated that what the Board is trying to do is thread a very small needle and are trying to get to the point where they have restored the most beneficial drainage in the greatest interest of all of the competing interests. He explained that when the public comes in and talks about a problems, the Board may not be able to solve that particular problem and may only be able to address one aspect of that problem. He stated that there were comments shared that asked the Board to repair to the original ditch bottom and not the ACSIC but the Board has determined that the ACSIC which was adopted by the Board is the original ditch bottom unless there is compelling evidence that is contrary to what they had previously considered that would show that the prior decision was palpably wrong. He clarified that he wanted to manage expectations from both the Board and the public about what the Board can actually do in today's proceedings.

President Bradley thanked Drainage Authority Kolb for this clarification and explained that he had been trying to let the witnesses know that some of the things they were concerned about would be decided later. He noted that they have not had a chance to review the information that came in today and believes that if, for example, the Board adopts Alternative 4, it would be not preclude them from doing that because they would be setting a policy to set it to the ACSIC, which is the ditch bottom.

Manager Robertson stated that her understanding is that the Board was not asked to make any sort of legislative action today and was to simply hold a public information meeting in order to hear feedback from the other parties. She stated that she did not think the Board had been asked to 'do something' today. She stated that she thinks it is obvious that something needs to be done, but she does not want to do something for the sake of doing it.

Manager Wagamon stated that he agreed.

Manager Robertson stated that there is cause and effect here and explained that she doesn't want to do one thing and then end up, for example, flooding the Robinson property. She stated that government is not perfect, does not move fast, nor do they always get it right. She stated that she feels they have to be cautious in this instance and not act rashly. She stated that she did not believe that they had even specifically identified what the District's objectives are before they attempt to even make a decision. She stated that she thinks making a motion at this point would be irresponsible and explained that she sees what has happened today as one step of a multi-step process.

Manager Waller stated that he did not come here to make any decisions other than to accept the information. He noted that he agreed with the earlier statement made by President Bradley that today should mark the cut off for new information. He stated that he personally needs time to ruminate over the new information that was submitted. He stated that he would suggest that the Board simply close the public meeting and move on.

Motion by President Bradley, seconded by Manager Waller to close the record related to the consideration of ACD 10-22-32 Evaluation of Maintenance and Repair Alternatives now that the Board had received public comment and additional documentation, and direct the District Engineer to review the additional information and provide a summary to the Board of the relevance of the information.

Manager Wagamon stated that since there is not going to be a debate regarding a decision, he can hold the comments he had planned to make earlier in the meeting.

Motion carried 5-0.

District Administrator Tomczik stated that he would estimate that this item could be brought back before the Board in a month.

Manager Wagamon stated that the information being turned in is very different than what the District Engineer is saying. He stated that the engineer that spoke on behalf of the people today has a different opinion and has a lot of facts to back up that opinion. He noted that he did not understand why the District Engineer would end up being the one who makes a decision on what is correct when there are dueling engineering opinions.

President Bradley stated that neither engineer would decide what is right or wrong and explained that determination would be made by the Board.

District Administrator Tomczik stated that he believed that Houston Engineering, after reviewing the information, will have a technically responsive position for the Board and noted that he believes they will be able to address the concern raised by Manager Wagamon.

Technical Memorandum

To: Nick Tomczik
Rice Creek Watershed District
Cc: Tom Schmidt
John Kolb
From: Chris Otterness PE
Subject: Anoka County Ditch 10-22-32
Summary of Comments Received and Next Steps
Date: May 23, 2023
Project: R005555-0333

INTRODUCTION

On April 26, 2023, the Rice Creek Watershed District (RCWD) held a public information meeting to discuss alternatives for restoring drainage function on a portion of Anoka County Ditch (ACD) 10-22-32 north of Pine Street in the City of Columbus. At this meeting, the RCWD received commentary and questions from several landowners (including municipalities) and their representatives. One landowner (Perry Wagamon) provided paper documentation for consideration of maintenance/repair alternatives.[1] In addition, the RCWD received written comments from landowners prior to and following the public information meeting.

The purpose of this memorandum is to summarize the information and comments received, provide engineering responses (as appropriate) and identify how the information may be considered with respect to a decision on further management of ACD 10-22-32 in this location. The memorandum also will recommend next steps in proceeding forward with a management alternative.

COMMENT SUMMARY

Written comments were submitted by eleven individuals, including landowner, cities, and their representatives. **Table 1** tabulates the comments, along with a technical response regarding engineering considerations related to the comment. Comments from the 4/26/23 Board meeting are quoted directly from the approved meeting minutes.

[1] These documents are supplemental to documents received from Mr. Wagamon during a 2021 proceeding to reestablish the public drainage system record.

Table 1 – Written Comments and Engineering Responses.

ID	Comment	Engineering Response
Mike Kettler, P.E., Sunde Engineering; 4/18/2023 Letter to Perry Wagamon (comments 1-10) and 4/26/23 Board Meeting (comments 11-12)		
MK.01	The goal of the Watershed District is to establish a recommendation on how to best restore the drainage capacity of the ditch, referred to by Anoka County as ditch 10-22-32. The restoration will in turn alleviate flooding on the Wagamon Property and neighboring parcels of land.	The RCWD is tasked, both under its Watershed Management Plan and under Minnesota Statute (M.S.) 103E, to inspect and maintain its drainage systems. Although this maintenance facilitates the use of the system as an outlet, it cannot eliminate all flooding on the landscape.
MK.02	In reviewing the above materials, we are concerned that the analysis of flooding elevations with respect to the downstream Jodrell Street culvert crossing elevations was reviewed against the as-constructed and subsequently improved condition (ACSIC) with is higher than the ditch profile that existed prior to the construction of Jodrell Street as indicated in the profile drawings. There is no doubt the higher elevation of the current ditch contributes to higher water levels upstream of the ditch such as on the Wagamon Property and neighbor properties.	The ACSIC grade is lower than the ditch profile that existed prior to the construction of Jodrell Street. Two to three feet of sediment has been removed from the ditch bottom during repair activities in the last 12 years.
MK.03	To restore water levels to the condition that previously existed, we believe that the ditch profile needs to be part of the solution. We don't believe that the profile should have been raised as part of the adjacent road construction even if wetland mitigation were to be required as a result.	The construction of Jodrell Street did not change the elevation of the ditch, but rather placed a culvert above the ACSIC grade. The RCWD has since cleaned out the ditch to the ACSIC and cannot lawfully clean lower than that as a maintenance activity.
MK.04	Additionally, the culvert crossing on Jodrell Street and the soil correction that took place for the Jodrell Street construction as it crosses the ditch are wrong and have caused serious flooding problems for the Wagamon property and neighboring properties. When you built your home around 1982, the runoff from your property did not drain to the ditch. It was only as a result of the construction of Jodrell Street in 2003, in which the street acted as a dam for the surface water runoff that cause your previous drainage pattern to become altered and re-directed to the ditch. This is	As RCWD does not manage groundwater, we have not evaluated the historic effects of Jodrell Street's construction on subsurface flow.

ID	Comment	Engineering Response
MK.05	Exhibit A depicts a modified ditch profile that was changed by the Watershed Engineers to be higher than the elevation of the original ditch that dates back more than 100 years.	HEI has identified the ACSIC grade, replicating the condition of the ditch as it was originally constructed, based on significant field data collection. This grade was adopted by the Board as a matter of record.
MK.06	Exhibit A also shows a cross-section of Jodrell Street thru the ditch. The culvert was constructed as part of the roadway crossing to pass runoff under the street. However, it was erroneously not placed at the bottom of the ditch profile, but rather approximately 3' above the bottom of the ditch making the ditch grade irrelevant as the water levels now are controlled by the elevated culvert height, which further increased the upstream flooding on the Wagamon Property and neighboring	Correct – the developer of the project installed the Jodrell Street culvert at roughly the elevation of the existing sediment in the ditch at the time of construction, which was approximately 2.2 feet above the original ditch bottom.
MK.07	Poor soils were encountered under the proposed Jodrell Street alignment which necessitated significant soil correction during construction. Some 60' of compacted material was placed below the pavement section in order to stabilize the road. IN addition to the surface water flooding, this action trapped the flow of groundwater and raised the water table higher on the Wagamon property and neighboring properties causing severe damage to structures, septic systems, and the killing of hundreds of 50-60 year old oak trees and other valuable trees during freeze and thaw cycles due to saturated soils. These soils had not been saturated before the compacted material was installed under the new street.	As RCWD does not manage groundwater, we have not evaluated the historic effects of Jodrell Street's construction on subsurface flow.
MK.08	Attached Exhibit B depicts a proposed culvert crossing Jodrell Street at the bottom of the ditch instead of 3' above it, which would considerably reduce high water levels behind it and the flooding on the Wagamon Property and neighboring properties.	The profile identified in Exhibit B is considered an "improvement" under the drainage statute. Under M.S. 103E, a drainage authority cannot complete maintenance that is deeper or provides a greater capacity than the as-constructed and subsequently improved condition. The profile indicated in Exhibit B is also lower than downstream infrastructure which would negate most of its effectiveness in further draining this region.

ID	Comment	Engineering Response
MK.09	Finally, in our opinion and as stated in the RCWD Stormwater Management Rule C the storm even for flood protection should be established is the 24-hour, 100-year rainfall event (7.12") and not simply rainfall events of 2-year and 10-year probabilities. The larger storm events will yield higher peak flood elevations and correctly change what an appropriate recommended solution to the flooding situation needs to be. It will require a larger, but necessary scope of work than what is being considered in the January 31, 2023 Memorandum. Proposed changes will be more in line with what we are outlining in Exhibit Bs. We would encourage the District's model to use this storm event to establish a better cost benefit recommendation.	Under the drainage statute, the RCWD cannot increase the size of the drainage system beyond what it was originally constructed (less than a 10-year rainfall event). However, RCWD can and has evaluated road culverts for their ability to pass a 100-year rainfall event without flooding upstream structures. RCWD has modeled and mapped the 100-year flood event along ACD 10-22-32 under existing conditions. We are unaware of structures adjacent to this portion of the public drainage system that are potentially inundated by the 100-year floodplain, and thus did not evaluate the 100-year rainfall for the alternatives. If potential structural flooding locations are identified, the RCWD can consider additional analysis for relief of 100-year flooding under one of its other programs.
MK.10	In our opinion, we believe there is a solution (see paragraphs 7 and 8) that will eliminate flooding on the Wagamon Property and neighboring property. This should be the goal even if the scope of work and permits needed to accomplish this has to broaden out from the analysis and options presented by the Watershed District in their January 31, 2023 memorandum.	Although there are activities, both in RCWD's role as Drainage Authority and through its other programs, that can be completed that alleviate some surface water issues in this vicinity, it should be noted that it is infeasible to eliminate all water pooling on these properties.

ID	Comment	Engineering Response
MK.11	Mike Kettler, Civil Engineer, Sunde Engineering, stated that he was asked by Perry Wagamon to study the alternatives developed by the District as they relate to his property which is upstream of the Jodrell crossing. He explained that originally his property did not drain to ditch that is being discussed and noted that the natural drainage was towards what is now the Jodrell Street alignment. He noted that it was just because of the Jodrell Street construction that his drainage pattern changed to be directed to that existing ditch profile. He stated that part of the construction of Jodrell Street was a requirement from the Army Corps of Engineers to not impound water behind that roadway. He stated that he believes that the higher original culvert crossing of Jodrell Street essentially conflicted with that Corps requirement of impounding water and was essentially providing a pond behind the Jodrell Street crossing. He explained that Mr. Wagamon has witnessed significant flooding over a period of time on his property to his home, structures, septic, and other useable areas. He stated that he studied the alternatives that the District has presented and felt the modeling by District Engineer Otterness provided a lot of great information. He stated that it is very flat and would hesitate to even call it a ditch because it is essentially ponding water behind a lot of culvert crossings, which are storm sewer crossings.	Noted. RCWD was not the permitting authority for the construction of Jodrell Street and thus does not have the authority to enforce the conditions established by the permits issued at that time.

ID	Comment	Engineering Response
MK.12	He stated that he thinks for a 100-year storm event there would be a difference in water elevations behind the culvert crossings and asked that the District compare those flood elevations with some critical elevations on the Perry Wagamon property. He explained that Mr. Wagamon is essentially sitting in a landlocked area and feels that makes it a bit more relative to provide a 100-year storm event for an analysis and not just general pipe sizing in the District. He stated that he thinks all the alternatives that were presented are very well played out and thinks Alternative 4 with some amendments, such as the 100-year event information, the Jodrell Street crossing, and making the pipe large enough to not flood upstream structures. He stated that it would basically either be amending Alternative 4 or creating a new Alternative 6. He stated that they feel lowering Jodrell down to the spirit of the Corps permit down to the original ditch bottom and not ACSIC in order to give Mr. Wagamon the condition that existed prior to the construction of Jodrell Street, which he believes was the intent of the Corps of Engineers. He explained that he believed this approach would be better suited for upstream flooding. He reiterated that he thought the model and the report given by District Engineer Otterness was very thorough but believes the other items should be considered for Mr. Wagamon's property. Mr. Kettler stated that they have not done any studies and explained that his intent was not to recreate District Engineer Otterness' model because they think it is accurate but would ask that the District plug in some different elevations and different storm events.	See response to Comment MK.09
Kirby Becker, landowner: 4/12/23 email to RCWD		
KiB.01	What land use was input into the model runs? Was it existing or future land use? If only existing, It would be nice to see results with a full 20-year build (i.e., counties, cities, townships) for each model run alternative (less Alt 1).	Existing land use was used for this report. The RCWD has previously completed future land-use modeling in this location. as part of other water management efforts. This modeling is relevant to municipal stormwater planning and for other District programs, but not so for the public drainage authority in completion of its drainage system maintenance decisions.

ID	Comment	Engineering Response
KiB.02	Why were alternatives only modeled at 2.7" and 4.1" rainfalls? "There has been a shift in recent decades for more significant rainfall events. Minnesota has seen 16 mega-rains, but 11 of these 16 events have been in the most recent 22 years (2000 through 2021), compared to five confirmed events in the 27 years from 1973 through 1999. Put another way, these major rainfall events have been over 2.5 times more common during the first few decades of the 21st century than they were during the last few decades of the 20th century. Although it is difficult to assess the statistical significance of that increase, we do know that these observations are consistent with observed increases in the frequency and intensity of heavy rainfall events at historical observing stations, and also are consistent with the expectation that Minnesota and the Upper Midwest will receive more precipitation, and more precipitation from large events opens in a new browser tab, in response to increasing global temperatures and increased available moisture for passing storm systems." (https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/climate/summaries_and_publications/mega_rain_events.html)	Alternatives were modeled for the current 2-year and 10-year rainfall depths as defined by NOAA's Atlas 14, consistent with RCWD program administration. Minnesota has experienced more high-intensity rainfalls in recent years. Some of this has been accounted for already in the Atlas 14 rainfall depths. NOAA has not updated rainfall frequency data since Atlas 14, and utilizing alternative depths would be arbitrary for the purpose of the RCWD maintenance effort.
KiB.03	Were downstream ditches, storage/retention ponds, and water flows modeled to determine impacts if upstream culverts were increased in size or lowered?	The entire ACD 10-22-32 system, down to its outlet at Marshan Lake, is included in the model. Focus on the study was critical locations upstream of maintenance locations, as the function and utility of the drainage system downstream will not be affected by lowering culverts.
KiB.04	Were the cities of Columbus and Lino Lakes coordinated with during the selection and modeling of alternatives (prior to)?	No. The RCWD Engineer and staff recommended alternatives to be evaluated (from a technical basis) to the RCWD Board, which the RCWD Board approved. When the Board makes a management decision, it will consult with the Cities regarding next steps.

ID	Comment	Engineering Response
KiB.05	What is the expense and impact of lower a pipeline? Did the pipeline companies provide a cost to lower and description of impact? If not, I would suggest removing this language from memo.	We cannot provide an estimated expense – that can only be provided by a pipeline company, and we have not received that information. Due to very low tolerances for deflection, lowering a pipeline a few feet can require modification of the pipeline up to a half mile in either direction. It is this understanding (and prior experience in working with pipeline companies regarding other lowering efforts) that is the basis of this statement.
KiB.06	What are the expense/costs for alternatives 3, 4 and 5? Aside from the hydraulic modeling impacts, It would be nice to understand costs for each alternative in the near and long-term including the cost to "lower the culvert under Pine Street".	The costs for constructing these alternatives was not in the scope of this analysis. The regulatory costs of each alternative are not well understood and will require the expenditure of additional District investment in order to more accurately understand the relative cost.
KiB.07	This is the last paragraph of the memo. The last part of sentence one states "other near term solutions". Is this is reference to recommendations outlined on page 5 of 7, or are there other near term solutions not identified and included in the memo? If not, what would those solutions be?	These solutions include regular inspection of the crossing sites, beaver dam removal, beaver trapping, and coordination with the pipeline companies for maintenance activities.
KiB.08	Additionally, both Columbus and Lino Lakes should also be listed in the last sentence for continued partner/stakeholder engagement. While I understand the need to coordinate with the pipeline companies, it's also important to ensure both cities are kept in the loop and ensure the best interests of their residents.	The last sentence was intended simply to reflect the coordination necessary at the pipeline crossing sites. The RCWD has, and will continue to, coordinate with the Cities in the intersection of the ditch system with City infrastructure (i.e., public roadways) and with landowner engagement. The Cities have been invited to the public information meeting on April 26, and we look forward to further engagement with them.
Diane Hankee, City of Lino Lakes, in an email dated April 20, 2023 (comments 1 and 2) and in a Zoom chat window during the April 26, 2023 Public Meeting (comment 3)		

ID	Comment	Engineering Response
DH.01	As you know, when RCWD lowered the culvert under Pine St. to the east, some of our residents felt as though it created issues downstream in Lino.	We are aware of some of these concerns, including the perception that "we are getting more water." However, the hydrology does not bear that concern out. Lowering the culvert has a minimal effect on downstream runoff delivery. In addition, it is important to note that the RCWD is obligated to maintain the entire drainage system (including portions upstream and downstream of these landowners, and the baseline for that maintenance is the as-constructed condition. The effort to lower the Pine Street culvert on Branch 4 was intended to restore that condition.
DH.02	We will need some understanding of the impacts downstream.	No impacts downstream are intended from the maintenance work considered in Houston Engineering's memo. Again, the culvert elevations will not change the capacity or burden on the downstream system, and maintenance here is consistent with maintenance in other parts of the system, including that already completed downstream several years ago
DH.03	How does the flood elevation change impact downstream in Lino Lakes. Can you provide a map showing the pre and post project floodplain in the Lino Lakes? for the flood alternates that were ~-1'	None of the alternatives is anticipated to have a significant effect on flood elevations in Lino Lakes, as the capacity of the public drainage system is not being changed. No floodplain mapping was completed downstream of Jodrell Street.
Kevin Bittner, Columbus City Engineer, in a letter dated April 19, 2023 (Comments 1-3) and testimony at 4/26/23 Board Meeting (comment 4)		
KeB.01	In general, the Mayor and City Council, as well as city staff, are very supportive of maintenance and improvement activities on all the ditch systems within the city limits and those outside of the city that provide a positive drainage benefit to the city. Given its flat topography, effective drainage systems are critical to maintaining the integrity of existing residential and commercial properties as well as providing mechanisms for future development within the city.	Agreed and noted. Please note comment KeB02 below with regard to the term "improvement."

ID	Comment	Engineering Response
KeB.02	In regard specifically to ACD 10-22-32, we are very supportive of improvements that provide relief to properties that have experienced high saturation levels over the past 20 years, due to numerous factors that are at play. The City also recognizes that the RCWD is the authority for this system and controls the decision-making process for any improvement.	Under MS 103E, the term "improvement" is specific to deepening or enlarging the drainage system. RCWD cannot lawfully initiate an "improvement" in this sense. However, understanding that Mr. Bittner's the use of the term "improvement" here is intended to be synonymous with repairs, then the statement would be correct. It is important to note that road authorities are ultimately responsible for decision-making related to roadway culverts along the drainage system, though the District can order modification to these culverts if they are determined to be an obstruction.
KeB.03	From a technical viewpoint, in my review of the alternatives that are laid out in Houston Engineering's Technical Memorandum dated January 23, 2023, I'm of the opinion that Alternative 4 would provide the maximum benefit to the city and its property owners.	Noted.
KeB.04	Kevin Bittner, Bolton & Menk, explained that he was also the appointed City Engineer for the City of Columbus. He stated that had provided the letter to the District and wanted to reiterate that, as a city, they are very supportive of activities that maintain the ditch systems within the city because they are very critical to their drainage. He stated that as it has been noted, Columbus is a very flat community so maintaining the ditches are critical. He stated that regarding the alternatives that were shared, from a technical perspective and his evaluation, he would support Alternative 4, but noted that they are open to consideration of other alternatives if other information comes forward. He noted that there was a statement from the presentation regarding lowering Jodrell culverts not measurably changing flood extent in upstream properties. He stated that he would agree with that from the perspective of the model, but when it comes to the event itself, he can see where the profiles may not change considerably based on the elevation of the culverts, but he thinks this is really a problem with saturation levels after the event is over. He stated that he believes at that point it acts less like a ditch and ends up being pools behind culverts and would say that the culverts play a really big part in controlling the saturation level and lowering them to the ASCIC level would be very beneficial.	Noted

ID	Comment	Engineering Response
Roger and Sherri Nase, landowners, in a letter dated April 24, 2023 (Comments 1 and 2) and testimony at 4/26/23 Board Meeting (Comment 3)		
RSN.01	We want to express our concerns regarding the high water levels that flow from the large swamp (noted below) onto our property flooding the trees behind and to the East of our pole building. Standing near the property line we could see the current in the water running from the swamp on Perry Wagamon's property onto our property. We have had about 10 trees that were in water that eventually died and many others that may die if it continues to flood. This is not a problem every year but on wet years the water really backs up in that region and doesn't seem to drain down. The ditches probably need to be cleaned back to their original depth to restore the drainage. Ditches naturally fill in as sediment deposits or bog plugs them up. They need maintenance to prevent flooding.	The ditches have been cleaned out to the original depth in recent years. Minimal sediment currently exists in the ditch. However, as the commenter notes, ditches do experience sedimentation and other blockages, and RCWD staff remains vigilant in inspecting the drainage system and maintaining it as blockages occur.
RSN.02	When we looked at the culverts at Jodrell Street they were not at the ditch bottom, which is contributing to the problem by increasing the water level from where it was before the road was built.	The original culvert under Jodrell Street was at the elevation of sediment in the ditch bottom when it was constructed. However, as the ditches have been cleaned out to the original grade, the culvert is now substantially higher than the current ditch bottom.
RSN.03	Mr. Nase stated that the property directly to the south of them had two 40 acre plots that were converted into commercial industrial property from residential property. He stated that in the last request for a CUP, they were permitted to allow 12-15 acres of the 30 acre plot to be impervious which was scheduled to flow into a pond, however the pond was at 904-906 in elevation and the wetland delineation line is right around 905-906 which means the pond will be full in the spring. He stated that if there was a large rain, their concern was that water would flow from the impervious surface and go toward the pond, but because it would be full it would then spill over onto his property and the Wagamon's property and exacerbate the problems that they are already seeing. He asked that Board to keep this in mind as they look at possibly having more water that could flow into the area.	Noted
Tim and Helen Kessler, landowners, in an email dated April 24, 2023		

ID	Comment	Engineering Response
THK.01	We have lived in Lino Lakes since 1986 on Main Street. Back in about 2006 there was discussion on the Blanding Turtle in Anoka County and the fact it was endangered. My wife and I express wishes that in all you do, you also consider this turtle habitats, if you still see it as threatened.	Blanding's turtles are listed as "threatened" by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). As the RCWD is aware of multiple sightings of these turtles in Columbus and Lino Lakes, it has taken precautions to avoid inadvertent takings of the species during ditch maintenance, including educating equipment operators.
Clark Robinson, landowner: 4/26/23 letter to RCWD		
CR.01	As a landowner within this drainage system my question is, has the ACSIC been applied to entire 10-22-32 system, or just in the areas north of Pine St.?	An ACSIC has been determined for the entire system. For the portions of the system south of Pine Street, the ACSIC is consistent with the Functional Grade identified in the 2011 Historical Review
CR.02	Has every culvert from Main St. south been checked to see if the culvert is set at the level that would match the ACSIC level?	Yes – every culvert has been verified for consistency with the ACSIC grade.
CR.03	In other words, if the ditch has been improved to a lower level than the original profile, shouldn't all the culverts/obstructions be lowered to match the bottom of the ditches?	Excavation of the ditch by private landowners outside of a public drainage proceeding is <u>not</u> considered to be part of the as-constructed and subsequently improved condition
Perry Wagamon, landowner: Paper documentation provided to the Board on 4/26/2023 (Comment 1) and testimony at the 4/26/23 Board meeting (Comments 2 and 3)		
PW.01	See **Appendix A** for summary of documentation provided	The documentation provided by Mr. Wagamon details observed historic hydrologic conditions and a partial history of water management decisions near Jodrell Street by the RCWD, City of Columbus, Coon Creek Watershed District, DNR, and Corps of Engineers.

ID	Comment	Engineering Response
PW.02	Perry Wagamon, stated that he has heard a lot of things today that he feels make a lot of sense regarding ditch cleaning. He stated that what does not make sense to him is that he lived in his home for 25 year prior to this road being constructed and had no flooding issues. He stated that the trees on his property that were killed by the flood were 40-50 years old. He stated that he does not think there is a question that when they built the road, it flooded, killed the trees, and ruined his home. He stated that he came to the District when the road was built and they were putting in the culvert. He explained that he had reported that a neighbor had told him that they were putting the culvert in 3 feet too high and requested help to take care of the flooding problem. He stated that they promised to do that and mentioned cleaning up ACD 10-22-32. He noted that he did not come to the District and ask them to clean ACD 10-22-32 because he did not know what that was, he just knew that his land was flooding. He reiterated that his land was not flooding prior to the road being built but did after it was built and the culvert was placed too high. He stated that he thinks it is obvious why his land was flooding and did not believe it should take a 15-20 year ditch cleaning process in order to take care of the problem. He stated that, to him, it would be common sense to go lower the culvert to the as constructed condition. He stated that if that would have been done, his land would not have been flooded, his property would not have been destroyed, and his trees wouldn't be dead. He stated that he feels this is a lot more simple than this group is trying to make it. He reiterated that he has never requested that any kind of kind of ditch cleaning be done and simply asked to have relief from the flooding.	Noted
PW.03	He expressed frustration that the expectation is that the Board would believe that it took them 15 years to figure out that there was a beaver dam over the pipeline and get it cleaned out. He stated that it was not a beaver dam and was a 2.5 foot obstruction that continued for 50-100 feet on either side of the pipeline.	It is correct that a portion of the obstruction was remnant cover placement by the pipeline owner (NNG) when the pipeline was installed. RCWD initially cleaned off a portion of this cover material to the extent that the on-site pipeline representative would allow. Beaver dams were then built on top of the remaining hump and subsequently removed by RCWD multiple times. In 2021, RCWD in coordination with NNG representative was able to remove the remainder of the hump down to the ACSIC grade.

ID	Comment	Engineering Response
Janet Hegland, Columbus City Council Member, in testimony at 4/26/23 Board Meeting		
JH.01	Janet Hegland, Columbus City Council, stated that she has attended a few meetings and has learned a tremendous amount and understands the District has done a lot of work trying to solve this problem. She stated that the letter presented by Mr. Bittner reflect the position of the Columbus in terms of their interests, but noted that she had heard this morning that there is additional information and additional perspectives that may be considered. She stated that it would be very reassuring to the City of Columbus if that information was considered as part of the selection of the alternatives. She stated that the District has done a lot to try to solve this problem and it has been tremendously frustrating for Columbus to have residents have repeated flooding events and not get relief. She stated that the attempts that they have tried thus far, have not solved the problem. She stated that it may have kept them ahead of the development and increased pressure on the ditch system to handle storm water run-off, but it has not solved the problem. She stated that if it requires taking another meeting or two in order to look at the alternative perspectives and additional information and incorporate that into the selection process, that would offer some assurance to Columbus.	Noted
Scott Robinson, landowner, in testimony at 4/26/23 Board Meeting		
SR.01	Scott Robinson, 8179 4th Avenue, Lino Lakes, stated that his property is directly south of this area and noted that he felt that drainage rights were property rights which give an intrinsic value to the property. He asked if there was representation from the City of Lino Lakes also present at today's meeting because they mentioned a culvert on Pine Street and asked if there was a proposed size that the cities want to install	The Cities have not proposed an alternative size. The alternatives evaluated utilizing the same size pipe, with exception of Alternative 5.
SR.02	Mr. Robinson asked if that would go to the ACSIC level or to the official profile of the ditch because those are two different things. Mr. Robinson asked if the District was aware that there are areas of the watershed that the ACSIC level is not the official profile and is not the maintained level of the ditches.	The RCWD does not manage to an "official profile." Rather, it manages to the ACSIC alignment, grade, and cross-section. In most of the system, the ACSIC is the same as the "Functional Profile" indicated in the 2011 Historic Review.

ID	Comment	Engineering Response
SR.03	Mr. Robinson stated that there were also surveys done of the ditch from south of the center of Section 6 which is a half mile south of Pine Street all the way down to the lake. He stated that there have been core samples done and they know the ditch was dug deeper at one time than what it was being maintained at now. He stated that his larger question is whether the Board decides to put in ACSIC upstream from them, what the effects will be on the water coming down to him when they are not doing to the ACSIC level below them and through them.	We are unaware of core samples that would indicate that the grade of the ditch as it was originally constructed and subsequently improved via drainage proceedings is lower than the ACSIC grade recognized by the District. Lowering the Pine Street culvert will not increase the burden on the downstream system nor change its capacity.
SR.04	Mr. Robinson asked if the District's hands were tied by the Corps of Engineers and the DNR.	The District has the authority to maintain the drainage system pursuant to M.S. 103E, but is likewise subject to other local, state, and federal laws.
SR.05	Mr. Robinson referenced a 10 year rain event and stated that he knows their back fields will be flooded because the downstream culverts are not adequate enough to handle it. He stated that if they put in a 48 inch culvert or two -24 inch culverts on Pine Street, they will be flooded. He stated that he feels there is no way that it will not flood because they are downstream and their culverts are smaller.	The District does not intend to increase the capacity of the Pine Street culvert.
SR.06	Mr. Robinson stated that wanted to know if it was the District's testimony that they had done the study on downstream and have determined that they can take the water and that it will have no adverse effects.	No increase in water volume will occur downstream as a result of any of the proposed alternatives, and thus the burden on the system will not be increased by the alternatives. That said, other factors including climatic changes have increased the frequency of higher magnitude rainfall events. The RCWD is limited in its ability to address the climatic changes through its role as drainage authority but has and will continue to address these changes through other District programs.

ID	Comment	Engineering Response
SR.07	Mr. Robinson stated that in a perfect world you would be able to say that the ACSIC is the official profile and have it maintained at that level. He stated that if the Board is doing to take the position that they will try to lower it to the ACSIC level, he would like to see that done District-wide and have it put down to the level where the ditches have been dug to.	The RCWD has completed prior comparisons of the ACSIC grade on ACD 10-22-32 to existing road/field crossings and has replaced and/or lowered the culverts where crossings have been determined to be an obstruction.
Ron Moss, Tatonka Real Estate Advisors, in testimony at 4/26/23 Board Meeting		
RM.01	Ron Moss stated that almost all of the discussion thus far today has been about the area north of Pine Street and he is representing a party who has property just south of Pine Street. He stated that this individual has 80 acres that they would like to sell and noted that it was platted back in 1980 as Pine Oaks Addition. He explained that at the time it was platted all the land was dry and right now, a reasonable amount of it is wet and he believes it is related to the topic being discussed today. He stated that they would like to sell it and have a potential buyer but the dryness of the land will have a great effect on the value of the land. He stated that he believes the decisions the Board makes will impact property owners south of Pine Street as well.	The referenced property is located upstream of Branch 2 of ACD 10-22-32 and is in no way impacted by the proposed alternatives upstream of Pine Street. However, we understand the concerns, which are consistent with concerns raised by a prior owner of the property, which are unrelated to the condition of the ACD 10-22-32 drainage system. We are unaware of disrepair on Branch 2 that has cause the chronic drainage issues on the subject property.

CONSIDERATION OF COMMENTS AND DOCUMENTS WITH RESPECT TO ENGINEER'S TECHNICAL REVIEW

Written comments and additional documents are not in conflict with the technical findings summarized in the Houston Engineering, Inc. (HEI) memorandum dated January 23, 2023 regarding maintenance alternatives for ACD 10-22-32 north of Pine Street. However, a few of the comments suggested additional analysis be completed within the report, as follows:

- Comment MK.05 and MK.08 suggest an alternative repair profile (denoted as Exhibit B in the Mike Kettler letter) and recommend its consideration. This profile is considered an "improvement" under M.S. 103E. Improvements cannot be initiated by the RCWD. Therefore, we do not recommend its evaluation at this time.
- Comment MK.06 suggests modeling the alternatives utilizing the 100-year rainfall event. Although the alternatives can readily be modeled using higher rainfalls than evaluated in the report, doing so will provide limited value in determining the ditch's ability to convey its design capacity (which is less than a 10-year rainfall event).
- Comment KiB.01 suggests modeling the alternatives under future land use conditions. Note that the drainage system was designed for land use as existed it existed in 1898, and maintenance/repair of the drainage system is limited to the capacity as it was originally constructed.
- Comments DH.02 and DH.03 request mapping and assessment of impacts downstream in Lino Lakes. It is important to note that none of the alternatives envision an increase in capacity of the drainage system from its originally established/constructed condition. The downstream portions of the drainage system were designed to accommodate the flow from the upstream portions of the system.

We can complete one or more of these suggested additional analyses upon request from the Board of Managers. However, at this time it does not appear that the results of such analysis would be pertinent to the Board's decision regarding repair approach.

CONSIDERATION OF COMMENTS AND DOCUMENTS WITH RESPECT TO BOARD DECISION ON REPAIR APPROACH

In considering maintenance/repair of the public drainage system, the RCWD as drainage authority under 103E and as a watershed district under 103D evaluates several factors, including but not limited to the value of the work to the landowners served by the system; the value of the work to the general public; the cost of the work, potential environmental effects, and prioritization of District efforts. The public comments provided touched on most of these factors. General themes of the comments included:

- Desire to maximize the efficiency of the drainage system, as reflected in Alternative 4. Multiple reasons cited for the critical nature of the drainage system condition, including "very flat" topography in the community and a lack of grade in the original construction of the ditch.
- Concern regarding compromising of downstream capacity and of ecological resources. These concerns have been addressed in the response to comments above.
- Requests for additional analysis of rainfall events. This is discussed in detail in the previous section of this report. The commentors did not indicated how this analysis would factor into decision-making by the Board.
- Detail on prior hydrology conditions and decision making by water management authorities (RCWD, Coon Creek Watershed District, City of Columbus, DNR, US Army Corps of Engineers). These conditions and decisions were in part directly related to the ACD 10-22-32 system and in part to other factors such as development construction. Although this history cannot be modified by current decisions, it may inform the value placed on quantified and/or observed incremental changes in performance of the drainage system in this region.

Although the hydrologic effects of the repair alternatives have been quantified within the 1/23/23 engineer's report, the value of these changes, and the prioritization of these repairs within the RCWD's overall public drainage system maintenance program, is subjective and can be informed by the verbal and written comments received. We recommend the Board weigh this information with respect to the factors outlined above in making a decision regarding a repair approach.

NEXT STEPS

We recommend the RCWD proceed with the following steps in addressing drainage concerns on ACD 10-22-32 north of Pine Street:

1. Board of Managers to approve a motion to direct staff to proceed with implementation of a specified alternative from the 1/23/23 engineer's report (either Alternative 3 or 4), subject to and dependent upon applicable regulations.
2. RCWD staff to coordinate with City staff regarding the approach and roles in executing subsequent actions in implementation of the preferred alternative.
3. If Alternative 4 is selected, RCWD staff to make formal application to DNR for lowering of the Jodrell Street and 137th Avenue culverts to the ACSIC grade. This step may include a coordination meeting with the DNR and potentially development of additional materials to support an application.
4. RCWD to complete an investigation of the wetland complex potentially affected by the lowering of the Pine Street culvert (including a wetland delineation) and make either a no-loss or wetland mitigation application to the LGU.

Depending on the outcomes of Steps (3) and (4), RCWD and Cities to develop plans and implement construction of culvert lowering projects.

APPENDIX A – SUMMARY OF DOCUMENTS RECEIVED FROM PERRY WAGAMON 4/26/23.

ID	Title	Author	Date	Notes	Relevance to ACD 10-22-32
PW_11	Sunde Memo and Cover Letter	Mike Kettler - Sunde Engineering	4/18/2023	See detail in Table 1	Recommended management
PW_12	1099-MISC Tax Statement	Precision Landscape and	2010	1099 Tax Statement for Sale of Wood Chips	Historic hydrologic conditions
PW_13	Cover Letter for Document Submittal	Perry Wagamon	4/25/2023	Cover letter for document attachments	Historic management decisions
PW_14	Excerpt from EOR Repair Report	EOR		Excerpt of profile analysis along current Main Trunk	Historic management decisions
PW_15	Tree Analysis Report	Paul Kujawa - Metro Tall	2016	Report on investigation of tree stands on Perry Wagamon property.	Historic hydrologic conditions
PW_16	Excerpt of Meeting Minutes	Coon Creek Watershed	7/14/2003	Highlighted excerpt of CCWD meeting minutes	Historic management decisions
PW_17	DNR field map/notes	Judy Davidson - DNR	3/20/1981	Notes from DNR staff regarding wetlands on Perry Wagamon property	Historic hydrologic conditions
PW_18	ACD 32 cut sheets	Anoka County Engineer	1898	Cut of cut sheets from 1898 design documents for ACD 32 Branch 15 (now ACD 10-22-32 Main Trunk near Jodrell St.)	Historic design
PW_19	ACD 10-22-32 Profile	Greg Graske - EOR	2/16/2007	Excerpt of EOR Repair Report indicated profile analysis along Main Trunk	Historic management decisions
PW_20	Carlos Avery Estates Field Inspection Notes	Unknown	5/14/2003	Notes from inspection of plat construction, indicating standing water along a road	Historic hydrologic conditions
PW_21	Completed ACD 10-22-32 Work Activities	Unknown	Unknown	Map and narrative indicating work completed on ACD 10-22-32 north of pine street prior to 2015	Historic management decisions
PW_22	Anoka County Protected Waters Map	DNR	Unknown	Excerpt from Anoka County Protected Waters map	Historic hydrologic conditions
PW_23	Property History Narrative	Perry Wagamon	4/11/23	Narrative on history of conditions at Perry Wagamon property	Historic hydrologic conditions
PW_24	Letter regarding HEI map dated 1/18/21	Perry Wagamon	6/10/21	Opinion on ACSIC grade determined by RCWD Engineer and prior RCWD management decisions	Historic management decisions
PW_25	Property History Narrative	Perry Wagamon	7/16/2021	Narrative on history of conditions at Perry Wagamon property up to construction of Jodrell St.	Historic hydrologic conditions
PW_26	Letter regarding ACSIC grade	Perry Wagamon	4/9/2022	History on ACD 10-22-32 management grade and relevance to ACSIC	Historic management decisions
PW_27	Summary of Events	Perry Wagamon	10/25/2016	Summary of water management activities related to portion of ACD 10-22-32 on Wagamon property	Historic management decisions

ID	Title	Author	Date	Notes	Relevance to ACD 10-22-32
PW_28	Cover Letter – DNR information	Perry Wagamon	Unknown	Cover letter sending historic DNR field inspection data	Historic hydrologic conditions
PW_29	COE Permit – Carlos Avery Estates	UW Army Corps of Engineers	8/6/2003	COE permit for discharge of fill in wetlands at Carlos Avery Estates. Excerpts highlighted regarding culvert sizing conditions	Historic management decisions
PW_30	Misc. correspondence related to COE permit	Multiple	2003	Miscellaneous correspondence between COE and local landowners regarding hydrologic effects of the construction of Carlos Avery Estates	Historic management decisions

timeline of potentially doing alum treatments in 2024. He cautioned that he did not want to present this as a certain timeline.

Motion carried 5-0.

3. Peterson Companies, Inc. Final Pay Request Long Lake Fish Barrier

Lake & Stream Program Manager Kocian explained that this item was related to the final pay request for the Lake Johanna carp barrier. He reviewed photos that were taken at the site as part of the Long Lake/Lino Chain of Lakes Carp Management Program. He noted that Houston Engineering had surveyed the completed structure, compared it to the drawings they had produced, and found elevations and dimensions to be within acceptable tolerances. He noted that the District had received Watershed Based Implementation Funding Grant which meant that 90% of this cost of this project was paid for by that program.

Motion by Manager Weinandt, seconded by Manager Waller, to approve final payment, including release of retainage, to Peterson Companies for the Johanna Creek Fish Barrier project, in the amount of $5,487.50. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Anoka County Ditch 10-22-32 Evaluation of Maintenance Alternatives Board Direction

Public Drainage Inspector Schmidt stated that the Board had held a special workshop on June 5, 2023 to discuss the comments and submitted information in consideration of maintenance alternatives. He stated that the Board arrived at a general consensus for Alternative #4 and the next step in the process would be for the Board to direct staff toward final development of that alternative. He noted that included in the packet was a proposed motion, but noted that, based on advice from Drainage Attorney Kolb, that motion had been slightly modified and that language had been handed out to the Board prior to the meeting.

District Administrator Tomczik noted that the differences in the motion language is largely a distinction between investigating and developing the alternative verses direct implementation.

Motion by Manager Weinandt, seconded by Manager Bradley, to direct staff to develop maintenance Alternative #4 (ACSIC Option) for ACD 10 22 32 north of Pine Street by:

1. Identifying and quantifying regulatory requirements;

2. Assessing the feasibility of the proposed alternative in light of the regulatory requirements; and

3. Engaging with municipal partners, DNR, and other regulatory, land use, and road authorities as necessary to evaluate the feasibility of maintenance Alternative #4.

President Bradley noted that Alternative #4 includes lowering the level of Jodrell Road and 137th Street culverts to the previously established ACSIC that was approved by the Board.

Manager Waller stated that just because the Board has chosen this framework, it does not mean that this is the last profile that could be adopted by the Board. He explained that he sees this as a beginning in order for things to move forward and see what the DNR, Army Corps of Engineers, and the City of Columbus may have to say. He stated that in his opinion, this action does not eliminate possible adjustments to the ACSIC in the future.

Manager Robertson stated that she has had additional dialogue with staff throughout the last week and explained that what she shared with them was her frustration that does not seem to be a finality to the issues that the residents have if the District hangs their hat on Alternative #4. She asked what type of cost is incurred with Alternative #4 and if moving forward with this alternative limits the District to the things identified within the motion. She asked if it was open to interpretation or to be modified. She stated that she understands that this is a long standing issue that has a lot of emotion surrounding it, but noted that she felt that everybody wants to come in and find the right solution. She explained that she did not want there to be bad feelings amongst the parties engaged in this and noted that she also did not want to move forward with a 'band-aid' type solution because she wants finality. She questioned what 'engage with municipal partners' meant and if merely sending an e-mail would fulfill that obligation rather than sitting down and really get into the 'weeds' of the issue. She reiterated that this action feels very vague to her and does not feel like an actual solution.

District Administrator Tomczik stated that the District is acting as the Public Drainage Authority in this instance and are contemplating and addressing the obligations of the District specific to that authority. He stated that it may or may not result in an outcome that satisfies landowners or the municipalities. He explained that it is the District's belief, through the engineer's modeling, that alternative 4 will improve drainage. He stated that in the past, the District generally took regulatory positions at 'face value', that these matters were not surmountable by the District. He stated that this motion would direct staff to take those actions, to ask the questions because until the regulatory questions are asked, they do not know what the extent of the DNR's response and further the associated potential cost of what is being asked of the District to demonstrate. He stated that it is possible that they will just issue the District a permit, but it could also be a long, entrenched discussion where staff would return to the Board and ask for further guidance.

President Bradley noted that he had previously asked the question about cost as well and the answer he received was that the upfront costs are those of the lawyers and engineers. He stated that responding to the DNRs questions start at approximately $50,000 and go up which would become the cost of repair. He noted that there could be things like mitigation that they do not know the costs for and could be substantially more. He stated

that until the questions are asked, they cannot dig down and get the answers to the specific questions about cost.

Manager Robertson asked if the District would assume the cost of repair or if landowners would be assessed for those costs.

President Bradley stated that the current position is that repairs are a maintenance ad valorem expense.

Manager Wagamon explained that he would abstain from discussion on this item but would like to ask a question. He stated that Columbus has a CWPMP and if he understood what he was reading correctly, that would override the other statute. He stated that stated that they do not have the mitigate for wetlands and asked if that was germane to this discussion.

Drainage Attorney Kolb stated that if there is a CWPMP that has been adopted by the LGU, the terms of it, by rule, would replace some of the specific requirements of the WCA. He noted that would only apply to consideration of mitigation required under the WCA and would not displace mitigation requirements that might be required under the Public Waters law.

Manager Wagamon stated that he thinks the District should take a look at their CWPMP to ensure what is in it.

District Administrator Tomczik stated that is part of the outcome of what is proposed in the motions. He stated that he would say this has been considered to some extent already. He stated that north of Pine Street will be a WCA consideration and is modified by a Board adopted and BWSR approved CWPMP. He stated that as Drainage Attorney Kolb stated, it does not apply to public waters and does not replace Federal wetland law.

Manager Waller stated that the emphasis today is primarily on drainage law under Chapter E, but the complaint heard throughout this entire proceeding has been about flooding, so there are other pieces that are important. He stated that he hopes the existing language is broad enough to allow these things to be considered as well. He reiterated that he did not see this action as a final step but as a step forward that will then be adjusted.

District Administrator Tomczik explained that the intent of engaging with the partners is broadly to see if there is any additional information or local authority that may assist in having the DNR, as the public waters authority, to come into alignment with the District's analysis. He stated that the District, through HEI, has studied Jodrell and noted that information is available to Columbus to collaborate with the District as it advances their storm water management.

Manager Waller stated that he specifically was thinking about the drainage that comes off of Jodrell from the north.

President Bradley stated that if this is passed, at a minimum, the city will be looking at lowering the culvert on Jodrell and will have the opportunity to consider the size and the comments from the public about 100-year rainfalls.

Motion carried 3-1-1 (Manager Robertson opposed) (Manager Wagamon abstained).

5. Houston Engineering, Inc. Task Order No. 2023-003, Anoka County Ditch 53-62 Branches 5 & 6 Repair Report

Public Drainage Inspector Schmidt stated that per the Board's prioritization of repairs to the drainage system, the next set to be repaired are Branches 5 and 6 of ACD 53-62.

Motion by Manager Weinandt, seconded by Manager Bradley, to authorize the Board President to execute HEI Task Order 2023-003 to complete a repair report for portions of (ACD53-62), including Branches 5 and 6 and associated laterals, for an amount of $82,200.00. Motion carried 5-0.

6. US Sitework, Inc. Partial Pay Request #6 Anoka County Ditch 53-62 Main Trunk Repair Project

District Administrator Tomczik noted that Public Drainage Inspector Ricci was out in the field, so he would be handling this item. He reminded the Board that there was an incident with equipment at this site, but the work should be up and running by June 19, 2023, and explained that substantial completion is expected by July 13, 2023. He stated that this is a later time frame and will require a Change Order which is currently in process. He noted that city stormwater work will begin on July 5, 2023, and staff will engage with Circle Pines' staff.

Motion by Manager Waller, seconded by Manager Wagamon, to approve US Sitework, Inc.'s pay request #6 as submitted and certified by the District Engineer and directs staff to issue a payment in the amount of $4,928.13. Motion carried 5-0.

7. U.S. Geological Survey Joint-Funding Agreement-Streamgage on Rice Creek in Mounds View

Lake & Stream Program Manager Kocian stated that he was seeking approval for a joint funding agreement between the District and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) for a streamgage that they operate on Rice Creek. He stated that the District has been partnering with the USGS since 2008 and explained that the data provided is very valuable and reviewed some of the ways that the District utilizes the data. He noted that the annual and total costs were outlined in page 58 of the packet.

Anoka County Ditch 15 Outlet Channel Overflow Study

MEMORANDUM
Rice Creek Watershed District

Date: June 26, 2025
To: RCWD Board of Managers
From: Tom Schmidt, Drainage & Facilities Manager
Subject: Anoka County Ditch 15 Outlet Channel Overflow Study

Introduction
This informational item is about options for potential modifications to the Anoka County Ditch 15 (ACD #15) outlet channel.

Background
RCWD constructed Brown's Preserve, which is a District Facility to provide the district with wetland credits to meet its obligations for wetland mitigation. The project included rerouting Anoka, Washington, judicial ditch #4 (AWJD#4) to the east along the County line and impounding the remnant ditch channel using a berm and a water control structure to restore hydrology to the wetland complex, this channel continues to serve as the outlet of ACD #15, which provides a portion of the planned hydrology to the wetland restoration. The intended design of the wetland bank was that the water control structure would be the sole hydraulic control for the wetland. Over time, the channel has filled in with cattail and other vegetation, preventing flow from the north end of the wetland bank from efficiently reaching the control structure at the south end. This need for maintenance is currently being addressed. The poor channel function through the wetland bank, combined with a backflow prevention weir upstream of the wetland bank, is perceived to have a negative impact on the properties served by ACD #15. The landowner immediately north of Brown's preserve has approached staff about directly connecting ACD #15 into the rerouted section of AWJD #4, thus bypassing the Brown's preserve wetland bank impoundment. The District removed the past backflow prevention weir, which the engineer determined is not necessary in the current location nor utilized in any of the proposed alternatives. The challenge is that, as noted, the wetland bank design relies on at least a portion of the water from ACD #15 to provide hydrology for the restored wetland. The options presented represent a reasonable balance of the District's 130E public drainage system management and its 103D Brown's Preserve project.

Staff recommendation
District staff recommend Alternative #2 and seek Board consensus direction on implementation.

Attachments
HEI Technical Memorandum ACD 15 Overflow Study dated 06/24/25

Technical Memorandum

To: Nick Tomczik, Administrator
Rice Creek Watershed District
Cc: Tom Schmidt
From: Chris Otterness PE
Subject: ACD 15 Overflow Study
Date: June 24, 2025
Project #: R005555-0364

I hereby certify that the attached plan, specification, or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly registered Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Reg. No. 41961 June 24, 2025

BACKGROUND

HISTORY

Judicial Ditch (JD) 4 serves as the outlet for Anoka County Ditch (ACD) 15 in the City of Columbus. In 2012, the Rice Creek Watershed District (RCWD) as Drainage Authority for ACD 15 and JD 4 completed a repair of JD 4 in conjunction with the development of a wetland bank at Brown Preserve. The repair, which included the realignment of a portion of JD 4 and construction of an outlet structure at the downstream end of Browns Preserve, balanced the restoration drainage function with the need to comply with state and federal wetland laws while enhancing local ecology and water quality.

The realignment constructed under this repair effort began near the City/County boundary between Columbus and Forest Lake, proceeded south across 145th Ave. NE,. continued along the east and south edges of Browns Preserve, and then reconnected to the JD 4 ditch downstream of the outlet structure. The portion of JD 4 that was bypassed by the realignment channel (hereafter referred to as the "ACD 15 outlet channel" was left almost completely intact (with only the upstream end modified with a berm to redirect flows from Forest Lake into the JD 4 realignment channel) and continued to provide an outlet to the portions of Columbus that are served by ACD 15. The ACD 15 outlet channel was also repaired for its entire length in conjunction with the other JD 4 repairs.

The JD 4 repairs had a significant effect on restoring drainage function to the land served by ACD 15 and the ACD 15 outlet channel. These effects included:

- Decreasing peak water levels during the 2-, 10-, and 100-year rainfall events. The JD 4 realignment channel decreased the drainage area to the ACD 15 outlet channel by over two-thirds, and thereby reduced peak water levels to less than that of the JD 4 realignment channel
- Decreased water levels during dry weather periods compared to pre-repair conditions. Though water levels are generally maintained above the As-constructed and subsequently improved condition

(ACSIC) grade, they are lower than pre-repair conditions, which were held higher by bog growth into the channel through Browns Preserve.

In 2013, RCWD staff noted substantially decreased water levels in Browns Preserve. During investigation to determine the cause of these decreased water levels, staff found water seeping through the berm dividing the JD 4 realignment channel from the ACD 15 outlet channel. These seeps were likely precipitated by rodent (muskrat) activity. As such, water was drained from the upstream portions of the ACD 15 outlet channel and draining out Browns Preserve. Due to the amount of observed rodent activity, it was determined that a long term solution to the seepage through the berm was going to be challenging at best or infeasible at worst. To prevent the drainage of Browns Preserve (which was critical to the efficacy of the wetland bank and avoiding wetland conservation act (WCA) violations), RCWD installed a vinyl sheet pile weir in the ACD 15 outlet channel approximately a quarter mile downstream (south) of the realignment berm.

With the weir in place, the ACD 15 / JD 4 systems operated almost entirely as designed in the JD 4 repair. The lone exception is the portion of the ACD 15 outlet channel that is between the realignment berm and ACD 15 (along the Columbus/Forest Lake city boundary). This portion of channel was drainage similar to the ACSIC condition when rodent activity was enabling seepage to occur through the berm. However, when seepage wasn't occurring, the water levels would rise to at least the elevation of the weir.

PURPOSE

The unpredictability of water levels in this location and perceived effects of the weir have raised concerns of those conducting agricultural operations in this area. As such, RCWD requested Houston Engineering, Inc. (HEI) to complete a review of the drainage performance in this location. The purpose of this study is to assess options for modifying the prior alignment of Judicial Ditch 4 (JD 4) Main Trunk to assist in reducing water levels in ACD 15 and seasonal water levels to the ACD 15 outlet channel,. The study simultaneously seeks to assess the modification's impact on Brown's Preserve downstream of the study area, as the District desires to maximize the outlet functionality without negatively impacting the wetland bank or reducing the drainage function of others.

ALTERNATIVE ANALYSIS

ALTERNATIVES EVALUATED

Three alternatives were considered to maximize drainage function on the ACD 15 outlet channel. Each of these alternatives include similar components, including:

- Removal of the existing sheet pile weir constructed in 2013
- Construction of a new rectangular weir in line with the ACD 15 outlet channel, with its crest at the existing 2-year water surface elevation of 891.6[1].
- Installation of an 18" culvert connecting the ACD 15 outlet channel to the JD 4 realignment channel.

The following is a description of each alternative:

[1] All elevations provided herein are based on North American Vertical Datum of 1988.

Alternative 1: Construct a weir upstream of the ACD 15 outlet. The intent of this alternative is to continue to direct flows from ACD 15 to Browns Preserve, but lower water levels in the portion of the ACD 15 outlet channel that is between ACD 15 and the realignment berm, to the extent feasible.

Alternative 2: Identical to Alternative 1, but adds a flap gate to the 18" culvert connecting the ACD 15 outlet channel with the JD 4 realignment channel. The intent of the flap gate is to prevent backflow from the JD 4 realignment channel from increasing the water levels in the ACD 15 outlet channel.

Alternative 3: Construct the weir downstream (south) of 145th Ave NE, on the upstream edge of Browns Preserve. The purpose of this alternative is to decrease the lowest runout elevation for the land served by ACD 15. This alternative includes a flap gate on the downstream end of the culvert.

MODELING ANALYIS

Each of the three alternatives was modeled using a modification of the District Wide Model and compared to existing conditions, for the 2- and 10-year rainfall events (2.798" and 4.161" of rain in a 24-hour period, respectively). Water surface elevations at selected locations for existing conditions and all three alternatives are shown in Tables 1 and 2.

Model results show that all three alternatives will not decrease peak water levels along the ACD 15 outlet channel for the 2-year and 10-year storm event. This is because the existing water level on the JD 4 realignment channel is higher than the existing water level on the prior alignment of JD 4. In fact, Alternative 1 has the potential to increase peak water levels following significant rainfall events due to backflow occurring from the JD 4 realignment channel.

Although none of the alternatives has the potential to decrease peak water levels for 2-year and greater rainfalls, they each do have the potential to decrease water levels between rainfalls, as water levels recede in the JD 4 realignment channel. **Table 3** indicates the lowest potential water levels along the ACD 15 outlet channel for each of the alternatives. Note that these water levels are unlikely to be experienced frequently and are most likely characteristic of drought periods. At the time of the field visit and survey for this study (May 2nd, 2025) water levels in the JD 4 realignment channel were nearly identical to water levels in the ACD 15 outlet channel.

Browns Preserve water levels were unimpacted for Alternatives 1 and 2 (weir location upstream of ACD 15). Alternative 3 (weir location south of 145th Avenue) will marginally reduce (by approximately an inch) peak water levels in Browns Preserve for the modeled rainfall events. Again, the greatest impacts for each alternative are greatest during low water periods. During and following small rainfalls, Alternative 3 will eliminate the majority of surface hydrology coming to Browns Preserve. This reduction in surface hydrology is likely to negatively impact the quality of the wetland complex, could jeopardize the RCWD's investment in the Browns Preserve Wetland Bank, and may not be permittable. For these reasons, we do not consider Alternative 3 to be feasible.

Table 1: 2-Year Peak Water Surface Elevation (WSE) Comparison

			Alternative 1		Alternative 2		Alternative 3	
Location*	Location Description	Existing WSE	WSE	Change	WSE	Change	WSE	Change
1	JD4 channel upstream of realignment berm	892.76	892.49	-0.27	892.75	-0.01	892.75	-0.01
2	ACD 15 outlet channel, ¼ mile downstream of berm	891.56	891.83	0.27	891.79	0.23	891.80	0.24
3	ACD 15 outlet channel, upstream of ACD 15	891.51	891.82	0.31	891.78	0.27	891.80	0.29
4	ACD 15 outlet channel, upstream of 145th Ave.	891.51	891.58	0.07	891.47	-0.04	891.80	0.29
5	ACD 15 Outlet Channel, South of 145th Ave.	891.47	891.53	0.06	891.44	-0.03	891.39	-0.08
6	Browns Preserve at weir	891.35	891.37	0.02	891.33	-0.02	891.29	-0.06

*See **Figure 1** for model evaluation locations

Table 2: 10-Year Peak Water Surface Elevation (WSE) Comparison

			Alternative 1		Alternative 2		Alternative 3	
Location*	Location Description	Existing WSE	WSE	Change	WSE	Change	WSE	Change
1	JD4 channel upstream of realignment berm	894.23	894.05	-0.18	894.22	-0.01	894.22	-0.01
2	ACD 15 outlet channel, ¼ mile downstream of berm	892.25	892.32	0.12	892.19	-0.01	891.24	0.04
3	ACD 15 outlet channel, upstream of ACD 15	892.19	892.31	0.12	892.19	0.00	892.23	0.04
4	ACD 15 outlet channel, upstream of 145th Ave.	892.19	892.29	0.10	892.18	-0.01	892.23	0.04
5	ACD 15 Outlet Channel, South of 145th Ave.	892.13	892.19	0.06	892.11	-0.02	892.13	0.00
6	Browns Preserve at weir	891.81	892.82	0.01	892.10	-0.71	891.8	-0.01

*See **Figure 1** for model evaluation locations

Table 3: Lowest Water Level (Runout) Elevations

			Alternative 1		Alternative 2		Alternative 3	
Location*	Location Description	Existing Runout	Runout	Change	Runout	Change	Runout	Change
1	JD4 channel upstream of realignment berm	888.52	888.52	0.00	888.52	0.00	888.52	0.00
2	ACD 15 outlet channel, ¼ mile downstream of berm	891.33	891.60	0.27	891.6	0.27	891.6	0.27
3	ACD 15 outlet channel, upstream of ACD 15	890.76	891.60	0.84	891.6	0.84	891.6	0.84
4	ACD 15 outlet channel, upstream of 145th Ave.	890.76	890.76	0.00	890.76	0.00	891.6	0.84
5	ACD 15 Outlet Channel, South of 145th Ave.	890.76	890.76	0.00	890.76	0.00	890.76	0
6	Browns Preserve at weir	890.76	890.76	0.00	890.76	0.00	890.76	0

*See **Figure 1** for model evaluation locations

ALTERNATIVES NOT EVALUATED

Beyond the three alternatives modeled above, other alternatives were considered but not evaluated in modeling. These alternatives include:

- Do Nothing (maintain the existing conditions): Leaving the system as-is provides function similar to that which was envisioned in the development of the 2012 repair, but does not address landowner concerns

- Remove the existing (2013) sheet pile weir, with no other modifications. This alternative would require that the upstream berm dividing the JD 4 realignment channel and the ACD 15 outlet channel be shored up to prevent rodent tunneling, which has previously compromised the berm. Removing the weir would restore conditions identical to the 2012 repair, but would not lower water levels for land adjacent to the ACD 15 outlet channel or otherwise address the landowner concerns.

- Remove the existing (2013) sheet pile weir and the berm separating the JD 4 Main Trunk and the remnant JD 4 channel. This would have the effect of draining Browns Preserve, jeopardizing the credits RCWD has banked from the wetland. This alternative would also increase peak water levels from 2-year and larger rainfall events for the portion of the ACD 15 outlet channel.upstream of 145th Ave NE. This increase is a result of the large watershed in Forest Lake that would be allowed to be directed into this channel.

RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend that RCWD as Drainage Authority for ACD 15 and JD 4 proceed with Alternative 2. This includes construction of a weir along the ACD 15 outlet channel just north of ACD 15's outlet; installation of an 18" pipe with flap gate between the ACD 15 outlet channel and the JD 4 realignment channel; and removal of the existing weir (see **Figure 2**). This alternative will provide the greatest amount of drainage feasible for the lands drained by the ACD 15 outlet channel.

Note that the function of these drainage systems as outlets is highly dependent on rainfall patterns. It should not be an expectation of any selected alternative that adjacent properties will be relieved of surface wetland at all times of the year. The drainage of adjacent lands is likewise dependent on actions taken by the landowner to direct surface and subsurface water to the ditch.

RCWD
RICE CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

253222120003

3222110001
STEE, DALE SAMUEL

3003221220001
SAMUEL A FURRER TRS

1

253222130006
NICKLASON, GAIL D

Hornsby St NE

ACD 15 Outlet Channel

JD 4 Realignment Channel

253222140001
PRITCHARD TRUSTEE BARBARA J

3003221230003
CHRIS JOHN TAYLOR REV LIV TRS

2

ACD 15

253222130003
9523 145TH LLC

3

253222140002
CLOBES BLAKE

18" Culvert

4

145th Ave NE

253222420004
HAIR, DANIEL C

Rectangular Weir

253222410002
CONNEXUS ENERGY

5

253222420005
RICE CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

3003221320001
WALLS ROBERT W

ACD 15 Outlet Channel

253222440002
RICE CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

Elmcrest Ave N

JD 4 Realignment Channel

253222430003
RICE CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

3003221330001
WALLS ROBERT W

6

Browns Preserve Wetland Bank

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Legend
- Analysis Locations
- Culvert
- Rectangular Weir
- Open Ditch
- Flow Direction
- Parcels (May 2025)

N W E S

0 150 300 600 Feet

Figure 1: ACD 15 Overflow Map Alternative 1

Scale:	Drawn by:	Checked by:	Project No.:	Date:	Sheet:
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RCWD
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SAMUEL A FURRER TRS

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NICKLASON, GAIL D

Hornsby St NE

ACD 15 Outlet Channel

JD 4 Realignment Channel

253222140001
PRITCHARD TRUSTEE BARBARA J

3003221230003
CHRIS JOHN TAYLOR REV LIV TRS

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2

ACD 15

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253222130003
9523 145TH LLC

253222140002
CLOBES BLAKE

4

18" Culvert with Flap Gate

145th Ave NE

253222420004
HAIR, DANIEL C

Rectangular Weir

253222410002
CONNEXUS ENERGY

5

253222420005
RICE CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

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WALLS ROBERT W

ACD 15 Outlet Channel

253222440002
RICE CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

Elmcrest Ave N

JD 4 Realignment Channel

253222430003
RICE CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

6

Browns Preserve Wetland Bank

3003221330001
WALLS ROBERT W

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Legend
- Analysis Locations
- Culvert
- Rectangular Weir
- Open Ditch
- Flow Direction
- Parcels (May 2025)

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0 150 300 600 Feet

Figure 2: ACD 15 Overflow Map Alternative 2

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RCWD
RICE CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

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STEE, DALE SAMUEL

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SAMUEL A FURRER TRS

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NICKLASON, GAIL D

Hornsby St NE

ACD 15 Outlet Channel

JD 4 Realignment Channel

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PRITCHARD TRUSTEE BARBARA J

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CHRIS JOHN TAYLOR REV LIV TRS

2

ACD 15

253222130003
9523 145TH LLC

3

253222140002
CLOBES BLAKE

18" Culvert

4

145th Ave NE

253222420004
HAIR, DANIEL C

253222410002
CONNEXUS ENERGY

Rectangular Weir

5

253222420005
RICE CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

3003221320001
WALLS ROBERT W

ACD 15 Outlet Channel

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RICE CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

Elmcrest Ave N

JD 4 Realignment Channel

253222430003
RICE CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

3003221330001
WALLS ROBERT W

6

Browns Preserve Wetland Bank

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Legend
- Analysis Locations
- Culvert
- Rectangular Weir
- Open Ditch
- Flow Direction
- Parcels (May 2025)

N W E S

0 150 300 600 Feet

Figure 3: ACD 15 Overflow Map Alternative 3

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HOUSTON engineering, inc.

Draft 2026 Budget

MEMORANDUM
Rice Creek Watershed District

Date: July 1, 2025
To: RCWD Board of Managers
From: Nick Tomczik, Administrator
Subject: 2026 Draft Budget – For Discussion Purposes Only

Introduction

The RCWD Board each year considers a draft District budget for the coming calendar year. Managers should consider the agenda item content and work towards Board consensus feedback for the draft 2026 budget.

Background

Board workshops this year have included staff presentations and Board discussions on key program components in the development of a Draft 2026 Budget (Budget); the Budget is written in consideration of those items. The Budget continues established District programs and includes planned projects. Staff have worked to provide an overall Budget for the Board's discussion to meet the District's goals in 2026.

The Board, as it reviews the Budget, ought to contemplate the District's obligations and goals along with its desired level of both the implementation levy and project anticipation fund spending. Inflation over the past year is identified online as roughly 3% and for the coming period inflation is estimated at a rate between 3-4%.

District projects and partners vary from year to year. This year the District has experienced greater volatility in grant funding opportunities. The District exercises, and has exercised, an adaptive management approach to budget implementation. When a project does not materialize in a given budget year it may return in a subsequent year and when that occurs the funding potentially is partially or fully from a grant and/or fund balance as the situation may dictate.

In recent years cost changes have been highly variable, more so than in the past, when annual cost increases could be forecasted with greater consistency. The economy, inflation, and supply chain matters are all likely to contribute to potential variability in cost. Project cost estimates rise overtime with inflation. The District's finances are audited at the fund level. When expenditure is likely to exceed an approved budget's fund amount the Board must consider and determine any adjustment to the fund. The Board and staff will work to define the priority work of the District and refine the budget amounts. This includes pending confirmation of county tax information, adjustment in the payout of District cost-share awards, and action regarding Anoka County Ditch 10-22-32 Alternative 4. The budget process allows the District to reduce budget amounts up to and including at December's Truth in Taxation meeting.

The current version of the Budget is *draft* for discussion. The Board has several potential work items and funding choices under consideration which will have a significant impact on the bottom line. Staff will continue to apply for funding as options become available. The total draft Budget is currently $12.6 million, and the 2026 fund allocations are found on page 1 of the Budget. The details of the individual funds may be found on pages 5 through 12 of the budget attachment.

The general highlights for the Budget funds are as follows:

1) Fund 10 General Administration and each "master 00" fund plays a role in addressing the shared needs and efforts of District (Ex.: rent, vehicles, meeting video, per diems, dues, vehicles). Staff are identifying the need for an additional work vehicle which is included in the Budget. This season staff are utilizing the current 4 vehicles for field work versus the 2023 year's 5 vehicles. An assessment was completed on potentially leasing an additional vehicle as the District has done in the past. This option was found not to be cost-efficient, a poor choice. The District anticipates being fully staffed consistent with organizational chart; the budget includes all salaries and benefits. Staff development activities are intended to continue with potential human resource and/or financial contract services. The office lease ends 10/2025, and the Budget includes the landlord's proposed rent costs under a future lease amendment.
2) Fund 30 Communication and Outreach and its sub-funds continue to focus a portion of the program to capitalize on visual media with the inclusion of necessary software. There remains an art/signage installation at Hansen Park which is unlikely to occur in 2025, a $4,000 commitment included in the Budget. This supports city/county programs and outreach initiatives, supports public workshops with cities/counties, and support for outreach programs with organizations. The program continues its Mini-Grant Program with an included CAC recommended $10,000 increase.
3) Fund 35 Information Management and its sub-funds include funds for maintaining the District's IT infrastructure and security. District wide model maintenance continues including necessary software conversions and data updates. The District's databases of Drainage DB, MS4Front, and GIS informational tools and viewer are upgraded and maintained as needed. The district website continues with annual host and maintenance costs as well as required ADA compliance testing and adjustment.
4) Fund 60 Restoration Projects and its sub-funds include the next Centerville Alum application in 2026. In 2025 final plan development is proposed for the restoration and stabilization of Clearwater Creek/Anoka-Washington Judicial Ditch 3 which received grant funding requiring cost share. A study of the Anoka County Ditch 72 watershed outlet for water quality improvements to Peltier Lake is proposed utilizing fund balance; yet staff will seek grant funds. Staff propose a study for a Peltier Lake water quality treatment system. The Moore Lake stormwater analysis continues under MPCA grant. Lower Rice Creek includes further stream bank stabilization projects at Old Central Avenue and staff will apply for grant funding. In Middle Rice Creek an assessment is proposed at Irondale High School. Bald Eagle Lake Water Management proceeds with Hwy 61 pond final design and construction; staff to seek grants. The RCD 2, 3, & 5 project construction: at Jones Lake developing the final plans and implementing work under MPCA Resiliency Grant which requires cost share. Staff propose outreach on the project utilizing GIS tool for flood simulation. There remains a District $100,000 commitment to City of New Brighton Public Works Floodplain Mitigation Project, a previous Storm Water Management Grant. The Storm Water Management Cost-Share Program continues under a proposed $100,000 increase to account for inflation and a likely increase in applications under revised program terms; the proposed 2026 expenditures include the District's past committed grant awards in the amount of $787,000. A Clear Lake Water Management project shoreline restoration at Eureka Avenue in Forest Lake is entering final plans. The District proposes to continue its Stormwater Master Planning program and Groundwater Management & Stormwater Reuse Assessment Program.
5) Fund 70 Regulatory continues under its revised regulations and no additional rule amendments are proposed under the fund. While forecasting the economy and the likely application volume is challenging; staff have decreased the budgeted amount. The District intends to update any

necessary guidance documents in assistance to our partners and the public and further Best Management Practice support. The District will continue to complete its annual reporting, permit application review, management of open permits, as well as inspection contracts with county conservation districts.

6) Fund 80 Ditch and Creek Maintenance continues as a key obligation of the District. Right-of-way tree clearing, mowing, beaver management, and other maintenance activities are at an extraordinary level. Staff have accordingly increased the ditch maintenance budget by 20+%. The Board will be considering maintenance work on Anoka County Ditch 10, 22, 32 under Alternative 4; pending a decision, these amounts are *not* in the Budget. Repair reports and studies continue Anoka Ramsey Judicial Ditch 1 and Ramsey Washington Judicial Ditch 1 Repair Report. The next phase of Anoka County Ditch 53-62 Branch 5 & 6 is intended for 2026 along with Water Management District charge.
7) Fund 90 Lake & Stream Management Program's Water Quality Grant Program continues at 2025 budget levels. The Surface Water Monitoring & Management Program continues with no change as well. Common Carp Management program has no propose change in 2026 and Curly Leaf Pondweed Management program proposes a decrease of $10,000 in 2026. These programs can be highly variable based on availability of DNR and other grants, as well as lake association participation.
8) Fund 95 District Facilities and its sub-funds address repair needs. 2026 notably includes the Lake Johanna Outlet Structure replacement, anticipated modifications to the IESF media replacement at Hansen Park, PLOP sediment testing and removal, and re-meander repair obligation under past grant funding.

The Budget currently is $12.6 million, is roughly $3 million above the previous year although much of the work is variable and associated with grant funding. Fund balance spending is proposed at roughly $3.4 million ($2.6 million 2025). While fund balance spending is currently significant it may need to be paired with an increase of the levy. Both heavily dependent on Board feedback on projects, potential grant funding, project anticipation fund spending, and levy. At this time in development of the Budget, the District's fund balance remains sufficient at the close of 2024 to meet the 40% operating reserve fund balance policy, support the restricted and committed fund balance needs.

The Board should consider the levy implications to property holders. The calculus for the Budget's impact on property owners is challenging being allocated across four counties. There may be some minor increases or decreases in a property's estimated tax rate within certain counties or municipalities, or on specific parcels, as local market value adjustments can vary significantly from year to year. This is beyond the District's control. (Each individual properties' tax amount within the District is dependent on numerous factors (county, value change, other taxing authorities, etc.) and best assessed under broad conditions.)

Request for Board Discussion

Staff requests Board discussion on the Budget and its individual projects for consensus position on the Budget line items; use of fund balance, and a position on the general levy.

Attachments

- 2026 Draft Budget
- 2026 Budget Planning Schedule Calendar

Draft-For Discussion Purposes Only

DRAFT- RCWD Proposed 2026 Budget

Fund No. & Sub-Account	Name	Classification of District Funds	2025 Budget	Projected 2025 Expenditures	Proposed 2026 Budget
10	**General Administration**		**$ 535,272**	**$ 481,690**	**$ 538,387**
	Salaries, Taxes, PERA, HSA, Benefits, Office Expenses	40% Cash Flow	$ 535,272	$ 481,690	**$ 538,387**
30	**Communication & Outreach**		**$ 305,389**	**$ 286,175**	**$ 314,720**
	Salaries, Taxes, PERA, Benefits, Office Expenses Etc.	40% Cash Flow	$ 190,389	$ 171,175	**$ 200,720**
-02	Watershed Communication & Outreach		$ 14,000	$ 14,000	**$ 13,000**
-03	Visual Media Program (Replacing Minnesota Water Steward Program)		$ 30,000	$ 30,000	**$ 17,000**
-04	Outreach Partnerships		$ 43,000	$ 43,000	**$ 46,000**
-05	Mini-Grants Program		$ 20,000	$ 20,000	**$ 30,000**
-06	Enginering & Technical Support		$ 3,000	$ 3,000	**$ 3,000**
-08	Watershed Plan Maintenance		$ 5,000	$ 5,000	**$ 5,000**
35	**Information Management**		**$ 316,014**	**$ 305,965**	**$ 283,386**
	Salaries, Taxes, PERA, Benefits, Office Expenses Etc.	40% Cash Flow	$ 192,514	$ 182,465	**$ 160,386**
-03	Boundary Management Program		$ 1,000	$ 1,000	**$ -**
-04	District Wide Model		$ 60,000	$ 60,000	**$ 60,000**
-05	Databases (MS4 Front, Drainage DB), GIS Viewer		$ 60,000	$ 60,000	**$ 40,000**
-15	District Website		$ 2,500	$ 2,500	**$ 23,000**
60	**Restoration Projects**		**$ 2,922,551**	**$ 1,360,705**	**$ 5,353,179**
	Salaries, Taxes, PERA, Benefits, Office Expenses Etc.	40% Cash Flow	$ 403,846	$ 336,202	**$ 392,693**
-01	Anoka Chain of Lakes Water Management Project		$ 160,000	$ 126,000	**$ 1,725,000**
-02	Lower Rice Creek WMD **(IDLE)**	Restricted	$ -	$ -	**$ -**
-03	Lower Rice Creek Water Management Project		$ 185,000	$ 140,000	**$ 375,000**
-04	Middle Rice Creek Water Management Project		$ 100,000	$ 10,000	**$ 50,000**
-05	Bald Eagle Lake WMD	Restricted	$ 28,272	$ 2,302	**$ 28,486**
-06	Bald Eagle Lake Water Management Project		$ 100,000	$ 54,586	**$ 150,000**
-07	RCD 2, 3 & 5 WMD **(IDLE)**	Restricted	$ -	$ -	**$ -**
-08	RCD 2, 3 & 5 Basic Water Management Project		$ 500,000	$ 149,095	**$ 1,120,000**
-09	Silver Lake Water Management Project		$ -	$ -	**$ -**
-10	Golden Lake Water Management Project		$ -	$ -	**$ -**
-11	Regional Water Management Partnership Projects		$ 54,000	$ 10,000	**$ 35,000**
-15	Stormwater Management Cost Share	Committed	$ 1,106,433	$ 433,871	**$ 1,187,000**
-24	Southwest Urban Lakes Implementation		$ 100,000	$ 15,410	**$ 100,000**
-29	Clear Lake Water Management Project		$ 85,000	$ 43,007	**$ 85,000**
-33	Forest Lake Planning WMD **(IDLE)**	Restricted	$ -	$ -	**$ -**
-34	Columbus Planning WMD **(IDLE)**	Restricted	$ -	$ -	**$ -**
-35	Stormwater Master Planning		$ 35,000	$ 17,941	**$ 40,000**
-36	Municipal CIP Early Coordination Program		$ 10,000	$ 5,420	**$ 10,000**
-37	Groundwater Management & Stormwater Reuse Assessment Program		$ 55,000	$ 16,871	**$ 55,000**
70	**Regulatory**		**$ 1,565,687**	**$ 1,437,698**	**$ 1,502,137**
	Salaries, Taxes, PERA, Benefits, Office Expenses Etc.	40% Cash Flow	$ 590,687	$ 547,456	**$ 632,137**
-01	Rule Revision / Permit Guidance		$ 50,000	$ 5,431	**$ 15,000**
-03	Permit Review, Inspection and Coordination Program		$ 925,000	$ 884,811	**$ 855,000**
80	**Ditch & Creek Maintenance**		**$ 1,955,483**	**$ 1,337,707**	**$ 2,109,036**
	Salaries, Taxes, PERA, Benefits, Office Expenses Etc.	40% Cash Flow	$ 344,198	$ 298,373	**$ 331,826**
-01	Natural Waterway Management		$ 10,000	$ 2,500	**$ 10,000**
-02	Ditch Maintenance		$ 345,000	$ 404,784	**$ 450,000**
-03	Repair Reports & Studies		$ 160,000	$ 160,000	**$ 209,000**
-04	ACD 10-22-32 WMD	Restricted	$ 14,361	$ 13,193	**$ -**
-05	ACD 31 WMD	Restricted	$ -	$ -	**$ -**
-06	ACD 46 WMD	Restricted	$ 41,016	$ 41,016	**$ 37,451**
-07	RCD 4 WMD	Restricted	$ 94,538	$ 84,144	**$ 82,389**
-08	RCD 4 Repair		$ 48,000	$ 33,133	**$ -**
-09	ARJD 1 WMD **(IDLE)**	Restricted	$ -	$ -	**$ -**
-10	ARJD 1 Repair		$ -	$ -	**$ 70,000**
-15	Municipal PDS Maintenance	Committed	$ 50,000	$ 5,000	**$ 50,000**
-20	WJD 2 Branch 1/2 Repair		$ -	$ -	**$ -**
-21	AWJD 3 Repair		$ -	$ 55,546	**$ -**
-22	ACD 15 / AWJD 4 WMD	Restricted	$ 18,370	$ 18,370	**$ 18,370**
-23	ACD 15 & AWJD 4		$ 230,000	$ 10,000	**$ 230,000**
-24	ACD 53-62 WMD	Restricted	$ 354,000	$ 130,000	**$ 372,000**
-25	ACD 53-62 Repair		$ 246,000	$ 81,648	**$ 248,000**
-26	NEW - ACD 10-22-32 Repair				**$ -**
90	**Lake & Stream Management**		**$ 1,155,911**	**$ 811,396**	**$ 1,149,963**
	Salaries, Taxes, PERA, Benefits, Office Expenses Etc.	40% Cash Flow	$ 384,265	$ 333,401	**$ 396,725**
-01	Water Quality Grant Program	Committed	$ 281,646	$ 131,577	**$ 273,238**
-04	Surface Water Monitoring & Management Program		$ 240,000	$ 240,000	**$ 240,000**
-26	Common Carp Management		$ 200,000	$ 94,417	**$ 200,000**
-27	Curly Leaf Pondweed Management		$ 50,000	$ 12,000	**$ 40,000**
95	**District Facilities**		**$ 654,307**	**$ 529,962**	**$ 1,360,895**
	Salaries, Taxes, PERA, Benefits, Office Expenses Etc.	40% Cash Flow	$ 232,307	$ 192,261	**$ 234,935**
-03	District Facilities Repair		$ 310,000	$ 310,000	**$ 933,210**
-04	Inspection, Operation & Maintenance		$ 112,000	$ 27,701	**$ 192,750**
				.	
	TOTAL		**$ 9,410,614**	**$ 6,551,297**	**$ 12,611,703**

Rice Creek Watershed District
Fund Balance Estimation

2026 FUND BALANCE ESTIMATION

FUND BALANCE CASH FLOW OPERATING RESERVE					
REQUIIRED 40% GENERAL FUND	REQUIIRED 40% IMPLEMENTATION ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET	RESTRICTED FUND BALANCE 12/31/2026	COMMITTED FUND BALANCE 12/31/2026	PROGRAM/PROJECT ANTICIPATION FUND 12/31/2026	ASSIGNED FUND BALANCE 12/31/2026
$ 215,355	$ 939,769	$ (200,284)	$ 467,984	$ 7,694,424	$ (722,414)

PROPOSED FUND TRANSFERS WITH 2026 BUDGET

FUND	PROPOSED TRANSFER	1/1/2026 FUND BALANCE
10 General Administration	$ (514,780)	$ 215,675
30 Communication & Outreach	$ (171,012)	$ 80,448
35 Information Management	$ (328,413)	$ 64,234
60 Restoration Projects	$ (1,869,225)	$ 1,239,249
70 Regulatory	$ (738,420)	$ 253,255
80 Ditch & Creek Maintenance	$ (906,434)	$ 1,202,927
90 Lake & Stream Management	$ (803,221)	$ 597,020
95 District Facilities	$ (750,868)	$ 484,333
99 Project Anticipation		$ 7,694,424
TOTAL	$ (6,082,373)	$ 11,831,566

99 PROJECT ANTICIPATION SUBFUND ALLOCATION		
99-60 Restoration	$ 2,310,901	$ 5,010,901
99-80 Ditch & Creek	$ 883,523	$ 2,283,523
99-90 Lake & Stream	$ -	$ 200,000
99-95 District Facility	$ -	$ 200,000
TOTAL	$ 3,194,424	$ 7,694,424

General Fund – covers the general administrative expenses of the District, including salaries, benefits, and office expenses.

Implementation Administrative Budget – covers the administrative costs of preparing or amending the District's plan and the administrative costs of implementation of the plan through projects and programs, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.241.

Restricted Fund – amounts are subject to externally enforceable legal restrictions, such as funds levied in a Water Management District (WMD) which are restricted to the defined purpose.

Committed Fund - amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action of the government's highest level of decision-making authority, such as grant program awards. The commitments may be changed or lifted only by the government taking the same formal action that imposed the constraint originally.

Program/Project Anticipation Fund – funds accumulated and committed as an alternative to issuing bonds to finance improvements based on findings as to the potential future need of funds for a particular purpose.

Assigned Fund - amounts a government intends to use for a specific purpose.

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Rice Creek Watershed District
Total Revenue and Expenditures

Account	2025 Annual Budget	YTD Thru 05/31/25	Projected 6/1-12/31/25	Projected 2025 Total	Proposed 2026 Budget	% Change
Revenues:						
General Property Tax	$ 6,143,783	$ -	$ 5,923,382	$ 5,923,382	$ 6,707,882	9.2%
Permit Fees 70-03	$ 61,200	$ 37,500	$ 37,500	$ 75,000	$ 61,200	0.0%
WMD Charges Lower Rice Creek 60-02	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	0.0%
WMD Charges Bald Eagle Lake 60-05	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	0.0%
WMD Charges RCD 2, 3 & 5 60-07	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	0.0%
WMD Charges Forest Lake Planning 60-33	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	0.0%
WMD Charges Columbus Planning 60-34	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	0.0%
WMD Charges ACD 10-22-32 80-04	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	0.0%
WMD Charges ACD 31 80-05	$ -	$ -	$ 120	$ 120	$ -	0.0%
WMD Charges ACD 46 80-06	$ -	$ -	$ 88	$ 88	$ -	0.0%
WMD Charges RCD 4 80-07	$ 85,038	$ -	$ 81,636	$ 81,636	$ -	0.0%
WMD Charges ARJD1 80-09	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	0.0%
WMD Charges ACD 15 & AWJD 4 80-22	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	0.0%
WMD Charges ACD 53-62 80-24	$ -	$ -	$ 166,364	$ 166,364	$ 219,397	0.0%
ROW Charges (All 80)	$ 9,500	$ 1,927	$ 11,972	$ 13,899	$ 12,345	29.9%
BWSR Grant - WBFIP East Miss. 60-01	$ 30,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 3,900	100.0%
BWSR Grant - FY25 WBIF: Clearwater Creek	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 90,000	100.0%
BWSR Grant - FY26 WQ and Storage: hardwood Creek/	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	100.0%
BWSR Grant - WBFIP Rice Creek 80-03	$ 30,000	$ 39,590	$ 30,000	$ 69,590	$ 6,000	-80.0%
BWSR Grant - WBFIP Rice Creek 90-26	$ -	$ 20,410	$ 25,000	$ 45,410	$ 5,100	0.0%
Clean Water Fund competative Grant - Centerville Alum	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 513,638	100.0%
' MPCA Grant - OSG: Moore Lake SW Relience Analysis	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 20,000	100.0%
MPCA Grant - OSG & SW 60	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 900,000	100.0%
WBIF Award - Clearwater Creek 60-01	$ -	$ -	$ 20,000	$ 20,000	$ 54,450	100.0%
Interest Income	$ 441,366	$ 171,461	$ 29,132	$ 200,593	$ 270,000	-38.8%
Investment Income	$ -	$ 27,919	$ 15,318	$ 43,237	$ 311,058	0.0%
Miscellaneous Revenue	$ -	$ 10,345	$ 12,080	$ 22,424	$ -	0.0%
Total Revenues	**$ 6,800,887**	**$ 309,152**	**$ 6,352,592**	**$ 6,661,744**	**$ 9,174,970**	**34.9%**
Expenses:						
General Administration - 10	$ 535,272	$ 179,506	$ 302,184	$ 481,690	$ 538,387	0.6%
Communication & Outreach - 30	$ 305,389	$ 94,105	$ 192,606	$ 286,711	$ 314,720	3.1%
Information Management - 35	$ 316,014	$ 102,829	$ 203,136	$ 305,965	$ 283,386	-10.3%
Restoration Projects - 60	$ 2,922,551	$ 347,609	$ 1,013,096	$ 1,360,705	$ 5,353,179	83.2%
Regulatory - 70	$ 1,565,687	$ 454,881	$ 982,817	$ 1,437,698	$ 1,502,137	-4.1%
Ditch & Creek Maintenance - 80	$ 1,955,483	$ 268,434	$ 1,069,273	$ 1,337,707	$ 2,109,036	7.9%
Lake & Stream Management - 90	$ 1,155,911	$ 194,646	$ 617,286	$ 811,932	$ 1,149,963	-0.5%
District Facilities - 95	$ 654,307	$ 72,476	$ 457,486	$ 529,962	$ 1,360,895	108.0%
Project Anticipation - 99	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	0.0%
Total Program Expense	**$ 9,410,614**	**$ 1,714,486**	**$ 4,837,884**	**$ 6,552,370**	**$ 12,611,703**	**34.0%**

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Rice Creek Watershed District
Administrative Costs Breakdown - All Funds

Acct #	Account	2025 Annual Budget	YTD Thru 05/31/25	Projected 6/1-12/31/25	Projected 2025 Total	2026 Proposed Budget	% Difference between 2025 & 2026 Budgets
	Expenses						
4000	Manager Per Diem	33,000	6,375	25,000	31,375	33,000	0.0%
4010	Manager Expense	4,000	236	1,439	1,675	6,000	50.0%
4011	Manager Travel	5,000	633	2,600	3,233	5,000	0.0%
4100	Wages	1,464,496	519,263	726,969	1,246,232	1,492,906	1.9%
4102	Interns	22,170	0	17,742	17,742	27,020	21.9%
4110	Benefits	229,063	88,434	123,808	212,241	227,912	-0.5%
4120	PERA Expense	109,837	39,030	54,641	93,671	111,968	1.9%
4125	H.S.A. Contribution	16,275	5,330	7,462	12,792	16,632	2.2%
4130	Payroll Taxes	113,730	38,967	54,554	93,521	130,866	15.1%
4140	Payroll Taxes-Unemployment	5,000	2,398	3,358	5,756	2,500	-50.0%
4200	Office Supplies	12,128	1,811	9,740	11,551	12,128	0.0%
4201	Supplies-Field	2,000	484	1,785	2,269	2,500	25.0%
4203	Computer Software	16,354	819	15,350	16,169	17,210	5.2%
4205	Meeting Supplies/Expense	3,375	567	2,775	3,342	4,450	31.9%
4208	Printing	2,500	0	2,500	2,500	2,000	-20.0%
4210	Rent	125,000	44,189	63,678	107,867	113,000	-9.6%
4240	Telecommunications	24,520	7,722	11,254	18,975	23,500	-4.2%
4245	Dues	15,899	15,158	0	15,158	16,368	2.9%
4250	Publications	1,000	0	1,000	1,000	1,000	0.0%
4265	Training & Education	45,000	2,947	37,130	40,077	40,000	-11.1%
4270	Insurance & Bonds	40,000	35,515	0	35,515	38,000	-5.0%
4280	Postage	5,500	0	5,500	5,500	1,000	-81.8%
4290	Legal Notices-General	4,800	0	4,800	4,800	4,800	0.0%
4320	Staff Travel	5,500	472	4,844	5,316	6,000	9.1%
4322	Vehicle Expense	60,000	1,689	58,032	59,721	75,000	25.0%
4330	Audit & Accounting	110,000	59,126	41,840	100,966	125,000	13.6%
4335	Professional Services	110,410	30,042	78,069	108,112	100,900	-8.6%
4337	Contracted Services	68,000	3,200	64,620	67,820	66,000	-2.9%
4340	Recruitment	7,500	415	6,080	6,495	400	0.0%
4410	Legal Fees-General	64,750	11,636	51,280	62,916	64,750	0.0%
4500	Engineering	71,500	14,575	56,694	71,268	68,500	-4.2%
4634	Equipment-Computer	57,820	17,240	40,580	57,820	23,250	-59.8%
4635	Equipment-General	13,500	0	13,000	13,000	14,250	5.6%
4636	Equipment Lease	11,000	4,996	6,845	11,840	11,000	0.0%
4910	Bank Charges	350	730	1,625	2,355	3,000	757.1%
	Total Administrative Expenses	**$ 2,880,977**	**$ 953,999**	**$ 1,596,592**	**$ 2,550,591**	**$ 2,887,809**	**0.2%**

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Rice Creek Watershed District
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures - General Fund - 10

Acct #	Account	2025 Annual Budget	YTD Thru 5/31/25	Projected 06/1-12/31/25	Projected 2025 Total	2026 Proposed Budget	% Difference between 2025 & 2026
	Revenues						
3100	General Property Tax	510,167	0	504,664	504,664	513,374	0.6%
3704	Interest Income	25,105	34,395	17,600	51,995	11,526	0.0%
3705	Investment Income		1,716	0	1,716	13,487	0.0%
3800	Miscellaneous Revenue	0		0	0	0	0.0%
	Total Revenues	**535,272**	**36,111**	**522,264**	**558,375**	**538,387**	**0.6%**
	Expenses						
4000	Manager Per Diem	33,000	6,375	25,000	31,375	33,000	0.0%
4010	Manager Expense	4,000	236	1,439	1,675	6,000	50.0%
4011	Manager Travel	5,000	633	2,600	3,233	5,000	0.0%
4100	Wages	178,469	64,063	89,688	153,751	184,410	3.3%
4102	Interns	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4110	Benefits	35,086	13,164	18,429	31,593	31,393	-10.5%
4120	PERA Expense	13,385	4,807	6,730	11,537	13,831	3.3%
4125	H.S.A. Contribution	16,275	5,330	7,462	12,792	16,632	2.2%
4130	Payroll Taxes	13,653	5,279	7,390	12,669	15,878	16.3%
4140	Payroll Taxes-Unemployment	5,000	2,398	3,358	5,756	2,500	-50.0%
4200	Office Supplies	2,426	1,110	1,100	2,210	2,426	0.0%
4201	Supplies-Field	250	0	250	250	250	0.0%
4203	Computer Software	250	0	250	250	250	0.0%
4205	Meeting Supplies/Expense	2,500	567	1,900	2,467	3,700	48.0%
4208	Printing	500	0	500	500	400	-20.0%
4210	Rent	25,000	8,841	12,377	21,218	22,600	-9.6%
4240	Telecommunications	4,904	1,509	2,113	3,622	4,700	-4.2%
4245	Dues	15,899	15,158	0	15,158	16,368	2.9%
4250	Publications	200	0	200	200	200	0.0%
4265	Training & Education	9,000	227	5,000	5,227	8,000	-11.1%
4270	Insurance & Bonds	8,000	7,103	0	7,103	7,600	-5.0%
4280	Postage	1,100	0	1,100	1,100	200	-81.8%
4290	Legal Notices-General	1,500	0	1,500	1,500	1,250	-16.7%
4320	Staff Travel	1,100	334	700	1,034	1,200	9.1%
4322	Vehicle Expense	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4330	Audit & Accounting	22,000	11,679	8,000	19,679	25,000	13.6%
4335	Professional Services	19,000	4,892	11,849	16,741	18,000	-5.3%
4337	Contracted Services	7,000	320	6,500	6,820	6,000	-14.3%
4340	Recruitment	0	0	0	0	50	0.0%
4410	Legal Fees-General	50,000	9,984	40,000	49,984	50,000	0.0%
4500	Engineering	56,000	13,768	42,000	55,768	57,000	1.8%
4634	Equipment-Computer	250	0	250	250	250	0.0%
4635	Equipment-General	2,000	0	1,500	1,500	1,500	-25.0%
4636	Equipment Lease	2,200	999	1,399	2,398	2,200	0.0%
4910	Bank Charges	325	730	1,600	2,330	600	84.6%
	Total Expenses - General Admin	**$ 535,272**	**$ 179,506**	**$ 302,184**	**$ 481,690**	**$ 538,387**	**0.6%**

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Rice Creek Watershed District
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures - Communications Outreach - 30

Acct #	Account	2025 Annual Budget	YTD Thru 5/31/25	Projected 6/1-12/31/25	Projected 2025 Total	2026 Proposed Budget	% Difference between 2025 & 2026 Budgets
	Revenues						
3100	General Property Tax	251,566	0	241,503	241,503	296,167	17.7%
3700	Interest Income	14,323	4,716	200	4,916	6,738	-53.0%
3705	Investment Income		902		902	7,816	0.0%
3800	Miscellaneous Income	0		0	0	0	0.0%
	Total Revenues	**265,889**	**5,618**	**241,703**	**247,321**	**310,720**	**16.9%**
	Expenses						
4000	Manager Per Diem	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4010	Manager Expense	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4011	Manager Travel	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4100	Wages	103,919	37,682	52,755	90,438	108,525	4.4%
4102	Interns	4,434	0	4,434	4,434	5,404	21.9%
4110	Benefits	10,988	5,224	7,313	12,536	12,730	15.9%
4120	PERA Expense	7,794	2,826	3,957	6,783	8,139	4.4%
4125	H.S.A. Contribution	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4130	Payroll Taxes	8,289	2,808	3,931	6,740	9,809	18.3%
4140	Payroll Taxes-Unemployment	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4200	Office Supplies	1,213	29	1,100	1,129	1,213	0.0%
4201	Supplies-Field	250	112	138	250	250	0.0%
4203	Computer Software	500	0	500	500	500	0.0%
4205	Meeting Supplies/Expense	500	0	500	500	500	0.0%
4208	Printing	250	0	250	250	200	-20.0%
4210	Rent	12,500	4,419	6,186	10,604	11,300	-9.6%
4240	Telecommunications	2,452	755	1,057	1,811	2,350	-4.2%
4245	Dues	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4250	Publications	100	0	100	100	100	0.0%
4265	Training & Education	4,500	366	4,000	4,366	4,000	-11.1%
4270	Insurance & Bonds	4,000	3,552	0	3,015	3,800	-5.0%
4280	Postage	550	0	550	550	100	-81.8%
4290	Legal Notices-General	250	0	250	250	250	0.0%
4320	Staff Travel	550	33	500	533	600	9.1%
4322	Vehicle Expense	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4330	Audit & Accounting	11,000	5,931	4,240	10,171	12,500	13.6%
4335	Professional Services	3,000	61	2,900	2,961	3,000	0.0%
4337	Contracted Services	7,000	320	6,680	7,000	6,000	-14.3%
4340	Recruitment	0	0	0	0	50	0.0%
4410	Legal Fees-General	3,000	805	2,000	2,805	6,000	100.0%
4500	Engineering	1,000	0	1,000	1,000	500	-50.0%
4634	Equipment-Computer	250	0	250	250	500	100.0%
4635	Equipment-General	1,000	0	1,000	1,000	1,000	0.0%
4636	Equipment Lease	1,100	500	699	1,199	1,100	0.0%
4910	Bank Charges	0	0	0	0	300	0.0%
	Total Admin Expenses	**$ 190,389**	**$ 65,421**	**$ 106,290**	**$ 171,175**	**$ 200,720**	**5.4%**
	Projects						
	Watershed Comm's & Outreach 30-02	14,000	2,707	11,293	14,000	13,000	-7.1%
	Master Water Steward Program 30-03	30,000	8,100	21,900	30,000	17,000	-43.3%
	Outreach Partnerships - 30-04	43,000	17,425	25,575	43,000	46,000	7.0%
	Mini-Grants Program 30-05	20,000	451	19,549	20,000	30,000	50.0%
	Engineering & Technical Support 30-06	3,000	0	3,000	3,000	3,000	0.0%
	Watershed Plan Maintenance 30-08	5,000	0	5,000	5,000	5,000	0.0%
	Total Project Expenses	**115,000**	**28,684**	**86,316**	**115,000**	**114,000**	**-0.9%**
	Total Expenses - Comm's & Outreach	**$ 305,389**	**$ 94,105**	**$ 192,606**	**$ 286,175**	**$ 314,720**	**3.1%**

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Rice Creek Watershed District
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures - Information Management - 35

Acct #	Account	2025 Annual Budget	YTD Thru 5/31/2025	Projected 6/1-12/31/25	Projected 2025 Total	2026 Proposed Budget	% Difference between 2025 & 2026 Budgets
	Revenues						
3100	General Property Tax	261,193	0	261,193	261,193	198,329	-24.1%
3700	Interest Income	14,821	4,880	6,832	11,713	6,067	-59.1%
3705	Investment Income		933	1,306	2,239	6,990	0.0%
3800	Miscellaneous Income	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
	Total Revenues	**276,014**	**5,813**	**269,331**	**275,145**	**211,386**	**-23.4%**
	Expenses						
4000	Manager Per Diem	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4010	Manager Expense	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4011	Manager Travel	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4100	Wages	31,856	11,139	15,594	26,732	31,997	0.4%
4102	Interns	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4110	Benefits	5,030	1,263	1,768	3,032	4,443	-11.7%
4120	PERA Expense	2,389	835	1,170	2,005	2,400	0.4%
4125	H.S.A. Contribution	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4130	Payroll Taxes	2,437	833	1,166	1,999	2,755	13.0%
4140	Payroll Taxes-Unemployment	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4200	Office Supplies	606	15	590	605	606	0.0%
4201	Supplies-Field	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4203	Computer Software	15,204	819	14,200	15,019	15,560	2.3%
4205	Meeting Supplies/Expense	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4208	Printing	125	0	125	125	100	-20.0%
4210	Rent	6,250	2,209	3,093	5,302	5,650	-9.6%
4240	Telecommunications	1,226	377	528	906	1,175	-4.2%
4245	Dues	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4250	Publications	50	0	50	50	50	0.0%
4265	Training & Education	2,250	150	2,000	2,150	2,000	-11.1%
4270	Insurance & Bonds	2,000	1,776	0	1,776	1,900	-5.0%
4280	Postage	275	0	275	275	50	-81.8%
4290	Legal Notices-General	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4320	Staff Travel	275	0	275	275	300	9.1%
4322	Vehicle Expense	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4330	Audit & Accounting	5,500	2,965	2,160	5,125	6,250	13.6%
4335	Professional Services	55,670	24,855	30,815	55,670	58,900	5.8%
4337	Contracted Services	1,000	0	1,000	1,000	1,000	0.0%
4340	Recruitment	0				50	
4410	Legal Fees-General	500	0	500	500	500	0.0%
4500	Engineering	500	0	500	500	500	0.0%
4634	Equipment-Computer	57,320	17,240	40,080	57,320	22,000	-61.6%
4635	Equipment-General	1,500	0	1,500	1,500	1,500	0.0%
4636	Equipment Lease	550	250	350	600	550	0.0%
4910	Bank Charges	0	0	0	0	150	0.0%
	Total Admin Expenses	**$ 192,514**	**$ 64,726**	**$ 117,739**	**$ 182,465**	**$ 160,386**	**-16.7%**
	Projects						
	Boundary Management Program 35-03	1,000	0	1,000	1,000	0	-100.0%
	District-Wide Model 35-04	60,000	18,832	41,169	60,000	60,000	0.0%
	Database & Viewer Maintenance 35-05	60,000	17,595	42,405	60,000	40,000	-33.3%
	District Website 35-15	2,500	1,677	824	2,500	23,000	820.0%
	Total Project Expenses	**$ 123,500**	**$ 38,103**	**$ 85,397**	**$ 123,500**	**$ 123,000**	**-0.4%**
	Total Expenses - Info Management	**$ 316,014**	**$ 102,829**	**$ 203,136**	**$ 305,965**	**$ 283,386**	**-10.3%**

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Rice Creek Watershed District
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures - Restoration Projects - 60

Acct #	Account	2025 Annual Budget	YTD Thru 5/31/25	Projected 6/1-12/31/25	Projected 2025 Total	2026 Proposed Budget	% Difference between 2025 & 2026 Budgets
	Revenues						
3100	General Property Tax	885,775	0	850,344	850,344	783,602	-11.5%
3101	WMD - Lower Rice Creek 60-02	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
3101	WMD - Bald Eagle Lake 60-05	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
3101	WMD - RCD 2, 3 & 5 60-07	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
3101	WMD - Forest Lake Planning 60-33	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
3101	WMD - Columbus Planning 60-34	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
3300	BWSR Grant - WBFIP East Miss. 60-01	30,000	0	0	0	3,900	-87.0%
3300	BWSR Grant - FY25 WBIF: Clearwater Creek	0	0	0	0	90,000	0.0%
3300	BWSR Grant - FY26 WQ and Storage: Hardwood Creek/JD2 Storage	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
3300	MPCA Grant - OSG: Moore Lake Stormwater Relience Analysis	0	0	0	0	20,000	0.0%
3300	MPCA Grant - Implementation of SW: Jones Lake Outlet Mod. & Dredging	0	0	0	0	900,000	0.0%
3300	Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant - Centerville Alum - next revenue 202	0	0	0	0	513,638	0.0%
3302	WBIF 2025 Award - Clearwater Creek 60-01	0	0	20,000	20,000	54,450	0.0%
3700	Interest Income	137,070	45,134	1,500	46,634	114,605	-16.4%
3705	Investment Income	0	8,628	12,080	20,708	132,499	0.0%
3800	Miscellaneous Income	0	8,628	12,080	20,708	0	0.0%
	Total Revenues	**$ 1,052,846**	**$ 62,391**	**$ 896,004**	**$ 958,395**	**$ 2,612,693**	**148.2%**
	Expenses						
4000	Manager Per Diem	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4010	Manager Expense	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4011	Manager Travel	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4100	Wages	238,530	81,344	113,881	195,225	234,959	-1.5%
4102	Interns	4,434	0	4,434	4,434	5,404	21.9%
4110	Benefits	43,415	12,752	17,853	30,605	31,151	-28.2%
4120	PERA Expense	17,890	6,120	8,567	14,687	17,622	-1.5%
4125	H.S.A. Contribution	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4130	Payroll Taxes	18,587	5,914	8,279	14,193	20,695	11.3%
4140	Payroll Taxes-Unemployment	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4200	Office Supplies	1,213	29	1,184	1,213	1,213	0.0%
4201	Supplies-Field	250	0	250	250	250	0.0%
4203	Computer Software	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4205	Meeting Supplies/Expense	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4208	Printing	250	0	250	250	200	-20.0%
4210	Rent	12,500	4,419	6,186	10,604	11,300	-9.6%
4240	Telecommunications	2,452	755	1,057	1,811	2,350	-4.2%
4245	Dues	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4250	Publications	100	0	100	100	100	0.0%
4265	Training & Education	4,500	532	3,968	4,500	4,000	-11.1%
4270	Insurance & Bonds	4,000	3,552	0	3,552	3,800	-5.0%
4280	Postage	550	0	550	550	100	-81.8%
4290	Legal Notices-General	1,000	0	1,000	1,000	1,000	0.0%
4320	Staff Travel	550	0	550	550	600	9.1%
4322	Vehicle Expense	12,000	0	12,000	12,000	15,000	25.0%
4330	Audit & Accounting	11,000	5,931	4,240	10,171	12,500	13.6%
4335	Professional Services	12,000	0	12,000	12,000	12,000	0.0%
4337	Contracted Services	10,500	480	10,020	10,500	10,000	-4.8%
4340	Recruitment	0	0	0	0	50	0.0%
4410	Legal Fees-General	1,750	433	1,200	1,633	1,750	0.0%
4500	Engineering	4,000	639	3,362	4,000	4,000	0.0%
4634	Equipment-Computer	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4635	Equipment-General	1,250	0	1,250	1,250	1,250	0.0%
4636	Equipment Lease	1,100	500	600	1,100	1,100	0.0%
4910	Bank Charges	25	0	25	25	300	0.0%
	Total Admin Expenses	**$ 403,846**	**$ 123,396**	**$ 212,806**	**$ 336,202**	**$ 392,693**	**-2.8%**
	Projects						
	Anoka Chain of Lakes Water Management Project 60-01	160,000	0	126,000	126,000	1,725,000	978.1%
	Lower Rice Creek WMD 60-02	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
	Lower Rice Creek Water Management Project 60-03	185,000	0	140,000	140,000	375,000	102.7%
	Middle Rice Creek Water Management Project 60-04	100,000	0	10,000	10,000	50,000	-50.0%
	Bald Eagle Lake WMD 60-05	28,272	12	2,290	2,302	28,486	0.8%
	Bald Eagle Lake Water Management Project 60-06	100,000	49,586	5,000	54,586	150,000	50.0%
	RCD 2, 3 & 5 WMD 60-07	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
	RCD 2, 3 & 5 Basic Water Management Project 60-08	500,000	2,095	147,000	149,095	1,120,000	124.0%
	Silver Lake Water Management Project 60-09	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
	Golden Lake Water Management Project 60-10	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
	Regional Water Management Partnership Projects 60-11	54,000	0	10,000	10,000	35,000	-35.2%
	Stormwater Management Cost Share 60-15	1,106,433	143,871	290,000	433,871	1,187,000	7.3%
	Southwest Urban Lakes Implementation 60-24	100,000	410	15,000	15,410	100,000	0.0%
	Clear Lake Water Management Project 60-29	85,000	18,007	25,000	43,007	85,000	0.0%
	Forest Lake Planning WMD 60-33	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
	Columbus Planning WMD 60-34	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
	Stormwater Master Planning 60-35	35,000	7,941	10,000	17,941	40,000	14.3%
	Municipal CIP Early Coordination 60-36	10,000	420	5,000	5,420	10,000	0.0%
	Groundwater Management & Stormwater Reuse 60-37	55,000	1,871	15,000	16,871	55,000	0.0%
	Total Project Expenses	**$ 2,518,705**	**$ 224,212**	**$ 800,290**	**$ 1,024,502**	**$ 4,960,486**	**96.9%**
	Total Expenses - Restoration Projects	**$ 2,922,551**	**$ 347,609**	**$ 1,013,096**	**$ 1,360,705**	**$ 5,353,179**	**83.2%**

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Rice Creek Watershed District
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures - Regulatory - 70

Acct. #	Account	2025 Annual Budget	YTD Thru 5/31/25	Projected 6/1/ - 12/31/25	Projected 2025 Total	2026 Proposed Budget	% Difference between 2025 & 2026 Budgets
	Revenues						
3100	General Property Tax	1,181,055	0	1,133,813	1,133,813	1,056,226	-10.6%
3400	Permit Fees 70-03	61,200	37,500	37,500	75,000	61,200	0.0%
3700	Interest Income	73,432	24,180	1,200	25,380	32,159	-56.2%
3705	Investment Income	0	4,622	0	4,622	37,552	0.0%
3800	Miscellaneous Income	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
	Total Revenues	**$ 1,315,687**	**$ 66,302**	**$ 1,172,513**	**$ 1,238,815**	**$ 1,187,137**	**-9.8%**
	Expenses						
4000	Manager Per Diem	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4010	Manager Expense	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4011	Manager Travel	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4100	Wages	348,652	129,796	181,715	311,511	370,768	6.3%
4102	Interns	4,434	0	4,440	4,440	5,404	21.9%
4110	Benefits	49,729	25,615	35,861	61,476	61,137	22.9%
4120	PERA Expense	26,149	9,777	13,687	23,464	27,808	6.3%
4125	H.S.A. Contribution	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4130	Payroll Taxes	27,011	9,636	13,490	23,126	32,388	19.9%
4140	Payroll Taxes-Unemployment	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4200	Office Supplies	3,032	73	2,700	2,773	3,032	0.0%
4201	Supplies-Field	500	156	344	500	1,000	100.0%
4203	Computer Software	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4205	Meeting Supplies/Expense	125	0	125	125	125	0.0%
4208	Printing	625	0	625	625	500	-20.0%
4210	Rent	31,250	11,046	15,465	26,511	28,250	-9.6%
4240	Telecommunications	6,130	1,887	2,641	4,528	5,875	-4.2%
4245	Dues	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4250	Publications	250	0	250	250	250	0.0%
4265	Training & Education	11,250	496	10,000	10,496	10,000	-11.1%
4270	Insurance & Bonds	10,000	8,879	0	8,879	9,500	-5.0%
4280	Postage	1,375	0	1,375	1,375	250	-81.8%
4290	Legal Notices-General	300	0	300	300	300	0.0%
4320	Staff Travel	1,375	74	1,200	1,274	1,500	9.1%
4322	Vehicle Expense	12,000	328	11,500	11,828	15,000	25.0%
4330	Audit & Accounting	27,500	14,827	10,400	25,227	31,250	13.6%
4335	Professional Services	3,000	0	3,000	3,000	3,000	0.0%
4337	Contracted Services	17,500	800	16,700	17,500	16,000	-8.6%
4340	Recruitment	0	0	0	0	50	0.0%
4410	Legal Fees-General	2,500	0	2,000	2,000	2,000	-20.0%
4500	Engineering	1,250	0	1,250	1,250	1,250	0.0%
4634	Equipment-Computer	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4635	Equipment-General	2,000	0	2,000	2,000	2,000	0.0%
4636	Equipment Lease	2,750	1,249	1,748	2,997	2,750	0.0%
4910	Bank Charges	0	0	0	0	750	0.0%
	Total Admin Expenses	**$ 590,687**	**$ 214,639**	**$ 332,817**	**$ 547,456**	**$ 632,137**	**7.0%**
	Projects						
	Rule Revision & Permit Guidance 70-01	50,000	431	5,000	5,431	15,000	-70.0%
	Permit Review, Inspect & Coord 70-03	925,000	239,811	645,000	884,811	855,000	-7.6%
	Total Project Expenses	**$ 975,000**	**$ 240,242**	**$ 650,000**	**$ 890,242**	**$ 870,000**	**-10.8%**
	Total Expenses - Regulatory	**$ 1,565,687**	**$ 454,881**	**$ 982,817**	**$ 1,437,698**	**$ 1,502,137**	**-4.1%**

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Rice Creek Watershed District
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures - Ditch Creek Maintenance - 80

Acct #	Account	2025 Annual Budget	YTD Thru 5/31/25	Projected 6/01-12/31/25	Projected 2025 Total	2026 Proposed Budget	% Difference between 2025 & 2026 Budgets
	Revenues						
3100	General Property Tax	1,403,854	0	1,347,700	1,347,700	1,495,930	6.6%
3101	WMD - ACD 10-22-32 80-04	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
3101	WMD - ACD 31 80-05	0	0	120	120	0	0.0%
3101	WMD - ACD 46 80-06	0	0	88	88	0	0.0%
3101	WMD - RCD 4 80-07	85,038	0	81,636	81,636	0	-100.0%
3101	WMD - ARJD 1 80-09	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
3101	WMD - ACD 15 & AWJD 4 80-22	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
3101	WMD - ACD 53-62 80-24	0	0	166,364	166,364	219,397	0.0%
3207	ROW - ACD 10-22-32 80-04	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
3207	ROW - ACD 31 80-05	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
3207	ROW - ACD 46 80-06	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
3207	ROW - RCD 4 80-07	9,500	0	11,972	11,972	9,500	0.0%
3207	ROW - ARJD 1 80-09	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
3207	ROW - ACD 15 & AWJD 4 80-22	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
3207	ROW - ACD 53-62 80-24	0	1,927	0	1,927	2,845	0.0%
3302	BWSR Grant - WBFIP Rice Creek 80-03	30,000	39,590	30,000	69,590	6,000	-80.0%
3700	Interest Income	91,714	30,199	1,200	31,399	45,152	-50.8%
3705	Investment Income	0	5,773	0	5,773	68,203	0.0%
3800	Miscellaneous Income	0		0	0	0	0.0%
	Total Revenues	**$ 1,620,106**	**$ 77,490**	**$ 1,639,080**	**$ 1,716,570**	**$ 1,847,027**	**14.0%**
	Expenses						
4000	Manager Per Diem	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4010	Manager Expense	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4011	Manager Travel	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4100	Wages	182,803	62,515	87,521	150,036	180,646	-1.2%
4102	Interns	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4110	Benefits	27,363	10,297	14,415	24,712	29,658	8.4%
4120	PERA Expense	13,710	4,713	6,598	11,311	13,548	-1.2%
4125	H.S.A. Contribution	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4130	Payroll Taxes	13,984	4,693	6,570	11,263	15,554	11.2%
4140	Payroll Taxes-Unemployment	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4200	Office Supplies	1,819	208	1,600	1,808	1,819	0.0%
4201	Supplies-Field	250	0	250	250	250	0.0%
4203	Computer Software	400	0	400	400	400	0.0%
4205	Meeting Supplies/Expense	125	0	125	125	125	0.0%
4208	Printing	375	0	375	375	300	-20.0%
4210	Rent	18,750	6,628	9,279	15,907	16,950	-9.6%
4240	Telecommunications	3,678	1,307	1,830	3,137	3,525	-4.2%
4245	Dues	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4250	Publications	150	0	150	150	150	0.0%
4265	Training & Education	6,750	588	6,000	6,588	6,000	-11.1%
4270	Insurance & Bonds	6,000	5,327	0	5,327	5,700	-5.0%
4280	Postage	825	0	825	825	150	-81.8%
4290	Legal Notices-General	1,500	0	1,500	1,500	750	-50.0%
4320	Staff Travel	825	9	816	825	900	9.1%
4322	Vehicle Expense	12,000	597	11,403	12,000	15,000	25.0%
4330	Audit & Accounting	16,500	8,896	6,400	15,296	18,750	13.6%
4335	Professional Services	13,740	235	13,505	13,740	2,000	-85.4%
4337	Contracted Services	7,500	480	7,020	7,500	10,000	33.3%
4340	Recruitment	0	0	0	0	50	0.0%
4410	Legal Fees-General	5,000	0	5,000	5,000	2,500	-50.0%
4500	Engineering	6,500	168	6,332	6,500	3,000	-53.8%
4634	Equipment-Computer	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4635	Equipment-General	2,000	0	2,000	2,000	2,000	0.0%
4636	Equipment Lease	1,650	749	1,049	1,798	1,650	0.0%
4910	Bank Charges	0	0	0	0	450	0.0%
	Total Admin Expenses	**$ 344,198**	**$ 107,411**	**$ 190,963**	**$ 298,373**	**$ 331,826**	-3.6%
	Projects						
	Natural Waterway Management 80-01	10,000	0	2,500	2,500	10,000	0.0%
	Ditch Maintenance 80-02	345,000	87,784	317,000	404,784	450,000	30.4%
	Repair Reports & Studies 80-03	160,000	56,023	103,977	160,000	209,000	30.6%
	ACD 10-22-32 WMD 80-04	14,361	7,500	5,693	13,193	0	-100.0%
	ACD 31 WMD 80-05	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
	ACD 46 WMD 80-06	41,016	2,190	38,826	41,016	37,451	-8.7%
	RCD 4 WMD 80-07	94,538	(2,800)	86,944	84,144	82,389	-12.9%
	RCD 4 Repair 80-08	48,000	(1,867)	35,000	33,133	0	-100.0%
	ARJD 1 WMD 80-09	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
	ARJD 1 Repair 80-10	0	0	0	0	70,000	0.0%
	Municipal PDS Maintenance 80-15	50,000	0	5,000	5,000	50,000	0.0%
	WJD 2 Branch 1/2 Repair 80-20	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
	AWJD 3 Repair 80-21	0	546	55,000	55,546	0	0.0%
	ACD 15 & AWJD 4 WMD 80-22	18,370	0	18,370	18,370	18,370	0.0%
	ACD 15 & AWJD 4 80-23	230,000	0	10,000	10,000	230,000	0.0%
	ACD 53-62 WMD 80-24	354,000	0	130,000	130,000	372,000	5.1%
	ACD 53-62 Repair 80-25	246,000	11,648	70,000	81,648	248,000	0.8%
	Total Project Expenses	**$ 1,611,285**	**$ 161,024**	**$ 878,310**	**$ 1,039,334**	**$ 1,777,210**	**10.3%**
	Total Expenses - Ditch & Creek	**$ 1,955,483**	**$ 268,434**	**$ 1,069,273**	**$ 1,337,707**	**$ 2,109,036**	**7.9%**

Rice Creek Watershed District
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures - Lake Stream Management - 90

Acct #	Account	2025 Annual Budget	YTD Thru 5/31/25	Projected 6/01-12/31/25	Projected 2025 Total	2026 Proposed Budget	% Difference between 2025 & 2026 Budgets
	Revenues						
3100	General Property Tax	1,026,552	0	985,490	985,490	1,048,702	2.2%
3302	BWSR Grant - WBFIP Rice Creek 90-26	0	20,410	25,000	45,410	5,100	0.0%
3700	Interest Income	54,213	17,851	0	17,851	24,619	-54.6%
3705	Investment Income	0	3,413		3,413	28,303	0.0%
3800	Miscellaneous Income	0		0	0	0	0.0%
	Total Revenues	**$ 1,080,765**	**$ 41,674**	**$ 1,010,490**	**$ 1,052,164**	**$ 1,106,725**	**2.4%**
	Expenses						
4000	Manager Per Diem	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4010	Manager Expense	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4011	Manager Travel	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4100	Wages	240,435	85,841	120,178	206,019	246,585	2.6%
4102	Interns	4,434	0	0	0	5,404	21.9%
4110	Benefits	35,916	13,900	19,460	33,359	34,932	-2.7%
4120	PERA Expense	18,033	6,436	9,010	15,446	18,494	2.6%
4125	H.S.A. Contribution	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4130	Payroll Taxes	18,733	6,234	8,728	14,962	21,696	15.8%
4140	Payroll Taxes-Unemployment	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4200	Office Supplies	1,213	222	991	1,213	1,213	0.0%
4201	Supplies-Field	250	0	250	250	250	0.0%
4203	Computer Software	0	0	0	0	250	0.0%
4205	Meeting Supplies/Expense	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4208	Printing	250	0	250	250	200	-20.0%
4210	Rent	12,500	4,419	8,000	12,419	11,300	-9.6%
4240	Telecommunications	2,452	755	1,500	2,255	2,350	-4.2%
4245	Dues	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4250	Publications	100	0	100	100	100	0.0%
4265	Training & Education	4,500	27	4,473	4,500	4,000	-11.1%
4270	Insurance & Bonds	4,000	3,552	0	3,015	3,800	-5.0%
4280	Postage	550	0	550	550	100	-81.8%
4290	Legal Notices-General	250	0	250	250	250	0.0%
4320	Staff Travel	550	22	528	550	600	9.1%
4322	Vehicle Expense	12,000	394	11,500	11,894	15,000	25.0%
4330	Audit & Accounting	11,000	5,931	4,240	10,171	12,500	13.6%
4335	Professional Services	2,000	0	2,000	2,000	2,500	25.0%
4337	Contracted Services	10,500	480	10,020	10,500	10,000	-4.8%
4340	Recruitment					50	
4410	Legal Fees-General	1,000	0	0	0	1,000	0.0%
4500	Engineering	1,250	0	1,250	1,250	1,250	0.0%
4634	Equipment-Computer	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4635	Equipment-General	1,250	0	1,250	1,250	1,500	20.0%
4636	Equipment Lease	1,100	500	699	1,199	1,100	0.0%
4910	Bank Charges	0	0	0	0	300	0.0%
	Total Admin Expenses	**$ 384,265**	**$ 128,710**	**$ 205,228**	**$ 333,401**	**$ 396,725**	**3.2%**
	Projects						
	Water Quality Grant Program 90-01	281,646	10,016	121,561	131,577	273,238	-3.0%
	Surface Water Monitoring Program 90-04	240,000	22,107	217,893	240,000	240,000	0.0%
	Common Carp Management 90-26	200,000	33,813	60,604	94,417	200,000	0.0%
	Curly Leaf Pondweed Management 90-27	50,000	0	12,000	12,000	40,000	-20.0%
	Total Project Expenses	**$ 771,646**	**$ 65,937**	**$ 412,058**	**$ 477,995**	**$ 753,238**	**-2.4%**
	Total Expenses - Lake & Stream	**$ 1,155,911**	**$ 194,646**	**$ 617,286**	**$ 811,396**	**$ 1,149,963**	**-0.5%**

Rice Creek Watershed District
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures - District Facilities - 95

Acct #	Account	2025 Annual Budget	YTD Thru 5/31/25	Projected 6/01-12/31/25	Projected 2025 Total	2026 Proposed Budget	% Difference between 2025 & 2026 Budgets
	Revenues						
3100	General Property Tax	623,620	0	598,675	598,675	1,315,551	111.0%
3700	Interest Income	30,688	10,105	600	10,705	29,135	-5.1%
3705	Investment Income		1,932	1,932	3,864	16,209	0.0%
3800	Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
	Total Revenues	**$ 654,307**	**$ 12,037**	**$ 601,207**	**$ 613,244**	**$ 1,360,895**	**108.0%**
	Expenses						
4000	Manager Per Diem	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4010	Manager Expense	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4011	Manager Travel	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4100	Wages	139,831	46,883	65,637	112,520	135,015	-3.4%
4102	Interns	4,434	0	4,434	4,434	5,404	21.9%
4110	Benefits	21,536	6,220	8,708	14,927	22,469	4.3%
4120	PERA Expense	10,487	3,516	4,923	8,439	10,126	-3.4%
4125	H.S.A. Contribution	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4130	Payroll Taxes	11,036	3,570	4,998	8,569	12,090	9.5%
4140	Payroll Taxes-Unemployment	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4200	Office Supplies	606	125	475	600	606	0.0%
4201	Supplies-Field	250	216	303	519	250	0.0%
4203	Computer Software	0	0	0	0	250	0.0%
4205	Meeting Supplies/Expense	125	0	125	125	0	-100.0%
4208	Printing	125	0	125	125	100	-20.0%
4210	Rent	6,250	2,209	3,093	5,302	5,650	-9.6%
4240	Telecommunications	1,226	377	528	905	1,175	-4.2%
4245	Dues	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
4250	Publications	50	0	50	50	50	0.0%
4265	Training & Education	2,250	562	1,688	2,250	2,000	-11.1%
4270	Insurance & Bonds	2,000	1,776	0	1,776	1,900	-5.0%
4280	Postage	275	0	275	275	50	-81.8%
4290	Legal Notices-General	0	0	0	0	1,000	0.0%
4320	Staff Travel	275	0	275	275	300	9.1%
4322	Vehicle Expense	12,000	371	11,629	12,000	15,000	25.0%
4330	Audit & Accounting	5,500	2,965	2,160	5,125	6,250	13.6%
4335	Professional Services	2,000	0	2,000	2,000	1,500	-25.0%
4337	Contracted Services	7,000	320	6,680	7,000	7,000	0.0%
4340	Recruitment					50	0.0%
4410	Legal Fees-General	1,000	415	580	995	1,000	0.0%
4500	Engineering	1,000	0	1,000	1,000	1,000	0.0%
4634	Equipment-Computer	0	0	0	0	500	0.0%
4635	Equipment-General	2,500	0	2,500	2,500	3,500	40.0%
4636	Equipment Lease	550	250	300	550	550	0.0%
4910	Bank Charges	0	0	0	0	150	0.0%
	Total Admin Expenses	**$ 232,307**	**$ 69,775**	**$ 122,486**	**$ 192,261**	**$ 234,935**	**1.1%**
	Projects						
	District Facilities Repair 95-03	310,000	0	310,000	310,000	933,210	201.0%
	Inspection, Operation & Maint 95-04	112,000	2,701	25,000	27,701	192,750	72.1%
	Total Project Expenses	**$ 422,000**	**$ 2,701**	**$ 335,000**	**$ 337,701**	**$ 1,125,960**	**166.8%**
	Total Expenses - District Facilities	**$ 654,307**	**$ 72,476**	**$ 457,486**	**$ 529,962**	**$ 1,360,895**	**108.0%**

MEMORANDUM
Rice Creek Watershed District

Date: March 12, 2025
To: RCWD Board of Managers
From: Nick Tomczik, Administrator
Subject: 2026 Budget Planning Schedule

Annually the District must propose its budget and accordingly certify the amount to the counties. Staff have developed the following schedule for the 2026 budget process. (The budget will also include any proposed and previously approved Water Management District (WMD) certification of charges to the counties.)

- ~~**March 10 workshop**~~
  - ~~Public Drainage & Facilities program review and 2026 forecast~~
- ~~**April 7 workshop**~~
  - ~~Communication & Outreach program review and 2026 forecast~~
- ~~**May 12 workshop**~~
  - ~~Regulatory program review and 2026 forecast~~
- ~~**June 9 workshop**~~
  - ~~Lake & Stream program review and 2026 forecast~~
  - ~~Restoration Project Program and 2026 forecast~~
- **July 7 workshop**
  - Draft 2026 budget in workshop packet
- **July 14 workshop, *if necessary***
  - Address the Board's further input in the draft 2026 budget and finalize for public hearing notification
- **July 14 on or about**
  - staff notice budget public hearing
- **August 13 board meeting**
  - Budget Public Hearing at regular Board Meeting
- **August 18th workshop, *if necessary***
  - Board to consider, address, any notable public hearing comments
- **September 10 board meeting**
  - Board certification of budget/levy
- **December 10 board meeting**
  - truth-in-taxation public meeting, and again certify the budget/levy