



Carver County Board of Commissioners
September 26, 2017
Work Session
County Board Room
Carver County Government Center
Human Services Building
Chaska, Minnesota

PAGE

WORK SESSION

- 9:00 a.m. **A. FINANCES: Improve the County's financial health and economic profile**
1. Master Financing Agreement with the Minnehaha Creek
 Watershed District..... 1-5
- 9:30 a.m. **B. COMMUNITIES: Create and maintain safe, healthy and livable communities**
1. Brush & Yard Waste Transfer Site Update..... 6
- 10:00 a.m. **BOARD REPORTS**

David Hemze
County Administrator

UPCOMING MEETINGS

October 3, 2017	9:00 a.m. Board Meeting
October 10, 2017	No Meeting
October 17, 2017	4:00 p.m. Board Meeting
October 24, 2017	9:00 a.m. Board Work Session
October 31, 2017	9:00 a.m. Board Meeting
November 7, 2017	9:00 a.m. Board Meeting Canceled

Carver County Board of Commissioners Request for Board Action



Agenda Item:

Master Financing Agreement with the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District

Primary Originating Division/Dept: ▼

Meeting Date:

Contact: Title:

Item Type:
 ▼

Amount of Time Requested: minutes

Attachments: Yes No

Presenter: Title:

Strategic Initiative:

▼

BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION:

The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) is interested in pursuing a Master Financing Agreement with Carver County to provide long-term financing for MCWD capital improvement projects ("CIP") in Carver County. MCWD will provide the CIP short-term financing and then request Carver County to provide CIP long-term financing through the issuance of County general obligation bonds. MCWD has a similar Master Financing Agreement with Hennepin County to provide CIP long-term financing. The debt service on these County bonds would be secured by an MCWD promissory note at the time of issuance, and MCWD would pay for the debt service with the full faith and credit of its ad valorem tax levy spread across the entire Watershed District. Thus, County-issued bonds to provide MCWD with CIP long-term financing would not impact the County's "AAA" bond rating. Staff members from the District and the County as well as the County's financial consultant (with Ehlers) and bond attorney (with Faegre Benson) have been working on developing a draft Master Finance Agreement and will provide details during the work session. A memo from the MCWD, outlining the proposed agreement, is attached.

ACTION REQUESTED:

Direction to proceed on the draft Master Finance Agreement with the MCWD.

FISCAL IMPACT: ▼

If "Other", specify:

FUNDING

County Dollars =

FTE IMPACT: ▼

Total

Insert additional funding source

Related Financial/FTE Comments:

County-issued bonds to provide MCWD with CIP long-term financing would not impact the County's "AAA" bond rating because the MCWD will pay the county's bond issuance costs and debt service using its ad valorem tax levy spread across the entire Watershed District.

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RBA 2017 - 4979



MEMORANDUM

To: Carver County Board of Commissioners
From: James Wisker, Director of Planning
Date: September 13, 2017
Re: MCWD-Carver County Master Finance Agreement

Purpose:

Facilitate the September 26, 2017 discussion of the Draft Minnehaha Creek Watershed District-Carver County Master Finance Agreement.

Background: The Six Mile Creek Halsted Bay Subwatershed

The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD or District) has established the Six Mile Creek-Halsted Bay (SMCHB) Subwatershed as a focal geography for natural resource planning and implementation. (See attached map). This area was selected as a priority by the District's Board of Managers due to its abundant natural resources, its connection to Halsted Bay, the area's projected growth and development, and our existing strong regional partnership with the agencies in this geography.

The District's approach to its work emphasizes public and private partnerships that align plans, policies and investments in the landscape, to identify innovative solutions that achieve the greatest public benefit possible with the limited resources available.

Accordingly, over the last year, the District has worked with the SMCHB Partnership to develop a comprehensive capital improvement program that addresses natural resource objectives in ways that successfully manage the challenges and opportunities resulting from growth and development, to create thriving communities.

SMCHB Partners include: Carver and Hennepin Counties, the cities of Minnetrista, St. Bonifacius, and Victoria, Waconia and Laketown Townships, Carver County Soil and Water Conservation District, and Three Rivers Park District.

We collaborate with public and private partners to protect and improve land and water for current and future generations.

In developing the plan, the District has worked with the SMCHB Partnership to:

- Establish a shared understanding of key natural resource issues within the subwatershed, and what is driving those issues
- Develop long-range management strategies to address the issues and their drivers
- Understand local priorities and goals, including those related to parks and open space, transportation and infrastructure, and growth and development
- Establish implementation priorities, while retaining flexibility to respond to new opportunities that emerge through coordination with partners

The SMCHB Partnership and the Subwatershed Plan that has been developed as a part of the District's overall Water Resource Management Plan, has been formally endorsed by Carver County in March of 2017 through the adoption of the SMCHB Resolution of Support, and more recently via recognition from the Carver County Water Management Organization (CCWMO), Hennepin County, Three Rivers Park District, and the City of Victoria.

Financing Strategy

Given the scale of the SMCHB geography, and the abundant natural resources in need of both protection and improvement, the District and its Partners have identified the need to develop a plan that leverages regional, state and federal resources to support implementation.

Pursuant to the developed Plan and corresponding funding strategy, that District and its Partners have already accomplished the following:

- Secured \$250,000 Clean Water Legacy Grant to enhance public stormwater infrastructure and improve water quality draining from downtown Victoria into East Auburn Lake.
- Partnered with a national homebuilder, Lennar Corporation, to privately fund the restoration of 12 acres of wetland and upland buffer, draining to Wasserman Lake.
- Acquired 30.5 acres of land to address a legacy pollutant source on Lake Wassermann while creating upland park amenities for public recreation and lake access.
- Ranked second among pending habitat applications to Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Council, for \$795,000 to implement one of the largest scale and most innovative Common Carp management programs in the Midwest

We collaborate with public and private partners to protect and improve land and water for current and future generations.

MCWD – Carver County Financing Partnership:

To complement and leverage potential investments made by the District, SMCHB Partners, and outside regional-state-federal grants, the MCWD obtained support from the Carver County Board in December of 2016 to develop a financing partnership that would permanently replace any short-term capital project financing through the County’s issuance of general obligation bonds, backed by the full faith and credit of the Watershed District’s levy.

September 26 County Board Workshop

With the support of the Carver County Board, MCWD and County staff have been working to develop a Finance Agreement to accomplish the goals outlined during the December 2016 presentation.

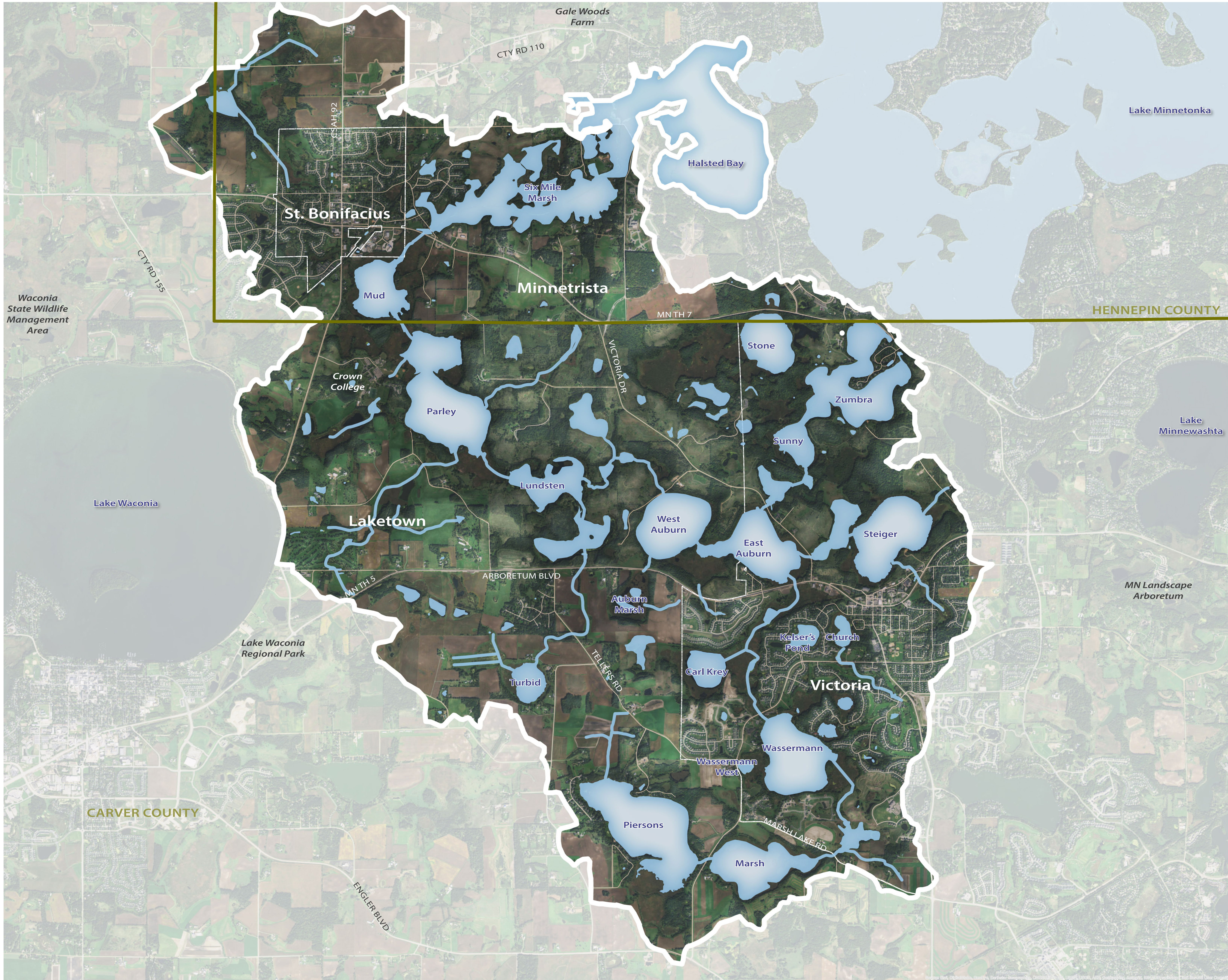
At the September 26th County Board meeting, County and District Staff will provide a presentation that:

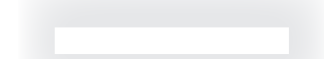



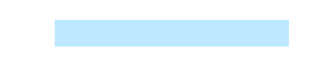
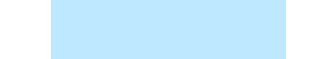
- Provides an overview of the Six Mile – Halsted Bay Plan
- Recaps the objectives of the proposed financing partnership between MCWD and Carver
- Outlines the terms and logistics of the Draft Master Finance Agreement
- Facilitates discussion and questions

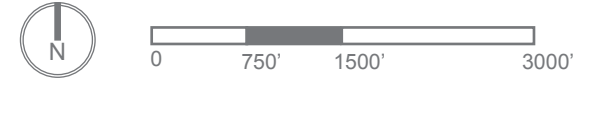
Next Steps:

Pending discussion by the Carver County and MCWD Board in September, District and County staff intend to bring the draft agreement for final action at the October 17 meeting.

If there are questions in advance of the meeting, please contact James Wisker at Jwisker@minnehahacreek.org or 952.641.4509



- LEGEND**
-  Six Mile Creek Watershed Boundary
 -  City and Township Boundaries
 -  County Boundary
 -  Streets
 -  Rivers and Streams
 -  Lakes



3 miles (typical biking trip)  1/4 mile (typical walking trip) 

BASE MAP
 Six Mile Subwatershed Planning Project Minnehaha Creek Watershed District



Carver County Board of Commissioners Request for Board Action



Agenda Item:

Brush & Yard Waste Transfer Site Update

Primary Originating Division/Dept:

Meeting Date:

Contact: Title:

Item Type:

Amount of Time Requested: minutes

Attachments: Yes No

Presenter: Title:

Strategic Initiative:

BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION:

Carver County has faced incredible growth in participation at our Environmental Center over the past several years, both in numbers of residents dropping off waste and in the volume of waste being dropped off for management or recycling. Finding a new location for one of our largest waste streams (brush and yard waste) could produce valuable operating space, safer conditions for Carver County residents visiting the site in their vehicles, and shorter waiting lines for residents. Such a site would not store brush and yard waste. Rather, it would provide a temporary transfer station for waste on its way to an end use. The staff will provide an update to the Board on efforts to locate a new Brush & Yard Waste Site for County residents, including options for a new site.

ACTION REQUESTED:

Board guidance to the staff.

FISCAL IMPACT:

If "Other", specify:

FTE IMPACT:

FUNDING

County Dollars =

Total

Insert additional funding source

Related Financial/FTE Comments:

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