

## BCWD WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

Date	03/15/2024
To / Contact info	BCWD Board of Managers; Karen Kill, District Administrator
From / Contact info	Camilla Correll, EOR
Regarding	Initial Kick-Off Meeting

### Background

At the February Board meeting, EOR presented a scope of services to host a public open house to introduce stakeholders and members of the public to the watershed management plan update. The Board of Managers was concerned with the proposed level of effort given the amount of turnout experienced in the past. They are more interested in reaching out to the contacts they have established as part of the Enhanced Engagement process to solicit feedback on the issues and concerns they think need to be addressed over the next 10-year planning cycle.

### Update

As a result of this feedback, District Staff is proposing that the public kick-off meeting be combined with the initial planning meeting which is a requirement of Minnesota Rule 8410. The proposed structure for this meeting is as follows:

1. Hold **Initial Planning Meeting** which must be presided over by the Board of Managers to receive, review, and discuss input. Attendees must include plan review authorities and known stakeholders including affected counties, cities, and towns and the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

During this part of the meeting, District Staff will share (1) 2017-2026 Plan Accomplishments, (2) existing issues/goals, (3) management expectations of the plan review agencies including priority issues, summaries of relevant water management goals, and water resource information. The goal for this meeting will be to preliminarily identify what will be addressed in the BCWD's 5<sup>th</sup> Generation Watershed Management Plan.

2. Hold a **Meet-and-Greet** after the Initial Planning Meeting where the CAC, stakeholders identified through the Enhanced Engagement Process and the general public can come to chat about watershed management.

During this part of the meeting, the Board, District Staff, plan review agency representatives (i.e., MNDNR, MPCA, MDH, MDA, MNDOT), Washington County Staff and City Staff can mingle with the CAC and the public to talk about issues, concerns or ideas they have about the watershed. They can review content in the 2017-2026 plan, or the management expectations identified by the plan review agencies. Ultimately, the goal of this meeting will be to solicit input, build relationships and identify individuals who may like to participate in the plan development process.

It is envisioned that the Initial Planning Meeting would be held in May during the workday (i.e. from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.) and that the meet-and-greet would follow from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Initial Planning Meeting and the Meet-and-Greet would take place at a facility that can accomplish both a sit-down meeting and a more relaxed environment where people can grab refreshments and snacks and chat.

If the BCWD Board of Managers agrees with this meeting structure, EOR will include this task in the Watershed Management Plan Update Scope of Work for the April Board Meeting.