

Memorandum

To: Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek Watershed District Board of Managers and District Administrator
From: Barr Engineering Co.
Subject: Engineer's Report Summarizing January 2025 Activities for February 5, 2025 Board Meeting
Date: January 30, 2025
Project: 23270053.14 2024

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek Watershed District (RPBCWD) Board of Managers and the District Administrator with a summary of the activities performed by Barr Engineering Co., serving in the role of District Engineer, during January 2025.

General Services

- a. Met virtually with Administrator Jeffery and Counsel Welch on January 7 and 21 to discuss actions on Upper Riley Creek cooperative agreement, private property access agreements, and timeline; Phase 2 environmental site assessment for upper Bluff Creek project; potential permitting fee and financial assurance schedule revisions (likely at February 2025 meeting), , and permits.
- b. Participated in the January 8 regular meeting of the Board of Managers.
- c. Participated in the January 10 and 15 workshops of the Board of Managers to develop vision, mission, goals and strategies.
- d. Met with Administrator Jeffery and RPBCWD staff on January 16 to discuss holistic lake management plans, district-wide fisheries plan, and lake vegetation management plans
Prepared January 2025 engineering report
- e. Met with President Pedersen, Administrator Jeffery, and legal counsel on January 30 to discuss agenda for the February 5 meeting.
- f. Miscellaneous discussions with Administrator Jeffery about CIP projects, permits, regulatory program, and ongoing studies.

Permitting Program

- a. *Permit 2021-063 Reserve at Autumn Woods*- The approved project involves construction of an 87-lot development West of Audubon Road and south of Autumn Wood Drive in Chaska. The project constructed three infiltration basins and one pond to provide stormwater quantity, volume, and rate quality control. Working with the applicant on a permit modification because the infiltration basins are not functioning as designed (i.e., not infiltrating).
- b. *Permit 2024-018 Miller Park Courts* – The approved project includes the replacing the existing basketball and tennis courts with eight (8) pickleball courts, one (1) tennis court, and one (1) basketball court. The project triggers RPBCWD erosion prevention and sediment control (Rule C), creek and wetland buffers (Rule D) and the stormwater management (Rule J) rules. Working with applicant on a permit modification because constructed infiltration

- basins not functioning as designed.
- c. *Permit 2024-049: 11609 Leona Rd Redevelopment* – The applicant is proposing to subdivide the existing 3.44 AC parcel into two separate lots to 1) develop a one story, approximately 2,447 square foot building with a drive through, patio, and associated utility, landscape, and parking improvements and 2) demo a portion of the existing retail building and develop an approximately 18,500 square foot building with associated utility, landscape, and parking improvements. The project triggers RPBCWD erosion prevention and sediment control (Rule C and stormwater management rule (Rule J). reviewed draft declaration materials and provided comments to applicant.
 - d. *Permit 2024-084: Dell Road Reconstruction* – The applicant proposes the reconstruction of 0.56 miles of Dell Road by converting the road from rural roadway to curb and gutter, installing utilities, realigning the Riley Creek crossing, stabilizing a section of Riley Creek, and constructing an infiltration basin to provide volume control, water quality, and rate control. The applicant also proposes reconstruction of 0.079 miles of Turnbull Road and 0.082 miles of private Meadowcroft Driveway. The permit triggers RPBCWD's Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control Rule (Rule C), Wetland and Creek Buffers (Rule D), Shoreline and Streambank Stabilization (Rule F), waterbody Crossings and Structures (Rule G), and Stormwater Management Rule (Rule J). Reviewed the December 17 submittal and provided review comments informing the applicant the submittal was incomplete due to missing buffer information on January 8. Met with MN DNR on January 14 and 22 to discuss the application of the general permit issued to RPBCWD for coverage of the project. Met with the City and project engineers to discuss review comments and permitting process on January 17 and 22.
 - e. *Permit 2024-093 Hidden Valley* - The project proposes to split the existing lot at 16515 Hidden Valley Rd in Minnetonka into two single family home lots. The proposed project triggers RPBCWD's floodplain management, erosion prevention and sediment control, and stormwater management rules. Reviewed January 15 revised submittal completing the application and provided review comments to the applicant. Drafted permit report for consideration at the February 5, 2025 board meeting.
 - f. *Permit 2025-001 HCRRR Bluff_16 Culvert*- The proposed project includes replacing the existing cast-in-place culvert along Riley Creek under the MN River Bluffs LRT Regional Trail just north of Pioneer Trail The proposed project triggers RPBCWD's erosion prevention and sediment control, wetland and creek buffers, and waterbody crossing and structures rules. Reviewed January 3 submittal and provided review comments on January 14 informing the applicant the submittal remained incomplete because of missing floodplain cut and fill computations at 1-foot increments.
 - g. Miscellaneous preapplication calls, emails, and meetings with future applicants with questions about rule applicability and criteria. Also answering questions from existing permit applicants about how to address comments provided during the review process and conditions of approval.

Data Management/Sampling/Equipment Assistance

- a. Corrections to RPBCWD summer field data based on client review of EQulS records.

Task Order 6: WOMP Station Monitoring

Purgatory Creek Monitoring Station at Pioneer Trail

- a. No activity.

Purgatory Creek Monitoring Station at Valley View Rd

- a. Retrieve water quality data per request from RPBCWD staff.
- b. Download and review station data.
- c. Review and approve invoices for MCES Lab and utilities.

Task Order 24B: Silver Lake Water Quality Improvement Project

- a. Vegetation maintenance contract is underway through December 2025.

Task Order 28B: Rice Marsh Lake (RM_12a) Water Quality Improvement Project

- a. The three-year vegetation establishment period is in process and will continue through fall 2025.

Task Order 29B: Middle Riley Creek (Reach R3) Stabilization Project Design

- a. Stantec will replace live stakes during the dormant season next spring at the north site. Site inspections will resume in the spring prior to May 15th and continue until the end of the 2025 growing season or later, until vegetation establishment has reached final acceptance conditions.

Task Order 30B: Pioneer Trail Wetland Restoration Project

- a. Three-year vegetation establishment period is in process.

Task Order 32B: Upper Riley Creek Ecological Enhancement Project

- a. Working with Administrator Jeffery and RPBCWD legal on securing private property agreements and revisions to cooperative agreement given the city of Chanhassen decision to withdraw support of the decant facility.
- b. Coordinating with MCES on Encroachment Agreement, anticipate agreement to be finalized in February.
- c. Revised plans and specifications permit applications to remove the city requested decant facility.

Task Order 36B: Upper Bluff Creek Reach 5 Design

- a. Awaiting development of a land-use agreement with the District and private property owners that requires the property owners to enroll in the MPCA voluntary cleanup program before completing the Phase II ESA.
- b. 60% design of stream restoration elements and 60% OPC anticipated to be complete by late-February.

Task Order 39B: Lotus Lake Water Quality Project – Park Concept

- a. A Request for Qualifications for artists was distributed and in November, seven (7) qualifications packages were delivered to the District via Barr for consideration. Assisted Administrator Jeffery with review of submittals, preparation for the February discussion, and recommendation for selection.

Task Order 44: Lake Susan Park Pond Reuse Intake Modification

- a. No activity in January.

Task Order 47: Lucy, Ann and Susan Lake and Watershed Management Plans

- a. Continued updating P8 models with new ponds/developments
- b. Organizing subwatersheds
- c. Compiling pond data (water quality, other.)
- d. Continued developing water quality plots.

Task Order 48: Districtwide Shoreline and Aquatic Plant Management Plan

- a. Met with District staff to coordinate plan efforts.

Task Order 49: Districtwide Fisheries Management Plan

- a. Met with District staff to coordinate plan efforts.

Task Order 50: Mitchell and Red Rock Lake and Watershed Management Plans

- a. Continued updating P8 models with new ponds/developments
- b. Organizing subwatersheds
- c. Continued developing water quality plots

