

## Memorandum

**To:** Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek Watershed District Board of Managers and District Administrator  
**From:** Barr Engineering Co.  
**Subject:** Engineer's Report Summarizing July 2023 Activities for August 2, 2023 Board Meeting  
**Date:** July 28, 2023

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 July 2023.

### General Services

- a. Met with Administrator Jeffery and staff Bakkum on July 5, 20, and 24 to work on RPBCWD's draft 2024 budget.
- b. Participated in the July 20 and 26 continuations of the July 12 regular Board of Managers meeting.
- c. Participated in the third Ecological Health Action Plan workshop on July 20.
- d. Participated in the July 20 workshop with the Board of Managers.
- e. Met virtually with Administrator Jeffery, President Ziegler, Counsel Smith and Counsel Welch on July 27 to review draft agenda for August 2 regular board of managers meeting.
- f. Prepared Engineer's Report for engineering services performed during July 2023.
- g. Miscellaneous discussions with Administrator Jeffery about CIP, budgets, permits, workshop, and ongoing studies.

### Permitting Program

- a. *Permit 2019-051: Berrospid Addition* – This project split an existing lot with one single family home at 7406 Frontier Trail in Chanhassen, MN into three separate lots for the addition of two single family homes. Reviewed a request to revise the low floor elevation for lot 1 and coordinated with city, applicant, builder and engineer. The request for revisions to lot 1 will likely be made via a new permit application to allow the existing permit (2019-051) to be closed out after final inspection.
- b. *Permit 2022-068 KIWATCHI*—Reviewed draft maintenance declaration and provided comments for needed revision.
- c. *Permit 2022-074 Xcel Service Center*- – The project proposes to construct a new service center in Chanhassen on a 23-acre parcel located at 1891 Arboretum Blvd. The project triggers RPBCWD floodplain rule, erosion prevention and sediment control rule, creek and wetland buffer rule, waterbody crossing rule, and the stormwater management rule.

Reviewed revised July 9 submittal and drafted the permit report for consideration at the August 2, 2023 regular meeting of the Board of Managers.

- d. *Permit 2023-022 CorTrust Bank Parking Lot Reconstruction* – The project involves the reconstruction of the existing CorTrust bank building parking lot that has experienced settlement since its original construction in the 1990s. The applicant is proposing to restore the parking lot and improve storm sewer. The project triggers RPBCWD's floodplain (Rule B), erosion and sediment control (Rule C), wetland and creek buffers (Rule D), and stormwater management (Rule J). The applicant is requesting a variance from achieving full compensatory storage requirements. Work with Administrator Jeffery to extend the permit review timeline to allow the applicant additional time to address review comments and obtain a notice of decision on the most recent wetland delineation. Discussed alternative design ideas to minimize disturbed impervious surface with the applicants engineer.
- e. *Permit 2023-020 Bush Lake Veterinary Building* – The project proposes the development of a new veterinary clinic building and associated onsite parking area and driveway at 10160 Hennepin Town Road in Eden Prairie, MN. The project triggers RPBCWD erosion prevention and sediment control (Rule C) and stormwater management (Rule J). Notified applicant of conditional approval at the July 12 meeting, provided feedback on draft maintenance declaration, answered questions about the conditions of approval, and gave input on the draft on financial assurance letter of credit.
- f. *Permit 2023-034 Lifetime Pickleball Building* – The project proposes to redevelop a portion of the Life Time complex at 2932 Water Tower Place and 2970 Water Tower Place in Chanhassen. Notified applicant of conditional approval at the July 12 meeting and provide information on financial assurance.
- g. *Permit 2023-038 Mister Car Wash – Eden Prairie* – The project proposes the redevelopment of the former Burger King site in the NW corner of Flying Cloud and Prairie Center Drive into a Mister Carwash. The project triggers RPBCWD erosion prevention and sediment control (Rule C) and stormwater management (Rule J). Notified applicant on July 7 that the submittal was incomplete due to missing engineers' opinion of cost, native stormwater modeling files, permit deposit fee, and supporting information for proposed stormwater BMPs. Reviewed July 25 revised submittal and provided review comments. Application remains incomplete due to missing snowmelt modeling.
- h. Miscellaneous preapplication calls from future applicants with questions about rule applicability and criteria.

#### **Data Management/Sampling/Equipment Assistance**

- a. Coordinated with RMB Laboratory (RMB) to update distribution list for reports and electronic data deliverables (EDDs) so the backlog of 2023 report will be delivered to Barr for database incorporation.
- b. Prepared, loaded, and verified 25 RMB Laboratory (RMB) reports to the database.

#### **Task Order 6: WOMP Station Monitoring**

##### ***Purgatory Creek Monitoring Station at Pioneer Trail***

- a. No activity.

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***Purgatory Creek Monitoring Station at Valley View Rd***

- a. Download and review data.
- b. Storm event sampling - set station.

**Task Order 14B: Lower Riley Creek Restoration**

- a. Prepared final close-out paperwork, retainage release and final payment application.

**Task Order 24B: Silver Lake Water Quality Improvement Project**

- b. 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.
- b. Due to excess heat and drought, the contractor requested replacement planting and seeding to occur in September. Maintenance site visits will take place in the meantime, preparing for the fall work.

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

- a. Stantec (formerly Cardno – sub to Sunram) visited the site once during July to treat invasives (thistle) as part of ongoing vegetation establishment management.
- b. Year One of vegetation management was complete on July 15, 2023.

**Task Order 30B: Pioneer Trail Wetland Restoration Project**

- a. The three-year vegetation establishment period is in process.
- b. Application for Payment #7 will go before Board for approval at next Board meeting. The payment is for year 1 vegetation establishment.

**Task Order 032B: Upper Riley Creek Ecological Enhancement Project**

- a. Barr staff walked the site with City of Chanhassen staff on June 1<sup>st</sup> to review proposed restoration layout and tree removal and protection plan. Plan modifications are currently underway for the final drawing set, with bid package anticipated for review in late August.
- b. RPBCWD permit is planned for submittal after plans have been updated in late July.
- c. The Project received its Work in Public Waters Permit from the DNR on June 16, 2023. The Project received its USACE permit on July 21, 2023.

**Task Order 033: Wetland Assessment – Phase 1**

- a. Continued drafting Phase 1 report to define ecosystem services and describe methodology for assessing each service.
- b. Having discussions with BWSR to determine if the approach they are developing will impact the RPBCWD approach.

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- c. Having internal discussions to align the wetland plan with the Ecosystem Health Assessment currently in development for the district.
- d. Draft report expected to be delivered in August.

#### **Task Order 035: Eden Prairie Stormwater Model Update and Flood-Risk Area Prioritization**

- a. Final reports and project deliverables were submitted to the MPCA, City of Eden Prairie, and RPBCWD.

#### **Task Order 036B: Upper Bluff Creek Reach 5 Design**

- a. A scope of work for detailed design of the Upper Bluff Creek Reach 5 wetland and stream restoration project is underway. The proposed scope will be shared with Administrator Jeffery for consideration at the August Board workshop meeting.

#### **Task Order 037: Sediment Analysis**

- a. The Lake Susan wetland was sampled with RPBCWD staff on Monday, June 5, 2023.
- b. Sediment results for the Lake Susan wetland expected in September 2023.
- c. The Like Susan and Lake Susan wetland memos will be delivered together in September.

#### **Task Order 039A: Lotus Lake Water Quality Project – Preliminary Engineering**

- a. Finalizing BMP concepts, costs, and summaries.
- b. Drafting feasibility study report including text, tables, and figures.

#### **Task Order 040: Alum Application on Lotus Lake**

- a. Draft memo was delivered to the District Administrator in early June 2023.
- b. Draft memo included updated alum treatment scenarios and costs considering results from the first half-dose treatment, recreational use considerations, and water quality monitoring data.
- c. Next steps include incorporating comments from the District.

#### **Task Order 41: Chanhassen Decant Facility**

- a. Continued preliminary design.
- b. Met with City of Chanhassen staff to go over site layout options.

#### **Task Order 43: Ecosystem Health Action Plan**

- a. Met twice monthly with District staff to discuss team efforts.
- b. Continued reviewing the data received through workshop 2 discussions identifying the gaps in planning, projects, education, and regulations that address ecosystem function. This will be used to understand where best the District can move forward with new initiatives.

- c. Prepared for and conducted the third of four workshops with the project advisory panel. The goal was to identify initiatives the District and communities can undertake to improve ecosystem function through policy, regulations, planning, CIP projects, and through education. Panel members discussed potential initiatives within each category. The will be used to 1. Identify rules, policy, education, etc. in which the District can improve operations, 2. Identify where local agencies can improve their ecosystem operations, rules, etc., and 3. Identify where we can best partner to achieve our common goals.



- d. Worked with District staff to develop an approach to collecting stormwater infiltration data within different ecological communities' soils to demonstrate the altered hydrology of green space. Woodlands, in particular, are assumed to have great infiltration capacity, however the previously conducted literature review suggests that the introduction of earthworms, intensive browsing by deer, and in encroachment of invasive species has inhibited stormwater infiltration in our woodlands. Lawns also likely have poor infiltration rates because of the compaction of soil through the construction process. This will be documented and infiltration rates will be compared between sentinel and disturbed sites.

#### **Task Order 44: Lake Susan Park Pond Reuse Intake Modification**

- a. Discussed the path forward with Administrator Jeffery. Direction was provided to discuss quote with contractor, adjust the project as needed, and request new quotes from additional contractors to allow a decision at the September 2023 meeting.