



Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources.
Minutes.

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**BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
HARBOR LIGHTS SUPPER CLUB
GRAND MARAIS, MINNESOTA
SEPTEMBER 26, 1990**

Appointed Members in Attendance

Donald Ogaard
John Williamson
John Boulton
Don Warner
William Cofell
Howard Peterson
Jack Graba
John Brooks, Jr.
Loren Harste
Natalie Haas Steffen

Appointed Members Absent

James Hoes

Agency Members in Attendance

Tom Lutgen, Department of Natural Resources
Paul Burns, Department of Agriculture
Tim Scherkenbach, Pollution Control Agency

Others in Attendance

Gary Nordstrom, Soil Conservation Service
Dwain Otte, Minnesota Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts
Cook County Soil & Water Conservation District Board and Staff

Staff in Attendance

Jim Birkholz
Pat Bloomgren
Mel Sinn
Greg Larson
Wayne Edgerton
Chris Hofstede
Ron Shelito
Darrell Apelgrain
Brad Matlack
Keith Grow
Dan Steward
Bill Best
Brian Dwight
Jim Lemmerman
Mary Jo Anderson

Meeting Called to Order - Chairman Ogaard called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. He welcomed everyone and stated that it's a pleasure to be in Grand Marais today.

90-85 **Adopt Agenda** - Moved by Peterson, seconded by Cofell, to adopt the agenda as presented. Affirmative: Ogaard, Williamson, Boulton, Warner, Graba, Steffen, Brooks, Jr., Harste, Cofell, and Peterson. Opposed: None. Carried.

90-86 **Approval of Minutes of August 22, 1990** - Moved by Cofell, seconded by Boulton, to approve the minutes of August 22, 1990, as circulated. Affirmative: Ogaard, Williamson, Boulton, Warner, Graba, Steffen, Brooks, Jr., Harste, Cofell, and Peterson. Opposed: None. Carried.

Northeast Meeting and Tour - Chris Hofstede welcomed and thanked everyone for coming to Grand Marais for the BWSR meeting. A tour of project sites in Cook County will be held tomorrow, with the Area III annual meeting to follow the tour. Chris explained that the MASWCD Board of Directors is also meeting in Grand Marais and invited those present to attend their meeting as well. Chris invited everyone to attend the dinner and entertainment this evening that has been planned by the Cook County SWCD.

Chairman's Report - Chairman Ogaard attend^{ed} the EQB/Water Resources Committee retreat on August 28. At the retreat an attempt was made to consolidate the water plan so that people will take the time to read it. The retreat focused on main issues of the water plan.

Chairman Ogaard reported on the hearings on the proposed Snake River Watershed District. The judge chose to hear the public first, so three hearings have been held to listen to public testimony. At least two additional hearings will be scheduled to hear the public, and after that the case itself will be heard. The cost^{to} the Board for hearings and legal fees will be high.

Executive Director's Report - Jim Birkholz reported that the Governor's office has appointed Diane Jensen as the Board's newest member, effective August 29. Ms. Jensen is co-director of the Clean Water Fund, which is a non-profit research and education organization. She had a prior commitment and was unable to attend today's meeting, but she will be present at the October meeting.

Jim announced that Pat Bloomgren has been hired as Assistant Director to the Division of Water Quality of the Pollution Control Agency effective October 10. Pat's last working day with the Board is October 9. We are all saddened to have Pat leave our staff, but wish her the very best with the Pollution Control Agency. Jim stated that the position will be advertised for candidates beginning in October. Jim asked that two Board members be on the interview committee. Hopefully the position will be filled in November.

Jim asked that Tim Scherkenbach, Director, MPCA, Water Quality Division, comment on Pat's new responsibilities. Tim stated that he looks forward to a good working relationship and partnership with the Board. Pat will be working on non-point source pollution control issues. Pat stated that she has enjoyed working with the Board and the professional and very committed staff and she plans to continue the good working relationship that exists.

Jim introduced Brad Matlack, newly hired feedlot specialist located in Marshall. Brad will be focusing on animal waste systems in southwestern Minnesota. He will be designing systems and working with SWCD staff, Pollution Control Agency, and the Soil Conservation Service. His position is funded by EPA 319 funds through the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

Jim also introduced Keith Grow, newly hired Board Representative in Marshall.

Jim reported that Pete Willenbring from Orr, Schelen, Mayeron & Associates, Inc., has been contracted as a consultant to assist with the draft rules for the seven county metro local water plans.

Jim reported that the Legislative Advisory Committee has approved a \$20,000 U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service proposal to fund SWCDs to gather information on shallow game lakes. Funding will be received shortly.

Jim reported that the North American Wetlands Conservation Council has approved the proposed \$165,000 funding request for restoring drained wetlands through the RIM Reserve Program in Minnesota. This proposal was funded as a #1 priority nationally. Staff will be working cooperatively with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service on this project.

EQB/Water Resources Committee Report - Don Ogaard reported that the Water Plan was discussed at EQB/Water Resources Committee meeting. The BWSR is a key player in the water plan as it relates to local units of government, counties, soil and water conservation districts, and watershed districts. The issues of communication, education, water supply, information, data collection, and environmental pollutants in the water plan require the BWSR to be an effective player.

Strategic Plan - Mel Sinn stated that this is the final draft review of the strategic plan. Paul Burns distributed the Department of Agriculture's comments on the strategic plan for the Board's review and comment. Discussion followed. Moved by Graba, seconded by Steffen, to approve the strategic plan with additions, to be reviewed by the full Board annually in conjunction with the preparation of the annual report to the Governor and legislature. Affirmative: Ogaard, Williamson, Boulton, Warner, Graba, Steffen, Brooks, Jr., Harste, Cofell, and Peterson. Opposed: None. Carried.

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90-87

Chairman Ogaard called for a break in the meeting at 10:30 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 10:45 a.m.

Tom Lutgen, Department of Natural Resources/Waters Division, commented on the North Shore Management Plan. DNR has worked with the North Shore Management Board to prepare a north shore management plan from Duluth to the Canadian border. A citizens advisory committee and a technical advisory committee are part of the planning process to incorporate the North Shore Management Plan, into the statewide shoreland management rules process.

BWSR Forestry Activities Report - Chris Hofstede explained to the Board the erosion control issues along the lakeshore of Lake Superior. Chris introduced Jim Lemmerman, who gave a brief report on the forestry activities he has been working with SWCDs on during the past nine months as the BWSR forestry specialist. Jim introduced John Gebhart, Natural Resources Research Institute in Duluth, who made a presentation on timber production in northeastern Minnesota for the Board's information.

Advisor Comments

Dwain Otte, MASWCD, thanked Area III for the invitation to Grand Marais. The MASWCD State Convention is scheduled for December 2-4, 1990, at the Marriott Hotel in Minneapolis. The MASWCD Policy Committee has limited the number of resolutions to be acted on this year at the convention to 39. Dwain attended the NACD Cropland Conservation Meeting in Memphis. He also attended an RC&D Meeting in Rochester. He reported that Minnesota has been chosen as one of three states to review a program by the Alliance for Clean Rural Environment (ACRE). This is a joint venture on environmental issues, more information on this will be available at the convention. Dwain was disappointed to report that Steve Meyers, NACD Director of Governmental Affairs, will be leaving NACD effective October 24.

Chairman Ogaard, on behalf of the Board, thanked everyone from Cook County for the invitation to Area III. He thanked Nelda Westerlind for her fine efforts in organizing the meeting facilities and the arrangements for the tour tomorrow. Clarence Thompson, Chairman Cook County SWCD was introduced and welcomed everyone. The Mayor of Grand Marais was also introduced and make a few comments.

Chairman Ogaard adjourned the meeting for lunch at 12:00 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 1:10 p.m.

Gary Nordstrom, SCS, reported that they still do not know the outcome of the budget deliberations at this point, but they should receive notice by Monday morning. He stated that the Graham-Rudman bill calls for a 31% reduction of federal government in each agency. There is no appropriation bill, so there is the possibility of agency shut-down. The debt-ceiling limit expires Sunday at midnight. SCS has issued a proposal for employee furlough if that should happen. He stated that their number one resource is their employees, every effort will be made to keep employees on a full-time basis and that issue will be dealt with first. Gary reported that he was in Phoenix last week for the annual state conservationist meeting. No permanent chief has been named as yet. He reported

that the 1990 Farm Bill Conference Committee met to put together a joint bill. There will be some changes, but not many provisions will be made.

Flood Bay Shoreline Stabilization Supplemental Funding Request - Jim Birkholz explained that this request for funding was received from the Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District. Staff recommends that this be brought before the Board again at the October meeting consideration as bids should be let by that time.

RIM Easement Modification Request - Wayne Edgerton reported that DuWayne Traut, easement #73-14-86-01, has requested to move his RIM easement 300 feet to the west. He is being required to liquidate his property, and this would allow him to provide a buffer area between his business and the RIM area for easier sale, bringing the RIM easement into compliance with the RIM 200 feet required setback from buildings. This requirement was initiated for fire protection and was not in effect in 1986 when this easement was developed. Staff recommends approval of this request with the following stipulations: 1) The new easement area must total at least the 6.4 acres originally enrolled. 2) The new easement must run a full ten years from the date of the new easement with no additional compensation from the RIM program. 3) No part of the present easement area can be modified until the new easement is recorded on the land title in the courthouse. 4) All costs of the alteration must be born by the landowner, including the cost of establishing the vegetative cover on the new easement area according to RIM reserve specifications.

** Moved by Boulton, seconded by Cofell, to accept staff recommendation to approve the RIM
90-88 easement modification with the stipulations listed above. Affirmative: Ogaard, Williamson, Boulton, Warner, Graba, Steffen, Brooks, Jr., Harste, Cofell, and Peterson. Opposed: None. Carried.

Wayne reported that the final sign-up for RIM was held in August. It was a very good sign-up -- more applications than money available. SWCDs prioritizing of the applications are due on October 5. The staff will present funding recommendation to the Board at the October meeting.

Middle DesMoines River Watershed District Revised Overall Plan - Mel Sinn explained the Overall Plan and recommends approval of the draft order prescribing the revised plan for the district. Moved by Steffen, seconded by Cofell, to approve the Middle DesMoines Watershed District Overall Plan as presented. Affirmative: Ogaard, Williamson, Boulton, Warner, Graba, Steffen, Brooks, Jr., Harste, Cofell, and Peterson. Opposed: None. Carried.

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90-89

Study Area II Technical Office Budget for FY91 - Mel Sinn explained that the state's share of the FY91 technical office budget is \$62,025 compared to \$83,025 last year. The reasons for this decrease are: 1) last year's budget included the cost of replacing a vehicle and, 2) in this year's budget the state is not cost-sharing Area II Director's compensation, expenses, and insurance. Staff recommends approval of this budget. Moved by Williamson, seconded by Boulton, to approve the Study Area II Technical Office Budget as presented, with the

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90-90

Board's share being \$62,025. Affirmative: Ogaard, Williamson, Boulton, Warner, Graba, Steffen, Brooks, Jr., Harste, Cofell, and Peterson. Opposed: None. Carried.

Study Area II Supplemental Project Agreement - Mel Sinn reported that the supplemental project agreement for the Wellner-Hageman multi-purpose flood control reservoir in Brown County requires approval by the Board because of the appropriation of \$1,645,000 which appeared in the bonding bill approved by the 1990 legislature. Approval of this supplemental project agreement formalizes the final budget for the project. The Board's share is \$453,750 from the general fund Area II appropriation. Moved by Boulton, seconded by Cofell, to approve the Wellner-Hageman Supplemental Project Agreement, with the Board's share being \$453,750. Affirmative: Ogaard, Williamson, Boulton, Warner, Graba, Steffen, Brooks, Jr., Harste, Cofell, and Peterson. Opposed: None. Carried.

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90-91

Local Water Resources Protection and Management Program Rule Update - Greg Larson updated the Board on comments received and suggested amendments to the draft rule. Staff recommends approval of the draft rule with changes made. The grant application period could then be scheduled. Moved by Boulton, seconded by Steffen, to authorize the Chairman to sign the draft rule. Affirmative: Ogaard, Williamson, Boulton, Warner, Graba, Steffen, Brooks, Jr., Harste, Cofell, and Peterson. Opposed: None. Carried.

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90-92

MAWD/BWSR Committee Report - Mel Sinn explained that the Board joined with the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) in a joint panel to analyze the future working relationship between the Board and watershed districts. Board members John Boulton, John Brooks, Jr., and Jack Graba joined with three representatives from MAWD and were assisted by Board staff to prepare a report. Discussion followed. Changes were made and will be sent to MAWD and brought back again before the full BWSR. It was suggested that a statement regarding the intent of the panel of MAWD/BWSR be made with an evaluation to be done on a two-year basis. Steffen encouraged more focus on policy issues rather than just administrative.

Chairman Ogaard called for a break in the meeting at 2:50 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 3:05 p.m.

Interagency Forestry Cooperation and Activities in Southeast Minnesota - Larry Himanga, DNR Division of Forestry, gave a presentation and explained the interagency cooperative effort in Minnesota on forestry issues. Discussion followed. Pat Bloomgren commented that forestry is a statewide issue and Jim Lemmerman's forestry specialist activities needs to be promoted by soil and water conservation districts, local groups and organizations, and local units of government. There is a definite need to develop a cost-share program on forestry issues, as well as on the RIM program. Pat thanked Jim Lemmerman, Chris Hofstede, John Gebhart, and Larry Himanga for making very informative presentations before the Board today.

FY92-93 Biennial Budget Request - Jim Birkholz explained the budget situation to the Board. He stated that the Department of Finance has directed agencies to request no additional funds. A no increase scenario for the next biennium means a budget reduction. Jim requested that he work with Chairman Ogaard and/or other board members to develop the budget management measures and bring their recommendation before the full Board at the October meeting. John Williamson suggested that the MASWCD be notified of the Board's budget situation and made aware of the impacts of such a reduction during the next two days while they are attending meetings in Grand Marais. Local governments also need to know the situation as well, informing them of the impacts of the reduction on programs. Moved by Cofell, seconded by Warner, to authorize Jim Birkholz to work with Chairman Ogaard on the budget reallocations and come before the full Board with their recommendations at the October meeting. Affirmative: Ogaard, Williamson, Boulton, Warner, Graba, Steffen, Brooks, Jr., Harste, Cofell, and Peterson. Opposed: None. Carried.

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90-93

Jim Birkholz introduced Ron Shelito, Board Representative in Brainerd. Ron has been in Brainerd since February, although this is his first time he has attended a Board meeting since being hired.

Chairman Ogaard thanked Pat Bloomgren for her fine efforts while staff of the Board and wished her well in her new position.

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90-94

Moved by Graba, seconded by Warner, to adjourn the meeting at 4:10 p.m. Affirmative: Ogaard, Williamson, Boulton, Warner, Graba, Steffen, Brooks, Jr., Harste, Cofell, and Peterson. Opposed: None. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald Ogaard
Chairman



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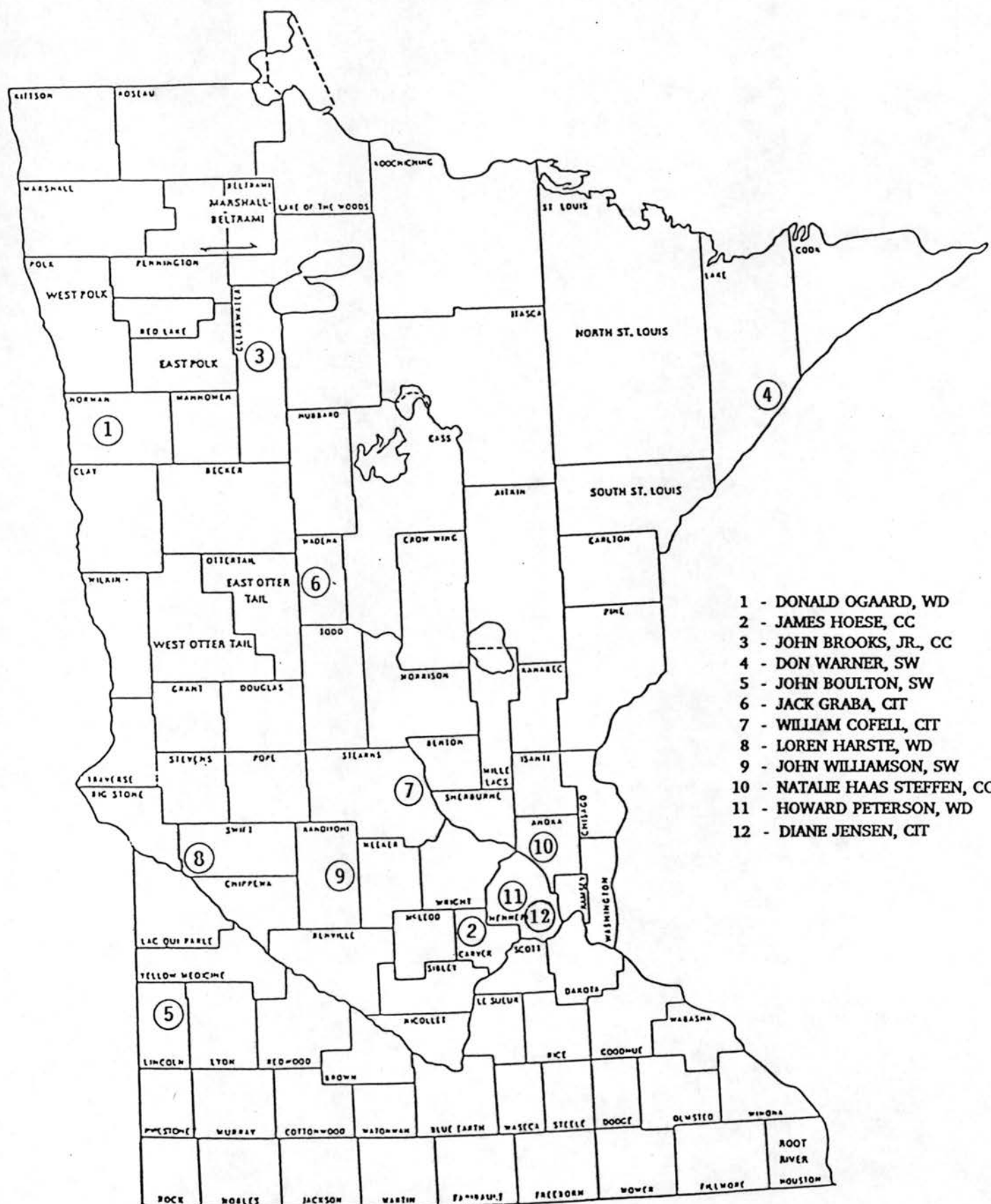
612-296-3767

BOARD MEMBERS

<u>Name and Address of Member</u>	<u>Appt. Designation</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
Donald H. Ogaard, Chair , 705 W. 5th Street, Ada, 56510	Watershed	01-03-94	218-784-4156
William Cofell, 12595 Old Collegeville Road, St. Joseph, 56374	Citizen	01-07-91	612-363-7604
Jack M. Graba, Route 2, Sebeka, 56477	Citizen	01-02-93	218-472-3222
John A. Williamson, Route 2, Box 62, Atwater, 56209	SWCD	01-06-92	612-974-8281
Don Warner, West Star Route, Box 51, Silver Bay, 55614	SWCD	01-02-93	218-226-4858
John Boulton, Route 1, Box 18, Porter, 56280	SWCD	01-03-94	507-296-4668
Howard L. Peterson, 7021 Duck Lake Road, Eden Prairie, 55346	Watershed	01-07-91	612-934-2050
Loren Harste, RR 2, Box 53, Appleton, 56208	Watershed	01-06-92	612-596-2318
James A. Hoes, 5520 Polk Avenue, Mayer, 55360	Co. Commr.	01-07-91	612-955-3418
Natalie Haas Steffen, 7007 - 164th Ave. NW, Anoka, 55303	Co. Commr.	01-03-94	612-753-4298
John Brooks, Jr., Route 1, Box 115, Gonvick, 56644	Co. Commr.	01-02-93	218-487-5752
Diane Jensen, 3721 - 17th Avenue South, Minneapolis, 55407	Citizen	01-06-92	612-729-2924

In addition to the above members, five ex officio nonvoting members are provided by the Departments of Agriculture, Health, Natural Resources, the University of Minnesota, and the Pollution Control Agency.

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES MEMBER LOCATION MAP (1990)



- 1 - DONALD OGAARD, WD
- 2 - JAMES HOESE, CC
- 3 - JOHN BROOKS, JR., CC
- 4 - DON WARNER, SW
- 5 - JOHN BOULTON, SW
- 6 - JACK GRABA, CIT
- 7 - WILLIAM COFELL, CIT
- 8 - LOREN HARSTE, WD
- 9 - JOHN WILLIAMSON, SW
- 10 - NATALIE HAAS STEFFEN, CC
- 11 - HOWARD PETERSON, WD
- 12 - DIANE JENSEN, CIT

CIT - CITIZEN
CC - COUNTY COMMISSIONER
SW - SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT SUPERVISOR
WD - WATERSHED DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

STRATEGIC PLAN

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

September 1990 Final Review Draft

ABOUT THE BOARD

The Board of Water and Soil Resources is a Minnesota state agency. The BWSR membership comprises twelve voting and five nonvoting members. The voting members include three county commissioners, three soil and water conservation district supervisors, three watershed district representatives, and three unaffiliated public members. Voting members are appointed by the Governor to staggered four-year terms. The Governor designates the Chair from among the voting members. The five nonvoting members represent the Department of Natural Resources, Pollution Control Agency, Department of Health, Department of Agriculture, and University of Minnesota.

The BWSR staff is headed by an Executive Director who serves at the pleasure of the Board. The central staff is located in St. Paul, and field staff are located in regional offices in Bemidji, Brainerd, Duluth, Marshall, New Ulm, and Rochester.

[simplified organization chart]

MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of the Board of Water and Soil Resources is to provide leadership enabling local governments to properly manage water and soil resources and to help all citizens to be stewards of our irreplaceable natural resources.

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I. INTRODUCTION: MINNESOTA'S WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

Minnesota is endowed with an abundance of natural resources. The "land of 10,000 lakes" and "sky blue waters" contains nearly 12,000 lake basins; about 95,000 miles of watercourses; major ground water resources; more than 16 million acres of forest lands; and over 23 million acres of agricultural lands. Although our endowment is rich, we have learned that it is not limitless. Only a small fraction of the area of Minnesota has not been directly altered by man's activities. Millions of acres of our original prairie lands, forests, wetlands, and shallow lake basins have been converted to agricultural, commercial, industrial, residential, and other intensive land uses. Only one-half of Minnesota's original forested lands remain. Land use conversion has had major impacts on our water and soil resources.

Combined wind and water erosion on our 23 million acres of cultivated cropland generates an estimated 150 million tons of eroded soil per year. Significant erosion also can result from development activities and forest harvesting practices. This eroded soil carries nutrients and pollutants that degrade our water quality and productivity of our soils. Eroded soil also settles out in our lakes, waterways, and wetlands destroying habitat and reducing flow capacities. Loss of natural water retention basins due to drainage and filling has degraded water quality, diminished wildlife habitat, and exacerbated flooding problems. Construction of buildings, roads, parking lots and other impervious surfaces in urban areas has caused erosion and has increased stormwater runoff and flood damages to stream channels and adjoining properties. We have begun to detect chemical pesticides and nutrients in our ground water.

To understand the importance of managing and protecting our limited water and soil resources, we need to appreciate our reliance on them and how our actions affect their integrity.

A. WATER RESOURCES

Minnesota's rivers, lakes, and wetlands cover nearly 5% of the state's area. Alaska is the only state with more lakes than Minnesota. This abundance of surface water features has significantly influenced our economic development, "outdoors" heritage, and quality of life.

Minnesota's major rivers are the Mississippi, Minnesota, Red River of the North, Rainy, and St. Croix. Many of our cities developed along these and other rivers in our state because of river transportation and water supply. Minnesota includes a portion of Lake Superior, which has the largest area of any freshwater lake in the world - 31,800 square miles.

Surface water resources play a big part in Minnesotans' love of the outdoors. Our lakes are dotted with seasonal cabins, resorts, and year-round residences. Our rivers and lakes are heavily used for recreation and relaxation. In some counties, shoreland property is the largest component of the local property tax base. Water-related recreation and tourism is an important part of Minnesota's economy.

Sound management of our water resources is vital to our quality of life. We are drawn to our rivers and lakes for fishing, swimming, boating, and other outdoor activities. Our wetlands provide valuable habitat for both game and non-game wildlife species. We place a high value on being able to spend leisure time near surface water amenities.

Minnesota is also fortunate in having a major groundwater resource. The United States Geological Survey has defined 14 major aquifer types in the state. They all fall into the two broad categories of "glacial drift" and "bedrock". Southeastern Minnesota is underlain by major sandstone and limestone bedrock formations that contain the largest quantities of groundwater found in the state. The highest yielding glacial drift aquifers are located in central Minnesota and along the Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers where there

are major sand and gravel deposits. In western Minnesota the glacial drift is predominantly composed of tight clay soils that yield little water, although significant supplies can be found in scattered buried drift aquifers.

Groundwater resources provide water supply for domestic, agricultural, commercial, and industrial uses. The quality of these resources is critical because two out of three Minnesotans rely on wells for their drinking water.

The importance of wisely managing our water resources is heightened by the fact that less than 1% of the water on earth is freshwater. This small freshwater fraction is distributed in the atmosphere; in our lakes, rivers, and wetlands; and in the ground. Ground water represents over 90% of our limited freshwater supply.

B. SOIL RESOURCES

Soil is one of Minnesota's most valuable resources. Our fertile topsoil and favorable climate make Minnesota one of the outstanding food and forest products producing regions in the world. About one-half (more than 20 million acres) of Minnesota is covered by soils capable of supporting agricultural uses. This large base of productive soils has made it possible for Minnesota to develop the sixth largest agricultural industry in the nation. Minnesota's agricultural production of corn, soybeans, many small grains, sunflowers, hay, potatoes, sugarbeets, processed sweet corn and peas, and livestock and poultry and their products consistently rank in the top ten nationally. Minnesota's forest products industry is about one-fourth the size of agriculture and generates nearly \$5 billion annually.

Because our population and standard of living are increasing, demand for agricultural and forest products is expanding. It is important that this demand be translated into careful conservation and management of soil and not into exploitation. Soil, because of its extremely slow development process, is essentially non-renewable. Minnesota's soil must be maintained as a permanent, useful resource because future needs for productive soil will be even greater

than those of the present. Soil is, and is likely to remain, the major source of human sustenance far into the future.

Soil is formed by the complex interaction of several natural elements. These elements include the parent geologic material, climatic conditions, the plants and animals living on or in the material, and time. Soil scientists estimate that it takes 30 or more years for one inch of topsoil to be formed from subsoil by natural processes. Conversion of parent geologic material to one inch of topsoil, however, may take between 100 and 250 years. Consequently, our soil resources are largely non-renewable and, without proper management, the amount of subsoil could actually decrease over time. Over 600 different soil types have been identified in Minnesota, each having unique characteristics and management requirements for various land uses.

II. THE BWSR' MISSION

The mission of the Board of Water and Soil Resources is to provide leadership enabling local governments to properly manage water and soil resources and to help all citizens be stewards of our irreplaceable natural resources.

The BWSR's activities are focused on encouraging proper water and soil resource management. The planned management of these precious natural resources is required to ensure their wise use and prevent their degradation.

The BWSR has a unique role in water and soil resource management because of its direct ties to local government. The board members include representatives of soil and water conservation districts, watershed districts, and counties. Virtually all of the BWSR's statutory responsibilities relate to local water and soil management planning and implementation. The BWSR's primary role is to guide and support the water and soil management activities carried out by local governments.

The BWSR's mission is accomplished in several ways:

Policy Development: The BWSR seeks, through legislative initiative, policies supportive of water and soil resources management. The BWSR serves as a forum for policy development relating to water and soil resources management and encourages implementation through local units of government. The BWSR participates on the Environmental Quality Board and its Water Resources Committee in developing and coordinating state water policy development and implementation. The BWSR also serves as a forum for resolving inconsistencies in statutory water policy.

Service to Local Units of Government: The BWSR provides local governments with guidelines, training, and technical assistance in developing, implementing, and administering water and soil resource management plans. It offers leadership training to local officials and provides local government with educational materials on resource management issues.

Coordination: The BWSR uses its members, local planning guidelines, rules, and staff assistance to foster communication, understanding, exchange of information and ideas, and working partnerships among Minnesota counties, soil and water conservation districts, watershed districts, other units of local government, regional development commissions, the Metropolitan Council, state and federal agencies involved in water and soil resources management, and also with neighboring states and Canada.

Education: The BWSR develops information and education material designed to increase awareness and knowledge of local water and soil resources problems and provides training opportunities in skills necessary for citizen action and local government involvement in solutions and prevention. The BWSR's information and education program emphasizes and supports effective educational practice and creative problem solving.

Funding: The BWSR advocates funding for water and soil resources management activities carried out by local government. It administers state grants and incentive programs to local governments to help them accomplish their resource management goals.

Conflict Resolution: The BWSR can act as both mediator and adjudicator in resolving resource management conflicts between people, local governments, and agencies; and recommends procedures to avoid future conflict.

III. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ISSUES

The BWSR's conservation mission will be accomplished primarily by enabling local governments to effectively address four key resource management issues: land use conversion, nonpoint source pollution, soil conservation, and water quantity management.

A. LAND USE ALTERATIONS

Land use alterations, regardless of whether they occur in a rural or an urban area, impact water and soil resources. Although each situation is unique, converting land to a more intensive use generally has negative effects on water and soil resources. This type of land use alteration can result in: increased runoff, erosion, and sedimentation; higher downstream flood flows due to loss of natural storage or changes in the timing of subwatershed discharges; reduced rates of groundwater recharge due to creation of impervious surfaces; increased generation of water pollutants due to loss of natural filtering mechanisms; and decreases in wildlife populations due to destruction of habitat. On the other hand, converting land to a less intensive use, such as restoration of drained wetlands or conversion of marginal agricultural land to permanent vegetation, generally will have positive water, soil, and wildlife impacts. Altering the use of wetlands, marginal agricultural lands and sensitive lands, and forest lands are of primary concern.

1. Wetlands

Wetlands are lands where water is the dominant factor determining the nature of soil development and the types of plant and animal communities living in the soil and on its surface. Wetlands can provide significant public benefits by storing water, controlling erosion, purifying runoff by nutrient uptake, recharging groundwater, and by providing open space, landscape diversity, wildlife habitat, and recreational opportunities. Wetlands protection, restoration and management are critical because there is continued pressure to fill wetlands for land development purposes and to drain wetlands for agricultural and other uses. Various local, state and federal regulatory programs discourage wetland degradation, but they are fragmented. No comprehensive wetland management program is in place.

It is the BWSR's position that:

1. A "net gain" wetland management goal should be adopted in Minnesota.
2. Wetland regulation must be accompanied by strong education, incentive, and compensation programs.
3. Wetlands that are restored, enhanced or created for mitigation purposes should be located in the same watershed as the impacted wetland and as near to the impacted wetland as practical.
4. Wetlands restored, enhanced or created under state and federal programs designed to increase our wetland base should not be used for mitigation purposes.
5. Local adoption of wetland protection programs should be promoted and supported.

The BWSR will serve a major role in furthering wetland management efforts by fostering strong local wetland protection and restoration programs through such activities as local water planning; providing financial incentives; encouraging and supporting research; creating opportunities for education, including forums for local-state-federal communication on wetland issues; and seeking progressive changes in wetland management laws, programs, and policies.

2. Marginal and Sensitive Lands

Marginal lands are either highly erodible, inherently unproductive, or highly susceptible to drought or flooding problems. Sensitive lands are areas where ground water is at significant risk of contamination from activities conducted at or near the land surface. An area of land can be both marginal land and sensitive land. Considerable public benefits can be gained by taking marginal and sensitive agricultural lands out of crop production. These benefits include erosion and sediment control, surface and ground water quality protection, and enhanced wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities. As of July 1990, the BWSR had acquired conservation easements on about 34,000 acres of privately owned marginal and sensitive land under the Reinvest in Minnesota Reserve Program. About one-half of these lands are permanently retired under perpetual easements. Under the wetlands restoration portion of the Reinvest in Minnesota Reserve Program applications have been received to permanently restore 196 wetland basins comprising 1,900 acres of wetlands and 3,400 acres of adjacent upland cover.

The federal government has temporarily retired over 1.8 million acres in Minnesota under the Conservation Reserve Program at a cost of approximately one billion dollars. The Conservation Reserve Program contracts are for a ten-year duration. The earliest enrolled lands will be due to come out of retirement starting in 1997. Most of the lands protected under the federal "soil bank" programs of the sixties came back into production.

It is the BWSR's position that:

1. Marginal agricultural lands now under temporary retirement should not be brought back into production, unless they are effectively protected under a comprehensive water and soil conservation plan.
2. Programs should be available to ^{protect} retire all existing marginal agricultural lands and highly sensitive lands.
3. Local governments should be encouraged to use their planning and regulatory authorities to encourage proper management of marginal and highly sensitive lands.

4. Retirement of marginal agricultural lands and highly sensitive lands will permit land managers to focus their stewardship efforts on more productive lands._

The BWSR will actively support local, state, and federal programs designed to protect marginal lands and highly sensitive lands on a long-term basis.

3. Urbanizing Lands

The process of converting undeveloped lands or agricultural lands to residential, commercial, or industrial uses is called urbanization. This process takes place around all expanding urban centers. Urbanization is occurring rapidly in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, Rochester, and St. Cloud. Poorly planned or managed urbanization can create serious water and soil resource problems, including erosion, water quality degradation, and flooding. Urbanization of prime agricultural land also raises the vital issue of adequate future food supply. Currently the Metropolitan Area and many other urban centers in Minnesota are involved in local water planning. Sound local planning and adoption of effective regulations can prevent many of the harmful water and soil resource impacts of urbanization. Current methods of planning and zoning to control urban sprawl, which limit conversion of agricultural land and encroachment on wetlands and other natural resources, need to be continually re-evaluated. Certain zoning approaches, such as minimum lot sizes and clustering of development, may not be the best approach in all areas. For example, some sand plain areas may have low productivity for dryland farming but high urban development potential, while certain glacial till areas may have high agricultural productivity but low urban development potential.

Because of its composition the BWSR offers counties, soil and water conservation districts, and watershed districts ample opportunities for input into policy development and program implementation. Municipalities and townships are key local governments in planning and zoning and are invited to be advisors to the BWSR. The current BWSR structure and lack of specific opportunities for direct input, however, may be limiting the participation, cooperation, and coordination of municipalities and townships with the BWSR.

In the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area the Metropolitan Council administers the comprehensive land use planning act, which requires adoption of local comprehensive land use plans. Also in the Metropolitan Area the BWSR administers the metropolitan water management act, which requires local governments to prepare watershed plans and local water plans. Metropolitan watershed plans can dictate amendments to local comprehensive land use plans. Because of the close interrelationships between local land use planning and local water planning, it is important for the BWSR and the Metropolitan Council to closely coordinate their planning guidelines and policies.

It is the BWSR's position that:

1. Governmental units with planning and zoning authority should develop and adopt long term comprehensive land use plans and official controls based on sound scientific principles to ensure proper land use and land use management practices to effectively protect soil and water resources and promote a healthy, sustainable, and economically viable environment.
2. Policies adopted by state and regional agencies that impact local land use planning should be consistent and coordinated.
3. Opportunities to increase participation and input of municipalities and townships into BWSR policy development and program implementation should be pursued.

The BWSR will serve to minimize the potential water and soil resources problems associated with urbanization by assisting local governments in developing and implementing effective local water management plans and coordinating with other state agencies and the Metropolitan Council in establishing water planning and management policies.

4. Forest Lands

The proper use and management of forest lands is imperative to maintain and improve water quality, the forestry economy, wildlife habitat, and the recreation and tourism industries. Forty-three percent of Minnesota's forest resources are found on small tracts or private lands. The Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry is the lead state

agency in forest management. The Division of Forestry annually provides guidance to about one-fifth of the state's individual private forest landowners with professional advice or technical assistance. Soil and water conservation districts could deliver guidance to additional private forest landowners, but presently they lack technical expertise in forestry.

It is the BWSR's position that:

1. Expertise in forestry management techniques needs to be delivered to a greater number of private owners of small forest tracts.
2. Incentive programs should be available to private owners of small forest tracts to encourage sound forest management practices.

The BWSR will serve an important role in forest management by facilitating, coordinating, and promoting DNR and SWCD activities so that Minnesota forest landowners receive sound guidance on managing for multiple uses and environmental protection.

B. NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION

Nonpoint sources of pollution are defined as land management or land use activities that contribute to water pollution as a result of runoff into surface waters or seepage into groundwater. Nonpoint sources are distinguished from point sources in that they can be generated by a variety of land use practices over broad areas of land. Examples of potential sources of nonpoint pollutants include agricultural runoff, wind erosion, feedlot runoff, urban runoff, runoff from forestry and mining activities, and leachate from septic systems. The primary pollutants contained in the runoff from these sources are soil particles, nutrients, and pesticides. Despite significant efforts and expenditures to address point sources, Minnesota's surface water quality still has not attained the federal Clean Water Act's "fishable and swimmable" goal. Nonpoint sources are the most significant sources of water pollution and the major contributors to eutrophication and degradation of water quality in our lakes and streams.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is the state agency responsible for developing Minnesota's nonpoint source pollution management program in accordance with requirements of the federal Environmental Protection Agency. Minnesota agencies have developed handbooks describing various land management practices that can help reduce nonpoint source pollution in urban, agricultural, and forested areas. These practices are called "best management practices" or "BMPs". The Minnesota Department of Agriculture has specific responsibilities under state and federal law for regulating agricultural pesticides and nutrients. Local units of government are authorized to foster proper land use management through information and education, cost-sharing and other incentives, and land use controls.

It is the BWSR's position that:

1. Best management practices should be used on all Minnesota lands.
2. Minimum use of pesticide and fertilizer should be encouraged, consistent with good production practices.
3. Concepts such as "sustainable agriculture" and "watershed-based management" should be promoted and supported through incentive programs.
4. Local government development and delivery of educational programs on nonpoint source pollution and adoption and enforcement of land use controls to prevent nonpoint source pollution should be encouraged and supported.

The BWSR will work to provide local governments with the tools to carry out effective nonpoint source pollution control programs.

C. SOIL CONSERVATION

Close to one-half of Minnesota's total land area is used for growing crops. Agricultural use dominates the western and southern portions of the state, comprising over 90% of the land area in some counties. Cultivation makes the land surface more susceptible to erosion from the forces of water and wind. Total soil erosion in Minnesota is estimated

to be in excess of 150 million tons per year with over 96 percent attributed to cropland. Although the effect of this soil loss on crop production varies, it usually increases costs and makes the soils less productive. Soil disturbing activities also take place on the over 13 million acres of public and private commercial forests in Minnesota. In addition, intensive land development and rapid urbanization is occurring in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, Rochester and St. Cloud, and in the areas between these cities. The way these agricultural, forested, and urbanizing lands are managed has significant effects on both water quality and quantity.

The erosion rate at which a particular soil can sustain its productivity is called the soil loss tolerance or "T". Values of T range from 1 to 5 tons per acre per year, depending on the soil type. In 1982 the USDA Soil Conservation Service estimated that over one-half of Minnesota's cropland was eroding at a rate in excess of the tolerable level. In 1987 the Soil Conservation Service estimated that our cultivated lands had an average annual soil loss of over 7 tons per acre, or over twice the soil loss tolerance rate. Excessive soil losses not only reduce or destroy the productivity of the land as well as unprotected crops, but cause several other harmful off-site environmental effects. These off-site impacts include siltation of streams, drainageways, lakes, and reservoirs; impairment of fish and wildlife habitat; air pollution from wind eroded soil particles; and degradation of water quality. Although government programs to control excessive soil loss have been in place since the 1930's, excessive soil erosion continues. Conservation farming practices such as conservation tillage, crop rotation, contour farming, strip cropping, terracing, and the use of field windbreaks can reduce erosion and its associated harmful impacts.

Controlling soil erosion rates below that which can, over the long term, sustain the productive capacity of agricultural soils does not necessarily eliminate water quality problems caused by sediment. Water quality problems, due to sedimentation, can still occur even when soil losses are controlled to rates less than soil loss tolerance levels for maintenance of long term soil productivity. Thus, the single greatest threat to of the state's surface water quality is soil erosion. Sediment is, by volume, the greatest pollutant of our

surface water. Recent estimates indicate that off-site damages from erosion and sedimentation actually exceed soil productivity losses by a large margin. Soil erosion by water and wind are naturally occurring events. However, increasing demands from agricultural, forestry, mining, and urban development have accelerated the erosion process. Effective soil conservation practices have been developed for both agricultural and non-agricultural land uses.

Local governmental units with planning and zoning authority can adopt ordinances requiring landowners to control soil erosion. Special "soil loss limits" legislation was enacted in 1984 that established procedures for implementing local soil loss ordinances and specified a technical role for soil and water conservation districts. As of July 1, 1990, three counties have enacted ordinances directed at soil erosion control using their general planning and zoning authority rather than the soil loss limits law.

The 1985 federal farm bill included a provision called "conservation compliance" that requires persons farming certain highly erodible lands to fully implement a conservation farm plan by January 1, 1995 to remain eligible for federal farm program benefits including price and income supports. Because most farmers participate in the farm program, conservation compliance should have significant agricultural soil erosion control benefits.

It is the BWSR's position that:

1. Land retirement programs should be targeted to the highest priority marginal agricultural lands and sensitive lands.
2. Land treatment cost-share programs should be targeted to productive lands that are erosion-prone.
3. Retired marginal agricultural lands with severe erosion potential should not be brought back into agricultural production unless they are effectively managed to prevent excessive soil loss.
4. Soil loss on all lands should be controlled or reduced to levels at or below soil loss tolerances by the year 2000.

5. Local adoption of erosion and sediment control ordinances should be promoted and supported in both rural and urban areas as part of the local water planning process, and local units of government that take the initiative to adopt and enforce erosion and sediment control ordinances should be rewarded.
6. Local governments and state agencies should be authorized to assess owners of severely-eroding lands for the public costs of removing the landowners' eroded soils from adjoining public property and right-of-way in cases where owners refuse to take reasonable steps to prevent excessive soil loss.

D. WATER QUANTITY MANAGEMENT

Water quantity management deals with actions that affect water runoff, detention, retention, diversion, appropriation, and use. Issues involving water quantity management are most apparent when precipitation varies greatly from normal. In times when precipitation greatly exceeds normal we experience flooding; in times when precipitation is greatly below normal we experience drought. The economic impacts of both flooding and drought can be great. Flood damages alone are estimated at \$130 million annually in Minnesota. Water supply problems in times of drought can have even greater economic impacts because of lost agricultural income. Water supply problems can also be caused by contamination of surface or ground water. The true costs of finding adequate supplies of good quality drinking water or trying to clean up contaminated supplies are significant and are an incentive to promote the wise use and conservation of water resources.

The water quantity management issue is particularly significant for the BWSR because local government plays a major role in regulating activities directly affecting water quantity. Both state and federal floodplain management and flood control programs rely upon local implementation. Land use regulations that control runoff rates and volumes, and urban water use restrictions are implemented primarily by local government. Water supply, through municipal systems, is also a local responsibility; both federal and state regulations require the local water supplier to develop water conservation plans. The Department of

Natural Resources Division of Waters has the responsibility for state regulation of water appropriations._

It is the BWSR's position that:

1. Every owner of land has a responsibility for the runoff from their property.
2. Runoff should be managed to minimize property loss and environmental damage by moderating high flows and maintaining low flows of streams.
3. Natural retention systems should be preserved and properly used to the maximum practical extent in managing surface water runoff and ground water recharge.
4. Water conservation policies and programs should be strengthened and drought planning should be undertaken at both local and state levels.

IV. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

The BWSR achieves its resource management goals primarily through the actions of local governments. The basic strategy of the BWSR is to empower local governments to be effective resource managers.

Successful implementation of comprehensive local programs for the protection and management of water and soil resources will require the use of several management strategies with emphasis on a local/state partnership and interlocal governmental cooperation. Comprehensive local water plans establish policy direction for protection and management actions at the local level. The BWSR will encourage joint efforts among local units of government when necessary to properly protect and manage resources within river basins and aquifer systems. The strategies the BWSR intends to use to accomplish its resource management mission can be broadly categorized as education, incentives, and regulation.

A. EDUCATION

Education includes providing information, guidance, technical assistance, and support for water and soil resource management initiatives. Education should be the principal component of any program which attempts to change human activities. Sound management and protection of water and soil resources will require that some land use activities be changed, and some prohibited. Therefore, education will play a key role in serving as a change agent in the modification of land use activities. Modification of a number of existing land use activities must occur before any significant progress can be achieved in addressing our priority resource management issues. Education initiatives must encompass holistic as well as targeted approaches, innovative concepts as well as dissemination of existing information, and advocacy of intergovernmental communication and cooperation. Education must also meet the needs of children as well as adults, urban as well as rural residents, and advocate regulatory compliance as well as voluntary adoption of best management practices.

It is the BWSR's position that its educational activities should include:

1. Disseminating resource management information in the most effective ways possible, including K-12 curriculum and the use of print, radio, television, video, and other communication methods.
2. Developing and maintaining local technical assistance and educational services capabilities.
3. Directly communicating with targeted audiences, including cooperating agencies and land occupiers affected by water and soil resources policies and programs.
4. Advocating proper management of our resources and strengthened cooperation and coordination among units of government and resource management agencies.
5. Instilling a sense of personal responsibility for stewardship of our natural resources.

BWSR education-related management strategies include:

*Providing local governments with the capabilities to develop and implement information and education programs through technical and financial assistance.

*Facilitating communication and cooperation among local, state, and federal agencies, and private resource organizations and educational institutions through informational mailings, sharing of information on successful local programs and projects, local tours, special meetings, local planning guidance, and related methods.

*Identifying the needs of local government to successfully implement water and soil management programs and communicating those needs to other agencies and the legislature.

*Supporting the educational efforts of other agencies and educational institutions.

*Providing the public and local governments with educational and informational research materials on water and soil resources management issues.

*Providing local government officials and staff with special training regarding water and soil resources management, program administration and operation, personnel management, governmental accounting and reporting, leadership, and related topics.

*Developing and making available planning guidelines, model ordinances, conservation easements and trusts, technical guidelines and policies, and other guidance materials to assist local governments in designing and implementing effective and coordinated water and soil management programs.

*Utilizing BWSR monthly meetings to provide a forum at the state level for presentation and discussion of important local resource management issues.

*Publicizing and promoting the use of effective local, state, federal, and private programs designed to manage and protect water and soil resources.

*Supporting legislative initiatives for the gathering of resource information and implementation of broad-based public education and information programs, as well as innovative approaches to reaching specific target groups.

B. INCENTIVES

Incentives can be successfully used to accelerate acceptance of desired values and attitudes. Incentives include those which reward compliance with desired values and attitudes as well as those which attempt to discourage undesirable values and attitudes. Proper management and protection of water and soil resources will require that desirable activities be rewarded and that undesirable activities be actively discouraged. Incentives must encompass urban as well as rural values, loans as well as grants, and reward desired behavior as well as discourage undesirable behavior.

All citizens who benefit from the goods and commodities produced from the natural wealth of our lands and waters should share the cost of maintaining their integrity. Incentive programs must recognize that all land occupiers should practice good stewardship, and that the marketplace may not always totally compensate them for conserving our water and soil resources.

It is the BWSR's position that incentives should:

1. Be a tool available to local government to enhance local program delivery.
2. Be offered to potentially affected land occupiers to create positive attitudes about proper land management practices.
3. Provide opportunities to dissuade harmful and encourage beneficial land and water use activities.
4. Be provided to landowners who practice good stewardship and create economic disincentives for those who do not.
5. Be coordinated at the state level through (though not necessarily administered by) the BWSR, and at the local level through comprehensive local water plans.

BWSR incentive-related management strategies include:

- *Providing direct guidance and financial assistance to counties and other local governments involved in the preparation or implementation of comprehensive local water plans.
- *Providing direct guidance and assistance to soil and water conservation districts and watershed districts in the preparation and implementation of annual and comprehensive plans.
- *Advocating expanded state and local financing opportunities for implementing elements of approved comprehensive local water management plans and other vital water and soil protection programs.
- *Advocating a role for the BWSR in serving as an informational clearinghouse for local governments seeking state grants for local water and soil resources management programs.
- *Making available awards programs to ensure public recognition of individuals and local units of government practicing exceptional water and soil stewardship.
- *Assisting local governments in developing local incentive programs.

C. REGULATION

Regulation is often viewed as a "last resort" for dealing with resource management problems, rather than an important element of a comprehensive approach to resource management. To be effective, the need for a regulation must be understood by the public, the regulation itself must be known, and the regulation must be enforceable. Many resource management issues are not yet well understood by the general public. However, the public is beginning to recognize the connections between land use activities and nonpoint source pollution and other resources management problems. For example, in some areas the public

is beginning to demand adoption of local land use regulations to address nonpoint pollution. To be equitable, regulations must encompass urban as well as rural activities, the sources as well as the effects of resource problems, and a philosophy of progressive as well as ultimate penalties.

It is the BWSR's position that local governments with regulatory authorities should:

1. Be provided the governmental powers necessary to address water and soil management issues proactively and be encouraged to use these authorities.
2. Be able to obtain the resources needed to properly administer and enforce local rules and official controls.
3. Couple local regulations with active efforts to educate residents and provide incentives to land occupiers to properly manage water and soil resources.
4. Be encouraged to adopt and enforce local regulations to meet their unique needs.

BWSR's regulation-related management strategies will include:

*Providing general guidance and assistance to local governments seeking to adopt official controls or rules addressing surface water runoff, erosion and sediment control, water quality, and other aspects of water and soil resources management.

*Collecting, developing, and making available model ordinances and rules for water and soil resources management, and supporting needed improvements in the statutory powers of local governments to regulate activities impacting water and soil resources.

*Encouraging local governments to make use of their regulatory authorities in addressing water and soil resources management issues, and to maximize their roles in achieving compliance with state and federal laws and rules.

*Making use of the BWSR's local plan approval authorities to ensure communication and facilitate cooperation among local governments and state agencies regarding local water and soil resources management programs and projects.

V. THE BWSR'S FUTURE

The BWSR believes that its unique structure and role provide an unprecedented opportunity for local governments to greatly expand their roles in water and soil resources management and state policy development.

The BWSR envisions its future to include:

- *Creating a more unified voice for local government at the state and federal levels on water and soil resources management issues.

- *Acting as a catalyst for creation of coalitions among local government associations, state and federal resource agencies, and private resource organizations on emerging water and soil resources management issues.

- *Serving as an effective participant in state and federal water and soil resources policy development and implementation in partnership with other resource management agencies.

- *Continuing to provide guidance and service to local governments involved in water and soil protection and management activities.

H:USR/MEL/STRAPLAN.SEP

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture administers the State Agricultural Land Preservation program, which provides assistance to counties in developing plans and ordinances that guide non-farm growth and preserve agricultural land. The program also provides tax credits to farmers who place agricultural and forest use restrictive covenants on their land. Participating farmers are required to conform to the state model soil loss limits ordinance. Since this program is so closely related to the BWSR's Soil Loss Limits program, the two programs should also be coordinated very closely.

to be added to page 10, 2nd paragraph

BWSR

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Don Warner with Lake

John Boulton & spouse Rte 1 Box 18 Porter, MN 56280

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Ron Shelito & spouse 503 Washington St Brainerd, MN 56401

Dan Steward same

Keith Grow Box 111 Marshall, MN 56258

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Jim

Dave Peterson 1200 S Broadway 100 Friedel Bldg Rochester, MN 55904

Mary Jo this is the list we came up with. Let back to me on any corrections
Understand you have the self-guided tour going out. I sent the "things to do" tour & agenda to the ones addresses

RECEIVED
SEP 17 1990

& SON

13 Sept 1990

AREA III ANNUAL MEETING
Grand Marais, MN 55604
September 26 & 27, 1990

Mary Jo

AGENDA

Meetings have been set up so all groups can attend the others meetings. You are encouraged to sit it on as many of the meetings as possible.

Wednesday: BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN

Sept 26th 7:00 am Harbor Light opens for registrations
8:00 am Board Water/Soil Resources begin meeting
9:00 am MASWCD Board of Directors meeting begins
10:00-10:15 Coffee Break
12:00-1:00 pm Buffet lunch (will return to meeting area to eat)
1:00 pm Meetings resume
2:00 pm MASWCD meeting ends (BWSR may continue longer but will join employee meeting as soon as possible-- meeting MUST adjourn before 4:30)

2:00-2:15 pm Coffee Break
2:15-2:30 pm MACDE meeting
2:30-4:30 pm Employee training & discussion

4:30-5:30 pm Planning Committee for 1991 MASWCD annual meeting
ALL OTHERS ARE FREE FROM 4:30 TO 6:00 pm

5:00 pm Bar will open
6:00-7:30 pm Buffet Dinner
7:30-8:30 Entertainment
Speech winners and John Patton on dog-sledding trip in Russia

Thursday: BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN

Sept 27th Meet at Harbor Light before 8:30 am. WE LEAVE promptly
8:30 am - 2:00 pm Tour (See other sheet)

2:30 pm Coffee break at Harbor Light

3:00 - 5:00 pm Area III Meeting

AFTER ADJOURNMENT OF AREA III MEETING YOU ARE ON YOUR OWN. HARBOR LIGHT WILL BE SERVING MEALS AND IF YOU PLAN ON EATING THERE IT MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA TO MAKE A RESERVATION EARLY IN THE DAY.

13 September 1990 Notes

TOUR

See that speaker system is aboard and that 10 "D" batteries are available as spares.

See that 2 coolers of mixed pop is aboard each bus and that a garbage bag for cans and that a grocery bag for trash is aboard each bus.

Put signs in bus windows.

<u>Time leave</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Time enroute</u>	<u>Time at site</u>
8:30	To recycling center Speaker at site Tim Kennedy	2 min	15 minutes
8:50	To Berglund logging site Speakers on bus: Supervisors Don Finn & Wayne Hensche on Background of District & County DNR Hirsch & Peterson on Fisheries & Wildlife Speakers at site Supervisor Alton Berglund & Steve Ludwig of USFS	20 min 10 min 10 min 2535 2370	30 minutes
9:40	To Don Finn RIM site Speakers on bus: Bruce Berggren DNR & on Logging from state perspective include spruce budword information Speaker at site: Don Finn	15 min	DNR 30 minutes
10:25	To Lutsen Golf Course Speaker on bus: Chet Lindskog Commissioner on North Shore Mangement Board on Lake Superior At Cascade they will change buses to repeat talk Speaker at site Paul Sandstrom	30 min	1 hour
12:00	will be buffet lunch at Village Inn at Lutsen Mt. If we finish at Golf course early there are shops etc at the Mt. Lunch will be soup and make-your-own sandwiches for \$7.14 including tax and tip. This is included in registration fee		
12:45 pm	OURS (Mpls Meatcutters shoreland erosion No speaker on bus Speaker on site David Gustafson	4 min	15 minutes
1:05 pm	Rock Cut for fractured rock Speakers on bus (if any politicians stop part way to allow change) Speaker on site Bill Best BWSR field hydrologist	15 min	15 minutes
1:35 pm	G.M. Sediment basin No speaker on bus Speaker on site Tom Swenson, City Clerk	6 min	15 minutes
1:50	To return to Harbor Light		

If none - education

THINGS TO DO IN COOK COUNTY

Countywide

Bicycling.. Bikes both regular and mountain can be rented many places
US Forest Service has tours, hikes and talks
Swimming. Try Lake Superior (if you are a polar bear) in land lakes are cool

From County Line to Grand Marais

Alpine slide or gondola ride at Lutsen Mt. Ski Area
Tour Birchware products
Hike Cascade River. 1/2 mile loop, also 15 miles of hiking trails
Hike sections of the Superior Hiking Trail
Caribou River wayside-easy trail to Falls about 1 mi upstream
Hike Onion River or Spruce Creek
Hike to White Sky Rock on Caribou- 4 mi up Caribou Trail. short, steep walk
Hike Leveaux Forest Road 336. Easy 2½ mile loop
Hike Oberg Mt-Onion River Road from 61--easy 2¼ mile loop-wildflower sanctuary
Visit Carlton Peak-large quarry-primitive road or trail from Co. Rd 2
Visit Thomsonite Beach and hunt for thomsonites
Horseback ride at Lutsen
Visit Father Baraga's Cross and walk falls at Cross River

In town

Bowling

Visit the Cook County Museum. New Heritage Center might be open
Visit a fishhouse
Hike to Sweetheart's Bluff. 2 mile trail,
Visit the library
Take a sailboat ride from harbor
Take a float plane ride. Ask at Angry Trout Cafe
Hike to Artist's Point-1/8 easy walk past the Coast Guard Station
Walk the breakwall to lighthouse-easy 1/8 mile walk
Just sit on the beach and watch the geese, ducks, gulls or throw rocks in lake.

Gunflint Trail

Play golf at municipal links
Visit and tour Hedstrom's Lumber Mill
Devil Track Wild Flower Walk-short easy walk. Access near Hedstrom Mill
There are lots of hikes of various lengths and difficulty. If interested ask at registration.

East of Grand Marais to border

Visit the Ceramic Shop
Visit Grand Portage National Monument
Hike to Devil's Kettle--1½ mile walk upstream of Brule River-good trail
Hike the Grand Portage Trail. From Monument 8½ mile 1 way-permit required
Climb Mt. Rose from Monument. ½ mile trail-easy walk/climb with steps and path
Climb Mt. Josephine. Near Hat Point, steep climb, good view, difficult 3/4 mile
Visit the witch tree on Hat Point. Short walk ¼ mile
Take a boat trip to Isle Royale. Full day needed.
Hike Kadunce River Trail-state park 7 mi east of G.M. relative easy hiking-½ mile
Visit Chippewa City church. First Catholic Church in county. See Catholic church
Kayak down Brule River.

HAVE FUN AND COME BACK SOMETIME



STATE OF MINNESOTA
COOK COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Box 825
Grand Marais, Mn 55604

218 387-1081
1437
2090
1695

13 September 1990

We are pleased that you are planning on attending the Area III annual meeting in Cook County. Here are just a few notes that might make it clearer. If you have any questions contact Nelda at any of the above numbers. The top one is on Thursdays.

1. The Harbor Light Supper Club where all meetings will be held is on the west end of Grand Marais, just as you come into Grand Marais.
 2. Lunch and dinner on the 26th and lunch on the 27th are included in the registration fee. All others will be wherever you would like.
 3. If your spouse is attending it would be good if they are there when you register because there will be some discount coupons in your folders.
 4. The bus tour for spouses will be \$6.50 including pop available on the bus. Lunch during the tour will be at their expense.
 5. The self-guided tour was set up so that you might take advantage of the opportunity to learn a little more about the area that will not be covered during our tour. We hope you allow a little extra time to stop at these spots.
 6. The sheet of things to do in Cook County we hope will give you some ideas for filling free time. (One activity not included is a miniature golf course--coupon for \$1.00 off 1st game).
 7. Our meetings have been set up so that everyone can attend all the different meetings. The BWSR & MASWCD meeting will be running at the same time but we hope the others in attendance will spend some time in each.
- We may have hit a glitch on the tour. The school cannot rent buses and I can't reach alternatives. We will send further information to those with spouses attending next week. Sorry.

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
FORESTER REPORT

UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE FOREST STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

We are coordinating Federal, State and local funding for Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD's.) Board of Water and Soil Resources funds were used by the Soil and Water Conservation Districts to secure federal stewardship funds to initiate the program.

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>FEDERAL FUNDS</u>	<u>BWSR FUNDS</u>
Aitkin	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,000
Beltrami/Clearwater	10,000	6,000
Filmore	5,000	3,000
Goodhue	7,500	3,000
Wabasha	7,500	3,000

The Soil and Water Conservation Districts have created two full-time positions and three 5/8 time positions to assist 300 private landowners manage 6,000 acres of land. Federal funding will increase four-fold in the next fiscal year. We are assisting SWCD's to posture themselves to utilize future federal funds.

COORDINATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (DNR)

We are developing joint training for Soil and Water Conservation District personnel on forestry and DNR forestry personnel on soil and water issues.

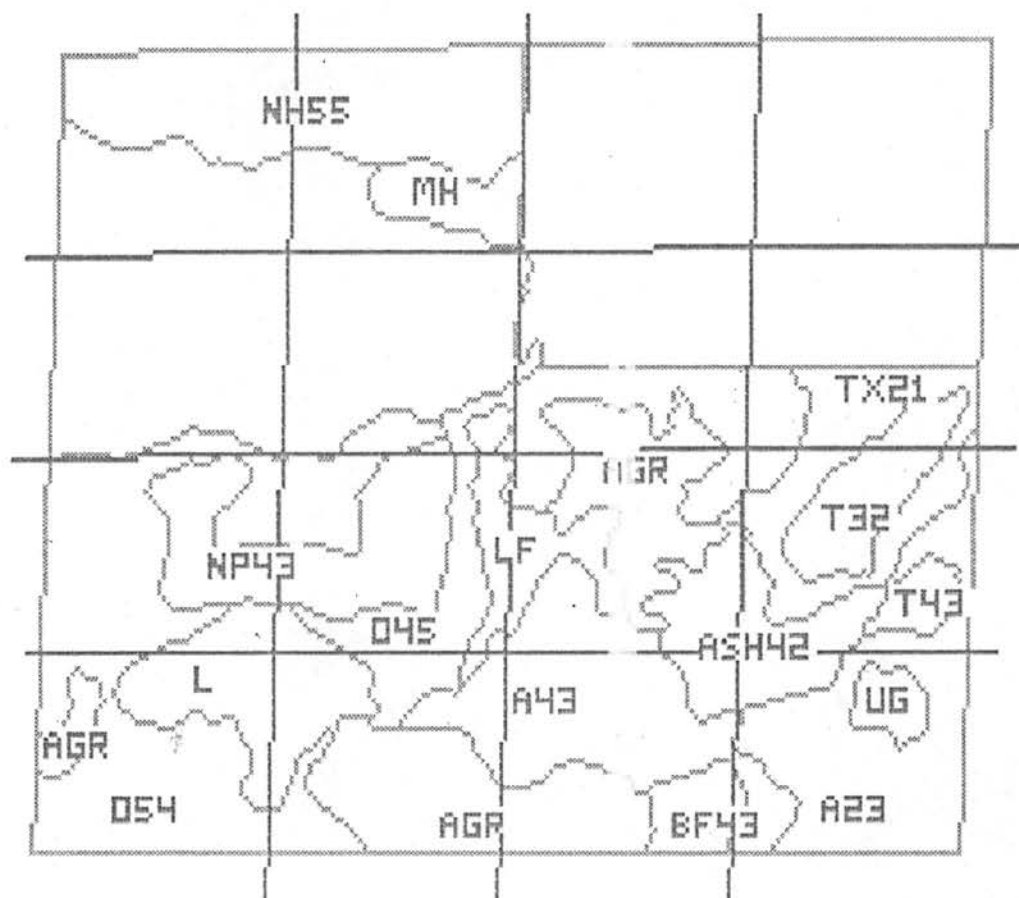
We are holding joint training for Forestry Best Management Practices (BMP's) for other resource agencies. There will be two statewide sessions in November.

INVENTORY OF NON-INDUSTRIAL PRIVATE FORESTLAND (NIPF)

We are actively involved in the coordination of information and assistance to the Soil and Water Conservation Districts to fully utilize the program to assist private landowners better manage their natural resources.

ASSISTANCE TO LOCAL UNITS' OF GOVERNMENT WINDBREAK TECHNOLOGIES

We will be coordinating three windbreak workshops for the state.



0452502

MAP # 1 OF 1

COMBINED
LABELS

COVER TYPE
COVER SIZE
DENSITY

<P> PRINT MAP <SPACE> MENU

Label Description

Species

A - Aspen

BSL - Black Spruce

LB - Lowland Brush

Size - Diameter

1 - 251 to 750 stems/acre

2 - 1 to 2.9 inches

3 - 1,251 to 1,750 stems/acre

4 - 5 to 8.9 inches

8 - 3,751 to 4,250 stems/acre

5 - 9 to 14.9 inches

*Bd member FY1
Forestry*

BELTRAMI SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Rm. 403, Federal Bldg.
Bemidji, Minnesota 56601
Tel. (218) 751-3036



**MINNESOTA
SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

September 6, 1990

Jim Birkholz
Executive Director
Minnesota Board of Water
and Soil Resources
155 South Wabasha Street
Suite 104
St. Paul, MN 55107

RECEIVED
SEP 10 1990
BWSR
& SW

Dear Jim:

During the last year, the Beltrami SWCD has benefited greatly by the assistance provided by the Board of Water and Soil Resources Forester position. Our Soil and Water Conservation District has greatly strengthened its ability to meet landowner's forestry needs by hiring a Stewardship Forester, and forging a stronger working relationship with other forestry agencies. Jim Lemmmerman, and the BWSR provided strong support for this effort through coordination and technical and financial support.

In the coming years, the Stewardship Program and the increasing demands on non-industrial private forest lands present opportunities and challenges for SWCDs in Minnesota. We look to the BWSR to make a long term commitment to providing forestry assistance to SWCDs in the future.

Sincerely,

John Cronemiller

John Cronemiller, Chairman
Beltrami SWCD

JC/bk

cc: Chris Hofstede

Bd member FY1
Forestry

GOODHUE COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
1406 Northstar Drive
Zumbrota, MN 55992
(507) 732-7695

August 31, 1990

James Lemmerman
Board of Water & Soil Resources
394 South Lake Avenue
Duluth, MN 55802

Dear Jim:

We received the information you sent regarding the Forestry Alliance Workshop. The workshop looks to be an excellent source of training for District personnel.

We are in somewhat of a transition period right now. After Tracey's departure, we temporarily shifted the tree program to Tom Guyse. Due to our current workload and budget we are delaying filling the vacancy. We anticipate filling the position in the future and shifting the tree program to the new individual. We are also looking to see what opportunities will be available with the Forestry Stewardship Program. Depending on the success of the program, we might have to consider hiring a Forester on a full-time basis. The Forester we have contracted with has been doing excellent. Due to the amount of work he is conducting, I would presume the need for assistance is greater than we originally anticipated.

Thank you for the information on the workshop. I will pass it on to Keith, but at this time we will not be sending a District employee to the workshop. Please continue to send us future workshop information. We appreciate your efforts.

Sincerely,

Lisa R. Rohr

Lisa R. Rohr
District Manager



P.O. Box #14

Two Harbors, Minnesota 55616

Telephone: (218) 834-2686

MINNESOTA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

August 24, 1990

Greg Larson
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
115 South Wabasha Suite 104
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

Dear Greg,

I am writing in regards to the Flood Bay shoreline erosion control project that is being partially funded by rollover cost-share dollars. The original cost estimate of \$22,150 that was calculated using DNR figures, appears to be low. Though the project will be let for bids in the next two weeks, a preliminary estimate was received in the amount of \$52,500. This estimate was from Hoover Construction, which is the company that is completing the Lafayette Bluff tunnel on Scenic Highway #61. They are experienced in shoreline stabilization work and have the necessary equipment already mobilized within seven miles of the site.

Two reasons account for the difference in cost estimates. First, the local labor/equipment costs were underestimated by the DNR and, secondly, the DNR was legally unable to provide engineering design assistance on the private property portion of the project. The private property owners have jointly hired a registered professional engineer for design and certification purposes.

Successful completion of this project is critical because of the public/private partnership and the severe erosion problem. The project is located in an Erosion Hazard Area as defined in the North Shore Management Plan. MNDOT has already delivered the rock rip-rap to the site, free of charge to the project participants. Typical costs of a project of this magnitude are estimated at \$200 - 300 per lineal foot. Our costs, even at the higher estimate, average around \$40 per lineal foot.

Due to the dilemma we are facing, we request your consideration of providing emergency funding in the amount of \$15,175. This amount, coupled with our original grant of \$11,075, will allow us to cost-share at the full 50 percent rate. Cost-

sharing at the full rate is especially critical for the continued participation of the private property owners.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wayne Seidel".

Wayne Seidel, Conservation Specialist
Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District

cc: Jim Birkholtz
Ruth Hofmeister
Chris Hofstede
Memos Katsoulis
Rich Ojard
Pauline Olund
John Mattson
Paul Sundberg
Floyd Walters
file

REQUEST TO ALTER
RIM RESERVE EASEMENT
73-14-86-01

DuWayne Traut has requested to move his the above referenced RIM Easement 300 feet to the west. He is being required to liquidate his property. This will allow him to provide a buffer area between his business and the RIM area for easier sale, and bring the RIM easement into compliance with the RIM 200' required setback from buildings. This requirement was initiated for fire protection and was not in effect in 1986 when this easement was developed.

All required documentation has been provided, and it appears the request to alter is reasonable.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The staff recommends this request be approved with the following stipulations:

1. The new easement area must total at least the 6.4 acres originally enrolled.
2. The new easement must run a full ten years from the date of the new easement with no additional compensation from the RIM program.
3. No part of the present easement area can be modified until the new easement is recorded on the land title in the courthouse.
4. All costs of the alteration must be born by the landowner, including the cost of establishing the vegetative over on the new easement area according to RIM Reserve specifications.

STEARNS COUNTY SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

3700 West Division Street
St. Cloud, MN 56301
Telephone (612) 251-6718



MINNESOTA
SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

July 25, 1990

Wayne Edgerton
Board of Water and Soil Resources
Southbridge Office Building
155 South Wabasha Ave., Suite 104
St. Paul, MN 55107

Dear Wayne,

SUBJECT: RIM EASEMENT NO. 73-14-86-1

DuWayne Traut (RIM Easement No. 73-14-86-1) has requested to move his RIM easement area 300 feet to the west. DuWayne is being forced to liquidate his property and feels that if the RIM area were moved further away from his business and open to construction of a residence, the business would be easier to sell. The RIM easement acreage (6.4 acres) would stay the same.

Our staff feels that wildlife benefits would be improved by this easement change. The proposed shift to the west would move the area further way from the business building and the current residence. This change would also move the RIM area closer to a grove of mixed hardwoods.

The new RIM area would be located in a such a manner that it would contain at least 50% marginal ag land as defined in the RIM guidelines.

A letter will be forthcoming from the Wildlife Manager of the Department of Natural Resources.

Sincerely,

Urban Spanier
Urban Spanier
Chairman

cc: DNR Wildlife

Need DNR letter
before we can
consider. mid
8-10-90

JUL 30 1990

Jim/Carl -
Here's another request to
move a RIM parcel. By
moving it we will then be
at least 220' from a building.
If approved I recommend it
be extended for a full 10 years.
Committee? Wayne

Sept. Bd. mtg ??



STATE OF
MINNESOTA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

SECTION OF WILDLIFE, Box 370, St. Cloud, MN 56302
PHONE NO. 612/255-4279



FILE NO.

August 1, 1990

RECEIVED
AUG 10 1990

Wayne Edgerton
Board of Water and Soil Resources
Southbridge Office Building
155 South Wabasha Ave, Suite 104
St. Paul, MN 55107

Dear Wayne:

RIM EASEMENT NO. 73-14-86-1

I have no objections to the movement of DuWayne Traut's RIM easement area. It appears that some improved natural resource benefits will be realized by this move.

I will assume this satisfies your requirements from the Minnesota DNR, Section of Wildlife.

Sincerely,

Fred Bengtson
Assistant Area Wildlife Manager

hh

c: Urban Spanier, Stearns County SWCD

STEARNS COUNTY NOT TO SCALE

0.23

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

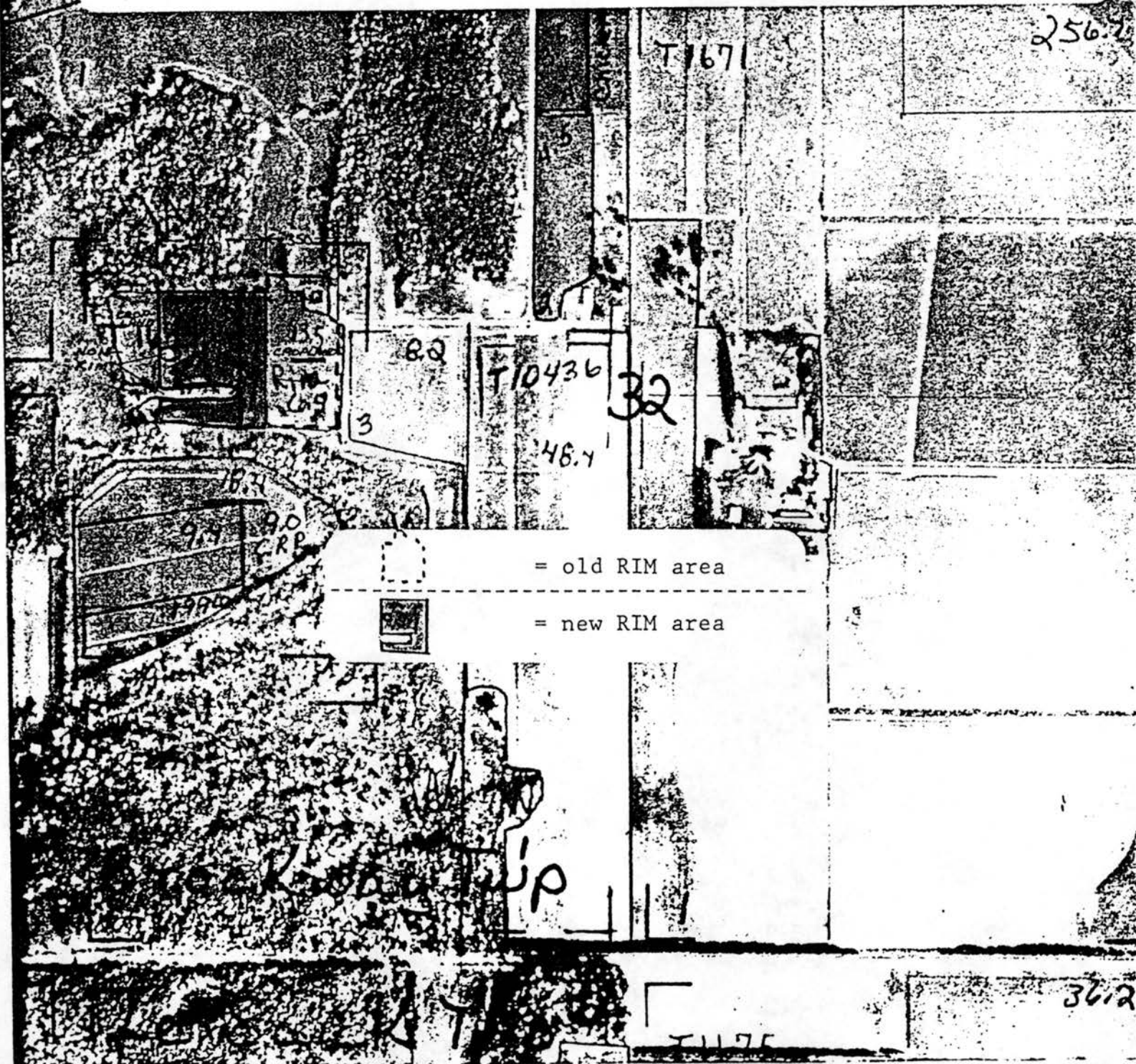
RIM

SCS - CPA - 16

2 - 81

CONSERVATION PLAN MAP

Owner Duwayne Traut Operator same
County Stearns State Minn. Date 8/90
Approximate acres 6.4 RIM Approximate scale 1"=660'
Cooperating with Stearns Co. Soil and Water Conservation District
Plan identification Sec. 32 Brockway Twp. Photo number D-23 32
Assisted by Brad Wenz SWCD USDA Soil Conservation Service





Southbridge Office Building
155 South Wabasha St., Suite 104
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

(612) 296-3767
Fax (612) 297-5615

Regional Offices

Northwest Region
1106 Paul Bunyan Drive, NE
Bemidji, MN 56601
218-755-3963

Northeast Region
394 South Lake Avenue
Room 402
Duluth, MN 55802
218-723-4752

West Central Region
503 Washington Street
Brainerd, MN 56401
218-828-2604

South Central Region
Box 756
New Ulm, MN 56073
507-354-2196

Southeast Region
Friedell Bldg., Room 100
1200 S. Broadway
Rochester, MN 55904
507-285-7458

Southwest Region
Box 111
1400 E. Lyon Street
Marshall, MN 56258
507-537-7260

East Central Region
Southbridge Office Building
155 South Wabasha Ave., Suite 104
St. Paul, MN 55107
612-296-3767

September 6, 1990

TO: BWSR Members

FR: Mel Sinn *M*

SU: Middle Des Moines Watershed District Revised Overall Plan

Requested Action

The Middle Des Moines Watershed District revised overall plan is ready to be acted on at your September meeting. I recommend approval of the attached draft Order prescribing the revised plan for the District.

Background

In February of 1988 the board of managers of the Middle Des Moines Watershed District completed work on a draft revised overall plan. I informed the District that by law the BWSR was responsible for ensuring consistency between watershed district overall plans and county 110B plans. Since all four affected counties (Nobles, Murray, Jackson, and Cottonwood) were simultaneously engaged in developing comprehensive water plans, I said it would be preferable to have the District participate in the county water planning process prior to bringing their draft revised overall plan before the BWSR for approval.

The managers participated in the county water planning process as members of the local water planning advisory committees. They shared their draft overall plan with the counties and had input in decisions concerning county water plan content. The Nobles County water plan was approved by the BWSR in April of this year, and the Jackson and Murray County plans are currently under review. Both Chris Hughes and Brian Dwight looked at the plan and provided me comments.

I met with the board of managers at their Heron Lake office last month to discuss their revised overall plan. The managers believe that the plan is consistent with each of the affected county water plans. The plan contains the elements required by the Watershed Act - descriptions of water and water-related problems, possible solutions, and the general objectives of the District. The plan goes beyond these basic requirements to include policy statements, value statements, a list of completed projects, and description of accomplishments. The plan

promotes a number of actions including upland retention, conservation practices, upgrading of septic systems and animal waste management systems, proper use of herbicides and pesticides, fish and wildlife habitat improvements, and enforcement of water protection laws and regulations. The revised overall plan proposes a joint venture local government water quality testing and protection program.

The District has been actively involved with other local governments, organizations, and agencies in trying to improve management of North and South Heron Lakes. The District has adopted water management rules and landowners are aware of the need to secure District permits for actions impacting water resources, including private drainage activities. The District actively promotes the Conservation Reserve Program, Reinvest in Minnesota Program, and other wetland protection options when landowners apply for permits to do drainage work.

The plan is in an unpolished form in terms of typing and graphics. However, the managers are comfortable with it as it is and have requested BWSR approval with no changes. For this reason, I am recommending that it be approved without reformatting and retyping. This will avoid the cost of reprinting the lengthy document.

Attached is a copy of the plan's "Closing Remarks".

CC: Middle Des Moines Watershed District
Selected BWSR Staff

H. Closing Remarks

In this first revision of the District's Overall Plan, the Managers have updated existing hydrological and statistical data; listed projects completed, provided a summary of active studies and planned projects, described in general terms problems of the District, and put forth statements on our accomplishments through use of rules, completion of projects, proper administration, careful expenditures of money, attention to new developments, the gathering of data and participating in meetings at which new ideas and approaches are discussed.

In review of our annual reports the Managers note below some annual summary statements of our activities by our secretary:

- 1970 There are many details that occupy the Managers' time...one
to of the most time-consuming is to administer a fair and
1975 equitable drainage permit (system) that is required for all
drainage...there is much to do in the years ahead and we
need the help of everyone in the District if we are to
preserve our soils, lakes, streams, and water supplies, and
control flooding in the district."
- 1976 "The Managers feel the progress was good in 1976, but there
are many areas in which to work for the betterment of the
District."
- 1978 "Drainage, flooding and erosion are still the chief concern
of the Managers. The Board attempted to instigate projects
but was unable to get the cooperation of the farmers
involved where siltation is excessive."
"There are never two years alike in farming. This is also
true in District work. Like farming, the problems of the
District are never the same as those of the preceding year."

- 1979 "In conclusion, the Managers feel that 1979 was a year of progress in spite of abnormal rainfall, lawsuits, and controversial permits."
- 1983 "...progress in reaching the goals set by the District has been very slow...the biggest problem is that of securing badly needed projects. Because of our present-day economy we must learn to have patience."
- 1985 "Two things stand out...are the continued good working relationship with the Department of Natural Resources...and the securing of funds to rebuild the outlet dam on Heron Lake."

The District intends to achieve a balanced soil and water program to enhance its agricultural economy, the environment itself, and the well-being of its resident citizens. There is a constant necessity for awareness of the benefits of our water and soil. All residents must strive in an enlightened manner to properly use and assist in caring for all our natural resources.

This revised Overall Plan is not to be construed as a limitation on the actions and procedures that can be taken in achieving the above by the residents and the managers. As knowledge increases and so as not to foreclose any planning or action, although not set forth herein, to better the environment of this area, this Plan signifies within its scope any and all lawful and proper means to accomplish its purposes. As the law prescribes, our actions will be in full cooperation with appropriate county, state, and federal officials.

As one of our objectives, the Managers wish to achieve a constant general improvement of the District's natural resources, its economy and of the well-being of its residents.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
155 South Wabasha Street
Suite 104
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55107

In the Matter of Prescribing an Overall Plan
for the Middle des Moines Watershed District
(Minn. Stat. 1988, Sec. 112.46)

**ORDER
PRESCRIBING
OVERALL PLAN**

The board of managers of the Middle des Moines Watershed District (District) filed a proposed revised overall plan with the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) and the BWSR issued a Notice of Filing of Revised Overall Plan. The BWSR received no requests for hearing in response to its Notice of Filing.

Having considered the entire record, the BWSR makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order:

Findings of Fact

1. The District was established on February 25, 1970.
2. The District filed a proposed revised overall plan outline on April 1, 1985 pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 112.46, subd. 4.
3. The District filed a proposed revised overall plan on February 22, 1988 pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 112.46, subd. 5. On March 21, 1988 the District transmitted copies of the proposed revised overall plan to affected counties, cities, and soil and water conservation districts; and to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.
4. BWSR staff encouraged the District to actively participate in the development of comprehensive county water plans in Murray, Nobles, Jackson, and Cottonwood Counties, and to examine opportunities to complement and reinforce county plan objectives by refining the District's proposed revised overall plan.
5. District managers participated in the preparation of comprehensive county water plans as members of local county water planning advisory committees.
6. On May 11, 1990 the BWSR issued a Notice of Filing of Revised Overall Plan pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, sections 112.46, subdivision 5, and 112.401, subdivision 2. The Notice of Filing was published in the Fulda Free Press (Murray County), the Tri County News (Jackson County), the Worthington Daily Globe

(Nobles County), and the Cottonwood County Citizen (Cottonwood County) on May 23 and 30, 1990. The Notice was also mailed to each affected county, city, and soil and water conservation district; the Director of the Division of Waters of the MDNR; the District; and other interested parties. The Notice briefly summarized the content of the proposed revised overall plan, invited written comments on the plan, and stated that any person could request a public hearing on the plan. No written comments or requests for hearing were received by the BWSR.

7. On July 12, 1990 the BWSR received comments on the proposed revised overall plan from the MDNR.
8. On August 18, 1990 BWSR staff met with the District board of managers at their office in Heron Lake, Minnesota. There was discussion of the District's participation in the county water planning process, statements from the Nobles County water plan assigning specific responsibilities to the District, and the intent and context of several statements in the proposed revised overall plan. The board of managers stated that they were satisfied with both the appearance and content of the proposed revised overall plan, believed it was consistent with affected county water plans, and requested that it be approved in its existing form by the BWSR.

Conclusions of Law

1. All relevant, substantive, and procedural requirements of law have been fulfilled. The BWSR has proper jurisdiction in the matter of prescribing an overall plan for the District.
2. The proposed revised overall plan states existing water and water-related problems in the District, possible solutions, and the general objectives of the District. The proposed revised overall plan conforms with the requirements of the Minnesota Watershed Act.

Order

1. The BWSR prescribes the attached plan as the revised overall plan for the Middle des Moines Watershed District.

Dated this 26th day of September 1990.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

Donald H. Ogaard
Chairman



Southbridge Office Building
155 South Wabasha St., Suite 104
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

(612) 296-3767
Fax (612) 297-5615

Regional Offices

Northwest Region
1106 Paul Bunyan Drive, NE
Bemidji, MN 56601
218-755-3963

Northeast Region
394 South Lake Avenue
Room 402
Duluth, MN 55802
218-723-4752

West Central Region
503 Washington Street
Brainerd, MN 56401
218-828-2604

South Central Region
Box 756
New Ulm, MN 56073
507-354-2196

Southeast Region
Friedell Bldg., Room 100
1200 S. Broadway
Rochester, MN 55904
507-285-7458

Southwest Region
Box 111
1400 E. Lyon Street
Marshall, MN 56258
507-537-7260

East Central Region
Southbridge Office Building
155 South Wabasha Ave., Suite 104
St. Paul, MN 55107
612-296-3767

September 14, 1990

TO: BWSR Members

FR: Mel Sinn *MS*

SU: Area II Technical Office Budget for FY 91

Requested Action

Approval of proposed Area II Technical Office grant agreement.

Background

Each fall the grant agreement pertaining to the operation of the Area II Technical Office is brought before the full BWSR for approval, in the same manner as grant agreements on specific Area II floodwater retention projects. The \$199,000 annual general fund appropriation to the Area II program supports both the Technical Office and specific projects at a 75% state cost-share rate.

The state's share of this year's Technical Office agreement is \$62,025 compared to \$83,025 last year. There are two main reasons why the state's share has dropped:

- 1) Last year's budget included the cost of replacing a vehicle, and
- 2) In this year's budget the state is not cost-sharing Area II Director's compensation, expenses, and insurance.

Earlier this year Darrell Apelgrain and I discussed with the Area II Board of Directors the issue of whether Directors' costs should continue to be state cost-shared. The Board of Directors agreed that it would be best for their direct costs to be paid 100% from local funds.

Project: Technical Office

Contract No: BWSR 104-20

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

TECHNICAL OFFICE AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT, is made this 4th day of October, 1990, for the period July 1, 1990, through June 30, 1991, by and between the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources, hereafter called the "BWSR" and the Area II Upper Minnesota River Basin Board, hereafter called "Area II".

WITNESSETH THAT:

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes, Sections 104.42 - 104.50, provides for grants-in-aid to local governmental units within the Southern Minnesota Rivers Basin Area II for the construction of floodwater retarding and retention structures, including site acquisition, design, and construction costs; and

WHEREAS, The counties within the Southern Minnesota Rivers Basin Area II have entered into a Joint Powers Agreement to coordinate and implement construction of such floodwater retarding and retention structures and for this purpose have established the Area II Upper Minnesota River Basin Board to act on their behalf; and

WHEREAS, Area II has established and staffed a technical office to supplement the engineering and technical services provided by the BWSR; and

WHEREAS, This technical office houses the BWSR's engineer and Area II personnel and equipment; and

WHEREAS, The BWSR provides annually up to 75% of the operating costs of this technical office including, but not limited to, rent, furniture, salaries, survey and testing materials, vehicles, secretarial and accounting expenses, employee and engineer travel and education expenses, and telephone services. The Board does not cost-share Director's Compensation and Expenses or Insurance Costs other than Employee Medical Insurance

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises set forth herein, Area II and the BWSR hereby agree as follows:

A. AREA II SHALL:

1. Provide suitable office space for their employees and the BWSR's Engineer.
2. Operate the technical office for Fiscal year 1991 according to the technical office work plan and office budget attached and hereby made a part of this Agreement.
3. Provide 25% of Area II's annual budget for operational costs of the technical office and all of the costs for Directors Compensation, Director's Expenses, and Insurance and bonding. The annual budget for fiscal year 1990 is \$98,300.00.
4. Have its financial accounts audited annually and report the results to the BWSR.
5. Meet annually with the BWSR at a regular meeting to present new projects and inform the BWSR about its activities.
6. Request prior authorization of the BWSR before making purchases not identified in the work plan.
7. Reimburse the BWSR for expenditures which are ruled by the BWSR to be ineligible uses of state money.
8. Indemnify and save and hold the BWSR, its agents and employees, harmless from any and all claims or causes of action arising from the performance of this Agreement by Area II, its agents or employees. This clause shall not be construed to bar any legal remedies Area II may have for the BWSR's failure to fulfill any obligations pursuant to this Agreement.

B. THE BWSR SHALL:

1. Within the limits of legislative appropriation provide 75% of Area II's yearly budget but not more than \$62,025.00 from fiscal year 1991 Funds.
2. Provide, at its expense, the services of its Staff Engineer according to Minnesota Statutes, Section 104.45, who, in addition to any other duties he may have, shall manage the technical office.
3. Provide overall supervision of projects in the best interest of the state.

C. IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED THAT:

1. The books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices of Area II relevant to this Agreement are subject to examination by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources and the State Auditor as per Minnesota Statutes 16.095.
2. No member of any elected body, nor any employee or agent of Area II or the BWSR shall materially benefit, directly or indirectly, from any project undertaken by Area II, except as provided by law or this Agreement.
4. This Agreement may be canceled by either party upon a thirty (30) day notification.

AREA II UPPER MINNESOTA RIVER BASIN

TECHNICAL OFFICE WORK PLAN

FISCAL YEAR 1991

The Area II Technical Office will operate using the funds shown in the office budget for FY-1991 as follows:

The Area II office will be managed by the staff engineer employed by the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR). The position will be under the supervision of the Board Engineer of the BWSR.

The staff engineer is responsible for preparing the office budget and billing the ten counties for their share of the expenditures. The staff engineer will be responsible for maintaining the financial records of the technical office.

Area II will provide office space for the BWSR's Engineer, and Area II employees at 1400 East Lyon Street in Marshall, Mn.

Area II will employ an engineering technician to assist the staff engineer in the design, construction inspection, surveying, drafting, and administration of the projects undertaken by the technical office. This technician will work full time during fiscal 1991 and be under the supervision of the staff engineer.

The technician's time will be allocated as follows during Fiscal Year 1991:

1. Four months preliminary and topographic surveying of new structure sites.
2. One month Engineering Design training and other related training.
3. Two months design, computation, and drafting for projects.
4. Four and one fourth months staking and supervising inspection of the Wellner-Hageman Reservoir
5. Three weeks annual leave.

One or more part-time technicians will be employed as needed to assist the engineering technician with surveying and other duties .

Area II will share a clerical employee with BWSR to perform the accounting, typing, and clerical work required by the staff engineer. The staff engineer will determine the time needed to complete the clerical work. Area II will pay \$4,000.00 to BWSR for this employee's salary.

The employees described in the previous two paragraphs will work under the supervision of the staff engineer. Area II also provides medical and dental insurance for the full time technician.

The office budget also provides for per diem and expense payments to the directors and alternates of Area II for performing their duties in the operation of the Area II Technical Office. The office budget plan also provides for general liability insurance, workmen's compensation, honesty bonds, theft and casualty insurance, and automobile insurance. This part of the annual Office Budget is not cost-shared with the State.

The office budget shown is derived from actual costs of the previous year with a small adjustment for inflation. Also included is an item to fund continuing education of the Engineer, clerical person, and employees. This will be used to pay for seminars necessary for continuing education in dam safety, flood plain management, structure design, and other courses concerned with their duties.

The Office Budget allows for the purchase of additional Computer software and hardware to be used for engineering design and accounting duties for Area II.

The Budget will provide for expendable supplies such as lath, stakes, paint, etc., as well as laboratory tests and maintenance of the survey and testing equipment.

The amount budgeted for investigation and testing will allow for the contracting of mapping, drilling, sampling and testing of proposed structure sites, materials testing for the Wellner-Hageman Reservoir and other testing required for new projects.

Area II Minnesota River Basin
Projects Inc

Spending Plan Fiscal Year 1991

OFFICE OPERATIONS

Personal Services

Directors Compensation	\$6,500.00*
Employee Salary	\$42,000.00
Employer's FICA	\$2,800.00
Medical Insurance	\$1,100.00

Total Personal Services	<u>\$52,400.00</u>
-------------------------	--------------------

Other Services and Charges

Director's Expenses	\$3,100.00*
Employee Expenses	\$2,800.00
Continuing Education	\$2,700.00
Professional Services	\$1,000.00
Maintenance & Repairs	\$500.00
Telephone	\$1,500.00
Postage	\$700.00
Vehicle Expenses	\$3,600.00
Insurance	\$6,000.00*
Rent	\$3,000.00
Miscellaneous	<u>\$1,500.00</u>

Total Other Services and Charges	<u>\$26,400.00</u>
----------------------------------	--------------------

Supplies

Office	\$2,000.00
Field	\$1,000.00

Capital Outlay	\$1,500.00
----------------	------------

TOTAL OFFICE OPERATIONS	<u>\$83,400.00</u>
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INVESTIGATION & TESTING EXPENSES

Geologic Testing	\$10,000.00
Other Testing	\$3,000.00
Mapping	<u>\$2,000.00</u>

TOTAL INVESTIGATION & TESTING	<u>\$15,000.00</u>
-------------------------------	--------------------

TOTAL BUDGETED	<u>\$98,300.00</u>
----------------	--------------------

Total Amount Cost Shared by State	<u>\$82,700.00</u>
-----------------------------------	--------------------

Total Amount Not Cost Shared by State	<u>\$15,600.00</u>
---------------------------------------	--------------------

State Share	\$62,025.00
-------------	-------------

Local Share	\$36,275.00
-------------	-------------

* These Items not Cost Shared by State

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this agreement to be duly
executed intending to be bound thereby.

Approved:

AREA II UPPER MINNESOTA RIVER BASIN BOARD

Authorized Signature

Date

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

Authorized Signature

Date

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Authorized Signature

Date

COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATION

Authorized Signature

Date

COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE

Authorized Signature

Date

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

SUPPLEMENTAL PROJECT AGREEMENT

Amendment #1 to 99780 91980 (FY90)

THIS SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT, made this 12th day of June, 1990, by and between the Brown County Board of Commissioners and the Brown Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors, jointly, called the Sponsoring Local Organization; and the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources called the Board.

WITNESSETH THAT:

WHEREAS, the above named parties entered into agreement No. M.S.W.C.B. 104-115 on May 1, 1988; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Legislature gave bonding authority to the Board in the amount of \$1,645,000.00 to pay for the construction of this reservoir; and

WHEREAS, the estimated total cost of the project has increased to \$2,250,000.00 including landrights and engineering costs; and

WHEREAS, the amount of general funds needed for the project have decreased; and

WHEREAS, the amount of funds to be encumbered for the project by the Board have decreased.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises set forth above, the Sponsoring Local Organization, and the Board hereby agree to change the original agreement as follows:

- A. It is agreed that the following flood control project be constructed at an estimated cost of ~~\$2,000,000.00~~ \$2,250,000.00.
- B. The Sponsoring Local Organization will:
 1. Provide 25% of the cost of constructing the works of improvement described in A which exceed the amount of the Bonding funds allocated to this project including and the necessary land and engineering rights costs. This cost to the Sponsoring Local Organization is estimated to be ~~\$500,000.00~~ \$151,250.00.
- C. The Board will:
 1. Provide 75% of the cost of constructing the works of improvement described in A which exceed the amount of the Bonding funds allocated to this project including and necessary land and engineering costs. This cost to the Board is estimated to be ~~\$1,500,000.00~~ \$453,750.00 (\$176,000.00, FY 88; \$124,000.00, FY 89; ~~\$200,000.00~~ \$0.00, FY 90; ~~\$200,000.00~~ \$153,750.00, FY 91; ~~\$200,000.00~~, FY 92; ~~\$200,000.00~~, FY 93; ~~\$200,000.00~~, FY 94; ~~\$200,000.00~~, FY 95;)

(DELETIONS INDICATED BY STRIKEOUT, ADDITIONS INDICATED BY UNDERLINE.)

With the above exceptions, all other language of the agreement shall stand as originally executed.

BROWN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Authorized Signature
Marlin C. Helget
Date
6-12-90

BROWN SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Authorized Signature
Ervin W. Wundt
Date
6-12-90

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

Authorized Signature

Date

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Authorized Signature

Date

COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATION

Authorized Signature

Date

COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE

Authorized Signature

Date



Southbridge Office Building
155 South Wabasha St., Suite 104
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

(612) 296-3767
Fax (612) 297-5615

Regional Offices

Northwest Region
1106 Paul Bunyan Drive, NE
Bemidji, MN 56601
218-755-3963

Northeast Region
394 South Lake Avenue
Room 402
Duluth, MN 55802
218-723-4752

West Central Region
503 Washington Street
Brainerd, MN 56401
218-828-2604

South Central Region
Box 756
New Ulm, MN 56073
507-354-2196

Southeast Region
Friedell Bldg., Room 100
1200 S. Broadway
Rochester, MN 55904
507-285-7458

Southwest Region
Box 111
1400 E. Lyon Street
Marshall, MN 56258
507-537-7260

East Central Region
Southbridge Office Building
155 South Wabasha Ave., Suite 104
St. Paul, MN 55107
612-296-3767

September 4, 1990

To : Task Force Chairpersons and Local
Water Plan Coordinators

From : Jim Birkholz, Executive Director

RE : Possible changes to proposed LWRPMP Rules

The LWRPMP (local water resources protection and management program) rule as proposed does not allow a county to claim expenditures or in-kind contributions incurred before the effective date of the grant agreement. The reason for this language was based on past practice: The State Department of Finance has never generally allowed obligations to be made without their prior consent. Their consent and authorization to obligate funds- is given when they sign grant agreements and contracts. The language in the proposed rule is also consistent with other BWSR rules governing grant programs.

This policy has, nevertheless, concerned our local government clientele for many years. We have unsuccessfully sought flexibility in this regard for our clientele on several occasions. It was not until very recently, however, that the Department of Finance allowed the BWSR the discretion to consider certain prior incurred expenses as eligible for LWRPMP grants. This change came too late to effect the wording in the proposed rule as it was published on August 27th. We have enclosed possible changes to the language of the proposed rule. The proposed rule as it was published in the State Register on August 27th is also enclosed for your information. These changes would allow the BWSR to consider -as eligible- plan development or implementation costs incurred by a county or its delegee prior to the effective date of the grant agreement. It should be noted that the BWSR must review claims on a case-by-case basis. This is reasonable since it was not the intent of the Department of Finance exception to provide an open ended policy.

We certainly recognize and commend the aggressive implementation of your local water plans. Further, we know many counties made financial commitments assuming receipt of implementation grants in July, 1990. The legislative action which changed the timing of the grants was very positive but nonetheless did alter the anticipated timetable for distributing LWRPMP grants. With these thoughts in mind, the suggested changes should provide additional flexibility to implement your local water

plan. As we compile the rulemaking record, it would be very helpful if you would provide written comments regarding this suggestion or any other part of the proposed rule. We would be happy to meet with you if necessary to discuss the proposed rule.

CC: Project Managers
BWSR staff

Board of Water and Soil Resources

Proposed Permanent Rules Relating to a Local Water Resources Protection and Management Program

Notice of Intent to Adopt a Rule Without a Public Hearing

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Board of Water and Soil Resources intends to adopt the above-entitled rule without a public hearing following the procedures set forth in the Administrative Procedure Act for adopting rules without a public hearing in *Minnesota Statutes*, sections 14.22 to 14.28. The statutory authority to adopt the rule is *Minnesota Statutes*, sections 103B.3361 to 103B.3369.

All persons have 30 days in which to submit comment in support of or in opposition to the proposed rule or any part or subpart of the rule. Comment is encouraged. Each comment should identify the portion of the proposed rule addressed, the reason for the comment, and any change proposed.

Any person may make a written request for a public hearing on the rule within the 30-day comment period. If 25 or more persons submit a written request for a public hearing within the 30-day comment period, a public hearing will be held unless a sufficient number withdraw their request in writing. Any person requesting a public hearing should state his or her name and address, and is encouraged to identify the portion of the proposed rule addressed, the reason for the request, and any change proposed. If a public hearing is required, the agency will proceed pursuant to *Minnesota Statutes*, sections 14.131 to 14.20.

Comments or written requests for a public hearing must be submitted to:

Greg Larson, Head, Water and Land Management Section
Board of Water and Soil Resources St. Paul, Mn. 55107
155 S. Wabasha Street Suite 104 (612) 296-3767

The proposed rule may be modified if the modifications are supported by data and views submitted to the agency and do not result in a substantial change in the proposed rule as noticed.

A copy of the proposed rule is attached to this notice.

A STATEMENT OF NEED AND REASONABLENESS that describes the need for and reasonableness of each provision of the proposed rule and identifies the data and information relied upon to support the proposed rule has been prepared and is available from Greg Larson upon request.

The Statement of Need and Reasonableness also indicates that since this is a voluntary program involving grants to counties, this rule will not have a negative impact on small business.

If no hearing is required, upon adoption of the rule, the rule and the required supporting documents will be submitted to the Attorney General for review as to legality and form to the extent the form relates to legality. Any person may request notification of the date of submission to the Attorney General. Persons who wish to be advised of the submission of this material to the Attorney General, or who wish to receive a copy of the adopted rule, must submit the written request to Greg Larson.

Dated: 13 August 1990

James R. Birkholz
Executive Director

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Proposed Rules

Fiscal Impact of the Rule of the State Board of Water and Soil Resources Governing Grants to Counties for Local Water Resources Protection and Management

As required by *Minnesota Statutes*, section 14.11, this statement advises local public bodies of the fiscal impact of the adoption of the proposed rule relating to a local water resources protection and management program. Under this proposed rule, an eligible county may apply for grants to develop and implement a comprehensive local water plan. Plan development grants cannot exceed a maximum of \$15,300 for a plan under *Minnesota Statutes*, section 110B.04, or \$15,600 for a plan under *Minnesota Statutes*, section 473.8785. Plan development grants must be matched in a one-to-one ratio with a local share. The rule defines local share as "the contribution of a local unit of government to the eligible cost of a program including the value of cash expenditures, private contributions, and in-kind contributions of labor, equipment, material, and real property used for and expended on eligible program activities. Up to 50 percent of the local share may consist of federal funds. State funds may not be used as local share." The board estimates counties will provide \$46,200 of local share during 1991. This does not include local share provided by counties who commenced planning prior to the adoption of the proposed rule.

Plan implementation grants consist of base grants and challenge grants. Base grants are noncompetitive and are available to any county that has approved and locally adopted comprehensive local water plans covering more than 50 percent of the county land area and that implements a local water planning levy. Individual base grants and the local water planning levy is determined by a formula under *Minnesota Statutes*, section 103B.3369 utilizing equalized taxable net tax capacity and local plan implementation costs. An individual county is not required to match a base grant. The total of county water planning levies on a statewide basis constitutes the match to base grants. Specific base grants and the amount of the local water planning levy for 1991 have been provided to county auditors and local water planning officials under separate cover. Challenge grants are competitive and may be available to any county that has approved and locally adopted comprehensive local water plans covering more than 50 percent of the county land area and that implements a local water planning levy. Challenge grants must be matched in a one-to-one ratio with a local share.

The board has \$2,370,000 available in fiscal year 1991 for plan development and implementation grants. An amount of \$46,200 is estimated for plan development grants to three counties. An amount of \$1,600,000 is estimated for base grants to an additional 52 counties. The balance, \$723,800, is estimated for challenge grants. The board further estimates that counties will provide \$723,800 of local share to match challenge grants. Considering plan development and challenge grants, county matching funds for fiscal year 1991 total \$777,000. Until legislative funding and the extent of plan implementation is known, estimates for fiscal year 1992 cannot be made.

Rules as Proposed (all new material)

8405.0100 PURPOSE.

Minnesota Statutes, sections 103B.3361 to 103B.3369, authorize the board to make grants to counties for local government activities that protect or manage water and related land resources and to adopt rules.

This chapter provides for the administration of a state local water resources protection and management grant program. Parts 8405.0100 to 8405.0230 implement this program by establishing the substantive criteria and procedural conditions under which the board may award state grants for the development and implementation of a comprehensive local water plan.

8405.0110 DEFINITIONS.

Subpart 1. Scope. The definitions in this part and in *Minnesota Statutes*, section 103B.3363, apply to parts 8405.0100 to 8405.0230. If a definition in this part conflicts with a definition in *Minnesota Statutes*, chapter 110B, 112, or 473, or rules adopted under one of those chapters, the definition in this part governs.

Subp. 2. Board. "Board" means the Board of Water and Soil Resources.

Subp. 3. Comprehensive local water plan; plan. "Comprehensive local water plan" or "plan" means a county water plan authorized under *Minnesota Statutes*, section 110B.04, a watershed management plan required under *Minnesota Statutes*, section 473.878, a watershed district overall plan required under *Minnesota Statutes*, section 112.46, or a county groundwater plan authorized under *Minnesota Statutes*, section 473.8785.

Subp. 4. Local share. "Local share" means the contribution of a local unit of government to the eligible cost of a program including the value of cash expenditures, private contributions, and in-kind contributions of labor, equipment, material, and real property used for and expended on eligible program activities. Up to 50 percent of the local share may consist of federal funds. State funds may not be used as local share.

Subp. 5. Local unit of government. "Local unit of government" means a statutory or home rule charter city, town, county, soil and water conservation district, watershed district, organization formed for the joint exercise of powers under *Minnesota Statutes*, section 471.59, local health board, or other special purpose district or authority with local jurisdiction in water and related land resources management.

Subp. 6. Local water planning levy. "Local water planning levy" means a property tax levy under *Minnesota Statutes*, section

275.50, subdivision 5, paragraph (2), and implementing *Minnesota Statutes*, section 103B.3369, subdivision 5, clause (2), for the purpose of implementing a comprehensive local water plan.

Subp. 7. **Official controls.** "Official controls" means ordinances and rules that control the physical development within the jurisdiction of a local unit of government, protect public health and safety, or implement the general objectives of the local unit of government.

Subp. 8. **Program.** "Program" means a water-related program.

Subp. 9. **Related land resources.** "Related land resources" means land affected by present or projected management practices that have significant effects on the quantity and quality, or use of groundwater or surface water.

8405.0120 AVAILABLE ASSISTANCE.

Subpart 1. **Grants.** The board may award grants to counties to develop plans authorized under *Minnesota Statutes*, section 110B.04 or 473.8785, or implement water resource protection and management programs identified as priorities in a comprehensive local water plan. Grants may be used to employ persons and to obtain and use information necessary to develop a plan under *Minnesota Statutes*, section 110B.04 or 473.8785, that did not receive funding under Laws of Minnesota 1987, chapter 404, section 30, subdivision 5, paragraph (a), or to implement a comprehensive local water plan. Plan development grants must not exceed a maximum of \$15,300 for a plan under *Minnesota Statutes*, section 110B.04, or \$15,600 for a plan under *Minnesota Statutes*, section 473.8785.

Plan implementation grants consist of base grants and challenge grants. Base grants are noncompetitive and are available to any county that has approved and locally adopted comprehensive local water plans covering more than 50 percent of the county land area and that implements a local water planning levy. The purpose of base grants is to encourage plan maintenance and implementation with an emphasis on new or expanded programs. Eligible activities include supporting water plan coordination and enforcement of official controls. Base grants may not exceed the amount specified in *Minnesota Statutes*, section 103B.3369, subdivision 5, clause (2).

Challenge grants are competitive and may be available to any county that has approved and locally adopted comprehensive local water plans covering more than 50 percent of the county land area and that implements a local water planning levy. The purpose of challenge grants is to accelerate implementation of priority actions contained in approved comprehensive local water plans. Eligible activities include establishment of monitoring programs, development of official controls, assessments of resources, and development of geographic information systems. A county may submit more than one challenge grant application.

Subp. 2. **Local share.** Plan development and challenge grants must be matched in a one-to-one ratio with a local share.

Subp. 3. **Priority.** Grants must be awarded, within the limits of available appropriations, to those applicants having the highest priority.

Subp. 4. **Technical assistance.** The board may provide technical assistance to counties that are considering application in order to ensure timely, accurate, and comprehensive applications. The board shall provide technical assistance, within the limits of available resources, to counties that receive grants, to assist in developing or implementing a comprehensive local water plan.

8405.0130 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.

Subpart 1. **Eligible applicants.** Only counties are eligible to apply for grants. A county shall coordinate and submit applications on behalf of other local units of government within its jurisdiction.

Subp. 2. **Eligible costs.** Plan costs are eligible for state grants if the expenditures are reasonable and necessary for developing or implementing a comprehensive local water plan as described in part 8405.0120, subpart 1.

Subp. 3. **Ineligible costs.** Ineligible costs include those not related to the activities in subpart 2. In addition, the following costs are ineligible whether or not they relate to the activities in subpart 2:

- I. —→**
- A. expenditures or in-kind contributions incurred prior to the effective date of the grant agreement; and
 - B. activities that violate local, state, or federal statutes, rules, or regulations.

8405.0140 NOTICE OF GRANT AVAILABILITY.

Subpart 1. **Notice.** If the board determines that funds are available to award grants, the board shall publish a notice in the *State Register* announcing that applications will be accepted. The notice must include the amount of available funding and contain deadlines for submittal of applications for each grant, which must be no less than 60 calendar days from the date of publication.

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Proposed Rules

Subp. 2. **Notification.** The board shall notify all counties that grant funds are available and the deadline for applications. Any other local unit of government that wishes to be notified shall contact the board by writing to the executive director. When the board publishes notice in the State Register, the board shall mail notice of the grant application period to those local units of government who have requested to be notified.

Subp. 3. **Grant application periods.** The board may establish a grant application period at any time, but there must be at least one application period for each grant each fiscal year if funds are available.

8405.0150 GRANT APPLICATION.

Subpart 1. **General requirements.** A grant application must be submitted by a county. A county shall coordinate and submit applications on behalf of other local units of government within its jurisdiction. A completed grant application must be received in the board office in Saint Paul by the published deadline, in a format provided by the board, and with the information required by this part.

Subp. 2. **Plan development grant.** A county submitting an application for a plan development grant must submit the following information:

A. a resolution committing the county to develop a local water plan according to chapter 9300 and *Minnesota Statutes*, chapter 110B, or *Minnesota Statutes*, section 473.8785;

B. a resolution by the county authorizing the matching funds and the signing of the grant agreement and other related documents;

C. a budget of expenses associated with developing a local water plan; and

D. a description and explanation of the responsibilities proposed to be contracted with other local units of government, if applicable.

Subp. 3. **Plan implementation base grant.** A county submitting an application for a plan implementation base grant shall submit the following information:

A. a resolution by the county authorizing the signing of the grant agreement and other related documents;

B. a detailed work plan and schedule for program implementation during the grant period;

C. a detailed budget for the grant period;

D. a statement describing the relationship of the grant request to priority implementation items in the comprehensive local water plan;

E. a statement describing how cooperation will be secured with adjacent counties and water management organizations, if applicable; and

F. a description and explanation of the responsibilities proposed to be contracted with other local units of government, if applicable.

Subp. 4. **Plan implementation challenge grant.** A county submitting an application for a plan implementation challenge grant shall submit the following information:

A. a resolution by the county authorizing the matching funds and the signing of the grant agreement and other related documents;

B. an executive summary of the contents of the application;

C. a detailed work plan and schedule for program implementation during the grant period;

D. a detailed budget for the grant period including the identification of the amount requested in the grant;

E. a list identifying the amount, type, and source of the local share;

F. a statement describing the relationship of the grant request to priority implementation items in the comprehensive local water plan;

G. a statement describing how cooperation will be secured with adjacent counties and water management organizations, if applicable;

H. a statement describing local support and interagency coordination;

I. a description of how the challenge grant complements the base grant;

J. a statement indicating if partial funding of the application is acceptable. If partial funding is acceptable, project components must be listed in order of funding priority with a corresponding budget; and

K. an explanation of the responsibilities proposed to be contracted with other local units of government, if applicable.

Subp. 5. **Sequence of implementation grants.** Before a county can submit an application for a plan implementation grant, the county must have:

- A. approved and locally adopted comprehensive local water plans covering more than 50 percent of the county land area; and
- B. implemented a local water planning levy.

Although base and challenge grants may be applied for at the same time, separate applications must be made.

8405.0160 DENIAL OF GRANT APPLICATIONS.

Subpart 1. **Grounds.** An application for a plan development grant or a plan implementation grant must be denied by the board for the following reasons:

- A. ineligible applicant;
- B. proposed expenditures are ineligible;
- C. request is not consistent with priorities described in the applicant's comprehensive local water plan;
- D. late submittal; or
- E. inadequate or incomplete application.

Subp. 2. **Procedure.** The board shall review each grant application within 14 calendar days after the deadline for application submittal. The board shall notify each denied grant applicant of the denial of its application and the reasons for the denial within 14 calendar days after the determination.

Subp. 3. **Effect of denial.** A grant applicant whose application is denied may reapply in a subsequent application period in order to be reconsidered for a grant.

8405.0170 ALLOCATION OF FUNDING.

Subpart 1. **Overall grant fund allocation.** After assessing the number and specific type of applications, and within 30 calendar days of the close of an application period, the board shall determine the amount of funding to be made available for each grant. In deciding how much money to make available for new grant awards, the board shall give priority to plan development and base grants and consider the necessity to have additional money available to complete previously approved grants.

If the money intended for a specific type of grant is not awarded during a grant period, the board may reallocate the funds to one of the other type of grants or carry the money forward to a subsequent grant period.

8405.0180 RANKING OF APPLICATIONS.

Subpart 1. **Process of ranking.** After completion of the review by the board of the grant applications for eligibility, and determination of available funds for the types of grants, the board shall proceed to:

- A. fund all eligible plan development and base grant applications as provided in part 8405.0120, subpart 1; and
- B. rank in order of priority all eligible challenge grant applications.

Each eligible challenge grant application must be awarded the number of priority points it is entitled to under subparts 3 and 4. All applications must be given a ranking depending on the number of points awarded. The applications with the highest ranking must be given the highest priority.

Subp. 2. **Review team.** Prior to ranking challenge grant applications, the board shall establish an advisory review team to evaluate the applications. The review team, chaired by a member or representative appointed by the board, consists of a representative of each of the following agencies or organizations: Association of Metropolitan Municipalities; Association of Minnesota Counties; League of Minnesota Cities; Metropolitan Council; Metropolitan InterCounty Association; Metropolitan Water Management Organizations; Minnesota Association of Conservation District Employees; Minnesota Association of County Planning and Zoning Administrators; Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts; Minnesota Association of Townships; Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts; Minnesota Departments of Agriculture, Health, and Natural Resources; Minnesota Extension Service; Minnesota Geological Survey; Minnesota Pollution Control Agency; State Planning Agency; and others as the board may determine.

Subp. 3. **Priority points for challenge grant applications.** The following criteria must be used to determine the number of priority points to be awarded in the evaluation of each challenge grant application. To expedite the review process, the board is responsible for providing background information and summaries of the applications to the review team. The review team, acting as a committee,

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Proposed Rules

shall award each application between zero and ten points under the following criteria, depending on how well the application satisfies each criterion. Ten points is the highest point value. The number of points under each criterion must be added together to determine the application's total point value. This total number must be used to determine the application's overall ranking and priority. The criteria are as follows:

- A. the extent to which the application demonstrates participation of several local units of government, including multicounty efforts;
- B. the extent to which the application expresses long-term commitment to effective water protection and management;
- C. the extent to which the applicant would use local programs and methods to protect and manage water and related land resources;
- D. the extent to which the application complements efforts of federal, state, and local units of government; and
- E. the extent to which the application supports efforts of local units of government to adopt, administer, and enforce official controls to protect and manage water and related land resources.

Subp. 4. Other considerations. In assigning points, the review team must consider the regional variations that exist in program needs and priorities.

8405.0190 SELECTION OF GRANTEES.

Subpart 1. Ranking. The review team shall complete its ranking of all applications for challenge grants for which an eligible grant application has been submitted and forward the recommendation to the board within 90 calendar days of the close of the application period.

Subp. 2. Projects funded. The board shall select those applications that will be awarded grant funds by awarding grants to the highest priority challenge grant applications within the limits of available funds established in part 8405.0170.

Subp. 3. Board decision. All decisions of the board in ranking applications and awarding grants must be made at a regular or special board meeting.

Subp. 4. Timing. The board shall make its selection of grantees within 120 calendar days of the close of the application period. The board shall notify all applicants of the status of their application within 14 calendar days after the selection of grantees.

Subp. 5. Reapplication. A grant applicant whose application is not awarded grant funds may reapply in a subsequent application period to be reconsidered for a grant.

8405.0200 GRANT CONDITIONS.

Subpart 1. Amount. Except as provided in part 8405.0150, subpart 4, item J, a grant that is made must be for the amount requested by the applicant. The maximum grant must be according to part 8405.0120, subpart 1.

Subp. 2. Agency review. Grants provided to develop or implement programs must be reviewed by the state agency having authority for the programs to assure compliance with minimum state standards before a grant agreement is executed by the board.

Subp. 3. Performance criteria. In addition to items required by this part, performance criteria for grant administration must include plan information requirements contained in the approved application of the county as described in part 8405.0150, subparts 2, 3, and 4.

Subp. 4. Grant period. The grant period for a plan development grant must be two years. The grant period for an implementation base grant must not exceed two years. The grant period for an implementation challenge grant must be two years and may be extended an additional year with prior board approval.

Subp. 5. Grant agreement. The county must enter into a grant agreement with the board before a grant will be awarded. The grant agreement must include the provisions established in part 8405.0210.

Subp. 6. Records. The county, or delegated local unit of government, shall maintain all records relating to the receipt and expenditure of grant funds for six years from the termination of the grant agreement.

Subp. 7. Audit. The county, or delegated local unit of government, must agree that the books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices of the county relevant to this program may be examined at any time by the board or board's designee. The county or delegated local unit of government implementing a grant shall provide for an audit that meets the standards of the Office of State Auditor. The audit must cover the duration of a grant and be performed within one year after the end of a grant period or when routinely audited, whichever occurs first. Copies of the audit must be provided to the county and the board.

Subp. 8. Annual progress report. The county, or delegated local unit of government, shall submit an annual progress report to the board by January 31st of each year the grant is in effect. The report must include the following information:

A. a discussion of progress of the work described in the approved application, and difficulties encountered meeting the schedule during the year;

B. a discussion of the program results appropriate to the work conducted during the year; and

C. a report of expenditures in the year and those anticipated during the upcoming year.

II. → Subp. 9. Eligible costs. Grant funds may not be used to reimburse the county, or delegated local unit of government, for costs incurred before or after the end of the grant agreement period.

8405.0210 GRANT AGREEMENT.

Subpart 1. **Contents.** The board and the county shall enter into a grant agreement. The grant agreement must:

A. establish the term and conditions of the grant;

B. provide that the county may contract with others, including appropriate local units of government under the terms and conditions specified by the county, to complete the work specified in the grant agreement;

C. provide that the cost overruns are the sole responsibility of the county;

D. require that a county is responsible for ensuring that state funds are properly expended even if the work specified in the grant agreement is performed by a local unit of government acting on behalf of the county;

E. require that the county submit an annual progress report; and

F. incorporate terms and conditions required by federal or state statutes, rules, or regulations.

Subp. 2. **Amendments.** A grant agreement may be amended upon agreement of the board and the county.

Subp. 3. **Agreement period.** A grant agreement must be for a duration specified in part 8405.0200, subpart 4.

8405.0220 GRANT PAYMENTS.

Subpart 1. **Payment.** Payment of the grant amount must be made in one installment by the board promptly after the effective date of the grant agreement.

Subp. 2. **Unencumbered funds.** Any grant funds remaining unspent or becoming unobligated after the end of the grant agreement period must be returned to the board within two months of that date.

8405.0230 GRANT TERMINATION.

Subpart 1. **Board action.** The board may cancel a grant agreement for just cause. "Just cause" means that the county or delegated local unit of government is not disbursing grant funds in accordance with established board and state procedures or has otherwise breached a term of the grant agreement. The county must be given 14 calendar days' prior written notice of cancellation. The county has until the date of cancellation to demonstrate why the grant agreement should not be canceled. If it is determined by the board that the county's default was beyond its control or it was not otherwise in default, the grant agreement must not be canceled. The county may cancel this grant agreement with or without cause. In the event of cancellation by the board or county, the county is entitled to payment, determined on a pro rata basis, for work satisfactorily performed and the remaining grant funds must be promptly returned to the board.

Subp. 2. **Agency action.** At the request of any state commissioner, the board shall revoke that portion of a grant used to support a program not in compliance with rules of that agency.

KEY: PROPOSED RULES SECTION — Underlining indicates additions to existing rule language. ~~Strike outs~~ indicate deletions from existing rule language. If a proposed rule is totally new, it is designated "all new material." **ADOPTED RULES SECTION** — Underlining indicates additions to proposed rule language. ~~Strike outs~~ indicate deletions from proposed rule language.

August 30, 1990

Suggested changes to the LWRPM program rule as published on 8/27/90

I. Page 503: part 8405.0130, subpart 3 A.

- A. expenditures or in-kind contributions incurred prior to the effective date of the grant agreement that have not been approved by the board as described in part 8405.0200, subpart 9; and

II. Page 507: part 8405.0200, subpart 9.

Eligible costs. Grant funds may not be used ~~to reimburse the county, or delegated local unit of government,~~ for costs incurred before or after the end of the grant agreement period unless approved by the board. In considering these costs, the board must review each claim on a case-by-case basis. To support a claim, the county may be requested to provide additional information.

Strikeout = language to be deleted
Underline = language to be added

DRAFT

MAWD/BWSR BLUE RIBBON PANEL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 1990

TO: MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION OF WATERSHED DISTRICTS
MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

The members of the MAWD/BWSR Blue Ribbon Panel are pleased to submit their findings and recommendations to the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts and the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources.

The Panel was created to examine issues important to both watershed districts and the state board, and consider potential opportunities for cooperative efforts between MAWD and BWSR in addressing these issues. Each organization appointed three of its members to serve on the Panel. MAWD members were Al Dornfeld of Valley Branch Watershed District, Dean Oleson of Buffalo Creek Watershed District, and Gerald VanAmburg of Buffalo-Red Watershed District. BWSR members were John Boulton of the Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District, John Brooks of the Clearwater County Board of Commissioners, and Jack Graba a public BWSR member from Wadena County.

The Panel met four times in Saint Paul between April and July of 1990. Staff support was provided by the BWSR. Panel deliberations focused on MAWD and BWSR roles in addressing watershed district needs in the following nine areas: 1) Accounting, 2) Annual Reporting, 3) Training Workshops, 4) Legislation, 5) Communications, 6) State/Federal Agency Relationships, 7) Program Evaluation, 8) Technical Assistance, and 9) Personnel Management. The Panel's findings and recommendations are organized under these nine categories.

Improving training workshop opportunities for managers and strengthening working relationships between watershed districts and soil and water conservation districts came up many times during the Panel's discussions. In the Panel's view, these two needs are very high priorities.

We urge all MAWD and BWSR members to read this report and make use of its recommendations in developing future training activities and policy initiatives.

MAWD Members

Al Dornfeld

Dean Oleson

Gerald VanAmburg

BWSR Members

John Boulton

John Brooks

Jack Graba

MAWD/BWSR Blue Ribbon Panel Report

Findings and Recommendations

ACCOUNTING

Findings:

- * Sound accounting practices and preparation of quality annual financial reports are important in all watershed districts to keep managers well-informed of their financial position and to be accountable for public funds.
- * A uniform watershed district financial reporting format is needed to make district data comparable.

Recommendations:

- * MAWD and BWSR should work jointly to develop, distribute, and promote the use of a model uniform accounting system and financial reporting format for watershed districts.

ANNUAL REPORTING

Findings:

- * Annual reports are an important tool for recording and communicating the activities and accomplishments of watershed districts.
- * Preparation of quality annual activity reports can help districts and the BWSR better inform interested persons and organizations about watershed district activities.

Recommendations:

- * MAWD and BWSR should encourage watershed districts to prepare quality annual activity reports in a timely manner, and in a general format consistent with the BWSR's model annual report.

TRAINING WORKSHOPS

Findings:

- * Improving training opportunities for managers is a high priority need because water management issues are complex and water laws and programs are continually changing.
- * MAWD needs to be an active participant in designing training opportunities for managers.

Recommendations:

- * "Basic" manager training needs should be addressed at the MAWD Annual Meeting where the highest number of managers are present.
- * A MAWD representative should be a member of the BWSR "Training Team".
- * BWSR should develop a pocket handbook for managers with review and input from watershed districts.

LEGISLATION

Findings:

- * It is important for MAWD and BWSR to fully communicate on legislative issues to avoid "crossing wires" on important legislative initiatives and to maximize opportunities for joint support of needed legislation.

Recommendations:

- * MAWD should generally take the lead role in pursuing amendments to the Watershed Act because it directly represents district needs and interests.
- * BWSR should extend an open invitation to MAWD to request BWSR sponsorship of those legislative initiatives best-suited to introduction as "agency" bills.

COMMUNICATIONS

Findings:

- * MAWD needs to maintain its own newsletter to get important information to managers in a timely and effective manner.

- * MAWD participation at BWSR meetings and BWSR participation in MAWD meetings, both in advisory roles, is important to maintaining effective communication between the two organizations.

- * Managers and district staff would benefit from being provided with better information about Soil and Water Conservation District roles and how SWCD programs can help watershed districts achieve their resource management objectives.

Recommendations:

- * MAWD and BWSR should continue to participate in each others' meetings to ensure good communications are maintained.

- * BWSR should provide watershed districts with better information on SWCD roles and programs and promote cooperative working relationships between the two organizations.

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY RELATIONSHIPS

Findings:

- * Managers need to be kept up-to-date about state and federal resource management agency programs and policies, and agencies need to become more aware of watershed district activities, so opportunities for use of agency programs are not missed and better coordination occurs in permit administration.

Recommendations:

- * MAWD and BWSR should get other agencies more involved in manager training activities.

- * BWSR should list other state and federal resource agencies in its Directory.

- * MAWD and BWSR should examine ways to ensure good communication among watershed districts and state and federal regulatory agencies in permit actions.

PROGRAM EVALUATION

Findings:

- * BWSR's program evaluation process is a valuable service to watershed districts interested in having an outside party assess their overall operating procedures and provide constructive suggestions where appropriate.

Recommendations:

- * BWSR should continue to conduct district program evaluations upon request.
- * MAWD should inform watershed districts about the program evaluation process and encourage interested districts to request this service.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Findings:

- * Watershed districts need to utilize competent technical advice in planning, implementing projects, and administering permit programs.
- * Watershed districts would benefit from a greater sharing of technical information and sources of technical assistance.

Recommendations:

- * Watershed districts should continue to rely primarily on their own employees and consultants for technical support.
- * The proposed managers handbook should contain a description of BWSR staff and the types of technical assistance they can provide to watershed districts.
- * MAWD and BWSR should consider co-sponsoring periodic meetings of small groups of watershed districts located in the same region to facilitate sharing of information among districts and better understanding of BWSR staff roles.

PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Findings:

- * Some watershed districts have full-time employees and would benefit ~~from~~ from additional BWSR guidance on personnel issues.

Recommendations:

- * The proposed managers handbook should contain general guidance on the topic of personnel management and inform watershed districts of sources of more detailed guidance on personnel issues.

Interagency Cooperation - Three Main Levels

There are several levels of cooperation that you may be familiar with. Although you may not have named them or given them much thought, hopefully this handout can give you some insight on where you are and what you can change to move to the next level.

- I. The "That's not my program" level - In this level each agency works fairly independently of each other and does their best to stay out of the way of the others.

Cooperation on this level is characterized by:

- * Giving individuals, who request help that you do not provide, the name of the agency that can help the individual.
- * Answering questions from other agencies when they call with a specific question.
- * Inviting other agencies to your meetings when directed to or when you need something from them.
- * Having a landowner mention a program or service provided by another agency that you were not aware of.
- * Crossing over boundaries is prohibited; if it's their program, let them handle it.
- * Working together seems very awkward when it's forced upon you.
- * You wouldn't even think about asking for help from another agency.

- II. The "I know those guys" level - In this level each agency is still working independently for the most part. However, they are somewhat familiar with the other's services and programs and may even know some of the names of the other agency personnel.

Cooperation on this level is characterized by:

- * Giving individuals, who request help that you do not provide, the name and location of the agency that can help them and the name of the person or persons they should ask for.
- * Sending information you receive to other agencies that you think may be affected by or have an interest in.
- * Inviting members from other agencies to your meetings because you feel they may be affected by the outcome of the meeting.
- * Receiving information from other agencies about new services or programs after they are in effect.

- * Agencies will cross over boundaries if requested. The first agency tried to do it on their own and discovered someone else could probably help them out.
- * Working together is somewhat common on very general items:
 - information and education programs
 - programs requiring more than one agency
- * If the need arises you would seriously consider requesting assistance from another agency but usually only after all else fails.

III. The "We will get ya fixed up" level - In this level each agency still works independently in their area of expertise. However, the agencies often work together to accomplish the goal of land management.

Cooperation on this level is characterized by:

- * Giving landowners, who request help that you do not provide, the name and location of the agency that can along with the name and phone number of who they should contact. This is often followed by letting the other agency know of the individual's request and maybe the phone number of the landowner.
- * Informing other agencies of new policies or programs that may be in effect in the future.
- * Inviting other agencies to your meetings because you feel they may have valuable input in the meeting or because you think they may be interested.
- * Informing landowners about the services or programs that another agency provides that may be useful to them.
- * Agencies don't have definite boundaries. Each one does specific tasks or handles specific programs. However, if one agency can answer a landowner's question immediately, they will do so. Agencies try to coordinate activities to save time and expense as well as promote each other's programs.
- * Working together is commonplace - referrals of landowners, etc. are frequent. Agencies may send individuals to work with one of the others to help them understand that agency's programs.
- * If the need arises, you wouldn't hesitate to request assistance, even if the other agency isn't normally involved with the program.