

**Clean Water Council  
Budget and Outcomes Committee (BOC) Meeting Agenda  
Friday, January 5, 2024 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

**Webex Only**

*2023 BOC Members: Steve Besser (BOC Chair), Dick Brainerd (BOC Vice-Chair), Gary Burdorf, Steve Christensen, Warren Formo, Brad Gausman, Holly Hatlewick, Annie Knight*

**9:30 Regular Business**

- Introductions
- Approve agenda & most recent minutes
- Chair and Staff update
  - Minnesota County Geologic Atlas end-of-year report in packet
  - Suggested programs that you'd like extra info on for proposal process

**9:45 (INFORMATION ITEM) BWSR Competitive Grant Awards for 2024**

- Annie Felix-Gerth, BWSR

**10:15 BREAK**

**10:30 (ACTION ITEM) Clean Water Fund Supplemental Budget Requests & Recommendations for Full Council**

**11:45 Public Comment**

**12:00 Adjourn**

**February/March Meetings:**

- CWF Performance Report (February for sure)
- DNR Restoration Evaluation
- Groundwater Protection Rule Update
- No-till progress: [Jodi Dejong Hughes](#) at WRC and U of MN and soil health
- Contaminants of Emerging Concern (esp. PFAS, mercury, pharmaceuticals, microplastics)
  - [Mercury | U.S. Geological Survey \(usgs.gov\)](#)
  - [Reducing mercury releases | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency \(state.mn.us\)](#)

**Budget and Outcomes Committee Meeting Summary**  
**Clean Water Council (Council)**  
**December 1, 2023, 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

**Committee Members present:** Steve Besser (Committee Vice Chair), Dick Brainerd, Gary Burdorf, Steve Christenson, Warren Formo, Brad Gausman, Holly Hatlewick, and Annie Knight.

**Members absent:** No members absent.

**Others present:** John Barten, Kim Kaiser (MDA), Margaret Wagner (MDA), Anne Nelson (MDH), Tannie Eshenaur (MDH), Jen Kader (Met Council), Melissa Lewis (MPCA), Justin Hanson (BWSR), Jason Moeckel (DNR), Joe Pavelko (Outdoor Heritage Council), Mark Johnson (Outdoor Heritage Council)

To watch the WebEx video recording of this meeting, please go to <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/clean-water-council/policy-ad-hoc-committee>, or contact [Brianna Frisch](#).

**Regular Business**

- Introductions
- Approval of the December 1 agenda and November 3 meeting summary, moved by Dick Brainerd, seconded by Steve Christenson. Motion carries.
- Chair and Staff update:
  - The Secretary of State's Office has posted online the seven positions that are open on the Council.
  - There is a letter the Council was cc'd on from petitions to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding drinking water in southeastern Minnesota. The letter was addressed to three state agencies who received a letter from EPA to respond within thirty days. Those that sent the petition to the EPA would like to be part of the process for responding and to help put together a work plan.
  - A second draft of the drainage policy statement was created. A lot of time was spent connecting with drainage authorities. The second draft has been well received.
  - The biennial Clean Water Fund Performance Report will be out in draft from the state agencies. This includes many measures and an executive summary.
  - The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has provided a few different articles about the Impaired Waters List, and they did a great job at highlighting how the waters became unimpaired and delisted. Please feel free to share those out as well.
  - The groundbreaking of the Fairmont Chain of Lakes Treatment Train Project was Monday, November 27. These used Clean Water Funds (CWFs). It is a \$3 million dollar project to decrease peak flows and treat runoff from 3,200 acres before it enters in their chain of lakes.

**Clean Water Fund Supplemental Budget Requests & Recommendations for Full Council (Webex 00:17:00)**

- The budget forecast will be out December 6<sup>th</sup>. At the last BOC meeting, there was a request to provide recommendations for a supplemental budget up to \$10 million.
- The top items discussed at the last BOC meeting included those focused on PFAS. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) was seeking additional funding for monitoring PFAS in fish. The MPCA has a request for monitoring PFAS, which is to backfill cuts due to the Riverwatch program direct appropriation from the Legislature. The Council had cut funds out of the AgBMP Loan Program, so \$402,000 would help to make that request full. The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) is also asking for \$384,000 funds to provide a guidance on PFAS in fish. New items would support a response to the EPA petition, including MDH funding for testing, mitigation, and response to elevated nitrates in private wells (\$5,000,000) and funding to the Minnesota Department of Agriculture to accelerate/implement their Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan in southeast Minnesota (\$1,000,000). The total is \$7,187,000.
- The Interagency Coordination Team (ICT) met yesterday with their feedback. The MDH wants to express appreciation for the funding of their two pilot projects in a previous biennium. One was focused on arsenic in west central Minnesota, while the other was done in six of the eight counties that were on the petition. This gave them a lot of lessons on how to manage income-based mitigation over a ten-year timeline. They have talked a lot with the TAP IN collaborative based in Olmsted County, which is an alliance between local public health agencies and soil and water conservation districts (SWCD). They have

different skill sets and work together well. MDH proposes three phases to the EPA response on nitrate contamination in southeast Minnesota. First is an immediate response with MPCA and MDA from January to June of 2024. The MDH will handle communication and outreach, including notifications for wells that exceed the 10 Mg/L. They are also working with federal, state, and local partners on alternate water options. They have discussed a peer-to-peer private well steward program with the University of Minnesota, modeled after the water stewards or master gardener programs. A work plan will go to EPA in January. The \$5 million goes to this first year of likely ten years of work. There will be a lot to learn along the way. We really appreciate the local partnerships and engagement. It supports the idea that we will build a sustainable system that will persist into the future, not just a one-off reaction to this EPA letter.

- Margaret Wagner, MDA: Tannie outlined the needs to respond to elevated nitrates with immediate, mid-term, and long-term ongoing responses. Implementing the Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan (NFMP) by working with landowners and the ag community is a long-term strategy. The NFMP is the state's blueprint for addressing nitrate. It is a voluntary strategy to share best practices at the township scale that are most protective of groundwater. The process is similar to the groundwater protection rule for drinking water supply management areas (DWSMAs) for municipal or community water supplies. MDA has prioritized implementation of the GPR with current staff and resources. MDA responds immediately in level two communities (when nitrate exceeds 8 ppm). They have created 18 local advisory teams. Right now, we do not have staff and resources for both types of work at the same time. To accelerate the NFMP, they would need to hire staff focused on that work and build out that infrastructure and partnership with local partners. The MDA has a strategy so funding could accelerate progress, but it would be in addition to the current appropriation.

#### *Questions/Comments:*

- Steve Christenson: Is the USDA's Rural Utilities Service involved or engaged in this issue? *Answer:* They assist community water systems. It is a potential funding source.
- Steve Besser: This is a crisis right now that requires quick action. If we have the increased budget the agencies are sharing where they think the funding would be most valuable, I wonder if anyone has any criticisms of this list in terms of what the agencies have presented?
- Steve Besser: Row crops require nitrogen. In the past, there was more animal pasture used, and more cover crops as part of the process. What is an appropriate crop to grow on this land rather than the row crops and markets dictating what is grown on the land? *Answer:* State agencies cannot tell private landowners what to grow. State agencies promote cover crops when appropriate. We can work with the individual producers to minimize their risk as they change their cropping systems and provide incentives. We are big supporters of the Forever Green Initiatives at the UMN.
- Dick Brainerd: As you look at the supplemental request for funding, I think you are right about the requests from the state agencies. I am not sure we should get into too much detail on ranking them. We have asked the state agencies their needs, and this is what they are telling us. We have not spent much time talking about the remaining amount (\$2,813,000) if we receive \$10 million surplus.
- Steve Christenson: Were there any requests from the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) or Met Council for any of the supplemental budget? *Answer from Jason Moeckel DNR:* In the Interagency Coordination Team meeting yesterday we went through each agency and neither BWSR, Public Facilities Authority (PFA), or Met Council had specific requests they wanted to bring forward at this time.
- Jason Moeckel, DNR: Regarding the DNR's PFAS in fish request, we would need more like \$90,000 instead of the current \$75,000 request. It took longer to get that final number.
- Paul Gardner: Does the MDH expect any funding needs from local government? Or should the \$5 million be higher to accommodate local needs? *Answer:* The majority of the \$5 million would not stay at MDH; we will just have technical staff to support the local partners. Most of it goes out to the TAP IN collaborative. The bottled water piece is hopefully through the emergency preparedness funding, and we do not know if that comes as funding or provision of water.
- Paul Gardner: Is there a state coordinating entity or person for this effort? *Answer:* Right now, the MDH water policy center is providing leadership in this effort (three staff), and it is being done jointly. One full-time employee is built into the \$5 million is a project manager because it is a huge undertaking.
- Brad Gausman: If the Council did not have this supplemental funding available, where would these funds come from for the state agencies to do the required work? I am thinking about the proper use of these

funds. Would another source of funding be appropriate at this time? There is a lot to think about with this area, considering we know where the nitrates are coming from. *Answer:* The Legislature can do anything. It could be general funds or emergency funds.

- Paul Gardner: For the legislative process, there are several steps in the budgeting process. The Council's recommendation, the budget supplemental process (which may be skipped if it is not very large), and what the Legislature decides to do with the budget. Often, the supplemental budget items show up late, and the legislators have their own ideas about what they want to fund. Some years legislative fiscal analysts have reached out to Paul, asking for any extra requests, and he can give an update at that time. The Council may want to have something that is able to soak up any additional funding. Alternatively, you may want to have priorities, so you can cut out funding if there is less supplemental funding. In addition, the full Council would like to see some more details on each of these programs the supplemental funding would go to, since some are larger amounts. The agencies can provide some more information too.
  - Jason Moeckel, DNR: We do not know the total supplemental budget at this time, so the ICT did not want to anticipate too much. It is good to hear what the Council is interested in as well.
  - Other Council member ideas for supplemental funds include Upper Mississippi River protection (Christenson), in-lake treatment (Barten), stormwater research (Barten), small grants program – Water Legacy Partners (Barten), and carp removal (Barten). A review of the policy statements may help direct this area as well.
  - The BOC recorded these agency requests for future consideration.
    - MDH \$5,000,000 for testing, mitigation, and response to elevated nitrates in private wells
    - MDA \$1,000,000 for accelerate/implement the NFMP in southeast Minnesota.
    - MDA \$402,000 for AgBMP Loan Program
    - MDH \$384,000 for guidance on PFAS in fish
    - MPCA \$326,000 for PFAS monitoring to backfill cuts due to River Watch direct appropriation.
    - DNR \$90,000 for PFAS in fish
    - Totaling to \$7,202,000. If there is a \$10,000,000 supplemental budget, it would leave \$2,789,000 left to decide.

#### Restoration Evaluation Report

- *This item was moved to a future date instead.*

#### **Public Comment (Webex 02:10:30)**

- No public comment.

#### **Adjournment (Webex 02:12:00)**



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## MINNESOTA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

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**TO:** PAUL GARDNER, CLEAN WATER COUNCIL  
**FROM:** BARBARA LUSARDI  
**SUBJECT:** MGS CGA PROGRESS REPORT  
**DATE:** 12/19/2023

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### CGA PROGRAM AND FINANCIAL STATUS

The MGS County Geologic Atlas Program has active projects in 26 counties. Atlases are just getting underway in Beltrami, Martin, Cottonwood, LeSueur, and Itasca counties. Locating has started or will start in the coming months but MGS work will not start until sometime in the next two years. We anticipate starting 3 new counties per year as we move forward. Clearwater County is already scheduled to start in 2026.

Two more counties (Dakota and Lincoln) have been printed. The only task that remains is to compile all the digital files for DVD and online applications. Pipestone is nearing completion and should be ready to print in the coming months.

The projects in Pennington, Red Lake, Polk, Chippewa, Yellow Medicine, Douglas, Grant, Waseca, Faribault, Lake of the Woods and Ramsey counties are getting to the later stages, with some counties further along than others. The focus is on map compilation, cross sections, and sand distribution models. Lyon, Murray, and Swift counties completed drilling, logging and sampling of core this past fall. Data from those samples will be analyzed and compiled into maps and cross sections over the next several months.

As of December 18, 2023:

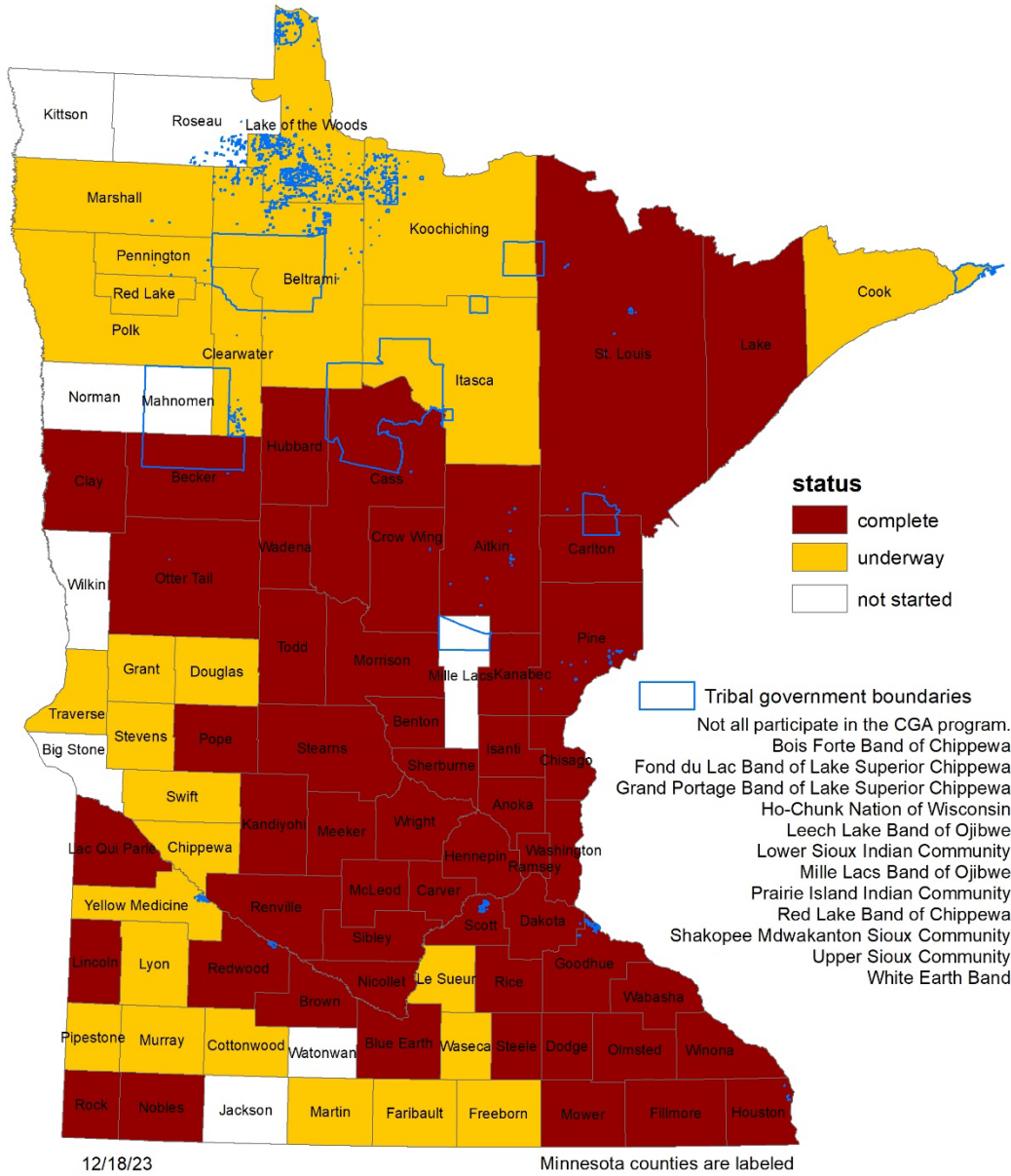
\$597,927 carryover  
\$500,000 2023 award  
~~-\$584,452 expenses incurred since July 1, 2023~~  
\$ 513,475 balance

MGS hosts an [Open Data Portal](#) on which many of our county geologic atlases are presented as “Story Maps” that allow for direct access of the data without any special software or interface.



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## Status of County Geologic Atlas Part A



#	Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Grantee	Award (\$)	Abstract	Score
1	C24-0014	Centerville Lake Internal Phosphorus Load Reduction Project	Rice Creek WD	\$ 954,500	The Rice Creek Watershed District is proposing to control internal phosphorus loading by inactivating sediment phosphorus with aluminum sulfate (alum). The proposed alum treatment targets the largest source of phosphorus to Centerville Lake, and is the most impactful and cost-effective tool available to restore water clarity in Centerville Lake. The proposed project will provide control of sediment phosphorus release and result in attainment of state water quality standards. Most importantly, the proposed project will control nuisance algae blooms, restoring an important and highly-used regional resource.	90.41
2	C24-0034	Woodland Ave/ Hartley Park Green Infrastructure benefitting Tischer Creek	St. Louis County	\$ 500,000	The Woodland Ave/Hartley Park Green Infrastructure project will improve water quality and aquatic habitat in Tischer Creek, a cold-water trout stream that empties into Lake Superior at Glensheen Mansion. The project will treat urban runoff from 110-acres of a residential and commercial area that is intercepted by the Woodland Avenue storm sewer and currently discharged, untreated, from a 3' diameter pipe directly into the Creek, resulting in a visible sediment plume. Tischer Creek is listed as impaired for E. coli (bacteria), with total suspended solids (TSS) levels just below the water quality standard. Treatment will be provided via a 212,096 cubic foot capacity green infrastructure system to be constructed on City of Duluth property.	90.23
3	C24-0027	Sunrise Chain of Lakes Shoreland Stabilization – Phase 2	Anoka CD	\$ 107,000	This project targets the Sunrise River chain of lakes in NE Anoka County in the northern Twin Cities Metro. The chain includes larger recreational lakes (Martin, Linwood, & Coon Lakes) & smaller, shallower lakes best known for fish & wildlife (Island & Typo Lakes). These lakes, except for Coon & Island, are impaired & drain to the Sunrise & St. Croix Rivers where nutrient reductions are regional priorities. We will install at least 300 linear feet of shoreline stabilization including native aquatic and near shore plants. Measurable outcomes will include 8 lbs/yr of phosphorus and 5 tons of sediment reduction.	89.59

#	Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Grantee	Award (\$)	Abstract	Score
4	C24-0045	Interstate Valley Creek Streambank Stabilization and Stormwater BMP Project	Dakota SWCD	\$ 585,000	This project will install streambank stabilization practices as well as stormwater BMPs to reduce stormwater volume along Interstate Valley Creek (IVC) in Mendota Heights to benefit both IVC and the Mississippi River. The area has substantial active bank erosion, carrying sediment to the Mississippi River, which is impaired for total suspended solids (TSS). The project will also reduce E-coli from reaching IVC, addressing that impairment. The project includes three large scale streambank stabilization practices. It also includes three large scale stormwater bioretention and weir creation projects to reduce in-stream erosion and address the root causes of erosion: excess stormwater volume and peak flows. The six projects (shown in the attached graphic) will reduce total suspended solids (TSS) by 284 tons/year and phosphorus (TP) by 270 lbs/year.	89.14
5	C24-0065	Mustinka River Rehabilitation - Phase 2b	Bois de Sioux WD	\$ 1,000,000	The Mustinka River Rehabilitation Project, or Phase 2b of the Redpath Project, will complete the replacement the existing ditch with a 300-foot wide, 260 acre floodplain corridor with a 6.7-mile meandering channel focused on natural channel design. The project will provide approximately 34 acres of constructed wetland habitat and 226 acres of native upland buffer areas within the stream channel and associated floodplain areas, permanently protected by the Bois de Sioux Watershed District.	88.91
6	C24-0010	FY24 CWF Alimagnet Lake Alum Treatment Project	Vermillion River Watershed JPO	\$ 287,000	The Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization and partners will perform an alum treatment in Alimagnet Lake to reduce the amount of internal phosphorus load within the lake. Alimagnet Lake is a nutrient (phosphorus) impaired water in Apple Valley and Burnsville with significant public use that receives stormwater runoff from a 985-acre urban subwatershed.	88.82

#	Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Grantee	Award (\$)	Abstract	Score
7	C24-0053	South Branch Buffalo River Watershed Restoration – Phase 2	Buffalo-Red River WD	\$ 450,000	The Buffalo-Red River Watershed District will partner with the Wilkin SWCD, West Otter Tail SWCD, NRCS, and landowners to install 60 sediment BMPs (water and sediment control basins, grade stabilization structures, grassed waterways) that are contributing sediment to the South Branch Buffalo River. When these 60 gullies are stabilized, sediment loading within the watershed will be reduced by 3,300 tons/yr and total phosphorus will be reduced by 370 lbs/year.	88.77
8	C24-0020	Lower Coon Creek Corridor Restoration	Coon Creek WD	\$ 445,000	The proposed project will restore 0.4 miles of Lower Coon Creek within the Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park. The downstream-most reach, Lower Coon Creek, is in its natural, meandered state, but is presently unstable and experiencing high rates of erosion due to increased runoff volumes and rates. The proposed project will halt further incision using grade stabilization cross vanes and improve floodplain connectivity by excavating former oxbows to create access to flood prone areas. To further address stream instability and improve habitat, actively eroding streambanks will be stabilized. Additionally, buckthorn removal paired with native plantings promote the growth of low-lying, deep-rooted vegetation along previously bare stream banks and riparian areas.	88.73
9	C24-0003	2024 Lower Clearwater Planning Region Water Quality Improvement Projects	Red Lake SWCD	\$ 270,810	Red Lake County SWCD has targeted ten sites within the Lower Clearwater Planning Region for implementation of structural agricultural practices based on data analysis. The structural agricultural practices will include, but are not limited to, grade stabilization structures, grassed waterways, and water & sediment control basins. The implementation of these practices is estimated to reduce sediment loading in the Lower Clearwater River by 318 tons/year (catchment outlet). Further downstream, the City of East Grand Forks pulls its drinking water from the Red Lake River, making these projects a regional concern as well.	88.68

#	Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Grantee	Award (\$)	Abstract	Score
10	C24-0081	Big Carnelian Lake Stormwater Quality Improvements Phase II	Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix WD	\$ 216,000	This project proposes to collect and treat 4.55 acres of stormwater flowing directly into Big Carnelian Lake with no water quality treatment. Four bioretention basins will reduce annual discharge by 2-acre feet and reduce 7.4 lbs. total phosphorus and 2.9 tons of sediment discharging into Big Carnelian Lake each year. Big Carnelian Lake is a high-quality recreational lake with a public access and declining water quality trends. These practices address significant sources of untreated urban stormwater discharging into the lake.	88.50
11	C24-0002	July Avenue Feedlot	Comfort Lake-Forest Lake WD	\$ 90,000	This project will implement cover crops and livestock waste management practices on a farm/feedlot in southern Chisago County. Proposed practices include: cover crops, roof runoff management, clean water diversion, waste management system, and vegetated treatment area. The proposed project is estimated to reduce approximately 61 lb/yr of watershed phosphorus loading to School Lake, which discharges through a stream to Little Comfort Lake.	88.45
12	C24-0018	2023 Lower Otter Tail River Gully Stabilization Project	Wilkin SWCD	\$ 195,000	The Wilkin Soil and Water Conservation District will partner with the Buffalo Red River Watershed District and landowners to stabilize 20 high priority gullies that are contributing sediment to the Lower Otter Tail River (LOTR). The LOTR is a significant source of sediment, and this project would provide 850 tons/year (approximately 9%) of the 10-year goal identified. This project would reduce phosphorus levels by 786 lbs/yr. or approximately 60% of the 10-year goal identified. The Lower 8.2 miles of the Otter Tail River is listed as an impaired water for exceeding the turbidity standard for aquatic life.	88.14

#	Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Grantee	Award (\$)	Abstract	Score
13	C24-0075	South Oak Pond Water Quality Improvement Project	St Louis Park, City of	\$ 350,000	The South Oak Pond Water Quality Project will reduce total phosphorus and total suspended solids loading by pumping water from the South Oak Pond to an underground filtration system prior to discharging to the impaired Minnehaha Creek and Lake Hiawatha. A new pump would be added to the existing South Oak Pond lift station outlet wet well, which would pump water to an underground vault with filtration cartridges designed to handle the pumped flows and anticipated TP/TSS loads. The outlet from the underground filtration vault would be connected back into the existing pond outlet pipe and would continue to discharge downstream. Vegetation and shoreline improvements including invasive species removal and stabilization of any shoreline erosion along the pond would coincide with the water quality treatment system construction to provide additional benefits to the area.	87.59
14	C24-0047	Seminary Fen Ravine C-2 Restoration	Chaska, City of	\$ 615,000	Seminary Fen, a 600-acre complex in Carver County, supports one of only 500 calcareous fens in the world and is one of the highest quality calcareous fens in southern Minnesota. The C-2 Ravine is the 2nd most severely eroded ravine along Seminary Fen, and the proposed improvements to C-2 are estimated to reduce sediment loads by 322 tons per year and phosphorus loads by 370 pounds per year. This project will restore the C-2 ravine in the Seminary Fen by constructing a stormwater detention basin immediately upstream from the ravine, which will provide stormwater storage for larger precipitation events and control the discharge rate to the ravine. The side slopes of the ravine will be graded to a slope that will support herbaceous growth and will be vegetated with state seed mix that provide robust root structures for soil stability.	86.86



#	Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Grantee	Award (\$)	Abstract	Score
15	C24-0058	Lower Otter Tail River Restoration – Head-Cut Stabilization	Buffalo-Red River WD	\$ 400,000	The Buffalo-Red River Watershed District will partner with the Wilkin SWCD and landowners in a continued effort to restore 8.2 miles of the Lower Ottertail River that has experienced degradation and surface water impairment since it's channelization in the early 1950's. This application's priority is to address a head-cut along the upper end of 8.2 miles stream restoration project. This improve water quality by reducing sediment associated with streambank failure, erosion, and channelization, and to restore some of the river's natural flood reduction features. When stabilized, sediment load to the river will be reduced by 2,500 tons/yr, and total phosphorus will be reduced by 300 lbs/yr.	86.68
16	C24-0067	Whetstone River Restoration	Upper Minnesota River WD	\$ 600,000	The Upper Minnesota River Watershed District is leading an effort to restore a historic segment of the Whetstone River, including its' original confluence with the Minnesota River. The Whetstone River was rerouted into Big Stone Lake in the 1930's to promote and sustain lake levels. Unfortunately, increased runoff and erosion within the Whetstone River have led to diminished water quality in Big Stone Lake. While much of the Whetstone River drainage area is in South Dakota, the water quality benefits will manifest in Big Stone Lake, which is a MN/SD border water and the Headwaters of the Minnesota River. The Whetstone River Restoration project will provide water quality benefits to surface waters in Minnesota by hydrologically reconnecting the Whetstone River to its' historic channel and natural floodplain. This project will complete floodplain establishment and channel restoration work in Minnesota.	86.36



#	Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Grantee	Award (\$)	Abstract	Score
17	C24-0030	Lake Lizzie Phosphorous & Sediment Reduction Project	Otter Tail, West SWCD	\$ 124,000	Lake Lizzie has been identified as a protection goal in the Otter Tail River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. Lake Lizzie currently doesn't have any impairments for sediment or nutrients and is an economically significant lake in the area. These grant funds will be used to install 9 water and sediment control basins (wascobs) and 3 grassed waterways on 2 fields located in a high priority area for phosphorus loading in the Lake Lizzie watershed. Through the installation of these practices, we can anticipate a reduction of 3.6 lbs/year of phosphorous and 21.1 t/year of sediment, delivered to the outlet of Lake Lizzie which is the Pelican River.	86.05
18	C24-0064	2024 GCW TMDL Implementation	Chisago SWCD	\$ 250,000	East Rush Lake, West Rush Lake, and Goose Lake are three of the poorest lakes in Chisago County in terms of water quality, yet also some of the most heavily used lakes for recreation. All three are impaired for nutrients (total phosphorus) and rank at or near the bottom of the list of lakes in the county when all parameters are compared. This project will provide technical and financial assistance in the watershed to do targeted implementation of at least 20 Best Management Practices to reduce watershed runoff phosphorus loading to North/South Goose and East/West Rush Lakes and the St. Croix River by a minimum of 140 Lbs/Yr.	85.64
19	C24-0078	Valley Creek Mainstem Restoration Project	Valley Branch WD	\$ 462,000	The Valley Creek Mainstem Restoration Project will continue to protect and improve Valley Creek, a world-class trout stream located in the Valley Branch Watershed District (VBWD). The project will increase the creek's floodplain connectivity by reshaping 600 feet of the creek's banks and removing approximately 12,100 cubic yards of material. This will reduce the erosiveness of the waterpower and annually prevent 8.5 tons of sediment from eroding and silting over trout spawning sites. The project will establish a 60-footwide floodplain with native vegetation, replacing buckthorn, burdock, reed canary grass, and other invasive species. This will improve nesting habitat for birds, pollinator habitat, and a wildlife corridor.	85.50

#	Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Grantee	Award (\$)	Abstract	Score
20	C24-0033	City of Baudette Stormwater BMPs	Lake of the Woods SWCD	\$ 150,000	The City of Baudette is located on the shores of Baudette Bay. Baudette Bay is a widened portion of the Baudette River where it joins the Rainy River, an international waterbody. Baudette Bay is a sensitive estuary which is listed as impaired for low dissolved oxygen. The City of Baudette is partnering with the Soil and Water Conservation District and the MN Department of Transportation to install two stormwater treatment structures (stormceptors) in conjunction with the reconstruction of road and sewer infrastructure under and adjacent to State Highway 72. These treatment structures will help to lower total suspended solids entering Baudette Bay.	85.36
21	C24-0061	Goose Lake Water Quality Improvement Project	Valley Branch WD	\$ 150,000	The proposed project includes the application of alum to Goose Lake, which will de-list the lake from the MPCA's impaired waters list due to excessive nutrients. Goose Lake is located at the entrance to Washington County's Lake Elmo Park Reserve. This project is expected to reduce the combined internal phosphorus load at Goose Lake South and North by an average of 127 pounds over the water year and 105 pounds during the growing season (which is an 80% reduction in the internal load).	85.14
22	C24-0046	Water Storage and Water Quality for CD 59 and Beaver Creek	Renville SWCD	\$ 773,133	The proposed project will be in conjunction with an improvement project to the 103E county ditch branch 309 and branch C of Renville County Ditch 59 (CD 59) system. The proposed project will construct three water and sediment control basins (WASCOB) and three ponds to provide temporary and permanent water storage for the CD 59 system, which flows directly into Beaver Creek. The construction and installation of the conservation practices will provide temporary and permanent water storage and reduce peak flows that allow sediment (TSS), nitrogen (N) and phosphorus (P) to directly enter impaired CD 59 and Beaver Creek. CD 59 is impaired for dissolved oxygen (DO).	84.41

#	Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Grantee	Award (\$)	Abstract	Score
23	C24-0060	FY24 CWF Keller Lake Targeted Stormwater Treatment Project	Apple Valley, City of	\$ 313,169	The City of Apple Valley will continue efforts to improve water quality in Keller Lake by expanding Whitney Pond (KL-P2) to provide phosphorus load reductions contributing to the lake's nutrient impairment. Whitney Pond is a 2-acre stormwater basin located at Burnsville's Lac Lavon Park and Keller Park in Apple Valley. The pond treats stormwater from a significant portion of the Keller Lake watershed in Apple Valley that would otherwise drain to Keller Lake untreated. Keller Lake is a DNR classified natural environment lake that has been listed on the impaired waters list for nutrients since 2002.	84.32

**TOTAL \$ 9,287,612**

#	Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Grantee	Award (\$)	Abstract	Score
1	C24-0043	Street Sweeping St. Cloud for Clean Drinking Water	St. Cloud, City of	\$270,000.00	The City of St. Cloud draws water out of the Mississippi River for its sole drinking water supply. The quality of raw water fluctuates seasonally. Spring runoff and large rainfall events are the biggest contributors to poor raw water quality. Sediments, organics, and other contaminants get washed off the landscape and into the drainage systems, especially in urban areas. The City will purchase a new street sweeper to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the City's street sweeping program within Priority Area A of the City's Drinking Water Supply Management Area. The new street sweeper will be effective at removing sediments, organic matter produced by trees, and other attached pollutants such as phosphorus. Properly timed and efficient street sweeping is the most cost-effective stormwater pollution prevention best management practice to protect the Mississippi River, St. Cloud's drinking water source.	88.73
2	C24-0069	FY 2023 CWF Projects & Practices Drinking Water Quality Application	Faribault, City of	\$250,000.00	This project will ensure that two old municipal wells within the city of Faribault are properly sealed. Well unique number 220997 is a 1000-foot-deep multi- aquifer well which is located within the Inner well management Zone (200') of Faribault well #1 which is a primary well for the city. Well unique number 277577 is a 750' deep multi- aquifer well located in the same area as the other well but outside the Inner Well Management Zone for any existing public water supply wells. These wells are thought to have been constructed in the late 1890's based upon available information. The main purpose of this grant request is to make sure that these wells do not negatively impact any public and private wells or groundwater resources within the region.	88.68

3	C24-0011	2024 Dakota County Well Seal Program	Dakota County	\$90,000.00	In Dakota County, groundwater supplies more than 90 percent of the drinking water. In order to protect Dakota County's primary drinking water source, this project proposes to support the County well seal grant cost-share program. The project will provide up-to 50 percent cost-share funding to reimburse landowners for the sealing of unused wells. The goal is to permanently seal between 30-40 unused/abandoned wells throughout the county. Unsealed water supply wells that are not in use pose a threat to health, safety, and the environment by providing a potential conduit for contamination to go from the surface down to drinking water aquifers.	88.50
4	C24-0035	Oronoco Private Well Sealing Round 2	Olmsted County	\$240,000.00	This project is targeting protection of the City of Oronoco's municipal drinking water supply. This public water supply is served by two wells (Well 676676 and Well 733086) which are both located in areas characterized as high vulnerability areas for groundwater contamination. In order to transition Oronoco residents to a safer and more dependable water supply, approximately 75 wells within the Oronoco Drinking Water Supply Management Areas (DWSMA) and sensitive groundwater vulnerability area will be sealed.	87.55
5	C24-0077	Vulnerable Non-Community Public Water Supply Protection In Mississippi Outwash Plains Using Cover Crops Phase 2	Morrison SWCD	\$292,500.00	Morrison County SWCD has identified 221 public (non-municipal) water supplies within targeted townships in Morrison and Benton Counties which include places of worship, restaurants, office spaces, bars, daycares and campgrounds. The targeted townships have 10% of the wells over the EPA threshold of 10 ppm (as identified by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Targeted Township Testing Program). The goal is to reduce the risk of nitrate contamination in some of the 221 vulnerable public water supplies wells in this area by implementing 2500 acres of cover crop each year for three years.	86.91

6	C24-0063	Nitrate and Water Use Reduction in Targeted Sherburne County DWSMAs and Townships	Sherburne SWCD	\$180,000.00	The goal of the project is the reduction of nitrate and a decrease in the use of groundwater by promoting and implementing best management practices in 6 townships: Clear Lake, Haven, Palmer, Santiago, Becker, and Big Lake Townships. The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) has also identified Wellhead Protection Areas and Drinking Water Management Areas for the cities of Clear Lake, Becker, and Big Lake which are the focus of the project area. District Staff will plan to host at least 6 events throughout the grant period to highlight best management practices to reduce water use and nitrates in both urban and rural settings. The amount of engagement at events and number of nitrate samples; 6 education events, 3 nitrate clinics, 90 samples. Our goal will be 300 acres per year of new BMPs implemented on agricultural lands, and an acre of turf BMPs.	86.14
7	C24-0006	Well Sealing	Washington County	\$37,500.00	Washington County Department of Public Health and Environment seeks to continue a 100% cost share assistance well sealing program, that has been active since 2012. County residents rely on groundwater for 100% of their drinking water. Wells located within Special Well Construction and Boring Areas (SWBCAs), known contamination areas and/or Drinking Water Supply Management Areas (DWSMA) will be targeted. The county estimates 25 additional wells may be sealed in DWSMAs, SWBCAs, or areas of contamination.	83.55
8	C24-0059	Crow Wing County Well Sealing and Groundwater Protection	Crow Wing County	\$30,000.00	Crow Wing County, in cooperation with the municipalities within the County, the Pine River watershed, and the Mississippi-Brainerd Watershed, plan to continue its successful well sealing program that will use a ranking criteria to seal unused / abandon wells up to a maximum of \$1,000 in cost-share funds per well. The total amount of funding requested is \$30,000 which is estimated to allow for the sealing of 80-100 wells.	81.50

9	C24-0019	Kandiyohi Groundwater and Drinking Water Resource Protection through Education and Well Sealing in High Priority Areas	Kandiyohi SWCD	\$92,000	The project's goal is to ensure that the public has access to clean and safe drinking water by focusing on education and well sealing measures in high-priority locations. Objectives: raise awareness, conduct desktop analysis, complete well sealing workshops, provide technical assistance, conduct well assessments, and implement well sealing measures.	81.05
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$1,482,000</b>		

Tails or one-time **POSSIBLE supplemental requests for Clean Water Fund for 2024 legislative session (no formal endorsement by agencies implied)**

tails	MDH	5,000,000	(minimum) testing, mitigation and response to elevated nitrate in private wells (EPA petition)
tails	MDA	1,000,000	Accelerate/Implement Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan in southeast MN
one-time	MDA	402,000	AgBMP Loan Program--difference between \$10 million request and what was eventually appropriated in FY24-25
tails	MDH	384,000	guidance on PFAS in fish
tails	MPCA	326,000	PFAS monitoring to backfill cuts due to RiverWatch direct appropriation
tails	DNR	90,000	PFAS in fish
		<b>\$ 7,202,000</b>	firm requests
		<b>\$ 18,056,000</b>	Funds available in November forecast (subject to change with Feb forecast)
		<b>\$ 10,854,000</b>	Funds remaining to recommend

**Other Council member ideas**

one-time	MPCA	1,000,000	SSTS grants--low-income grants to counties
one-time	MPCA	1,000,000	Chloride reduction grants with focus on wastewater
tails?	MPCA	1,000,000	Great Lakes Restoration Initiative LAMP match - \$2M requested previously
one-time	BWSR	4,000,000	Critical Shoreland Easements
one-time	BWSR	2,000,000	Working Land and Floodplain Easements--take advantage of RCPP funds
tails?	BWSR	2,000,000	Clean Water Partners Legacy small grants (1/2 tribal gov't; 1/2 NGO)
tails?	MDA	3,000,000	AgBMP Loan program (statewide)
tails?	UMN	500,000	Stormwater research on stormwater pond cleanout and disposal
tails?	MDH	3,000,000	over the minimum \$5M for private well response?
		<b>\$ 17,500,000</b>	
		<b>\$ (6,646,000)</b>	left to allocate

**Christensen proposal**

1. Upper Mississippi--Critical Shoreland Easements (BWSR)
2. Clean Water Legacy Partners grants (esp. in-lake treatment) (BWSR)
3. Private well response SE MN public health intervention (MDH-MDA-MPCA)
4. PFAS needs (MPCA-MDH-DNR)
5. AgBMP statewide (MDA)
6. Others to hash through

**Motion:** Adopt this framework today, ask agencies to refine numbers, further refine at January BOC meeting with recommendation, full Council for approval

**interest shown by the BOC in:**

- \* What is "shovel-ready" that could deploy extra funds?
- \* What support could the CWF provide based on a response from the EPA on private well petition?
- \* What was left on the chopping block from the last cycle?

review policy statements

include Dakota County; scale up soil health work from Olmsted Co; PFAS/PFOS soil testing (Pursell)  
PFAS/PFOS response to new tighter HRL/HBVs (MDH) - bonding, responsible party funding possible



Tails or one-time      **Clean Water Council Budget & Outcomes Committee January 5th recommendation for Clean Water Fund Surplus**  
 Next step: Forward to full Council for January 25th meeting with cover memo describing the programs and rationale

tails	MDA	1,000,000	Accelerate/Implement Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan in southeast MN
one-time	MDA	402,000	AgBMP Loan Program--difference between \$10 million request and what was eventually appropriated in FY24-25
	MDA	1,000,000	AgBMP Loan program (statewide-additional to \$402K backfill)
tails	MDH	384,000	guidance on PFAS in fish
tails	MPCA	326,000	PFAS monitoring to backfill cuts due to RiverWatch direct appropriation
tails	DNR	90,000	PFAS in fish
	MPCA	1,000,000	SSTS grants--low-income grants to counties
	MPCA	-	Chloride reduction grants with focus on wastewater
	MPCA	1,000,000	Great Lakes Restoration Initiative LAMP match - \$2M requested previously
	BWSR	2,000,000	Critical Shoreland Easements
	BWSR	2,000,000	Working Land and Floodplain Easements w/SE MN focus--take advantage of RCPP
one-time	BWSR	2,000,000	Clean Water Partners Legacy small grants (1/2 tribal gov't; 1/2 NGO)
one-time	UMN	500,000	Stormwater research on stormwater pond cleanout and disposal
tails?	MDH	6,354,000	public health response for EPA in SE MN
one-time		<b>\$ 18,056,000</b>	
one-time			
		<b>\$ 18,056,000</b>	Funds available in November forecast (subject to change with Feb forecast)
		<b>\$ -</b>	left to trim
tails?			
tails?			
tails?			
tails?			