

BOARD ORDER

Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Clean Water Legacy Partners Grant Program

PURPOSE

Authorize Fiscal Year (FY) 24-25 Clean Water Legacy Partners Grants Program and adopt FY 24-25 request for proposals ranking criteria.

FINDINGS OF FACT / RECITALS

- A. Laws of Minnesota 2023, Chapter 40, Article 2, Section 6 (m) "\$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the second year are for developing and implementing a water legacy grant program to expand partnerships for clean water"; and
- B. Laws of Minnesota 2024, Chapter 2, Article 106, Section 6 (c) "\$2,000,000 the second year is for developing and implementing a water legacy grant program to expand partnerships for clean water. Of this amount, \$500,000 is for grants to watershed districts to reduce the costs to landowners for green infrastructure projects, including rain gardens, permeable pavement, rainwater harvesting and reuse, and other clean water practices."
- C. The request for proposal criteria (RFP) are needed to provide expectations for applicants and subsequent implementation activities conducted with these funds.
- D. The Grants Program and Policy Committee, at their August 19th and September 16th, 2024 meetings, reviewed the proposed RFP criteria, and recommended approval to the Board.

ORDER

The Board hereby:

- 1. Authorizes the FY 24-25 Clean Water Legacy Partners Grants Program attached ranking criteria to be included in the RFP.
- 2. Authorizes staff to finalize and issue an initial RFP and issue a subsequent RFP as needed.
- 3. Authorizes staff to score and rank the responses to the RFP, complete pre-award risk assessments, and award the Clean Water Legacy Partners Grants.
- 4. Authorizes staff to approve work plans and enter into grant agreements for these funds consistent with the appropriations and the RFP.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this September 25, 2024.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES



Rich Sve, Vice Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date: 9-25-24

Clean Water Legacy Partners Grant Ranking Criteria	Maximum Points Possible
Abstract: A brief description of anticipated achievements and outcomes as well as the project area.	5
Water Resource(s) Identified: Lake, stream/river, or groundwater resource is described, and reasons are given for why the resource(s) were chosen.	10
Water Resource Outcome(s) and Longevity: Activities will protect or restore an identified water resource or support future protection or restoration efforts. Activities identified in a natural resource and/or watershed plan are preferred. Activities should provide long-term benefits to the water resource.	30
Readiness and Partnerships: The proposal has a set of specific activities that can be implemented soon after grant award. Proposed activities being part of a larger effort or partnership working toward clean water, or attempting to build a new partnership, are preferred.	20
Public Benefit: Proposed activities will benefit the public from a local, regional and/or state perspective. Diversity, equity, and inclusion is also incorporated.	20
Applicants' Demonstrated Performance: Applicant's history with receiving external funding sources and successfully completing planned activities.	15
Total Points Available	100

Green Infrastructure Grant Ranking Criteria	Maximum Points Possible
Project Abstract: The project abstract succinctly describes what results the applicant is trying to achieve and how they intend to achieve those results, including the type and quantity of projects and/or practices.	5
Prioritization: Relationship to Plan: The proposal is based on priority protection or restoration actions listed in or derived from the current state approved and locally adopted plan for the project area (see plans listed in 'Applicant Eligibility' of this RFP) and is linked to statewide Clean Water Fund priorities and public benefits.	20
Project Impact: The proposal has a quantifiable reduction in pollution for restoration projects or measurable outputs for protection projects and directly addresses the water quality concern identified in the application	15
Equity: The proposal will benefit people of low income and reduce costs to landowners.	30
High Pollution: The proposal will address issues in a high pollution area.	30
Total Points Available	100

BOARD ORDER

Fiscal Year 2025 Lake Superior Basin Implementation Grants Authorization

PURPOSE

Provide Fiscal Year 2025 Lake Superior Basin Implementation Grants to five Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) in the Lake Superior Basin.

FINDINGS OF FACT / RECITALS

1. The Laws of Minnesota 2024, Regular Session, Chapter 106, Article 2, Section 6 (d) appropriated fiscal year (FY) 2025 funding to provide support to SWCDs and other local governments and partner organizations in the Lake Superior Basin to leverage Great Lakes Restoration Initiative or other federal Great Lakes funding to implement prioritized activities.
2. The Board has authorities under Minnesota Statutes 103B.3369 and 103B.101 to award grants and contracts to accomplish water and related land resources management.
3. The proposed allocations and program requirements in this order were developed consistent with this appropriation and the FY24-25 Supplemental Clean Water Fund recommendations from the Clean Water Council and were reviewed with staff from the five SWCDs along with partner organizations.
4. The Grants Program and Policy Committee, at their August 19 and September 16, 2024 meetings, reviewed the proposed allocations and program requirements and recommended approval to the Board.

ORDER

The Board hereby:

1. Approves the FY25 Lake Superior Basin Implementation Grant program requirements. (*Attachment A*)
2. Approves the proposed allocation of Lake Superior Basin Implementation Grants to five SWCDs in the amounts listed in the attached table. (*Attachment B*)
3. Authorizes staff to enter into grant agreements for this purpose.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, September 25, 2024.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES



Rich Sve, Vice Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date: 9-25-24

Attached:

- Attachment A - FY2025 Lake Superior Basin Implementation Grant Program Requirements
- Attachment B - FY2025 Lake Superior Basin Implementation Grant Allocation Table

Attachment A: FY2025 Lake Superior Basin Implementation Grant Program Requirements

Grant Work Plan

A work plan shall be developed in eLINK and must be approved before execution of the grant agreement. The work plan shall reflect each eligible activity that will be implemented, a description of the anticipated activity outcomes or accomplishments, and grant funding amounts to accomplish each of the activities.

Eligible Activities

Funding may be used to build the capacity of the grantee to leverage Great Lakes Restoration Initiative or other federal Great Lakes funding that implement prioritized activities. Eligible activities must be identified in the work plan and may include:

- Financial assistance for projects;
- Technical assistance;
- Project support;
- Supplies or equipment acquisition; and
- Grant management and reporting.

Ineligible Activities

- Activities that are not consistent with the purposes of Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 15 to "...protect, enhance, and restore water quality in lakes, rivers, and streams and to protect groundwater from degradation..."; and
- Water quality monitoring such as, but not limited to, routine, baseline, diagnostic, or effectiveness monitoring.

Financial Assistance

Financial assistance may be provided based on a percentage of installation cost, flat-rate, or incentive payments. Grantee will follow the requirements found within the Fiscal Year 2025 [Grants Administration Manual](#) Chapter: Implementing Contracts with Land Occupiers.

Project and Practice Assurances

A contract is required when funds are used to provide financial assistance to install projects. Grantee will follow requirements found within the Fiscal Year 2025 [Grants Administration Manual](#) Chapter: Project and Practice Assurances.

Technical Quality Assurance

Grantee has the responsibility to ensure long-term public benefit of projects and will follow requirements found within the following Fiscal Year 2025 [Grants Administration Manual](#) Chapters: Technical Quality Assurance; Operation, Maintenance, and Inspection of Practices; and Vegetation Requirements for BWSR Funded Projects.

GAM Requirements

For questions regarding Grants Administration Manual requirements, grantees should consult their assigned Board Conservationist.

Attachment B: FY2025 Lake Superior Basin Implementation Grant Allocation Table

Organization	FY 2025 Grant Amount
Carlton SWCD	\$190,000
Cook SWCD	\$190,000
Lake SWCD	\$190,000
North St. Louis SWCD	\$190,000
South St. Louis SWCD	\$190,000
Total	\$950,000



BOARD ORDER

Boundary Enlargement for the Bois de Sioux Watershed District

PURPOSE

Approve a boundary enlargement for the Bois de Sioux Watershed District

RECITALS /FINDINGS OF FACT

1. A joint petition (Petition) for boundary enlargement, dated February 6, 2024, from the Bois de Sioux Watershed District (BdSWD) and Stevens County (County), was received by the Board of Water and Soil Resources on February 12, 2024.
2. The boundary change requested by the affected landowner and described in the Petition would result in adding approximately 80 acres to the BdSWD.
3. The Board has reviewed the Petition for conformance with state law and rule and has determined that the Petition is valid in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 103D.261.
4. Legal notice of filing on the Petition, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 103D.261, was published in the Stevens County Times on June 4, 2024 and June 11, 2024; the Traverse County Gazette News on June 5, 2024 and June 12, 2024; and the Chokio Review on June 6, 2024 and June 13, 2024. Further, a copy of the notice of filing was sent to each affected city, county, and watershed district.
5. The legal notice of filing required within 30 days of the last date of publication of the notice, that at least one written request for hearing be received by the Board before a hearing will be held. The Board did not receive any written requests for a hearing therefore no hearing was held. The Board did not receive any comments on the Petition.
6. The Board assisted the BdSWD through the boundary enlargement petition process, providing guidance, comments, and recommendations. All relevant, substantive, and procedural requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a watershed district boundary enlargement. The requested boundary enlargement is consistent with the purpose and the requirements of Minn. Stat. § 103D.261. The boundary enlargement, as proposed in the petition, would be for the public welfare and public interest and would advance the purpose of Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103D. The boundary of the BdSWD as proposed in the Petition is more accurately based on the hydrology of the subject area than the present boundary. The proposed boundary enlargement should be approved per the petition. Therefore, Board staff recommends approval of the boundary enlargement as petitioned.
7. On September 4, 2024, the Board's Northern Region Committee and staff met in Detroit Lakes to review and discuss the Petition. Members of the Committee that participated in the discussion included Committee Chair Rich Sve, Jeff Berg, Theresa Ebbenga, Chad Anderson, Todd Holman, LeRoy Ose, Neil Peterson, and Ron Staples. Board staff in attendance were Northern Region Manager Ryan Hughes. Board staff recommended approval of the boundary change. After discussion, the Northern Region Committee voted to recommend approval of the Petition.

ORDER

The Board hereby orders that the boundary of the Bois de Sioux Watershed District be enlarged per the Petition as depicted on the maps, attached to this Order.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this September 25, 2024.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

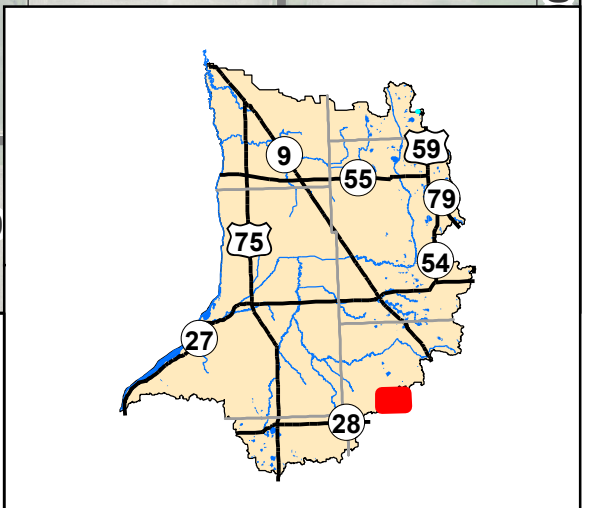
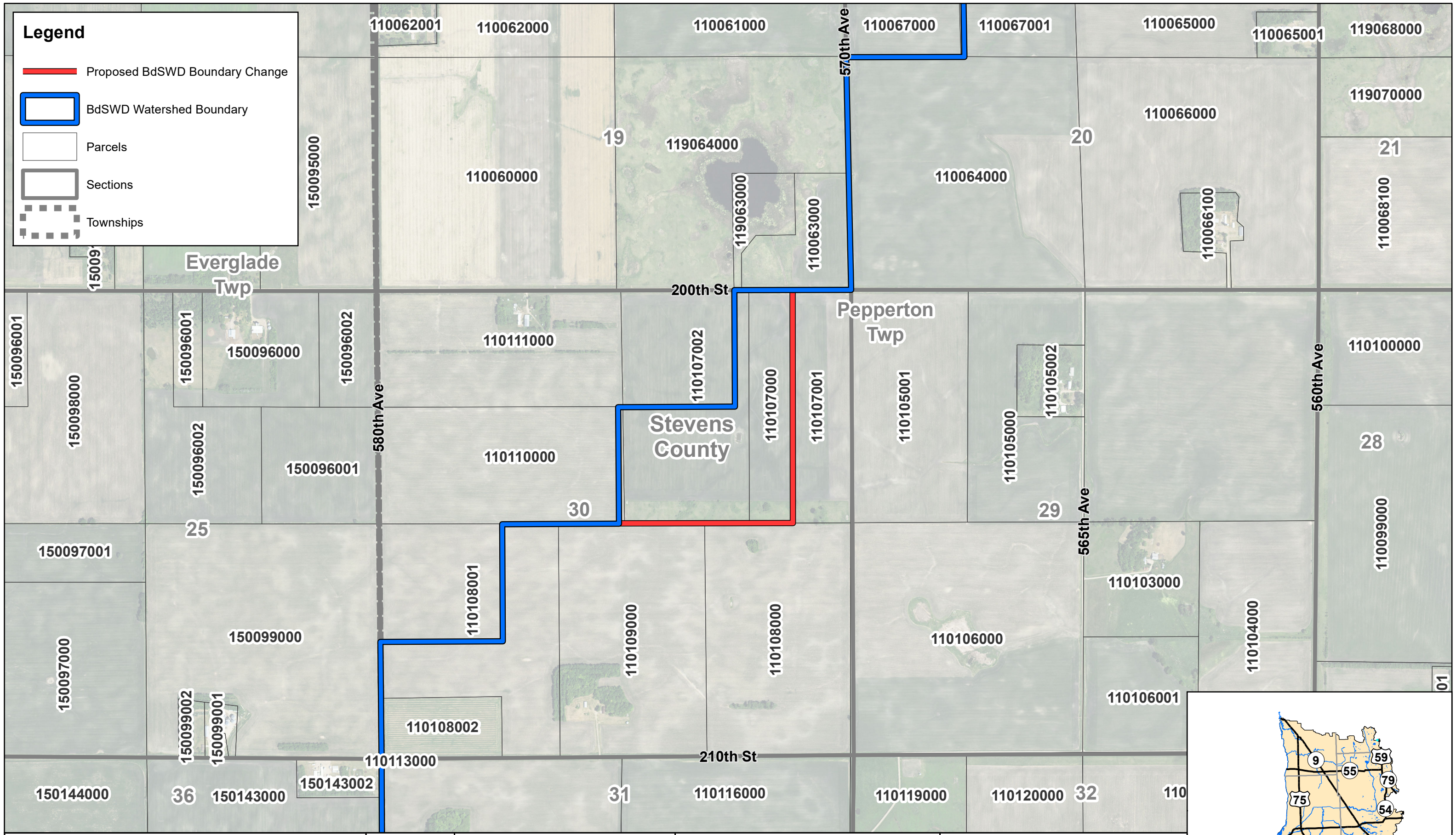


Rich Sve, Vice Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date: 9-25-24

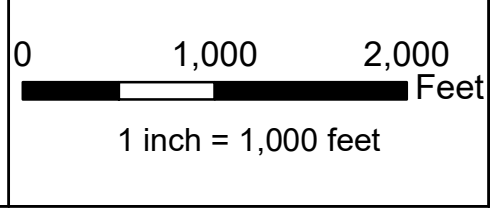
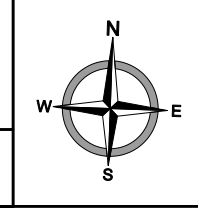
Legend

- Proposed BdSWD Boundary Change
- BdSWD Watershed Boundary
- Parcels
- Sections
- Townships



**Proposed District Boundary Update
Bois de Sioux Watershed District, MN**

Created By: TJS Date Created: 10/31/22 Date Saved: 07/26/23 Date Plotted: 09/29/17 Date Exported: 07/26/23
 Plotted By: Tanner.Schmidt Parcel Date: N/A Aerial Image: See Source Elevation Data: IWI Lidar
 Horizontal Datum: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 14N Vertical Datum: NAVD1988
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BOARD ORDER

Boundary Change for the Sand Hill River Watershed District and Red Lake Watershed District

PURPOSE

Approve a boundary change between the Sand Hill River Watershed District and the Red Lake Watershed District.

RECITALS /FINDINGS OF FACT

1. A joint petition (Petition) for boundary change, dated December 11, 2023, from the Sand Hill River Watershed District (SHRWD) and the Red Lake Watershed District (RLWD), was received by the Board for the transfer of approximately 72.075 acres from SHRWD to RLWD.
2. The Board has reviewed the Petition for conformance with state law and rule and has determined that the Petition is valid in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 103D.251.
3. Legal notice of filing on the Petition, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 103D.251, was published in the Fertile Journal on July 2, 2024 and July 9, 2024; and the Crookston Times on July 5, 2024 and July 12, 2024. Further, a copy of the notice of filing was sent to each affected city, county, and watershed district.
4. The legal notice of filing required within 30 days of the last date of publication of the notice, that at least one written request for hearing be received by the Board before a hearing will be held. The Board did not receive any written requests for a hearing therefore no hearing was held. The Board did not receive any comments on the Petition.
5. The Board assisted SHRWD and RLWD through the boundary change petition process, providing guidance, comments, and recommendations. All relevant, substantive, and procedural requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a watershed district boundary change. The requested boundary change is consistent with the purpose and the requirements of Minn. Stat. § 103D.251. The boundary change, as proposed in the petition, would be for the public welfare and public interest and would advance the purpose of Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103D. The boundaries of the SHRWD and the RLWD as proposed in the Petition are more accurately based on the hydrology of the subject area than the present boundaries. The proposed boundary change should be approved per the petition. Therefore, Board staff recommends approval of the boundary change as petitioned.
6. On September 4, 2024, the Board's Northern Region Committee and staff met in Detroit Lakes to review and discuss the Petition. Members of the Committee that participated in the discussion included Committee Chair Rich Sve, Jeff Berg, Theresa Ebbenga, Chad Anderson, Todd Holman, LeRoy Ose, Neil Peterson, and Ron Staples. Board staff in attendance were Ryan Hughes, Northern Region Manager, and Brett Arne, Board Conservationist. Board staff recommended approval of the boundary change. After discussion, the Northern Region Committee voted to recommend approval of the Petition.

ORDER

The Board hereby orders that the boundaries of the Sand Hill River Watershed District and the Red Lake Watershed District are changed per the Petition as depicted on the maps, attached to this Order.

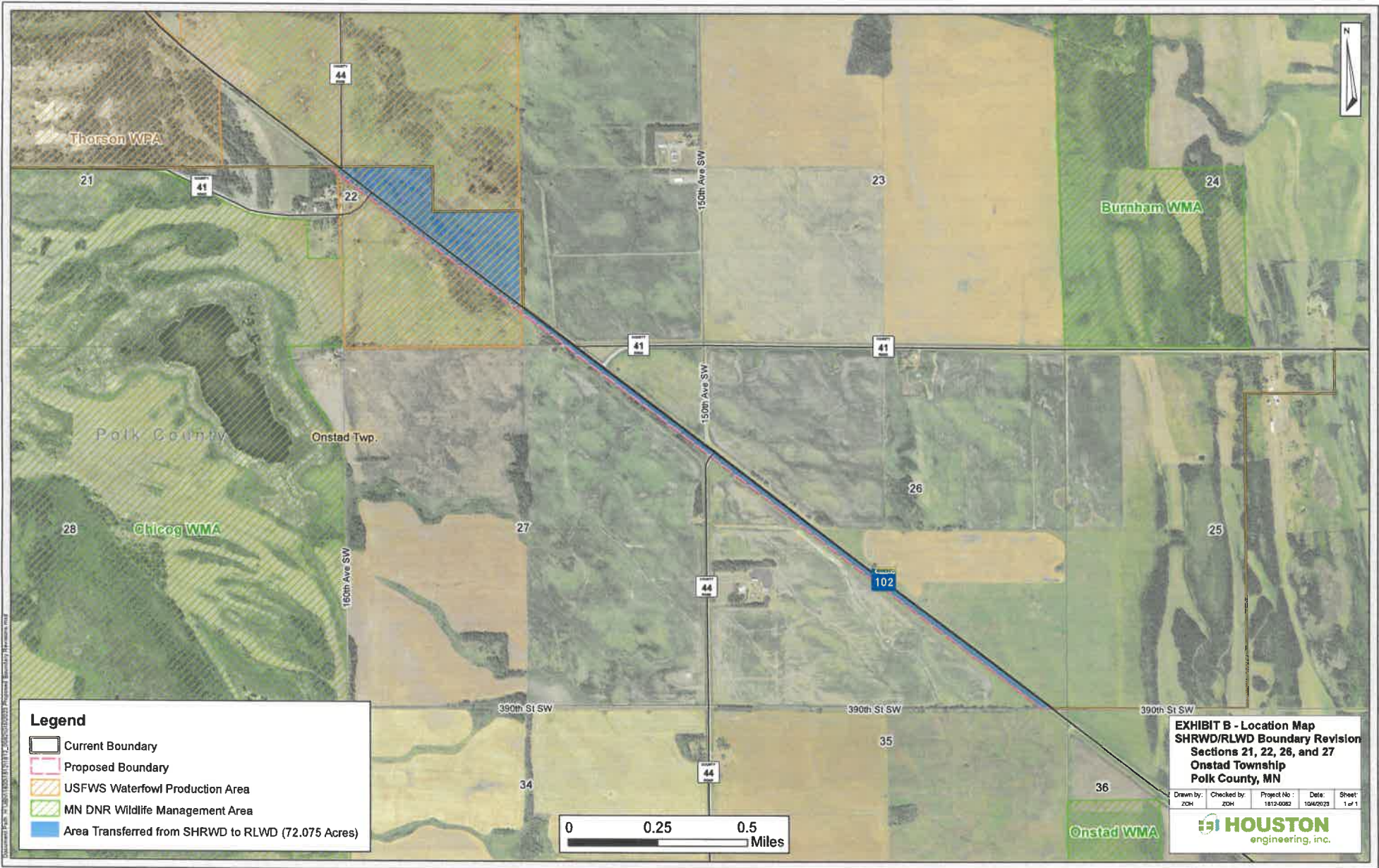
Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this September 25, 2024.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES



Rich Sve, Vice Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date: 9-25-24



Legend

- Current Boundary
- Proposed Boundary
- USFWS Waterfowl Production Area
- MN DNR Wildlife Management Area
- Area Transferred from SHRWD to RLWD (72.075 Acres)

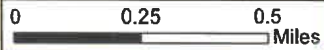


EXHIBIT B - Location Map
 SHRWD/RLWD Boundary Revision
 Sections 21, 22, 26, and 27
 Onstad Township
 Polk County, MN

Drawn by: ZOH	Checked by: ZOH	Project No : 1812-0062	Date: 10/6/2023	Sheet: 1 of 1
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EXHIBIT A**Tabular Summary of Lands Transferred from Sand Hill River Watershed District (SHRWD) to Red Lake Watershed District (RLWD)**

Township	Range	Township Name	Section No.	QQ Section	Tax Name	Acres Transferred from SHRWD to RLWD
T148N	R45W	Onstad	22	NE of SW	Fish & Wildlife Service	18.615
T148N	R45W	Onstad	22	NW of SW	Fish & Wildlife Service	13.661
T148N	R45W	Onstad	22	SE of SW	Fish & Wildlife Service	6.422
T148N	R45W	Onstad	21	NE of SE	MN Department of Transportation	0.098
T148N	R45W	Onstad	22	NE of SW	MN Department of Transportation	1.279
T148N	R45W	Onstad	22	NW of SW	MN Department of Transportation	4.340
T148N	R45W	Onstad	22	SE of SW	MN Department of Transportation	3.170
T148N	R45W	Onstad	22	SW of SE	MN Department of Transportation	1.023
T148N	R45W	Onstad	26	NE of SW	MN Department of Transportation	1.472
T148N	R45W	Onstad	26	NW of SE	MN Department of Transportation	0.868
T148N	R45W	Onstad	26	SE of NW	MN Department of Transportation	0.297
T148N	R45W	Onstad	26	SE of SE	MN Department of Transportation	1.440
T148N	R45W	Onstad	26	SW of NW	MN Department of Transportation	1.865
T148N	R45W	Onstad	26	SW of SE	MN Department of Transportation	0.920
T148N	R45W	Onstad	27	NE of NE	MN Department of Transportation	1.511
T148N	R45W	Onstad	27	NW of NE	MN Department of Transportation	0.832
T148N	R45W	Onstad	27	SE of NE	MN Department of Transportation	0.310
T148N	R45W	Onstad	21	NE of SE	Polk County Administrator	0.218
T148N	R45W	Onstad	22	NE of SW	Polk County Administrator	0.371
T148N	R45W	Onstad	22	NW of SW	Polk County Administrator	1.826
T148N	R45W	Onstad	22	SE of SW	Polk County Administrator	1.334
T148N	R45W	Onstad	22	SW of SE	Polk County Administrator	0.726
T148N	R45W	Onstad	26	NE of SW	Polk County Administrator	1.588
T148N	R45W	Onstad	26	NW of SE	Polk County Administrator	0.805
T148N	R45W	Onstad	26	SE of NW	Polk County Administrator	0.176
T148N	R45W	Onstad	26	SE of SE	Polk County Administrator	1.446
T148N	R45W	Onstad	26	SW of NW	Polk County Administrator	1.740
T148N	R45W	Onstad	26	SW of SE	Polk County Administrator	1.040
T148N	R45W	Onstad	27	NE of NE	Polk County Administrator	1.397
T148N	R45W	Onstad	27	NW of NE	Polk County Administrator	0.889
T148N	R45W	Onstad	27	SE of NE	Polk County Administrator	0.396

Total Acres**72.075**