



2522 Marshall Street NE
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MISSISSIPPI
WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT
ORGANIZATION

AGENDA

Date: 14 July 2026

Attachment 2

Time: 3:00 PM

Location: 2522 Marshall Street NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418

Agenda

(D) — Signifies Decision Item

- 1) Welcome, Introduction of Commissioners and Roll Call
- 2) Approval of Agenda **(D)** Attachment 2
- 3) Approval of Minutes **(D)** Attachment 3
- 4) Consent Agenda **(D)** Attachment 4
- 5) Reports from Staff..... Attachment 5
- 6) General Business..... Attachment 6
 - a. 2026-016: Artist-in-Residence extension **(D)**..... Attachment 6.1
 - b. 2026-017: Storage Closets Upgrade **(D)**..... Attachment 6.2
 - i. Storage Closets Upgrade Photos Attachment 6.2.1
 - ii. Storage Closets Upgrade Proposal Attachment 6.2.2
 - iii. Storage Closets Upgrade Design Renderings Attachment 6.2.3
 - c. 2026-018: Digital Asset System Design and Implementation **(D)** Attachment 6.3
 - d. 2026-019: Increase in Rani Engineering's Upper Harbor Budget **(D)**.... Attachment 6.4
 - e. 2026-020: SART Phase 1 Improvements **(D)**..... Attachment 6.5
 - f. 2026-021: Little Earth Stormwater Improvements 90% Design **(D)**..... Attachment 6.6
- 7) Board Updates and Announcements
- 8) Open Public Input (Non-Agenda Items) Sign-in Sheet
- 9) Adjourn **(D)**



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MISSISSIPPI
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MEETING MINUTES

Date: 12 May 2026

Attachment 3

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Location: 2522 Marshall Street NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418

Commissioners in Attendance

Ann Bolkcom, Fridley; Jeff Dains, Lauderdale; Lona Doolan, St. Anthony Village; Michael Lukes, St. Paul; and Meg Forney, MPRB.

Staff and Guests: Emmy Baskerville-Doeckel, Aaron Goemann, Shameka Gherau, Dan Kalmon, Grace Polverari, Kevin Reich, Emily Resseger, and Nancy Stowe, MWMO; Glenda Meixell, Anoka Conservation District; Kate Lowisz, St. Paul; and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

The meeting was called to order at 3:01 p.m. by Vice Chair Doolan.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Motion by Bolkcom, second by Dains to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Lukes, second by Dains to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2026 regular meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Bolkcom, second by Forney to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports from Staff

Northeast Green Campus Site Cleanup

The Board previously approved an expense of \$300,000 for the North East Green Campus site cleanup project. Stantec has coordinated the review of bids and selected VEIT construction, as they are familiar with the cleanup of adjacent areas. One proposed end-user, the housing project, has requested that no contracts be signed or work begin until they've received HUD approval to ensure federal grant funding. Staff expects the cleanup to take 60-90 days and plans to wait for approval but still expects the project to be completed before frost sets in.

General Business

2026-013: 11CHF Hydrologic and Water Quality Model Update

In 2013 MWMO began developing stormwater quantity and quality models for the subwatersheds within the entire MWMO area. The City of Minneapolis partners 50/50 on the cost of models within the City. The models aid in selecting locations and approaches for stormwater management projects. The models were a capital investment that require updating and maintenance on a periodic basis to include changes to impervious surface and BMPs added through development and redevelopment, new stormwater projects, and new technical information such as LiDAR, rainfall and temperature data, updated land use cover, more recent monitoring data, and improved modeling software. 11CHF stands for the eleven outfalls to the Mississippi in the Columbia Heights, Hilltop and Fridley area and was one of the first models developed. It was the primary tool used to evaluate Jackson Pond. FEMA maps are currently being updated for flood insurance requirements in this area. The MNDNR will use this model in the FEMA evaluation. The current models are on the XPSWMM software and will be moved to the new PCSWMM software and be updated to include all new relevant data available since 2013. Staff are requesting funding not to exceed \$150,000 to support professional services for the update of the 11CHF watershed model.

Motion by Dains, second by Bolkcom to approve Resolution 2026-013 approving the 11CHF hydrologic and water quality model update at a cost not-to-exceed \$150,000. Motion carried unanimously.

2026-014: 2026 to 2028 Barr Scope

This is a request for a two-year continuation of the Barr General Services Agreement for engineering services for the Upper Harbor Terminal project. This project includes 13 individual projects across 22 acres. There are five active projects in construction in 2026 and another six projects expected in the next few years. Construction timing for several projects is dependent upon parcel development. Active projects include the Southern Regional Treatment System, reuse system piping and connection to the reuse system, native plantings, and punch list items on parcel 2. Parcel 3 is in development for the amphitheater and associated parking on parcel 7. Phase 1 of the parkway has been completed by Minneapolis Public Works. Phase 2 will begin later this year. Rough-ins for BMPs will begin after phase 2 is completed. Parcels 1A, 1B, 4 and 5, do not have developers yet. This request is for continuing services for 2026 through December 31, 2028 at a proposed cost of \$664,000. Barr has been working with MWMO on this site since 2020.

Motion by Forney, second by Bolkcom to approve Resolution 2026-0014 approving the 2026-2028 Upper Harbor general services agreement approving Barr's proposal in the amount of \$664,000. Motion carried unanimously.

2026-015: MS4Front-Monitoring

MS4Front is an online mapping tool, a geographically based database. Staff are using this tool to store information on capital and stewardship fund grant projects to compile all project information in one place. MWMO has over 350 installed projects within the watershed area, with about 50 projects currently active. Watershed models are also uploaded to MS4Front as part of watershed mapping. The software has customizable dashboards to provide custom analytics, such as total volume of stormwater treated, habitat restored, sediment removal, etc. The software can be set up to allow for mobile updates of BMP inspection data for inspection records to determine maintenance needs and future inspection schedules. In 2026 staff will complete the data entry of project data and begin inspections. This will move the project from Phase 1 to Phase 2, which includes two additional modules – a monitoring module and an asset management module. The consultant will also provide a GIS Needs Assessment and a licensing review. The monitoring module will store all monitoring data. Currently data is stored in a format unable to filter or be shared outside of the monitoring team, limiting the ability of staff to access and share the data for use by projects staff to inform their work. The second module for asset management will track deployed monitoring equipment, age and lifespan of equipment, and a replacement schedule, with the goal of making tracking of over 100 pieces of equipment annually easier and minimize downtime to ensure quality data is collected.

Staff is requesting \$22,200 from the General Administrative Fund to support phase 2 of MS4Front custom software implementation.

Motion by Bolkcom, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2026-015 approving the proposal for the scope of work to implement the MS4Front data management software tool at a cost not-to-exceed \$22,200. Motion carried unanimously.

Open Public Input

Glenda Meixell introduced herself for new Commissioners as the Anoka Conservation District Conservation Supervisor for the 610 South region, which has some areas that cross into MWMO boundaries.

Board Updates and Announcements

Lukes noted the Kasota Ponds Cleanup event took place on April 10, resulting in over 80 bags of trash picked up by about 43 volunteers. Abby Moore from MWMO was also in attendance. A buckthorn removal event at Kasota Ponds is scheduled for June 2. Volunteers will meet in the Napa Auto Parts parking lot. Visit the website www.sapcc.org/buckthorn for more information and to sign up.

Lukes introduced Kate Lowisz, the recommended candidate to replace Lukes after his term ends August 31, 2026.

Doolan commented on the May 4, 2026, announcement on MPR regarding the groundbreaking for the amphitheater at Upper Harbor Terminal. Doolan signed up for an event on the Mississippi River by Gustavus Adolphus on October 6-7 that will have historians and social scientists discussing how the river has been used historically, blending past cultural use with the future of the river.

Adjourn

There being no further business, motion by Dains, second by Forney to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 4:18 p.m.



Request for Board Action

Attachment 5

Agenda Item: Staff Updates

Presenter: Various

Meeting Date: 14 July 2026

Flexibility: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Estimated Time: ☐ Consent Agenda ☒ 10 Min. ☐ 15 Min. ☐ 30 Min. ☐ 45 Min. ☐ 1 Hour

Action Request: ☒ Information/Review ☐ Motion to approve ☐ Budget Change ☐ Other

Board Action: ☐ Approved ☐ Denied ☐ Tabled ☐ Accepted Report ☐ Other

Date of Action: 14 July 2026

Background

Kevin Reich

- Summary of June 13, 2026, MWMO and Andrea Jenkins poem unveiling event: Oh, How the Words Flow

Emily Resseger

- Introducing Environmental Monitoring Intern, Julia Kauth

Abby Moore

- MWMO Climate Action Framework



Request for Board Action

Attachment 6.1

Agenda Item: MWMO Artist in Residence 2026

Presenter: A. Moore

Meeting Date: 14 July 2026

Flexibility: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Estimated Time: ☐ Consent Agenda ☒ 10 Min. ☐ 15 Min. ☐ 30 Min. ☐ 45 Min. ☐ 1 Hour

Action Request: ☐ Information/Review ☒ Motion to approve ☐ Budget Change ☐ Other

Board Action: ☐ Approved ☐ Denied ☐ Tabled ☐ Accepted Report ☐ Other

Date of Action: 14 July 2026

Background

During Sarah Nassif's time as the MWMO Artist-in-Residence, the outreach program has transformed and reached many new audiences. In 2024, we finished developing the Creative Watershed Plan, a strategic plan to integrate creativity and work with artists, into the outreach program and the organization in general. In 2025, we officially launched AWE (Art+Water+Ecology), a professional network that brings together artists and staff from water-serving organizations to look for ways to enhance each other's work through collaboration. Through quarterly meetings, use of a website, and a Google group, we have already seen significant collaboration between artists and environmental organizations that would not have happened without AWE. The MWMO benefits greatly from this burgeoning network and continues to be a leader in this space.

In order to maintain the momentum of AWE and the implementation of the Creative Watershed Plan through a period of staff transition, we are requesting an extension of Sarah Nassif's contract through December 31, 2027 and an addition of \$25,000 to the budget in order to cover this work through the end of 2027. In addition to coordinating and hosting AWE meetings and managing the

website and all communications, Sarah Nassif will work with MWMO staff to develop a long-term model for sustainability of the AWE network and the Creative Watershed Plan after 2027.

Mississippi Watershed Management Organization

RESOLUTION 2026-016

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MWMO ARTIST IN RESIDENCE CONTRACT EXTENSION

WHEREAS, The MWMO strives to protect and improve water quality, habitat and natural resources in an urban watershed that drains to the Mississippi River; and

WHEREAS, The MWMO has interest in engaging new communities in stewardship of water quality and habitat in the watershed; and

WHEREAS, Previous work with local artist, Sarah Nassif, has proven to be a highly effective way to engage various and diverse communities in conversations about water; and

WHEREAS, The Creative Watershed Plan states that the artist-in-residence plays an important role in connecting communities with the need to protect water quality in the watershed and the work of the MWMO; and

WHEREAS, The MWMO has funds available through its outreach program for an Artist in Residence; and

WHEREAS, Staff recommends the Board of Commissioners approves funding for an extension of the 2026 MWMO Artist in Residence contract through 2027.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the MWMO Board of Commissioners approves \$25,000 for the MWMO Artist in Residence contract extension and authorizes MWMO staff to take necessary administrative actions to implement this resolution.

Adopted this the 14th day of July, 2026.

Review for the Board:

Connie Buesgens, Chair

Review for Administration: _____

Kevin Reich, Executive Director



Request for Board Action

Attachment 6.2

Agenda Item: Office Maintenance/Storage Closets Upgrade

Presenter: S. Gherau

Meeting Date: 14 July 2026

Flexibility: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Estimated Time: ☐ Consent Agenda ☒ 10 Min. ☐ 15 Min. ☐ 30 Min. ☐ 45 Min. ☐ 1 Hour

Action Request: ☐ Information/Review ☒ Motion to approve ☐ Budget Change ☐ Other

Board Action: ☐ Approved ☐ Denied ☐ Tabled ☐ Accepted Report ☐ Other

Date of Action: 14 July 2026

Background

Approval is requested for payment not-to-exceed \$36,805.68.

Cost breakdown is as follows:

- DISEÑO CLOSETS FOR LIFE - Project for the renovation of three storage closets in the MWMo building: \$33,459.71 with 10% contingency to cover any unforeseen changes/additions, not-to-exceed \$36,805.68.

For the procurement and installation of functional closet storage solutions, the solutions will be for two storage closets: one on the first floor and the other on the 2nd floor. Detailed in ATT 6.6.2 is DISEÑO CLOSETS FOR LIFE proposal for the project. Detailed in ATT 6.6.1 are photos of the current closet conditions. Attachment 6.6.3 depicts the design renderings of how each closet will be upgraded.

The MWMO building closets are original to the facility and no longer effectively support current organizational and operational needs. Over time, increased storage demands and evolving program requirements have resulted in limited functionality and inefficient use of space. This poses ongoing challenges to the effective maintenance, organization, and access of supplies, equipment, and materials.

The current storage limitations have also created safety concerns. The stored items are often placed in ways that increase the risk of trip-and-fall incidents and obstruct access to materials, further adding to improper and unsafe storage. Improving the organization and functionality of these spaces will help reduce these risks and promote a safer work environment for staff.

This project aims to improve the functionality and efficiency of existing storage areas while modernizing building infrastructure. Upgrading the storage closets will maximize usable space, improve organization, inventory management and support safer, more efficient access to materials needed for daily operations and facility management. These improvements will better meet current operational needs and support the long-term use of the facility.

Material brand information: Melamine, a wood product comprised of a high-density particle board core covered by a thin plastic laminate coating that is available in various colors. The manufacturer's name is KAMBIUM, sourced from a shop in Lakeville, MN. The countertops will be Wilsonart brand Plastic Laminate.

Mississippi Watershed Management Organization

RESOLUTION 2026-017

A RESOLUTION APPROVING OFFICE MAINTENANCE/STORAGE CLOSET UPGRADE

WHEREAS, The MWMO owns and maintains an office building for public and administrative purposes; and

WHEREAS, The MWMO's building maintenance and upgrades have been budgeted for ongoing needs; and

WHEREAS, The current staffing and administrative functions required identified modifications; and

WHEREAS, DISEÑO CLOSETS FOR LIFE will provide the labor and materials of Kambium shelving and cabinets and Wilsonart countertops for the first and second floors of the MWMO building; and

WHEREAS, The proposed attached total amount for DISEÑO CLOSETS FOR LIFE of \$36,805.68 will cover the work identified with a 10% contingency to cover any unforeseen changes and additions; and

WHEREAS, Staff recommend the Board of Commissioners approve payment for the work to proceed.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the MWMO Board of Commissioners approve a not-to-exceed amount of \$36,805.68 to pay for the improvements to the MWMO office building storage closets and authorizes MWMO staff to take all necessary administrative actions to implement the resolution.

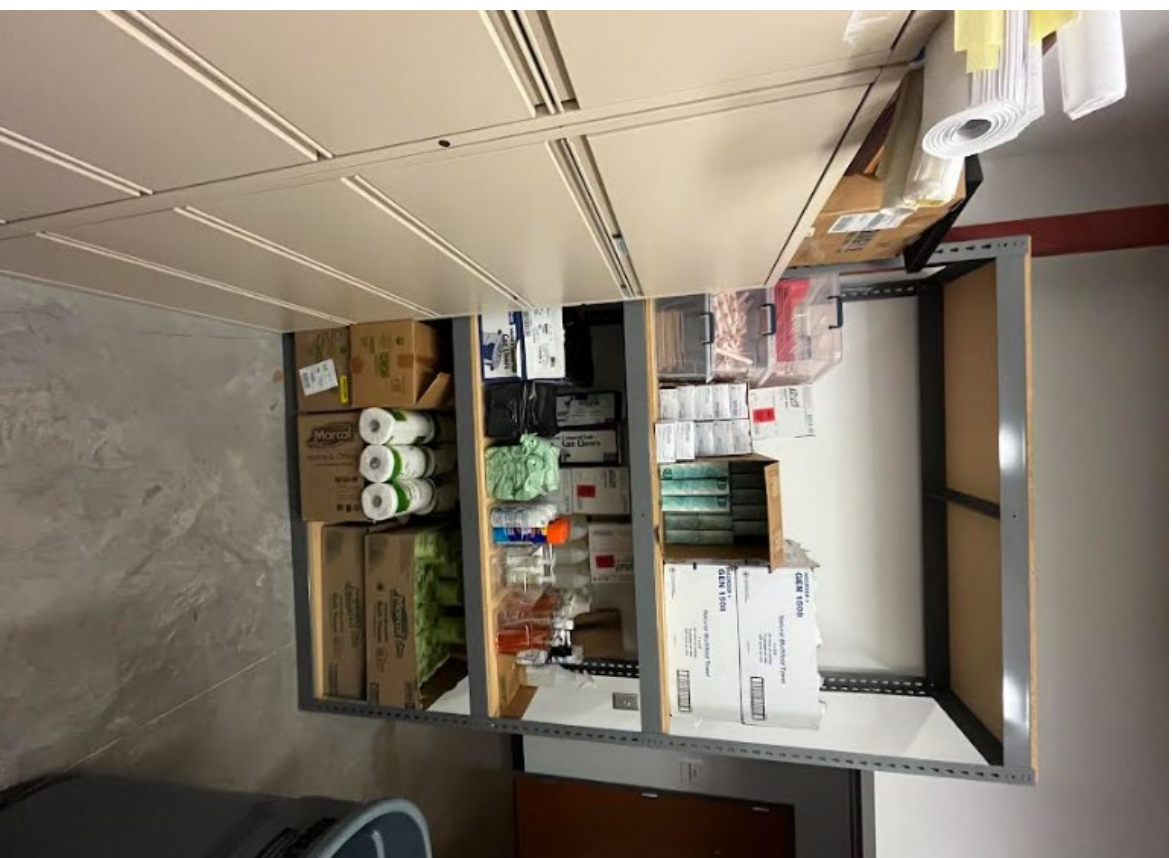
Adopted this on the 14th day of July, 2026.

Review for the Board: _____

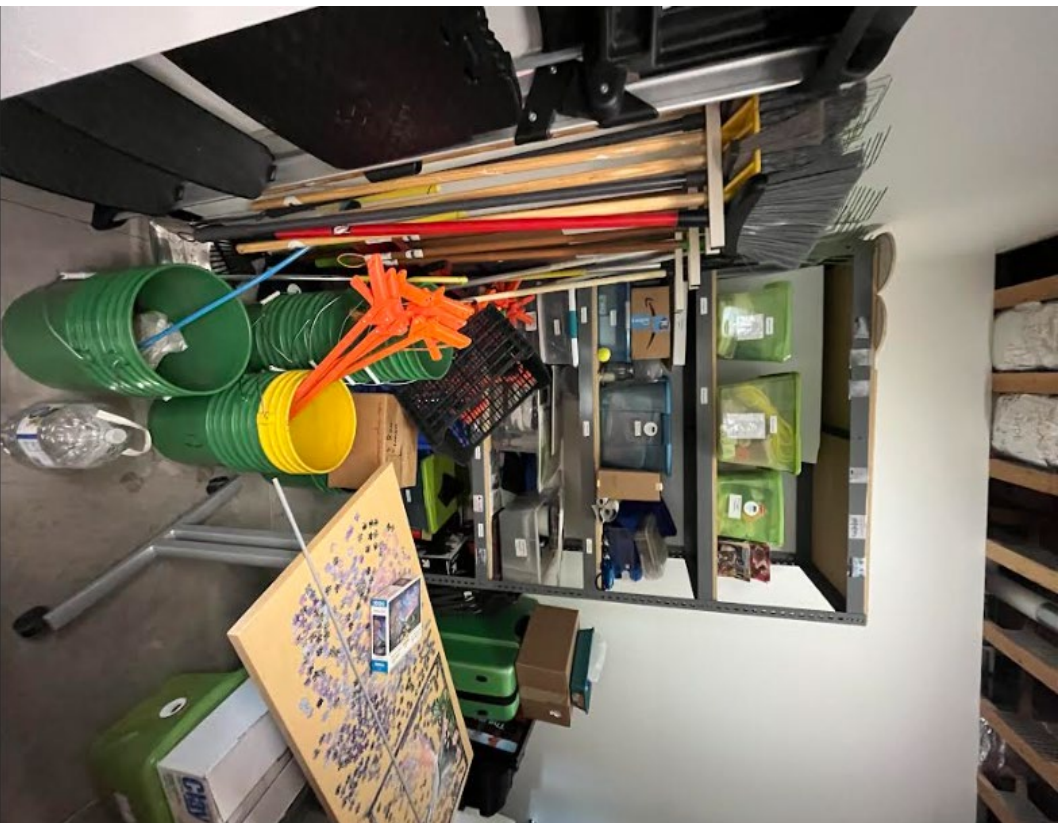
Connie Buesgens, Chair

Review for Administration: _____

Kevin Reich, Executive Director



1st Floor Storage Closet



1st Floor Storage – Outreach

Closet



2nd Floor Storage Closet



Diseño
2306 Priscilla Street
St. Paul, MN, 55108
Office: 651 646 0319
Fax: 651 917 3040

Customer Information

Shameka Gherau MWMO
sgherau@mwmo.org ;

Shipping Address

MWMO
2522 Marshall Street N.E
Minneapolis, MN 55418
P: 612-746-4970

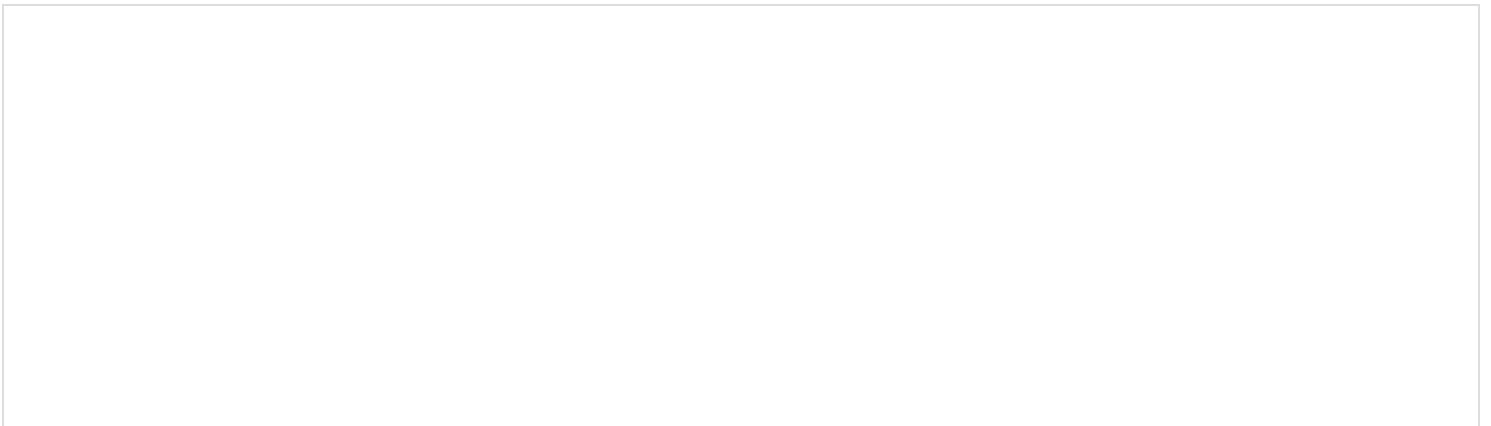
Billing Address

Designer Information

Delia Bornshtein
2306 Priscilla St

Saint Paul, MN 55108
612-203-9637
delia@disenoclosets.com

PROPOSAL #36477



Last Updated	Project	Color / Finish	MSRP	Accessories	Total MSRP	Your Price	Action
7/7/2026	Main Level Storage Closet Option with base cabinet	Moonlight / Chrome	\$5,430.18	\$0.00	\$5,430.18	\$5,430.18	VIEW 2D OPTIONS & ACCESSORIES
6/2/2026	Storage Lower Level	Moonlight / Chrome	\$2,117.45	\$0.00	\$2,117.45	\$2,117.45	VIEW 2D OPTIONS & ACCESSORIES
6/2/2026	Upper Level Storage No New WALLS	Moonlight / Chrome	\$23,612.08	\$0.00	\$23,612.08	\$23,612.08	VIEW 2D OPTIONS & ACCESSORIES
Order Sub-Total:						\$31,159.71	
Cabinet Assembly 17 cabinets:						\$2,300.00	
Net Sub-Total:						\$33,459.71	
Total Net Cost:						\$33,459.71	

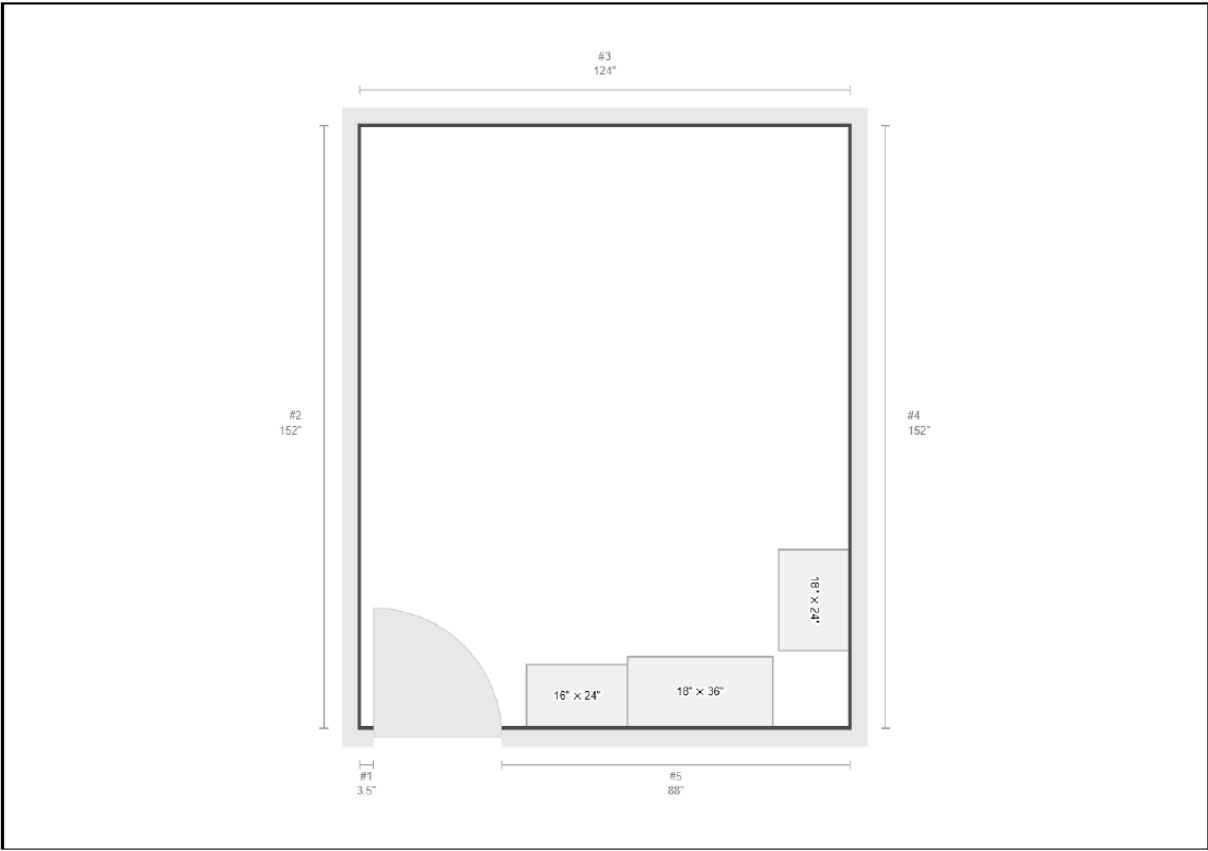
Documents

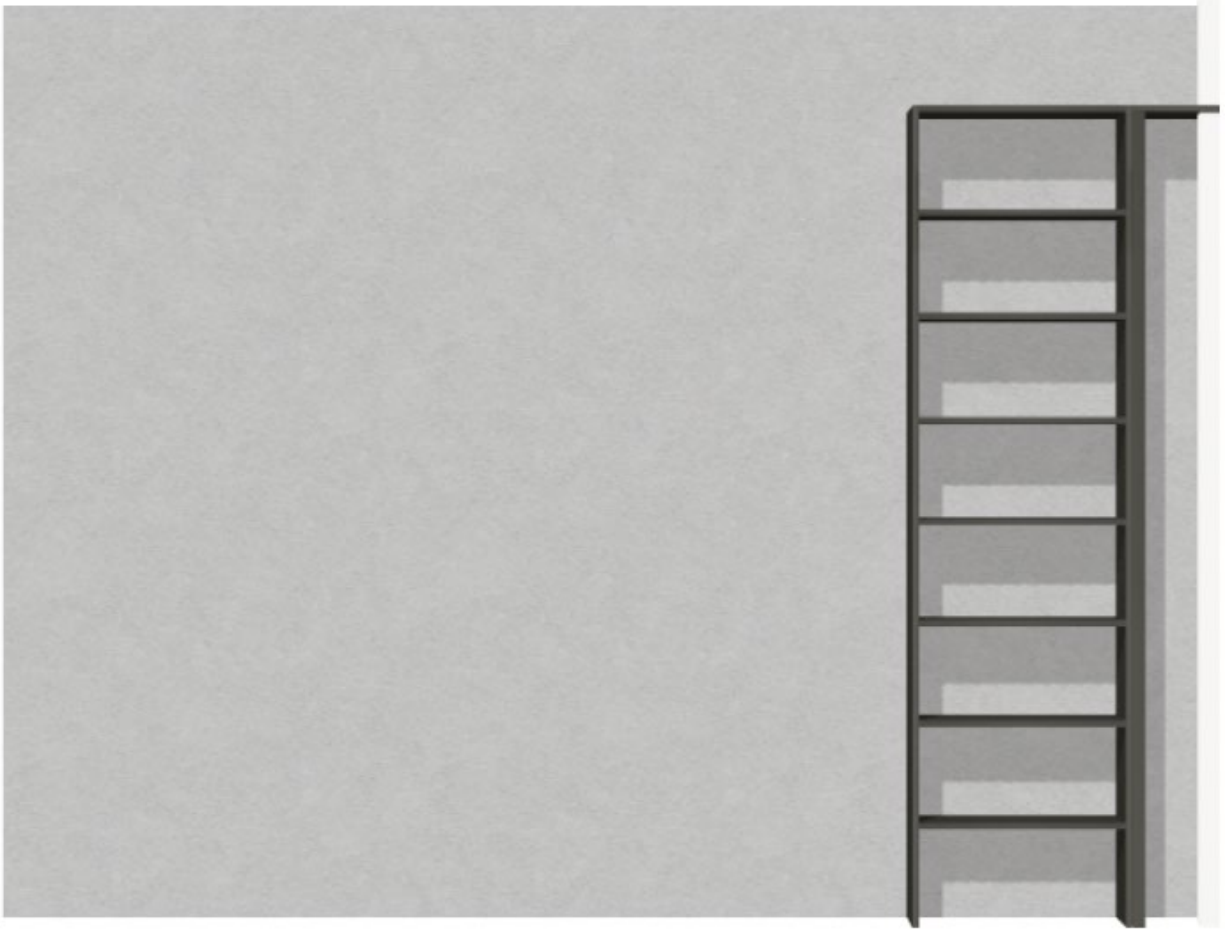
ACCEPT PROPOSAL

GO BACK



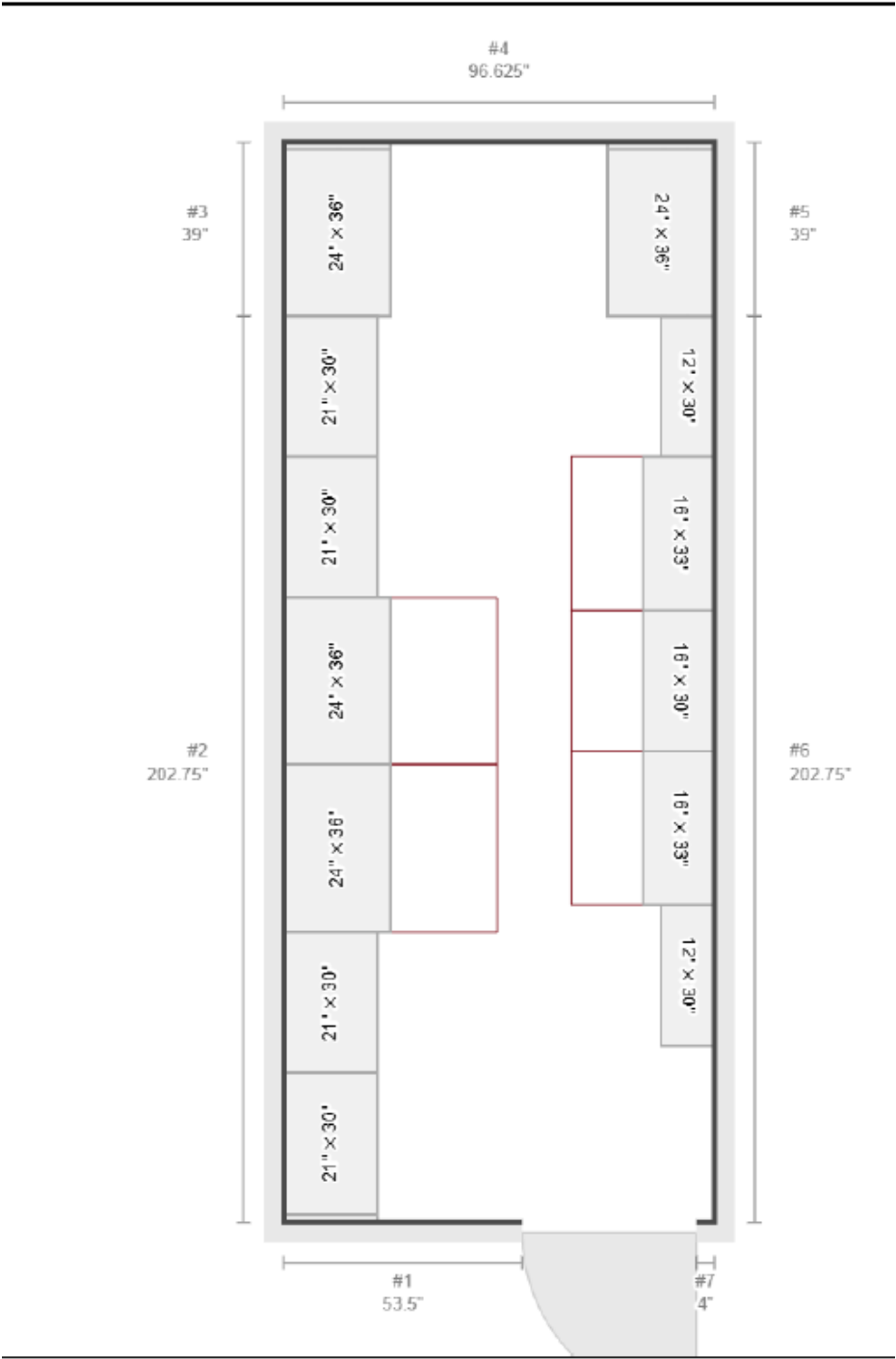
FIRST FLOOR STORAGE CLOSET







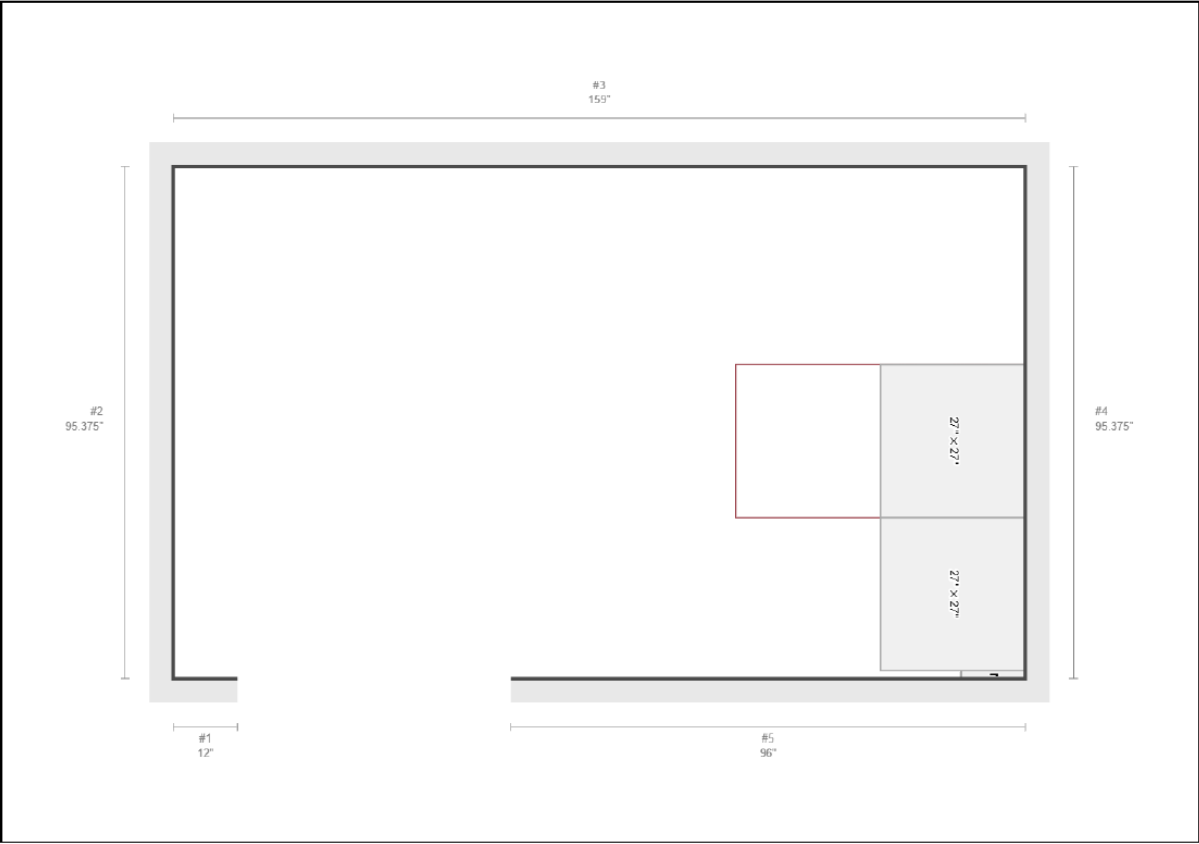
SECOND FLOOR STORAGE CLOSET

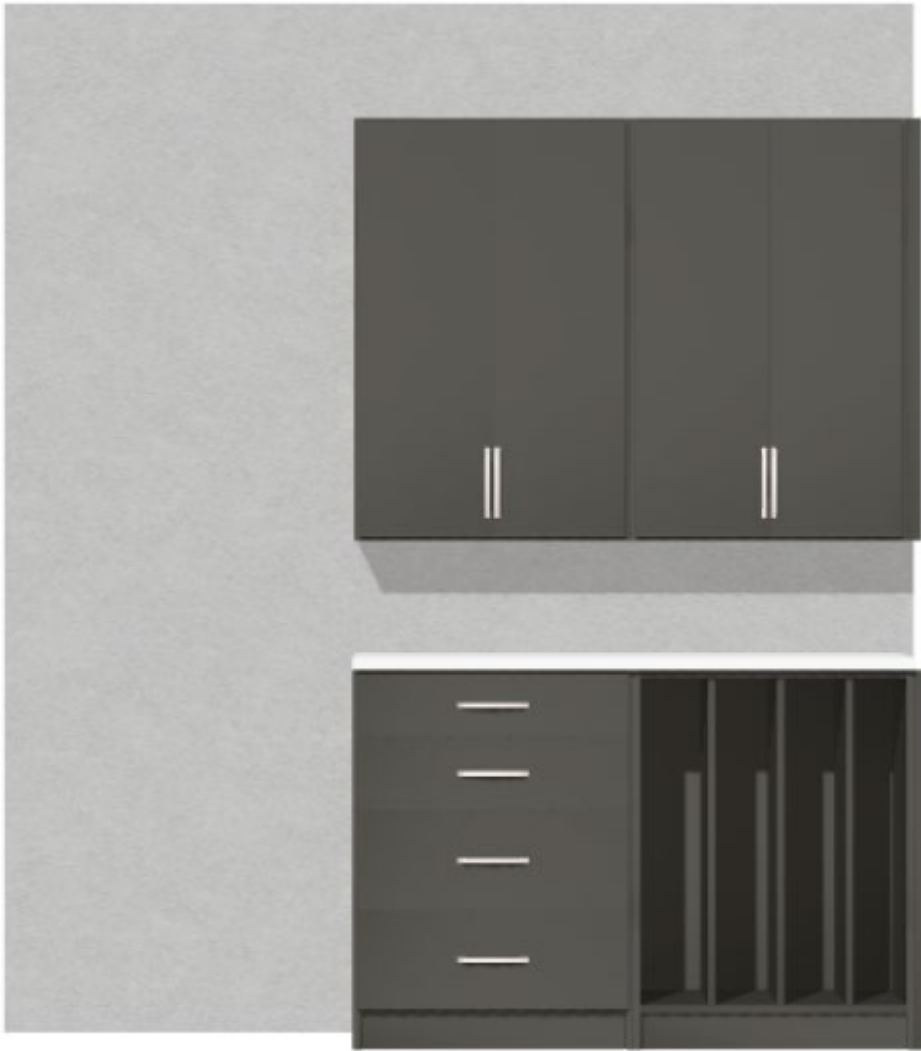






OUTREACH STORAGE CLOSET







Request for Board Action

Attachment 6.3

Agenda Item: Digital Asset Management System Procurement and Implementation

Presenter: E. Resseger

Meeting Date: 14 July 2026

Flexibility: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Estimated Time: ☐ Consent Agenda ☒ 10 Min. ☐ 15 Min. ☐ 30 Min. ☐ 45 Min. ☐ 1 Hour

Action Request: ☐ Information/Review ☒ Motion to approve ☐ Budget Change ☐ Other

Board Action: ☐ Approved ☐ Denied ☐ Tabled ☐ Accepted Report ☐ Other

Date of Action: 14 July 2026

Background

The Mississippi Water Management Organization (MWMO) prides itself on being a data-driven organization, utilizing best available information to target projects within the watershed, evaluating the success of outreach efforts, and investigating the performance of existing projects to inform future work. To fully function as a data-driven organization, MWMO needs systems in place to store, organize, and synthesize data, ensuring needed information can be fully integrated and leveraged to make decisions. MWMO has strong systems in place to manage water monitoring data (WISKI), geographic information systems information (ArcGIS), and Capital and Outreach projects information (MS4Front). However, MWMO has another long-term record of data that cannot be fully utilized: photos and videos.

Over its 40+ years, the MWMO has amassed a significant collection of photos and videos (digital assets). These assets serve multiple purposes, including:

- Historical record documentation
- Physical infrastructure and equipment management
- Construction project progress documentation

- Long-term project performance tracking
- Education and outreach efforts
- Public relations and brand identification

MWMO currently uses a single Flickr Pro account that holds over 75,000 photos and videos going back as far as 2008. In addition, network drive and archives hold well over 100,000 additional photos and videos, some of which are duplicative of what is in Flickr. These existing tools have outlived their usefulness, and a lack of a cohesive digital asset management (DAM) system is hampering employees' ability to do their jobs effectively and limiting MWMO's impact. The current system is not set up and operated in a way so that staff can easily find the assets they need for a specific purpose, such as finding the install date of a piece of equipment or advertising for a future outreach event. MWMO is currently unable to fully leverage its robust collection of photos and videos to demonstrate impact, track progress, and learn from past work.

To be able to fully leverage this rich dataset of photos and videos, MWMO would like to procure a modern DAM system that will allow the organization to fully leverage its digital resources through flexible file loading, streamlined user access, robust search, and flexible and powerful metadata management that ideally utilizes AI/machine learning to automate much of the process. This design and implementation effort would include a needs assessment to develop the requirements for a system that MWMO can use to fully activate its digital assets, recommendation of a system to best meet identified needs, migration into a new system, and development of an ongoing DAM plan so that the new system can be fully leveraged and kept up-to-date moving forward. Procurement of the software itself and any ongoing maintenance agreements will occur after a decision has been made on which system to purchase.

Staff are requesting a not-to-exceed amount of \$95,000 for professional digital asset management services to conduct the Digital Asset Management System Procurement and Implementation project.

Mississippi Watershed Management Organization

RESOLUTION 2026-018

A RESOLUTION APPROVING FUNDING FOR THE DIGITAL ASSET MANAGEMENT SYSTEM PROCUREMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT

WHEREAS, the MWMO strives to use best available data to protect and improve water quality and habitat within its jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the MWMO has a robust historical dataset of ~200,000 photos and videos and will continue to add to the collection; and

WHEREAS, the MWMO digital asset dataset includes valuable information that can be leveraged to learn about past, present, and future conditions in the watershed; track project performance; and demonstrate the MWMO's value to the community; and

WHEREAS, The MWMO's current digital asset management system cannot meet the current and future needs of the organization to leverage this information; and

WHEREAS, the MWMO has sufficient Administrative funds available; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends the Board of Commissioners approves up to \$95,000 in Administrative funds to select and implement a modern digital asset management system that MWMO staff will be able to support and use to fully leverage existing and future photo and video information for maximum impact.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the MWMO Board of Commissioners approve up to \$95,000 in Administrative funds for professional services to complete the Digital Asset Management System Procurement and Implementation project and authorizes MWMO staff to take all necessary administrative actions to implement the resolution.

Adopted this the 14th of July 2026.

Review for the Board:

Connie Buesgens, Chair

Review for Administration: _____

Kevin Reich, Executive Director



Request for Board Action

Attachment 6.4

Agenda Item: Request to Amend Rani Engineering's Upper Harbor Services Budget

Presenter: D. Kalmon

Meeting Date: 14 July 2026

Flexibility: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Estimated Time: ☐ Consent Agenda ☒ 10 Min. ☐ 15 Min. ☐ 30 Min. ☐ 45 Min. ☐ 1 Hour

Action Request: ☐ Information/Review ☒ Motion to approve ☐ Budget Change ☐ Other

Board Action: ☐ Approved ☐ Denied ☐ Tabled ☐ Accepted Report ☐ Other

Date of Action: 14 July 2026

Background

The Upper Harbor REOA established 20 acres of easements to protect land for a district-wide network of habitat, public space, and surface stormwater infrastructure as redevelopment occurs over time.

The MWMO is responsible for ensuring that all easements within the Upper Harbor District System are aligned with each developer's approved site designs and any construction as-builts. As such, the MWMO maintains a Professional Services Agreement with Rani Engineering to provide surveying and prepare easement modifications on a work order basis. Currently, 11 sites at Upper Harbor may still require easement modifications between 2026 and 2031.

Over the past three years, 14 easement modifications have been completed for Parcels 3, 4, 5, and the Southern Regional Treatment site. Of the original \$60,000 not-to-exceed Professional Services Agreement with Rani Engineering, \$1,286.25 remains. Staff request Board approval to increase the agreement's not-to-exceed amount to \$120,000, providing \$61,286.25 for future surveyor services.

Mississippi Watershed Management Organization

RESOLUTION 2026-019

A RESOLUTION APPROVING RANI ENGINEERING'S UPPER HARBOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT NOT-TO-EXCEED AMOUNT TO \$120,000

WHEREAS, MWMO's 10-year Plan establishes a goal to protect and improve the Mississippi River by implementing stormwater management practices in highly urban settings that enhance habitat structure and ecosystem function; and

WHEREAS, The Upper Harbor District System treats stormwater runoff from the 50-acre site before it discharges into the Mississippi River; and

WHEREAS, 11 sites at Upper Harbor that may still require easement modifications between 2026 and 2031; and

WHEREAS, MWMO maintains a Professional Services Agreement with Rani Engineering to provide surveying and prepare easement modifications at Upper Harbor; and

WHEREAS, MWMO amended its 2021–2031 Watershed Management Plan to include \$8,000,000 for the remaining work at Upper Harbor; and

WHEREAS, Whereas Staff recommends the Board of Commissioners approve a \$120,000 increase to the agreement's not-to-exceed amount, leaving a remaining balance of \$61,286.25 for future surveying services.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the MWMO Board of Commissioners approves a \$120,000 increase to the agreement's not-to-exceed amount, providing a remaining balance of \$61,286.25 for Rani Engineering's surveying services and authorizes MWMO staff to take all necessary administrative actions to implement the resolution.

Adopted this on the 14th day of July, 2026.

Review for the Board:

Connie Buesgens, Chair

Review for Administration: _____

Kevin Reich, Executive Director



Request for Board Action

Attachment 6.5

Agenda Item: St. Anthony Regional Treatment Facility Phase 1 Improvements

Presenter: E. Resseger

Meeting Date: 14 July 2026

Flexibility: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Estimated Time: ☐ Consent Agenda ☒ 10 Min. ☐ 15 Min. ☐ 30 Min. ☐ 45 Min. ☐ 1 Hour

Action Request: ☐ Information/Review ☒ Motion to approve ☐ Budget Change ☐ Other

Board Action: ☐ Approved ☐ Denied ☐ Tabled ☐ Accepted Report ☐ Other

Date of Action: 14 July 2026

Background

In 2016, the Mississippi Water Management Organization (MWMO), City of St. Anthony Village, City of Minneapolis, and Hennepin County collaborated to construct an underground stormwater treatment system that diverts stormwater runoff from approximately 600 acres of fully developed urban land use in the City of St. Anthony Village and County State Aid Highway 88 (CSAH 88). The treatment facility consists of a primary treatment cell and two secondary treatment cells operating in parallel. Construction of the facility was completed in 2016, and the MWMO has been monitoring its performance since.

This Saint Anthony Regional Treatment Facility (SARTF) has been experiencing performance challenges over the past several years. In March 2025, a performance assessment of the facility was completed to identify the reasons for the performance challenges and to identify potential options for the MWMO to consider addressing those challenges. Based on the results of that assessment, in July 2026, a feasibility study was completed that recommended moving forward with the following improvements to address the identified challenges: 1) installing a backflow preventer on the outlet pipe from the distribution well to prevent backflow into the system; 2) adjusting pump set points for the secondary treatment chambers to keep the media from being overloaded; and 3) replacing the

treatment technology in the iron-enhanced sand filter secondary treatment chamber to a technology that would perform better under system conditions.

Because of the complex nature of the SARTF, it was recommended that retrofit improvements be completed with an adaptive management approach in at least two phases, with the first phase incorporating:

- An elevation survey of the entire SARTF both below and above ground,
- Design, bid, and installation oversight of a backflow preventer,
- Development of monitoring guidance, operations support, and a summary memorandum.

The elevation survey will ensure pump set points and media replacement elevations are accurate for the current and future designs. The backflow preventer is proposed to be installed ahead of any additional improvements to the SARTF so that staff have sufficient time to monitor and ensure that the previous tailwater conditions that have been impeding performance in the SARTF are alleviated. Monitoring guidance and operations support will ensure that MWMO staff are collecting the right information to successfully evaluate the impact of the backflow preventor, as well as allow for optimization of the device.

Once improved flow condition performance has been established, a second phase of improvements at SARTF can proceed, which will involve replacing media in the secondary treatment chambers, servicing the pumps, updating pump set points, and revising the overall system operations and monitoring plans. If flow conditions continue to be problematic in the SARTF even with the backflow preventer, additional engineering and troubleshooting will occur ahead of Phase 2 improvements.

Staff is requesting a not-to-exceed amount of \$42,000 to pay for professional engineering services to conduct the St. Anthony Regional Treatment Facility Phase 1 Improvements project.

Mississippi Watershed Management Organization

RESOLUTION 2026-020

A RESOLUTION APPROVING FUNDING FOR THE ST. ANTHONY REGIONAL TREATMENT FACILITY PHASE 1 IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

WHEREAS, the MWMO strives to protect and improve water quality and habitat within its jurisdiction through the planning and implementation of stormwater best management practices; and

WHEREAS, the MWMO strives to partner with other entities to find cost-effective ways to manage stormwater and improve habitat collaboratively; and

WHEREAS, the MWMO, City of St. Anthony Village, City of Minneapolis, and Hennepin County collaborated to construct an underground stormwater treatment system in 2016; and

WHEREAS, The MWMO has found that the St. Anthony Regional Treatment Facility system no longer functions optimally, and has identified updates and improvements to allow the system to provide enhanced stormwater treatment; and

WHEREAS, the MWMO has sufficient Capital Improvement funds available; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends the Board of Commissioners approves up to \$42,000 in Capital Improvement funds for design of a first phase of improvements at the St. Anthony Regional Treatment Facility.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the MWMO Board of Commissioners approve up to \$42,000 in Capital Improvement funds for professional services to design a first phase of St. Anthony Regional Treatment Facility improvements and authorizes MWMO staff to take all necessary administrative actions to implement the resolution.

Adopted this the 14th of July 2026.

Review for the Board:

Connie Buesgens, Chair

Review for Administration: _____

Kevin Reich, Executive Director



Request for Board Action

Attachment 6.6

Agenda Item: Little Earth Stormwater and Habitat Improvements 90% Design Plans

Presenter: E. Baskerville Doeckel and N. Stowe

Meeting Date: 14 July 2026

Flexibility: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Estimated Time: ☐ Consent Agenda ☒ 10 Min. ☐ 15 Min. ☐ 30 Min. ☐ 45 Min. ☐ 1 Hour

Action Request: ☐ Information/Review ☒ Motion to approve ☐ Budget Change ☐ Other

Board Action: ☐ Approved ☐ Denied ☐ Tabled ☐ Accepted Report ☐ Other

Date of Action: 14 July 2026

Background

A feasibility study was previously completed in partnership with Hennepin County (County), the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB), and the City of Minneapolis (City) to identify a suite of water resource and habitat improvement opportunities within the East Phillips Neighborhood of Minneapolis, which is within the Southside Green Zone.

One potential project identified through this feasibility study is the Little Earth Stormwater and Habitat Improvements project. This 30% Design / Concept phase was recently completed, which included on-site stakeholder engagement sessions with representatives from Little Earth. The result is a concept plan for the nearly 10-acre Little Earth Housing Complex that incorporates a comprehensive suite of stormwater management and habitat improvements. Proposed features include an underground stormwater reuse tank that will capture runoff from Cedar Avenue and distribute it throughout the site for irrigation, an underground infiltration tank to reduce on-site flooding while providing pollutant removal, up to three stormwater play areas that both treat runoff and engage the community through interactive water features, up to four permeable pavement installations to manage runoff from large parking areas, and several rain gardens and tree trenches. The plan also includes up to 3.25 acres of native habitat restoration, featuring native trees, edible native shrubs, and restored prairie areas integrated throughout the housing complex. The next phase

of the project will develop 90% engineering plans for the sustainable landscaping plans, the underground infiltration tank, and the underground reuse tank.

MWMO staff is requesting approval of a not-to-exceed amount of \$330,000 in Capital Project funding for professional engineering services to advance to 90% Design Plans for the Little Earth Stormwater and Habitat Improvements project.

Mississippi Watershed Management Organization

RESOLUTION 2026-021

A RESOLUTION APPROVING FUNDING FOR LITTLE EARTH STORMWATER IMPROVEMENTS 90% CONCEPT DESIGN

WHEREAS, the MWMO strives to protect and improve water quality and habitat within its jurisdiction, through the planning and implementation of stormwater best management practices;

WHEREAS, the MWMO strives to partner with other local units of government and landowners to collaboratively find cost-effective ways to manage stormwater and improve habitat;

WHEREAS, the MWMO recognizes the importance of providing resources to communities in the City's Southside Green Zone;

WHEREAS, the MWMO has sufficient Capital Project funds available; and

WHEREAS, staff recommend that the Board of Commissioners approves Capital Project funds to complete the Little Earth Stormwater Improvement and Habitat Design 90% Design Plans.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the MWMO Board of Commissioners approves not-to-exceed \$330,000 in Capital Project funds for professional services to develop 90% Construction Plans for the Little Earth Stormwater Improvement and Habitat Design Plans and authorizes MWMO staff to take all necessary administrative actions to implement the resolution.

Adopted this the 14th day of July, 2026.

Review for the Board: _____

Connie Buesgens, Chair

Review for Administration: _____

Kevin Reich, Executive Director

Kasota Ponds Buckthorn Removal – Summer 2026 Progress Report

Receiving a 2026 Community Grant through the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization has allowed the St. Anthony Park Community Council to begin the removal of a vast amount of common buckthorn at Kasota Ponds. The area of removal abuts the western edge of the East Pond, the most publicly visible and accessible from the parking lot.

Two workdays were scheduled in early June to cut down the buckthorn to approximately 4' from the ground. This "high-cut method" removes the uppermost branches and leaves the remaining trunk, which will be stripped of its vegetation over the next two years.

Fliers were created in April and distributed to shops, libraries, and restaurants in south and north St. Anthony Park the month of May. Postings announcing the public workday on June 2 was shared via social media and on the St. Anthony Park listserv.

The June 2 evening workday attracted 18 participants, which was close to our goal of 20. Participants ranged in age from 20 to 80 and most stayed 1.5 to 2 hours. Because we were working within 25 feet of the railway, a flagman from Minnesota Commercial was on site giving safety instructions to volunteers.

The second workday on June 3 was reserved for a group of Avalon High School students. The students are required to participate in community service days the last week of the school year, which dovetailed nicely with this event. There were 15 students and 3 teachers/staff who were on site from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. After a brief presentation about what buckthorn is, how to identify it, and why its removal encourages diversity of plant and wildlife, they worked for 1.5 hours, had lunch, and then worked for another hour before heading back to school.

Although the initial plan was to remove approximately 10,000 square feet of buckthorn (500 ft long x 20 ft wide), about two-thirds of that was achieved. Due to not having organized this sort of project before, what we underestimated was the volume of wood debris that needed to be removed. We thought a few volunteers could rent a U-Haul and dispose of it at the nearby compost site. Instead, we had to hire a company that took most of the vegetation. That was an unanticipated expense and ended up taking two weeks to achieve.

Next steps: In July we will be putting up orange tape and informational signs informing the public of the project. In September we will organize two similar workdays, stripping current cut vegetation of all greenery and cutting down the last 1/3 of the area to 4' stumps.

Attached: Photos of the activities described, promotional event flier, a 1/3 sheet flier to promote awareness of buckthorn, and onsite metal signage explaining project.

Reported by Kerry Morgan, Co-chair, SAPCC Environment Committee