

MEMORANDUM

To: MCWD Board of Managers
From: Eric Fieldseth, AIS Program Manager
Date: March 5, 2015
Subject: 2015 Watercraft Inspection Cost-Share Grants

The AIS program has \$215,000 budgeted in the approved 2015 AIS Work Plan for Cost-Share Grants for Watercraft Inspections and Roaming Inspectors. In 2013, the MCWD established a 50% reimbursement rate for watercraft inspections. We've also paid 100% of a roaming inspector program that has been contracted with Three Rivers Park District and Carver County to utilize their staff at accesses that would otherwise not be covered. Staff is expecting a slightly higher level of funding from last year with the same partners. One formal proposal has been received so far, and we expect others to begin coming in soon. The total expected level of funding will likely be around \$200,000.

Staff has also reached out to the City of Long Lake, where only a limited presence of DNR inspectors is occurring, to see their interest in the program. They seem to be open to discussing further, but preferred another agency to manage the program. Staff will continue to pursue a program with them, as it receives a fair amount of boat traffic, especially from Lake Minnetonka.

Expected Cost-Share partners and amounts are below:

- **Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board:** Proposal Received – Cost-Share Request: **\$88,500**
- **Lake Minnetonka Conservation District:** Awaiting Proposal – Cost-Share Expected: ~ **\$25,000**
- **Carver County (Lake Minnewashta):** Awaiting Proposal – Cost-Share Expected: ~ **\$15,500**
- **City of Shorewood (Christmas Lake):** Awaiting Proposal – Cost-Share Expected: ~ **\$23,500**

Roaming Inspector Program for 2015:

- Contract for services with **Three Rivers Park District** (Zumbra, Steiger, Auburn, Minnetonka Regional Park) – Expected Amount: **\$8,000**
- Contract for services with **Carver County** (Piersons, Wassermann, Parley) – Expected Amount: **\$39,500**

Grants and services will be within budget, and staff is requesting the Operations and Programs Committee to recommend these items be put on the consent agenda at the March 26 Board Meeting for approval.