



TO: (CLFLWD) Board of Managers

DATE: September 17, 2026

RE: Administrator's Report for the September 24, 2026, Regular Board Meeting

Administration (1000 series)

- 1001 – Board Administration
 - Steve Schmaltz's last board meeting was September 10th and his term will end once Blake Roberts takes the Oath of Office at the September 24th Regular Board Meeting.
- 1003 – General Administration
 - The 2027 budget and levy were adopted on September 10th by a 4-0-1 vote. The levy certification documents have been sent.
 - The last day for Land Management Specialist, Aidan Read, was September 15th and the last day for Conservation Corps member Kennedy Kolb was September 18th.
- 1004 – Professional Services
 - 2027-2028 Biennial RFP The 2027-2028 Biennial professional services RFP was distributed to and sent to the official newspapers on August 14th. The RFP closes on September 27th.

Programs (3000 series)

- 3002 – Permitting
 - Between Aug. 18 and Sept. 14, 2026, the following activity took place:
 - 96 site inspections performed with a 96.25% compliance rate
 - Four permits were activated
 - Six permit applications were received
 - Three permits were closed out
 - See Appendix A for current list of active permits
- 3003 – Monitoring & Data Assessment
 - Continued CAMP, CAT, and O&M effectiveness monitoring.
 - Staff presented a Mid-Season Monitoring Update at the 9-10-26 Board Meeting.

- 3004 – Non-Point Source Pollution Abatement (Cost-Share)
 - Land Management Specialist Aidan Read has left the District, portions of the program will be overseen by Adam Hjelm and Jackie Bussjaeger.
 - 21 cost-share projects have been approved this year, the highest amount ever. For comparison, in 2025, 18 projects were approved and in 2021, the year prior to Mr. Read administering the program, two projects were approved. Additionally, the program has allocated \$39k in grants YTD, compared to \$1000 in all of 2021.
 - Soil testing continues across the District, with 23 tests completed YTD.
- 3005 – Education & Outreach
 - CLFLWD hosted a booth at the final Forest Lake Art in the Park of the season on August 25th. Staff will be reviewing the booth visitors for the season and creating a summary spreadsheet. Staff also registered the CLFLWD for a booth for the 2027 season.
 - EO Coordinator Hjelm attended the September 3 Comfort Lakes Association monthly meeting.
 - Fall community education has begun for the season. Upcoming CLFLWD classes include:
 - September 17, Wildflowers for Soggy Soils with Hardwood Creek Library
 - September 21, Fall Lawn Care with Forest Lake Schools
 - September 28, Fall Perennial Planting with Chisago Schools
 - October 5, Build Your Own Lures Family Class with Forest Lake Schools
 - October 15, Eco Grasses and Bee Lawns with Chisago Schools
 - CLFLWD staff Hjelm and Philippi will present at the September 17 Chisago Water Festival. Their information station includes the benefits of native plants.
 - The State of the Watershed is scheduled for September 29 at the Forest Lake American Legion. Let staff know if you are planning on attending.
- 3006 – Interagency Communication
 - Wyoming and Scandia Quarterly meetings on 9-9 and 9-16, respectively
- 3007 – Research
 - Staff are assisting UMN researcher Catherine Polik collect data on the Forest Lake Alum Treatment on 9-16-26

- Staff are helping to coordinating University of Iowa Research on Little Comfort Lake on 9-21-26 – Students are trying to characterize and quantify the role of vivianite ($\text{Fe}_3(\text{PO}_4)_2$) in permanently removing P from the lake water during summer stratification.
- 3009 – Grant Research & Preparation
 - Conservation Partners Legacy grant application submitted for Willow Point Shoreline Restoration Project on 9/15 (grant: \$93,000; match: \$9,300). Letters of support received from landowner, Forest Lake Lake Association, and City of Forest Lake.
 - Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership Lake Conservation Grant on 9/24 consent agenda, grant application due 10/9.
 - Bush Foundation Community Innovation Grant application close to completion and submittal, no deadline for grant applications to this program. Staff have been in communication with state agencies, universities, and other watershed management organizations to prepare a multi-partner, multi-year proposal related to the District's Sequential Diagnostic Assessment work.
 - Staff are continuing to review other foundations for potential grant applications (e.g., seek grants beyond the usual state/federal grants the District typically applies to).
- 3010 – Operations & Maintenance
 - Continued O&M inspections and maintenance
- 3011 – Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention & Management
 - Flowering rush management efforts on Forest Lake begin in July & most of the heavy growth was observed on 2nd and 3rd lakes.

July 11th: Initial Flowering Rush Delineation Survey (BWS)

Late July: Flower Removal #1 (District Staff)

July 29th: Shoreline Walk, Spot and Area Treatments (PLM)

Early August: Flower Removal #2 (District Staff)

August 19th: Shoreline Walk, Spot and Area Treatments as (PLM)

August 31st: Second Delineation/Assessment Survey (BWS)

Early September: Flower Removal #3 (District Staff)

September 17th: Shoreline Walk, Spot and Area Treatments as (PLM)

Mid-October: Final Assessment Survey (BWS)

- Following the 10-year watershed management plan District staff performed a full Point-intercept macrophyte survey for Moody Lake. Staff observed heavy native aquatic plant growth at many of the survey points, with Coontail being the dominant species.
- Staff assisted researchers from the University of Minnesota's Lab to Lakes with a new eDNA testing lab pilot program. Samples from Lake Keewahlin were submitted and the target species was zebra mussels. The objective of the pilot program is to further develop sampling procedures, increasing sampling capacity and improving early detection of AIS.
- CLFLWD watercraft inspectors have continued to perform inspections at all five of the public launches within the District.

Table 1: CLFLWD Watercraft Inspection Data (as of September 14th)

	CLFLWD Hours	Inspections	Inspection Rate
Forest Lake	1205.5 hrs	3,537	2.9 Inspection/hr
Comfort Lake	305.5 hrs	663	2.2 Inspection/hr
Bone Lake	349	649	1.9 Inspection/hr

Table 2: Additional Inspection hours performed at public launches (Sept 14th)

	Conservation Corps	Chisago County	DNR
Forest Lake	52 hrs	425 hrs	407 hrs
Comfort Lake	0	245 hrs	0
Bone Lake	0	193 hrs	0

- 3012 – Land Acquisition
 - Continued progress on the Shallow Pond Audubon property. Staff attended the 9-15-26 Wyoming City Council meeting regarding the deed issue on the property. The City adopted a resolution to deed the 8-foot strip to the Audubon Society – this clears the path for the District to accept this donation.
- 3013 – Watershed Planning & Resiliency
 - EOR continues to work on floodplain resiliency project modeling and concept design under the awarded BWSR Water Quality & Storage grant.

Projects (5000 series)

- Little Comfort Lake
 - Heath Ave IESF – a groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled for later this month – date TBD. The ceremony was canceled on 9-14 due to inclement weather. The project is set to break ground on October 15.
- Comfort Lake
 - East Comfort Pond – Staff met with landowners and shared the feasibility report. Both landowners are excited about the project. Staff and legal council have begun drafting project agreements with the landowner and City to allow project implementation.

Appendix A: Active Permits

Active Permits			
Permit No.	Permit Name	Address	Rules
20-011	Cavalry Cemetery	4647 232nd St	3.0, 9.0
20-025	Forest Hills Farm Development	10161 North Shore Tr N	2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 9.0, 10.0
21-005	Heims Lake Villas II	25409 H Lake Circle	2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 9.0
22-039	Miller SFH	North of 13351 Oakhill Road N	3.0, 9.0
22-041-T	Katies Glen Transfer	East Side of Goodview Ave. at its's intersection with Glen Oak	2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 9.0, 10.0
22-043	Rolling Acres 61	SE of intersection of 199th and Keystone	2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 9.0, 10.0
22-043-P1	Block 3, Lot 1- Rolling Acres 61	SE of intersection of 199th and Keystone	3.0, 9.0
22-043-P3	Block 1, Lot 1 Rolling Acres 61	10350 198th St. N	3.0
23-003	McGrath SFH	N of 7460 N Shore Circle	3.0, 9.0
23-009	Downtown FL Stormwater BMPs	N. Shore Trail N from Hayward Ave N to 233rd Street N	3.0
23-010	Ingersoll Subdivision	East across the road from 20810 Ingersoll	2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 9.0, 10.0
23-010-P1	Ingersoll Lot 4	20805 Ingersoll Ave N	3.0, 9.0
23-020	Erickson Shop	13263 240th St N	3.0, 9.0
23-030	Tempo Homes	7880 Scandia Trail	3.0, 9.0
24-006	Larson Addition	1099 17th St SE	3.0, 9.0
24-007	Chase Bank	1232 W Broadway Ave	2.0, 3.0, 9.0
24-010	Vicki & Chris SFH	21577 Novak Ave N	3.0, 9.0
24-013	Gaiovnik Subdivision	East of 7902 N. Shore Tr	3.0, 4.0, 9.0

24-014	Parenteau SFH	20460 Jewel Ave	3.0, 9.0
24-016	Ingersoll Lot 3	20859 Ingersoll Ave N	2.0, 3.0, 9.0
24-021	9879 206th St N	9879 206th St N	3.0, 9.0
24-023	Dalbec SFH	21320 Manning Trail N	3.0, 9.0
24-028	McPhee Garage	7710 235th Street N.	3.0, 9.0
24-029	Freemore Residence	Lot 1 Aadland Shores (PID 21.10765.00)	3.0, 9.0
24-034	Knippenberg SFH	Next to 880 18th St. SE	3.0, 9.0
24-037	Criego SFH	13566 230th St N	3.0, 9.0
25-004	North Shore Trail Maintenance	North Shore Trail	3.0
25-008	Stephens SFH	21015 Juno Ave N	3.0, 9.0
25-009	Forest Lake Sportsmen's Club Berm 2	4480 240th St. N	3.0, 9.0
25-010	Obst Garage	10604 230th St. N.	3.0, 9.0
25-013	Kuschke SFH	8393 200th St. N	3.0, 9.0
25-015	Havenwood	Greystone, 207th & 208th St. N	2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 9.0, 10.0
25-016	Popa SFH	9940 North Shore Trail	3.0, 9.0
25-017	Worcester Home	7451 255th St.	3.0, 9.0
25-019	Amberly Woods	Goodview Avenue	2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 9.0, 10.0
25-022	Schilling SFH	25930 Comfort Lake Dr.	3.0, 9.0
25-025	Brown SFH	26488 Hunter Ave	3.0, 9.0
25-026	Roche Garage	25516 E Comfort Drive	3.0, 9.0
25-029	Lesnau SFH	24775 Itasca Ave	3.0, 9.0
25-030	Montoya Garage	55 4th Ave NW	3.0, 9.0
26-001	Forest Lake 2026 Street Improvement Project	207th St. Cir, Greystone Ave., Granada Ave. N	3.0
26-002	Dill SFH	23643 Granada Ave. N	3.0, 9.0
26-003	Beltz Park Volleyball	720 11th Ave SE	3.0

26-004	Annunziata SFH	21431 Iverson Ave N.	3.0, 9.0
26-006	Ambli SFH	7536 North Shore Cir N.	3.0, 9.0
26-007	Hubert SFH	7346 255th St.	3.0, 9.0
26-008	2026 Wyoming Street Project	257th St., Forest Blvd Trl, Forest Blvd Ln, Forest Blvd Cir, Freeport Ave, 258th St., Friesland Ct, Goldfinch Ave	3.0
26-012	B Olson SFH	22975 Mallard Ave N.	3.0, 9.0
26-014	Granberg Septic	14250 Scandia Tr. N	3.0, 9.0
26-015	Xcel 2026 Line 0736	97 SW to 190th St,	3.0, 9.0
26-016	Bayview Park	1507 11th St. SE	3.0
26-017	Senske Shoreline	26004 Hunter Ave	3.0, 9.0
26-020	Jeans Garage	255th St. & W Comfort Lake Dr	3.0, 9.0
26-022	Immerman SFH	22156 Jason Ave N	3.0, 9.0
26-025	Peloquin Garage	7422 255th St.	3.0, 9.0



Monthly Grants Summary Table

September

Account	Lake Management District	Title and Description	Total Grant Award or Grant Request	2025	2026	2027	Grant Period Start Date	Grant Expiration Date	Cumulative Grant Amount Spent to Date (as of 8/31/26)	Comment
		ACTIVE/CONFIRMED GRANTS	Total Grant Award or Grant Request	2025 Earned Grant Revenue Yearend	2026 Earned Grant Revenue Est. YE	2027 Earned Grant Revenue Estimated				
Various	District-Wide	Section 319 Small Watersheds Focus	\$279,583	N/A	Likely in FY27	\$85,000	estimated 1/1/2027	6/30/2030	\$0	Slated to receive next 4-yr installment of federal grant funds in Dec 2026/Jan 2027. Can be used to cover the match portion for state grants, as well as new projects and program work.
3-001	District-Wide	BWSR PRAP - Permitting Program Review	\$8,400	\$0	\$8,400	\$0	2/3/2026	12/31/2026	\$159	2026 initiative- staff and engineering time to review permitting program effectiveness and improve efficiency
3-004	Forest LMD	BWSR Buffer Law Grant (2024) - Shoreline Restoration partnership with Washington Conservation District	~\$7,500 thru WCD	N/A	N/A - WCD funds work	N/A - WCD funds work	7/1/2026	7/1/2027	N/A	Partnership with Washington Conservation District to implement shoreline restoration on Forest Lake. CLFLWD contribute \$8,000 in budgeted levy funds. WCD contribute up to \$7,500 of BWSR buffer law grant funds.
3-004	District-Wide	MN Conservation Corps Individual + Crew	Technician and Crew	N/A	Technician and Crew	N/A	1/28/2026	9/30/2026	N/A	2026 initiative. Grant awarded in time/labor, not in dollars. Individual (900 hrs) and Crew Labor (400 hrs)
3-004, 3-005	District-Wide	Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership Grant - Shoreline Restorations and Outreach	\$60,000	\$46,023	\$13,977	\$0	10/1/2024	9/30/2026	\$57,725	Shoreline projects and shoreline-related public outreach. Will be completed in 2025/2026.
3-004, 3-005	District-Wide	MPCA Local Climate Action: Shoreline Resiliency Planning	\$35,000	\$29,327	\$5,673	\$0	6/17/2025	6/30/2026	\$35,000	Completed and closed out 6/30/26. Worked with Moore Engineering.
3-005	District-Wide	No Child Left Inside: Schools' Outdoor Experience Kits	\$5,000	N/A	\$5,000	\$0	7/1/2026	6/30/2027	\$0	2026 initiative - direct purchase cost of education kit materials.
3-006	District-Wide	LSC Mid-Point Evaluation Grant - Mid-Point Eval	\$2,310	\$0	\$2,310	TBD	12/29/2025	12/31/2026	\$2,290	Assist with Lower St. Croix 10-year plan mid-point evaluation. Potential for Phase 2 in 2027, TBD.
3-006	District-Wide	LSC WBIF Grant - Reporting and Work Planning	\$1,800	\$0	\$3,800	TBD	12/29/2025	12/31/2027	\$2,530	Assist with Lower St. Croix annual reporting and biennial work plan/budget. Potential to continue in 2027+
3-011	Forest LMD, Bone LMD	Washington County AIS Prevention Aid - three grants	\$18,000	\$19,884	\$18,000	\$16,000	3/26/2026	12/31/2026	\$0	2026 grants include Bone/Forest Watercraft Inspections (\$10,000), Forest Lk Flowering Rush (\$4,000), Forest Lake Curly-leaf Pondweed (\$4,000). Grant awards declining over time.
5-100	Comfort LMD	BWSR Water Quality & Storage Grant - Floodplain Project Modeling & Concept Design	\$99,000	\$0	\$49,500	\$49,500	2/26/2026	12/31/2027	\$0	Awarded in Feb 2026. Grant period begin in March/April 2026, end December 2027. Critical pre-project/project development step before applying for project construction grants.
5-224-A	Little Comfort LMD	FY24 CWF School Lake Ag BMPs	\$90,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$0	4/5/2024	12/31/2026	\$3,280	Project entails multiple BMPs. Roof runoff management completed in 2024. Remaining feedlot and ag field BMPs must be completed by end of 2026, pending landowner cooperation.
5-225-C	Little Comfort LMD	FY25 CWF Heath Ave Iron Enhanced Sand Filter	\$1,499,000	\$21,825	\$1,349,100	\$128,075	2/18/2025	12/31/2027	\$65,272	Project to be completed in 2025-2027. Grant expires 12/31/27. Aiming to time construction so that CWF match can be covered by Section 319 grant.
5-229-A	Comfort LMD	FY25 CWF Accelerated Implementation Grant - Sunrise River Headwaters Project Development	\$118,000	\$10,640	\$59,000	\$48,360	2/18/2025	12/31/2027	\$39,062	Project to be completed in 2025-2027. Grant expires 12/31/27.
5-229-B	Comfort LMD	FY25 BWSR Green Infrastructure Projects: East Comfort Pond	\$225,800	\$715	\$50,000	\$150,000	6/9/2025	12/31/2027	\$15,811	Grant amended to accommodate project location change per landowner agreements. Complete project by December 31, 2027.
5-420-C	Bone LMD	Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Fund: Bone Lake South Phase 2 (Restoration)	\$1,432,000	N/A	\$135,000	\$130,000	7/1/2026	6/30/2031	\$10,759	Grant execution in progress. Anticipated to be active in July 2026.
6-000-F	Bone LMD	Conservation Partners Legacy Bone Lake South Wetland Acquisition (and fencing)	\$500,000	\$424,119	\$75,881	\$0	7/14/2025	6/30/2026	\$500,000	Completed and closed out 6/30/26.
6-000-I	Comfort LMD	Lessard-Sams OHF: Greenbelt Phase 1	\$1,467,000	N/A	\$25,000	\$150,000	7/1/2026	6/30/2030	\$5,781	Grant execution in progress. Anticipated to be active in July 2026. Easements + acquisitions
Multiple	Multiple	Grants Closed out in 2025		\$2,279,667						
		ACTIVE/CONFIRMED GRANTS	\$5,840,893	\$2,832,200	\$1,810,641	\$756,935			\$737,669	



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		GRANT APPLICATIONS PENDING		2025 Earned Grant Revenue Yearend	2026 Earned Grant Revenue Est. Yearend	2027 Earned Grant Revenue Estimated				
3-004	TBD	MDA AGRI grants (ag demonstration and partners grants) - TBD work with Farmer Led Council	TBD	N/A	TBD	\$30,000	TBD	TBD	\$0	New grant program for the CLFLWD. Multiple AGRI programs available. Staff is reviewing possibilities with partners and farmer-led council.
3-004	Forest LMD	Conservation Partners Legacy: Willow Point Shoreline Restoration Project	\$93,000	N/A	N/A	\$20,000	estimated 1/1/2027	6/30/2030	\$0	
3-005	Comfort LMD, Forest LMD, Bone LMD	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Five Star Grant: Outreach and shoreline restoration projects	\$150,000	N/A	Likely in FY27	\$50,000	estimated 1/1/2027	6/30/2028	\$0	New grant program for the CLFLWD. Brought to April 23, 2026 regular board meeting for application approval.
3-006	Comfort LMD, Forest LMD	MPCA Clean Sweep Program: Free street sweeping materials testing - apply for Forest Lake and Wyoming	Free testing	N/A	N/A	N/A	estimated fall 2026	N/A	\$0	New grant program for the CLFLWD. MPCA offers new grant program to provide free testing of street sweeping materials to identify harmful pollutants like phosphorus, metals, and hydrocarbons. Results can be used to document pollutant removal and compare to calculator/model estimates.
6-000	Forest LMD	BWSR Managing Invasives for a Resilient Landscape Program - phramites mgmt partnership w/ WCD	Phragmites mgmt by WCD	N/A	N/A	N/A	November 2026	December 2029	\$0	New grant program for the CLFLWD. Partnered with Washington Conservation District to apply for funds to treat nonnative phragmites
6-000	Comfort LMD	Great River Greening - support GRG proposal to Lessard-Sams OHF	\$200K thru GRG	N/A	N/A	N/A - GRG contracts work	7/1/2027	6/30/2032	\$0	Partner with GRG to fund land management and restoration/enhancement work on CLFLWD properties. Funds handled by GRG.
		GRANT APPLICATIONS PENDING (NOT INCLUDED IN TOTAL ABOVE)	\$243,000		\$0	\$100,000			\$0	

		GRANT APPLICATIONS IN PROGRESS		2025 Earned Grant Revenue Yearend	2026 Earned Grant Revenue Est. Yearend	2027 Earned Grant Revenue Estimated				
3-003	Forest LMD, Bone LMD	Bush Foundation: Sequential Diagnostic Assessment Process Testing, Deployment, Spreading	TBD, \$500,000-\$1 million	N/A	FY27	\$100,000	estimated 1/1/2027	12/31/2031	\$0	New grant program for the CLFLWD. Brought to March 26, 2026 regular board meeting for application approval. Application development in progress with partners and EOR.
3-006	District-Wide	Esri Conservation Grant: Significantly discounted rates for three ArcGIS licenses (total \$11,400 discounted to \$300)	Discounted GIS = \$11K in savings	N/A	N/A	N/A	annually recurring	N/A	\$0	CLFLWD has been using this program for several years to obtain ArcGIS licenses for District staff use. The discounted rate is significant, and the District would have difficulty affording GIS licenses without it.
		GRANT APPLICATIONS IN PROGRESS (NOT INCLUDED IN TOTAL ABOVE)	TBD \$1 million+	\$0	\$0	\$300,000			\$0	