



Rhonda Sivarajah
County Administrator

Anoka County

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

This letter was sent to all
elected officials of the
City of Spring Lake Park

Respectful, Innovative, Fiscally Responsible

September 26, 2022

The Honorable Bob Nelson
Mayor, City of Spring Lake Park
1301 81st Avenue NE
Spring Lake Park, MN 55432

RE: Rice Creek Watershed District Appointment

Dear Mayor Nelson:

In accordance with the provisions of Minn. Stat. § 103B.227, Anoka County in September 2022 published notice that a term will expire for a manager on the Rice Creek Watershed District Board of Managers. The notice publication requirement applies because Rice Creek Watershed District is considered a watershed management organization. The published notice states that persons interested in being appointed may submit their names to the appointing authority, which is the county board for a watershed district appointment. For your information, a copy of the notice is enclosed.

In appointing a manager to the Rice Creek Watershed District, Minn. Stat. § 103D.311 is also applicable. This statute requires a county board, upon the expiration of a term, to appoint managers for a watershed district from an aggregate list of three or more persons nominated jointly or severally by the towns and municipalities within the district. The list must be submitted 60 days before the manager's term of office expires. The current manager's term of office expires on January 17, 2023. Therefore, in order for the county to accept nominations, they must be received by Friday, November 18, 2022.

Each city may submit one or more nominees for consideration. Cities may also choose to submit a joint list containing one or more nominees. For reference, the affected cities with territory located in the Rice Creek Watershed District are Blaine, Centerville, Circle Pines, Columbia Heights, Columbus, Fridley, Lexington, Lino Lakes, and Spring Lake Park. As nominees are submitted for consideration, they will be added to an aggregate list of nominees.

To be considered a valid list of nominees under the statutory definition, the aggregate list of names must contain at least three nominees eligible to be appointed. To be eligible for an appointment, a nominee must reside within the watershed district boundaries, be eligible to vote in the district, and not be a public officer of the county, state, or federal government (except that a soil and water conservation supervisor can be appointed).

Minn. Stat. § 103D.311 requires the county to appoint a manager to the watershed district from an aggregate list of city-submitted nominees, unless the total number of nominees is less than three or the county finds that none of the nominated persons can fairly represent the various hydrologic areas within the watershed district. Rice Creek Watershed District is divided into five separate planning zones. The manager whose term expires on January 17, 2023, is Patricia Preiner. Ms. Preiner's residence is located in planning zone 3 while the remaining managers each live in planning zones 1, 2, 4, and 5 of the Rice Creek Watershed District. A map with the location of current board members highlighted is being forwarded to the Spring Lake Park city manager/administrator. Although Rice Creek Watershed District has divided itself into five planning areas, the county board may appoint any eligible individual who resides within the watershed district as long as that appointee can fairly represent the various hydrologic areas within the district.

If the county does not receive a valid list of nominees, it may appoint a qualified manager from a town or municipality that failed to submit a list of nominees.

All applicants must submit a completed application form to the appointing authority. Find the application at <https://www.anokacountymn.gov/FormCenter/Administration-21/Anoka-County-Committee-Appointments-Appl-121>.

If you have any questions regarding this appointment process, you may contact me at 763-324-4715.

Sincerely,



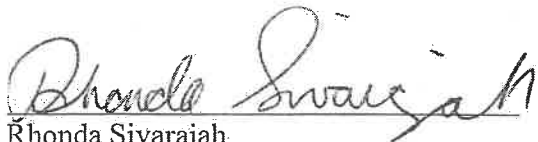
Rhonda Sivarajah
County Administrator
763-324-4715
Rhonda.Sivarajah@co.anoka.mn.us

RS:bv
Enclosure

c: Spring Lake Park City Manager/Administrator
Brenda Vetter, Principal Administrative Assistant

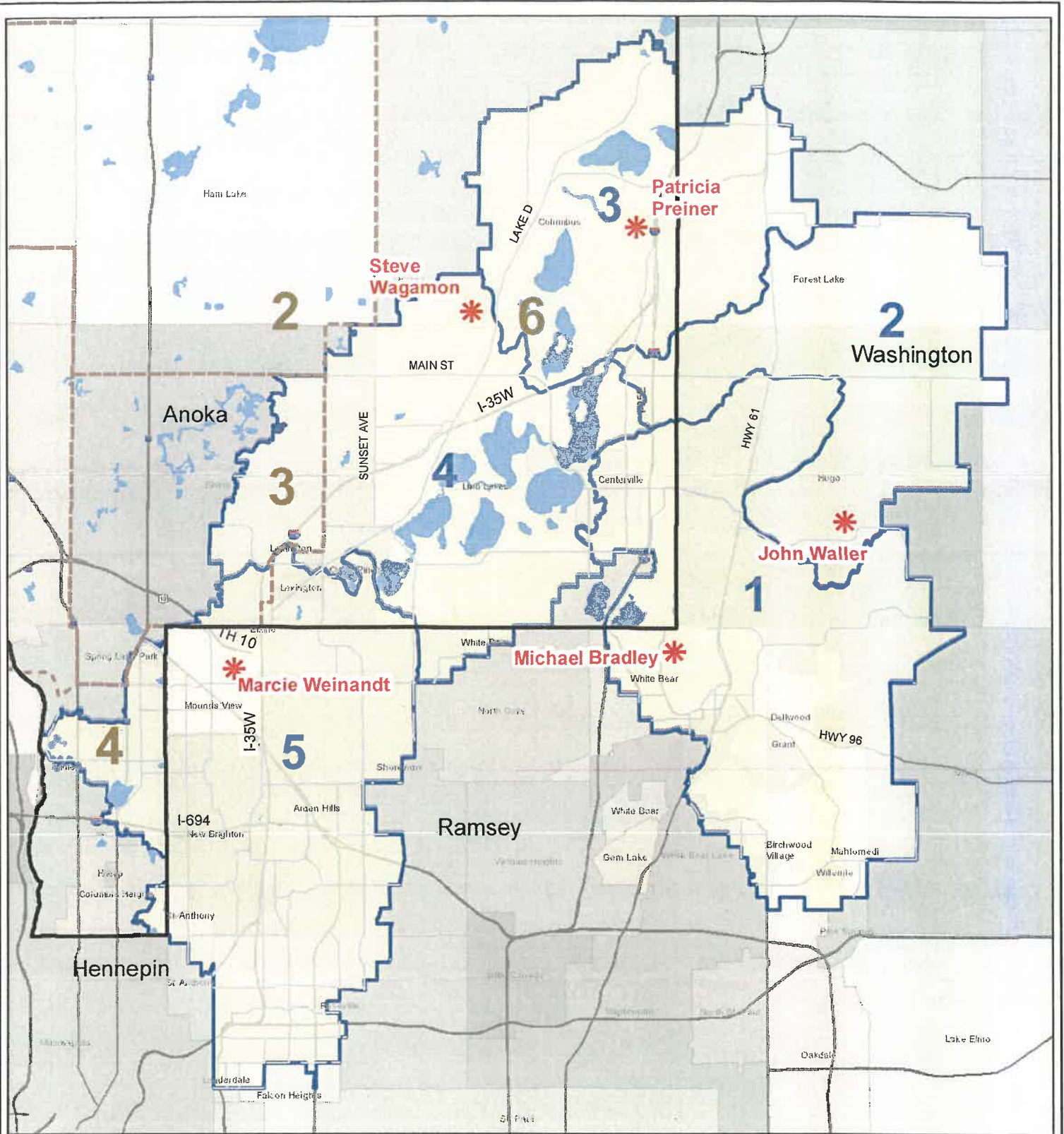
PUBLIC NOTICE OF VACANCY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 103B.227 and § 103D.311 that a vacancy will occur on the Rice Creek Watershed District Board of Managers due to the expiration on January 17, 2023, of the term of Patricia Preiner, city of Columbus. Term of the appointment is for three years. Managers are eligible to be reappointed. Persons interested in being appointed to serve on the Rice Creek Watershed District Board of Managers may submit their names for consideration to the Anoka County Board of Commissioners, the appointing authority. Minn. Stat. § 103D.311 permits cities in the district to jointly or severally submit nominees to the county board for consideration. As city nominees are submitted for consideration, they are added to an aggregate list of nominees. If the cities submit three or more nominees eligible for a manager's position at least 60 days prior to the expiration of the term or by November 18, 2022, the Anoka County Board of Commissioners shall consider and appoint one of the city nominees unless it concludes none of the city nominees can fairly represent the various hydrologic areas in the watershed district. Since a list may be submitted, persons interested in being considered for appointment may wish to contact their city to request to be included on a list of nominations. In the absence of a valid aggregate list of nominees, the Anoka County Board of Commissioners may appoint any voting resident of the Rice Creek Watershed District who is not a public officer of the county, state, or federal government and who otherwise complies with the requirements and terms of Minn. Stat. § 103D.311.







Rhonda Sivarajah
County Administrator

PUBLISH IN: Union, September 23, 2022
 Forest Lake Times, September 29, 2022
 Quad Community Press, September 27, 2022



Rice Creek Watershed District

-  County Boundary
-  Commissioner Districts
-  Lakes
-  RCWD Boundary/Hydrologic Areas

