

Markups on this document are draft amendment recommendations consistent with  
URRWMO Board on 11/9/2021.  
Last update: 11/10/2021

AMENDED  
MAY 2010

UPPER RUM RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION  
JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into as of the date of execution by and between the Local Government Units of: City of Bethel, City of East Bethel, City of Ham Lake, City of Nowthen, City of Oak Grove, and City of St. Francis for the establishment of a watershed management organization. The purpose of this Joint Powers Agreement is to establish a Water Management Organization to assist the member local units of government with surface water, ground water, water quality and water usage issues.

WHEREAS, the parties to this Agreement have authority pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 471.59 to jointly or cooperatively by agreement exercise any power common to the contracting parties and pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.201 to 103B.255 have authority to jointly or cooperatively manage or plan for the management of surface water;

WHEREAS the parties to this Agreement desire to prepare a surface water management plan for the purpose of management and implementation of the programs required by Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.201 to 103B.255.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties to this Agreement do mutually agree as follows:

SECTION I  
General Purpose

1.1 It is the general purpose of the parties to this Agreement to establish an organization to jointly and cooperatively develop and implement a Watershed Management Plan in accordance with MN Statutes 103B.201 to 103B.253 and MN Rules 8410, ~~and an Implementation Program and a Capital Improvement Program for the purposes of (a) protecting, preserving, and using natural surface and groundwater storage and retention systems in the Upper Rum River Watershed; (b) minimizing public capital expenditures needed to correct flooding and water quality problems; (c) identifying and planning for means to effectively protect and improve surface and groundwater quality; (d) establishing more uniform local policies and official controls for surface and ground water management; (e) preventing erosion of soil into surface water systems; (f) promoting groundwater recharge; (g) protecting and enhancing fish and wildlife habitat and water recreational facilities; and (h) securing the other benefits associated with the proper management of surface and groundwater.~~ The plan and programs shall operate within the boundaries of the

**Commented [JS1]:** Directly reference the proposes of WMOs in statute rather than in this document.

Upper Rum River Watershed as set forth in Addendum 1 attached hereto (hereinafter "Area").

SECTION II  
Upper Rum River Watershed Management Organization

2.1 Establishment: There is hereby established the "Upper Rum River Watershed Management Organization" whose membership shall be appointed in accordance with the provisions of this section and whose duties shall be to carry out the purposes contained herein. The Upper Rum River Watershed Management Organization (hereinafter "Organization") shall be constituted as described in Section 2.2.

2.2 Membership Appointment: Each party to this Agreement shall appoint two (2) representatives to serve as members of the Organization board. Each representative of a dues-paying party shall have one (1) vote. Representatives to the Organization board shall be evidenced by a resolution or certified copy of official meeting minutes of the governing body of each party and filed with the Organization.

2.3 Alternate Members: One alternate member of the Organization board may be appointed by appropriate resolution or certified copy of official meeting minutes of the governing body of each party to this Agreement, filed with the Organization. The alternate member may attend any meeting of the Organization board when a regular member representing that party is absent and vote on behalf of the party the member represents. If an Organization board member is also an officer of the Organization, the alternate member shall not be entitled to serve as such officer.

2.4 Term: The members of the Organization board shall be filled by the governing body of the party whose membership position on the board is vacant. Removal of a board member or alternate board member shall be at the sole discretion of the appointing authority. The term of appointment is at the sole discretion of the appointing authority.

2.5 Vacancies: The Organization shall notify the Board of Water and Soil Resources of member appointments and vacancies in member positions within 30 days. A vacancy on the Organization board shall be filled by 90 days after the vacancy occurs by the governing body of the party whose membership position on the board is vacant.

Vacancies resulting from expiration of members' terms and other reasons shall be filled in accordance with MN Statute 103B.227 subd 1 and 2 or as subsequently amended, only after published notice of the vacancy once a week for two (2) successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the watershed management organization area; the notices must state that the party is considering applications for appointment of a member to the Organization board and that persons interested in being appointed to serve on the board may submit their names to the appointing authority for consideration. A vacancy shall not be filled until at least 15 days have elapsed after the last published notice.

**Commented [JS2]:** Add direct reference to the notice publication requirements in MN Stat. 103B.227 subd 1 and 2 or as subsequently amended.

2.6 Additional Parties – Membership: The Organization, with the ratification of the governing bodies of all voting members of the Organization, may invite other local government units within the Upper Rum River Watershed to also become parties to this Agreement. The governing body of any such additional party shall appoint a member to the Organization who shall have voting rights in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.2 and in all respects thenceforth enjoy the full rights, duties, and obligations of this Agreement.

2.7 Compensation and Expenses: The Organization members shall not be entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses incurred in attending meetings, except to the extent that the governing body of a party may determine to compensate or reimburse the expenses of the member(s) it appoints, in which case the obligation to make such payments shall be that of the party and not that of the Organization.

2.8 Officers: The Organization board shall elect from its membership a chair, a vice-chair, a secretary. All such officers shall hold office for a term of one (1) year and until their successors have been qualified and duly elected by the board. An officer may serve only while a member of the Organization. A vacancy in an office shall be filled from the membership of the board by election for the remainder of the unexpired term of such office.

2.9 Duties of Officers: The duties of the officers of the Organization shall be as outlined in Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised 10<sup>th</sup> Edition.

2.10 Quorum: Voting members of the Organization board representing a majority of the parties to this Agreement shall constitute a quorum. Less than a quorum may adjourn a scheduled meeting.

2.11 Meetings:

- A. Annual Meeting. The annual meeting of the Organization board will be held in May of each year at Oak Grove City Hall. At the annual meeting the board, at a minimum, shall:
  - 1. Elect officers;
  - 2. Establish the annual budget and work plan;
  - 3. Hear recommendations on amendments to this agreement and the watershed management plan;
  - 4. Biennially renew or decide on contracts for professional, legal, and administrative services; and
  - 5. Decide on regular meeting dates.
- B. Meeting Notices. Notice of all regular and special meetings shall be provided with a minimum of 72 hours advance notice of the meeting to all parties of this agreement. Such meeting notice shall be posted on the official notification board for each party to this Agreement.
- C. Special meetings may be held at the call of the chair or by any three (3) members of the board giving not less than 72 hours written notice of the time,

place and purpose of such meeting delivered, mailed or e-mailed to the residence of each Organization member and delivered, mailed or e-mailed to the City Hall of each party to this Agreement.

- D. All meetings of the board are subject to Minnesota Statutes and the notice provisions contained therein. Posted notice, when required, shall be given separately by each party to this Agreement.

2.12 Conduct of Meetings: The Organization board shall adopt rules of order and procedure for the conduct of its meetings in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised 10<sup>th</sup> Edition; the board may adopt any such rules as a majority the parties to this Agreement shall agree. Decisions by the board may not require more than a majority vote, except a decision on a capital improvement project may require no more than a two-thirds vote. All meetings of the board are subject to Minn. Stat. 13D (Minnesota Open Meeting Law).

2.13 Organization Office: The office of the Organization shall be the Oak Grove City Hall, 19900 Nightingale Street NW, Cedar, Minnesota 55011. All notices to the Organization shall be delivered or served at said office.

### SECTION III Organization Powers and Duties

3.1 Authority: Upon execution of the Agreement by the parties, the Organization shall have authority provided for in Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.211-201 through 103B.255-253 that provides for, in part:

- A. The authority to prepare, adopt, and implement a plan for the Upper Rum River Watershed meeting the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, Section 103B.231.
- B. The authority to review and approve local water management plans as provided in Minnesota Statutes, Section 103B.235C. This is subject to amendment by the legislature.

3.2 Watershed Management Plan: The Organization shall prepare a Watershed Management Plan for the Upper Rum River Watershed. The plan shall be in compliance with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.231, Subd. 4 and 6 and MN Rules 8410 as from time to time amended. ~~The Chapter describes plan contents to include but not limited to the following.~~

- ~~A. Describe the existing physical environment, land use and development in the Upper Rum River Watershed, and shall further describe the environment, land use and development proposed in existing local and metropolitan comprehensive plans;~~
- ~~B. Present information on the hydrologic system in the Upper Rum River Watershed and its components, including any drainage systems previously constructed under Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103E, and existing and potential problems relating thereof;~~
- ~~C. State objectives and policies, including management principles, alternatives and modifications, water quality, and protection of natural characteristics;~~

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- ~~D. Set forth a management plan, including the hydrologic and water quality conditions that will be sought and significant opportunities for improvement;~~
- ~~E. Describe the effect of the Watershed Management Plan on existing drainage systems;~~
- ~~F. Describe conflicts between the Watershed Management Plan and existing plans of local government units;~~
- ~~G. Set forth an Implementation Program consistent with the Watershed Management Plan, which includes a Capital Improvement Program and standards and schedules for amending the comprehensive plans and official controls of local government units in the watershed to bring about conformance with the Watershed Management Plan; and~~
- ~~H. Set out a procedure for amending the Watershed Management Plan.~~

~~The plan shall be amended as required from time to time.~~

3.3 Employment: The Organization may contract for services, may contract services from parties to this Agreement, or may employ such other persons as it deems necessary. Where staff services of a party are utilized, such services shall not reduce the financial commitment of such party to the operating fund of the Organization unless the Organization so authorizes.

3.4 Committees: The Organization may appoint such committees and sub-committees as it deems necessary. The Organization shall establish citizen and technical advisory committees unless other means of public participation are established. See Addendum 2 attached.

3.5 Rules and Regulations: The Organization may prescribe and promulgate such rules and regulations as it deems necessary or expedient to carry out its powers and duties and the purpose of the Agreement.

3.6 Review and Recommendations: Review and Recommendations: Where the Organization is authorized or requested to review and make recommendations on any matter relating to the Watershed Management Plan, the Organization shall act on such matter within 60 days of receipt of the matter referred. Failure of the Organization to act within 60 days shall constitute approval of the matter referred, unless the Organization requests and receives from the referring unit of government an extension of time to act on the matter referred. Such extension shall be in writing and acknowledged by both parties.

The Board shall adopt an appeal procedure for any party aggrieved by a decision of the Board or an alleged failure to implement the Plan pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.231, Subd. 13.

3.7 Ratification: The Organization may, and where required by this Agreement shall, refer matters to the governing bodies of the parties for review, comment or action.

3.8 Financial Matters:

Subdivision 1 - Method of Operation: The Organization may collect and receive money and contract for services subject to the provision of the Agreement from the parties and from any other sources approved by the Organization. The Organization may incur expenses and make disbursements necessary and incidental to the effectuation of the purposes of this Agreement. Funds may be expended by the Organization in accordance with procedures established herein. Upon Board approval, invoices shall be initialed by the chair or vice-chair for

**Commented [JS3]**: Delete to avoid any conflict with future law changes. Replace A-H below with a reference to state statute.

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payment by the Organization office. Other legal instruments shall be executed on behalf of the Organization by the chair, vice-chair or an appointed Board member.

Subdivision 2 - Operating Funds : On or before June 1 of each year, Organization shall prepare a work plan and an operating budget for the following year. The annual budget shall budget provide details to support the proposed revenues and expenditures for the Organization. This detail shall be sufficient to meet standard budget and/or accounting principles generally recognized for governmental organizations. Expenditures may include administrative expenses, plan development costs, review expenses, capital improvement costs, Management Programs, Management Studies costs in Section 3.12, and insurance costs as authorized in Section 3.14. Upon the approval of the majority of voting members of the Organization, the budget shall be recommended to the parties for ratification along with a statement showing each party's proposed share of the budget. The budget shall be implemented only after ratification by each party to this Agreement. Failure to ratify by any party or pay its share of the budget by any party to this Agreement shall be subject to the procedures in Section 3.6 within 60 days of receipt constitutes approval.

Each party shall contribute funds toward the budget according to the following methods:

Work Plan Costs –  $((PA / WA) + (PV / WV)) / 2$  = the party's percentage share of the organization's operating budget.

PA = Party's area within the watershed organization area

WA = watershed organization area

PV = party's market valuation within the watershed organization area

WV = market valuation of the watershed organization area

Operating Costs – Total amount to be divided equally between each community member of the Joint Powers Agreement. Operating costs per the operating budget are defined as copies, postage, recording secretary fees, insurance, and administrative fee charged to each member community. The administrative fee may include fees for general administrative services, annual reporting to the State and member communities, required public notice postings, and required advertisement for bids for secretarial or administrative professional services.

After ratification the chair or vice-chair shall certify the recommended budget to each party on or before June 1 of each year together with a statement showing the amounts due from each party. Each party shall pay over to the Organization the amount owing in two equal installments, the first on or before January 1 and second on or before July 1 in accordance with the tax year for which the amount due is being paid.

Subdivision 3 - Review Services: When the Organization is authorized or requested to undertake a review and submit recommendations to a party as provided in this Agreement, the Organization shall conduct such review, without charge, except as provided below. Where the project size and complexity of review are deemed by the Organization to be extraordinary and substantial, the Organization may charge a fee for such review services, the amount to be based upon direct and indirect costs attributable to that portion of review

services determined by the Organization to be extraordinary and substantial. Where the Organization determines that a fee will be charged for extraordinary and substantial review services, or where the flowage enters the Upper Rum River, but the party is not a member of the Upper Rum River Watershed Management Organization, the party to be charged shall receive written notice from the Organization of the services to be performed and the fee therefore, prior to undertaking such review services. Unless the party to be charged objects within 15 days of receipt of such written notice to the amount of the fee to be charged, such review services shall be performed and the party shall be responsible for the cost thereof. If the party to be charged objects to the proposed fee for such services within 15 days, and the party and the Organization are unable to agree on a reasonable alternative amount for review services, such extraordinary and substantial review services shall not be undertaken by the Organization.

3.9 Annual Audits: The Organization shall ~~annually~~ prepare a comprehensive financial report on operations and activities at the frequency required by state statute or rule for the fiscal year defined as January 1 through December 31. An annual audit shall be provided that includes a full and complete audit of all books and accounts the Organization office is charged with maintaining. Such audits shall be conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing principles and guidelines. A copy of the annual financial report and auditor's statement shall be provided to all parties and to the Board of Water and Soil Resources. The report to the Board of Water and Soil Resources shall include an annual activity report. All of its books, reports, and records shall be available for and open to examination by any party at all reasonable times.

3.10 Gifts, Grants, Loans: The Organization may, within the scope of this Agreement, accept gifts; may apply for and use grants of money or other property from the United States, the State of Minnesota, a local government unit or other governmental unit or organization or any person or entity for the purpose described herein. The Organization may enter into any reasonable agreement required in connection therewith. The Organization shall comply with any laws or regulations applicable to grants, donations and agreements. The Organization may hold, use, and dispose of such money or property in accordance with the terms of the gift, grant, or agreement relating thereto.

3.11 Contracts: The Organization may make such contracts and enter into any such agreements as it deems necessary to make effective any power granted to it by this Agreement. Every contract for the purchase or sale of merchandise, materials, or equipment by the Organization shall be let in accordance with the Uniform Municipal Contracting Law, Minnesota Statutes, Section 471.345 and the Joint Exercise of Powers Statute, Minnesota Statutes, Section 471.59. No member or employee of the Organization or officer or employee of any of the parties shall have direct or indirect interest in any contract made by the Organization.

3.12 Works of Improvement: Works of improvement for protection and management of the natural resources of the Area, including, but not limited to, improvements to property, land acquisition, easements, or right-of-way, may be initiated by:

A. Inclusion in the URRWMO Watershed Management Plan;

AC. Recommendation of the Organization to a party or parties; or

DB. Petition to the Organization by the governing body of a party or parties.

Where works of improvement are recommended by the Organization, the Organization shall first determine whether such improvement will result in a local or regional benefit to the Area. Where the Organization determines that the benefits from the improvement will be local or not realized beyond the boundaries of the party in which the improvement is to be established, the Organization shall recommend such improvement to the governing body of the unit of government which the Organization determines will be benefited thereby, with the total estimated cost of the improvement and a description of the benefits to be realized beyond the boundaries of the party in which the improvement is to be established, the Organization shall recommend such improvement to each governing body of the units of government which the Organization determines will be benefited thereby. The recommendation of the Organization shall include the total estimated cost of the improvement, a description of the extent of the benefits to be realized by each unit of government and the portion of the cost to be borne by each party benefited in accordance with the extent of the benefit of each unit of government as described by the Organization.

Each party to whom the Organization submits such recommendation shall respond within 60 days from receipt of such recommendation. Where the Organization determines that the benefits of such improvement will be local, the unit of government to whom such recommendation is made may decline to ratify and undertake said improvement. Where the Organization determines that the benefits of such improvement will be regional, unless all parties to whom such recommendation is directed decline to ratify and undertake said improvement, the Organization shall continue to review and recommend alternative methods of cooperation and implementation among those parties ratifying the recommendation of the Organization, unless and until the Organization determines that said improvement is no longer feasible.

When works of improvement are initiated by the governing body of a party or parties to this Agreement, said governing body or bodies shall submit a petition to the Organization setting forth a description of the proposed work of improvement, the benefits to be realized by said improvement, its total estimated cost and a proposed cooperative method for implementation of the improvement, if applicable. The Organization shall review and make recommendations on the proposed improvement and its compliance with the Organization's management plan ~~in accordance with the provisions of Section 3.5 of this Agreement.~~

~~When a proposed improvement may be eligible for federal or state grant funds as a cost-share project, the Organization may apply. Any local matching funds committed must be in an approved Organization budget, in the Organization's Watershed Management Plan, or secured by a written commitment from other sources. the Organization may undertake a proposed work of improvement for the area, subject to Organization recommendation to and~~

**Commented [JS4]:** Section 3.5 is an erroneous reference. That section is not germane to this topic. Delete reference.

**Commented [JS5]:** Recommend removing the requirement for the WMO to get all communities' approval to pursue a grant. Most grant application timelines are too short (~2mo) to allow this process. Every grant the URRWMO has ever pursued has been for a project in the watershed plan.



~~ratification by the parties to this Agreement, as required for an improvement of regional benefit.~~

The Organization is further authorized to undertake experimental improvement projects within the Area to serve as a basis for evaluation of other improvements by the parties. When the Organization determines to undertake an experimental improvement project, the costs of such project shall be the obligation of the Organization and not of the parties to this Agreement.

3.13 Claims: The Organization or its agents may enter upon lands within or without the Upper Rum River Watershed to make surveys and investigations to accomplish the purpose of the Organization. The Organization shall be liable for actual damages resulting there from, but every person who claims damages shall serve the Chairperson or Secretary of the Organization with a notice of claim as required by Minnesota Statutes, Section 466.05. The Organization shall obtain court orders authorizing and directing such entries when necessary due to refusals of landowners to allow the same.

3.14 Indemnification and Insurance: Any and all claims that arise or may arise against the Organization, its agents or employees as a consequence of any act or omission on the part of the Organization or its agents or employees while engaged in the performance of this Agreement shall in no way be the obligation or responsibility of the parties. The Organization shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend the parties, their officers and employees against any and all liability, loss, costs, damages, expenses, claims, or actions, including attorney's fees which the parties, their officers, or employees may hereafter sustain, incur, or be required to pay, arising out of or by reason of any act or omission of the Organization, its agents or employees in the execution, performance, or failure to adequately perform the Organization's obligations and understandings pursuant to the Agreement.

The Organization agrees that in order to protect itself as well as the parties under the indemnity provision set forth above, it will at all times during the term of this Agreement keep in force the following protection in the limits specified:

- A. Commercial General Liability / Professional Liability (\$500,000 per individual; \$1,500,000 per incident) including the following endorsements:
- B. Automobile Coverage (\$0)
- C. Worker's Compensation Coverage (statutory minimum)

The minimum liability limits shall be increased to the statutory limits provided for member local units of government in Minnesota Statutes.

Any policy obtained and maintained under this clause shall provide that it shall not be cancelled, materially changed or not renewed without 30 days prior notice thereof to each of the parties.

Prior to the effective date of this Agreement, and as a condition precedent to this Agreement, the Organization will furnish the parties with certificates of insurance listing the Organization as a certificate holder.

3.15 General: The Organization may take all such other actions as are reasonably necessary and convenient to carry out the purpose of this Agreement.

#### SECTION IV Mediation

4.1 The parties agree that any controversy that cannot be resolved shall be submitted for mediation. Mediation shall be conducted by a mutually agreeable process by all parties.

#### SECTION V Termination of Agreement

5.1 This Agreement may be terminated by approval of two-thirds vote of the governing bodies of each party hereto, provided that all such approvals occur within a 90-day period. Withdrawal of any party may be accomplished by filing written notice with the Organization and the other parties 60 days prior to the effective date of termination. No party may withdraw from this Agreement until the withdrawing party has met its full financial obligations through the effective date of such withdrawal.

#### SECTION VI Dissolution of Organization

6.1 The Organization shall be dissolved under any of the following conditions:

- A. Upon termination of this Agreement;
- B. Upon unanimous agreement of all parties; or
- C. Upon the membership of the Organization being reduced to fewer than three (3) parties.

At least 90 days notice of the intent to dissolve shall be given to affected counties and the Board of Water and Soil Resources. Upon dissolution, all personal property of the Organization shall be sold, and the proceeds thereof, together with monies on hand after payment of all obligations, shall be distributed to the parties. Such distribution of Organization assets shall be made in proportion to the total contributions to the Organization for such costs made by each party. All payments due and owing for operating costs under Section 3.8,B or other unfilled financial obligations, shall continue to be the lawful obligation of the parties.

#### SECTION VII

Amendment

7.1 The Organization may recommend changes and amendments to this Agreement to the governing bodies of the parties. Amendments shall be adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of the governing bodies of the parties as evidenced by meeting minutes of the governing body, within 90 days of referral. Amendments shall be evidenced by appropriate resolutions or certified copies of meeting minutes of the governing bodies of each party filed with the Organization and shall, if no effective date is contained in the amendment, become effective as of the date all such filings have been completed.

SECTION VIII

Counterparts

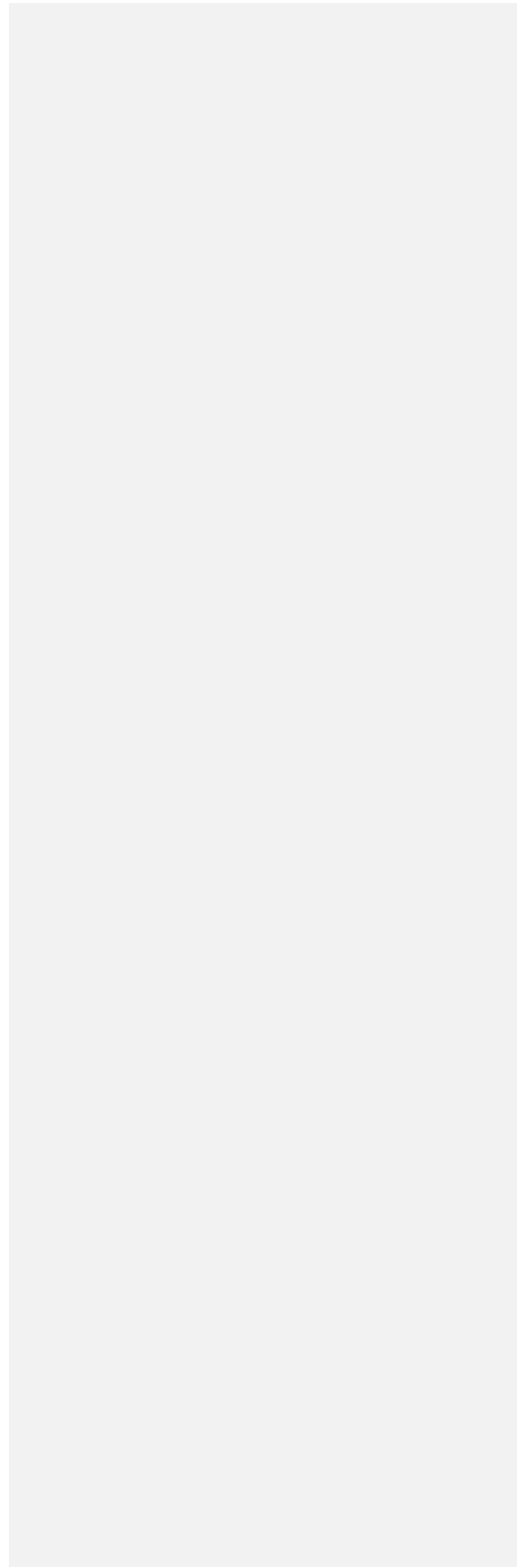
8.1 This Agreement may be executed in several counterparts and all so executed shall constitute one Agreement, binding on all of the parties hereto. Each party to the agreement shall receive a fully executed copy of the entire document following adoption by all parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement as of the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010.

CITY OF BETHEL

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Administrator / City Clerk

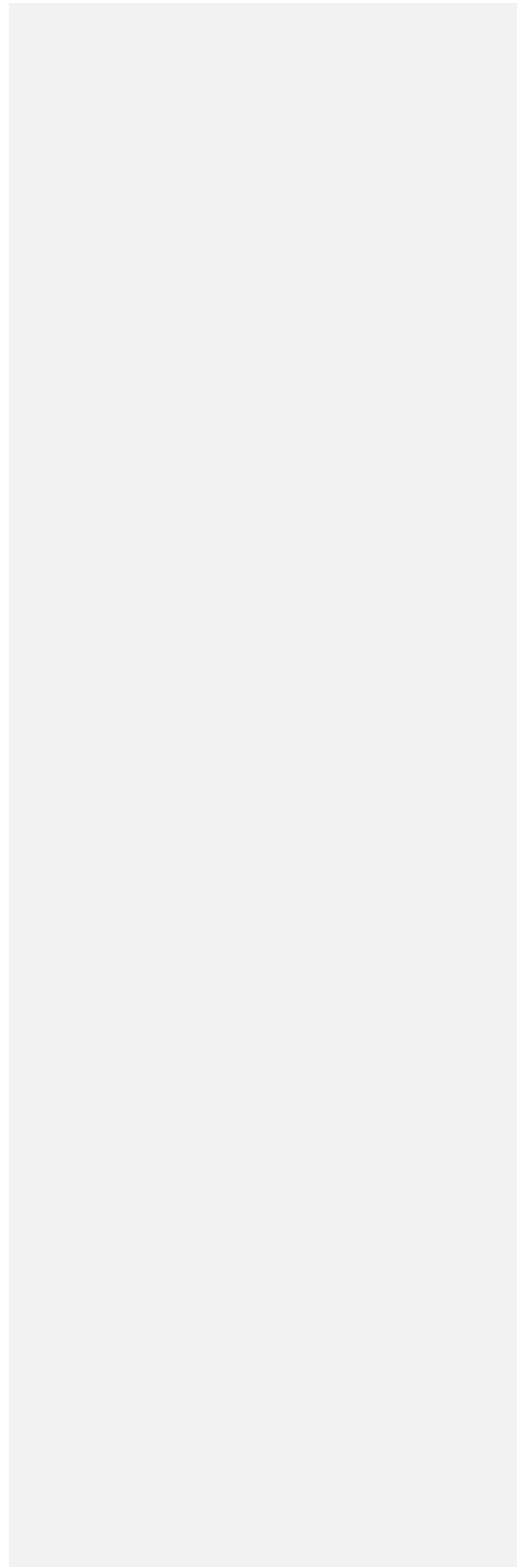


IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement as of the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010.

CITY OF EAST BETHEL

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Administrator / City Clerk



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement as of the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010.

CITY OF HAM LAKE

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

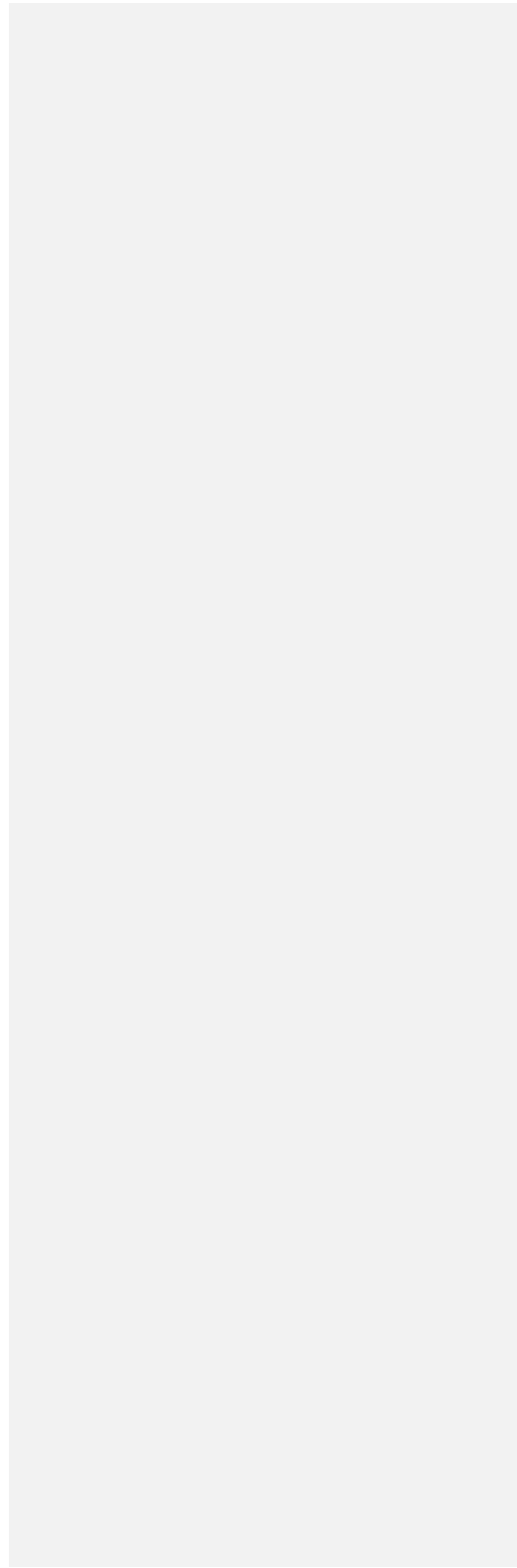
By: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Administrator / City Clerk

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement as of the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010.

CITY OF NOWTHEN

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Administrator / City Clerk



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement as of the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010.

CITY OF OAK GROVE

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Administrator / City Clerk



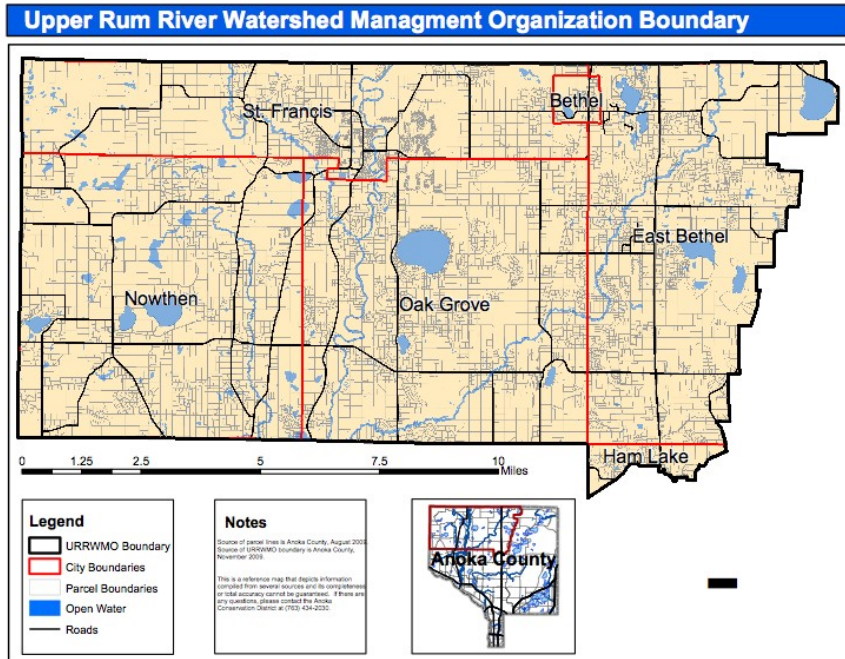
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement as of the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010.

CITY OF ST. FRANCIS

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Administrator / City Clerk

Addendum 1



## **Addendum 2**

The Organization shall establish citizen and technical advisory committees and other means of public participation.

Regular, recurring public participation opportunities shall include:

- Open mike at each Organization meeting,
- Contact information posted on the Organization website, such that the public may contact an Organization representative outside of public meetings.

Citizen and/or technical advisory committees will be formed from time-to-time as deemed appropriate by the Organization and shall be issue-specific. Committees may be formed that include both citizens and technical experts. Committees shall operate by seeking consensus, while noting any dissenting opinions. Committee findings shall be reduced to writing and submitted to the Organization Board. In all cases, committees shall be advisory and their findings shall be referred to the Organization Board for final decision-making.

Issues that may warrant formation of advisory committees include:

- Amendments or updates to the Organization's watershed Management Plan
- Lake level or water quality issues,
- A total maximum daily load (TMDL) impaired waters study or implementation of the study,
- Capital improvement projects,
- Major hydrological changes in the watershed,
- Others as deemed appropriate by the Organization Board.

Technical advisory committees shall include technical experts, and invited members may include:

- Staff and/or elected officials from affected communities,
- MN Department of Natural Resources,
- MN Pollution Control Agency,
- MN Board of Water and Soil Resources,
- Metropolitan Council,
- Anoka Conservation District,
- Others, as deemed appropriate by the Organization Board.

Citizen advisory committees shall include residents and elected officials from the affected area, and invited members may include:

- Homeowners,
- Business owners
- Lake association or lake improvement district representatives,
- Others, as deemed appropriate by the Organization Board.

All advisory committees shall include at least one URRWMO Board member.