

FOR BOARD ACTION

Agenda Item # 7

Meeting Date:

3/29/11

SUBJECT:

DNR Water Supply Plan Adoption

PREPARED BY:

Joseph S. Hensel, Director of Field Services

ITEM DESCRIPTION:

Public water suppliers that service more than 1,000 people are required to have a Water Supply Plan (WSP) approved by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in compliance to Minnesota Statutes 103G.291.

RPU originally developed the WSP (formerly called DNR Water Emergency & Conservation Plan) in 1995 and the original plan was submitted to, and approved by DNR-Division of Waters. A second generation plan has been prepared following recent DNR guidance and the plan now includes additional required information and incorporates the concept of sustainability.

A WSP is 10 year plan that addresses existing and future water sources (i.e. the aquifers that supply water for the RPU system); existing and projected demands; adequacy of the water supply system and planned improvements; natural resource impacts or limitations; emergency preparedness; water conservation and demand reduction measures; and allocation priorities that are consistent with Section 103G.261. Public water suppliers must update their plan and submit it to the Commissioner of Natural Resources for approval every ten years, or as required by the agency.

RPU's updated WSP has been reviewed and approved by DNR (see attach letter from DNR area hydrologist). State approval is effective upon official adoption by the City and submittal of the Certificate of Adoption.

An overview of the updated Water Supply Plan will be presented to the Board by Todd Osweiler, Environmental Analyst. Todd has been responsible for the WSP development and has worked closely with DNR on various water appropriation and water supply issues.

FOR CAPITAL PURCHASES/BIDS/MAJOR PROJECTS:

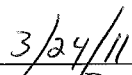
Not applicable.

UTILITY BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

The Board is requested to adopt the updated WSP and authorize the General Manager, Mayor and City Clerk to execute and submit the Certificate of Adoption to the Commissioner of Natural Resources. Following Board approval, the plan will be placed on file and posted on the RPU website for public information.



General Manager



Date

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ECOLOGICAL AND WATER RESOURCES (EcoWat)

2300 Silver Creek Road Northeast ▪ Rochester, MN 55906 ▪ 507/206-2854



March 4, 2011

Rochester Public Utilities
c/o Mr. Todd Osweiler, Environmental Analyst
4000 East River Road NE
Rochester, MN 55906-2813

RE: Water Supply Plan Approval, City of Rochester, Olmsted County

Dear Mr. Osweiler:

We have completed review of your Water Supply Plan including additional information requested and submitted by the City of Rochester. I am pleased to advise you that in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 103G.291, Subdivision 3, and on behalf of the Commissioner of Natural Resources, I hereby approve your Plan. This approval is effective upon the Department's receipt of a completed copy of the attached "Certification of Adoption" form. Please return the form to my office as soon as the City officially adopts the Plan.

Some of the main components of the Plan that you have updated and addressed in your letter, dated September 3, 2010, are a long-term monitoring plan including Electronic Water Level Monitoring of all production and observation wells, increased water storage capacity and adoption of a Conservation Rate Structure. I appreciate that you have already implemented these portions into your Water Supply Plan and daily operation.

Thank you for your efforts in planning for the future of the City of Rochester's water supply and for conserving the water resources of the State of Minnesota. If you have any questions, please contact Area Hydrologist Corey Hanson at the number listed at the top of the page or at corey.hanson@state.mn.us

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Corey Hanson'.

Corey Hanson, Area Hydrologist

CAD/sd

Attachment (Certification of Adoption)

ec: Floyd Whitaker, Olmsted County SWCD
Terry Lee, Olmsted County Environmental Services
Terri Yearwood, DNR EcoWat, Waters
Jan Ouren, DNR EcoWat, Waters
Dan McBroom, DNR Enforcement
Kevin Stauffer, DNR Fish and Wildlife, Fisheries
Mike Tenney, DNR Fish and Wildlife, Wildlife

Phil Wheeler, Olmsted County Planning and Zoning
John Harford, Rochester & Olmsted County Zoning
Sean Hunt, DNR EcoWat, Waters
Steve Klotz, DNR Fish and Wildlife, Fisheries
Dean Olson, DNR Enforcement
Don Nelson, DNR Fish and Wildlife, Wildlife



**CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION
WATER SUPPLY PLAN**

City or Water System Name: City of Rochester

Name of Person Authorized to Sign
Certification on Behalf of the System: Larry J. Koshire

Title: General Manager

Address: Rochester Public Utilities
4000 East River Road NE
Rochester, MN 55906-2813

Telephone: 507-280-1500 Fax: 507-280-1542

Email: lkoshire@rpu.org

I certify that the Water Supply Plan approved by the Department of Natural Resources has been adopted by the city council or utility board that has authority over water supply services.

General Manager

Date

Mayor – City of Rochester

Date

City Clerk

Date

**Fax (651/296-0445) or mail this certification to: DNR Waters
Water Permit Programs Supervisor
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4032**

Copy to: Cory Hanson
Area Hydrologist
DNR EcoWat
2300 Silver Creek Road NE
Rochester, MN 55906



RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Public Utility Board of the City of Rochester, Minnesota to a Water Supply Plan approved by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources in compliance with Minnesota Statutes 103G.291, and that the Board request the Mayor and the City Clerk to execute the Agreement.

Passed by the Public Utility Board of the City of Rochester, Minnesota, this 29th day of March 2011.

President

Secretary