AGENDA
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 18, 2018 – 8:00 AM
ADMINISTRATION CENTER - ROOM A-209 (CA CONFERENCE)
121 W. MAIN STREET, PORT WASHINGTON, WI 53074

1. CALL TO ORDER
   Roll Call

2. PROPER NOTICE

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

4. ACTION ITEMS
   1. Grant Submittal for National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – Bring Back The Natives Funding for a Lake Sturgeon Habitat Assessment and Management Plan for the Milwaukee River in Ozaukee County
   2. Agreement/Contract with The Nature Conservancy for the Ozaukee County Planning and Parks Department to Provide Technical and Support Services to Improve Fish Passage in the Lake Michigan Basin
   3. Increase of Revenue Budget Amendment for a US Fish and Wildlife Service Fish Passage Program Grant for Mequon Thiensville Dam Fishway Enhancements

5. ADJOURNMENT

A quorum of members of committees or the full County Board of Ozaukee County may be in attendance at this meeting for purposes related to committee or board duties, however, no formal action will be taken by these committees or the board at this meeting.

Persons with disabilities requiring accommodations for attendance at this meeting should contact the County Clerk’s Office at 262-284-8110, twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the meeting.

Updated 7/12/2018 6:08 AM
AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

AGENDA DATE: July 18, 2018
DEPARTMENT: Planning and Parks
DIRECTOR: Andrew Struck
PREPARER: Julie Winkelhorst

**Agenda Summary**
Grant Submittal for National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – Bring Back The Natives Funding for a Lake Sturgeon Habitat Assessment and Management Plan for the Milwaukee River in Ozaukee County

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Ozaukee County Planning and Parks Department was invited to submit a grant application to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Bring Back the Natives (BBN) grant program. Specifically, this grant will fund County activities to coordinate and complete a lake sturgeon habitat assessment and management plan for the Milwaukee River in Ozaukee County in partnership with Riveredge Nature Center (RNC). The lake sturgeon (species of local conservation interest - SLCI) is a native fish to the Great Lakes and Milwaukee River Watershed, and imprint on the place they were born, returning to spawn in the same location at reproductive maturity. Overfishing and habitat fragmentation blocking access to spawning habitat across the Great Lakes Basin and Milwaukee River Watershed caused lake sturgeon populations to plummet, with no record of lake sturgeon in the Milwaukee River since the 1890’s. Since 2003, RNC and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) have implemented the “Return the Sturgeon Reintroduction Project”, which involves rearing lake sturgeon at streamside facility on the Milwaukee River at RNC in the Town of Saukville to imprint the fish on the Milwaukee River. Each year approximately 1,000 - 1,500 fish are raised and released with the goal of producing a breeding population of lake sturgeon on the Milwaukee River. Lake sturgeon take 10-20 years for the males and females, respectively, to reach reproductive maturity, and the WDNR has recently documented multiple male lake sturgeon in the lower Milwaukee River and Estuary area during spawning periods, suggesting that the fish have been imprinted on the Milwaukee River and will eventually return to spawn upon reproductive maturity. Impediment removal and remediation efforts completed by the Department’s Fish Passage Program including the fishway at the Mequon-Thiensville Dam and the removal of the Lime Kiln Dam have reconnected and restored access to lake sturgeon habitat in the Milwaukee River. Successful, proactive sturgeon management requires knowledge of existing (or lack of) high quality spawning and nursery habitat. However, a comprehensive lake sturgeon habitat assessment and management plan has not been completed for the Milwaukee River. A comprehensive habitat assessment in the Milwaukee River is the logical next step to ensure that the ongoing rehabilitation project will be successful.

In partnership with RNC, the Department will conduct a review on efforts, research and findings related to the status of lake sturgeon habitat in the Milwaukee River, conduct side-scan sonar assessments for the Ozaukee County portion of the Milwaukee River from County Line Road to the Bridge Street Dam and instream habitat on Cedar Creek from its confluence with the Milwaukee River to the Nail Factory Dam, complete targeted field habitat assessments for verification at four locations, and provide recommendations for future assessments and analysis for the management plan. Side-scan sonar is a relatively low cost, effective method to identify substrate and capture continuous habitat data. Side-scan sonar can capture information over large areas where traditional, comprehensive habitat survey methods are not feasible due to time, financial, or other constraints (e.g. conditions).

This grant proposal is consistent with the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) Action Plan, a plan that alludes to the importance of ecosystem connectivity and the negative ecological impacts of habitat...
fragmentation and degradation. Improving the connectivity and productivity of aquatic habitat in Ozaukee County and the Milwaukee River Watershed and AOC will directly improve sustainability and/or population recovery for remnant desirable, native, and/or threatened or endangered species within and beyond the county borders. Specifically, improved connectivity and productivity promotes the long-term restoration of naturally reproducing, native migratory fish and other species. Further, these projects will bolster the Planning and Parks Department Ecological Division Fish Passage Program’s mission to reestablish biological connections, while protecting and restoring habitat throughout the County’s watersheds. This grant proposal is consistent with the ongoing work under the NOAA/ARRA-funded Fish Passage Program for the Milwaukee River Watershed, the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program (WCMP) grant “Ozaukee County Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitat Protection and Planning”, the WDNR AOC grant “Habitat and Fisheries Assessments for GIS Database Development in the Milwaukee River Watershed AOC”, the WDNR River Protection Planning (RPP) and Office of Great Waters (OGW) grants “Lake Sturgeon Habitat Assessment in Ozaukee County”, the Fund For Lake Michigan (FFLM) grant “Mapping Lake Sturgeon Habitat in the Milwaukee River Using Side-Scan Sonar” and the overall Fish Passage Program.

ANALYSIS: The NFWF requires 1:1 non-federal matching funds, which will be provided by the secured WDNR OGW and FFLM grants. Full proposals to the NFWF BBN grant program are due August 23, 2018. Total funding requested under this grant is $90,000. This proposal is consistent with on-going, federally-funded Department programs and is consistent with the Multi-jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Ozaukee County: 2035, Park and Open Space Plan for Ozaukee County and the Ozaukee County Land and Water Resource Management Plan.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Balance Current Year: NONE

Next Year’s Estimated Cost: NONE (Additional Program Revenue of $90,000)

FUNDING SOURCE:

County Levy: Non-County Levy: X

Indicate source: NFWF BBN, WDNR OGW, and FFLM grants

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Approve the submittal and acceptance of a grant by the Planning and Parks Department to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Bring Back the Natives grant program for a Lake Sturgeon Habitat Assessment and Management Plan for the Milwaukee River in Ozaukee County supporting the Return the Sturgeon Reintroduction Project and the overall Fish Passage Program.

ATTACHMENTS:

- PP_Dept_LakeSturgeonHabitatAssessment_ProjectArea_Map (PDF)
AGENDA SUMMARY

Agreement/Contract with The Nature Conservancy for the Ozaukee County Planning and Parks Department to Provide Technical and Support Services to Improve Fish Passage in the Lake Michigan Basin

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Ozaukee County - Planning and Parks Department (Department) is currently partnering with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) on a joint regional aquatic connectivity project in Ozaukee County and Lake Michigan Basin in collaboration with the UW-Madison Center for Limnology (UW-Madison). In 2017, TNC and the Department established a cooperative agreement that included co-locating a TNC staff member in the Planning and Parks Department offices for the duration of a two-year project period to support ongoing aquatic connectivity improvement efforts. TNC has developed a list of priority fish passage impediments on tributaries to Lake Michigan within the coastal counties of Wisconsin based on a computer assessment tool and field verification of the streams and suspected impediments. TNC is currently coordinating with local coastal counties and municipalities to begin removing or remediating these impediments. TNC recognizes that the Department has been successfully remediating fish passage impediments for several years and that the Department’s Fish Passage Program is unique in the region in its scope, efficiency, productivity, and staff expertise. For these reasons as well as the current formalized partnership (MOU) with the Department, TNC has requested the Department’s assistance in implementing fish passage improvement projects. Specifically, it has requested technical and support services including survey, hydraulic analysis, design, and assistance with permitting, utility coordination, landowner coordination, and construction management for culvert removal or remediation at two locations as a pilot type train-the-trainer initiative. The Department proposes finalization of a contract with TNC to provide these technical and support services; thereby, receiving compensation from TNC under the contract and partnership to cover the costs of time and materials needed to provide these services. Per the initial MOU, the Department is providing training on development and implementation of a fish passage initiative. The Department has also been in conversations with other counties using a similar contractual model to provide training for establishment, development and implementation of fish passage efforts. This partnership and project with the TNC is consistent with the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) Action Plan, a plan that alludes to the importance of ecosystem connectivity and the negative ecological impacts of habitat fragmentation. Improving the connectivity of aquatic habitat in the coastal counties of Wisconsin will directly improve sustainability and/or population recovery for remnant desirable, native, and/or threatened or endangered species within and beyond the county borders. Specifically, improved connectivity promotes the long-term restoration of naturally reproducing, native migratory fish, important game fish species and other aquatic and terrestrial species. Furthermore, this project will bolster the Planning and Parks Department Ecological Division Fish Passage Program’s mission to reestablish ecological and
biological connections, while protecting and restoring habitat. This project is synergistic with the NOAA/ARRA-funded Fish Passage Program for the Milwaukee River Watershed, the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program (WCMP) grants “Ozaukee County Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitat Protection and Planning” and “Lake Michigan Basin Fish Passage Inventory”, the WDNR RPP Grant “Lake Michigan Tributary Habitat and Impediment Inventory”, the WDNR AOC grant “Habitat and Fisheries Assessments for GIS Database Development in the Milwaukee River Watershed AOC” and the overall Fish Passage Program.

ANALYSIS: TNC will compensate the Ozaukee County Planning and Parks Department per a contract the time and material costs of providing technical and support services to assist and train TNC staff in the removal or remediation of two culverts within the Lake Michigan basin in Wisconsin. Anticipated costs, including staff time, to be reimbursed by TNC are between $15,000 - $24,000 depending upon finalization of work tasks and scope. This agreement / contract builds upon the existing partnership between TNC and the Department that was formalized in 2017 with a cooperative agreement to collaborate on aquatic connectivity activities. This partnership is consistent with on-going, federally funded Department programs and is consistent with the Multi-jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Ozaukee County: 2035, Park and Open Space Plan for Ozaukee County and the Ozaukee County Land and Water Resource Management Plan.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Balance Current Year: NONE (Additional Department Revenue of between $15,000 - $24,000)

Next Year’s Estimated Cost: NONE

FUNDING SOURCE:

County Levy: Non-County Levy: X Indicate source: TNC contract / grant agreement

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Approve a contractual agreement / contract between the Ozaukee County Planning and Parks Department and The Nature Conservancy for the Department to provide technical and support services (training) to improve fish passage consistent with the goals of the Department Ecological Division’s Fish Passage Program and supplementing several current and completed grants including: the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program (WCMP) grants “Ozaukee County Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitat Protection and Planning” and “Lake Michigan Basin Fish Passage Inventory”, the WDNR RPP Grant “Lake Michigan Tributary Habitat and Impediment Inventory”, and the WDNR AOC grant “Habitat and Fisheries Assessments for GIS Database Development in the Milwaukee River Watershed AOC”.


Natural Resources Committee

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

AGENDA DATE: July 18, 2018
DEPARTMENT: Planning and Parks
DIRECTOR: Andrew Struck
PREPARER: Andrew Struck

Agenda Summary
Increase of Revenue Budget Amendment for a US Fish and Wildlife Service Fish Passage Program Grant for Mequon Thiensville Dam Fishway Enhancements

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Ozaukee County - Planning and Parks Department (Department) was awarded a grant from the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), in partnership with the Village of Thiensville (Village) and City of Mequon. This grant will support engineering, design, construction and restoration activities for enhancements at the nature-like fishway (fishway) located at the Mequon Thiensville Dam. The fishway has proven successful in passing many species of fish since its construction in 2010. To date, over 37 species of fish and several species of wildlife have been documented as passing through the fishway. However, with additional enhancements, the fishway could be performing at its full potential. The number of fish attracted to and passing through the fishway could be optimized by increasing fish attracting flows through the fishway. Added cover for velocity breaks in pools and runs, and increased width and depths through the weirs would improve fish swimming performance especially for Lake Sturgeon and other large, deep bodied fish. Enhancements can be made to the fishway to also improve its function and reduce recurring operation and maintenance costs, particularly erosive conditions at the weirs. Biological and engineering assessments need to be completed to ensure that the planned enhancements meet the following goals: (1) Increase the diversity and relative abundance of target migratory potamodromous and resident fish passed through the fishway; (2) Reduce the fishway operation and maintenance costs; and (3) Create a stable, non-deforming fishway channel. Additional enhancements to the fishway, so that it performs at its full potential, will help improve connectivity throughout the Milwaukee River Watershed and Lake Michigan Basin and promote the long-term restoration of naturally reproducing, native migratory fish, important game fish species and other fish and wildlife species. Specifically, this grant will support final engineering and design tasks and construction and restoration activities to address enhancements to the fishway. The County has received several USFWS funding awards from 2012 - 2017 to support multiple aquatic connectivity and habitat enhancement and restoration projects in the Milwaukee River Watershed and Lake Michigan Basin in Ozaukee County. This grant is consistent with the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) Action Plan, a plan that alludes to the importance of ecosystem connectivity and the negative ecological impacts of habitat fragmentation. Improving the function and connectivity of aquatic habitat in Ozaukee County will directly improve sustainability and/or population recovery for remnant desirable, native, and/or threatened or endangered species within and beyond the County borders. Specifically, improved connectivity promotes the long-term restoration of naturally reproducing, native migratory fish, important game fish species and other fish/aquatic, avian and wildlife species. Furthermore, this project will bolster the Planning and Parks Department Ecological Division Fish Passage Program’s mission to reestablish ecological and biological connections, while protecting and restoring habitat throughout the County’s watersheds. This grant is
ANALYSIS: On June 20, 2018, USFWS staff announced that Ozaukee County was awarded a $150,000 grant for its “Milwaukee River Mequon Thiensville Dam Fishway Enhancements” project. The Natural Resources Committee approved the USFWS grant submittal at its December 7, 2017 meeting. The grant encourages matching funds, which will be provided through in-kind County and Village of Thiensville staff time, secured Fund for Lake Michigan (FFLM) and WDNR River Protection Management (RPM) funding, and a pending National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Sustain Our Great Lakes (SOGL) grant. Total funding awarded under this grant is $150,000. This grant is consistent with on-going, federally funded Department programs and is consistent with the Multi-jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Ozaukee County: 2035, Park and Open Space Plan for Ozaukee County and the Ozaukee County Land and Water Resource Management Plan.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Balance Current Year: NONE (Additional Program Revenue of $10,000)

Next Year’s Estimated Cost: NONE (Additional Program Revenue of $140,000)

FUNDING SOURCE:

County Levy:

Non-County Levy: X

Indicate source: USFWS Fish Passage, FFLM, WDNR RPM, and NFWF SOGL grants and County and Village of Thiensville in-kind staff time, supplies and equipment.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Approve the budget amendment for the US Fish and Wildlife Service Fish Passage Program grant for the Planning and Parks Department to support enhancements at the Mequon Thiensville fishway supporting previous Department efforts and the overall Fish Passage Program.

ATTACHMENTS:

- BA_2018_USFWSFP_MT Fishway NRC 07052018_ATSFinal062518 (PDF)
- P&P_Dept_MTFishwayMap (PDF)
Budget Amendment Request
Committee Approval
Form

TO: Finance Committee
FROM: Planning and Parks Department

Date of Request: 6/21/2018

Debit / Expense | Credit / Revenue
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| Acct # | 407-5-11-51101-000 | $ 41,248 |
| Cost Ctr & A/C Desc | Regular Salaries & Wages (Including FB) |

| Acct # | 407-5-11-52002-000 | $ 1,500 |
| Cost Ctr & A/C Desc | Travel/Mileage |

| Acct # | 407-5-11-53601-000 | $ 1,500 |
| Cost Ctr & A/C Desc | Other Material Supplies |

| Acct # | 407-5-11-55103-000 | $ 105,752 |
| Cost Ctr & A/C Desc | Grounds Maintenance - Highway |

Pre-request Account's Budget / Changed To Pre-request Account's Budget / Changed To

| Acct # | 407-5-11-42110-001 | $ 150,000 |
| Cost Ctr & A/C Desc | Fed Aid - USFWS FP - MT Fishway II |

Pre-request Account's Budget / Changed To Pre-request Account's Budget / Changed To

Total Debits: 150,000 Total Credits: 150,000

Reason for Request (Be Specific). Also fill out Support Document for County Board.

This is an increase in revenue for a US Fish and Wildlife Fish Passage grant received to complete enhancements to the Mequon Thiensville Dam Fishway. This increase in revenue is for: 1) Regular Salaries and Wages (including FB), 2) Travel/Mileage, 3) Other Material Supplies, and 4) Grounds Maintenance - Highway (Construction).

Department Head Signature

Signatures of Oversight Committee Members

Signatures of Finance Committee Members

Date Amended: Budget Amended By:

Packet Pg. 9
Mequon-Thiensville Dam Fishway

Map Produced By: Ozaukee County Planning and Parks Department
10/30/2017

Legend

Fishway Alignment

Project Location

MILWAUKEE-RIVER

RIVERWALK

FISHWAY ENTRANCE

FISHWAY EXIT

Map Produced By: Ozaukee County Planning and Parks Department

Packet Pg. 10
Attachment: P&P_Department_MT_FishwayMap (4989: 4.3.b)