



Board of Commissioners
Resolution
B2024-102

15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-9200

Sponsor: Parks & Recreation

Meeting Date: 6/4/2024

Title: Grant Agreement with the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources for Soil Health Supplemental Staffing

File Number: 2024-200

Background and Rationale:

The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) provides grant funding to local units of government to deliver soil and water conservation services to their communities. The Soil Health Supplemental Staffing grant is a competitive new grant available to Soil and Water Conservation Districts in Minnesota. The grant was proposed to fund supplemental staffing needs associated with accelerating implementation of soil health practices and systems. There is no match requirement.

With this grant, Ramsey County's Soil and Water Conservation division (SWCD) proposed to use the funding to expand their Urban Agriculture Program and employ a full-time employee to create high-quality soil health initiatives, increase efforts on sustainable forest management and expand the 2023 cover crop pilot with private gardens, community gardens and urban farms. This funding will also support youth development programs with partner organizations.

Recommendation:

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

1. Ratify the submittal of the grant application to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources for soil health supplemental staffing.
2. Accept a grant award and approve the grant agreement with Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources for soil health supplemental staffing for the period after the grant agreement is executed through December 31, 2027, in the amount of \$345,000.
3. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the grant agreement.
4. Authorize the County Manager to enter into agreements and amendments to agreements in accordance with the county's procurement policies and procedures, provided the amounts are within the limits of the grant funding.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Xiong, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt.
Motion passed.

Aye: - 6: Martinson, McGuire, Moran, Ortega, Reinhardt, and Xiong

Absent: - 1: Frethem

By: 

Mee Cheng, Chief Clerk - County Board