Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4194

Watershed Semi-Annual Report for Reporting Year 2017

Doc Type: Semi-Annual Report

Please complete and submit to your project manager.

Reporting Period: ☐ January 1 through June 30 (Due August 1)
☒ July 1 through December 31 (Due February 1)

All information is required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). Do not leave blanks (unless otherwise noted). This report form can be typed using your computer. Use the "**tab**" key to move through the fields of this form. Enter responses using text and check boxes as indicated. Keep a copy for your records.

I. General Report Information

1. Project title: Greater Blue Earth River Basin Drainage Partnership
2. Project sponsor (Grantee): Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance
3. Contact name: Kay Gross
4. E-mail address: kay.clark@windomnet.com
5. Funding: ☒ 319 ☐ CWP ☐ CWP Loan ☐ Clean Water Fund ☐ Other:
6. Contract number: 92819
7. MPCA Project Manager: Paul Davis
8. Effective date (mm/dd/yyyy): 1/25/2016 Expiration date (mm/dd/yyyy): 8/31/2019

II. Semi-annual Report Information

1. Project activities completed during last six (6) months according to the program objectives or tasks (please be specific):

Objective 1: Program policies have been developed and informational materials related to the benefits of a strong partnership between SWCDs and County Drainage Staff is being developed. GBERBA reaches out to member drainage staffs when meetings are scheduled.

Objective 2: During this program period, 2 large projects on County Drainage Systems were approved for funding, and one of those projects was completed. The first project is County Ditch 514 in southwest Faribault County to repair or replace side inlet controls. The estimated total cost of this project is $123,004.00. The second project approved for funding during this grant period is on Joint County Ditch 414 in western Faribault County and eastern Martin County. This project plans to repair or replace side inlet controls. The total estimated cost of this project is $191,790.94. Funding for his project will also include State of Minnesota GBERBA held grant monies. Both drainage systems approved for funding drain to the Blue Earth River.

Objective 3: One important aspect of this project was develop a standardized design for alternative side inlet structures that can be implemented in a wide variety of areas and situations. GBERBA contracted with a local engineering firm that specializes in agricultural drainage practices. A worksheet was developed that can be used at the local level by local drainage staff to properly design and size alternative side-inlets. Multiple trainings have been conducted to show off the new tool and a more widespread release of the tool will be coming in 2018. Engineering services on the encumbered and completed project has also been completed by local drainage staff and County drainage engineers.

Objective 4: The Faribault County Ditch 514 project was completed in December and resulted in the installation of 29 alternative side inlets that will prevent sediment deposition to the drainage system and temporarily store water to reduce downstream peak flows. The alternative side inlets were designed with the worksheet tool developed as part of this grant. The total cost of the project was $112,230.00 and was completed at a lower cost than initially estimated. Funding for this project was provided by this grant ($11,502.00), a State of Minnesota grant held by GBERBA ($50,000.00) and the landowners in the County Ditch 514 benefitted area ($50,728.00). The Joint County Ditch 414 project is expected to be completed in the Spring of 2018.

Objective 5: The GBERBA Coordinators report on the status of its grants to the GBERBA Technical Committee and Policy Board on a monthly basis. Completed projects are reported in elink and semi-annual reporting is completed on time.

2. List all products (documents, pamphlets, videos, maps, etc.) produced in this reporting period:

An alternative side inlet design worksheet. The worksheet is currently availble upon request from I & S Group Engineering Firm in Mankato, MN.

3. Challenges faced (optional):

4. Summary of monitoring data collected (if applicable):

N/A

4a. Have all monitoring stations been established in EQuIS? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A

4b. Are the data being routinely submitted for storage into EQuIS? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ NA

If yes, last submittal date (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

5. Are the Best Management Practices data being annually entered into eLINK)? ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

If yes, date last entered (mm/dd/yyyy): 12/27/2017

6. Describe specific (quantifiable, if possible) results achieved during this period:

A total of 29 alternative side inlets were installed, either replacing an existing failed traditional side inlet or a new practice being placed where a gully had formed. Fifteen of the 29 alternative side inlets were installed w ith rock rip rap over the spoil bank due to the likelihood of over-topping during a 25-year storm event. In addition to the phosphorus and sediment reductions reported below, approximately 3.2 million pounds of soil per year are saved.

Phosphorus Load Reduction: 4,922 lbs./year

Nitrogen Load Reduction: _____ lbs./year

Sediment Load Reduction: 3,217,600 lbs./year

7. Did the MPCA execute a change order or amendment for this project during this reporting period? No ☒ Yes ☐

If yes, summarize those changes:

8 List anticipated program objectives or tasks to be completed during the next six (6) months please be specific):

Objective 1: Partnership development will continue with representation at respective meetings and maintaining an open dialogue about potential projects in the Basin.

Objective 2: SWCDs will continue to work with their drainage staff to target and identify potential projects for funding.

Objective 3: Approved projects will be designed and engineered according to NRCS specifications.

Objective 4: BMPs will be installed on JCD 414.

Objective 5: Monthly and semi-annual reporting on progress will continue.

III. Expenditure Information for this Period

Provide a copy of your work plan budget showing cumulative expenditures and budget balances by work plan objective and task. Also, fill out the summary below.

☒ Expenditure Report attached

Complete the table below:	**Amount**
Total Grant Amount	$145,600.00
Total Match Amount (if applicable)	$129,600.00
Total Project Amount	**$275,200.00**
Grant Expenditures this period	$13,616.07
Match Expenditures this period (if applicable)	$108,437.90
Cumulative Grant Expenditures to date	$13,616.07
Cumulative Match Expenditures to date (if applicable)	$115,176.32
Total Cumulative Expenditures to date	**$128,792.39**

Date form completed (mm/dd/yyyy): 1/2/2018