RESOLUTION 2024-02 WHITE BEAR LAKE CONSERVATION DISTRICT RAMSEY COUNTY, MINNESOTA

RESOLUTION OF NEGATIVE DECLARATION REGARDING THE NEED FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE VFW COMMERICAL MARINA ON WHITE BEAR LAKE

At the regular meeting of the White Bear Lake Conservation District held on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, the District resolved that:

WHEREAS, The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) (the "Proposer") approached the District with a project to expand their operation by the addition of both more dock section (length) and more slip-fingers (capacity) for their marina (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, The District determined that, based on the size of the expansion, there was a need for the preparation of an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (the "EAW") to preliminarily determine environmental impacts, if any, from the Project; and

WHEREAS, The District is the responsible governmental unit (the "RGU") for the Project and has worked directly with the Proposer in preparing and completing the EAW; and

WHEREAS, The Proposer submitted and the District deemed complete the aforementioned EAW and the same was published in the Environmental Quality Bulletin (the "EQB") and the 30-day comment period has elapsed and comments were received and the District is now able to determine the need for an Environmental Impact Statement (the "EIS") per Minnesota Rule 4410.1700; and

WHEREAS, The District prepared and considered its <u>Findings of Fact and Record of Decision</u>, including comments made and answering any questions received, at its October 15, 2024 meeting; and,

WHEREAS, the District, as the RGU, finds and determines as follows:

- 1) Copies of the EAW were distributed to all persons and agencies on the official EQB mailing list more than 30 days prior to October 15, 2024;
- 2) Notice of the availability of the EAW for public review for a 30-day comment period was published Sept 10, 2024;
- 3) The preparation of the EAW and comments received on the EAW have generated information adequate to determine whether the proposed Project has the potential for significant environmental impacts;
- 4) The Project is expected to comply with all District and MN Department of Natural Resources review standards, and;

5) Based on the criteria established in Minnesota Rule part 4410.1700 and the Findings and Conclusions previously adopted, the Project *does not* have the potential for significant environmental effects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the District Board resolves as follows:

- 1) The District adopts the Findings and Conclusions, including the comments as well as the responses to questions presented contained therein.
- 2) The District makes a 'negative declaration' on the need for an EIS for the Project and deems the EAW process sufficient review of environmental impacts for the Project.
- The District authorizes the distribution of this Resolution and the Findings and Conclusions as required by Minnesota Rule 4410.1700 subpart 5.
- 4) This Resolution is hereby adopted and is effective immediately.

Voting in Favor: 8 Voting Against: 0 Abstaining Vote: 0

Resolution duly seconded and passed this 15th day of October, 2024.

Attest:

Di yang Desinet, Chan

Cheri Howe, Administrator