

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE MINNEHAHA CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
BOARD OF MANAGERS**

July 27, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers was called to order by President Sherry White at 6:51 p.m. on July 27, 2017, at the MCWD offices, 15320 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka, Minnesota.

MANAGERS PRESENT

Sherry White, Brian Shekleton, Richard Miller, William Olson, William Becker and Jessica Loftus.

MANAGERS ABSENT

Kurt Rogness.

DISTRICT STAFF AND CONSULTANTS PRESENT

Lars Erdahl, Administrator; James Wisker, Planning and Projects Director; Katherine Sylvia, Permitting Program Lead; Michael Hayman, Planner-Project Manager; Becky Christopher, Lead Planner-Project Manager; Louis Smith, District Counsel.

MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR

Mr. Gabriel Jabbour, Orono, appeared before the Board of Managers and stated that he wished to discuss current planning discussions and recent activities at Big Island on Lake Minnetonka. He reminded the Board of Managers that when he was Mayor of Orono, the City and the District worked together to mobilize the funding and conservation planning for Big Island. Mr. Jabbour stated he is now concerned that the new Mayor and City Council are undertaking planning activities which are not consistent with the intended passive recreational and conservation values. Mr. Jabbour requested that the District become more actively engaged in the Big Island discussions, and also consider sharing its easement with another conservation organization such as the Minnesota Land Trust.

Manager Shekleton asked Mr. Jabbour how he wished the District to engage differently on this issue. Mr. Jabbour stated that he felt the District could more actively explain the rationale and values behind the initial conservation easement and improvements made to Big Island. President White stated that this issue should be approached with some caution and care. Manager Miller stated that he is anxious to discuss the issue and consider Mr. Jabbour's request. Mr. Erdahl noted that the District had discussed this matter in past meetings and that staff intended to attend an upcoming meeting in August. Manager