

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

4
5 **July 25, 2024**

6
7 **CALL TO ORDER**

8
9 The regular meeting of the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers was
10 called to order by President Sherry White at 7:10 p.m. on July 25, 2024, at the MCWD
11 offices, 15320 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka, Minnesota.

12
13 **ROLL CALL**

14
15 Noting that Manager Maxwell was participating remotely using interactive technology as
16 duly noticed from 7470 State 34 NW, Walker, Minnesota, President White called the roll
17 to note attendance:

18
19 Hejmadi: Absent
20 Loftus: Present
21 Sando: Absent
22 Miller: Present
23 Olson: Present
24 Maxwell: Present
25 White: Present

26
27
28 **DISTRICT STAFF AND CONSULTANTS PRESENT**

29
30 James Wisker, Administrator; Kate Moran, Policy Planning Coordinator; Michael
31 Hayman, Director of Project Planning; Chris Meehan, District Consulting Engineer; and
32 Louis Smith, District Counsel.

33
34 **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

35
36 *It was moved by Manager Miller, seconded by Manager Maxwell, to approve the*
37 *Agenda as distributed. It was moved by Manager Miller, seconded by Manager Olson,*
38 *that agenda be amended to add the sale of 325 Blake Road for discussion. Upon roll*
39 *call vote, the motion to amend the agenda carried 5-0 as follows:*

40
41 Hejmadi: Absent
42 Loftus: Aye
43 Sando: Absent
44 Miller: Aye
45 Olson: Aye
46 Maxwell: Aye

47 White: Aye

48

49 *Upon roll call vote, the motion to adopt the agenda as amended carried 5-0 as follows:*

50

51 Hejmadi: Absent

52 Loftus: Aye

53 Sando: Absent

54 Miller: Aye

55 Olson: Aye

56 Maxwell: Aye

57 White: Aye

58

59 **MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR**

60

61 None.

62

63 **CONSENT AGENDA**

64

65 *It was moved by Manager Miller, seconded by Manager Olson, to approve the items on*
66 *the Consent Agenda consisting of approval of the July 11, 2024, Board meeting*
67 *minutes; approval of the General Check Register, including check numbers 42574*
68 *through 42586 in the amount of \$37,292.64, electronic funds withdrawals of*
69 *\$173,699.14, credit card charges of \$3,269.03, managers per diems and*
70 *reimbursements of \$5,069.48, employee reimbursements of \$110.08, and payroll*
71 *electronic funds withdrawals and disbursements of \$151,606.32, for a total of*
72 *\$371,046.69; the Surety Check Register including payment of \$30.00 in fees to Bremer*
73 *Bank, and check numbers 2212-2213, for a total of \$3,757.00; and a wire transfer to*
74 *the City of Richfield for 2020A payment of \$11,165.00.*

75

76 *Upon roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0 as follows:*

77

78 Hejmadi: Absent

79 Loftus: Aye

80 Sando: Absent

81 Miller: Aye

82 Olson: Aye

83 Maxwell: Aye

84 White: Aye

85

86

87 **BOARD, COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS**

88

89 President's Report: President White reported that she recently attended the opening of the
90 Wayzata Lake Walk; a meeting of the Metro Chapter of Minnesota Watersheds; the
91 Policy Steering Committee of the Minneapolis water resources partnership; and a briefing
92 on the 325 Blake Road project in preparation for a liaison meeting with Hopkins city
93 representatives.

94
95 Policy Planning Committee Report: Manager Miller reported that the Committee met
96 earlier in the evening and received briefings on the MCWD Climate Action Framework
97 and the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion initiative.

98
99 Metro Chapter of Minnesota Watersheds: President White and Manager Olson reported
100 that the meeting included updates on the Clean Water Council budget recommendations;
101 planning for the Clean Water Legacy; updates from the Water Resource Center and the
102 Metropolitan Council; and planning for the legislative platform of Minnesota
103 Watersheds.

104
105 Citizens Advisory Committee: Manager Loftus reported that she attended the recent CAC
106 meeting in which committee members were very engaged in a review of the MCWD
107 2025 budget and capital improvement program.

108
109 Minneapolis Policy Steering Committee: President White reported that along with
110 Manager Miller she attended the recent Steering Committee meeting, which included a
111 status report on the Phase I projects, a discussion of long-range planning, and a
112 preliminary discussion of communications and partnership identity. Manager Miller
113 noted that he was very impressed with the participation of elected officials in the
114 meeting.

115
116 President White noted the upcoming meeting schedule presented in the agenda.

117
118 **PERMITS REQUIRING A VARIANCE OR DISCUSSION**

119
120 None.

121
122
123 **PUBLIC HEARINGS & PRESENTATIONS**

124
125 Calvary Church Stormwater Management Project: Minor Plan Amendment and Project Ordering
126

127 Ms. Kate Moran appeared before the Board of Managers and explained that the purpose of the
128 public hearing is to obtain public input on the proposed Calvary Church Stormwater
129 Management Project (Project), as well as a proposed minor plan amendment to
130 incorporate the Project into the MCWD's Watershed Management Plan (WMP). She
131 reviewed the Project background, including the collaboration with the City of Deephaven

132 to develop the Project, the purpose of the minor plan amendment, and the process for
133 ordering the improvement. She noted that no action is proposed for this meeting and that
134 the comment period would close on July 31.

135

136 Mr. Matt Hoven appeared before the Board of Managers and commented that he was
137 present with Mr. Brad Swayer, and that both were present to express support for the
138 Project. He noted that the Project would address longstanding drainage problems and
139 make a big difference for neighboring property owners.

140

141 President White thanked Mr. Hoven for his comments, and with no further comments,
142 closed the public hearing.

143

144 **ACTION ITEMS**

145

146 None.

147

148 **BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS**

149

150 President White proposed to defer the discussion of 325 Blake Road until after Board
151 Inquiries and Staff Updates, and the managers concurred.

152

153 **BOARD INQUIRIES, ISSUES, AND IDEAS**

154

155 None.

156

157 **STAFF UPDATES**

158

159 **Administrator's Report**

160

161 Mr. Wisker reported on the following items:

162

163 1. Mr. Wisker had a productive meeting with Campbell Seavey, the property adjacent to the
164 MCWD office, and further discussion will be held concerning the improvements to the
165 driveway and parking lot, as well as an update of the easement. Manager Miller
166 suggested that barriers to protect the window wells be incorporated into the design
167 discussion.

168

169 2. Progress continues in addressing the construction defects of the Minnehaha Preserve
170 Boardwalk. The City of St. Louis Park building officials are reviewing alternative
171 remedies for two categories of defects and a formal submission is planned for later this
172 week.

173

- 174 3. Mr. Wisker noted President White’s report on the Minneapolis Policy Steering
175 Committee meeting and concurred that the meeting successfully engaged the elected
176 officials.
177
- 178 4. Staff is planning to meet soon with representatives of the Carver Soil and Water
179 Conservation District to discuss a potential wetland restoration project.
180
- 181 5. With more normal precipitation recently, Lake Minnetonka has receded to elevation
182 929.53.
183

184 **BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS, continued**

185
186 325 Blake Road Restoration and Redevelopment Update
187

188 Based on the advice of legal counsel, *it was moved by Manager Miller, seconded by Manager*
189 *Olson, to move into closed session for the purpose of discussing potential amendment of terms*
190 *for the sale of 325 Blake Road in Hopkins. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0 as*
191 *follows:*
192

193 Hejmadi: Absent
194 Loftus: Aye
195 Sando: Absent
196 Miller: Aye
197 Olson: Aye
198 Maxwell: Aye
199 White: Aye
200

201 The Board of Managers went into closed session.
202

203 The Board of Managers returned to open session.
204

205 **Adjournment**

206
207 There being no further business, President White declared the meeting of the Board of
208 Managers adjourned at 8:49 p.m.
209

210 Respectfully submitted,
211

212
213 Eugene Maxwell, Secretary