



Title: Appointment of the 2026 Citizen Advisory Committee

Resolution number: 25-080

Prepared by: Name: James O'Brien
Phone: 952-641-4523
jobrien@minnehahacreek.org

Reviewed by: Samantha Hoppe, Outreach Manager

Recommended action: Appoint the 2026 MCWD Citizen Advisory Committee

Summary:

At the [November 6, 2025](#), Operations and Programs Committee (OPC) meeting, staff provided an update on the 2026 Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) applicant pool and vetted appointment recommendations for the 2026 CAC.

Background:

According to [MN Statute §103D.331](#), the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD or District) Board of Managers must annually appoint a CAC. On June 10, 2021, the Board approved [Resolution 21-042](#) adopting operational recommendations to align the CAC with the strategic direction of the District and advance its Balanced Urban Ecology policy. These recommendations included setting the size of the CAC at 14 members and instituting staggered, two-year terms for CAC members. Recent CAC recruitment and appointment processes have been structured according to these operational recommendations.

2026 Recruitment and Application Process:

Recruitment of members was supported through a variety of promotional strategies from September 9, 2025, to the application deadline of October 20, 2025. Current CAC members were encouraged to re-apply and share the application with their networks. New applicants were solicited to participate in a competitive application process through several channels, including MCWD's website, social media, e-newsletters, and partner communications.

Following the CAC application deadline, at the November 6, 2025, OPC meeting, staff provided a preliminary staff assessment of the 8 applications received for the seven open spots on the 2026 CAC, based on the evaluation criteria. For the seven openings, five current CAC members expressed interest in returning, and three applications were received from District residents interested in joining the CAC.

2026 CAC Appointment Recommendations:

Committee discussion informed the staff recommendations outlined in this request for Board action, summarized below:

- Reappoint all current members who are continuing the second year of their term in 2026.
- Appoint five interested incumbent members to a two-year term from 2026-2027.
- Appoint two new candidates to a two-year term from 2026-2027.

Based on the considerations outlined above, staff recommend the appointment of 14 CAC members to the 2026 CAC.

2026 CAC Appointment Recommendations				
Name	City of Residence	CAC Experience	Profession	Term
<i>Current members completing second year of their term:</i>				
1. Ricardo Bonner	Wayzata	1 year	Sr. Financial Consultant	2025-2026
2. Joshua Foschi	Minneapolis	1 year	Software Developer	2025-2026
3. Robert Glisky	Minneapolis	3 years	Graduate Engineer	2025-2026
4. Steve Hage	Minnetrista	1 year	Ret. Environmental Educator	2025-2026
5. Suzanne Jiwani	Edina	3 years	Ret. Water Resource Engineer	2025-2026
6. Rich Nyquist	Minneapolis	11 years	Ret. Manufacturing Engineer	2025-2026
7. Kevin Zahler	Excelsior	1 year	Global Energy Consultant	2025-2026
<i>Applicants recommended for a two-year term beginning in 2026:</i>				
8. Cait Caswell	St. Louis Park	New	Water Resource Engineer	2026-2027
9. Laurie Goldsmith	St. Louis Park	4 years	Administrative Assistant	2026-2027
10. John Iverson	Victoria	4 years	Registered Finance Rep	2026-2027
11. Drew McGovern	St. Louis Park	8 years	Civil Engineer	2026-2027
12. Will Mulhern	Minneapolis	New	Electricity Director	2026-2027
13. Janet Schaefer	Long Lake	2 years	Ret. Vice President	2026-2027
14. Sheri Wallace	Mound	2 years	Ret. Business Analyst	2026-2027

2026 CAC Meeting Calendar and Board Liaisons:

The following tentative schedule is included for informational purposes.

Meeting	Board Liaison
January 14, 2026	Maxwell
March 18, 2026	Olson
May 20, 2026	Miller
July 15, 2026	Loftus
September 16, 2026	Hejmadi
November 10, 2026	Sando



RESOLUTION

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- WHEREAS, pursuant to MN statute §103D.331, the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) Board of Managers annually appoints a Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), organized to assist the MCWD Board of Managers on matters affecting the interests of the watershed district;
- WHEREAS, on June, 10, 2021, the Board approved Resolution 21-042 adopting operational recommendations to align its CAC with the overall strategic direction of the District;
- WHEREAS, recommendations included introducing two-year, staggered terms, setting CAC membership at 14, and setting goals of achieving professional, geographic, and demographic diversity among membership;
- WHEREAS, MCWD conducted a competitive recruitment process from September 9, 2025, to October 20, 2025, to solicit applications for CAC appointment at the discretion of the Board of Managers
- WHEREAS, MCWD received 8 applications for 7 vacancies on the 2026 CAC, including five from current CAC members and three from prospective members;
- WHEREAS, the Board of Managers' Operations and Programs Committee discussed the slate of 14 candidates for 2026 appointment at the November 6, 2025, meeting;
- WHEREAS, staff prepared a recommendation for appointment at the December 18, 2025, meeting;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers hereby appoints the following individuals to the 2026 Citizen Advisory Committee.

Serving 2026	Serving 2026-2027
Ricardo Bonner Joshua Foschi Robert Glisky Steve Hage Suzanne Jiwani Rich Nyquist Kevin Zahler	Cait Caswell Laurie Goldsmith John Iverson Drew McGovern Will Mulhern Janet Schaefer Sheri Wallace

Resolution Number 25-080 was moved by Manager _____, seconded by Manager _____. Motion to adopt the resolution ____aye(s), ____nay(s), ____abstentions. Date: December 18, 2025.

Secretary

Date: