

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

March 26, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers was called to order by President Sherry White at 7:01 p.m. on March 26, 2026, at the MCWD offices, 15320 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka, Minnesota.

ROLL CALL FOR ATTENDANCE

President White called the roll to note attendance:

William Olson:	Present
Stephen Sando:	Present
Eugene Maxwell:	Present
Ricardo Bonnerr	Present
Arun Hejmadi:	Present, participating remotely
Sherry White:	Present

DISTRICT STAFF AND CONSULTANTS PRESENT

James Wisker, Administrator; Rachel Baker, Planner – Project Manager; Nick Wyers, District Consulting Engineer; Jay Lindgren, Development Counsel; and Louis Smith, District Counsel.

MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR

Mr. Gary Dukes, 5128 – 44th Avenue South, Minneapolis, appeared before the Board of Managers to express his support for the minor plan amendment which would allow for an alum treatment for Lake Nokomis. He noted that it is an important project to address water quality in Lake Nokomis.

President White acknowledged Ms. Stephanie Musich and invited her to come before the Board of Managers so that President White could read the resolution adopted by the Board honoring her leadership and service as a member of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. She expressed appreciation for Ms. Musich's steadfast leadership in advancing science-based water resource policy, encouraging policy makers, community members, and partner agencies to ground decisions in an understanding of natural systems – living the principles of MCWD's vision for Balanced Urban Ecology. President White also expressed gratitude for Ms. Musich for being catalytic in establishing and leading the Minneapolis Thriving Waters Partnership, among MCWD, the MPRB and City of Minneapolis, which now serves to guide the long-term planning

and investment in projects that address water quality and resilience for Minneapolis waters.

Mr. Wisker presented Ms. Musich with a plaque and a framed copy of the Board's resolution. Ms. Musich thanked the Board of Managers for working together to make lasting changes to improve water quality and for forging a structure to work together through the Thriving Waters Partnership.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Manager Maxwell, seconded by Manager Sando, to approve the Agenda as distributed. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried, 6-0 as follows:

*Hejmadi: Aye
Olson: Aye
Bonner: Aye
Maxwell: Aye
Sando: Aye
White: Aye*

CONSENT AGENDA

President White requested to pull Item 7.1 from the Consent Agenda and place it on the Action Items portion of the Agenda as Item 11.2. *It was moved by Manager Maxwell, seconded by Manager Hejmadi to approve the remaining items on the Consent Agenda consisting of approval of the March 12, 2026 Board meeting minutes; approval of the General Check Register, including check numbers 42747 through 42748 in the amount of \$82,924.33, electronic funds withdrawals of \$469,706.82, managers per diems and reimbursements of \$1,600.92, and payroll electronic funds withdrawals and disbursements of \$187,112.71, for a total of \$741,344.78; the Surety Check Register with payment of \$30.00 in fees to Old National Bank and check number 22272 in the amount of \$5,735.92 to Target Corporation for surety return, for a total of \$5,765.92; wire transfers of \$0; and the following resolution:*

Resolution 26-034: Approval of Transition to Internal Management of Noncash Financial Assurances

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers approves the transition to internal management of noncash financial assurances received by the District.

Upon roll call vote, the motion carried, 6-0 as follows:

Hejmadi: Aye
Olson: Aye
Bonner: Aye
Maxwell: Aye
Sando: Aye
White: Aye

BOARD, COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS

President's Report: None.

Citizens Advisory Committee Report: Manager Olson reported that he attended the CAC meeting on March 18. The agenda included updates on the 2027 Plan Evaluation Framework and CAC members offered great engagement and helpful recommendations. The CAC received other staff briefings and elected two new officers.

Policy and Planning Committee Report: Manager Maxwell invited Manager Sando to give the committee report. Manager Sando noted that the Committee met earlier in the evening and received a staff briefing on the Downtown Long Lake Feasibility Report and an update on the Long Lake Creek Sub-watershed implementation strategy.

President White noted the schedule of upcoming meetings presented in the agenda.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND PRESENTATIONS

None.

PERMITS REQUIRING A VARIANCE OR DISCUSSION

None.

ACTION ITEMS

Resolution 26-035: Approval of Minor Plan Amendment

Ms. Rachel Baker appeared before the Board of Managers to review the request for board action. She described the background of the proposed minor plan amendment arising through MCWD's work in the Thriving Waters Partnership in collaboration with the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board (MPRB) and the City of Minneapolis. She explained that the MPRB has studied the problem of algal blooms in Cedar Lake and is interested in pursuing a state grant to

support an alum treatment of the lake. The requirements of a Clean Water grant include that such a project must be encompassed within a watershed district's watershed management plan. MCWD. Has undertaken a planning process for the Cedar Lake Management Unit, which should provide a detailed implementation plan and a replicable model for other lake management units in this sub-watershed. Ms. Baker noted that the proposed plan amendment adds text to the MCWD watershed management plan to address internal pollutant loading issues and would cover water bodies such as Cedar Lake and Lake Nokomis.

Ms. Baker stated that the MCWD received favorable comments on the proposed plan amendment from six state agencies, as well as a favorable resident comment. She noted further that on March 24, 2026, the Board of Water and Soil Resources confirmed that this would be a minor plan amendment.

It was moved by Manager Sando, seconded by Manager Bonner, to adopt Resolution 26-035: Approval of Minor Plan Amendment as follows:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers adopts the proposed minor plan amendment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District Administrator is to distribute the revised pages to the required review agencies and otherwise incorporate the amendment into the District WMP in accordance with MN Rules 8410.

Manager Maxwell expressed his appreciation for the collaboration in this effort. ***Upon roll call vote, the motion carried, 6-0 as follows:***

Hejmadi: Aye
Olson: Aye
Bonner: Aye
Maxwell: Aye
Sando: Aye
White: Aye

Resolution 26-033: Authorization to Extend Contract with McGough Facility Management

Mr. Wisker reviewed the request for board action. He explained that staff recommends the District continue utilizing McGough's services and extend the agreement for a new two-year period commencing April 1, 2026. In discussion with Manager Bonner, it was noted that the Resolution does not specify that the contract provide a not-to-exceed amount, which is intended to be \$40,000. Mr. Wisker recommended that the resolution be revised to include this not-to-exceed amount.

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It was moved by Manager Olson, seconded by Manager Hejmadi, to adopt Resolution 26-033: Authorization to Extend Contract with McGough Facility Management as follows:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers s hereby authorizes the District Administrator to extend the contract with McGough Facilities Management effective April 1, 2026 through March 31, 2028 per the fees and services set forth above on advice of legal counsel.

It was moved by Manager Maxwell, seconded by Manager Bonner, to amend the resolution as follows:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers hereby authorizes the District Administrator to extend the contract with McGough Facilities Management effective April 1, 2026 through March 31, 2028 per the fees and services set forth above and for a total contract amount not to exceed \$40,000 on advice of legal counsel.

Upon roll call vote, the amendment was adopted 6-0 as follows:

***Hejmadi: Aye
Olson: Aye
Bonner: Aye
Maxwell: Aye
Sando: Aye
White: Aye***

Upon roll call vote, the motion to adopt the resolution as amended carried 6-0 as follows:

***Hejmadi: Aye
Olson: Aye
Bonner: Aye
Maxwell: Aye
Sando: Aye
White: Aye***

BOARD INQUIRIES, ISSUES, AND IDEAS

None.

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BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

None.

STAFF UPDATES

Administrator's Report

None.

CLOSED SESSION DISCUSSION

325 Blake Road, Hopkins; Alatus v. Minnehaha Creek Watershed District

Mr. Smith recommended that the Board of Managers move into closed session for two reasons: first, for the Board to discuss the terms of the potential sale of 325 Blake Road in Hopkins, and second, to receive confidential legal advice concerning litigation strategy in the lawsuit of Alatus v. Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (involving the same site). *It was moved by Manager Maxwell, seconded by Manager Olson, that the Board move into closed session for these two reasons. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried, 6-0 as follows:*

*Hejmadi: Aye
Olson: Aye
Bonner: Aye
Maxwell: Aye
Sando: Aye
White: Aye*

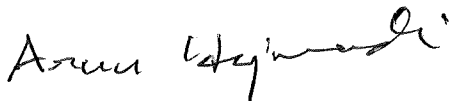
The Board of Managers went into closed session.

The Board of Managers returned to open session.

Adjournment

There being no further business, President White declared the meeting of the Board of Managers adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Arun Hejmadi, Secretary