

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

June 11, 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 7:00 p.m. on June 11, 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
Eugene Maxwell:	Present
Ricardo Bonner:	Present
Arun Hejmadi:	Present, participating remotely
Stephen Sando:	Present
Sherry White:	Present

DISTRICT STAFF AND CONSULTANTS PRESENT

James Wisker, Administrator; and Justin Templin, Litigation Counsel.

MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR

None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

<i>Hejmadi:</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Olson:</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Bonner:</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Maxwell:</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Sando:</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>White:</i>	<i>Aye</i>

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Manager Maxwell, seconded by Manager Bonner, to approve the items on the Consent Agenda consisting of approval of the May 28, 2026, Board meeting minutes, and the following resolutions:

Resolution 26-053: Appointment of Additional Members to the Technical Advisory Committee for the 2027 Watershed Management Plan

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers appoints the following individuals to serve on the Technical Advisory Committee for the 2027 Watershed Management Plan:

- Amy Timm, Watershed Project Manager, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency***
- Anneka Munsell, Hydrologist, Minnesota Department of Health; and***

Resolution 26-054: Approval of Programmatic Maintenance Agreement with Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers hereby authorizes the Board President, on advice of counsel, to execute a programmatic maintenance agreement with Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority.

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.

Operations and Programs Committee Report: Manager Olson reported that the Committee met earlier in the evening and received a presentation from Mr. Wisker on the preliminary 2027 budget, with a focus on programs and operations, capital improvement program, capital finance and debt service, and personnel.

President White noted that staff planned and facilitated a joint Board of Managers – Citizens Advisory Committee field trip last week. Managers expressed their appreciation for the great staff preparation and the value of this outing.

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 26-055: Appointment of Members to MCWD's Governance Advisory Council

Mr. Wisker appeared before the Board of Managers to present the request for board action. He noted the Board's direction to manage change by providing for succession awareness and planning, onboarding of new board members, reinforcing and institutionalizing board governance culture, and establishing a governance advisory council. He noted how the creation of this council would advance those goals, the recommended appointees to the council, and key elements of a work plan for the council.

It was moved by Manager Olson, seconded by Manager Maxwell, to adopt Resolution 26-055: Appointment of Members to MCWD's Governance Advisory Council as follows:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers hereby appoints Dick Miller, Jessica Loftus, John Himle and Louis Smith to serve on the Governance Advisory Council for the duration of the Council's initial two-year pilot period ending in December 2027;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Governance Advisory Council shall continue to operate consistent with the purpose, structure and limitations established in Resolution 26-042.

There being no further discussion, upon roll call vote, the motion carried, 6-0 as follows:

Hejmadi: Aye
Olson: Aye
Bonner: Aye

Maxwell: Aye
Sando: Aye
White: Aye

BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

None.

BOARD INQUIRIES, ISSUES, AND IDEAS

None.

STAFF UPDATES

Administrator's Report

Mr. Wisker reported on the following items:

1. Mr. Wisker will be travelling out of the country June 19-July 3, and recommended that Ms. Becky Christopher be named acting administrator in his absence. *It was moved by Manager Olson, seconded by Manager Bonner to name Ms. Christopher as acting administrator during Mr. Wisker's absence. Upon roll call vote, the carried, 6-0 as follows:*

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

2. Water levels continue to be relatively low. A June 9 storm brought 0.2 inches of precipitation in the upper watershed, and 0.5 inches in the lower watershed. Minnehaha Creek peaked following this storm event as expected at 60 cubic feet per second at Hiawatha and is currently flowing at 20 cubic feet per second.
3. Mr. Wisker, Ms. Sannes, and Ms. Hoppe recently met with Temple, the current owners of the West End development in St. Louis Park. MCWD has a history with the previous owner, Duke Realty, when MCWD invested funds for stormwater treatment beyond regulatory compliance at the site, and the result was to remove fifty pounds of phosphorus annually and remove Brownie Lake from the Impaired Waters list. One of

the demonstration practices in that project was a green roof which turned out not to function well. Temple is requesting that the maintenance declaration for the green roof be removed, and the parties are discussing alternative practices that may be the subject of a superseding declaration. Staff anticipate bringing a recommended action to the Board at a future meeting.

4. The Board recently approved a scope of work for Louis Smith and Kowsar Mohamed to gather insights from the Greenway Corridor and other land use actors to inform the MCWD's plan and programs. Interviews with other watershed districts have begun and are yielding very interesting insights.
5. As noted at the committee meeting earlier in the evening, James McDermond-Spies and James O'Brien are leaving MCWD employment. Mr. McDermond-Spies overhauled the project and land maintenance program, supported a request for proposals for vegetation and land management, and the supported the dredging of Twin Lakes pond. Mr. O'Brien brought positivity to the Citizens Advisory Committee and contributed to the MCWD's inclusive engagement protocol.
6. In response to a question from Manager Maxwell, Mr. Wisker noted that MCWD is in communication with the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board concerning recent fish kills and algal blooms at Lake Nokomis. The MPRB leads in managing public health and other aspects of this issue as the park and recreation authority.
7. In response to a question from Manager Sando, Mr. Wisker said that he had no further news on the status of the TCAAP development in Arden Hills.
8. In response to a question from Manager Hejmadi, Mr. Wisker noted that the findings from interviews conducted by Mr. Smith and Ms. Mohamed will be shared together with the other elements of the project at a future committee meeting.

The managers thanked Mr. Wisker for this report.

CLOSED SESSION DISCUSSION

Alatus Development v. MCWD

Upon recommendation of counsel and pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 13.05, subdivision 3(b), it was moved by Manager Olson, seconded by Manager Bonner, to move into closed session for the purpose of receiving confidential legal advice concerning litigation strategy in the case of Alatus Development v. MCWD, Case No. 27-CV-25-8066. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried, 6-0 as follows:

Hejmadi: Aye

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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 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Arun Hejmadi, Secretary