

47 **CONSENT AGENDA**

48
49 *It was moved by Manager Sando, seconded by Manager Olson, to approve the items on*
50 *the Consent Agenda consisting of approval of the April 23, 2026, Board meeting*
51 *minutes, and the following resolution:*

52
53 ***Resolution 26-048: Approve Issuance of Letter of Support for Hennepin County***
54 ***LSOHC Application***

55
56 ***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek***
57 ***Watershed District Board of Managers authorizes the issuance of the Letter of***
58 ***Support to Hennepin County for inclusion in its upcoming Lessard-Sams***
59 ***Outdoor Heritage Fund grant application.***

60
61 *Upon roll call vote, the motion carried, 6-0 as follows:*

62
63 ***Hejmadi: Aye***
64 ***Olson: Aye***
65 ***Bonner: Aye***
66 ***Maxwell: Aye***
67 ***Sando: Aye***
68 ***White: Aye***

69
70
71 **BOARD, COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS**

72
73 **President’s Report:** President White noted that along with Manager Olson, she attended the
74 recent joint Policy Advisory Committee and Technical Advisory Committee meeting for the
75 2027 Plan. It was a great meeting.

76
77 **Operations and Programs Committee Report:** Manager Olson reported that the Committee met
78 earlier in the evening and received a presentation from Mr. Wisker on the preliminary 2027
79 budget.

80
81 President White noted the schedule of upcoming meetings presented in the agenda.

82
83 **PUBLIC HEARINGS AND PRESENTATIONS**

84
85 None.

86
87 **PERMITS REQUIRING A VARIANCE OR DISCUSSION**

88
89 **Permit 26-161: Greenway to Cedar Trail Connection**

90
91 Ms. Abigail Couture and Mr. Gabe Sherman appeared before the Board of Managers to review
92 the Greenway to Cedar Trail Connection Project. Mr. Sherman provided an overview of the
93 project its 90% design. He noted that there were no major changes to the design since the
94 Board’s prior review. He reviewed the effort to minimize tree removal while assuring trail
95 safety. He noted degradation of the streambank in this area, especially from the 2014 flood
96 events. Mr. Sherman explained the plans for streambank restoration using soil lifts and a geo-
97 cell bank.

98
99 Ms. Couture reviewed the MCWD’s permit application and the applicable rules, the Waterbody
100 Crossings and Structures Rule and the Shoreline and Streambank Stabilization Rule. She
101 explained that based on review by District staff and the District Engineer, staff finds that the
102 application meets all applicable MCWD rules and recommends the Board approve the permit
103 application.

104
105 ***It was moved by Manager Maxwell, seconded by Manager Sando, to approve Permit***
106 ***26-161 with conditions recommended by staff.*** Manager Olson asked if, given the
107 extensive erosion, the streambank improvements would result in measurable
108 improvements to water quality. Mr. Wisker noted that Total Suspended Solids and Total
109 Phosphorus could be measured. In response to a further question from Manager Olson,
110 Mr. Sherman noted that a minimum height of ten feet from the trail to the bridge deck has
111 been required by Metro Transit. In response to questions from Manager Maxwell, Ms.
112 Couture noted the toe boulders at water level and the plantings in the soil lifts which
113 would allow roots to assist in stabilizing the streambank, and she noted the fencing that
114 would protect children from accessing the LRT tracks. In response to a question from
115 Manager Bonner, Mr. Sherman reviewed the City of St. Louis Park’s maintenance
116 responsibilities and the operations and maintenance plan to be prepared.

117
118 ***There being no further discussion, upon roll call vote, the motion carried, 6-0 as***
119 ***follows:***

120
121 ***Hejmadi: Aye***
122 ***Olson: Aye***
123 ***Bonner: Aye***
124 ***Maxwell: Aye***
125 ***Sando: Aye***
126 ***White: Aye***

127
128 **ACTION ITEMS**

129
130 **Resolution 26-049: Approval of 90% Design for Greenway to Cedar Trail Connection and**
131 **Streambank Stabilization Project and Authorization to Solicit Bids**

132

133 Resolution 26-050: Approval of Greenway to Cedar Trail Connection and Streambank
134 Stabilization Project Agreements

135
136 Mr. Sherman noted the other permits to be obtained for the project and reviewed the plans for
137 offsite tree replacement which have been carefully coordinated with the City of St. Louis Park.
138 He reviewed the updated estimated cost for the project and the cost sharing arrangement with the
139 City and the funding contribution from Hennepin Community Works. Mr. Sherman reviewed
140 the three project agreements, which included a property conveyance agreement with Creekwest
141 LLC and the City of St. Louis Park; a cooperative agreement with the City of St. Louis Park; and
142 a license agreement among the Metropolitan Council, Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority,
143 and the City of St. Louis Park.

144
145 ***It was moved by Manager Maxwell, seconded by Manager Bonner, to adopt Resolution 26-***
146 ***049: Approval of 90% Design for Greenway to Cedar Trail Connection and Streambank***
147 ***Stabilization Project and Authorization to Solicit Bids as follows:***

148
149 ***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed***
150 ***District Board of Managers approves the 90% design for the Greenway to Cedar Trail***
151 ***Connection and Streambank Restoration Project and authorizes the District***
152 ***Administrator to direct Stantec to prepare conforming final plans and, on advice of***
153 ***counsel, to solicit bids.***

154
155 In response to a question from Manager Olson, Mr. Sherman said that the trail section would
156 likely be underwater if a storm event like the 2014 flood were to occur, but the ten foot clearance
157 with the bridge deck prevented the trail from being raised any higher.

158
159 ***There being no further discussion, upon roll call vote, the motion carried, 6-0 as***
160 ***follows:***

161
162 ***Hejmadi: Aye***
163 ***Olson: Aye***
164 ***Bonner: Aye***
165 ***Maxwell: Aye***
166 ***Sando: Aye***
167 ***White: Aye***

168
169 ***It was moved by Manager Maxwell, seconded by Manager Bonner, to adopt Resolution 26-***
170 ***050: Approval of Greenway to Cedar Trail Connection and Streambank Stabilization Project***
171 ***Agreements as follows:***

172
173 ***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed***
174 ***District Board of Managers approves the (1) Project Agreement among Creekwest***
175 ***LLC, City of St. Louis Park & Minnehaha Creek Watershed District and up to \$6,000***

176 *in compensation and legal fee reimbursement for Creekwest LLC, (2) Cooperative*
177 *Agreement between City of St. Louis Park & Minnehaha Creek Watershed District and*
178 *its associated easements, and (3) Cooperative Construction Agreement between the*
179 *Metropolitan Council and the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District and authorizes the*
180 *Board President and the Administrator to execute the project agreements and*
181 *associated easements, with any non-substantive changes and on advice of counsel.*
182

183 *Upon roll call vote, the motion carried, 6-0 as follows:*
184

185 *Hejmadi: Aye*
186 *Olson: Aye*
187 *Bonner: Aye*
188 *Maxwell: Aye*
189 *Sando: Aye*
190 *White: Aye*
191

192 **BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS**
193

194 None.
195

196 **BOARD INQUIRIES, ISSUES, AND IDEAS**
197

198 Manager Bonner reported that he attended the State of Hennepin County presentation
199 earlier in the day and commissioners expressed to him their high esteem for MCWD.
200

201 **STAFF UPDATES**
202

203 Administrator's Report
204

205 Mr. Wisker reported on the following items:
206

- 207 1. Manager Bonner and Mr. Wisker had a productive meeting with representatives of the
208 Nature Conservancy and identified broad philosophical alignment; Mr. Wisker will work
209 with staff to explore possible concrete opportunities for collaboration;
210
- 211 2. Lake Minnetonka is currently at elevation 929.15; Grays Bay control structure is
212 currently discharging at 12 cubic feet per second; Minnehaha Creek at Hiawatha is
213 currently flowing at 14 cubic feet per second; year to date precipitation is 6.7 inches, 1.2
214 inches below normal;
215
- 216 3. Ms. Kailey Cermak shared video of the staged burning of the structures at 6300 Painter
217 Road in cooperation with the Mound Fire Department.
218

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Minnehaha Creek Watershed District
Board of Managers
5/14/26

219 The managers thanked Mr. Wisker for this report.

220

221 **Adjournment**

222

223 There being no further business, President White declared the meeting of the Board of Managers
224 adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

225

226 Respectfully submitted,

227

228

229

230 Arun Hejmadi, Secretary

DRAFT