



MINNEHAHA CREEK
WATERSHED DISTRICT
QUALITY OF WATER, QUALITY OF LIFE

Meeting: Board of Managers
Meeting date: 3/12/2026
Agenda Item #: 8.5
Item type: Consent

Title: Honoring the Leadership and Service of Jessica Loftus

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Summary:
The attached resolution honors Jessica Loftus' leadership and service on the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board.



RESOLUTION

Resolution: 26-032
Title: Honoring the Leadership and Service of Jessica Loftus

WHEREAS, Jessica Loftus served with distinction as a Manager on the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) Board of Managers, dedicating years of leadership to advancing the watershed’s mission and culture;

WHEREAS, Manager Loftus brought deep experience in municipal leadership and public administration, including service as a city manager, providing valuable insight into how cities perceive watershed districts and helping strengthen MCWD’s ability to be a trusted and effective partner to its member communities;

WHEREAS, joining the Board following the adoption of the MCWD’s vision for Balanced Urban Ecology, Manager Loftus quickly assimilated MCWD’s strategic direction and worked with the Board and staff to guide the alignment of the organization’s operations, staffing structure, and budget, to efficiently support this vision;

WHEREAS, Manager Loftus consistently demonstrated strong strategic thinking and brought operational discipline to MCWD’s work, helping guide organizational strategy on major capital project and policy initiatives, by promoting clear expectations, well-defined process, responsible budgeting, and thoughtful consideration of risk points, to drive success;

WHEREAS, Manager Loftus championed MCWD’s commitment to sound science and its role in climate resilience, supporting investments in advanced tools such as the watershed-wide two-dimensional flood model and the RESNET real-time monitoring network, and encouraging the District to formalize these insights through the Flood Response Plan to clearly define the respective roles of MCWD and its member cities in managing flooding and watershed conditions;

WHEREAS, throughout her service, Manager Loftus also played a key role in strengthening the culture of the organization – promoting high standards of excellence, strategic thinking, accountability, efficiency, and innovation, while guiding for systems to grow and support a high-performance team;

WHEREAS, through her insightful questions, clear expectations, and consistent emphasis on preparation and accountability, Manager Loftus helped raise the standard of analysis and decision making across the organization, instilling a culture in which staff continually strive to refine their work and “sharpen their pencils” in service of the organization’s mission and culture of excellence that now defines the MCWD;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers hereby formally recognizes Manager Jessica Loftus for her leadership, strategic insight, and enduring contributions to advancing the vision of a Balanced Urban Ecology, building an organizational culture of excellence, and restoring and protecting the land and water resources of the Minnehaha Creek Watershed.

Resolution Number 26-032 was moved by Manager _____, seconded by Manager _____.
 Motion to adopt the resolution ___ ayes, ___ nays, ___ abstentions. Date: 3/12/2026

 Secretary Date: _____