

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46

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

August 27, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District was called to order by President Sherry White at 7:02 p.m. on August 27, 2020. President White noted that this meeting was convened electronically through WebEx, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 13D.021, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and her determination that it is not prudent for the Board of Managers, or any committee thereof, to meet in person, and it is not feasible to provide for any member of the Board, or of the public, to meet at the regular meeting location. For this reason, until this determination is withdrawn by the District's presiding officer, chief legal counsel or chief administrative officer, the meetings of the Board and its committees will be convened by telephone or other electronic means as the presiding officer determines appropriate. All such meetings will be noticed and conducted in accordance with §13D.021 and all other applicable terms of the Open Meeting Law. President White noted that, pursuant to §13D.021, all votes will be by roll call.

President White called the roll to note attendance:

Hejmadi:	Present
Loftus:	Present
Rogness:	Present
Miller:	Present
Olson:	Present
Maxwell:	Present
White:	Present

DISTRICT STAFF AND CONSULTANTS PRESENT

James Wisker, Administrator; Kate Moran, Policy Planning Coordinator; Becky Christopher, Policy Planning Manager; Michael Hayman, Project Planning Manager; Gabe Sherman, Planner – Project Manager; Chris Meehan, Consulting Engineer; and Louis Smith, District Counsel.

MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR

None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Manager Miller, seconded by Manager Olson to approve the Agenda as distributed. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried 7-0 as follows:

47
48 Hejmadi: Aye
49 Loftus: Aye
50 Rogness: Aye
51 Miller: Aye
52 Olson: Aye
53 Maxwell: Aye
54 White: Aye

55
56 **CONSENT AGENDA**

57
58 *It was moved by Manager Miller, seconded by Manager Rogness, to adopt the items on the*
59 *Consent Agenda, consisting of the approval of the August 13, 2020 Board Minutes; the*
60 *General Checking Account consisting of checks 41243 through 41277 in the amount of*
61 *\$320,781.73; electronic funds withdrawals in the amount of \$30,901.78; manager per diems*
62 *and reimbursement direct deposits in the amount of \$2,250.00; employee reimbursements -*
63 *direct deposits in the amount of \$1,417.30; and payroll direct deposits in the amount of*
64 *\$217,537.58; and the surety checking account consisting of checks 41278 and 41279, and*
65 *electronic fund transfer of \$30.00 to Bremer Bank for a service charge for a total of \$6,278.00.*

66 *Upon roll call vote, the motion carried, 7-0 as follows:*

67
68 Hejmadi: Aye
69 Loftus: Aye
70 Rogness: Aye
71 Miller: Aye
72 Olson: Aye
73 Maxwell: Aye
74 White: Aye

75
76 **BOARD, COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS**

77
78 President's Report: President White reported that she had participated in at meeting on
79 August 18 with the Liaisons for 325 Blake Road, and on August 26 with the Citizens
80 Advisory Committee leadership team for agenda planning.

81
82 Policy and Planning Committee Report: Manager Miller reported that the Policy and
83 Planning Committee met and received a detailed briefing on Six Mile Creek Halsted Bay
84 planning process, and an update on the Long Lake Creek Partnership.

85
86 Upcoming Meeting and Event Schedule: President White directed the managers to the
87 meetings listed on the agenda; all of the meetings to be noticed and held via WebEx.
88

89 **PUBLIC HEARING ON 2021 BUDGET AND LEVY**

90
91 President White opened the public hearing on the 2021 annual budget and levy. Mr.
92 James Wisker appeared before the Board of Managers and reviewed the process in
93 developing the annual budget, as well as an overview of the 2021 budget and proposed
94 levy. He noted that the proposed 2021 budget reflects a decrease in expenditures of
95 \$633,756 or 4% for total proposed expenditures of \$14,716,421, and the proposed levy of
96 \$9,675,993 reflects 0% increase for the fourth consecutive year of no increase in the
97 MCWD's levy.

98
99 There were no comments from the public and President White closed the public hearing.

100
101 **ACTION ITEMS**

102
103 **Resolution 20-063: Approval of the St. Bonifacius Local Water Management Plan**

104
105 Ms. Kate Moran appeared before the Board of Managers to review the request for board
106 action. She described the review process and comments by MCWD staff on the draft
107 plan, and noted that the plan now meets all requirements. She noted that the City
108 authorizes the District to continue to administer all of its water resource regulations, and
109 that the City will retain Local Government Unit status for the Wetland Conservation Act.

110
111 *It was moved by Manager Miller, seconded by Manager Rogness, to adopt Resolution*
112 *20-063 as follows:*

113
114 ***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek***
115 ***Watershed District Board of Managers hereby approves the City of St.***
116 ***Bonifacius Local Water Management Plan; and***
117
118 ***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board approves the associated***
119 ***coordination plan and adopts it on behalf of the MCWD; and***
120
121 ***BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the City is to adopt and implement its LWMP***
122 ***within 120 days, and to notify the MCWD within 30 days thereafter that it has***
123 ***done so.***

124
125 *Upon roll call vote, the motion carried, 7-0 as follows:*

126
127 Hejmadi: Aye
128 Loftus: Aye
129 Rogness: Aye
130 Miller: Aye
131 Olson: Aye

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Minnehaha Creek Watershed District
Board of Managers
8-27-20

132 Maxwell: Aye
133 White: Aye

134

135 Resolution 20-064: Authorization to Apply for Watershed-based Implementation Funding

136

137 Ms. Becky Christopher appeared before the Board of Managers to review the request for
138 board action. She described ongoing work with the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil
139 Resources to implement the Clean Water Fund allocation on more of a watershed basis,
140 and with a focus on prioritized targeted measures. Ms. Christopher noted that the West
141 Mississippi Metro area is working on a collaborative work plan for the allocation of
142 \$874,153 in total funding. The MCWD staff believes that the best opportunity is the
143 Wolsfeld Woods Ravine Stabilization Project.

144

145 *It was moved by Manager Olson, seconded by Manager Hejmadi to adopt Resolution*
146 *20-064 as follows:*

147

148 ***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek***
149 ***Watershed District Board of Managers authorize staff to apply for grant***
150 ***funding for the Wolsfeld Woods Ravine Stabilization project through the BWSR***
151 ***Watershed-based Implementation Funding Program.***

152

153 Upon a question from Manager Hejmadi, Ms. Christopher said that staff is pleased with the
154 direction BWSR is pursuing with this funding and will look forward to further evaluation after
155 this funding cycle. *Upon roll call vote, the motion carried, 7-0 as follows:*

156

157 Hejmadi: Aye
158 Loftus: Aye
159 Rogness: Aye
160 Miller: Aye
161 Olson: Aye
162 Maxwell: Aye
163 White: Aye

164

165 Resolution 20-065: Adoption of the revised Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Capital
166 Improvement Plan

167

168 Mr. Michael Hayman appeared before the Board of Managers to review the request for board
169 action. He reviewed comments from cities on the draft plan, most of which were seeking
170 clarification and were quickly addressed. The City of Greenwood has been corresponding with
171 the MCWD about the capital improvement plan, seeking a reallocation of \$600,000 of the annual
172 CIP to fund aquatic invasive species (AIS) programming on Lake Minnetonka. Mr. Hayman
173 stated that staff's recommendation is to continue to consider opportunities to improve ecological
174 integrity through managing AIS through the annual budget process, rather than through an

175 unspecified one-time shift, and thereby avoid potentially disrupting long-planned high impact
176 investments developed with partners set to benefit Lake Minnetonka, Minnehaha Creek, Lake
177 Hiawatha and other critical resources.

178
179 ***It was moved by Manager Miller, seconded by Manager Maxwell, to adopt Resolution 20-065***
180 ***as follows:***

181
182 ***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed***
183 ***District Board of Managers hereby adopts the attached 2021 CIP.***

184
185 ***Upon roll call vote, the motion carried, 7-0 as follows:***

186
187 Hejmadi: Aye
188 Loftus: Aye
189 Rogness: Aye
190 Miller: Aye
191 Olson: Aye
192 Maxwell: Aye
193 White: Aye

194
195 Resolution 20-066: Authorization to Execute a Cooperative Agreement with the City of Hopkins
196 for Coordinated Planning, Improvements and Development for 325 Blake Road:

197
198 Resolution 20-067: Authorization to Release the Request for Proposals for Design Services for
199 325 Blake Road Stormwater Management and Site Restoration

200
201 President White noted the presence of Hopkins Council Member Brian Hunke and Ann Beuch of
202 the Blake Road Corridor Collaborative. Mr. Michael Hayman appeared before the Board of
203 Managers to address the request for board approval of the cooperative agreement. He reviewed
204 the work of the Liaisons and discussions to address the Board's previously stated concerns with
205 the process to solicit developer interest and expectations concerning park dedication fees. Mr.
206 Gabe Sherman appeared before the Board of Managers to review the request for board approval
207 of the release of the RFP for design services.

208
209 ***It was moved by Manager Olson, seconded by Manager Maxwell, to adopt Resolution 20-066***
210 ***as follows:***

211
212 ***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed***
213 ***District Board of Managers hereby authorizes the Board President to execute a***
214 ***cooperative agreement with the City of Hopkins to jointly establish a coordinated***
215 ***planning process for implementation and development at 325 Blake Road, allowing for***
216 ***non-substantive edits on advice of counsel.***

217

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Minnehaha Creek Watershed District
Board of Managers
8-27-20

218 President White expressed her appreciation to all involved including the representatives of the
219 City of Hopkins. Hopkins Council Member Rick Brausen noted his presence at the meeting and
220 expressed his appreciation for this work.

221

222 *Upon roll call vote, the motion carried, 5-2 as follows:*

223

224 Hejmadi: Aye
225 Loftus: Aye
226 Rogness: Nay
227 Miller: Nay
228 Olson: Aye
229 Maxwell: Aye
230 White: Aye

231

232 *It was moved by Manager Maxwell, seconded by Manager Miller, to adopt Resolution 20-067*
233 *as follows:*

234

235 ***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed***
236 ***District Board of Managers authorizes the release of the request for proposals for***
237 ***design services for 325 Blake Road stormwater management and site restoration, and***
238 ***allows for the administrator to make non-substantive edits to the document and***
239 ***schedule based on advice of MCWD legal counsel.***

240

241 *Upon roll call vote, the motion carried, 7-0 as follows:*

242

243 Hejmadi: Aye
244 Loftus: Aye
245 Rogness: Aye
246 Miller: Aye
247 Olson: Aye
248 Maxwell: Aye
249 White: Aye

250

251 **STAFF UPDATES**

252

253 **Administrator's Report**

254

255 Mr. Wisker reported on the following items:

256

- 257 1. Three staff presentations, on real time monitoring network, carp management, and
258 machine learning, have been accepted for the annual Water Resources Conference hosted
259 by the University of Minnesota;

260

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Minnehaha Creek Watershed District
Board of Managers
8-27-20

261 2. The Gray's Bay dam discharge is at 20 cubic feet per second, which is the minimum
262 discharge rate dictated by the operating plan when the lake level is above 928.90 ft.
263 during the month of August. The lake level is currently at 929.09.

264
265 **Adjournment**

266
267 There being no further business, President White declared the meeting of the Board of Managers
268 adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

269
270 Respectfully submitted,

271
272
273
274 Kurt Rogness, Secretary

275

DRAFT