MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MINNEHAHA CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT BOARD OF MANAGERS December 16, 2021

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CALL TO ORDER

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The regular meeting of the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District was called to order by President Sherry White at 7:07 p.m. on December 16, 2021. President White noted that this meeting was convened electronically through Zoom, 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 For this reason, until this determination is withdrawn by the District's presiding officer, chief legal counsel or chief administrative officer, the meetings of the Board and its committees will be convened by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.

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President White called the roll to note attendance:

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Heimadi: 24 Present 25 Loftus: Present 26 Sando: Present Miller: Present 27 Olson: Present 28 29 Maxwell: Present

White:

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DISTRICT STAFF AND CONSULTANTS PRESENT

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James Wisker, Administrator; Erin Manlick, Permitting Assistant; Becky Christopher,

Policy Planning Manager; Kailey Cermak, Hydrologist; Helen Schnoes, Outreach

Manager; Michael Hayman, Project Planning Manager; Chris Meehan, District

Consulting Engineer; Thomas Radio, consulting attorney; and Louis Smith, District

38 Counsel.

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MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR

Present.

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42 None.

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APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

52 Hejmadi: Aye 53 Loftus: Aye 54 Sando: Aye 55 Miller: Aye 56 Olson: Aye

57 Maxwell:

White: Aye

CONSENT AGENDA

Aye

It was moved by Manager Hejmadi, seconded by Manager Sando, to approve the items on the Consent Agenda consisting of approval of the December 2, 2021 Board meeting minutes; the General Checking Account consisting of checks 41754 through 41774 in the amount of \$57,833.83; electronic funds withdrawals in the amount of \$29,488.16; manager per diems and reimbursement direct deposits in the amount of \$4,168.68; employee reimbursements - direct deposits in the amount of \$184.33; and payroll direct deposits in the amount of \$142,333.69; for Total General Checking expenses of \$234,008.69; the surety checking account bank service charge totaling \$30.00, and checks 2127 through 2131 for a total of \$74,700.00; and electronic fund transfer of \$42,075.00 to Wells Fargo for the 325 Blake Road Note; and adoption of the following resolution:

Resolution 21-082: Authorization to Execute a Contract for Government Relations Services:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers hereby selects Joel Carlson as the government relations consultant and authorizes the District Administrator to execute a contract with a termination date of December 31, 2024, on advice of counsel and with any non-material changes, for government relations services on retainer for an annual amount not to exceed \$28,000 or \$56,000 for the term of the contract;

Resolution 21-083: Selection and Authorization to Contract for Engineering Services:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers hereby selects Stantec as the District engineer; and be it further resolved the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District

90 Board of Managers hereby authorizes the District Administrator to execute a 91 contract, on advice of counsel and with any non-material changes, with Stantec to provide engineering services on retainer for a monthly rate not to exceed 92 \$5,500 in 2022 and \$5,800 in 2023 with additional services provided based on 93 94 an hourly fee structure; 95 96 Resolution 21-084: Selection and Authorization to Contract for Water Quality Lab 97 Analysis Services: 98 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the MCWD Board of Managers 99 authorize MCWD district administrator to contract with RMB Environmental 100 101 Laboratories, Inc. for water quality lab analysis from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023 in which the total cost not to exceed \$76,100 per year; 102 103 104 Resolution 21-085: Authorization to Purchase Monitoring Equipment: 105 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek 106 107 Watershed District Board of Managers authorize the District Administrator to purchase reserve and replacement equipment from In-situ Inc. and OTT 108 Hydromet in a total not to exceed \$21,700; 109 110 Resolution 21-086: Approval of Winter Commercial Seines in Six Mile Creek Halstead 111 Bay Subwatershed: 112 113 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that on the basis of the specific 114 experience of WSB & Associates and the finding of District staff that the 115 116 contract fee is competitive, the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers finds it appropriate to authorize a professional services contract with 117 that firm without competitive process; 118 119 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District Administrator is authorized, on 120 advice of counsel, to execute a contract with WSB & Associates, for services to 121 remove common carp in Parley Lake within the Six Mile Creek-Halsted Bay 122 123 Subwatershed, consistent with the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council Grant Accomplishment Plan, in an amount not to exceed \$19,430.00; 124 125 BE IT FINALLY FURTHER RESOLVED that the District Administrator is 126 authorized, on advice of counsel, to execute a contract with WSB & Associates, 127 for services to remove common carp in East Auburn Lake in an amount not to 128 129 exceed \$23,882.00; 130 Resolution 21-087: Authorization to Amend Six Mile Marsh Prairie Trail Design 131 132 Contract with Damon Farber Landscape Architects

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the MCWD Board of Managers authorizes the District Administrator to execute a contract amendment with Damon Farber Landscape Architects to complete additional design for the Six Mile Marsh Prairie trail and interpretation project;

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Resolution 21-088: Approval of the 2022 Board Committee and Board Meeting Schedule:

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers hereby approves the following 2022 meeting schedule. Unless otherwise posted Committee Meetings will start at 5:15 PM, and Board meetings will start at 7:00 PM. Executive Committee meetings are scheduled as needed and will be held prior to Board meetings:

1/13/2022	Operations & Programs Committee Meeting Board Meeting	7/14/2022	Operations & Programs Committee Meeting Board Meeting
1/27/2022	Policy & Planning Committee Meeting Board Meeting	7/28/2022	Policy & Planning Committee Meeting Board Meeting
2/10/2022	Operations & Programs Committee Meeting Board Meeting	8/11/2022	Operations & Programs Committee Meeting Board Meeting
2/24/2022	Policy & Planning Committee Meeting Board Meeting	8/25/2022	Policy & Planning Committee Meeting Board Meeting
3/10/2022	Operations & Programs Committee Meeting Board Meeting	9/8/2022	Operations & Programs Committee Meeting Board Meeting
3/24/2022	Policy & Planning Committee Meeting Board Meeting	9/22/2022	Policy & Planning Committee Meeting Board Meeting
4/14/2022	Operations & Programs Committee Meeting Board Meeting	10/6/2022*	Operations & Programs Committee Meeting Board Meeting
4/28/2022	Policy & Planning Committee Meeting Board Meeting	10/20/2022*	Policy & Planning Committee Meeting Board Meeting
5/12/2022	Operations & Programs Committee Meeting Board Meeting	11/3/2022*	Operations & Programs Committee Meeting Board Meeting
5/26/2022	Policy & Planning Committee Meeting Board Meeting	11/17/2022*	Policy & Planning Committee Meeting Board Meeting

6/9/2022	Operations & Programs Committee Meeting Board Meeting	12/1/2022*	Operations & Programs Committee Meeting Board Meeting
6/30/2022*	Policy & Planning Committee Meeting Board Meeting	12/15/2022*	Policy & Planning Committee Meeting Board Meeting

^{*}deviates from 2nd and 4th Thursday schedule

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

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152 Hejmadi: Aye

153 Loftus: Aye

154 Sando: Aye

155 Miller: Aye

156 Olson: Aye

157 Maxwell: Aye

158 White: Aye

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BOARD, COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS

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<u>Policy and Planning Committee:</u> Manager Miller reported that the committee received a presentation from Ms. Anna Brown on the Multi-year Project Planning Framework.

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<u>Citizens Advisory Committee:</u> Manager Miller reported that he attended the most recent CAC meeting, where the committee honored a parting member. Manager Miller stated that he was impressed with the quality of discussions at the CAC.

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Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts Annual Meeting: President White provided a summary of the recent MAWD annual meeting. She noted that the Bylaw amendment, annual budget and proposed resolutions were adopted. Manager Olson noted the extended collaborative work on the resolutions and expressed his appreciation for the process.

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<u>Upcoming Meeting and Event Schedule:</u> President White directed the managers to the meetings listed on the agenda.

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ACTION ITEMS

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180 <u>Resolution 21-089</u>: Authorization to Execute a Contract with Stantec to Complete a
 181 Feasibility Study for Lamplighter Pond Filtration System for the LifeTime Project

Ms. Erin Manlick appeared before the Board of Managers to review the request for board action. She noted the background for this project pursuant to an agreement with LifeTime Fitness. She noted that LifeTime has been apprised of the developments to date and is supportive of the process continuing as provided in the agreement. The next step is to engage Stantec to prepare a feasibility report, which will include engagement with the City of St. Louis Park.

Following discussion, it was moved by Manager Loftus, seconded by Manager Maxwell to adopt Resolution 21-098: Authorization to Execute a Contract with Stantec to develop a Feasibility Study of a Filtration System at Lamplighter Pond as follows:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers hereby authorizes the District Administrator, on advice of counsel, to execute a task order with Stantec Engineering in an amount not to exceed \$27,800 to perform the feasibility study scope of services to assess the Lamplighter Pond underground filtration system.

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

203 Hejmadi: Aye204 Loftus: Aye205 Sando: Aye

206 Miller: Aye 207 Olson: Aye

207 Olson: Aye208 Maxwell: Aye

209 White: Aye

Resolution 21-090: Authorization to Initiate Stakeholder Engagement Process for

Permitting Alignment and Responsive Program

Ms. Becky Christopher appeared before the Board of Managers to review the request for board action. She noted that the plan for this process is to pick up from the 2017 Plan process. She reviewed short-term and long-term engagement goals, the role of the Technical Advisory Committee and related elements of the process. She noted initial discussions about an alternative name for the Responsive Program, such as Minnehaha Land and Water Partnership Program. Managers discussed name options and agreed this was worth further deliberation in the future.

It was moved by Manager Sando, seconded by Manager Hejmadi to adopt Resolution 21-090: Authorization to Initiate Stakeholder Engagement Process for Permitting Alignment and Responsive Program, as follows:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek
Watershed District Board of Managers hereby authorizes staff to initiate the
stakeholder engagement process for the Responsive Program and Permitting
Alignment.

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

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233 Hejmadi: Aye234 Loftus: Aye235 Sando: Aye

236 Miller: Aye 237 Olson: Aye

238 Maxwell: Aye 239 White: Aye

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Resolution 21-091: Authorization to Execute Contract for the 2D Pilot Model Build

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Ms. Kailey Cermak appeared before the Board of Managers to review the request for board action. She reviewed the context for the project within the MCWD's climate action framework and reviewed the process of solicitation and evaluation of proposals. The review of the four responses resulted in the recommendation to retain Kimley Horn. It was moved by Manager Miller, seconded by Manager Hejmadi to adopt Resolution 21-091: Authorization to Execute Contract for the 2D Pilot Model Build as follows:

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers authorizes the District Administrator, on advice of counsel, to execute a contract with Kimley-Horn for consultant services for the 2D model pilot build, in accordance with the developed scope of work and in an amount not to exceed the amount set forth in the proposal, and authorizes the Administrator to execute contract amendments in his discretion up to an additional 10 percent, in aggregate, of the contract amount.

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Manager Miller stated that he was very impressed with the quality of staff work on this solicitation and evaluation process. Manager Hejmadi concurred, saying that the process was excellent and carefully considered area-wide implications to take this initial model pilot to scale. *Upon roll call vote, the motion carried 7-0 as follows:*

263	Hejmadi:	Aye
264	Loftus:	Aye
265	Sando:	Aye
266	Miller:	Aye
267	Olson:	Aye
268	Maxwell:	Ave

Website Design/Build as follows:

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White: 269 Aye 270 Resolution 21-092: Appointment of the 2022 Citizen Advisory Committee 271 272 273 Ms. Helen Schnoes appeared before the Board of Managers to review the request for 274 board action. She noted that there was a total of 19 applications to the Committee, ten 275 from current members and nine from prospective new members. 276 Following discussion, it was moved by Manager Maxwell, seconded by Manager Sando 277 to adopt Resolution 21-092: Appointment of the 2022 Citizen Advisory Committee as 278 279 follows: 280 281 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers hereby appoints 282 283 the following individuals to the 2022 Citizen Advisory Committee 284 Serving 2022 Serving 2022-2023 285 John Salditt 286 John Iverson Peter Rechelbacher Shannon Martin 287 Rich Nyquist Laurie Goldsmith 288 289 Marc Rosenberg Cassy Ordway Bill Bushnell Drew McGovern 290 Dan Flo Emily Blough 291 292 Dave Oltmans Lisa Fowler 293 Upon roll call vote, the motion carried 7-0 as follows: 294 295 296 Hejmadi: Aye Loftus: 297 Aye Sando: 298 Aye 299 Miller: Aye Olson: 300 Aye 301 Maxwell: Aye White: 302 Aye 303 Resolution 21-093: Authorization to Release Request for Proposals for Phase II Website 304 Design/Build 305 306 Ms. Helen Schnoes appeared before the Board of Managers to review the request for 307 308 Board action. She reviewed the major tasks, noting that they build on the work of Phase I. It was moved by Manager Hejmadi, seconded by Manager Sando to adopt 309 Resolution 21-093: Authorization to Release Request for Proposals for Phase II 310

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek 312 313 Watershed District Board of Managers authorizes the District administrator to distribute an RFP, with any final modifications to that RFP on advice of 314 counsel, for Phase II website design and build services. 315 316 Upon roll call vote, the motion carried 7-0 as follows: 317 318 Hejmadi: 319 Aye 320 Loftus: Aye Sando: Aye 321 Miller: 322 Aye 323 Olson: Aye Maxwell: 324 Aye White: 325 Aye 326 327 **BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS** 328 329 Minnehaha Preserve Boardwalk 330 331 332 Mr. Michael Hayman and Ms. Jonely appeared before the Board of Managers and noted that this agenda item is appropriate for closed session. Mr. Smith recommended that the 333 Board of Managers adopt a motion to move into closed session for the purpose of 334 335 receiving confidential legal advice concerning litigation strategy from Mr. Radio concerning the Minnehaha Preserve Boardwalk litigation. It was so moved by Manager 336 Maxwell, seconded by Manager Loftus to move into closed session for this purpose. 337 338 Upon roll call vote, the motion carried 7-0 as follows: 339 Hejmadi: 340 Aye Loftus: 341 Aye Sando: 342 Aye Miller: 343 Aye 344 Olson: Aye Maxwell: 345 Aye White: 346 Aye 347 Whereupon the Board of Managers went into closed session. 348 349 The Board of Managers returned to open session. 350 351 352 **STAFF UPDATES** 353 354 Administrator's Report

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356	Mr. Wisker reported on the following items:			
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358	1.	The Legislative Citizens Commission on Minnesota Resources met this week,		
359		but there was no action to approve funding (MCWD is designated to receive		
360		\$794,000 in the latest proposal);		
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362	2.	The sale of the Schaper property will close on December 17, and the MCWD		
363		is to receive all delinquent amounts due and owing to the District; and		
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365	3.	The Gray's Bay dam continues to be closed for the winter season.		
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367	<u>Adjournn</u>	<u>ment</u>		
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369		ng no further business, President White declared the meeting of the Board of		
370	Managers adjourned at 9:03 p.m.			
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372	Respectfully submitted,			
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376	Eugene M	laxwell, Secretary		