

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

4  
5 **July 9, 2020**

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7 **CALL TO ORDER**

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9 The regular meeting of the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District was called to order by President  
10 Sherry White at 7:04 p.m. on July 9, 2020. President White noted that this meeting was  
11 convened electronically through WebEx, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 13D.021, due to the  
12 COVID-19 pandemic and her determination that it is not prudent for the Board of Managers, or  
13 any committee thereof, to meet in person, and it is not feasible to provide for any member of the  
14 Board, or of the public, to meet at the regular meeting location. For this reason, until this  
15 determination is withdrawn by the District's presiding officer, chief legal counsel or chief  
16 administrative officer, the meetings of the Board and its committees will be convened by  
17 telephone or other electronic means as the presiding officer determines appropriate. All such  
18 meetings will be noticed and conducted in accordance with §13D.021 and all other applicable  
19 terms of the Open Meeting Law. President White noted that, pursuant to §13D.021, all votes  
20 will be by roll call.

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22 President White called the roll to note attendance:

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24 Hejmadi: Present  
25 Loftus: Present  
26 Rogness: Present  
27 Miller: Present  
28 Olson: Present  
29 Maxwell: Present  
30 White: Present

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32 **DISTRICT STAFF AND CONSULTANTS PRESENT**

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34 James Wisker, Administrator; Grace Barlow, Permitting Technician; Kate Moran, Policy  
35 Planning Coordinator; Anna Brown, Planner – Project Manager; Chris Meehan, Consulting  
36 Engineer; and Louis Smith, District Counsel.

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38 **MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR**

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40 None.

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42 **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

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47 Hejmadi: Aye  
48 Loftus: Aye  
49 Rogness: Aye

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51 Miller: Aye  
52 Olson: Aye  
53 Maxwell: Aye  
54 White: Aye

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56 **CONSENT AGENDA**

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58 *It was moved by Manager Rogness, seconded by Manager Hejmadi, to approve the Consent*  
59 *Agenda consisting of approval of the June 23, 2020 Board minutes, and Resolution 20-054:*  
60 *Approval of the COVID 19 Return to Work Preparedness Plan as follows:*

61 *NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek*  
62 *Watershed District Board of Managers hereby confirms its review and adoption*  
63 *of the MCWD COVID 19 Preparedness Plan and directs the Administrator to*  
64 *regularly advise the Board on its implementation and adjustment as a living*  
65 *document.*

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

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

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

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78 President's Report: President White reported that she and Manager Maxwell met with  
79 the city council liaisons for the 325 Blake Road project, and that the Lake Minnetonka  
80 magazine had two articles of interest to the watershed, one about Big Island, and the  
81 other about Minnehaha Creek.

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83 Operations and Programs Committee Report: Manager Loftus reported that the  
84 Committee received a presentation from Mr. Wisker on the 2021 budget; and an update  
85 on planning discussions with representatives from the City of Hopkins on 325 Blake  
86 Road, including a presentation by Donjek and Maxfield Research on the financial  
87 framework dynamic evaluation.

88  
89 Citizens Advisory Committee Report: Manager Loftus reported that the CAC held a  
90 helpful review of the 2021 Budget with good questions, and also reviewed the 2D  
91 model/machine learning project.

92

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

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96 **ACTION ITEMS**

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98 Resolution 20-055: Authorization to Contract for Hydrologic Analysis of Upzoning

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100 Ms. Grace Barlow appeared before the Board of Managers to review the request for  
101 board action. She explained the context for this effort arising from the 2040 plan adopted  
102 by the City of Minneapolis which provides for more housing density, as well as the effort  
103 to update the District's stormwater management rule. Manager Hejmadi asked if this  
104 work had a connection to the 2D model/machine learning project, and Mr. Wisker noted  
105 that there could be an important connection, and this type of analysis would benefit by  
106 the 2D model. Manager Miller expressed his appreciation for the staff report.

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108 *It was moved by Manager Rogness, seconded by Manager Miller, to adopt Resolution 20-055*  
109 *as follows:*

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111 ***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek***  
112 ***Watershed District Board of Managers hereby authorizes the District***  
113 ***Administrator to prepare and execute contracts on advice of counsel Maxfield***  
114 ***Research and Wenck Associates in amounts not to exceed \$10,000 and \$11,500,***  
115 ***respectively, to evaluate potential stormwater quantity and quality impacts***  
116 ***within the District associated with projected redevelopment activity following***  
117 ***from changes in zoning policy enacted by the City of Minneapolis.***

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119 *Upon roll call vote, the motion to adopt the resolution carried, 7-0 as follows:*

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121 Hejmadi: Aye  
122 Loftus: Aye  
123 Rogness: Aye  
124 Miller: Aye  
125 Olson: Aye  
126 Maxwell: Aye  
127 White: Aye

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129 Resolution 20-056: Approval of Maple Plain Local Surface Water Management Plan

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131 Ms. Kate Moran appeared before the Board of Managers to review the request for board action.  
132 She reviewed the resource priorities for Maple Plain's portion of the watershed, and noted that  
133 no change is proposed in regulatory jurisdiction.

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135 *Following discussion, it was moved by Manager Rogness, seconded by Manager Loftus, to*  
136 *adopt Resolution 20-056 as follows:*

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***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers hereby approves the City of Maple Plain Local Water Management Plan; and***

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board approves the associated coordination plan and adopts it on behalf of the MCWD; and***

***BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the City is to adopt and implement its LWMP within 120 days, and to notify the MCWD within 30 days thereafter that it has done so.***

***Upon roll call vote, the motion to adopt the resolution carried, 7-0 as follows:***

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

**STAFF UPDATES**

**Wassermann Lake Preserve Construction Update**

Ms. Anna Brown appeared before the Board of Managers to review progress in construction at Wasserman Lake Preserve. Upon a question from Manager Miller, Ms. Brown noted that there have been no significant unforeseen costs, and a few minor change orders based on conditions in the field. The managers thanked Ms. Brown for her presentation.

**Administrator's Report**

Mr. Wisker reported on the following items:

1. Staff has scheduled a site visit with Mr. Meehan and the applicant's engineer at 4512 North Ave. in Edina to review site conditions; the staff is working to process the permit application and request for a variance, and has requested a no-rise certification and variance narrative from the applicant;
2. The Lake Minnetonka Conservation District is continuing discussions about an Aquatic Invasive Species master plan, focusing presently on a scan of current agency efforts, and MCWD staff will be preparing a comment letter.

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7-9-20

- 182           3. Staff received a communication from a land owner in Maple Plain expressing concerns  
183           with an inability to hay a wetland area. Staff will follow up and consider the land  
184           owner’s drainage concerns, gather information about precipitation and groundwater  
185           levels, and consider whether there are potential partnership opportunities.  
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187           **Adjournment**

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189           There being no further business, President White declared the meeting of the Board of Managers  
190           adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

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193           Respectfully submitted,

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198           Kurt Rogness, Secretary  
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DRAFT