



47 **REGULAR AGENDA**

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49 **Board, Committee, and Task Force Reports**

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51 Manager Blixt stated that MAWD provided an update on the results of their Education &  
52 Training and Strategic Planning online surveys. She noted that Ray Bohn of MAWD  
53 would be retiring in fall of 2016, and that MAWD was anticipating organizational  
54 changes associated with Mr. Bohn's retirement. Manager Blixt stated that in September,  
55 the MAWD Board will discuss dues structure and staffing options for the organization.  
56 She explained that recommendations concerning structure and staffing would be  
57 considered at another MAWD meeting in December.

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59 Manager Blixt stated that a groundwater study near White Bear Lake was discussed at the  
60 MAWD meeting. She added that updates were given by representatives from BWSR,  
61 DNR, PCA, and Met Council. Manager Blixt noted that MDH announced its grant  
62 program for wellhead protection at the meeting.

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64 Manager Blixt stated that the Executive Director of BWSR would be hosting a series of  
65 listening sessions in the coming weeks. She added that BWSR is holding a number of  
66 regional workshops to discuss the state buffer law, related policy, and implementation.

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68 Manager Blixt noted that the Met Council was in the process of digitizing aerial photos  
69 from the 1950s in an attempt to make the images publicly available.

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71 **Review of Comments on BWSR Buffer Law Policies**

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73 Ms. Christopher recalled that at the MCWD Board workshop the previous week, the  
74 Managers discussed the state buffer program and draft policies that are out for comment.  
75 She explained that the Board had yet to decide on whether or not the District would take  
76 on an enforcement role as allowed for in the state buffer law, but had until March of 2017  
77 to make such a determination. Ms. Christopher noted that the Board wished to provide  
78 comments and request clarification on the exemption of MS4s, regardless of the District's  
79 eventual role.

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81 Ms. Christopher stated that Smith Partners has developed a draft comment letter that  
82 focuses on policy 3 – MS4 exemption. The letter requests clarification regarding the  
83 following areas:

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- 85
- 86 • Comments 1 and 2 – Meaning of “riparian” protection
  - 87 • Comments 3, 4, and 5 – Meaning of “consistent” riparian protection and how  
88 would that be decided
  - Comment 6 – Projects with comparable water quality benefit

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- 89           • Comment 7 – Implications for potential loss of grant eligibility  
90           • Comment 8 – How policies would be applied in the event of a legal dispute, and  
91           with what weight  
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93   Manager Blixt suggested that staff inquire as to the availability of funding to mitigate  
94   costs of local enforcement. Manager White noted that the policies in question do not  
95   concern enforcement and enforcement funding. Ms. Christopher added that BWSR is  
96   focusing on the application of the law before enforcement matters.  
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98   *Manager Miller moved and Manager Olson seconded authorization for the District*  
99   *Administrator to submit the comment letter to BWSR. Upon vote, the motion carried 6-*  
100   *0.*

101  
102   **ADJOURNMENT**  
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104   There being no further business, the special meeting of the Board of Managers adjourned  
105   at 7:00 p.m.