Minutes

CALL TO ORDER
President Preiner called the meeting to order, a quorum being present, at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL
Present: President Patricia Preiner, 2nd Vice-Pres. John Waller, and Treasurer Steve Wagamon.
Absent: Managers Barbara Haake and Michael Bradley (with prior notice)
Staff Present: Administrator Phil Belfiori, Permit Coordinator/Wetland Specialist Nick Tomczik, Technical Specialist/Permit Reviewer Chris Buntjer, Water Resource Specialist Kyle Axtell, Office Manager Theresa Stasic.
Consultants: District Engineer Mark Deutschman from Houston Engineering, Inc. (HEI); and, District Attorney Chuck Holtman from Smith Partners
Visitors: Doug Ramseth, Mark Peterson.

ELECT ACTING SECRETARY
Manager Waller nominated himself as Acting Secretary for the meeting.

Motion by Manager Waller, seconded by Manager Wagamon, to appoint Manager Waller as Acting Secretary for the February 10, 2016 meeting. Motion carried 3-0.

SETTING OF THE AGENDA
District Administrator Belfiori added a change to the language under Public Hearing. Bottom of page one the sentence should read: “Public Hearing Urban Stormwater Remediation cost share request from University of Northwestern, City of Forest Lake, City of Roseville, White Bear Township, City of Hugo, City of Mounds View.”
District Administrator Belfiori added a new number 5 under Board Actions to consider Houston Engineering, Inc. Task Order 2016-08 for Design and Construction Services – ACD 31/46 Repair.
District Administrator Belfiori added under discussion item number 4, MAWD Annual Legislative Reception and Breakfast. Request to send Out Invitation to District Legislators.
Manager Waller indicated under the public hearing, page 21 needed the same language correction as page one.

Motion by Manager Wagamon, seconded by Manager Waller, to adopt the agenda as amended. Motion carried 3-0.
READING OF THE MINUTES AND THEIR APPROVAL

Minutes of the January 27, 2016, Board of Managers Meeting Minutes. Motion by Manager Wagamon, seconded by Manager Waller, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

PERMIT APPLICATIONS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

The following applications have been reviewed by the District Engineer and Staff and will be acted upon without discussion in accordance with the Engineer's Recommendation unless a Manager or the Applicant or another interested person requests opportunity for discussion:

CONSENT AGENDA

No. 15-111 Applicant MnDOT Location Roseville, Lauderdale, And St. Paul Plan Type Street & Utility Plan Recommendation CAPROC 2 items

Motion by Manager Waller, seconded by Manager Wagamon, to approve the consent agenda as outlined in the above Table of Contents in accordance with RCWD staff and District Engineer's Findings and Recommendations, with Findings as amended. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC HEARING: Urban Stormwater Remediation Cost-Share Requests from University of Northwestern, City of Forest Lake, City of Roseville, White Bear Township, City of Hugo, City of Mounds View.

President Patricia Preiner read the following statement of the Watershed District President.

PUBLIC HEARING ON 2016 RCWD URBAN STORMWATER REMEDIATION COST-SHARE PROGRAM PROJECT FUNDING

The regular Board meeting is now recessed and the public hearing is opened on the Rice Creek Watershed District's proposed selection of projects for funding through the District's Urban Stormwater Remediation Cost-Share Program.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive comments from the public on the projects that the Board is considering for cost-share assistance in the City of Forest Lake, City of Hugo, City of Mounds View, City of Roseville, White Bear Township, and University of Northwestern.

Before the watershed district can provide funds for the capital work of these communities, state law requires that the board of managers hold a public hearing, receive public comments and make a judgment that each selected project is a sound and cost-effective project to help fulfill our water resource goals. That is the purpose of today's hearing. In accordance with state law, notice of this hearing was published for two successive weeks in the St. Paul Pioneer Press and mailed to all cities within the watershed district, as well as the district's four counties.
First, I would ask Kyle Axtell, our Water Resource Specialist, to give a brief presentation of the proposed projects. When his remarks are completed, the floor will be open for any members of the public who wish to address the board. At that time, if you wish to comment, please come forward to the podium and state your name and address for the record. If you have a written copy of your statement, or any other documents that you would like to submit, please give them to Theresa Stasica, our meeting clerk.

During public comment, managers are welcome to ask questions of commenters to clarify their remarks. I also may ask Mr. Axtell or representatives of project applicants to respond to any technical questions raised. Managers will hold their own comments about the project until the public hearing is closed. At that time, the board will have the opportunity to discuss the projects.

Water Resource Specialist Axtell presented the cost share program goals and guidelines. He then proceeded to summarize the applications that were received. The applications were:

City of Forest Lake-Clear Lake Pond Rehabilitation – reconstruction of a wet sedimentation pond near the outfall of “Winnick Ditch” which drains approximately 500-600 acres of land into Clear Lake and construction of a coarse sediment pre-treatment structure at Forest Road. The project is located on private property and the City is working to obtain an easement from the landowner. The Clear Lake Association is also pledging $5,000 towards the project. 4.2 pounds of total phosphorus removed annually and 0.67 tons of total suspended solids removed annually. There is no increase in volume control. Total project cost is $101,100 and the applicant cost-share request is $50,000.

City of Hugo – TYMCO Regenerative Air (RAG) Sweeper, Purchase of an upgraded street sweeper. Literature provided shows the advanced street sweeper equipment is more efficient and the City could increase frequency of sweeping from 2 times a year to every 4-6 weeks. The total phosphorus and total suspended solids reductions were not provided by the City. The total project cost from applicant of $252,925 was adjusted by District staff by taking the difference between the normal model to the advanced sweeper. The revised project total is $51,415. Therefore, the cost-share request was reduced to $25,708.

City of Mounds View – Lambert Avenue Storm Sewer Extension. This project would eliminate a highly erodible open ditch segment on a private property between two segments of piped City storm sewer. The open ditch would be routed into a closed 15” storm pipe and the open ditch would be filled in. This project would benefit both the landowner and the City of Mounds View in many ways and also eliminate a source of sediment loading to Rice Creek. The total phosphorus and total suspended solids reductions were not provided by the City. Total project cost is $60,000 and the applicant cost-share request is $30,000.

University of Northwestern – Northeast Drive Reconstruction Project, installation of an underground infiltration system, sump manholes and SAFL Baffles to reduce runoff volume, sediment and nutrient loading to Lake Johanna. The project goes above-and beyond RCWD permit requirements (39%/61% extra). 1.98 pounds of total phosphorus removed annually and 0.18 tons of total suspended solids removed annually. Flood Control benefits: 2.43 acre-feet removed annually. Total project cost from applicant of $269,750 was adjusted by District staff-estimating the benefits above-and-beyond District permit requirements. Total adjusted project cost is $60,445. Therefore, the reduced cost-share request is $30,223.

City of Roseville – Rosedale Swirl Separator, Installation of a Contech CDS swirl separator in conjunction with a RCWD permitted and planned underground detention system proposed by Rosedale Mall. This project provides additional removal of sediment, floatables, oils & greases beyond RCWD permit requirements. This
is a key goal identified in the little Lake Johanna Action Plan within the Districts’ SW Urban Lakes Study. Total phosphorus calculations not provided. 3.38 tons of total suspended solids removed annually. No increase in volume control. Total project cost $128,775 and the applicant cost-share request is $50,000.

White Bear Township – Barry Lane Detention Pond Restoration, reestablish and enhance a stormwater treatment basin associated with Oak Ridge Pond which discharges to Bald Eagle Lake. This basin was originally constructed under RCWD permit 91-096. The pollutant reductions appear inflated: modeled as a biofiltration basin but no drain tile proposed. 6.7 pounds of total phosphorus removed annually and 0.83 tons of total suspended solids removed annually. No increase in volume control. Total project cost is $73,700 and the applicant cost-share request is $31,300.

President Preiner invited anyone who would like to offer comments about the projects.

Mr. Mark Peterson, Engineering Technician for the City of Forest Lakes Public Works Engineering Department stated one of his duties is to handle the storm water management department. As part of this project he wanted to update the Board with a conversation he had with the McGowen Rehabilitation resident and owner of the area. The owner is pretty slow to react due to an encounter the last time the pond was cleaned in the 80’s. He felt his land was taken away and some hurtful things were done at that time so he is very slow to respond.

Mr. Peterson indicated he did have a direct conversation with the resident on Monday and the resident indicated that he was not for or against this but did not want them to go away. They were asking for a little more time. Mr. Peterson did ask for access for soil analysis and the resident did indicate he would need to talk to his attorney as to what the agreement means to him. They are still very hopeful this will move forward as a full package.

Manager Waller wondered if it was true that this is a series of projects and there are other residents involved. Mr. Peterson indicated this project is the only private project and the others are actually City projects on City property. Manager Waller stated this is a comprehensive overlook of upgrading water quality that goes into Clear Lake from the Highway 61 drainage area. Mr. Peterson indicated that was correct and it is very key point.

President Preiner asked if the property owner decides not to allow this work to be done, what would the City of Forest Lake do. Mr. Peterson stated they would still pursue the storm scepter at the crossroad of the ditch and Forest Road and feel that would have a major impact as to what travels down that way.

Mr. Doug Ramseth, 21220 Fondant Avenue No., Forest Lake, stated he is the president of the Clear Lake Association and they regard this as a significant benefit to the lake to the extent that the Association will provide $5,000 for this project. The Winnik Supply property has installed a tank and a number of other things that are going to help remediate some runoff from their property. The salvage yard is not involved in that and it still drains into the ditch. This is important to collect the solids that run from that salvage yard. They have done a lot, the City of Forest Lake and the Rice Creek Watershed Management District has done a significant amount of work on their projects and they are sincerely appreciative of that. He felt this is the one final piece of that which will help clean and keep Clear Lake clean and a recreational resource for the East Metro communities. He encouraged the Board to approve the project.

President Preiner asked: Is there anyone else who wishes to speak? There being no further testimony from the public, I close the public hearing and open the matter for board discussion and action.

President Preiner opened the public hearing at 9:28 a.m.
OPEN MIKE – LIMIT 12 MINUTES. Any RCWD resident may address the Board in his or her individual capacity, for up to three minutes, on any matter not on the agenda. Speakers are requested to come to the podium, state their name and address for the record. Additional comments may be solicited and accepted in writing. Generally, the Board of Managers will not take official action on items discussed at this time, but may refer the matter to staff for a future report or direct that the matter be scheduled on an upcoming agenda.

There were no comments made at Open Mike.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

1. Election of Officers and Selection of Personnel Subcommittee.

Administrator Belfiori explained pursuant to Article 5 which was adopted in 2009 identifies the following officers shall be elected each calendar year on or before the first regularly scheduled meeting in February. Terms are for one year unless reelected.

Motion by Manager Wagamon, seconded by Manager Preiner, to reappoint all managers to their current positions.

Manager Waller stated as in the past and currently feels these positions should be changed for rotation for a one-year term. He felt fresh eyes looking at the projects and different responsibilities in the office will always increase the transparency, accountability, objectivity and impartiality of the Board. He suggested they rotate the officers and set up a system that way and change the by-laws.

President Preiner believed they had discussion regarding this at their workshop this year and the consensus of the Board was not to do that and thought they should follow their regular procedure until the Board decides it will change.

Motion carried 2-1 (Manager Waller).

President Preiner indicated they need to appoint someone to the personnel sub-committee.

Manager Wagamon indicated he would be willing to serve on the sub-committee. Manager Waller indicated he would be willing to serve also but they are missing two of the members and they may be interested in serving on the sub-committee as well. President Preiner thought they needed to make a decision and cannot accommodate everyone’s vacation time.

President Preiner appointed Manager Wagamon and Manager Waller to the Personnel Sub-Committee.

2. Designation of Official Depository (currently Anchor Bank) and Official Newspaper (currently St. Paul Pioneer Press)

District Administrator Belfiori stated the Board is directed to appoint the designation of the official depository and the official newspaper at the first regular meeting in February.

President Preiner asked if staff has any issues or complaints with either of these. District Administrator Belfiori indicated they have not.

Motion by Manager Wagamon, seconded by Manager Waller, to designate Anchor Bank as the office depository and St. Paul Pioneer Press as the official newspaper of the Rice Creek Watershed District. Motion carried 3-0.
3. Consider Award of Urban Stormwater Remediation Cost-Share Projects

Water Resource Specialist Axtell stated the District has $205,000 available for funding this program. At the Citizen Advisory Committee meeting on February 3 they recommended and ranked the projects: University of Northwestern – Northeast Drive Reconstruction Project $30,223, City of Forest Lake – Clear Lake Pond Rehabilitation $50,000; City of Roseville – Rosedale Swirl Separator $50,000, White Bear Township – Barry Lane Detention Pond Restoration $31,300, City of Hugo – TYMCO Regenerative Air Sweeper $0, and City of Mounds View – Lambert Avenue Storm Sewer Extension $0. That would leave $45,000 in remaining funds.

The Cities of Hugo and Mounds View were not recommended to be funded at this time. The City of Hugo’s application was for an equipment purchase. The application was incomplete due to the lack of an operations plan and an explanation of the benefits provided by the sweeper. Water Resource Specialist Axtell informed the Board that the City of Hugo also did the street sweeping for the City of Centerville. Funding this project may set a precedent on funding equipment. Regarding the City of Mounds View project, the City’s application was incomplete due to the lack of information on the benefit of relocating the ditch into a pipe.

Water Resource Specialist Axtell also was requesting the approval of the draft cost share agreement template that was provided in the Board’s agenda packet. He also stated that there may be minor modifications to individual applicants for project specific items that the District Attorney would review.

Water Resource Specialist Axtell stated regarding the City of Hugo and the City of Mounds View applications. The Board could deny funding due to incomplete applications, table action on these two applications so staff can contact each applicant for additional information to consider for funding, or fund one or both projects. But the Board would be restricted by the remaining funds available which are lower than the funds requested by the projects. The draft resolution provided by staff only includes the top four applications. If either the Hugo or Mounds View applications, or both, are added to the funding approval schedule, the language of the resolution can be modified to incorporate the additional action.

District Engineer Deutschman recommended the Board get information about the cost per pound/ton of material removed to see if it is falling within a reasonable range. He encouraged them to have this with all applications and it is on the form for the applicant to fill out.

Manager Waller wondered if the first resolution is going to include further investigation by the staff on the City of Hugo and City of Mounds View’s applications. Water Resource Specialist Axtell recommended the Board direct staff to do that and maybe table action on the two applications and direct staff to do that.

Manager Waller thought all six of the projects were good and indicated at the workshop they should do them but as he read the applications in the packet and compared the Roseville swirl street sweeper request, he found they are about the same, almost identical when lined up. He reviewed some calculations he made with the Board. He stated he was not against any of the projects but looking at the calculations gives an idea of the impact. He was in favor of funding both projects if it will keep the swirl out of the ponds.

Manager Wagamon thought they agreed at the workshop to take a look at them again. He would like to have a motion to table this so staff can get some information to relook at. President Preiner stated they have to expect a complete application from the applicant before the Board should act on the project.
Manager Waller stated their relationship with the cities are very important to him and he understood humans and sometimes they get friction. He encouraged the cities to fill out the forms but also encouraged staff to make sure the cities fill out the forms in completion or go back and get that information from them so they can continue the program and it does not become stalled.

District Engineer Deutschman stated at the workshop there was discussion about funding through the Urban Stormwater Cost Share program and how the Board wanted to deal with providing funding when it is basically part of a permit obligation. He wondered what Water Resource Specialist Axtell's perspective was on the street sweeper and asked if this was this part of the permit obligation. Water Resource Specialist Axtell stated this is where it comes down to an operational plan and is what he will ask the City for when he goes back to get further information. In the MS4 Permit the cities are required to have a street sweeping program. The minimum of that is in the spring and fall where they have run brush sweepers. The brush sweepers that are out there are the basic equipment and if the cities are doing that they are meeting the permit obligation. What the City has proposed with the advanced technology and an increased frequency is above and beyond that base permit requirement. He thought from that standpoint it was reasonable to consider it.

President Preiner asked if the Board could require the city to do the sweeping four times a year by providing them with funding. Water Resources Specialist Axtell stated if they have a specific operations plan that the city provides they might be able to dictate a couple of items like that. The operations plan can be incorporated into the cost share agreement.

District Attorney Holtman indicated it would be reasonable for this type of funding to ask the cities as part of the application of proposed operations plan that it would be incorporated into the agreement.

President Preiner stated for this particular item it does not meet their other requirements. Either they are dealing with two different things and there should be two separate funding sources but thought they needed a new policy discussion. Manager Waller agreed because when they compare the swirl being recommended it does not meet a lot of the requirements. He stated when the City of Roseville application is compared side by side with the City Hugo's application there is really not much difference. He believed that if that was a way they could provide for the cleanup of sediments prior to it reaching the pond the better off they will be.

District Attorney Holtman stated in regards to sweepers, one element of the program is that the project should have an education demonstration element and maybe that is different also for sweepers. There is a lot of work going on now in looking at the effectiveness of sweepers and what they are actually picking up and how to maximize benefits based on when it is done and the types of streets, tree cover and those types of things. He did not know if they wanted to necessarily mandate a cities participation in that type of study but it is something to keep in mind.

Motion by Manager Wagamon, seconded by Manager Waller, to offer resolution 2016-05 and its adoption, Resolution for Ordering of 2016 Urban Stormwater Remediation Cost-Share Projects, Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.251.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §103B.251 and the WRMP, the Projects are ordered; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Managers hereby authorizes the Board President to execute each of the respective cost-share agreements between the Rice Creek Watershed District and the University of
Northwestern, City of Forest Lake, City of Roseville, and White Bear Township, with any final non-material changes and on advice of counsel.

ROLL CALL:
Manager Haake — Absent
Manager Bradley — Absent
Manager Wagamon — Aye
Manager Waller — Aye
President Preiner — Aye

Motion carried 3-0.

Motion by Manager Wagamon, seconded by Manager Waller, to table action on the City of Hugo and Mounds View applications until staff has a chance to look into policy implications and additional information of the Hugo application and receive more information on the Mounds View application. Motion carried 3-0.

4. Consider Check Register dated 2/10/2016, in the amount of $86,992.37, prepared by Redpath and Company.

Motion by Manager Wagamon, seconded by Manager Waller, to approve check register dated 2/10/2015, in the amount of $86,992.37, prepared by Redpath and Company. Motion carried 3-0.


District Administrator Belfiori stated as a follow-up from the February 8, 2016 Board workshop discussion and pursuant to the recently approved final orders directing repair of ACD 31 and ACD 46, please find attached for Board consideration HEI task order 2016-008. The proposed HEI task order has been developed to implement the board agreed upon “option 3” (Bid ACD 31 and 46 as a single contract, provide contractor flexible start and finish dates -complete by spring 2018) as was discussed at the Feb 8, 2016 workshop. HEI has estimated the total cost of services at $220,000. The majority of the estimated total cost for these services is included in the RCWD 2016 approved budget ($166,000) with the remaining cost utilizing district fund balance if needed. It is anticipated that design plans and specs. will be developed by summer 2016 with anticipated construction completed by spring 2018.

President Preiner asked if fund balance would only be used if the entire amount is billed within the first year. District Administrator Belfiori indicated that was correct.

Motion by Manager Wagamon, seconded by Manager Waller, to approve the HEI request for services with a total cost of $220,000.00 as defined in attached HEI Task Order 2016-008 dated February 9, 2016 and authorize the Board President to execute the document. Motion carried 3-0.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION

1. Presentation: BWSR’s One Watershed, One Plan.

District Engineer Deutschman made a presentation to the Board.
President Preiner asked if the all of the areas mentioned have a ten-year plan, what happens if they cannot get this implemented. How much will it hold up the whole process. District Engineer Deutschman stated on the practices themselves, there is a big piece missing which is landowner participation. The way they have communicated this is that this is a general guide for how many practices in what general area to implement it. If one landowner does not want to work with them this can be moved to another area. The other thing they are encouraging is there is new information coming forth for Ag. Producers that allows them to cash flow their fields. They have a way to go with this discussion.

District Engineer Deutschman stated there is a big education outreach component that they want to have consistent across the entire plan area. They will be able to develop and implement with a purpose of engaging producers about their cost-share. They will have a big chunk of the implementation money to cost-share those practices with the landowner. There will be a big education piece to try to help people understand that there are funds available to help implement those practices and to really reach out to the landowners.

Manager Waller asked if there was consideration for no-till, direct planting into the ground without disturbing the top soil. District Engineer Deutschman stated people are using no till and is very common in the area. He stated one of the limitations in what they are doing right now is their sediment source numbers do not account for near channel or in channel sources of sediment. There is information for this area that came out of Utah State University that shows that those near channel sources can be as much as forty to eighty percent of the total sediment that reached downstream.

District Administrator Belfiori indicated they will likely be starting a watershed planning process within the next year or two. Some of the important things they have heard that he anticipates BWSR and other State agencies will be looking for is the prioritized, target, measure type approach and if the District does not include that as main focus in the next watershed plan they will be at a distinct disadvantage competitively for State funding.

2. District Engineers Update and Timeline
Reviewed.

3. Manager’s Update
There were no comments.

4. Staff Update – MAWD Annual Legislative Reception and Breakfast – Send Out Invite to District Legislator’s, March 30-31.
District Administrator Belfiori stated he is looking for authorization to send out invitations to the District Legislator’s for the MAWD Annual Legislative Reception and Breakfast on March 30-31st.

President Preiner stated one thing she noticed is originally they had good reception and people showing up but the last few years it has been waning off so she asked some people why and was told they did not come because there was not an issue that needed to be discussed. She wondered if there was something that could be discussed. District Administrator Belfiori indicated they could have a discussion on one of the four MAWD Priority Issues. President Preiner did not think there was much time to discuss what issues could be this year but in the future she would like to have that considered.

Manager Waller wondered if the North East Ground Water development issue with White Bear Lake would be something they could discuss. President Preiner wondered if they wanted to take a position and advocate something. Manager Waller thought in a lot of way they have positions. They are participants with six of their
cities on the north end of this and they were left out of the original plans and have been told what to do. He thought this is something they might want to consider.

District Engineer Deutschman stated there were a couple of items. One came to the Board's attention at the workshop meeting on the Wetland Conservation Act and the District always has recurring discussions with the Department of Natural Resources on their jurisdiction on drainage projects on public waters. This is a recurring thing and if it could be streamlined it would be beneficial for everyone.

District Administrator Belfiori indicated this item is about giving staff consensus for the letter. Those are all policy discussions that he thought they would want to have some dialogue at a workshop about to decide what their formal position is. He thought at the next workshop they could have some dialogue on a couple of these items and they could formulate a position that could be discussed at a Board meeting before this event and a campaign could be developed.

Consensus of the Board was to direct staff to send out invitations to District Legislatures for the March 30-31 MAWD Annual Legislative Reception and Breakfast.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Manager Wagamon, seconded by Manager Waller, to adjourn the meeting at 10:38 a.m. Motion carried 3-0.