



APPROVED

**RCWD BOARD OF MANAGERS WORKSHOP**

Monday, March 9, 2026

Rice Creek Watershed District Conference Room  
4325 Pheasant Ridge Drive NE, Suite 611, Blaine, Minnesota  
and

Meeting also conducted by alternative means  
(teleconference or video-teleconference) from remote locations

1 The Board convened the workshop at 9:00 a.m.

2 Attendance: Mike Bradley, Jess Robertson, John Waller, Marcie Weinandt, Janet Hegland

3 Staff: Administrator Nick Tomczik, Drainage & Facilities Manager Tom Schmidt,  
4 Project Manager David Petry, Program Support Technician Emmet Hurley  
5 (video-conference), Office Manager Theresa Stasica

6 Consultants: District Engineers Chris Otterness & Adam Nies-Houston Engineering Inc.,  
7 District Attorney John Kolb-Rinke Noonan

8 Visitors:

9

10 **2025 Public Drainage System and Facilities: Inspection, Maintenance, & Recommendations**  
11 **Report**

12 Drainage & Facilities Manager Schmidt gave a presentation to the Board reviewing the 2025  
13 public drainage system minor maintenance completed and scheduled for 2026. The Board  
14 reviewed and asked staff questions regarding the Drainage System Inspection Schedule  
15 inspection levels. Mr. Schmidt informed the Board that for 2027 budget planning there will be a  
16 slight increase to account for inflation and fuel costs.

17 District Engineers gave a presentation on current and future Capital Improvement Projects (CIP)  
18 public drainage system repair projects and prioritization of those projects. The Board agreed to  
19 move forward with the current prioritized ditch repair project CIP list. This prioritization is subject  
20 to potential adjustments based on stakeholder input.

21 **Anoka County Ditch 10-22-32 Repair Alternative #4 Municipal / County Engagement**

22 The Board reviewed staff’s draft engagement framework. The Board emphasized the importance  
23 of engaging city and county elected officials as partners in problem-solving. They suggested  
24 making the meeting more informal to encourage open dialogue between boards, rather than a  
25 formal public meeting with agenda, while ensuring adequate notice is provided to invited  
26 attendees so that they may solicit input from relevant stakeholders. The meeting would open  
27 with the purpose of the meeting and the issue the Board is working to address. The meeting  
28 would then be open to input from the Cities of Columbus and Lino Lakes, Anoka County, and  
29 Department of Natural Resources. The Board directed staff to provide a draft special meeting

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**BOARD OF  
MANAGERS**

Janet Hegland  
Anoka County

Jess Robertson  
Anoka County

Michael J. Bradley  
Ramsey County

Marcie Weinandt  
Ramsey County

John J. Waller  
Washington County

30 invitation for review and consensus before the invitation is sent by the Board President out to  
31 Anoka County, Cities of Columbus and Lino Lakes, and the Department of Natural Resources.

32 **Ramsey County Ditches 2, 3, and 5 – Update and Flood Impact Simulation Task Order**

33 Project Manager David Petry updated the Board on legislative outreach efforts regarding bonding  
34 for the Jones Lake project, including meetings with state representatives and senators. He  
35 reviewed HEI’s Task Order 2026-001 to develop the Flood Impact Model and Flood Simulation  
36 Tool for the Jones Lake Flood Mitigation Project and responded to the Boards questions. The  
37 funds to pay for this task order are in the 2026 budget. The item will be brought to Wednesday’s  
38 meeting for board action.

39 **Administrator Updates**

- 40 • As a follow-up to dialog from the March 25 Board meeting, it was confirmed that the  
41 Board previously approved payment to the City of Columbus to assist in the purchase of  
42 wetland credits. No exchange was made to the City using the District’s Browns Preserve  
43 wetland credits.
- 44 • Distributed MN Watersheds memo to BWSR and BWSR’s response to the proposed WCA  
45 repairs of legal ditch systems 25-year rule.

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47 The workshop was adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

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