



APPROVED

RCWD BOARD OF MANAGERS WORKSHOP

Monday, April 6, 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, Communications & Outreach Manager Kendra
- 4 Sommerfeld, Project Manager David Petry, Program Support Technician
- 5 Emmet Hurley (video-conference), Office Manager Theresa Stasica
- 6 Consultants: District Engineer Chris Otterness -Houston Engineering Inc., District Attorney
- 7 John Kolb-Rinke Noonan
- 8 Visitors: William Lazarus, Citizen Advisory Committee member

9 Outreach & Communications Program Review and Forecast

10 Communications & Outreach Manager Sommerfeld provided a presentation on the program's
11 2025 activities and achievements and 2026 budget review. The Board discussed East Metro
12 Water Resource Education Program (EMWREP) current district agreements for the program and
13 their funding levels. The Communications & Outreach program budget will remain similar to the
14 current year.

15 Priebe Lake Outlet Project Facility - Sediment Report

16 District Engineer Chris Otterness gave a presentation on their sediment report findings and
17 recommendations. Their recommendations to the Board are to clean out sediment from the
18 outlet in the next 2 years, the work best taking place after Tighe-Schmitz Park improvements;
19 coordinate with DNR on permit ahead of clean-out; budget \$28,000 for work; and coordinate
20 with City of Birchwood Village on work including temporary roadway closure and access for
21 construction equipment. The Board discussed with staff the findings of the report. Staff will
22 return to the Board in the future with permitting and construction management information.

23 Revisiting Stormwater BMPs for Regional Water Quality Improvement

24 Project Manager David Petry reviewed regional water quality opportunities for stormwater pond
25 maintenance and enhanced street sweeping. The Board discussed a potential stormwater pond
26 maintenance program and by majority consensus agreed at this time not to pursue a program.
27 The Board and staff discussed the possibility of including stormwater pond maintenance
28 standards in the District's future Watershed Management Plan update.

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29 Project Manager Petry also reviewed a potential enhanced street sweeping program. The Board
30 previously funded enhanced street sweeping efforts through the stormwater management grant
31 program rather than as a separate initiative. They discussed the definition of enhanced street
32 sweeping, clarifying that it involves increased frequency of sweeping in critical areas rather than
33 just using new equipment.

34 The Board emphasized that the watershed district should not fund city equipment purchases but
35 suggested focusing on developing plans and implementing enhanced sweeping in priority areas
36 identified through existing data. The group agreed to explore funding, planning, and
37 implementation costs while avoiding direct equipment purchases, with the existing stormwater
38 BMP grant program identified as a potential vehicle for these efforts.

39 **Administrator Updates**

- 40 • Legislative Update (Jones Lake bonding/SF4814 Public Waters/Public Drainage Laws
41 Clarification).
- 42 • Working to schedule special workshop for ACD 10-22-32.
- 43 • Inspector Sarah Struntz resigned, her last day is 4/8/26.
- 44 • MN Watersheds Board's sent its annual request for resolutions packet.

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

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