



REGULAR MEETING OF THE RCWD BOARD OF MANAGERS

Wednesday, May 13, 2026

**Mounds View City Hall Council Chambers
2401 County Road 10, Mounds View, Minnesota
and**

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

Minutes

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30

CALL TO ORDER

President Michael Bradley called the meeting to order, a quorum being present, at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: President Michael Bradley, 1st Vice-Pres. John Waller, 2nd Vice-Pres. Jess Robertson, Treasurer Marcie Weinandt, Secretary Janet Hegland

Absent: None

Staff Present: Administrator Nick Tomczik, Regulatory Manager Patrick Hughes, Outreach & Grant Technician Molly Nelson, Communications & Outreach Manager Kendra Sommerfeld, Project Manager David Petry, Communications and Outreach Manager Kendra Sommerfeld, Program Technician Emmet Hurley (video-conference), Office Manager Theresa Stasica

Consultants: District Engineer Chris Otterness from Houston Engineering, Inc. (HEI) & District Attorney John Kolb-Rinke Noonan

Visitors: Mary Jo Truchon & Teresa O-Connell-CAC members, Anoka County Commissioner Jeff Reinert, Board of Soil & Water Resources Representative Josh Norman

OPEN MIC/PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments.

SETTING OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Manager Robertson, seconded by Manager Weinandt, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

31 **READING OF THE MINUTES AND THEIR APPROVAL**

32 **Minutes of the April 22, 2026, Board of Managers Regular Meeting.**

33

34 ***Motion by Manager Hegland, seconded by Manager Weinandt, to approve the April 22, 2026,***

35 ***minutes with the addition of “Manager” following Drainage and Facilities to lines 98 and 145***

36 ***of the minutes. Motion carried 5-0.***

37

38 **CONSENT AGENDA**

39 The following items will be acted upon without discussion in accordance with the staff recommendation

40 and associated documentation unless a Manager or another interested person requests an opportunity

41 for discussion:

42 **Table of Contents-Permit Applications Requiring Board Action**

No.	Applicant	Location	Plan Type	Recommendation
26-009	C Lino LLC	Lino Lakes	Final Site Drainage Plan Wetland Alteration Floodplain Alteration	CAPROC 7 items
26-030	HMI Roseville Owner, LLC	Roseville	Final Site Drainage Plan	CAPROC 7 items

47

48

49 ***It was moved by Manager Robertson and seconded by Manager Bradley, to approve the***

50 ***consent agenda as outlined in the above Table of Contents in accordance with RCWD District***

51 ***Engineer’s Findings and Recommendations, dated May 5, 2026. Motion carried 5-0.***

52

53 **Water Quality Grant Program Cost Share Application**

No.	Applicant	Location	Project Type	Eligible Total Project Cost	Pollutant Reduction	Funding Recommendation
A26-02	Richard Hank	7917 20 th Ave N, Lino Lakes	Conservation Cover & Buffer Planting	\$16,895.00	TSS: 8,100 lbs./yr TP: 4.32 lbs./yr Volume: 4,500 cu-ft/yr	\$8,447.50 not to exceed 50% of eligible project costs or up to \$10,000.00.
A26-03	City of Fridley	Commons Park & Rice Creek Trailhead off Rice Creek Terrace NE	Dog Waste Stations (5)	\$1,477.00	0.52 lbs. TP/ 1 lb. dog waste.	\$738.50 not to exceed 50% of eligible project costs or up to \$10,000.00.
R26-06	Hue Schlieu	2336 County Road B West, Roseville	Raingardens	\$12,990.00	TSS: 40.58 lbs./yr TP: 0.14 lbs./yr Volume: 4,460 cu-ft/yr	\$6,495.00 not to exceed 50% of eligible project costs or up to \$10,000.00.

54

55 Outreach & Grant Technician Nelson clarified that there was an edit needed to the table related
56 to pollution reduction for A26-03 Pollutant Reduction, and that the value should be 0.039TP/lb.
57 dog waste.

58

59 ***It was moved by Manager Bradley and seconded by Manager Weinandt, to approve the***
60 ***consent agenda as outlined and the amendment to Permit A26-03, as discussed, in the above***
61 ***Table of Contents in accordance with RCWD Outreach and Grants Technician's***
62 ***Recommendations, dated April 28, 2026. Motion carried 5-0.***

63

64 **ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION**

65 **1. HEI Task Order 2026-01: Ramsey County Ditches 2, 3, 5 Flood Impact Simulation**

66 Communications & Outreach Manager Sommerfeld stated that the Board had discussed
67 the flood impact simulation at one of their recent meetings and explained that Houston
68 Engineering had updated this to include more options to utilize approach for other areas
69 in the District, as the Board had requested.

70

71 Manager Hegland asked District Administrator Tomczik what the original cost proposal
72 had been when it was just for Jones Lake.

73

74 District Administrator Tomczik stated that it was the same amount as in the current initial
75 phase, and other future potential phases were added to the task order.

76

77 ***Motion by Manager Bradley, seconded by Manager Weinandt, to approve Houston***
78 ***Engineering, Inc. Task Order 2026-001: Phase 1 Ramsey County Ditches 2, 3, 5 Flood***
79 ***Impact Simulation not to exceed \$20,500, with Phase 2 and 3 as future options, and***
80 ***direct the Administrator to sign the task order.***

81

82 Manager Waller stated that this would be too late to use for this year's bonding bill. He
83 noted that he had spent a lot of time at the Capitol this year and had heard that there
84 would be no money available for the District's type of projects at all this year, as he wasn't
85 sure it was something the District should pursue this year.

86

87 District Administrator Tomczik agreed that the product would not be available for some
88 time and while it could be used to allow the legislators to get a better understanding of
89 the project, he stated that it was also for the stakeholders and communities. He
90 explained that he found the District had been sincere in its efforts to address the petition
91 from the cities for project work and noted that, regardless of the bonding outcome, the
92 District would continue to seek and find funding.

93

94 President Bradley stated that at the last workshop, they had discussed the DNR public
95 waters permitting process and asked if this would help the process.

96

97 District Administrator Tomczik stated that it would support it illustrating the flood
98 problem represented by the model to occur when they have the rainfall event.

99
100
101
102
103
104
105
106
107
108
109
110
111
112
113
114
115
116
117
118
119
120
121
122
123
124
125
126
127
128
129
130
131
132
133
134
135
136
137
138
139
140
141

Manager Robertson stated that she thinks this is very innovative and appreciated the visual. She explained that she was struggling with the timing. She shared an example related to Highway 65, where the cities and counties along it formed a coalition to share the costs for large ticket items. She stated that she felt this project was similar and suggested that instead of picking isolated items to assign costs to, they should rethink how the entire scope of the project was being approached through a whole group collaborative lens, so the District wasn't constantly asked to bear the entire cost of things that benefit many.

President Bradley stated that flooding is not District-wide, so when they take on a flooding project, there will be specific areas that benefit, and noted that if they don't fix this problem, it will happen again. He stated that this is a small amount of money for an \$11 million budget and noted that if they did not receive legislative funding this time around, it may be time to discuss establishing a Water Management District and get funding with a combination of ad valorem and local property taxes to pay for it. He stated that if that was the direction they were going to go, they would need this kind of information to bring to the public so they can explain why the District felt it was appropriate to have a local tax to fund and prevent future flooding, including 35W. He stated that this was a reasonable step toward something that will be a very long process.

Manager Robertson stated that this was a time when she believed it was fine that they shared differing opinions. She reiterated that she felt this was very innovative, but questioned the timing.

Manager Hegland asked what the difference in cost would be for having the video showing the flooding and just having a map that communicated the same information to stakeholders.

District Engineer Otterness stated that a map would not be as expensive and noted that they already have flood maps prepared, which have already been utilized. He stated that this would be something that went beyond that and showed a time-lapse so they are able to see how the water gets to an area and how the flood occurs. He stated that the video was a communication tool that essentially told a story of a 100-year event.

Manager Hegland stated that because the District had missed funding through this year's legislative session, they would have time to try to prepare more strategically.

District Engineer Otterness stated that they could pause this work, but cautioned that the costs would most likely increase due to the rates.

Motion failed 2-3 (Waller, Hegland, and Robertson opposed).

142 **2. Citizen Advisory Committee Member Appointment**
143 Communications & Outreach Manager Sommerfeld gave a brief overview of the
144 background and experience of Susan Young, who had applied to serve on the Citizen
145 Advisory Committee.

146
147 ***Motion by Manager Hegland, seconded by Manager Waller, to appoint Susan Young for***
148 ***membership on the Citizen Advisory Committee. Motion carried 5-0.***
149

150 **3. East Metro Water Resource Education Program Contract**
151 Outreach and Communication Manager Sommerfeld gave an overview of the East Metro
152 Water Resource Education Program (EMWREP). She explained that the District had
153 been partnering with the Washington County Conservation District for a while, but the
154 contract was up for renewal. She reviewed the proposed annual contribution for 2026
155 and 4% increase applied to 2027, per the contract terms.

156
157 ***Motion by Manager Weinandt, seconded by Manager Waller, to approve the EMWREP***
158 ***contract and authorize funding in the amount of \$6,000 for 2026, with a 4% increase***
159 ***applied in 2027 per the contract terms.***
160

161 Manager Waller stated that several of the Board members have stated that this would be
162 money that was duplicative spending. He explained that they have had conversations
163 in the past that the District did not really get the value for spending this money over the
164 years. He stated that the District already had Outreach and Communication Manager
165 Sommerfeld to communicate, and there has been a suggestion that these funds should
166 be directed into her budget to be more effective, which he felt was a reasonable
167 argument. He shared some historical perspective on this during his time serving on the
168 Board and suggested that the District may be better off directing these funds into its own
169 areas rather than just sending the EMWREP a check.

170
171 President Bradley stated that Outreach and Communication Manager Sommerfeld has
172 already told the Board that she wasn't seeking to increase her budget and wasn't sure the
173 Board should do as suggested by Manager Waller. He stated that the EMWREP asked
174 for about 3 times this amount, but this was the amount the District has given, with the
175 hope of keeping this relationship and not creating enemies.

176
177 Manager Hegland stated that she agreed with Manager Waller. She explained that she
178 knows a little bit about this organization, and when she served on the Sunrise River WMO,
179 they also voted to pull out because they had a broad mandate that didn't show a benefit
180 that they could attach to the dollars. She clarified that she wasn't advocating to move
181 the money anywhere else right now, but when they hear that there isn't a tangible benefit
182 that the District was getting, they should think twice about the investment.

183
184 Mary Jo Truchon explained that she served on the Board of Anoka Soil and Water
185 Conservation District. She stated that she was proud of this organization and what they

186 do. She expressed appreciation for Outreach and Communication Manager
187 Sommerfeld and Outreach & Grant Technician Nelson. She shared other collaborations
188 the conservation district has had with the watershed.

189
190 Manager Waller clarified that he had not meant to confuse issues and explained that the
191 Board was talking about the EMWREP contract and not the contracts with the Soil and
192 Water Conservation Districts.

193
194 Manager Robertson stated that she would also not suggest that they move \$6,000
195 elsewhere, but noted that the conversation at the workshop had focused on the
196 innovative and creative work of Outreach and Communication Manager Sommerfeld.
197 She stated that she felt it was a compliment to Outreach and Communication Manager
198 Sommerfeld and her staff rather than proposing an increased budget.

199
200 President Bradley stated that his recollection was that they got to the \$6,000 figure
201 through negotiations handled by Manager Waller last year.

202
203 Manager Waller stated that the problem was that the District was not really part of the
204 EMWREP's focus. He stated that he believes they should take a closer look at this
205 because otherwise the District just becomes an automatic part of someone else's budget,
206 which was not the original intent of this contribution.

207
208 President Bradley asked District Administrator Tomczik if he knew how many years the
209 District had been paying EMWREP.

210
211 District Administrator Tomczik stated that he believes the district has contributed since
212 the inception of the program. He referenced page 67 of the packet under item g, which
213 outlines the funding structure from EMWREP.

214
215 President Bradley stated that the Board could say that they made a mistake with this
216 funding that they don't want to make again, or they can recognize that they are part of
217 this community, and will make a modest donation of \$6,000.

218
219 Manager Weinandt stated that if the Board doesn't approve this, they would no longer
220 be partners.

221
222 Manager Waller stated that he did not have any problem with the District making the
223 choice not to renew the contract.

224
225 Manager Robertson called the question.

226
227 ***Motion failed 2-3 (Waller, Hegland, and Robertson opposed).***

228

229 **4. RCWD 2026 Board of Managers Calendar**
230 District Administrator Tomczik reviewed the proposed adjustment to the calendar for
231 2026 to avoid Labor Day.

232
233 *Motion by Manager Bradley, seconded by Manager Waller, to change the September*
234 *workshop to Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 9 a.m., District office conference room.*
235 *Motion carried 5-0.*

236
237 **5. Check Register Dated May 13, 2026, in the Amount of \$151,891.46, Prepared by**
238 **Redpath and Company**

239
240 *Motion by Manager Weinandt, seconded by Manager Bradley, to approve the check*
241 *register dated May 13, 2026, in the Amount of \$151,891.46, prepared by Redpath and*
242 *Company. Motion carried 5-0.*

243
244 **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION**

245 **1. District Engineer Update and Timeline**
246 No updates.

247
248 **2. Administrator Updates**
249 District Administrator Tomczik reminded the Board of the Jones Lake site visit, which will
250 occur following the meeting.

251
252 **3. Manager Updates**
253 Manager Waller stated that he had attended the Washington County Consortium meeting
254 and gave a brief update on the meeting. He stated that he found the presentation by
255 Janet Paulson, Minnesota Technical Assistance Program, quite interesting and suggested
256 that there may be a way to have this presentation done at MN Watershed's or at the
257 District's City/County Partner meeting.

258
259 Manager Weinandt stated that the Metro Mn Watersheds meeting will be held in person
260 at the Capitol Region, which is hosting a We Are Water display on May 19, 2026. She
261 stated that last night they did rain garden planting near Mounds View City Hall and had
262 about 25 people show up to help plant about 200 plants.

263
264 Manager Robertson noted that she would not be in attendance for the July 22nd Board
265 meeting due to a city commitment.

266
267 President Bradley expressed appreciation to Anoka County Commissioner Reinert for
268 attending today's meeting.

269
270 **ADJOURNMENT**

271 *Motion by Manager Robertson, seconded by Manager Waller, to adjourn the meeting at 9:50*
272 *a.m. Motion carried 5-0.*