



APPROVED

RCWD BOARD OF MANAGERS WORKSHOP

Monday, June 8, 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, John Waller, Marcie Weinandt via Zoom, Janet Hegland
3 (Jess Robertson-absent with prior notice)

4 Staff: Administrator Nick Tomczik, Lake & Stream Manager Matt Kocian, Project
5 Technician Sara Belden, Drainage & Facilities Manager Tom Schmidt,
6 Communications & Outreach Manager Kendra Sommerfeld, Program Support
7 Technician Emmet Hurley (video-conference), Office Manager Theresa Stasica

8 Consultants: District Engineer Chris Otterness-Houston Engineering, Inc., District Attorney
9 John Kolb-Rinke Noonan

10 Visitors:

11

12 **RCWD Monitoring Program Review & Budget**

13 Lake & Stream Manager Kocian presented the monitoring program overview, covering lake and
14 stream monitoring activities, special projects like the potential aluminum chlorohydrate
15 treatment trial at Peltier Lake, and the curlyleaf pondweed management program. Lake & Stream
16 Manager Kocian reviewed new research suggesting that managing curlyleaf pondweed may not
17 significantly improve water quality; overall, research on the subject is currently mixed. He
18 presented the monitoring and projects budget updates, highlighting a 2-4% inflationary increase
19 for the 90-04 monitoring budget and flat budgets for carp management and curlyleaf pondweed
20 programs. Staff discussed postponements in several project budgets. These project budgets will
21 be pulled from fund balance in 2027, including the Peltier Lake trial project, Lower Rice Creek
22 stream bank stabilization work, and Clear Lake / Eureka Ave shoreline work.

23

24 **Watershed Management Plan and Local Water Plans Update Guidance**

25 Project Technician Belden & District Engineer Otterness outlined plans for updating the
26 watershed management plan for 2030. The Board and staff emphasized the need for early
27 engagement with municipalities to align local water plans with the district's planning timeline.
28 Strategic planning exercises are planned for the Board in 2027.

29 Drainage & Facilities Manager Schmidt stated the District currently has four vehicles, down from
30 five due to vandalism in 2021. Staff are seeking approval to purchase a new 4WD truck for field
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31 work outfitted with accessories not to exceed \$65,000. This would replace the current monitoring
32 truck, which is approaching the end of its service life. The board by consensus agreed to bring
33 this item to Wednesday meeting for consideration.

34

35 **2026 Minnesota Watersheds Resolutions: Proposed Resolutions Comment Period**

36 The board reviewed multiple Minnesota Watersheds (MW) resolutions, generally supporting
37 items 2-5 (state funding for SWCD shoreline management, training, public education, and AIS
38 prevention) while expressing concerns about certification requirements potentially impacting
39 qualified staff in resolution 3. The board also noted that while supporting hazard mitigation
40 funding in resolution 7, they had concerns about restrictive requirements in current legislation.
41 Staff will provide the Board’s response to MW.

42

43 **Administrator Updates**

- 44 • Successful completion of the Centerville Lake Alum Treatment.
- 45 • Iron-Enhanced Sand-Filters Update-all facilities are working.

46 The workshop was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

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