



REGULAR MEETING OF THE RCWD BOARD OF MANAGERS

Wednesday, July 23, 2025

**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

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, and Treasurer Marcie Weinandt

Absent: 2nd Vice-Pres. Steve Wagamon & Secretary Jess Robertson –(with prior notice)

Staff Present: District Administrator Nick Tomczik, Regulatory Manager Patrick Hughes, Project Manager David Petry, Technician Emmet Hurley (video-conference), Office Manager Theresa Stasica

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

Visitors:

Manager Waller volunteered to serve in the role of Secretary due to the absence of Manager Robertson.

Motion by Manager Weinandt, seconded by Manager Bradley, to approve Manager Waller to serve as Secretary for today's meeting. Motion carried 3-0.

OPEN MIC/PUBLIC COMMENT

None

28 **SETTING OF THE AGENDA**

29 *Motion by Manager Waller, seconded by Manager Weinandt, to approve the agenda as*
30 *presented. Motion carried 3-0.*

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

33 Minutes of the July 7, 2025, Workshop and July 9, 2025, Board of Managers Regular Meeting.
34 *Motion by Manager Waller, seconded by Manager Weinandt, to approve the minutes as*
35 *presented. Motion carried 3-0.*

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37 **ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION**

38 **1. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Grant Award Acceptance for Jones Lake Project**

39 Project Manager Petry gave a brief overview of the grant from the MPCA for the Jones
40 Lake Project. He noted that the award amount was smaller than they had asked for, but
41 they were able to adjust the scope of their work to be able to complete the final design
42 with the money being offered. He stated that they were still seeking funding for the
43 second phase of construction.

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45 Manager Weinandt asked about the source of the funds and if they were Federal or State
46 funds.

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48 Project Manager Petry stated that he did not have the specific information available, but
49 believed that the source was not Federal funding. He explained that he can research
50 that further and let Manager Weinandt know.

51
52 Manager Weinandt stated that she felt it may have come from the infrastructure bill.

53
54 *Motion by Manager Waller, seconded by Manager Weinandt, to authorize the*
55 *Administrator to execute the grant agreement to accept \$1,173,207.42 for the MPCA*
56 *FY25 Stormwater Implementation Grant for the Jones Lake Outlet Modification and*
57 *Dredging Project.*

58
59 Manager Weinandt asked what staff were thinking in relation to Phase 2 in light of the
60 way things were going at the moment with Federal and State funding, if that meant
61 District fund use.

62
63 District Administrator Tomczik stated that RCD 2,3, and 5 are a whole host of different
64 projects, and they were currently on a key project to augment a large stormwater storage
65 area. He stated that there are other grant opportunities and shared examples of a few
66 that staff were continuing to pursue for funding of the future phase. He explained that
67 with the options the District feels optimistic about receiving funding for the next phase.

President Bradley noted that District Administrator Tomczik had indicated that MnDOT was also investigating areas where they have flooding on the roads, and a purpose of Jones Lake project was to prevent flooding on 35W.

District Administrator Tomczik noted that he believed MnDOT would see great value in this project and believes that the District would have MnDOT's support in asking for funding, but wasn't sure if they would fund the project. He suggested to Project Manager Petry that they include a letter of support from MnDOT in the application submitted to the State.

District Engineer Otterness stated that there were other groups of people who were significantly impacted by flooding in addition to the 35W area, which meant that there would be a large collective of people who would benefit from this project.

Manager Weinandt stated she and Project Manager Petry participate in the Climate Action Work Group, and this year they are focusing on water issues and have an interest in manufactured home parks within the north metro area because many of them are located within floodplains.

Manager Waller read aloud from the paragraph in the staff report that stated that the grant will implement Phase 1 of the Jones Lake Project and include preparation of final construction plans, a bid package, regulatory coordination of the entire project, construction of a new water control structure, sediment forebay, and dredging, as funds allow. He stated that he wanted to make sure the public understood what the Board was trying to do.

Project Manager Petry noted that District Attorney Kolb had reviewed the grant agreement and had no objections.

Motion carried 3-0.

- 2. Houston Engineering Inc. Task Order 2025-012: Jones Lake Final Design and Permitting**
Project Manager Petry reviewed the request for Task Order 2025-012 for Houston Engineering related to the money received from the MPCA in the previous agenda item. He asked that this task order be for the preparation final design, permitting, and development of the bid documents.

President Bradley asked if the District had maximized the amount of dredging being done.

Project Manager Petry stated that it will become more tangible as they further the final design and outline the priorities of the control structure, forebay, and the upstream end connected to the ditch.

President Bradley asked for an explanation of the forebay.

District Engineer Otterness explained that a forebay is a smaller pond right at the inlet of the basin that will allow sediment to drop out before it goes into the main part of the lake. He stated that this would increase the life of the basin and noted that something similar was done on the Hansen Park pond.

President Bradley explained that since the number of properties contributing drainage to the project area is massive, that if the District imposed a Water Management District, it may end up having a fairly minimal impact on the properties. He stated that his concern would be that if they impose the Water Management District, the District will never get outside funding for the project, which is why he wasn't planning to push it. But, if they aren't going to get outside funding and development of a Water management District charge needed to be done, they need to look internally at how they can get it done with their partners.

Manager Waller suggested that they cross that bridge when they come to it because it was difficult to predict the future.

Manager Weinandt stated that this was a highly industrialized area and asked about the dredge material, where it would be put, and if it would create any challenges.

District Engineer Otterness stated that they had already taken sediment cores at Jones Lake and confirmed that the material was within the lower category as a Level 1 material, which meant it would be suitable for disposal anywhere.

Motion by Manager Weinandt, seconded by Manager Bradley, to authorize the Administrator to execute Task Order 2025-012: Jones Lake Outlet Modification and Dredging Project: Final Design and Permitting for Houston Engineering, Inc., not to exceed \$485,000.00.

Manager Waller pointed out that this would be done in coordination with the City of New Brighton and reminded staff that there are some pretty pictures of automobiles that are underwater in New Brighton, which is a wonderful reason to do this project.

Motion carried 3-0.

3. RCWD 2025 Board of Managers Calendar Adjustment

District Administrator Tomczik stated that during the July 7, 2025, workshop meeting that the Board had discussed a proposed calendar for their upcoming 2026 budget process. He explained that they were proposing adjusting the calendar to have the 2026 Budget Public Hearing at the August 27, 2025, meeting.

Motion by Manager Bradley, seconded by Manager Weinandt, to adopt the revised 2025 Board of Managers Calendar, as presented.

Manager Weinandt asked if they needed to note the Special Meeting scheduled for July 30, 2025, to discuss the budget.

District Administrator Tomczik explained that the Special Meeting had already been noticed.

Motion carried 3-0.

4. Check Register Dated July 23, 2025, in the Amount of \$297,565.18 and July Interim Financial Statements Prepared by Redpath and Company

Motion by Manager Weinandt, seconded by Manager Bradley, to approve the check register dated July 23, 2025, in the Amount of \$297,565.18 and the July Interim Financial Statements prepared by Redpath and Company. Motion carried 3-0.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION

1. Staff Reports

Manager Weinandt stated that the RCWD Citizens Advisory Committee met with the Coon Creek Advisory Committee and asked Project Manager Petry to give an update on how it went, because he served on that committee.

Project Manager Petry explained that in December, he had been approached and asked to join the Coon Creek Citizen Advisory Committee. He noted that it has been interesting for him to learn about different, but similar things in another district. He stated that their joint event focused on an art activity and gave a brief overview of some of the hands-on activities that were directed by the resident artist from the Mississippi River Watershed Management Organization.

Manager Weinandt stated that she felt the CAC continued to be a great outreach into the community. She asked if she understood correctly that Sarah was now the Watershed-Based Implementation Fund coordinator.

Project Manager Petry briefly explained how Sarah had come to take on the role.

President Bradley noted that it wasn't included in the staff report, but staff was reaching out to try to fill the 2 vacancies from Ramsey County on the CAC.

2. August Calendar

District Administrator Tomczik reminded the Board that their meeting on August 27, 2025, would include the public hearing for the budget.

3. Administrator Updates

District Administrator Tomczik stated the Board should receive materials related to the administrator evaluation soon. He noted that precipitation for June and July has been above normal, which means that there were high flow levels being reported by the DNR and were also being seen in Rice Creek. He stated that there were some changes related to the petition the Board had received regarding ACD-72. He stated that the Washington County budget workshop meeting was set for November 4, 2025; however, as President Bradley had pointed out that it would be election day.

4. Manager Updates

Manager Waller referenced two recent articles published in the Star Tribune regarding rain gardens and muskrats. He also informed the Board of a tour of the Upper St. Croix the afternoon of July 30, 2025, hosted by Washington County and Washington Conservation District. He will be attending.

Manager Weinandt stated that she had attended the Clean Water Council meeting earlier in the week, and they were starting the next round of looking at proposals and trying to get recommendations together for the next biennium. He stated that Commissioner Miron is representing counties on the Clean Water Council, which pleased her because he has been very helpful in informing the Council about the responsibilities of the counties.

Project Manager Petry noted that he had done some research and could answer Manager Weinandt's question related to where the funds came from for the Jones Lake project. He stated that it came from the 2023 legislative session from the Omnibus Environment, Natural Resources, Climate, and Energy Bill, HF 2310, which meant it was State money.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Manager Waller, seconded by Manager Bradley, to adjourn the meeting at 9:39 a.m.
Motion carried 3-0.