

APPROVED

RCWD BOARD OF MANAGERS WORKSHOP

Monday, August 4, 2025

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, Jess Robertson, Marcie Weinandt

3 Absent: Steve Wagamon-with prior notice

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

9 Consultants: District Engineer Chris Otterness-Houston Engineering Inc.

10 Visitors: Anoka County Commissioner Jeff Reinert

11

12 **2026 Draft Budget**

13 Administrator Tomczik reviewed with the Board the adjustments made since their last draft
14 budget discussion on July 7th. There was a reduction in the overall budget of 1.4 million from
15 the July workshop version. The largest reductions were made in Fund 60, including the Anoka
16 Chain of Lakes Waters Management Project and Ramsey County Ditch 2, 3 & 5 Basic Water
17 Management Project. Revenue increased due to grants and project anticipation funds, with a
18 projected 3.56% levy increase for 2026. The discussion also covered the categorization of projects
19 into the various funds of the District's budget and discussion on funding sources, with clarification
20 that outside of delegated work board authorization is required. The district has not traditionally
21 borrowed money but rather relies on grants and project anticipation fund for project funding.

22 The Board reviewed and discussed the proposed budget. They discussed the allocation of funds
23 for Fund 60 Restoration Projects versus Fund 80 Ditch & Creek Maintenance. Staff stated Fund
24 60 includes any significant project outside of pure ditch maintenance. Staff explained that these
25 projects have multipurpose components which include water quality, flood control, and drainage
26 outside of typical day-to-day maintenance. The Board noted a need to augment Fund 60 title to
27 describe project works and purposes in future document. The Board directed staff to work with
28 District Attorney Kolb to develop an acceptable alternative title for fund 60.

4325 Pheasant Ridge Drive NE #611 | Blaine, MN 55449 | T: 763-398-3070 | F: 763-398-3088 | www.ricecreek.org

**BOARD OF
MANAGERS**

Jess Robertson
Anoka County

Steven P. Wagamon
Anoka County

Michael J. Bradley
Ramsey County

Marcie Weinandt
Ramsey County

John J. Waller
Washington County

29 The Board by consensus agreed to publish the draft budget with the adjustment discussed and
30 directed staff to notice the budget public hearing for August 27, 2025, at 9 a.m.

31
32 **Manager & Administrator Updates**

- 33 • Manager Waller updated the Board on a recent White Bear Lake area meeting he
34 attended.
- 35 • Administrator Tomczik informed the Board that White Bear Lake item is scheduled for the
36 August workshop and noting the need to affirm recharge of ground water, Clear Lake
37 water levels high; and new Laserfiche vendor.
- 38 • President Bradley reminded the Board to complete the administrator's mid term review.

39
40 The workshop was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.