

APPROVED

RCWD BOARD OF MANAGERS WORKSHOP

Monday, September 8, 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, Jess Robertson, John Waller, Marcie Weinandt

3 Absent: Steve Wagamon -with prior notice

4 Staff: Administrator Nick Tomczik, Lake & Stream Manager Matt Kocian, Program
5 Support Technician Emmet Hurley, Regulatory Manager Patrick Hughes,
6 Project Manager David Petry, Drainage & Facilities Manager Tom Schmidt,
7 Watershed Technician/Inspector Will Roach

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

10 Visitors:

11

12 **2026 Budget Discussion**

13 The Board discussed the District's 2026 budget, referencing the same materials as presented
14 during the 2026 Budget Public Hearing, with the addition of summaries by request of the Board.

15 Manager Bradley offered addition of \$100,000 to ACD 10-22-32 with revenue to come from
16 project anticipation fund. Managers Robertson and Waller expressed concern over the budget
17 and levy increases over 2025. Manager Waller stated that the District should aim to be financially
18 astute and avoid raising taxes – if not decreasing them. Manager Robertson suggested that the
19 restoration budget be reduced by \$219,000 and advocated for additional funds to be dedicated
20 to ditch maintenance fund.

21 Manager Weinandt clarified that while the proposed 2026 budget shows a 19% increase over
22 2025, the actual tax levy increase is 3.5%, with grants and other funds covering the remainder.
23 Manager Bradley added that this increased levy is relatively aligned with inflation.

24 The Board by consensus agreed to allocate an additional \$100,000 to the ACD 10-22-32
25 maintenance fund.

26 The Board recognized the renaming of the Restoration fund to "Restoration - Project Planning
27 and Implementation," however, no action was taken.

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**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

The Board decided to take the proposed budget to the next Board Meeting for a final vote.

Stormwater Management Grant Program Documents

Watershed Technician/Inspector Roach joined the meeting and presented to the Board the updated Stormwater Management Grant Documents:

- Program Summary & Goals
- Program Language
 - Program Guidelines
 - Application Form
- New Program Document
 - Pre-Application Form
 - Grant Payment Form
- Program Timeline

The Board supported these changes, with a Public Hearing scheduled for the first Board meeting of February and final funding consideration scheduled for the second Board meeting of February.

Administrator Updates

- Page 3, line 84 of the 8/27/2025 Board Meeting minutes – revenue was incorrectly listed as \$6,403,200, while the correct amount is \$6,362,719. In approval of minutes, Board should make note of change.
- Regarding Item #3 of the 09/10/2025 Agenda Packet, Karth Lake cost-share request (page 156), RCWD is working with the City of Arden Hills on how to best manage lake. The City of Arden Hills has requested to be included in the 9/10/2025 meeting agenda.

The workshop was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.