



REGULAR MEETING OF THE RCWD BOARD OF MANAGERS

Wednesday, October 22, 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, Treasurer Marcie Weinandt, Secretary Jess Robertson, and 2nd Vice-Pres. Steve Wagamon (via electronic means, only monitoring)

Absent: None

Staff Present: Administrator Nick Tomczik, Regulatory Manager Patrick Hughes, Drainage & Facilities Manager Tom Schmidt, Program 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 video-conference: Aimee-cell phone

OPEN MIC/PUBLIC COMMENT

SETTING OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Manager Robertson, seconded by Manager Weinandt, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

READING OF THE MINUTES AND THEIR APPROVAL

Minutes of the October 6, 2025, Workshop; October 8, 2025, Board of Managers Regular Meeting. *Motion by Manager Robertson, seconded by Manager Weinandt, to approve the*

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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

minutes with an edit to the October 6, 2025, Workshop minutes to clarify that Manager Wagamon was not absent and was monitoring via electronic means. Motion carried 4-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following items will be acted upon without discussion in accordance with the staff recommendation and associated documentation unless a Manager or another interested person requests an opportunity for discussion:

Table of Contents-Permit Applications Requiring Board Action

No.	Applicant	Location	Plan Type	Recommendation
25-084	John Schwieters	Grant	Final Site Drainage Plan	CAPROC 7 items

It was moved by Manager Waller and seconded by Manager Weinandt, to approve the consent agenda as outlined in the above Table of Contents in accordance with RCWD District Engineer's Findings and Recommendations, dated October 13, 2025. Motion carried 4-0.

ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

1. RCWD Office/Garage Lease

District Administrator Tomczik noted that the Board had reviewed the lease amendment at recent Workshop meetings.

Manager Weinandt noted that, in light of the conversation that took place at the Metro Watershed Managers meeting and other things that have been heard, she asked if there had been any outreach to the owner about salt use on the parking lot.

District Administrator Tomczik stated that he believed it had been mentioned to the owner, but they could bring it forward again.

Manager Weinandt stated that the District has a substantial investment in the property and suggested that they may be able to exert some influence on the amount and location of salt used on the parking lot.

District Administrator Tomczik noted that staff will work to educate with the Low Salt No Salt campaign the owners and others on salt usage.

Motion by Manager Weinandt, seconded by Manager Robertson, to approve Rice Creek Watershed District's Sixth Amendment to Lease with Blaine Shopping Center, LLC., authorizing signature by the president and administrator. Motion carried 4-0.

2. Redpath and Company's 2025 Audit Engagement Letter

District Administrator Tomczik stated this is the annual fiscal obligation to audit the District's work and that there is a small issue with the initial engagement letter found in the packet.

District Attorney Kolb gave an overview of the non-solicitation clause language that had been removed from the audit engagement letter and explained that the original letter

had an unenforceable clause (non-solicitation) under Minn. Stat. 181.9881, or at a minimum, likely to be found in violation of public policy. He stated that he had informed Redpath of this, and they have agreed to the removal of the “Non-Solicitation of Employees” clause in its entirety.

Motion by Manager Weinandt, seconded by Manager Robertson, to accept and authorize the Board President and Administrator to sign Redpath and Company’s 2025 audit engagement letter.

Manager Weinandt noted that she had gone through 3 audits with Redpath, which had been a smooth process, and explained that she appreciated the work of Office Manager Stasica to get all the pertinent information together for them.

Motion carried 4-0.

3. Ramsey County Ditch #2 Maintenance Work Order

Drainage & Facilities Manager Schmidt stated staff was seeing a Work Order to maintain the uppermost section of RCD-2 for tree removal and noted that this work would also facilitate access for the District for anticipated geotechnical work associated with the Jones Lake project.

President Bradley referenced the photographs included in the packet and asked if the Work Order would address the trees and the garbage that was in the channel.

Drainage & Facilities Manager Schmidt explained that the first step would be to get the trees cleared out, and then there would be other, less expensive, maintenance work to remove some of the debris in the channel.

Motion by Manager Weinandt, seconded by Manager Waller, to approve Work Order #063 for Hugo Tree Service, not to exceed \$32,500.00 for RCD-2, as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

4. Check Register Dated October 22, 2025, in the Amount of \$384,101.49 and October Interim Financial Statements Prepared by Redpath and Company

Motion by Manager Weinandt, seconded by Manager Waller, to approve the check register dated October 22, 2025, in the Amount of \$384,101.49 and the October Interim Financial Statements prepared by Redpath and Company. Motion carried 4-0.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION

1. Staff Reports

Manager Weinandt noted that it was fabulous to see the work that District staff was doing. She stated that the University of Minnesota was selling its golf course, and she found it interesting that this parcel of land had an impact on 3 different watersheds in the

region and noted that it appeared that Project Manager Petry would have a chance to collaborate with other districts on this parcel.

Manager Robertson asked if, for future meetings, staff could put in a separate report to show what pre-application meetings have been held, rather than just having it be part of Regulatory Manager Hughes' report. She asked about the September 10, 2025, meeting regarding the Blaine Wetland Sanctuary and noted that she could follow up with Regulatory Manager Hughes after the meeting.

Regulatory Manager Hughes asked if Manager Robertson would like more details in the standalone report for pre-application meetings or a general rundown of the meetings.

Manager Robertson clarified that she would like to see a high-level overview of where they were located within the District and if they were tied to particular projects.

Office Manager Stasica suggested that this could be added to the Permit Summary Report.

2. November Calendar

President Bradley stated that he would attend the November CAC meeting.

District Administrator Tomczik stated that the Washington County budget meeting was scheduled for November 4, 2025. The House Bonding Tour for Rice Creek/Jones Lake is scheduled for November 12, 2025, at 3:30 p.m. The District will notice both for potential quorum of the board.

3. Administrator Updates

District Administrator Tomczik stated that at the October 8, 2025, meeting, the Board approved the Clear Lake cost-share and Manager Weinandt had asked about the expenditure from the fund and what it was for. He explained that it included the roughly \$20,000 that the Board had approved for the City of Columbus wetland credits on the same project, which was why there had already been so much money expended from that account. He stated that he and Manager Waller attended the individual Washington County Commissioner meeting on October 9, 2025, with Commissioners Miron and Karwoski, which he thought went well regarding budget and the commissioners noted Birchwood being concerned for the Priebe Lake project. He noted that he and Drainage and Facilities Manager Schmidt had attended the City of Birchwood Council meeting on October 14, 2025. He explained that the Birchwood Council had additional comments for the District and noted that this would be on the Board's November workshop agenda. He stated that he had also attended the Minnesota Water Resource Conference and the Metro Watersheds meeting. He explained that staff scheduled the City-County Partner meeting for December 10, 2025.

The Board and staff discussed how the District handles buffers in a highly urbanized area.

162 **4. Manager Updates**

163 Manager Waller stated that the Washington County Commissioners shared questions
164 when he and District Administrator Tomczik met with them. He noted that Commissioner
165 Karwoski stated that the Birchwood project had been going on for 9 years and would like
166 to see some finality to it. He stated that he also attended the recent Birchwood City
167 Council meeting and the Metro Watersheds meeting and briefly shared highlights of some
168 of the discussion topics at each meeting.

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170 Manager Weinandt stated that she had attended the Water Resource Conference and the
171 Metro Watershed meeting.

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173 President Bradley stated that he had also attended the Metro Watershed meeting last
174 night.

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176 **ADJOURNMENT**

177 ***Motion by Manager Robertson, seconded by Manager Waller, to adjourn the meeting at 9:31***
178 ***a.m. Motion carried 4-0.***