

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-07**

**RICE CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT  
BOARD OF MANAGERS**

**FINDINGS OF PUBLIC PURPOSE AND BENEFIT RELATED TO THE EXCAVATION WITHIN AND  
WATER LEVEL CONTROL OF JONES LAKE (PWI #62-76W)**

Manager Waller offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Manager Weinandt:

**FINDINGS**

1. The Rice Creek Watershed District Board of Managers (Board) is the Drainage Authority for Ramsey County Ditches (RCD) 2, 3 and 5.
2. By Resolution 2013-23 and as modified by subsequent Resolutions, the Board of Managers initiated the New Brighton/Saint Anthony/Roseville Basic Water Management Project within the watershed areas of RCDs 2, 3 and 5, assigning Project Number 2013-01.
3. Project 2013-01 is a long term, phased project to address water quality and quantity management, habitat protection and enhancement, and community sustainability within the project area.
4. Various project components have been established and constructed as part of the overall implementation of Project 2013-01.
5. The Board is currently considering a subsequent project component, the Jones Lake Restoration Project. The project includes restoration and rehabilitation of the water quality and quantity management functions of Jones Lake as well as ecological enhancements – all deemed by the Board to create, restore or maintain beneficial functions of Jones Lake as part of Project 2013-01.
6. The Jones Lake Restoration Project will include excavation of accumulated debris, sediment and organic matter in Jones Lake; partial, temporary drawdown of lake waters for better access to materials and to consolidate bottom sediments; and modification of the Jones Lake outlet structure.
7. As detailed in the Preliminary Design Report, dated February 19, 2025, the Jones Lake Project, including the excavation of materials from Jones Lake and the partial, temporary drawdown of Jones Lake will promote, improve and enhance the water quality and quantity management functions of Jones Lake as well as ecological function. Overall, the excavation and water level control contemplated by the Jones Lake Restoration Project will improve and enhance the hydrologic and biologic conditions in Jones Lake.

- 8. Substantial State funds, including an MPCA grant of \$1,172,000 and State bonding funds, awarded in 2026, in the amount of \$840,000, have been committed to both planning and implementation of the Jones Lake Restoration Project, raising a question of whether the project is “State sponsored”.
- 9. The Board adopts this Resolution to satisfy the requirements of Minnesota Rules Part 6115.0201, subp. 3, in support of its application for a public waters work permit for the Project.
- 10. Based on the Engineer’s Preliminary Design Report and other evidence in the record, the Board finds that the excavation of accumulated debris, sediment and organic matter in Jones Lake will eliminate sources of pollutants, nutrients and contaminants and restore ecological functions that have been degraded by decades of sediment deposition and other landscape inputs to Jones Lake.
- 11. The public interests improved and enhanced by the excavation component of the Jones Lake Restoration Project, as described in these findings, will justify issuance of necessary and required permits for the Project.

Therefore, the RCWD Board of Managers makes the following:

**ORDER**

- A. The Board of Managers shall proceed upon the foregoing findings to apply for necessary and required Public Waters Work Permits from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

The question was on the adoption of the Resolution and there were 5 yeas and 0 nays as follows:

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
BRADLEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HEGLAND	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ROBERTSON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
WALLER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
WEINANDT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Upon vote, the President declared the Resolution adopted.

Signed by:  
  
 798760E57EBE470...  
 Janet Hegland, Secretary

Dated: May 27, 2026

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I, Janet Hegland, Secretary of the Rice Creek Watershed District, do hereby certify that I have compared the above resolution with the original thereof as the same appears of record and on file with the District and find the same to be a true and correct transcript thereof.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this 27<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2026.

Signed by:  
  
798760E57EBE470  
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Janet Hegland, Secretary