

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE MINNEHAHA CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
BOARD OF MANAGERS**

June 8, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers was called to order by President Sherry White 7:01 p.m. on June 8, 2023, at the MCWD offices, 15320 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka, Minnesota.

ROLL CALL FOR ATTENDANCE

President White called the roll to note attendance:

Loftus:	Absent
Sando:	Present
Miller:	Absent
Olson:	Present
Hejmadi	Present
Maxwell:	Present (participating remotely using interactive technology at Tianna Country Club, 7470 State 34 NW, Walker, MN)
White:	Present

DISTRICT STAFF AND CONSULTANTS PRESENT

James Wisker, Administrator; Alex Steele, GIS Coordinator; Josh Wolf, Project and Land Program Manager; Tiffany Schaufler, Senior Project Maintenance Coordinator; Chris Meehan, District Consulting Engineer; and Louis Smith, District Counsel.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Manager Maxwell, seconded by Manager Miller, to approve the Agenda as distributed. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0 as follows:

<i>Hejmadi:</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Loftus:</i>	<i>Absent</i>
<i>Sando:</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Miller:</i>	<i>Absent</i>
<i>Olson:</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Maxwell:</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>White:</i>	<i>Aye</i>

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Minnehaha Creek Watershed District
Board of Managers
6/8/23

MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Manager Sando, seconded by Manager Hejmadi to approve the items on the Consent Agenda consisting of approval of the May 25th Meeting Minutes, and the following resolutions:

Resolution 23-030: Authorization to Reschedule November 30, 2023 Committee and Board Meeting

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers hereby directs staff to update and publish notice indicating the November 30, 2023 MCWD committee and board meetings have been rescheduled to Monday, November 27, 2023; and

Resolution 23-031: Authorization to Execute Grant Agreement for Watershed-Based Implementation Funding

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers authorizes the District Administrator to execute a grant agreement with the Board of Water and Soil Resources for the above projects.

Upon roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0 as follows:

*Hejmadi: Aye
Loftus: Absent
Sando: Aye
Miller: Absent
Olson: Aye
Maxwell: Aye
White: Aye*

BOARD, COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS

President's Report: President White noted the upcoming meeting schedule.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Minnehaha Creek Watershed District
Board of Managers
6/8/23

Operations and Programs Committee Report: Manager Olson reported that the Committee met earlier in the evening and received a presentation from Mr. Wisker on the preliminary 2024 capital improvement program budget.

Manager Olson also noted that he recently attended a meeting at the St. Anthony Falls Laboratory on the second phase of research on the impacts of wake boats on water quality. This research focused on the downward turbulence impacts of wake boats and showed adverse impacts on water quality at four to six feet in water depth. A third phase of research will focus on wave and shoreline impacts.

ACTION ITEMS

Resolution 23-032: Authorization to Contract for Website Hosting and Managed Services

Mr. Alex Steele appeared before the Board of Managers to review the request for board action. He noted that at the March 23, 2023 PPC Meeting, staff provided a walkthrough of the draft website, provided a status report, collected feedback, and mapped next steps and timeline for moving the website to launch in 2023. Since that meeting, staff and the design consultant have made significant progress toward completing the remaining work across the website. As content nears substantial completion in the coming weeks, staff will provide the Board an overview of the website on June 22, 2023, and seek approval to begin the beta testing period. At this time, staff is recommending that fjorge, the MCWD's current managed service provider and web site host, be the firm to launch, host and manage the new website. Mr. Steele reviewed the timeline for this process.

It was moved by Manager Olson, seconded by Manager Hejmadi to adopt Resolution 23-032: Authorization to Contract for Website Hosting and Managed Services, as follows:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers authorizes the District Administrator, on the advice of counsel, to execute a contract with fjorge, for one-time audit, migration and launch services in an amount not-to-exceed \$7,425.00, and ongoing hosting and 12-hours of managed services per month at a monthly cost of \$1,500.00, for a period of one year.

In response to a question from Manager Olson, Mr. Steele reviewed the specific launch steps for the new website. *Upon roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0 as follows:*

Hejmadi: Aye
Loftus: Absent
Sando: Aye

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Minnehaha Creek Watershed District
Board of Managers
6/8/23

Miller: *Absent*
Olson: *Aye*
Maxwell: *Aye*
White: *Aye*

Resolution 23-033: Authorization to Release the Request for Proposals for Engineering and Design Services for Annual Stormwater Pond Survey and Maintenance

Mr. Josh Wolf and Ms. Tiffany Schaufler appeared before the Board of Managers to review the request for board action. Mr. Wolf provided a program overview, noting that the MCWD is responsible for inspection and maintenance of 26 stormwater ponds. The MCWD has been inspecting six to eleven ponds per year since 2010, and a study performed in July 2022 reviewed pond data to determine a 20-year schedule for maintenance. Currently Twin Lakes Park Pond and Amelia Pond are about 50% full of sediment and due for maintenance.

Ms. Schaufler reviewed the request for proposals for engineering and design services, and the timeline for awarding a contract in October. *It was moved by Manager Hejmadi and seconded by Manager Maxwell to adopt Resolution 23-033 as follows:*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers authorizes the administrator to release the request for proposals for engineering and design services for 2023-2024 stormwater pond survey and maintenance, with any further limited changes, in his discretion and on the advice of MCWD legal counsel.

In response to a question from Manager Sando, Ms. Schaufler reviewed sediment sources, including runoff from streets. Manager Hejmadi inquired about sediment disposal, and Mr. Wolf reviewed the disposal options depending on the contamination levels of the sediment. Ms. Schaufler noted that the ban on use of coal tar sealants has led to cleaner sediments in ponds, and noted in response to a question from Manager Hejmadi that as-built inspections are performed upon completion of pond maintenance. Mr. Wolf noted that further pond inspections in July will guide plans for upcoming maintenance.

There being no further discussion, upon roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0 as follows:

Hejmadi: *Aye*
Loftus: *Absent*
Sando: *Aye*
Miller: *Absent*
Olson: *Aye*

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Minnehaha Creek Watershed District
Board of Managers
6/8/23

Maxwell: Aye
White: Aye

BOARD INQUIRIES, ISSUES, AND IDEAS

None.

STAFF UPDATES

Administrator's Report

Mr. Wisker reported on the following items:

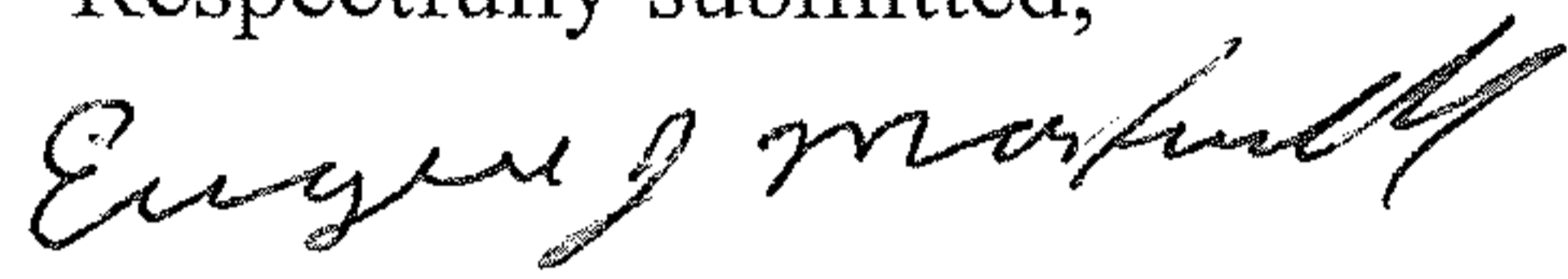
1. Precipitation year to date is 11.5 inches. Lake Minnetonka is at 929.1 feet and Minnehaha Creek is flowing at 14 cubic feet per second at Lake Hiawatha.
2. The MCWD holds a conservation easement provided by Mr. Wally Marx on property near School Lake. As lots are subdivided, the Board's review and approval will be required to assure compliance with the conservation easement. Staff will bring such an action as a consent agenda item on an upcoming Board meeting.
3. Staff have been intensely engaged on construction review of the Minnehaha Preserve Boardwalk. SRF has documented the construction issues by category and used the contract specifications for requested corrections. A defective work notice has been issued to JTS, the contractor. The City of St. Louis Park inspector is following a similar process and will require uncovering of areas for correction.
4. Recent meetings with senior staff and a technical team at the City of Minneapolis have been productive in identifying a shared agenda for water resource improvements, including funding plans and a geographic focus. Staff will work with legal counsel to develop terms for a project cooperative agreement and a memorandum of understanding for ongoing partnership.
5. The MCWD is completing a yearlong stakeholder engagement process for rule revisions and the Land and Water Partnership program. Staff will brief the Board of Managers on the findings from this process in coming meetings.
6. The Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Council will be touring funded projects, including the MCWD's carp management project; staff are developing a post-action evaluation for the project.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Minnehaha Creek Watershed District
Board of Managers
6/8/23

Adjournment

There being no further business, President White declared the meeting of the Board of Managers adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Eugene Maxwell".

Eugene Maxwell, Secretary