

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

4  
5                                   May 14, 2015

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7                                   **CALL TO ORDER**

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9                                   The regular meeting of the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers was  
10                                   called to order by President Sherry White at 6:45 p.m. at the District offices, 15320  
11                                   Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka, Minnesota 55345.

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13                                   **MANAGERS PRESENT**

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15                                   Sherry White, James Calkins, Richard Miller, Pam Blixt, Brian Shekleton, William  
16                                   Olson, and Kurt Rogness.

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18                                   **MANAGERS ABSENT**

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20                                   None.

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22                                   **OTHERS PRESENT**

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24                                   Lars Erdahl, District Administrator; James Wisker, District Planning and Projects  
25                                   Director; Telly Mamayek, Communications and Education Director; Sarah Fellows,  
26                                   Education Coordinator; Brett Eidem, District Cost-Share Grant Administrator; Craig  
27                                   Dawson, District Research and Monitoring Director; Becky Christopher, Lead Planner –  
28                                   Project Manager; Michael Hayman, Planner and Project Manager; Kelly Dooley, Water  
29                                   Quality Manager; Chris Meehan, District Consulting Engineer; and Louis Smith, District  
30                                   Counsel.

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32                                   **MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR**

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34                                   None.

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36                                   **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

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38                                   President White requested that Item 12.1 be moved to 10.5 on the Agenda. *Manager*  
39                                   *Miller moved, seconded by Manager Calkins, to approve the agenda with this change.*  
40                                   *Upon vote, the motion carried 5-0. (Managers Blixt and Shekleton absent for the vote.)*  
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Introduction of New Staff

Manager Blixt arrived at this point in the meeting. Telly Mamayek introduced Sarah Fellows, the new Education Coordinator. Kelly Dooley introduced Mulu Fratkin, Andy Swanson, and Andrew Edgumbe, summer research assistants in the water quality department. The managers welcomed the new staff members.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Smith asked that the Minutes of April 23, 2015 be pulled from the consent agenda. *It was moved by Manager Miller, seconded by Manager Olson, to approve the remaining item on the consent agenda, adoption of the following resolution:*

**Resolution 15-044, Authorization to Execute Agreement with KC Consulting to Plan and Implement 2015 Minnehaha Creek Cleanup.**

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers authorizes the District Administrator to execute, on advice and consent of counsel, an agreement with KC Consulting to plan and implement the 2015 Minnehaha Creek Cleanup for an amount not to exceed \$12,000.*

*Upon vote, the motion carried 6-0 (Manager Shekleton absent for the vote).*

**REGULAR AGENDA**

Board, Committee and Task Force Reports

President's Report

President White reported on the Shallow Lakes Forum at the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. The forum was well attended and well organized. She noted that Manager Rogness will be the board liaison to the October Citizens Advisory Committee meeting. Staff is working on planning a tour of the District in June for the Board, CAC, and staff.

Operations and Programs Committee

Manager Olson briefly reviewed the committee meeting of May 7, noting that six managers had attended. The committee reviewed plans for the Creek Cleanup event and also discussed a new format for tracking the status of District projects.

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87 Citizens Advisory Committee

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89 Manager Olson reported on the CAC meeting of May 13, which included reports on the  
90 Cottageville Park project, Long Lake, Christmas Lake, review of cost-share grant  
91 applications, and planning for the Creek Cleanup.

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93 President White noted the upcoming schedule of meetings as presented in the Agenda.

94 Manager Calkins noted that the Policy and Planning Committee meeting of May 21 will  
95 focus on a District self assessment for the comprehensive planning process. He  
96 encouraged all board members to attend.

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98 **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

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100 Resolution 15-XXX Parkway Place Townhome Association

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102 President White convened the public hearing. Brett Eidem appeared before the Board of  
103 Managers to review the proposed cost share project to provide stormwater management  
104 improvements at a 22-unit townhome project. Terry Hammink, a 2013 Master Water  
105 Steward, has taken the lead on this project and has been working with his Townhome  
106 Association, the District, and multiple contractors for 2 years to develop the entire site  
107 retrofit. The proposed project has potential to capture 387,000 gallons of runoff onsite,  
108 and would reduce runoff volume from the townhome property by 99%, total suspended  
109 solids by 99% and total phosphorus by 98%. The project also has great potential for  
110 outreach through demonstration of what a townhome complex creates for stormwater  
111 runoff and how to minimize impact to natural resources through smart design. The  
112 townhome association has identified multiple partners, some of which are already  
113 involved in the project like Master Water Stewards (Freshwater Society), Macalester  
114 College, Cities Management, Mayflower Church and Nextdoor Page (a social network  
115 within the Page neighborhood). Parkway Place THA has also received a \$50,000 grant  
116 from Hennepin County for the project as well. Future potential partners are Friends of  
117 Diamond Lake, Washburn High School, and the City of Minneapolis.

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119 Mr. Eidem noted that Mr. Hammink and other Parkway Place residents were present in  
120 the audience. There being no further comments, President White closed the public  
121 hearing.

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123 *Following discussion, it was moved by Manager Miller, seconded by Manager Olson,*  
124 *to place this resolution on the consent agenda of the May 28 Board meeting. Upon*  
125 *vote, the motion carried, 6-0 (Manager Shekleton absent for the vote).*

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**BOARD DISCUSSION**

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**Public Opinion Survey Results**

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**ACTION ITEMS**

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**Minutes of April 23, 2015**

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Mr. Smith noted that the reference to Resolution 15-035 at Line 77 should be revised to read: ***“NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers accepts the 2014 Annual Report and authorizes its release to BWSR.”***

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President White noted that Line 36 should be revised to note that both Manager Rogness and Manager White took the oath of office.

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***It was moved by Manager Miller, seconded by Manager Rogness, to approve the Minutes of April 23, 2015 with these revisions. Upon vote, the motion carried, 7-0.***

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**Resolution 15-XXX Kenwood Isles Area Association Raingarden Initiative**

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Mr. Eidem reviewed the request for board action involving cost share support for the installation of 20 raingardens. ***It was moved by Manager Miller, seconded by Manager Blixt, to place the approval of the board action and proposed resolution on the consent agenda of the May 28 meeting. Manager Shekleton moved to table this motion.***

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The managers discussed with Mr. Eidem the cost share review criteria and the general comparative costs and benefits. ***Following discussion, upon vote, the motion carried, 7-0.***

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Resolution 15-XXX Authorization to Distribute Capital Improvement Program for Annual Review and Comment

Ms. Becky Christopher appeared before the Board of Managers and explained that this annual review is a commitment by the District in its comprehensive plan. ***It was moved by Manager Miller, seconded by Manager Blixt, to place the resolution on the consent agenda of the May 28 board meeting.***

Manager Blixt asked for an explanation of the status of the project using funding from the Public Facilities Authority, and Mr. James Wisker reviewed the status of PFA participation or potential participation in several District projects. He also noted potential collaboration with the Army Corps of Engineers in the Painter Creek area; the staff and legal counsel are conducting a risk analysis to analyze this potential partnership in light of past issues with the Corps of Engineers.

Manager Calkins asked why the landscaping for the District office site is not listed in the CIP, and Mr. Wisker explained that this had been part of the District education budget and not a capital project. Manager Calkins also expressed his concern that the Board address strategic questions for priority focus areas before individual project elements commence. Mr. Wisker affirmed that importance of this approach and noted that there will be a strategic framework in place for the Six Mile Creek area, for example, before wetland restoration or other elements commence.

Manager Blixt noted that the CIP to be distributed for comment has 2015 projects listed, but these projects are already ordered and levied. Mr. Wisker stated that 2015 projects were included for context to show current activity, but the status could be explained in a footnote. ***There being no further questions, upon vote, the motion carried, 7-0.***

Resolution 15-XXX, Appointment of Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee

Ms. Christopher reviewed the list of persons expressing interest in the Technical Advisory Committee and the Policy Advisory Committee for the District's comprehensive planning process. Manager Calkins asked if a manager will be designated as a board liaison to these committees. Ms. Christopher stated that President White will serve as the chair of the Policy Advisory Committee. Manager Blixt asked that all managers receive notices of these meetings.

***It was moved by Manager Miller, seconded by Manager Shekleton, to place this resolution on the consent agenda of the May 28 board meeting. Upon vote, the motion carried, 7-0.***

213 Resolution 15-045, Authorization to execute a Cooperative Agreement with the  
214 Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and the City of Minneapolis for Conceptual  
215 Planning of Improvements to Hiawatha Golf Course, and Authorization to Execute a  
216 Contract with Wenck Associates for Associated Professional Services

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218 Mr. Michael Hayman appeared before the Board of Managers and reviewed the request  
219 for board action. He noted that the board approved a similar agreement with the  
220 Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board for planning of improvements to Meadowbrook  
221 Golf Course in March 2015, and this process is going well. ***It was moved by Manager***  
222 ***Shekleton, seconded by Manager Miller, to adopt Resolution 15-045.***

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224 Manager Calkins noted that the cooperative agreement states that the flood related study  
225 and planning is not intended to initiate revisions to 100 year flood plain maps, and asked  
226 why not. Mr. Wisker explained that the District will use this process to update its own  
227 flood maps, but that city representatives prefer not to use this process for their 100 year  
228 flood plain update. Manager Calkins stated that the District should keep focused on its  
229 flood mitigation and water quality goals, and Manager Shekleton stated that this indeed is  
230 the focus and the other partners clearly appreciate that this is the District's focus.

231 Manager Calkins stated that the board should keep focused on the strategic issue and  
232 priorities for volume control, not simply respond to the next flooding crisis. Manager  
233 Blixt emphasized the importance of attending to other flood storage areas along the Creek  
234 corridor. ***There being no further discussion, upon vote, the motion to adopt Resolution***  
235 ***15-045 carried, 7-0.***

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### 237 **BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS**

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239 Minnehaha Creek Greenway: Update on Partnership Development with Japs-Olson

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241 Mr. Wisker reviewed the status of partnership discussions with Japs-Olson. Manager  
242 Calkins stated that this work along the Greenway Corridor is very exciting, some of the  
243 most important work of the District. He stated that he hoped it could be expanded up and  
244 downstream. Manager Calkins stated that this work is difficult and complicated, a great  
245 example of overcoming barriers to achieve improvements for the watershed, and reflects  
246 well on the District board and staff. ***Following discussion, it was moved by Manager***  
247 ***Miller, seconded by Manager Calkins, to accept the report and authorize continued***  
248 ***work on this initiative by staff. Upon vote, the motion carried, 7-0.***

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250 Administrator's Report

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252 Mr. Erdahl reported on continued work with the City of Shorewood and the Department  
253 of Natural Resources (DNR) on Christmas Lake. He noted that the DNR is supportive of  
254 some level of enhanced inspection, but not 100% Level 2 inspectors. The District will be  
255 proceeding with a five year study to monitor the success of removal of zebra mussels  
256 from Christmas Lake, and will begin a whole lake assessment next week. The District

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257 has hired a new planner to assist with the comprehensive plan update. The Creek  
258 Cleanup will be on July 26, and 168 volunteers have registered so far. Mr. Erdahl invited

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261 Mr. Hayman to show slides on progress at the Cottageville Park and Creek Corridor  
262 restoration projects.

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264 Closed Session

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266 Mr. Smith requested that the Board of Managers go into closed session for the purpose of  
267 receiving confidential legal advice concerning a claim brought by a former employee. ***It***  
268 ***was moved by Manager Shekleton, seconded by Manager Miller, to go into closed***  
269 ***session. Upon vote, the motion carried, 7-0.***

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271 Whereupon the board of managers went into closed session at 9:48 p.m., and returned to  
272 open session at 11:00 p.m.

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275 **ADJOURNMENT**

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277 ***There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Board of Managers***  
278 ***adjourned at 11:00 p.m.***

279 Respectfully submitted,

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284 Kurt Rogness  
285 Secretary