



**Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District  
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting  
August 6, 2025**

The Regular Meeting of August 6, 2025, was held at the District Office Board Room, 2665 Noel Drive, Little Canada, Minnesota, and via Zoom web conferencing at 6:30 p.m. A video recording of the meeting can be found at <https://youtu.be/Ltw4S5wsYQ>. Video time stamps are included after each agenda item in minutes.

**PRESENT:**

Val Eisele, President  
Ben Karp, Vice President  
Mark Gernes, Secretary  
Stephanie Wang, Treasurer  
Gabi Grogan, Manager

**ABSENT:**

**ALSO PRESENT:**

**Staff:**

Tina Carstens, Administrator  
Paige Ahlborg, Assistant Administrator  
Mary Fitzgerald, Regulatory Specialist  
Ashlee Ricci, Grant Program Specialist  
Paul Erdmann, Natural Resources Program Manager  
Eric Korte, Monitoring and Research Program Manager

**Consultants:**

Laurann Kirschner, Attorney for District  
Brad Lindaman, Barr Engineering

**Visitors:**

None

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Eisele at 6:30 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (0:14)**

Motion: Manager Wang moved, Manager Gernes seconded, to approve the agenda.

Motion carried unanimously.

**3. CONSENT AGENDA (0:30)**

- A. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from July 9, 2025
- B. Treasurer's Report and Bill List
- C. Stewardship Grant Program
  - i. 25-38 CS Dunbar
  - ii. 25-43 CS Harper
  - iii. 25-44 CS Maplewood Police Department
- D. Roosevelt Homes Phase 3 – Change Order No. 1

Motion: Manager Karp moved, Manager Grogan seconded to approve the consent agenda.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### **4. VISITOR COMMENTS (1:35)**

No Comments.

#### **5. REGULATORY PROGRAM (1:42)**

##### **A. Applications**

##### **i. 25-23 Manitou Ridge Golf Course Improvements**

Mary Fitzgerald provided details of permit application 25-23 Manitou Ridge Golf Course Improvement. Mary explained that there was a variance request for buffer impacts between holes 9 and 10. Mary noted that an existing cart path located in the wetland buffer would be replaced during the improvements. Mary explained that the new cart paths are not within the wetland buffers.

Motion: Manger Gernes moved, Manager Grogan seconded to approve permit application 25-23 Manitou Ridge Golf Course Improvements.

Motion carried 4-0. Manager Karp abstained.

##### **ii. 25-24 White Bear Arena Parking Lot Improvements**

Mary Fitzgerald provided details of permit application 25-24 White Bear Lake Area Parking Lot Improvements. Mary noted that this would be a parking lot improvement project with stormwater being treated through pervious pavement. Mary noted that Manager Karp was the applicant for the permit.

Motion: Manager Gernes moved, Manager Grogan seconded to approve permit application 25-24 White Bear Arena Parking Lot Improvements.

Motion carried 4-0. Manager Karp abstained.

##### **B. Regulatory Monthly Memorandum**

Mary Fitzgerald provided an overview of the monthly regulatory memorandum. Mary reviewed violations, meetings and project updates that occurred in the month of July.

Manager Gernes stated that he appreciated the work being done by the regulatory program.

#### **6. STEWARDSHIP GRANT PROGRAM (14:30)**

##### **A. Applications – see consent agenda**

##### **B. Budget Status Update**

Ashlee Ricci provided an update of the Stewardship Grant program and budget status. Ashlee stated that she expects to continue accepting applications through the growing season and into late fall.

#### **7. ACTION ITEMS - None**

#### **9. ATTORNEY REPORT (17:41)**

Laurann Kirschner provided an update on the work the attorney's office completed throughout the month of July. Laurann noted that the work consisted of contract documents review for recent bid awards.

#### **10. BOARD DISCUSSION TOPICS (18:20)**

No comments.

#### **11. NEW REPORTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS**

A. 2026 Budget Planning (18:30)

Tina provided information on the 2026 budget planning and current budget status. Tina provided different options for levy amounts ranging from 8.3% to 0%. Tina stated that the budget planning is in the preliminary stages. Tina noted there are some project changes occurring and adjustments that can be made that will help decrease the levy and that she intended to present a 0% increase final levy to the board. The carryover levy funds from the Flood Risk Reduction project fund could be used to decrease the levy as well. Tina provided more details of projects planned for 2026; grant applications associated with some of the projects and further information on 2026 budget planning.

President Eisele stated that he would like to see a 0% levy increase.

Tina Carstens provided a timeline of the budget finalization and approval process.

**11. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT (1:00:00)**

A. Meetings Attended

No comments.

B. Upcoming Meetings and Dates

No comments.

C. Staff Anniversaries

No comments.

D. Board Action Log

Manager Wang asked to have the chloride use reduction talk occur sometime in 2025.

E. Minnesota Watersheds Updates

Manager Gernes provided feedback on the committee recommendation for approval of Minnesota Watershed resolution 1.

**12. PROJECT AND PROGRAM STATUS REPORTS (1:10:10)**

A. Operations Support and Communications

*Project Feasibility Studies*

B. Manufactured Homes Resilience Evaluation

C. Evaluation of Compliance with South Metro Mississippi River TSS TMDL

D. Interim Emergency Response Plans

E. Flood Risk Reduction Feasibility Study: Roseville Central Park

F. Stormwater Model Updates

*Monitoring Water Quality/Project Monitoring*

G. Lake Water Quality Monitoring

H. Special-Project BMP Monitoring

I. Battle Creek and Fish Creek Monitoring

*Watershed Management Plan Update*

J. Watershed Management Plan Update: Phase 1- Stakeholder Engagement

*Lake Studies and TMDL Reports*

K. 2025 Grant Applications

*Research Projects*

L. Wakefield Lake aeration Feasibility Study

*Project Operations*

M. Lake-Level Station Forecast Integration

*Capital Improvements*

N. Roosevelt Homes

- O. Targeted Retrofit Projects 2025
- P. Pioneer Park Stormwater Reuse
- Q. Fish Creek Tributary Improvements
- R. Cottage Place Wetland Restoration
- S. Kohlman Creek Improvements
- T. Lake Wabasso Outlet Replacement
- U. Kohlman Lake Alum Treatment
- V. Woodbury Target Store Stormwater Retrofits
- CIP Project Repair and Maintenance*
- W. 2025 CIP Maintenance and Repairs
- X. RWMWD Office Parking-Lot Retrofit
- Y. Beltline Long-Term Fix Near River Outfall
- Z. Beltline and Battle Creek Storm Sewer Five-Year Inspection
- Program Updates*
- AA. Natural Resources Program
- BB. Communications and Outreach Program

**13. MANAGER COMMENTS AND NEXT MONTH'S MEETING (1:22:10)**

No comments.

**14. ADJOURN**

Motion: Manager Karp moved, Manager Gernes seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.