



**Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District  
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting  
September 3, 2025**

The Regular Meeting of September 3, 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/Hv\\_EosyolsE](https://youtu.be/Hv_EosyolsE). 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  
Patrick Williamson, Natural Resources Specialist  
Lyndsey Flatten, Monitoring Technician  
Kendra Kloth, Regulatory Technician

**Consultants:**

Laurann Kirschner, Attorney for District  
Erin Anderson Wenz, Barr Engineering

**Visitors:**

Adam Solo, Foth  
Andrea Johnson, Foth  
Kristin Ostebee, Visitor

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (0:16)**

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

Motion carried unanimously.

**3. CONSENT AGENDA (0:32)**

- A. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from August 6, 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
  - iv. 25-48 CS Shoreview Community Center Pond
  - v. 25-49 CS Gustafson
- D. Cochran Recovery Services Target Retrofit – Change Order No. 1

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

Motion carried unanimously.

#### **4. VISITOR COMMENTS (2:25)**

No Comments.

#### **5. REGULATORY PROGRAM (3:14)**

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

##### **i. 25-25 MCES Grass Lake Interceptor, Shoreview**

Mary Fitzgerald provided details of permit 25-25 MCES Grass Lake Interceptor, Shoreview. Mary noted that the project was exempt from rule C. Mary explained this was due to the removal of all hard surfaces and existing bituminous trail and replacement with a pervious trail. Mary stated that there was also a variance request for rule E due to temporary wetland buffer disturbance with restoration occurring after the project's completion. Mary noted that rule D was also triggered for compensatory storage. Mary noted there would be more cut than fill for this project.

Motion: Manger Wang moved, Manager Gernes seconded to approve permit application 25-25 MCES Grass Lake Interceptor, Shoreview.

Motion carried unanimously.

##### **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 August.

#### **6. STEWARDSHIP GRANT PROGRAM (12:26)**

##### **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 it did look like the budget would be maxed out for 2025. Ashlee provided details on what maxing out the budget means for the program and how applications are handled once this occurs. Ashlee noted that there is a proposal to increase the budget by \$250,000 in 2026 to help add additional objectives and goals within the program. Ashlee provided more details on the budget and planning for 2026.

#### **7. ACTION ITEMS**

##### **A. 2026 Preliminary Budget and Levy Public Hearing (19:23)**

Tina Carstens provided an overview of the 2026 preliminary budget and levy. Tina provided details of the budget and levy approval process. Tina noted that after discussions at the August meeting she was able to revise the proposed budget. Tina explained that this would bring the 2026 levy to \$0. Tina discussed the 2026 preliminary budget table, 2026 budget program line-item breakouts and 2026 budget line-by-line narrative.

##### **i. Kohlman Lake Alum Treatment Recommendations**

No comments.

##### **ii. Wakefield Lake Aeration Feasibility Study Update**

No comments.

##### **iii. Flood Risk Reduction Future Project Planning**

No comments.

iv. 2026 Preliminary Budget Table

No comments.

v. 2026 Budget Program Line-Item Breakouts

No comments.

vi. 2026 Budget Line-by-Line Narrative

President Eisele called the 2026 preliminary budget public hearing to order.

No comments.

President Eisele closed the 2026 preliminary budget public hearing.

The Board expressed that they were happy with the \$0 levy increase.

vii. Approval of 2026 Preliminary Levy Certification to Ramsey and Washington Counties – Resolution 25-01

Motion: Manager Karp moved, Manager Grogan seconded to approve the draft budget for the purpose of preliminary levy and approve resolution 25-01.

Motion carried unanimously.

**8. ATTORNEY REPORT (49:09)**

Laurann Kirschner provided an update on the work the attorney's office completed throughout the month of August. Laurann stated that the work included the Pioneer Press notice of public hearing for the 2026 preliminary levy approval, contract review and other usual tasks.

**9. BOARD DISCUSSION TOPICS (49:54)**

Manager Karp and Manager Gernes provided details of the Minnesota Watersheds resolution meeting that was held on August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**10. NEW REPORTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS (53:53)**

A. Wetland Restoration Planning Project Work Plan

No comments.

**11. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT (1:02:53)**

A. Meetings Attended

No comments.

B. Upcoming Meetings and Dates

No comments.

C. Staff Anniversaries

No comments.

D. Board Action Log

No comments.

E. Minnesota Watersheds Updates

No comments.

**12. PROJECT AND PROGRAM STATUS REPORTS (1:08:58)**

*Project Feasibility Studies*

- A. Manufactured Homes Resilience Evaluation
- B. Interim Emergency Response Plans
- C. Flood Risk Reduction Feasibility Study: Roseville Central Park
- D. Stormwater Model Updates
- E. Wetland Restoration Planning

*Watershed Management Plan Update*

- F. Watershed Management Plan Update: Phase 1 – Stakeholder Engagement
- G. Watershed Management Plan Update: Phase 2 – Complex Pre-Work

*Research Projects*

- H. Wakefield Lake Aeration Feasibility Study

*Project Operations*

- I. Lake-Level Station Operation and Maintenance and Raing Gauge Installation
- J. Lake-Level Station Forecast Integration

*Capital Improvements*

- K. Roosevelt Homes
- L. Targeted Retrofit Projects 2025
- M. Fish Creek Tributary Improvements
- N. Cottage Place Wetland Regeneration
- O. Kohlman Creek Improvements
- P. Lake Wabasso Outlet Replacement
- Q. Kohlman Lake Alum Treatment

*CIP Project Repair and Maintenance*

- R. Routine CIP Inspection and Unplanned Maintenance Identification
- S. CIP Maintenance and Repairs
- T. RWMWD Office Parking-Lot Retrofit
- U. Beltline Long-Term Fix Near River Outfall
- V. Beltline and Battle Creek Storm Sewer Five-Year Inspection

*Program Updates*

- W. Natural Resources Program
- X. Communications and Outreach Program

**13. MANAGER COMMENTS AND NEXT MONTH'S MEETING (1:21:38)**

No comments.

**14. ADJOURN**

Motion: Manager moved, Manager seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.