



Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting
January 7, 2026

The Regular Meeting of January 7, 2026, 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 is available at <https://youtu.be/F7TinBLmE4>. 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:

Consultants:

Laurann Kirschner, Attorney for District
Tori Kelm, Galowitz-Olson PLLC
Brandon Barnes, Barr Engineering
Greg Williams, Barr Engineering

Visitors:

Michael, Visitor

ALSO PRESENT:

Staff:

Tina Carstens, Administrator
Paige Ahlborg, Assistant Administrator
Nicole Maras, Regulatory Program Manager
Mary Fitzgerald, Regulatory Specialist
Kendra Kloth, Regulatory Technician
Dave Vlasin, Project Coordinator
Ashlee Ricci, Grant Program Specialist
Patrick Williamson, Natural Resources Specialist
Kyle Kubitza, Monitoring Technician

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (0:45)

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

Motion carried unanimously.

3. CONSENT AGENDA (1:03)

- A. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes December 10, 2025
- B. Approval of Special Workshop Meeting Minutes December 10, 2025
- C. Treasurer's Report and Bill List
- D. Regulatory Program
 - i. 26-01 Rice St Sidewalk-Demont to CR C, Little Canada
 - ii. 26-02 Oakdale Police Department Addition, Oakdale
 - iii. 26-03 Little Canada 2026 SIP Country Drive, Little Canada

iv. 26-05 MnDOT Hwy 5- Minnehaha to Stillwater Ave, Maplewood
E. Kohlman Creek Flood Risk Reduction Project – Change Order No. 4

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

Motion carried unanimously.

4. VISITOR COMMENTS (8:45)

No comments.

5. REGULATORY PROGRAM (09:21)

A. Applications

i. 26-04 County Rd C- Lexington to Little Canada Rd, Little Canada/Roseville

Nicole Maras provided details of permit application. 26-04 County Rd C- Lexington to Little Canada Rd, Little Canada/Roseville. Nicole stated that the application included a wetland buffer variance request. Nicole explained that the project is for road reconstruction. Nicole stated the applicant is asking to use available banked credits. The City of Roseville and City of Little Canada have agreed to the use of banked credits in writing. Nicole noted that there would be modifications to a pond the project location drains into to meet rate control requirements. Nicole explained the variance request is for temporary wetland buffer disturbance with temporary impacts. Nicole stated the existing roadway does not meet wetland buffer requirements and noted there would be no increase in the roadway footprint.

Motion: Manager Karp moved, Manager Gernes seconded to approve permit application 26-04 County Rd C- Lexington to Little Canada Rd, Little Canada/Roseville.

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Regulatory Monthly Memorandum

Nicole Maras provided details of the monthly regulatory memorandum.

C. 2025 Regulatory Program Yearly Summary

Nicole Maras reviewed the 2025 Program Yearly Summary.

6. STEWARDSHIP GRANT PROGRAM (26:00)

A. Applications – None

B. Budget Status Update

Ashlee Ricci provided an update on the budget status report.

7. ACTION ITEMS - None

8. ATTORNEY REPORT (27:48)

Tori Kelm provided information on the work the attorney's office completed throughout the month of December. Tori noted that the attorney's office had been working on notices for the upcoming March annual meeting.

9. BOARD DISCUSSION TOPICS (28:31)

President Eisele stated that he would like to have a database data strategy conversation in the future.

10. NEW REPORTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS

A. Plan Update Draft Table of Contents and Priority Issues (29:38)

The Board provided feedback and discussed ideas for the Plan Update Draft table of contents and priority issues.

B. Manufactured Home Development Evaluation Report (1:01:56)

Brandon Barnes provided information on the report for the Manufactured Home Development Evaluation.

C. Phalen and Keller Outlets Forecast Integration (1:19:25)

Brandon Barnes discussed the Phalen and Keller Outlets Forecast Integration.

D. Ames Lake Area Flood Risk Reduction 2026 Project Work Plan (1:28:13)

Brandon Barnes provided an overview of the Ames Lake Area Flood Risk Reduction 2026 project workplan.

E. Tanners Lake, Battle Creek Lake, Battle Creek Resiliency Feasibility Study 2026 Project Work Plan (1:29:44)

Barndon Barnes provided an overview of Tanners Lake, Battle Creek Lake, Battle Creek Resiliency Feasibility Study 2026 project work plan.

11. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT (1:39:39)

A. Meetings Attended

B. Upcoming Meetings and Dates

C. Staff Anniversaries

D. Board Action Log

E. Minnesota Watersheds Updates

12. PROJECT AND PROGRAM STATUS REPORTS (1:40:38)

Project Feasibility Studies

A. Manufactured Homes Resilience Evaluation

B. Evaluation of Compliance with South Metro Mississippi River TSS/TMDL

C. Street Sweeping

D. Interim Emergency Response Plans

E. Flood Risk Reduction Feasibility Study: Roseville Central Park

F. Stormwater Model Updates

G. Studies Stemming from Creek Walks

H. Wetland Restoration Planning

Watershed Management Plan Update

I. Watershed Management Plan Update: Phase 1 – Stakeholder Engagement

J. Watershed Management Plan Update: Phase 2 – Complex Pre-Work

Lake Studies and TMDL Reports

K. 2025 Grant Applications

Research Projects

L. Wakefield Lake Aeration Feasibility Study

Project Operations

M. 2025 Tanners Alum Facility Monitoring

N. Lake-Level Station Forecast Integration

Capital Improvements

O. Roosevelt Homes

P. Targeted Retrofit Projects 2026

Q. Stewardship Grant Program

R. Kohlman Creek Improvements

S. Kohlman Lake Alum Treatment

CIP Project Repair and Maintenance

- T. 2026 CIP Maintenance and Repairs
- U. RWMWD Office Parking-Lot Retrofit
- V. Beltline and Battle Creek Five-Year Inspection

Program Updates

- W. Natural Resources Program
- X. Communications and Outreach Program
- Y. Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)

13. COMMENTS AND NEXT MONTH'S MEETING (2:05:07)

14. ADJOURN

Motion: Manager moved, Manager seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.