RAMSEY-WASHINGTON
METRO WATERSHED DISTRICT

Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting
July 1st, 2026

The Regular Meeting of July 1st, 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/tuQQJqKVqLI. Video timestamps are included after each agenda item, in minutes.

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

ALSO PRESENT:

Staff:
Tina Carstens, Administrator
Paige Ahlborg, Assistant Administrator
Nicole Maras, Regulatory Program Manager
Kyle Kubitza, Monitoring Technician
Dave Vlasin, Project Coordinator
Cooper Klotzbach, Inspector Intern
Lauren Hazenson, Communications Program Manager
Paul Erdmann, Natural Resources Program Manager

Consultants:
Laurann Kirschner, Galowitz-Olson PLLC
Brandon Barnes, Barr Engineering
Greg Williams, Barr Engineering

Visitors:
Michael Miller, Visitor

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

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (0:)
President Eisele proposed adding section 2.5 to continue discussions from the Board workshop held prior to the Board meeting.

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

Motion approved.

Motion: Manager Wang moved, Manager Karp seconded to amend the agenda to remove Stewardship Grant Program applications 26-27 CS Berget-Trevis from the consent agenda and move it to Stewardship Grants Program item 6Ai.

Motion approved.

2.5. WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN WORKSHOP CONTINUED DISCUSSION (1:30)
Tina Carstens reviewed the topics that were discussed during the workshop.

The Board continued Watershed Management Plan workshop discussions, which included what implementation activity Managers would add that haven't been represented in the draft implementation table and final thoughts on the implementation table.

3. CONSENT AGENDA (10:32)

A. Approval of Board Meeting Minuets June 3, 2026

B. Treasurer's Report and Bill List

C. Stewardship Grant Program

i. 26-27 CS Berget-Trevis

ii. 26-29 CS Sloot

iii. 26-30 CS St. Paul 2026 Street Sweeping

Manager Grogan moved, Manager Gernes seconded to approve the consent agenda as amended.

Motion approved.

4. VISITOR COMMENTS (13:28)

No comments.

5. REGULATORY PROGRAM (13:47)

A. Applications

i. 26-20 Maplewood 2026 Street Improvements, Maplewood

Nicole Maras provided information on permit application 26-20 Maplewood 2026 Street Improvements, Maplewood. Nicole explained that the project included underground treatment as well as residential boulevard rain gardens with 5 residents committed so far. Nicole noted there was a variance request for wetland buffer disturbance. Nicole explained that there would be no impacts to wetland areas. Nicole stated there were three areas with temporary disturbance for erosion control placement and roadway reconstruction and one permanent change over existing conditions which would be installation of a new flared end structure.

Motion: Manager Grogan moved, Manager Gernes seconded to approve permit application 26-20 Maplewood 2026 Street Improvements, Maplewood with the variance request.

Motion approved.

ii. 26-21 County Road C Bridge – Oxford to Victoria, Roseville

Nicole Maras provided details of permit application 26-21 County Road C Bridge – Oxford to Victoria, Roseville. Nicole explained that this is a continuation of the County Road C reconstruction being done by the county. Nicole provided details of the work that would be done and noted they are proposing an iron-enhanced filtration basin as well as a variance request for temporary wetland and buffer impacts.

Motion: Manager Karp moved, Manager Grogan seconded to approve permit application 26-21 County Road C Bridge – Oxford to Victoria, Roseville with the special provisions and variance request.

Motion approved.

The Board directed staff to include permit applications with variance requests for temporary disturbances of wetland buffers that have a staff recommendation for approval on the consent agenda.

B. Regulatory Monthly Memorandum

Nicole Maras reviewed the monthly regulatory memorandum.

6. STEWARDSHIP GRANT PROGRAM (37:31)

A. Applications

i. 26-27 CS Berget-Trevis

Paige Ahlborg provided details of the Stewardship Grant application 26-27 CS Berget-Trevis. Manager Wang expressed concern that the design plan would not align with the goals set for a stewardship grant. Manager Wang did express support for the native planting portion of the project. Paige Ahlborg provided more details on the permeable pavers shown in the design plan.

Motion: Manager Gernes moved, Manager Grogan seconded to approve stewardship grant application 26-27 CS Berget-Trevis amended to only approve the native planting.

Motion approved.

B. Budget Status Update

Paige Ahlborg reviewed the budget status report.

7. ACTION ITEMS - none

8. ATTORNEY REPORT (47:23)

Laurann Kirschner discussed the work the attorney's office completed throughout June.

9. BOARD DISCUSSION TOPICS (47:44)

President Eisele discussed increasing the dollar limit for Stewardship Grant staff approvals.

10. NEW REPORTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS

A. Communications and Engagement Program Presentation, Lauren Hazenson (50:52)

Lauren Hazenson provided an overview of communication and engagement activities that occurred over the past year. Lauren highlighted new projects that were added such as Watershed Week, Get Gritty campaign, spring workshops and the Outreach and Engagement Volunteers pilot program. Lauren went on to discuss the impact of the work being done noting that 1,735 students had been reached, there were 19 tabling events attended and an increase in followers across social media sites. Lauren provided information on the future projects the Communications and Engagement team would be working on, including a communications and engagement plan, more tracking, and strategic engagement around lake health. Lauren went on to review the shoreline property owner survey results and analysis.

B. New Technology Memo: Membrane Filters (1:49:40)

Brandon Barns reviewed the New Technology Memo : Membrane Filters. Brandon provided additional information on membrane filters.

11. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT (1:57:46)

A. Meetings Attended

B. Upcoming Meetings and Dates

C. Staff Anniversaries

D. Board Action Log

E. Minnesota Watershed Updates

F. Upcoming Meeting Dates

Motion: Manager moved, Manager seconded to adjust the meeting dates for the RWMWD Regular Board Meeting from September 2 to September 9, 2026.

Motion approved.

G. Stormwater Reuse Restrictions from the Plumbing Board Update
H. 2027 Budget Planning Memo
Tina Carstens provided information on the 2027 Budget Planning Memo.

12. PROJECT AND PROGRAM STATUS REPORTS (2:22:45)

Project Feasibility Studies
A. Landfall Best Management Practices
B. Five Star Estate Feasibility Study
C. Chloride Reduction Strategy
D. Tanners Lake, Battle Creek Lake, and Battle Creek Resiliency Feasibility Study
E. RWMWD Stormwater Model Updates
F. Studies Stemming from Creek Walks
G. Wetland Restoration Planning
H. Battle Creek Subwatershed Feasibility Study (Phase 2)

Monitoring Water Quality/Project Monitoring
I. Special-Project BMP Monitoring
J. Water Quality Dara Management

Watershed Management Plan Update
K. Watershed Management Plan Update, Phase 3: Draft Plan Development

Lake Studies and TMDL Reports
L. 2026 Grant Applications

Research Projects
M. New Technology and Trending Topics Mini Case Studies

Project Operations
N. 2026 Tanners Alum Facility Monitoring
O. Lake-Level Station Operation Maintenance and Rain Gauge Installation
P. Phalen and Keller Lakes Level Station Forecast Integration
Q. Beltline and Battle Creek Gopher State One Call Utility Locates

Capital Improvements
R. 2026 Targeted Retrofit Projects
S. Fish Creek Tributary Improvements
T. Cottage Place Wetland Regeneration
U. Ames Lake Improvements
V. Kohlman Lake Alum Treatment
W. Wakefield Lake Aeration

CIP Project Repair and Maintenance
X. Routine CIP Inspection and Unplanned Maintenance Identification
Y. 2026 CIP Maintenance and Repairs
Z. McKnight Basin Outlet and Repairs
AA. RWMWD Office Exterior Improvements

Program Updates
BB. Natural Resources Program
CC. Communications and Engagement Program

13. COMMENTS AND NEXT MONTH'S MEETING (2:23:01)

14. ADJOURN

Motion: Manager Gernes moved, Manager Grogan seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

Motion approved.