

Regular Meeting
South Washington Watershed District
Tuesday, April 8, 2025 6:00 p.m.
City of Woodbury Public Works Building

1. Call to Order and Setting of Agenda

Manager Doucette called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. A motion was made by Manager ChapdeLaine to approve the Agenda. Manager Johnson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Roll Call:

- Sharon Doucette, President
- Emily Stephens, Vice President
- Kevin ChapdeLaine, Treasurer
- Mike Madigan, Secretary
- Brian Johnson, Manager

Staff:

- John Loomis, Administrator
- Melissa Imse, Operations Manager
- Kyle Axtell, Watershed Project Manager
- Abby Tekiela, Water Resources Program Coordinator
- Tony Randazzo, Watershed Restoration Specialist

Others:

- Jack Clinton, SWWD Attorney
- Mary Ellen Reihsen, SWWD Attorney
- Urban Landreman

2. Public Open Forum. None.

3. Consent Agenda

Items on the Consent Agenda include: March 11, 2025 Regular Board Meeting minutes, March 26, 2025 Special Meeting minutes, March Claims Roster and Treasurer's Report: accounts payable \$283,063.89, accounts receivable \$40,549.87, 4M fund balance \$9,877,470.90, Kevin ChapdeLaine Per Diem Calendar of Events, Development Reviews, Wetland Conservation Act, Cost Share, and Miscellaneous Correspondence. A motion was made by Manager ChapdeLaine to approve the Consent Agenda. Manager Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Manager's Report

Manager Doucette—None.

Manager Stephens—Manager Stephens reported that she attended the SWWD Citizens Advisory Committee meeting.

Manager ChadeLaine—None.

Manager Madigan—Manager Madigan reported that he attended the Minnesota Watersheds membership meeting.

Manager Johnson—Manager Johnson reported that he attended the Minnesota Watersheds membership meeting.

5. Administrator Report

SWWD Project Updates. Included in the board packet are project updates on: Trout

Brook, Glacial Valley Park and Open space, Campus Greening, Wilmes Lake Alum Treatment Facility, Hasenbank Woods/Powers Lake BMP, Markgrafs Lake Retrofit Analysis, Colby Lake Retrofit Analysis, Northern Watershed/CDSF/East Ravine Review and Optimization, Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park, St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park, CR74-65th and Geneva, Lower Grey Cloud Slough Habitat Improvement, Watershed Plan Update, Watershed Management Plan Update, In-Lake AIS Management, Newport Open Space Planning, Armstrong Lake Wetland Cattail Harvesting, SWWD Website Update, and Chloride Reduction Grit Giveaway.

Stormwater Utility Fee Correction Update. Administrator Loomis reported that Staff have worked with Washington County Staff on a solution for the overcharged parcels through an abatement process. The managers approved Resolution 2025-001, authorizing the abatement of the 561 parcels that were overcharged by more than \$25.00. The abatements have been completed. Staff will bring the undercharged parcels to the May Board meeting for discussion.

Morcon Change Order 5 and Change Order 6. At the March Board meeting, the Managers authorized the Administrator to execute Morcon Change Order 5 with Morcon to add an LLDPE liner to the settling basin at the Wilmes alum facility. However, since last fall when HR Green inquired about the specifications and availability of the product with the manufacturer, the specified product is, now, no longer available and is not scheduled to be produced anytime soon, according to the manufacturer. HR Green reviewed linear alternatives that were suggested by Morcon and rejected them. Change Order 6 was presented to the Board. Change Order 6 is needed to cancel all the contract changes in Change Order 5. A motion was made by Manager Johnson to approve Change Order 6 with Morcon and rescind Change Order 5. Manager ChapdeLaine seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

3M Priority 2 Funding. The Minnesota DNR has published a Request for Proposals for the 3M PFAS Settlement Priority 2 Grant Program. The first phase involves submitting Letters of Interest by April 4, 2025. Eligible projects must help to achieve one or more of the Priority 2 settlement goals:

- **Goal 1** – Restore, protect, and enhance aquatic and terrestrial resources, wildlife, and habitats.
- **Goal 2** – Increase understanding of fish tissue contamination, improve communication about PFAS-based fish consumption advisories, and identify and enhance alternative, non-contaminated fishing areas.
- **Goal 3** – Improve and enhance outdoor recreational opportunities.

Applicants can apply for no less than \$20,000 per project. No match is required, although leveraged funding is part of the review process. SWWD Staff have submitted Letters of Intent for consideration.

Vanderberg Lake. The SWWD is interested in 50 acres for conservation and restoration. The City of Cottage is also interested in purchasing land for dedicated park space. A motion was made by Manager Johnson to move into a Closed Session to discuss the possible property acquisition around Vanderberg Lake. Manager ChapdeLaine seconded. Motion carried unanimously. President Doucette opened the regular meeting. A motion was made by Manager Madigan to authorize the SWWD Administrator to sign the Letter of Intent to Steven and Kathleen Geis. Manager ChapdeLaine seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Agreements Authorized by Administrator. SWWD's accounting policies authorizes the Administrator to approve purchases up to \$5,000 on behalf of the District. No agreements were approved for March.

6. **2025 Coordinated Capital Improvement Program.** The SWWD Board of Managers approved the 2025 Coordinated Capital Improvement Program at its January regular meeting, making up to \$650,000 available for capital improvement and maintenance projects in the South Washington management unit that help improve water quality, stormwater management, de-icing operations, and the resiliency of District resources. For 2025, approximately \$5,000 in the East Mississippi management unit and \$5,000 in the Lower St. Croix management unit is available for projects in those areas. SWWD received Twelve applications. The Citizens Advisory Committee reviewed the applications at its March 25, 2025, meeting and passed a series of motions recommending that nine of the applications be considered by the Board for either full or partial funding. The Managers reviewed the applications. A motion was made by Manager Johnson to approve the CAC recommended funding of eight CCIP applications, and to pull the City of Woodbury linear stormwater BMP planning study application to see if other Cities are interested in a District-wide linear stormwater BMP planning study, functionally expanding the scope of Woodbury's proposal. Manager ChapdeLaine seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
7. **2025 Artist in Residence Contract.** Staff published a request for qualifications for the 2025 Artist in Residence (AiR) program on January 8, 2025. Seven applications were received and considered by the review committee on March 24th. A unanimous recommendation was reached to offer the contract to Taylor Mills. A contract has been drafted to engage Ms. Mills as our artist-in-residence for 2025-2026. After discussion, a motion was made by Manager Stephens to approve the 2025 AiR Contract with Taylor Mills. Manager ChapdeLaine seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
8. **Wilmes Lake Alum Treatment Facility Public Art Selection.** Staff have completed an RFP process to select an artist for a public art installation at the Wilmes Lake Alum Treatment Facility. After a thorough review of eight qualified applicants that included SWWD and Woodbury staff as well as SWWD CAC and Board members, the review subcommittee recommended Nipinet Landsem to complete this project, and the CAC affirmed that recommendation at its meeting on March 25. A motion was made by Manager Johnson to approve the agreement with Nipinet Landsem for up to \$15,000. Manager ChapdeLaine seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
9. **2024 Annual Report.** The draft 2024 Annual Report was emailed to the Managers prior to the meeting for review. The approved Annual Report must be submitted to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources. The 2024 Financial Audit will be completed for the May Board meeting for approval. The audit will be included in the Annual Report. A motion was made by Manager Johnson to approve the 2024 Annual Report and authorize submittal to the required State Agencies. Manager ChapdeLaine seconded. Motion carried 4-0 with Manager Doucette abstaining from the vote.
10. **2025 Water Efficiency Program Support.** The City of Woodbury is expanding an ongoing incentive program to address water conservation through smart irrigation by expanding the program into eight additional areas to fund systems that use "WaterSense" labeled devices. The City of Woodbury is requesting \$25,000 to support the City's 2025 Water Efficiency Program.
The City of Cottage Grove is also continuing their smart irrigation controller program in 2025. They are requesting \$25,000 to support their program. A motion was made by Manager Stephens to approve support for both the City of Woodbury and the City of Cottage Grove's water efficiency programs for up to \$25,000 for each City. Manager ChapdeLaine seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
11. **City of Woodbury Hasenbank Agreement Amendment 2025-40-1460.** The agreement is an amendment to approved agreement 2023-40-1460. The amendment is needed to shift SWWD funds to shoreline restoration versus the construction of a trail. A motion was

made by Manager ChapdeLaine to approve the City of Woodbury Hasenbank Agreement Amendment 2023-40-1460. Manager Johnson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- 12. USACE CAP Request Letter.** The Staff have been consulting with Minnesota DNR and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers representatives about a large habitat rehabilitation project in Grey Cloud Slough. The project would involve island building and dredging to recreate historic island formations in the area lost to erosion from wind and wave action since the area was flooded in the 1930's by Lock and Dam 2. The first official step is requesting the Corps to consider this project under the provisions of its CAP program (Section 204). If accepted, the Corps will undertake a feasibility study to determine if island building and dredging in this area will result in the creation of important backwater floodplain forest habitat and wetlands, among other benefits. The feasibility study would be fully federally funded. If the outcomes are positive, further agreements between SWWD and USACE will be required, including a commitment to provide 35% local match funding for the project. Staff have already submitted a proposal to the 3M Priority 2 RFP in an attempt to secure most of these future funds required. MnDNR is not able to serve as a project sponsor under State law. A motion was made by Manager ChapdeLaine to authorize Staff to submit the letter to the Corps as presented. Manager Johnson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- 13. 2025 Spring Treatments to Markgrafs and Wilmes.** To address the curly-leaf pondweed (CLP) present in both waterbodies and to maintain current Lake Vegetation Management Plans (LVMPs) of each lake, a spring treatment of Diquat is proposed. Both Markgrafs and Wilmes (north basin) were treated with Diquat before. Markgrafs was last treated in the spring of 2023. Due to the absence of CLP in Markgrafs in 2023, the lake was not treated the following spring of 2024. However, CLP was located in Markgrafs again during early summer surveys (frequency of 14). In 2024, no CLP was observed in Wilmes (north basin). However, CLP develops buds (turions) under the ice in late fall and early winter and allows the plant to grow rapidly in the spring months before native species are active. The growth cycle of CLP, combined with the resurgence of CLP in Markgrafs Lake in 2024 following an absence in treatment, supports the need for a spring 2025 treatment in Wilmes. A motion was made by Manager Johnson to approve 2025 Spring Treatments to Markgrafs and Wilmes (north basin) for up to \$2,754.84. Manager ChapdeLaine seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- 14. Resolution 2025-002, Brian Johnson Recognition.** The Managers and Staff thanked Manager Brian Johnson for his years of service and dedication to the SWWD. A motion was made by Manager Madigan to approve Resolution 2025-002. Manager ChapdeLaine seconded. Motion carried 4-0 with Manager Johnson abstaining from the vote.
- 15. Future Business and Meetings.**

 - a) Brian Johnson Recognition, Tuesday, April 8 5pm
 - b) Regular Board Meeting, Tuesday, April 8, 2025 6pm
 - c) Board Workshop and Regular Board Meeting, May 13, 2025 5pm
 - d) Regular Board Meeting, Tuesday, June 10, 2025 6pm
 - e) SWWD CAC Meeting, Tuesday, June 24, 2025 5:30pm
 - f) Minnesota Watersheds Summer Tour, Roseau River Watershed, June 24-26, 2025
- 16. Adjourn**

The next regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 13th at 6:00 pm. A motion was made by Manager ChapdeLaine to adjourn at 7:44 p.m. Manager Johnson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Imse

Melissa Imse, Operations Manager

Approved By:

Michael M. Madigan

Mr. Mike Madigan, Secretary

5/13/2008

Date