Regular Meeting
South Washington Watershed District
Wednesday, August 13, 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 Madigan to move agenda item #11-SWWD Annual Insurance Waiver of Statutory Tort Limits to the Consent Agenda. Manager Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

   Roll Call:
   - Sharon Doucette, President
   - Emily Stephens, Vice President
   - Mike Madigan, Secretary
   - David Filipiak, Manager

   Staff:
   - John Loomis, Administrator
   - Kyle Axtell, Watershed Project Manager
   - Abby Tekiela, Water Resources Program Coordinator

   Others:
   - Mary Ellen Reihsen, SWWD Attorney
   - Lila Franklin, Met Council

2. **Public Open Forum**. Lila Franklin with the Metropolitan Council introduced herself and explained her role at Met Council.

3. **Consent Agenda**
   Items on the Consent Agenda include: July 8, 2025 Regular Board Meeting minutes, July Claims Roster and Treasurer's Report: accounts payable $562,552.93, accounts receivable $2,234,159.83, 4M fund balance $10,748,029.88, Washington County 1st Half Tax Settlement $2,063,468.17, Calendar of Events, Development Reviews, Wetland Conservation Act, Cost Share, Miscellaneous Correspondence, and SWWD Annual Insurance-Waiver of Statutory Tort Limits. A motion was made by Manager Madigan to approve the Consent Agenda. Manager Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

4. **Manager's Report**
   Manager Doucette–None.
   Manager Stephens–None.
   Manager Madigan–None.
   Manager Filipiak–Manager Filipiak reported that he attended the Lower St Croix Partnership Policy Committee 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 and Stormwater Park, Markgrafs Lake Retrofit Analysis, Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park, St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park, CR74-65th and Geneva, Lower Grey Cloud Slough Habitat Improvement, Watershed

Management Plan Update, In-Lake AIS Management, Newport Open Space Planning, Cottage Grove Open Space Planning, Armstrong Lake Wetland Cattail Harvesting, SWWD Website Update, and La and Ria Lake Outlets. The meeting was closed at 6:20 p.m. to discuss potential legal issues related to the Wilmes Lake Alum Treatment Facility. The meeting was reopened at 6:29 p.m. with Manager Doucette providing a summary of the discussion, that staff and the District attorney were to negotiate contract closeout with the contractor.

Open Meeting Law. Administrator Loomis provided discussion about changes to the MN Open Meeting Law adopted during the past legislative session. Changes will provide increased flexibility for Managers to participate in meetings remotely.

MN Watersheds Annual Resolution Meeting. Administrator Loomis discussed the upcoming MN Watersheds Resolution Meeting. After Board discussion, Mangers Madigan and Stephens were appointed as SWWD delegates for the meeting.

Agreements Authorized by Administrator. SWWD's accounting policies authorizes the Administrator to approve purchases up to $5,000 on behalf of the District. Under that policy, the Administrator approved the following agreements in July.
• Houston Engineeering, Inc: $2,210 for additional services related to the Trout Brook restoration project.

6. **2026 Budget Hearing.** Manager Doucette opened the public hearing at 6:55 p.m. Staff provided discussion of the District's proposed 2026 budget. No public comment was received. The hearing was closed at 7:02 p.m.

7. **Bailey School Forest Restoration Contract.** Staff provided discussion regarding SWWD's partnership with Great River Greening and City of Newport to begin restoring the oak woodland at Bailey School Forest. Further discussion was provided about the proposed project funding agreement with staff recommending approval. A motion was made by Manager Stephens to approve the Cooperative Agreement with Great River Greening with SWWD providing $30,000 local funds to match against $231,100 of State funds for the project. Manager Filipiak seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

8. **Trout Brook Maintenance Work, MNL.** Staff provided discussion about maintenance needed at Trout Brook near SWWD's phase 3 restoration work and a proposal from MNL to complete that work. A motion was made by Manager Stephens to approve MNL's proposal for the maintenance work at a cost of $7,150.00. Manager Filipiak seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

9. **Kraken Cleanout Contract 2025-2027.** Staff provided discussion about ongoing maintenance required for SWWD's Kraken water quality filter in St. Paul Park. Staff efforts to secure quotes for the work resulted in one contractor submitting a favorable quote. A motion was made by Manager Filipiak to approve a contract with Pember Companies, Inc for maintenance of the Kraken system for three years from 2025 to 2027 at a cost of $53,623.30. Manager Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

10. **Ravine Lake Outlet Channel Stabilization.** Manager Filipiak abstained from discussion. Staff provided discussion about ongoing erosion concerns in the Ravine Lake outlet channel that is part of SWWD's Central Draw Overflow. Staff provided further discussion about project development and recommended the Board approve plans and specifications for the project, authorizing staff to let the project out for bidding, and approve a task order amendment for SRF Consulting Group to provide bidding support and construction observation for the project. A motion was made by Manager Stephens to approve the Ravine Lake Outlet Channel Stabilization plans and specifications and authorize staff to seek bids for the

project. Manager Madigan seconded. Motion carried 3-0 with Manager Filipiak abstaining. A motion was made by Manager Stephens to approve SRF Task Order Amendment #2024-001 Amendment at a cost of $102,070.00. Manager Madigan seconded. Motion carried 3-0 with Manager Filipiak abstaining.

11. **SWWD Annual Insurance Waiver of Statutory Tort Limits.** This item was approved under the Consent Agenda.

12. **Nature Based Solutions Ecosystem Management Plan.** Staff provided discussion about the proposed Nature Based Solutions Ecosystem Management Plan, describing the need and vision for the project. The planning will support District efforts to identify large landscapes for protection or restoration for the benefit of watershed and downstream water resource health. A motion was made by Manager Filipiak to approve Stantec Task Order #2025-003 for the Nature Based Solutions Ecosystem Management Plan at a cost not to exceed $86,148.00. Manager Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

13. **Future Business and Meetings.**
    - MN Watersheds Annual Resolutions Meeting, Monday, August 25, 2025 10:00am via Zoom
    - Regular Board Meeting, Tuesday, September 9, 2025 6:00pm
    - SWWD CAC Meeting, Tuesday, September 23, 2025 5:30pm
    - Regular Board Meeting, Tuesday, October 14, 2023 6:00pm
    - Budget Workshop with the Washington County Commissioners, Tuesday, November 4, 10:00am
    - Regular Board Meeting and Workshop, **Wednesday**, November 12, 5:00pm
    - MN Watersheds Annual Conference, December 3-5, 2025, Grandview Lodge, Nisswa, MN
    - Regular Board Meeting, Tuesday, December 9, 6:00pm
    - SWWD CAC Meeting, Tuesday, December 16, 5:30pm

14. **Adjourn**
    The next regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 9th at 6:00 pm. A motion was made by Manager Filipiak to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. Manager Madigan seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Imse

Melissa Imse, Operations Manager

Approved By:

Michael G. Madigan

Mr. Mike Madigan, Secretary

9/9/2025

Date