



BROWN'S CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

Preserving the integrity of the watershed for future generations

www.bcwd.org | 455 Hayward Ave N, Oakdale, MN 55128 | 651-330-8220

1 DRAFT Minutes of the workshop and regular meeting of the Brown's Creek Watershed District Board of
2 Managers, Wednesday February 12, 2025

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ROLL CALL

Managers Present:	Others Present:
Klayton Eckles, President	Karen Kill, BCWD administrator
Celia Wirth, Treasurer	Hannah Peterson, BCWD staff
Debra Sahulka, Secretary	Michael Welch, Smith Partners, BCWD counsel
Larry Odebrecht, 2nd Vice President	Ryan Fleming, EOR, BCWD engineer
	Alexander Furneaux, EOR, BCWD engineer
Manager Absent:	Griffin Brod, resident
Chuck LeRoux, Vice President	

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1) Watershed management plan update workshop

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The management plan workshop began at 5:35 p.m. Alexander Furneaux shared draft revisions to text on ecological health and erosion prevention and sediment control. For ecological health, the managers discussed how to learn more about the species in the watershed. For erosion prevention and sediment control, the managers discussed a greater focus on soil health and both regulating and incentivizing native planting versus turf as farming becomes less prevalent in the watershed. Karen Kill noted that the St. Croix River should be included as a prioritized water body. The workshop concluded at 6:31 p.m.

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2) Call regular meeting to order

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President Klayton Eckles called the regular meeting to order at 6:41 p.m.

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3) Approve agenda

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Manager Wirth moved, seconded by Manager Odebrecht, to approve the agenda as presented.

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Motion carried, 4/0.

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4) Public Comments

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Griffin Brod introduced himself as a student at the University of Minnesota and member of the City of Stillwater's Energy Action Committee. He shared his interest in getting involved with the watershed district.

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5) Consent agenda

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Manager Larry Odebrecht requested to pull item 5c, and Michael Welch requested to pull items 5f and 5g for discussion.

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a) Approve Board Meeting Minutes of the November 13, 2024 Regular Meeting

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b) Approve Board Meeting Minutes of the December 11, 2024 Regular Meeting

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d) Accept Permit Fee Statement

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e) Authorize administrator to submit 60-day review comments on the Washington County

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Groundwater Plan

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Manager Wirth moved, seconded by Manager Odebrecht, to approve the consent agenda as

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amended. Motion carried 4/0.

1 c) Minutes of the January 8, 2025, Meeting

2 **Manager Wirth moved, seconded by Manager Sahulka, to approve the minutes of the January 8,**
 3 **2025, annual and regular meeting. Motion carried 3/0/1, Manager Odebrecht abstaining.**

4 f) Cooperative agreement with City of Stillwater for the Northland Avenue water quality project
 5 Mr. Welch said the proposed agreement has been slightly amended from the version that was in the
 6 packet in that the Stillwater attorney would like to a provision to allow negotiation if the project is
 7 not completed by June 1, 2026, due to extenuating circumstances. He recommended authorizing the
 8 president to sign the agreement with the city’s proposed change.

9 **Manager Wirth moved, seconded by Manager Sahulka, to authorize the president to execute the**
 10 **agreement with the City of Stillwater for the Northland Avenue water quality project upon advice**
 11 **of counsel. Motion carried 4/0.**

12 g) Stream water monitoring purchase

13 Ms. Kill stated that the quote from In-Situ was the only one received because it is the only supplier
 14 for the specific piece of equipment needed. Quotes for alternative equipment were reviewed and
 15 proved to be less cost-effective.

16 **Manager Odebrecht moved, seconded by Manager Sahulka, to approve the purchase of stream**
 17 **water monitoring equipment from In-Situ at not to exceed \$8,775 from account 300-4640. Motion**
 18 **carried 4/0.**

19 **6) Treasurer’s Report**

20 **Manager Wirth moved, seconded by Manager Odebrecht, to accept the authorized funds**
 21 **spreadsheet and authorize the payment of the bills as presented totaling \$166,167.24.**

	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Manager Eckles	X			
Manager Odebrecht	X			
Manager LeRoux				X
Manager Wirth	X			
Manager Sahulka	X			

22 **Motion carried on a roll call vote 4/0.**

23 **7) Projects**

24 **a) Brown’s Creek Conservation Area agreement with Washington Conservation District**

25 Ms. Kill provided background on a Habitat Enhancement Landscape Program grant from the
 26 Washington Conservation District for a burn planned for spring 2025 and a volunteer native tree
 27 and shrub planting in 2026.

28 **Manager Wirth moved, seconded by Manager Odebrecht, to authorize the president to**
 29 **execute the agreement with the Washington Conservation District upon advice of counsel.**
 30 **Motion carried 4/0.**

1 **b) Wagner video proposal**

2 Ms. Kill gave an update on the artist collaboration with A House Unbuilt, shared the event
3 postcards, and said that the March 6, 2025, reception would be posted as a public meeting,
4 encouraging the managers to attend. She also shared a proposal from a videographer to get
5 footage of the art, artists, and watershed district. The managers discussed the two proposal
6 options and indicated preference to option two with spring stream footage. Mr. Welch
7 recommended against providing a portion of the payment up front, absent justification for
8 doing so that could be accepted by the managers. He recommended a contract for payment for
9 services rendered and recommended the watershed district not obtain the video as a work for
10 hire, but rather would include a perpetual license for use by BCWD with ownership retained by
11 the author.

12 **Manager Odebrecht moved, seconded by Manager Wirth, to authorize the president to enter**
13 **a contract with Wagner not to exceed \$3,500 for proposed option two from account 910-0000.**
14 **Motion carried 4/0.**

15 **8) Old business**

16 **a) Election of officers and board committee appointments**

17 **Manager Wirth moved, seconded by Manager Sahulka, to elect Manager Eckles as president,**
18 **Manager Wirth as treasurer, Manager Sahulka as secretary, Manager LeRoux as vice**
19 **president, and Manager Odebrecht as 2nd vice president, and to appoint Manager Wirth as the**
20 **alternate for the Lower St. Croix One Watershed One Plan subcommittee, Manager Eckles to**
21 **the Best Management Practices Program Committee, Manager Odebrecht as the East Metro**
22 **Water Resources Education Program Liaison, and Manager Eckles and Manager Wirth to the**
23 **engineering pool task force, with all other committees remaining the same as 2024.**

24 **Motion carried 4/0.**

25 **b) Schedule of regular and special 2025 meetings**

26 Ms. Kill shared that Family Means has adopted a new security policy that is not consistent with
27 BCWD's obligations under the Open Meeting Law, and a new meeting location must be selected.
28 Stillwater Township Town Hall and the Eckberg Lammers law office were discussed as possible
29 options. The managers discussed the meeting schedule and indicated preference for completing
30 the remaining management planning workshops on separate dates rather than at the regular
31 meetings. The June regular meeting will be conducted June 25, but the managers elected to
32 postpone approving a full schedule of meetings until a new location is selected.

33 **c) Board training plan**

34 The managers expressed interest in adding a presentation from Mr. Welch on the Open Meeting
35 Law at a future meeting.

36 **d) Bylaws and policies**

37 Ms. Kill shared that the board would need to update the bylaws and policies when a new
38 meeting location is selected.

39 **9) New business**

40 **a) Appoint Minnesota Watersheds special meeting delegates**

41 **Manager Odebrecht moved, seconded by Manager Sahulka, to appoint Manager Eckles and**
42 **Manager Wirth as delegates and Manager LeRoux as alternate delegates for Minnesota**
43 **Watersheds in 2025. Motion carried 4/0.**

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1 **10) Discussion Agenda**

2 **a) Updates**

3 **(1) Administrator**

4 **(a) Permitting**

5 Ms. Kill shared that Sundance Townhomes withdrew its permit application and would
6 need to resubmit should it decide to move forward in the future. She also shared that
7 Lakeview Hospital made its permit submittal.

8 **(2) Legal**

9 Mr. Welch said the author of the chloride limited-liability legislation plans to gather all
10 stakeholders for a meeting. He also noted a reuse water-quality standards legislative effort
11 being pursued by landscapers.

12 **11) Adjournment**

13 **Manager Wirth moved, seconded by Manager Odebrecht, to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:10**
14 **p.m. Motion carried 4/0.**

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16 Respectfully Submitted by

17 Hannah Peterson, BCWD staff and Debra Sahulka, Recording Secretary