



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 regular meeting of the Brown's Creek Watershed District Board of**
2 **Managers, Wednesday March 11, 2026**

3 **Roll call**

Managers Present:	Others Present:
Klayton Eckles, President	Karen Kill, BCWD administrator
Chuck LeRoux, Vice President	Hannah Peterson, BCWD communications and project assistant
Celia Wirth, Treasurer	Michael Welch, Smith Partners, BCWD counsel
Griffin Brod, Manager	Camilla Correll, EOR, BCWD engineer
Luke Mattson, Manager	Paul Nation, EOR, BCWD engineer
	John Sarafolean, EOR, BCWD engineer
	Erik Megow, EOR, BCWD engineer
	Mike Majeski, EOR, BCWD engineer
	David Stone, resident
	Barbara Medinger, resident
	Jeff Fosse, resident

4 **1) Call to order**

5 President Klayton Eckles called the regular meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

6 **2) Oath of Office for Luke Mattson**

7 Michael Welch administered the manager's oath of office to Luke Mattson.

8 **3) Approve agenda**

9 **Manager Wirth moved, seconded by Manager Brod, to approve the agenda as presented.**

10 **Motion carried 5/0.**

11 **4) Public comments**

12 There were no public comments. Camilla Correll introduced Erik Megow, who started at EOR this
13 past fall and will begin working on BCWD work.

14 **5) Consent agenda**

15 Celia Wirth and Klay Eckles requested removing item 5i, authorize Emmons and Olivier Resources
16 scope of work for iron-enhanced sand filter operation and maintenance not to exceed \$43,585 from
17 account 948-0000, and Manager Wirth requested removing item 5l, authorize administrator to
18 execute, on advice of counsel, a 2026-2028 stormwater facility maintenance agreement with Rock
19 Leaf Water Environmental, from the consent agenda for discussion.

20 **a) Approve minutes of the February 11, 2026, regular meeting as presented**

21 **b) Accept Permit Fee Statement as presented**

22 **c) Accept Authorized Funds Spreadsheet as presented**

23 **d) Authorize the payment of bills as presented, totaling \$106,087.61**

24 **e) Accept the Washington Conservation District's 2025 baseline monitoring report**

25 **f) Authorize the administrator to expend not to exceed \$7,000 on educational items as**
26 **presented from account 910-0000**

- 1 g) **Authorize staff registration and attendance at the Minnesota Stormwater Pond Research and**
2 **Practice Symposium on March 31 and April 1, 2026**
3 h) **Authorize purchase of water monitoring equipment from Tech Sales Co. not to exceed \$3,000**
4 **from account 300-4640**
5 j) **Authorize administrator to amend, on advice of counsel, the agreement for engineering**
6 **service to update the rates as presented beginning March 2026**
7 k) **Authorize Emmons and Olivier Resources scope of work to complete 2026 weather station**
8 **monitoring not to exceed \$4,180 from account 957-0000**
9 **Manager Wirth moved, seconded by Manager LeRoux, to approve the consent agenda as**
10 **amended. Motion carried 5/0.**

11 **6) Permitting**

- 12 a) **BCWD Permit 25-29 Sunrise Park Trail**
13 Paul Nation presented the engineer's report for the City of Stillwater's Sunrise Park Trail. The
14 managers discussed how the city, in modeling stormwater-management practices for
15 compliance with BCWD rules, elected to assume that the soils in the park will preclude
16 infiltration, rather than completing soil borings. Even with this assumption, the city's plan will
17 meet BCWD requirements.
18 **Manager Wirth moved, seconded by Manager Mattson, to approve the City of Stillwater**
19 **permit application 25-29 with the conditions and stipulations stated in the engineer's report.**
20 **Motion carried 5/0.**

21 **7) Projects**

- 22 a) **Brown's Creek Restoration Phase 2: Brown's Creek Cove**
23 Mike Majeski presented the project background, draft plans, and proposed timeline for the
24 proposed continuation of streambank and floodplain improvements upstream of the work
25 completed in the last couple of years between McKusick Avenue and the Brown's Creek State
26 Trail through Brown's Creek Park in Stillwater. Mr. Majeski and the managers discussed how
27 removing native boxelders allows longer-living native trees to flourish. Karen Kill said that grant
28 funding has been secured to pursue the project.

29 **i) Public Hearing**

30 President Eckles opened the public hearing. Barbara Medinger questioned the efficacy of
31 BCWD's creek-improvement projects and sediment releases to the creek during recent
32 implementation of restoration work downstream. Mike Majeski, the project designer,
33 acknowledged short-term sediment releases during construction, but he cited long-term
34 indicators of improved ecological health and water quality. He noted seeing sensitive
35 macroinvertebrates shortly after completion of phase one between McKusick Avenue and
36 the Brown's Creek State Trail, indicating improving water quality. He also said that the
37 suspended solids Ms. Medinger saw were likely organic matter.

38 **ii) Lower St. Croix Partnership Grant Agreement**

39 Mr. Welch said that an agreement between BCWD and the Lower St. Croix partnership has
40 been updated in collaboration with the Chisago County legal counsel and that all major
41 concerns have been addressed. One remaining low-risk concern is that if the project is not
42 completed, funds must be returned.

43 **Manager Wirth moved, seconded by Manager Brod, to authorize the administrator to**
44 **execute the grant agreement with the Lower St. Croix partnership on advice of counsel.**
45 **Motion carried 5/0.**

1 **iii) Resolution 26-03 Order Brown’s Creek Cove Project**

2 The managers discussed making a request for proposals on this or future projects to see
 3 how other engineering firms would tackle projects BCWD is considering. They decided to
 4 identify projects in the 2027-36 watershed management plan that would be suited to such
 5 as effort.

6 **Manager Wirth moved, seconded by Manager Brod, to adopt resolution 26-03 to order the**
 7 **Brown’s Creek Cove Project and authorize the Emmons and Olivier Resources design and**
 8 **construction-oversight scope of work for not to exceed \$81,150.**

	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Manager Eckles	X			
Manager LeRoux	X			
Manager Wirth	X			
Manager Mattson	X			
Manager Brod	X			

9 **Motion carried on a roll call vote 5/0.**

10 **b) Iron enhanced sand filter operation and maintenance (Former 5i)**

11 In response to a question from Manager Wirth, John Sarafolean explained that a Clemson
 12 leveler is essentially a pipe that can be inserted through a beaver dam at the desired elevation
 13 to let water through. Manager Eckles asked about the amount of engineering oversight required
 14 for task three and shared concerns about the cost and effectiveness of the practice. Mr. Megow
 15 said that this task includes collaboration with the City of Stillwater and determining replacement
 16 process and cost of filter media. Ms. Kill recommended the managers approve tasks one and
 17 two and that staff will further investigate and bring a revised breakdown of task three to a
 18 future meeting.

19 **Manager Eckles moved, seconded by Manager LeRoux, to authorize tasks one and two of the**
 20 **Emmons and Olivier Resources scope of work for iron enhanced sand filter operation and**
 21 **maintenance for not to exceed \$11,840 from account 948-0000. Motion carried 5/0.**

22 **c) 2026-2028 stormwater facility maintenance agreement with Rock Leaf Water Environmental**
 23 **(Former 5l)**

24 Mr. Megow clarified that the total estimated cost assumes a cleanout of each best management
 25 practice once, but that the contract does not assume a set number of cleanouts because work
 26 will be undertaken on an as-needed basis. Mr. Sarafolean said that they were each cleaned once
 27 in the past two-year contract period. Mr. Welch recommended authorizing the total quote price
 28 and amending as needed later.

29 **Manager Wirth moved, seconded by Manager Mattson, to authorize the administrator to**
 30 **execute, on advice of counsel, a 2026-28 stormwater facility maintenance agreement with**
 31 **Rock Leaf Water Environmental at not to exceed \$32,435 from account 948-0000.**
 32 **Motion carried 5/0.**

33 **d) Brown’s Creek streambank maintenance at Oak Glen Golf Course**

34 Ms. Kill provided background on the repair needs at Oak Glen Golf Course. She said that the
 35 work is included in an amended scope with the Washington Conservation District.

36 **Manager Wirth moved, seconded by Manager Brod, to authorize the Emmons and Olivier**
 37 **Resources scope of work not to exceed \$3,488 from account 948-0000 and to authorize the**
 38 **president to execute an amendment to the 2025-26 Washington Conservation District**
 39 **agreement on advice of counsel for not to exceed \$3,920 from account 948-0000. Motion**
 40 **carried 5/0.**

1 e) **Washington Conservation District maintenance**

2 Ms. Kill shared the projects in the WCD memo minus the Oak Glen project mentioned above.

3 **Manager Wirth moved, seconded by Manager LeRoux, to authorize the president to amend**
4 **the 2025-26 Washington Conservation District service agreement on advice of counsel to**
5 **include new activities for not to exceed \$13,448 from account 948-0000. Motion carried 5/0.**

6 **8) Planning**

7 a) **Minnesota Department of Health Groundwater Protection Initiative Grant**

8 Ms. Kill shared a grant opportunity that could target an implementation item in the 2027-36
9 management plan. The managers were supportive of applying for the grant.

10 **9) Discussion agenda**

11 a) **Updates**

12 i) **Administrator**

13 Ms. Kill shared a few potential upcoming outreach opportunities, including the upcoming
14 reception and panel discussion for the Water Where We Live Exhibit at the Washington
15 County Heritage Center on March 25, a showing of the new *Hoppers* movie and interview
16 with beaver expert Emily Fairfax from the University of Minnesota, and the governor's
17 fishing opener at the Brown's Creek restoration site. She also said that BCWD received a
18 Wahington County grant for curly-leaf pondweed treatment for South School Section Lake
19 and that agreement and contractor selection will be brought to the April regular meeting.
20 Ms. Kill also said that Oak Park Heights is starting on a wellhead-protection plan, and she has
21 been following the Sustainable Land Use Coalition's policy efforts aiming at streamlining
22 regulatory processes.

23 ii) **Legal**

24 Mr. Welch said that he also has been following the Sensible Land Use Coalition's effort
25 eliminating watershed districts' regulatory authority. He said that there was a hearing about
26 chloride limited liability.

27 iii) **Engineer**

28 There were no updates.

29 iv) **Managers**

30 Manager Wirth said that she would like to attend the Workshop on the Water in July. Ms.
31 Kill said she would be presenting about the Brown's Creek Restoration Project and will share
32 the registration with the managers when it is available. President Eckles said that he would
33 be absent for the April meeting and said that he talked to the City of Hugo about its reuse
34 requirements for new developments.

35 **10) Adjournment**

36 **Manager Mattson moved, seconded by Manager Wirth, to adjourn the regular meeting at**
37 **8:57 p.m. Motion carried 5/0.**

38 Respectfully submitted by

39 Hannah Peterson, BCWD staff and Griffin Brod, Secretary *pro tem*