



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 **Minutes of the June 8, 2026, Community Advisory Committee Meeting**

2 **Attendance**

CAC Members Present:	Others Present:
George Vania*	Hannah Peterson, BCWD Staff
Dennis Gervais	Celia Wirth, BCWD Manager
Mari Frederickson	
Jyneen Thatcher	
Hal Udoli*	
Dory Herman*	
CAC Members Absent:	
David Wortman	
Anne Maule Miller	

3 **Attended virtually*

4 **1) Called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm**

5 **2) Approved Agenda**

6 **3) Approved April 13, 2026, Minutes**

7 **4) Watershed Management Plan Update**

8 Hannah shared that the board is having a public hearing for the plan at the June regular meeting on
9 Wednesday, June 10, 2026. Then it will be sent out for 90-day review and the Board of Water and
10 Soil Resources (BWSR) will approve it.

11 **5) Recent Events Recap**

12 **a) Long Lake Trail West Birding**

13 Hannah shared that the event was a success despite the cold with about 25 attendees and 27
14 species of birds seen. George shared that it was the most successful birding tour yet.

15 **b) Sustainable Stillwater MN's Valley Eco Fair**

16 Hannah shared that she had a BCWD table at the event and shared a Brown's Creek habitat
17 matching game that she had created. Jyneen recommended sharing the habitat game with the
18 Department of Natural Resources' trails department.

19 **c) Brown's Creek Conservation Area Tree/Shrub Planting**

20 Hannah shared that Washington Conservation District seasonal staff and Jyneen had helped to
21 plant 150 native trees and shrubs at the Brown's Creek Conservation Area off 110th Street.

22 **d) Brown's Creek Park Restoration Area Tree/Shrub Planting**

23 Hannah shared that staff assessed and marked the dead versus living trees prior to the planting
24 and noted about a little over a 50% survival rate. She said that volunteers helped to plant 75
25 more trees and shrubs as replacement and enhancement.

1 **e) Spring Creek Scene Painting**

2 Hannah shared that the spring painting event at Aamodt’s Apple Farm went well, and that is was
3 a great opportunity to work with community partners. She said that there were seven attendees
4 including our MET Council representative and a new WCD staff member.

5 **6) Upcoming Event Planning**

6 **a) Walking Tour at Lakes at Stillwater Trail, June 16th, 6:30-8pm**

7 Hannah shared that the tour would be broken out into groups led by Jyneen and a WCD staff
8 member. George noted that he might be able to help. CAC members discussed event promotion
9 and recommended yard signs to advertise to both the Lakes at Stillwater and the greater
10 community. Hannah said that the WCD has one microphone and speaker available and that she
11 could help lead a group if needed.

12 **b) Summer Creek Scene Painting at Brown’s Creek Park, June 28th, 2-4pm**

13 Hannah shared that the summer painting event would take place outdoors, meeting at Brown’s
14 Creek Park and walking to the newly restored access area. She said it would be a watercolor
15 painting event where attendees would paint what they see, and the registration fee covers
16 materials and light refreshments.

17 **c) Long Lake Water Quality and Art Event in with A House Unbuilt, July 25th, 10am-2pm**

18 Hannah shared that three artists have been selected to participate in this event, including a
19 printmaking activity, a guided walk, and a natural puppet making activity. She said that the
20 artists would most likely be stationed at the City of Stillwater access points to Long Lake from
21 the Croixwood neighborhood due to that being the target audience. She shared opportunities to
22 volunteer and that more information would be available soon. George expressed interest in
23 helping with the walk, and Celia expressed interest in helping with puppets. Jyneen shared she
24 might be able to attend and help.

25 **d) Community Watershed Celebration & Bird Festival, September 19th, 10am-1pm**

26 Hannah shared that planning is underway with determining partners that will be attending and
27 that Allison has reserved the raptors. She shared that music is still needed. George said he
28 would still have his bird table, and Celia said she would do macroinvertebrates again.

29 **e) Table at Aamodt’s Apple Farm, Date to be determined**

30 Hannah shared that BCWD would likely have a table at Aamodt’s during a weekend of their fall
31 busy season to share information about the watershed.

32 **f) Fall Creek Scene Painting, October 11th, 2-4pm**

33 Hannah shared that this would take place at Lift Bridge and be similar to the winter painting
34 event.

35 **g) Brown’s Creek Conservation Area Replanting, October**

36 Hannah shared that the district might do a planting event this fall to fill in whatever doesn’t
37 survive the summer, but it might depend on remaining grant funding.

38 **h) Seeding and Snowshoeing, December 2026 or January 2027**

39 Hannah shared that Andrew Coyne with the City of Stillwater is supportive of this idea. The CAC
40 discussed where to get snowshoes, and it was recommended to look into Washington County
41 Parks. George said this might be a great opportunity to partner with the Boy Scouts.

1 **7) CAC Updates**

2 **a) 110th Street Monitoring**

3 Jyneen shared an update on the trees planted in late April. She said that there was good leaf out
4 on the trees she could see, but that she could not see into the tubes. She shared that the weed
5 suppression mats were collecting water and creating a breeding ground for mosquitoes. She
6 also shared that she didn't help with all the trees, but that the WCD crew planted the Wild
7 Plums exactly as she had hoped. She also shared that the neighbor to the west had done some
8 tree planting as well. Jyneen also noted the return of liparis orchids, which like shade that had
9 been reduced due to thinning of buckthorn and cedars. She said that aside from buckthorn
10 regrowth, Canada goldenrod was dominating the upper west section, and that blue flag iris and
11 marsh marigolds were in the mudflat area near the culvert. The CAC discussed the need for
12 more buckthorn management in unit 3.

13 **b) Long Lake Bird Boxes**

14 Hannah shared that Anne had reached out for assistance in getting the bird boxes put up around
15 Long Lake.

16 **c) Seasonal Flora Handouts**

17 Hannah shared that this is on pause with the goal to be ready next spring.

18 **8) BCWD Updates**

19 **a) Board Positions**

20 Hannah shared that there is still one open position on the BCWD Board of Managers.

21 **b) Apparel Order**

22 Hannah shared that apparel will be available after June 17th.

23 **c) 110th Street – Hunting Regulations**

24 Hannah shared that hunting is not allowed on the property, but that just because deer stands
25 were facing the property, hunters could be turned sideways shooting on their own property,
26 such as with a bow. Hannah said that she would be sending out communication to adjacent
27 landowners prior to hunting season about hunting regulations and the restoration work being
28 done. George requested that staff ask the neighbors to not have stands facing the BCWD
29 property. Jyneen mentioned that deer populations in the area could use thinning.

30 **d) Brown's Creek Restoration**

31 Hannah shared that she is developing restoration project signage and asked for
32 recommendations on species to include. She also shared that agreements are in progress for the
33 next phase of restoration through Brown's Creek Cove, but it's looking like construction will not
34 begin until spring 2027.

35 **e) Beaver Management**

36 Hannah shared that signage has been received but still needs to be installed and that there is
37 now a beaver management section on the BCWD website.

38 **9) Content for Future Meetings**

39 Hannah shared that Andrew Coyne would be presenting on forestry at the August CAC meeting.

40 **10) Adjourned Meeting at 7:07 pm**