

DRAFT Regular Meeting Minutes – April 16, 2026
RPBCWD Citizen Advisory Committee Monthly Meeting

ATTENDANCE

Status: P = Present | E = Excused | A = Absent without notification

CAC Members

Andrew Aller	P
Ed Goff	P
Hannah Peterson	P
Ian Vaagenes	P

Jeff Weiss	P
Jim Boettcher	P
Marcia Kolb	E
Marilynn Torkelson	E

Sharon McCotter	P
Susan Morton	P
Ted Mellby	P

Others

Liz Forbes	<i>RPBCWD Staff</i>	P
Dylan Monahan	<i>RPBCWD Staff</i>	P

Dorothy Pedersen	<i>BOM</i>	P

I. Opening

- A. Chair Aller called meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
- B. Attendance noted, Manager Pedersen joined by Zoom.
- C. Matters of general public interest – no discussion.
- D. Agenda adopted by all.
- E. Chairman Aller noted as timekeeper.
- F. Agenda – no changes noted, approved by all.

II. Board Meeting Recap and Discussion: The February 18, March 18, and April 15 Board of Manager’s (BOM) meetings were attended by and discussed by Sharon McCotter, Hannah Peterson, and Chair Aller.

- A. Sharon attended the February 18 BOM meeting and reported that 1 of the workshop topics was put on hold; the other 2 covered the cost share program and a brainstorming session on future workshop ideas. Sharon reported that the regular meeting covered a change to accounting systems, some litigation issues that are pending and some input from residents of Lake Susan.
- B. Hannah attended the March 18 BOM workshop and meeting and reported that the workshop covered some aspects of Riley Creek (fish and wildlife passage). There was also a presentation by the University of Minnesota on a restoration plan for the Spring Road Property. At the meeting, there were some public comments about protecting Lotus Lake from wakeboats along with some permit approvals.
- C. Chair Aller indicated that some administrative issues were handled at the April BOM meeting. There was also a lot of [discussion about wakeboat impacts on the lakes](#) with Minnesota Watersheds being consulted as to policy and for the State to resolve.

III. Program and Project Updates – Staff

- A. Dylan Monahan spoke to the recent public meetings on the [systems approach to watershed management plans](#). Two have been held with two more public meetings coming on May 21 and May 28 which will cover the next phase. The main speaker, Joe Bischoff, will also be presenting a workshop at the May BOM meeting, all are encouraged to attend.
- B. Liz Forbes gave an update on the Stewardship Cost Share Program and handed out a summary document. Liz reported that a [“mini” grant program](#) is a change to the existing program and should be easier to manage and attract more individuals.
- C. Dylan and Liz provided an update to the Creek Week program. Dylan indicated that the schedule and activities are still evolving and subject to change, but the activities will start on June 7. Dylan and Liz asked for more ideas and indicated Eleanor Mahon will be reaching out for volunteers.
- D. Dylan addressed other upcoming volunteer needs and stated there are none at this time. Dylan provided a reminder that Eleanor will be at the Eden Prairie Eco Expo on Saturday if anyone would like to drop by.
- E. Liz provided an update on the District staffing to include that Josh Maxwell had resigned; the hiring of 2 new staff as Water Resource Technicians; and that 4 seasonal staff will be returning in May. Chair Aller asked about Adopt a Dock and Adopt a Drain and Liz stated she would follow up on these.

IV. Presentation – HOA Stormwater Tools – Hannah

- A. Hannah provided a detailed presentation that she had created regarding Stormwater Tools for HOAs. Chair Aller expressed enthusiasm for this program stating that he sees a need here in our District. Liz indicated that the District could provide resources for having this presentation done locally. It was determined that Hannah could lead an effort here with assistance from Sharon, Chair Aller, and Jeff Weiss. Manager Pedersen indicated that she would help shepherd this effort along.

V. CAC Process and Function

A. Discussion Items

- i. Ed Goff, who will be maintaining the motions spreadsheet and CAC Google Drive, asked for assistance in “housekeeping” and “clean up” of the committee’s files. This will be addressed at the June meeting.

B. Member reports

- i. Lending Library – Sharon reported that this effort will wait until the new building is done.
- ii. River of Dreams – Sharon indicated this is on hold until others are available.
- iii. Creek Week Volunteer Activity – Sharon reported that she has walked several areas and does not see much that could be used to initiate volunteer activity. Manager Pedersen suggested buckthorn removal of the Spring Road Property as a potential volunteer activity. The group agreed that the buckthorn removal on the Spring Road Property is a good project for the CAC during Creek Week and Sharon will take the lead with assistance from Ed, Susan, Ian Vaagenes, Chair

Aller, Jeff, and District staff. The volunteer event is being planned for Thursday, June 11.

- iv. Recap of Lower MN River WD Meet & Greet – consensus was that while the topics were interesting, the overall agenda was too long and not focused on CACs working together as originally thought. The group is interested in seeing the feedback about this meeting and whether another will be held.
- v. Takeaways from Hockata Ti Cultural Center event – thoughts included how sad the Native American story is; comments were made about the beauty of the building and the interesting exhibits.

VI. Potential New Project

- A. **Documentation of Changes to Spring Road Project** - Hannah volunteered to document the Spring Road Project before and after via photography. The group conceded this would be a good project and Hannah will follow up.

VII. Upcoming Events and Adjournment

A. District events

- 5/21/26: Systems Approach workshop for the Susan, Ann, and Lucy subwatersheds
- 5/28/26: Systems Approach workshop for the Red Rock and Mitchell subwatersheds
- June 7-June 13: Creek Week

B. Upcoming CAC Regular Meetings: Jun 4, Aug 6, Oct 1, Dec 10

- June 4: District Administrator Jeffery will do a presentation on the 10-year plan update
- A fall joint meeting and tour with the BOM and CAC is planned but yet to be scheduled

C. Upcoming BOM regular meetings: May 20, Jun 17, July 15, August 19

- BOM workshops: Scheduled as needed; usually occur before regular meeting - Joe Bischoff will be presenting a workshop on the systems approach to watershed management plan updates prior to the May 20 meeting.
- Meeting adjourned by Chair Aller at 7:40 p.m.