



**Minutes**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
 Monday, February 23, 2026  
 5:00 PM

Board Members Present: Jim Aird, Jack Ezell, Laura Ness, Loren Lilly, Marcia Podratz, Rob Schilling, Carrie Schneider, Nathan Johnson (remote), and Ben Mathews (remote)  
 Staff Present: Chuck Kimball, Cathy Remington, Tim Lundell, Brandon Kohlts, Carrie Clement, Grant Brown, and Lauri Amundson  
 Legal Counsel Present: Dave Oberstar- Fryberger Law Firm  
 Chair Schilling called the meeting to order at 5:09 PM

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<b>1. Agenda Review</b>	
<b>2. Old Business</b>	
<b>3. Approval of Consent Agenda Items</b>	
3.1 Regular Board Minutes dated February 2, 2026 <a href="#">February 2, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes.pdf</a>	7 - 14
3.2 Board Member vouchers for January/February <a href="#">January 2026 Voucher.pdf</a>	15 - 16
3.3 Payment Vouchers dated January 21, 2026, through February 17, 2026. <a href="#">02-17-2026 February Board Register.pdf</a> The Board moves to recommend approval of the Consent Agenda Items  <i>Moved by:</i> Laura Ness <i>Seconded by:</i> Jack Ezell	17 - 25
<b>Aye:</b> Jack Ezell, Jim Aird, Laura Ness, Loren Lilly, Marcia Podratz, Rob Schilling, Carrie	

**4. New Business Items for Discussion and Approval**

**Operations and Planning**

- 4.1 [Approval of Professional Services for Silverbrook Interceptor Replacement Project](#) 26 - 27

Brandon Kohlts discussed the design and bidding of the Silverbrook Interceptor Replacement project.

The Operations and Planning Committee recommends that the Board approve entering into a professional services agreement with SEH, Inc. for design and bidding services for the Silverbrook Interceptor Replacement Project for an amount not to exceed \$103,681.

This work will be funded from the approved 2026 wastewater capital budget, Silverbrook Interceptor Replacement Project (# 101269).

*Moved by:* Marcia Podratz

*Seconded by:* Jim Aird

**Aye:** Jack Ezell, Jim Aird, Laura Ness, Loren Lilly, Marcia Podratz, Rob Schilling, Carrie Schneider, Nathan Johnson, and Ben Mathews

**Motion Passed 9-0**

- 4.2 [Approval of Solid Waste Ordinance Amendment - Section 4.2.F \(Limitation on Disposal and Damage\)](#) 28 - 29  
[Section 4.2.F.5. amended language](#)

Brandon Kohlts discussed the revisions to the Solid Waste Ordinance for Section 4.2.F.5.

The Operations and Planning Committee recommends that the Board approve amending Section 4.2.F.5 of the Solid Waste Ordinance.

*Moved by:* Jack Ezell

*Seconded by:* Laura Ness

**Aye:** Jack Ezell, Jim Aird, Laura Ness, Loren Lilly,  
Marcia Podratz, Rob Schilling, Carrie  
Schneider, Nathan Johnson, and Ben Mathews

**Motion Passed 9-0**

4.3 [Approval of Construction Agreement - Main Lab Countertop and Cabinet Replacement Project](#) 30 - 31

Brandon Kohlts discussed the main lab countertop and cabinet replacement project, replacing the cabinets, countertops, and fume hoods in the main lab.

The Operations and Planning Committee recommends the Board approve entering into a contract with Cosney Corporation for the purchase and installation of new cabinetry and countertops for the lab at a cost not to exceed \$190,835.

This will be funded from the approved 2026 wastewater capital budget Main Lab Countertop and Cabinet Replacement Project. (#101148).

*Moved by:* Loren Lilly

*Seconded by:* Marcia Podratz

**Aye:** Jack Ezell, Jim Aird, Laura Ness, Loren Lilly,  
Marcia Podratz, Rob Schilling, Carrie  
Schneider, Nathan Johnson, and Ben Mathews

**Motion Passed 9-0**

4.4 [Approval of Professional Services Agreement for Cloquet Pond Liner Replacement](#) 32 - 33

Brandon Kohlts discussed the professional services scope of work for the design and preparation of bidding documents for the Cloquet Pond Liner Replacement Project.

The Operations and Planning Committee recommends that

the Board approve entering into a professional services agreement with HR Green for engineering design and bidding services for the Cloquet Pond Liner Replacement Project for an amount not to exceed \$154,000.

This project will be funded from the approved 2026 wastewater capital budget Cloquet Pond Liner Replacement Project. (#101180).

*Moved by:* Jim Aird

*Seconded by:* Jack Ezell

**Aye:** Jack Ezell, Jim Aird, Laura Ness, Loren Lilly, Marcia Podratz, Rob Schilling, Carrie Schneider, Nathan Johnson, and Ben Mathews

**Motion Passed 9-0**

4.5 [Approval of Change Order #7 - Installation of Dome Flashing - Secondary Clarifier Rehabilitation Project](#)  34 - 35

Brandon Kohlts discussed Change Order #7 with McGough Construction regarding the addition of aluminum flashing to the interior dome of clarifiers 1, 2, and 4.

The Operations and Planning Committee recommends the Board approve Change Order #7 to McGough Construction Co. in the amount of \$249,180 to complete the installation of aluminum flashing on clarifiers 1,2, and 4. This work will be funded from the Secondary Clarifier Rehabilitation Project (#101208).

*Moved by:* Loren Lilly

*Seconded by:* Carrie Schneider

**Aye:** Jack Ezell, Jim Aird, Laura Ness, Loren Lilly, Marcia Podratz, Rob Schilling, Carrie Schneider, Nathan Johnson, and Ben Mathews

**Motion Passed 9-0**

4.6 [Approval of Chemical Bid #1507 - Ferric Chloride](#)  36

The Operations and Planning Committee recommends that the Board approve awarding Bid #1507 to PVS Technologies for supplying Ferric Chloride for 2026 at a cost of \$1,093/dry ton. This will be charged to Account 10000-11020 and expensed to Account 40000-66420.

*Moved by:* Jim Aird

*Seconded by:* Loren Lilly


**Aye:** Jack Ezell, Jim Aird, Laura Ness, Loren Lilly, Marcia Podratz, Rob Schilling, Carrie Schneider, Nathan Johnson, and Ben Mathews

**Motion Passed 9-0**

## **5. Committee Reports**

- 5.1 Committee of the Whole
- 5.2 Finance
- 5.3 Operations and Planning
- 5.4 Personnel
- 5.5 Legislative
- 5.6 Board Governance
- 5.7 Board Member Comments

## **6. Reporting**

- 6.1 Communications  
Carrie Clement discussed the communications for February
- 6.2 Monthly Financials 37 - 50  
[Monthly Financials.pdf](#)   
Cathy Remington reviewed the January financials at the Committee of the Whole meeting.

6.3 NPDES

51 - 57


Tim Lundell reported the NPDES for January. There were no sewer releases in January.

[January 2025 NPDES Report.pdf](#) 

6.4 Executive Director

Carrie reviewed several recognitions received by the District, including the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting awarded by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA). She also mentioned the Resource and Recovery Efficiency Award for the CHP project, presented by the Central States Water Environment Association, as well as the Engineering Excellence Award for the Carlton Wastewater Pump Station Replacement, awarded by the American Council of Engineering Companies. Additionally, Carrie provided an update on the alleged MPCA violations.

  
Recording Secretary

  
Board Secretary, Loren Lilly

  
Board Chair, Rob Schilling

The meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m.