

Minutes of the Cedar River Watershed District
1408 21st Ave NW, Austin, MN 55912
Wednesday, August 20, 2025
Meeting held at the Austin office

Managers Present: Steve Kraushaar Mike Jones
 Mike Merten Kevin Kiser
 Jason Weis Sue Olson
 Joe Sheely

Others Present: Cody Fox, Administrator
 Jeanne Crump, Mower SWCD
 Dave Livingston, Dodge SWCD
 David Hansen, Public

Public Hearing for the 2026 Administrative, Project and Maintenance Levies

Chairman, Sue Olson called the public hearing to order.

2026 Budget, Administrative, Project and Maintenance Levy

Fox talked about the 2026 budget breakdown and 2026 proposed levy. The board held discussion.

Public Input

No Input

Jones made a motion to close the public hearing. Kiser seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Kraushaar, Jones, Merten, Kiser, Weis, Olson, Sheely

Opposed: None

Chairman Olson, called the board meeting to order.

Agenda

Kraushaar made a motion to approve the updated August agenda. Merten seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Kraushaar, Jones, Merten, Kiser, Weis, Olson, Sheely

Opposed: None

Public Input

David Hansen attended the board meeting to gain knowledge of the watershed district.

Secretary's Report

The minutes were presented to the board of the July 16, 2025, board meeting. Merten made a motion to approve the minutes. Jones seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Kraushaar, Jones, Merten, Kiser, Weis, Olson, Sheely

Opposed: None

Treasurer's Report

Jones reviewed the July month end reports with the board. Olson made a motion to approve the July month end reports. Weis seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Kraushaar, Jones, Merten, Kiser, Weis, Olson, Sheely

Opposed: None

The August payables report, check #4229-4235, was reviewed with the board. Merten made a motion to approve the payables for August. Weis seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Kraushaar, Jones, Merten, Kiser, Weis, Olson, Sheely

Opposed: None

Action Items

2026 Budget & Levy Resolution

Jones made a motion to approve the 2026 Budget and Levy as presented to the public during August 20, 2025, hearing with the following proposed levy amounts for 2026, Administrative-\$250,000, Project-\$100,000, and Maintenance-\$20,000. Kiser seconded the motion. Crump did a roll call vote.

Affirmative: Kraushaar, Jones, Merten, Kiser, Weis, Olson, Sheely

Opposed: None

Program Summary Changes

Crump explained the updates that were made to the program summary. Olson made a motion to approve the changes made to the program summary from staff recommendations. Sheely seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Kraushaar, Jones, Merten, Kiser, Weis, Olson, Sheely

Opposed: None

2024 Audit

Jones made a motion to approve the 2024 financial audit completed by CliftonLarsonAllen (CLA) LLP. Kiser seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Kraushaar, Jones, Merten, Kiser, Weis, Olson, Sheely

Opposed: None

Partners Reports

Dodge SWCD, Dave Livingston

Livingston updated the board on Dodge SWCD, to include the county fair booth, staff meeting with commissioners and office financial software.

BWSR, Annie Gunness

Not in attendance.

Discussion and Updates

Project & Grant Updates

Fox updated the board on current projects and upcoming grant opportunities.

Watershed Modeling

Fox talked about the requests to utilize our watershed model. The board held discussion.

RCPP Soil Health Update

Fox updated the board on the SWCD receiving its first RCPP grant of \$180,000 for soil health practices, which will include cover crops and strip-till/no-till.

One Watershed Tracking System

Fox showed the board the software that will show completed projects in the Cedar Wapsipinicon watershed. When ready, this information will be available to the public to view.

319 Monitoring

Fox explained the monitoring needs due to the rain events in the area.

Manager's Reports

Chairman Report

Nothing new.

Merten made a motion to adjourn the board meeting. Weis seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Kraushaar, Jones, Merten, Kiser, Weis, Olson, Sheely

Opposed: None

Next meeting will be Wednesday, September 17, 2025.

Submitted by,

Kevin Kiser, Secretary, jkc