

# RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT

October 8, 2026

9:00 a.m.

## Agenda

|         |                                                                                                                                               |             |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 9:00 am | Call to Order                                                                                                                                 | Action      |
|         | Review and approve agenda                                                                                                                     | Action      |
|         | Requests to appear                                                                                                                            | Information |
|         | September 24, 2026 Minutes                                                                                                                    | Action      |
|         | Financial Report as of October 7, 2026                                                                                                        | Action      |
|         | Frontier Precision Renewal Quote                                                                                                              | Info/Action |
|         | League of Minnesota Cities Workers Compensation Dividend                                                                                      | Information |
|         | Flage Erosion Control, RLWD Project No. 174<br>Red Lake River 1W1P - Final Pay Estimate                                                       | Info/Action |
|         | RLWD Project No. 149A, Thief River Streambank Stabilization Project<br>2026 Sites: Pay Estimate No. 3                                         | Info/Action |
|         | Clearwater River Bank Stabilization, RLWD Project No. 149B                                                                                    | Information |
| 9:30 am | Improvement to Polk County Ditch 39, RLWD Project No. 179<br>Bid Opening                                                                      | Action      |
|         | JD 4, RLWD Project No. 101, Peatland Restoration                                                                                              | Information |
|         | Red Lake River 1W1P, RLWD Project No. 149<br>JD 60 Outlet<br>Red Lake/Polk County Line Outlet Stabilization Project                           | Information |
|         | Brule Project, RLWD Project No. 149, Red Lake River 1W1P                                                                                      | Information |
|         | RLWD Project No. 184, Improvement to Judicial Ditch 1 – Outlet 3<br>Landowner Meeting – 10/7/2026<br>Joint Ditch Meeting – 11/12/26 @ 1:00 pm | Information |
|         | Mud River, RLWD Project No. 180C                                                                                                              | Information |
|         | Houston Avenue Crookston – Meeting on 10/26/26                                                                                                | Information |
|         | RLWD Permit No. 26125: Terrebonne 6, Red Lake County                                                                                          | Info/Action |

|                                  |             |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Permits: 26126, 26127, and 26128 | Action      |
| Administrator's Report           | Information |
| Legal Counsel Update             | Information |
| Managers' Updates                | Information |
| Adjourn                          | Action      |

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

|                  |                                                   |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| October 8, 2026  | RLWD Board Meeting, 9:00 am                       |
| October 8, 2026  | JD 11/JD 21 Meeting, 9:30 am, Grygla              |
| October 20, 2026 | RRWMB Meeting, 10:00 am, Ada                      |
| October 22, 2026 | RLWD Board Meeting, 9:00 am                       |
| October 28, 2026 | Clearwater 1W1P Policy Committee Meeting, 9:00 am |

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Board of Managers Minutes  
September 24, 2026

President, Gene Tiedemann, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Red Lake Watershed District Office, Thief River Falls, MN.

Managers Present: Gene Tiedemann, Tom Anderson, Brian Dwight, Terry Sorenson, LeRoy Ose, Al Page, and Grant Nelson. Staff Present: Tammy Audette, Melissa Bushy, Elaine Rychlock, Corey Hanson, Tony Olson, and Legal Counsel, Delray Sparby.

The Board reviewed the agenda. A motion was made by Sorenson, seconded by Anderson, and passed by a unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda, with additions as noted. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the September 10, 2026, Board meeting minutes. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Nelson, to approve the September 10, 2026, Board meeting minutes, with corrections as noted. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report as of September 23, 2026. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Nelson, to approve the Financial Report as of September 23, 2026. Motion carried.

Manager Ose discussed the November 2026 board meeting dates: November 12 and November 26. November 26 is Thanksgiving Day. After much discussion, a motion was made by Ose, seconded by Page, to change the November 26 board meeting date to November 24, 2026 at 9:00 am at the Red Lake Watershed District board room. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed Pay Estimate No. 2 for the Clearwater River Bank Stabilization, Project, RLWD Project No. 149B, in the amount of \$198,310.66, to Quality Spray Foam LLC dba Anderson Excavating. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Anderson, to approve Pay Estimate No. 2 for the Clearwater River Bank Stabilization Project, RLWD Project No. 149B, to Quality Spray Foam LLC dba Anderson Excavating. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette presented a temporary construction easement for the 2026 Thief River Bank Stabilization Sites, RLWD Project No. 149A, Thief River 1W1P. This would be for the Rodahl/Lunke site. Discussion ensued as to how much to reimburse the renter for the .587 acres of crop damage. Motion by Ose, seconded by Anderson, to approve reimbursing the renter, Brad Lunke, \$1000 for the .587 acres of crop damage. Motion carried.

Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, discussed permitting on the Brule Bank Stabilization, RLWD Project No. 149. After discussion amongst the Board, the consensus was to move forward with obtaining the archeological quotes for the project.

Staff member, Corey Hanson, discussed the North Cormorant Streambank Project, RLWD Project No. 149C, Upper Red Lake 1W1P. The streambank erosion problem was identified using LIDAR analysis for the Upper/Lower Red Lakes Watershed. Lance and Natalie Nistler are the

landowners and are on board with a range of solutions including rock, sloping, and/or toe-wood sod mat. The location of the bank is about 5.4 miles SW of Kelliher and 11.6 miles north of Blackduck. Hanson said that watershed-based implementation funding can be used to develop the project. The ULRL 1W1P Policy Committee will decide on the cost-share percentage that will be required for construction. Motion by Dwight, seconded by Anderson, to move forward with North Cormorant Streambank Project, RLWD Project No. 149C, Upper Red Lake 1W1P. Motion carried. District staff will report back to the Board with the cost share amount.

Administrator Audette discussed the TRF Westside FDR Project No. 178. Audette received a letter from the Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB) Office approving the sale of this bond-financed property to Tango, TNE, LLC and the Carlson Trust. Once MMB has procured the MnDNR Commissioners signature, the documents will be forwarded to the District for recording.

Administrator Audette discussed the Improvement to JD1, RLWD Project No. 184. There is a landowner's meeting scheduled for Wednesday, October 7, 2026, at 5:00 pm. Nate Dalager, HDR Engineer, will be present at the meeting to discuss the project. Discussion was held on the re-establishment of records and a Joint Ditch meeting.

Administrator Audette discussed Turtle Connection Cross Lakes, RLWD Project No. 114 as it relates to landowner easements. Audette noted that Polk County and the MnDNR are working on their easements, with two additional easements needed from private landowners. Discussion was held on the possibility of using Eminent Domain for the project to be able to proceed.

Administrator Audette and Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, , discussed Mud River, RLWD Project No. 180C. Discussion was held on the Project Team meeting held on September 16, 2026. Dalager noted that a Joint Powers Agreement will be needed between the USFWS, MnDNR and the District, as the District is not the landowner. Dalager further stated that the USFWS and/or MnDNR will need to be the permit applicant. Funding recommendations from the Lessard Sam Outdoor Heritage Counsel will be released on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Administrator Audette reviewed the quotes received for the Burnham Creek Channel, RLWD Project No. 43B. Lyle Wilkens submitted the lowest quote in the amount of \$11,337 for the project repairs. Motion by Page, seconded by Nelson to approve the quote from Lyle Wilkens in the amount of \$11,337 for repairs to the Burnham Creek Project, RLWD Project No. 43B. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette discussed RLWD Project No. 179, Improvement to Polk County Ditch 39. The bid opening is scheduled for October 8, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. at the District office. Audette is waiting for an Addendum from Pribula Engineering. Discussion was held on the development of a standard easement for permanent and temporary easements. Legal Counsel Sparby will develop the easement, with the legal description being provided by Pribula Engineering.

Staff member Corey Hanson, and Administrator Audette discussed with the Board One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) streambank stabilization projects that are located within legal ditch

system under the jurisdiction of the District. As an example, Audette referenced the 2026 Thief River Bank Stabilization Projects (149A), Clearwater River Bank Stabilization (149B), and the potential Lost River Bank Stabilization (149B). Hanson stated that 1W1P projects typically require a cost share agreement. Audette and Hanson questioned the Board on how the District would like to handle the cost share portion of bank stabilization projects while utilizing ditch and/or District funds. After much discussion, a motion was made by Ose, seconded by Nelson, to split the 10% cost share (50/50) between the legal ditch fund and the District, with the District's share coming out of 1W1P Match, RLWD Project No. 182, 182A, 182B, or 182C. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette discussed the comments of the USACOE Draft Minnesota Mitigation Guidelines included in the Board packet.

RLWD permit no. 26118 was discussed. The proposed work is in Section 6, Terrebonne Township, in Red Lake County. Motion by Page, seconded by Anderson, to deny RLWD permit no. 26118. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the following permits for approval. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Page, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 26111, Red Lake County Highway Dept., Gervais Township, Red Lake County; No. 26112, MnDOT, Rocksbury Township, Pennington County; No. 26113, MnDOT, Emardville Township, Red Lake County; No. 26114, Richard Salentiny, Mayfield Township, Pennington County; No. 26115, Clarence Smith, Benville Township, Beltrami County; No. 26116, Clarence Smith, Spruce Grove Township, Beltrami County; No. 26117, Brady Lee, Badger Township, Polk County; No. 26119, Luke Forness, Louisville Township, Red Lake County; No. 26120, Kevin Landsverk, Brandsvold Township, Polk County; No. 26121, Marshall County Highway Dept., Moylan Township, Marshall County; No. 26122, Daniel Paulson, Eden Township, Polk County; and No. 26123, Kyle Mehrkens, Sanders Township, Pennington County.

#### **Administrator's Report:**

- **FDRWG meeting:** Audette attended the FDRWG on 9/22/26 in Ada.
- **RRWMB:** Audette attended the RRWMB meeting on 9/15/26 in Ada. Discussion was held on legislative events.
- **River Watch kickoff event:** The District office hosted the 2026 River Watch event on September 23; with close to 100 students in the building.
- **Judicial Ditch 1:** Engineer Mike Flaagan will arrange a Joint Ditch meeting as it relates to the Improvement to JD 1, RLWD Project No. 184.
- **Out of the Office:** Audette will be on vacation October 1 & 2, 2026

Legal Counsel Sparby stated he is working on the blanket easement for RLWD Project No. 179 and working with Red Lake County attorney, Greg Widseth regarding the easements for the RLWD Project No. 114.

Manager Sorenson discussed Turtle Connection Cross, RLWD Project No. 114.

Motion by Ose, seconded by Nelson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

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LeRoy Ose, Secretary

**RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT**  
**Financial Report as of October 7, 2026**

| <b>Ck#</b> | <b>Check Issued to:</b>      | <b>Description</b>                                       | <b>Amount</b>       |
|------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| online     | EFTPS/MN Withholding         | Withholding FICA, Fed, Medi, & MN Tax (10/7/26 pp)       | \$6,496.26          |
| online     | PERA                         | 10/7/26 pp                                               | \$3,338.27          |
| 42448      | Quality Spray Foam           | Pay Est. #2 Clearwater River Stab. (board appr. 9/23/26) | \$198,310.66        |
| 42451      | Brad Lunke                   | Temporary Easement - Crop Damage                         | \$1,000.00          |
| 42452      | Dave Radi                    | Grade Stabilization Red Lake 1W1P MOA 1/2026             | \$17,090.18         |
| 42453      | Donaldson Precision Spraying | Cattail Spraying Grand Marais Brandt & Ditch 15          | \$5,858.50          |
| 42454      | Farmers Union Oil            | Fuel for Vehicles                                        | \$1,588.84          |
| 42455      | HDR                          | ***see details below                                     | \$60,607.29         |
| 42456      | Hugo's                       | Meeting Supplies                                         | \$324.14            |
| 42457      | Olson Construction           | Mowing Parnell, Ditch 10, 11 & 15 & Black River          | \$15,600.00         |
| 42458      | Jeremy Rychlock              | Read & Observe Moose River Impoundment                   | \$4,026.30          |
| 42459      | Larson Helicopters LLC       | Cattail Spraying Ditch #1, JD4, 14, City of TRF #122,115 | \$3,268.65          |
| 42460      | LP Contracting LLC           | Beaver Dam Removal on JD #2                              | \$774.00            |
| 42461      | Marco                        | Canon Copier Monthly Contract Fee                        | \$374.73            |
| 42462      | Northdale Oil Inc.           | Fuel for Vehicles                                        | \$236.55            |
| 42463      | Pennington SWCD              | ***see details below                                     | \$41,625.00         |
| 42464      | Red Lake County SWCD         | ***see details below                                     | \$17,276.56         |
| 42465      | RMB Enviromental Lab         | Water Quality Lab Analysis & Courier Fees                | \$3,585.00          |
| online     | WEX                          | Medical Care Reimbursement                               | \$88.12             |
| online     | WEX                          | Monthly Fee                                              | \$11.00             |
| online     | Pure Water                   | Office H2O                                               | \$38.00             |
| online     | Garden Valley                | Internet Expenses                                        | \$68.95             |
| online     | AT&T                         | Cell Phone                                               | \$405.67            |
| online     | Corporate Technologies       | Microsoft 365 & Managed IT Services                      | \$2,358.80          |
| online     | Medica                       | Staff Health Insurance Premiums                          | \$11,319.06         |
| online     | Card Members Elan            | Credit Card Charges                                      | \$2,416.01          |
| online     | Voya                         | HCSP Contribution for employees                          | \$450.54            |
| online     | Delta Dental                 | Dental Insurance Premium                                 | \$631.22            |
| online     | NCPERS                       | Staff Life Insurance                                     | \$128.00            |
| direct     | Brian Dwight                 | Mileage                                                  | \$622.60            |
| direct     | Terry Sorenson               | Mileage                                                  | \$114.00            |
| direct     | Al Page                      | Mileage                                                  | \$57.76             |
| direct     | Grant Nelson                 | Mileage                                                  | \$48.64             |
| direct     | Board & Staff Payroll        | 10/7/26 pp                                               | \$18,656.10         |
|            | <b>Total Checks</b>          |                                                          | <b>\$418,795.40</b> |

|            |                            |                    |
|------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>HDR</b> | Flage Project Construction | \$1,037.50         |
|            | Mud River Restoration Fee  | \$33,279.79        |
|            | JD#1 Improvement T&E       | \$26,290.00        |
|            |                            | <b>\$60,607.29</b> |

|             |                                         |                    |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Penn</b> | Knott - Nelson Cover Crop reimburse     | \$40,000.00        |
| <b>SWCD</b> | Pheasants Forever 1/4 Match Contributio | \$1,625.00         |
|             |                                         | <b>\$41,625.00</b> |

|                 |                                      |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Red Lake</b> | Red Lake Rvr Admin/Pro.Dev #149 1W1P | \$15,602.94        |
| <b>County</b>   | & (Non Struct Ag Practices Reimbuse) |                    |
| <b>SWCD</b>     | Red Lake Rvr Admin/Pro.Dev #149 1W1P | \$1,673.62         |
|                 |                                      | <b>\$17,276.56</b> |

|            |                                  |                                                    |                     |
|------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>NSB</b> | Balance as of September 24, 2026 |                                                    | \$557,612.56        |
| <b>TRF</b> | Total Checks Written             |                                                    | -\$418,795.40       |
|            | Receipt #12569                   | Scott Sorvig Land Rent (CRP) Black River Imp. #176 | \$96.79             |
|            | Receipt #12570                   | Huot Streambank Habitat Improvement #149B CPL      | \$159,651.95        |
|            | Receipt #12571                   | Interest for September                             | \$898.60            |
|            | Receipt #12573                   | PRAP Assessment Grant 2026                         | \$10,000.00         |
|            | Receipt #12574                   | League of MN Cities WC Dividend 2026               | \$1,377.00          |
|            | Receipt #12575                   | Dakota Heritage Monthly Interest                   | \$7,296.55          |
|            | Balance as of October 7, 2026    | Current interest rate is 2.75%                     | <b>\$318,138.05</b> |

|                 |                                  |                               |                       |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>American</b> | Balance as of September 24, 2026 |                               | \$4,026,755.18        |
| <b>Federal</b>  | Receipt #12572                   | Interest for September        | \$11,283.53           |
| <b>Fosston</b>  | Balance as of October 7, 2026    | Current interest rate is 3.3% | <b>\$4,038,038.71</b> |

|             |                      |                                     |                       |
|-------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <u>CD's</u> | Dakota Heritage      | 7 month CD 3.89%<br>Expiry 11-12-26 | <u>\$ 500,000.00</u>  |
|             | Ultima Bank          | 3 month CD 4.06%<br>Expiry 11-20-26 | <u>\$ 500,000.00</u>  |
|             | Ultima Bank          | 6 month CD 4.0%<br>Expiry 11-29-26  | <u>\$ 237,000.00</u>  |
|             | Dakota Heritage      | 12 month CD 4.04%<br>Expiry 2-11-27 | <u>\$ 250,000.00</u>  |
|             | Ultima Bank          | 12 month CD 3.75%<br>Expiry 2-27-27 | <u>\$ 500,000.00</u>  |
|             | Dakota Heritage      | 12 month CD 4.04%<br>Expiry 3-4-27  | <u>\$ 500,000.00</u>  |
|             | Dakota Heritage      | 12 month CD 4.04%<br>Expiry 3-4-27  | <u>\$ 250,000.00</u>  |
|             | Dakota Heritage      | 12 month CD 4.04%<br>Expiry 5-06-27 | <u>\$ 500,000.00</u>  |
|             | Ultima Bank          | 9 month CD 4.06%<br>Expiry 5-20-27  | <u>\$ 500,000.00</u>  |
|             | Edward Jones         | 12 month CD 4.05%<br>Expiry 6-23-27 | <u>\$ 239,000.00</u>  |
|             | Dakota Heritage      | 12 month CD 4.14%<br>Expiry 8-19-27 | <u>\$ 250,000.00</u>  |
|             | Total CD Investments |                                     | <b>\$4,226,000.00</b> |

10% pmt coming - no reconciliation needed

**NSB, AFB +CD's**

**\$8,582,176.76**

**Cash that has been recvd and earmarked for projects:  
(taken from remaining balance on financials)**

|                                             |                       |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2023 Grant Clearwater 1W1P Project #149B    | -\$136,475.20         |
| 2024 Grant Red Lake River 1W1P Project #149 | -\$82,074.13          |
| 2024 Grant Thief River 1W1P Project #149A   | \$7,866.56            |
| 2025 Grant Clearwater 1W1P Project #149B    | \$665,569.57          |
| 2024 CRP Payment Red Lake 1W1P              | \$2,132.00            |
| 2025 CRP Payment Red Lake 1W1P              | \$100,000.00          |
| 2026 Grant Red Lake River 1W1P Project #149 | \$856,311.50          |
| 2026 Grant Thief River 1W1P Project #149A   | \$352,474.00          |
| 2026 MIDPOINT Red Lake River Project #149   | \$10,000.00           |
| 2025 MIDPOINT Thief River Project #149A     | \$21,809.15           |
|                                             | <b>\$1,797,613.45</b> |

**Payables committed to by board action:**

|                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| City of Grygla | \$12,500.00         |
| Mud River 180C | \$500,000.00        |
|                | <b>\$512,500.00</b> |

**Total accessible cash (Est.)**

**\$6,272,063.31**



Frontier Precision, Inc.  
446 Great Oak Drive Waite Park, MN 56387  
320-654-6511

Quote

| Acct. No. | Date      | Order # |
|-----------|-----------|---------|
| M313475   | 9/30/2026 | QU65451 |

| Bill To:                                                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Red Lake Watershed District<br>1000 Pennington Avenue South<br>Thief River Falls MN 56701 |

| Ship To:                                                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Red Lake Watershed District<br>1000 Pennington Avenue South<br>Thief River Falls MN 56701 |

**Contract:** MN State Contract (MN Contract) #:State Contract #278552

|                                                                 |                                  |                              |                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Contact</b><br>Tony Olson<br>tony.olson@redlakewatershed.org | <b>Contact #</b><br>218-681-5800 | <b>Expires</b><br>10/30/2026 | <b>Sales Rep</b><br>BRIAN BRAGELMAN<br><a href="mailto:brianb@frontierprecision.com">brianb@frontierprecision.com</a> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

| Item #                     | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Qty | Rate     | Amount     |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----------|------------|
| <b>EWLS-TA-STOCK</b>       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 2   | \$732.60 | \$1,465.20 |
|                            | Trimble Access Annual Software Maintenance<br>MSRP \$814.00<br>DAD213700938 (new expiry 11/15/27)<br>DAD240600268 (new expiry 11/19/27)                                                                                              |     |          |            |
| <b>ADTPP-DC2-STK-1Y</b>    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 2   | \$283.50 | \$567.00   |
|                            | Trimble Protected Premium - Hardware - TSC5/7/510/710 or T110/T7/T70 1 Year (12m exp)<br>MSRP \$350.00<br>Limited time Trimble promotion 10% off<br>DAD213700938 (new expiry 11/21/27)<br>DAD240600268 (new expiry 11/22/27)         |     |          |            |
| <b>ADLS-GNSS-BN-STK-1Y</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 2   | \$972.00 | \$1,944.00 |
|                            | Trimble Protected Premium - Bundle - R12/R12i R780 or R980 Hardware and Firmware 1 Year (12m exp)<br>MSRP \$1200.00<br>Limited time Trimble Promotion 10% off<br>6134F00994 (new expiry 11/29/27)<br>6429746840 (new expiry 11/3/27) |     |          |            |

|                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Subtotal:</b> | \$3,976.20        |
| <b>Shipping:</b> | \$0.00            |
| <b>Total:</b>    | <b>\$3,976.20</b> |

SEP 30 2026

To process your order, please reach out to your sales rep: BRIAN BRAGELMAN [brianb@frontierprecision.com](mailto:brianb@frontierprecision.com)

#### TERMS & CONDITIONS

All invoices are in U.S. Dollars. Prices are good for 30 days, unless otherwise noted. Payment terms are net 30 days upon approved credit. We also accept VISA, MasterCard and American Express. Returns may be accepted 30 days from invoice. A restocking fee of up to 25% may be charged for any return. Special orders are not returnable. Shipping and handling charges are prepaid and added to invoice. Shipment will be made by UPS Ground unless otherwise specified. Credit card payments are subject to a 3% surcharge. FOB Shipping Point.

Signature

Date



QU65451

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## LMCIT Workers' Compensation Dividend Notification

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**From** Fredericks, Sarah <SFredericks@lmc.org>

**Date** Tue 9/29/2026 3:44 PM

**To** Elaine Rychlock <Elaine.Rychlock@redlakewatershed.org>

 1 attachment (178 KB)

0954\_Red Lake Watershed District.pdf;

Dear Elaine,

A check for your share of the \$20 million dividend from the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust's (LMCIT) workers' compensation program will be mailed to you during the week of September 28. The attached document outlines your 2026 dividend amount as well as previous dividend amounts. A copy has also been sent to your insurance agent. We encourage you to share this news with your city council, governing boards, and leadership team.

### **Supporting Safety and Loss Control**

Members are encouraged to consider using their dividend to strengthen employee safety and loss control efforts. Investments in training, equipment, and other risk management initiatives can help reduce workplace injuries and claims over time, contributing to healthier organizations and supporting the long term strength of our insurance pool.

### **Workers' Compensation Program Performance**

This year's \$20 million workers' compensation dividend reflects the program's strong financial position and the LMCIT Board's thoughtful stewardship of member resources. When program balances exceed what is needed for current and projected claims, the Board may choose to return excess funds to members. At the same time, the Board may determine that retaining funds is the best way to support member needs—such as developing new programs, enhancing loss control services, or maintaining long term rate stability during periods of uncertainty.

### **Property/Casualty Program Outlook**

No dividend was approved for the property/casualty program this year. The Board determined it was prudent to hold available funds to support the program's long term financial strength, particularly in light of ongoing market volatility and claims uncertainty. Retaining funds helps ensure the program remains well positioned to manage changing conditions while continuing to provide stable, reliable coverage for members.

### **Dividends and Future Planning**

Dividends are not guaranteed, and members should not count on them when planning annual budgets. Fund balances fluctuate over time due to factors such as member claims, investment results, legislative changes, reinsurance costs, and LMCIT's long-term strategic goals. Each year, the Board evaluates the best uses of any excess funds, which may include returning a dividend or investing in

other alternatives. Our ongoing goal remains the same—broad, affordable, and stable coverage.

### Distribution and Eligibility

To be eligible for distribution, a city or other entity must be a member of the workers' compensation program as of Sept. 1, 2026. Each member's share is determined based on premiums and total losses over the past 20 years. For calculation purposes, individual losses are capped at the lesser of \$200,000 or 200% of the member's annual premium for the year in which the loss occurred. This approach is designed to give proportionally greater amounts to long tenured members that have been most successful in avoiding and controlling losses.

### Questions?

Please contact Program Coordinator Sarah Fredericks at [sfredericks@lmc.org](mailto:sfredericks@lmc.org) or (651) 281-1228 with any questions, concerns, or suggestions.

Thank you for being an integral part of our self insured membership cooperative—created by and for Minnesota cities over 45 years ago. Together, we will continue to offer comprehensive coverage and innovative risk management programs tailored to meet your needs.

### League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust Board of Trustees

Jake Benson, Proctor Council Member  
Luke Fischer, LMC Executive Director  
Laurie Hokkanen, Chanhassen Manager  
Phil Kern, Delano Administrator  
Audrey Nelsen, Willmar Council Member  
Jorge Prince, Bemidji Mayor  
Alison Zelms, Rochester Administrator

Check 195757      Date of check 9/28/2026

Vendor : 101534, Red Lake Watershed District

| Invoice number | Invoice date | Payment amount |
|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| 2026 WC Divide | 9/1/2026     | 1,377.00       |
| Total          |              | 1,377.00       |

### Past Payments -

2022 - \$1,880 -  
2023 - \$673 -  
2024 - \$1,045 -  
2026 - \$1,377 -

RECEIVED

OCT 05 2026

Initial: da

Ret. #12574

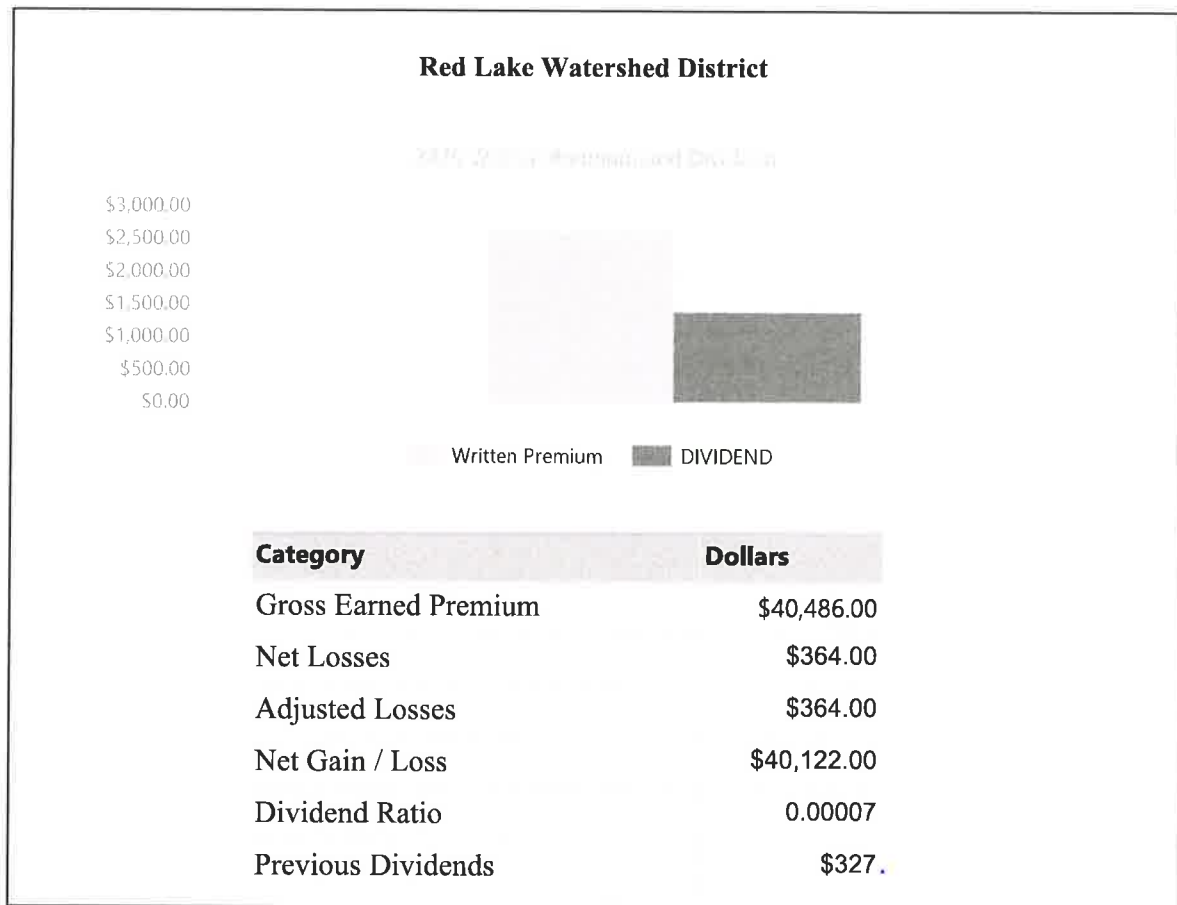
# LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA CITIES INSURANCE TRUST

## WORKERS' COMPENSATION PROGRAM

### 2026 DIVIDEND CALCULATION

AT SEPTEMBER 01, 2026

|                             |                      |               |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Red Lake Watershed District | GROSS EARNED PREMIUM | \$40,486      |
|                             | ADJUSTED LOSSES      | \$364         |
|                             | DIVIDEND RATIO       | 0.00006885000 |
|                             | DIVIDEND AMOUNT      | \$1,377       |



The "gross earned premium" figure is the member's total earned premiums as of September 01, 2026 for the past 20 years. This is the premium figure that's used in the dividend calculation.

The "2026 written premium" figure is the member's total premium for the member's most recent renewal prior to September 01, 2026 (for most members, only a portion of that 2026 written premium would be earned as of September 01, 2026).







**RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT**  
**Application for Payment**  
**Estimate of Work Completed**

ESTIMATE NUMBER: 2  
PROJECT NAME: Flage Stabilization Project  
OWNER: Red Lake Watershed District  
CONTRACT AMOUNT: \$84,964.40  
CONTRACTOR: Quality Spray Foam/Anderson Excavating

DATE: October 7, 2026  
PROJECT NUMBER: 174  
CONTRACT DATE: July 16, 2026  
WORK COMPLETED: October 4, 2026

| ITEM NO. | SPEC. NO. | DESCRIPTION                               | UNIT | CONTRACT QUANTITY | UNIT PRICE | QUANTITY COMPLETED |         |       | TOTAL AMOUNT |
|----------|-----------|-------------------------------------------|------|-------------------|------------|--------------------|---------|-------|--------------|
|          |           |                                           |      |                   |            | PREVIOUS           | CURRENT | TOTAL |              |
| 1        | 2021.501  | Mobilization                              | LS   | 1                 | \$7,500.00 | 1                  | 0       | 1     | \$7,500.00   |
| 2        | 2101.501  | Clearing and Grubbing                     | LS   | 1                 | \$2,500.00 | 1                  | 0       | 1     | \$2,500.00   |
| 3        | 2104.501  | Remove Outlet Structure                   | LS   | 1                 | \$2,500.00 | 1                  | 0       | 1     | \$2,500.00   |
| 4        | 2104.607  | Salvage Random Riprap                     | CY   | 22                | \$10.00    | 22                 | 0       | 22    | \$220.00     |
| 5        | 2106.502  | Common Excavation (P)                     | CY   | 733               | \$9.00     | 733                | 0       | 733   | \$6,597.00   |
| 6        | 2108.504  | Geotextile Type 7                         | SY   | 413               | \$4.00     | 413                | 0       | 413   | \$1,652.00   |
| 7        | 2106.501  | Site Grading                              | LS   | 1                 | \$3,500.00 | 1                  | 0       | 1     | \$3,500.00   |
| 8        |           | Structure Grate                           | EA   | 1                 | \$5,500.00 | 0                  | 1       | 1     | \$5,500.00   |
| 9        | 2451.507  | Granular Bedding                          | CY   | 69                | \$26.00    | 69                 | 0       | 69    | \$1,794.00   |
| 10       | 2511.507  | Random Riprap Class IV- Special (Granite) | CY   | 275               | \$130.00   | 275                | 0       | 275   | \$35,750.00  |
| 11       | 2574.508  | Rolled Erosion Prevention CAT 25          | SY   | 363               | \$4.00     | 0                  | 363     | 363   | \$1,452.00   |
| 12       | 2575.504  | Rolled Erosion Prevention CAT 80A (P)     | SY   | 149               | \$90.60    | 0                  | 149     | 149   | \$13,499.40  |
| 13       | 2575.501  | Turf Establishment                        | LS   | 1                 | \$2,500.00 | 0                  | 1       | 1     | \$2,500.00   |
| Subtotal |           |                                           |      |                   |            |                    |         |       | \$84,964.40  |

**Additional Quantities**

|                                                                   |  |                                  |    |     |        |   |    |    |            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|----|-----|--------|---|----|----|------------|
| Haul excess spoil to low areas downstream.                        |  |                                  |    |     |        |   |    |    |            |
| Strip topsoil, place spoil, grade out. (Issue from 2012 project). |  |                                  |    |     |        |   |    |    |            |
|                                                                   |  |                                  | LS | 1.0 | 3000   | 1 | 0  | 1  | \$3,000.00 |
|                                                                   |  | Rolled Erosion Prevention CAT 25 | SY | 66  | \$4.00 | 0 | 66 | 66 | \$264.00   |

Subtotal \$3,264.00

**SUMMARY:**

|                                       |             |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Total of Work to Date                 | \$88,228.40 |
| Less 0% Retainage                     | \$0.00      |
| Amount Paid on Previous Payments      | \$61,762.35 |
| Amount Due this Estimate              | \$26,466.05 |
| Percentage of work completed          | 104%        |
| Original Contract Amount Due          | \$84,964.40 |
| Amount Deleted from Original Contract | \$0.00      |
| Additional Quantities                 | \$3,264.00  |
| Change Orders                         | \$0.00      |
| Total Estimated Contract Costs        | \$88,228.40 |

**RECAP OF PAYMENTS:**

| DATE         | PAYMENT AMOUNT      |
|--------------|---------------------|
| 08/17/26     | \$ 61,762.35        |
| 10/08/26     | \$ 26,466.05        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>\$ 88,228.40</b> |

Approved by Contractor: Andrew Anderson, Quality Spray Foam/Anderson Excavating

Date

Approved by Administrator: Tammy Audette, Red Lake Watershed District

Date

Northern Harbor, LLC  
8065 Sautbine Rd NW  
Walker, MN 56484

Client Project No.  
 HEI Project No. 3655-0099-006  
 Project: *Thief River Streambank Stabilization Project*  
 Location: *Sec. 24 & 25 Excel Twp., Sec. 7 Agder Twp., Marshall County*  
 Contractor: *Northern Harbor, LLC*

# PAY ESTIMATE

Page 1 of 1

|                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| PAY ESTIMATE #: | 3         |
| SUBMITTED:      | 10/8/2026 |
| BEGIN DATE:     | 9/5/2026  |
| END DATE:       | 10/6/2026 |

| ITEM NO.                    | DESCRIPTION                               | UNIT     | CONTRACT |              |               | CURRENT PAY ESTIMATE |              | PREVIOUS PAY ESTIMATES |              | PAY ESTIMATES TO DATE |               |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------|----------|--------------|---------------|----------------------|--------------|------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|
|                             |                                           |          | QUANTITY | PRICE        | AMOUNT        | QUANTITY             | AMOUNT       | QUANTITY               | AMOUNT       | QUANTITY              | AMOUNT        |
| Original Contract Items     |                                           |          |          |              |               |                      |              |                        |              |                       |               |
| 2021.501                    | MOBILIZATION                              | LUMP SUM | 1.       | \$ 25,000.00 | \$ 25,000.00  | 0.22                 | \$ 5,500.00  | 0.78                   | \$ 19,500.00 | 1.                    | \$ 25,000.00  |
| 2101.501                    | CLEARING AND GRUBBING                     | LUMP SUM | 1.       | \$ 15,000.00 | \$ 15,000.00  | 0.5                  | \$ 7,500.00  | 0.5                    | \$ 7,500.00  | 1.                    | \$ 15,000.00  |
| 2104.503                    | REMOVE PIPE CULVERTS                      | LIN. FT. | 46.      | \$ 50.00     | \$ 2,300.00   | 46.                  | \$ 2,300.00  |                        | \$ -         | 46.                   | \$ 2,300.00   |
| 2106.507                    | EXCAVATION - COMMON (P)                   | CU. YD.  | 15,777.  | \$ 7.00      | \$ 110,439.00 | 7,994.               | \$ 55,958.00 | 7,783.                 | \$ 54,481.00 | 15,777.               | \$ 110,439.00 |
| 2501.502                    | FLAP GATE FOR 18" CS PIPE                 | EACH     | 1.       | \$ 1,500.00  | \$ 1,500.00   | 1.                   | \$ 1,500.00  |                        | \$ -         | 1.                    | \$ 1,500.00   |
| 2501.503                    | 18" CS PIPE CULVERT                       | LIN. FT. | 148.     | \$ 45.00     | \$ 6,660.00   | 148.                 | \$ 6,660.00  |                        | \$ -         | 148.                  | \$ 6,660.00   |
| 2511.507                    | RANDOM RIPRAP CLASS II                    | CU. YD.  | 10.      | \$ 130.00    | \$ 1,300.00   | 10.                  | \$ 1,300.00  |                        | \$ -         | 10.                   | \$ 1,300.00   |
| 2573.502                    | CULVERT END CONTROLS                      | EACH     | 3.       | \$ 150.00    | \$ 450.00     | 1.                   | \$ 150.00    | 1.                     | \$ 150.00    | 2.                    | \$ 300.00     |
| 2573.503                    | FLOATATION SILT CURTAIN TYPE MOVING WATER | LIN. FT. | 300.     | \$ 10.00     | \$ 3,000.00   | 100.                 | \$ 1,000.00  | 150.                   | \$ 1,500.00  | 250.                  | \$ 2,500.00   |
| 2573.503                    | SEDIMENT CONTROL LOG TYPE STRAW           | LIN. FT. | 6,070.   | \$ 4.00      | \$ 24,280.00  | 1,287.               | \$ 5,148.00  | 2,730.                 | \$ 10,920.00 | 4,017.                | \$ 16,068.00  |
| 2575.501                    | TURF ESTABLISHMENT                        | LUMP SUM | 1.       | \$ 9,000.00  | \$ 9,000.00   | 0.2                  | \$ 1,800.00  | 0.5                    | \$ 4,500.00  | 0.7                   | \$ 6,300.00   |
| 2575.504                    | ROLLED EROSION PREVENTION CATEGORY 25     | SQ. YD.  | 14,811.  | \$ 3.00      | \$ 44,433.00  | 3,370.               | \$ 10,110.00 | 6,946.                 | \$ 20,838.00 | 10,316.               | \$ 30,948.00  |
| 2577.601                    | TOE-WOOD DEBRIS                           | CU. YD.  | 3,379.   | \$ 35.00     | \$ 118,265.00 | 1,821.               | \$ 63,735.00 | 1,558.                 | \$ 54,530.00 | 3,379.                | \$ 118,265.00 |
| 2577.601                    | SOD MAT                                   | SQ. YD.  | 1,611.   | \$ 15.00     | \$ 24,165.00  | 875.                 | \$ 13,125.00 | 736.                   | \$ 11,040.00 | 1,611.                | \$ 24,165.00  |
| Totals                      |                                           |          |          |              |               |                      |              |                        |              |                       |               |
| Original Contract Amount    |                                           |          |          |              | \$ 385,792.00 |                      |              |                        |              |                       |               |
| Extra / Change Order Amount |                                           |          |          |              | \$ -          |                      |              |                        |              |                       |               |
| Work Completed              |                                           |          |          |              |               | \$ 175,786.00        |              | \$ 184,959.00          |              | \$ 360,745.00         |               |









Permit # 26-125

Status Report: Withdrawn

Expiration:

**Applicant Information**

| Name       | Organization | Address                          | Email            | Phone Number(s)   |
|------------|--------------|----------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Matt Falck |              | 323 17h Ave N Wahpeton, ND 58075 | matt.f@agphd.com | tel: 701-640-2867 |

**General Information**

- (1) The proposed project is a: **Surface Drainage (New Ditch or Improvement)**,
- (2) Legal Description
- (3) County: **Red Lake** Township: **Terrebonne** Range: **43** Section: **6**
- (4) Describe in detail the work to be performed: making new ditch
- (5) Why is this work necessary? Explain water related issue/problem being solved. **neighbors blocked my ditch**

**Status**

| Status    | Notes                                                                                                                                                                                         | Date       |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Withdrawn | The Red Lake Watershed District (RLWD) after staff and managers surveyed the surrounding ditches, RLWD along with the applicant decided to withdraw this permit. Applicant has been notified. | 10/07/2026 |
| Received  |                                                                                                                                                                                               | 09/22/2026 |

**Conditions**

NOTE: This permit does not relieve the applicant of any requirements for other permits which may be necessary from Township, County, State, or Federal Government Agencies.

- Work in road right-of-way is subject to approval of road authority (Township, County, or State).
- For work within Legal drainage system right-of-way or RLWD Project Easement Areas, applicant agrees to move their utilities at their own expense if it is determined that the utility needs to be moved in the future by the RLWD.
- Unless otherwise noted, all approved permit applications expire one year from the date of board approval. A permit renewal can be applied for prior to the expiration date by contacting the district office.
- This Permit does not relieve you of any requirements for other permits, which may be necessary from Township, County, State, or Federal Government Agencies.
- Please be aware of the requirements of the Rules of the District, found on our web-site at [http://www.redlakewatershed.org/PDF\\_Files/RED%20LAKE%20WATERSHED%20DISTRICT%20RULES\\_Adopted%208-27-15.pdf](http://www.redlakewatershed.org/PDF_Files/RED%20LAKE%20WATERSHED%20DISTRICT%20RULES_Adopted%208-27-15.pdf)



Permit # 26-126

Status Report: Approved

Expiration: 10/07/2027

**Applicant Information**

| Name           | Organization | Address                               | Email                      | Phone Number(s)   |
|----------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Matthew Bitter | MnDOT        | 3920 Highway 2 West Bemidji, MN 56601 | matthew.bitter@state.mn.us | tel: 218-328-4796 |

**General Information**

- (1) The proposed project is a: **Culvert Installation / Removal / Modification**,
- (2) Legal Description
- (3) County: **Beltrami** Township: **Shooks** Range: **30** Section: **29**
- (4) Describe in detail the work to be performed: Remove existing 18" HDPE and install longer 18" CAS with aprons.
- (5) Why is this work necessary? Explain water related issue/problem being solved. **Existing HDPE has failed.**

**Status**

| Status   | Notes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Date       |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Approved | The Red Lake Watershed District (RLWD) approves to replace a failed 18" with a new 18" culvert for replacement. Install new culvert at the current inverts. If any work is within a public road and/or public ditch Right-of-Way, applicant shall contact the appropriate road/ditch authority for their approval and must meet their specs/conditions. Directly downstream of the culvert applicant shall ensure that adequate grade and drainage is provided. Applicant shall install appropriate erosion control measures for energy dissipation at the tile/culvert outlet(s) to prevent erosion when applicable. Applicant shall install black dirt and re-seed any disturbed land with approved MNDOT seed mixtures. Note: Please be aware of and review the 'bullet points' on the bottom half of the application. This application does not exempt the permit applicant from local, state, or federal authority that might require their approval. Applicant is responsible for utility locates by calling Gopher 1. (1-800-252-1166) | 10/07/2026 |
| Received |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 09/24/2026 |

**Conditions**

NOTE: This permit does not relieve the applicant of any requirements for other permits which may be necessary from Township, County, State, or Federal Government Agencies.

- Work in road right-of-way is subject to approval of road authority (Township, County, or State).
- For work within Legal drainage system right-of-way or RLWD Project Easement Areas, applicant agrees to move their utilities at their own expense if it is determined that the utility needs to be moved in the future by the RLWD.
- Unless otherwise noted, all approved permit applications expire one year from the date of board approval. A permit renewal can be applied for prior to the expiration date by contacting the district office.
- This Permit does not relieve you of any requirements for other permits, which may be necessary from Township, County, State, or Federal Government Agencies.
- Please be aware of the requirements of the Rules of the District, found on our web-site at [http://www.redlakewatershed.org/PDF\\_Files/RED%20LAKE%20WATERSHED%20DISTRICT%20RULES\\_Adopted%208-27-15.pdf](http://www.redlakewatershed.org/PDF_Files/RED%20LAKE%20WATERSHED%20DISTRICT%20RULES_Adopted%208-27-15.pdf)



Permit # 26-127

Status Report: Approved

Expiration: 10/07/2027

**Applicant Information**

| Name        | Organization       | Address                                | Email | Phone Number(s)   |
|-------------|--------------------|----------------------------------------|-------|-------------------|
| Mike Hanson | Landowner/operator | 31267 250th Ave SW Crookston, MN 56716 |       | tel: 218-280-2398 |

**General Information**

- (1) The proposed project is a: **Surface Drainage (New Ditch or Improvement), Culvert Installation / Removal / Modification,**
- (2) Legal Description
- (3) County: **Polk** Township: **Fairfax** Range: **46** Section: **7**
- (4) Describe in detail the work to be performed: Clean the ditch on the east side of 255th Ave Sw, from the north side of the property of 39252 255 Ave SW going north to the road on south side of the railroad tracks. Install a new culvert in the dry crossing on south side of property 29084 255th Ave SW.
- (5) Why is this work necessary? Explain water related issue/problem being solved. **Ditch needs to be cleaned to grade so water has an outlet. NE 1/4 has been tiled and water is now backing up.**

**Status**

| Status   | Notes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Date       |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Approved | The Red Lake Watershed District (RLWD) approves to clean out a township road ditch, contingent on approval from Fairfax Township. Reference 25-103. If any work is within a public road and/or public ditch Right-of-Way, applicant shall contact the appropriate road/ditch authority for their approval and must meet their specs/conditions. Directly downstream of the culvert applicant shall ensure that adequate grade and drainage is provided. Applicant shall install appropriate erosion control measures for energy dissipation at the tile/culvert outlet(s) to prevent erosion when applicable. Applicant shall install black dirt and re-seed any disturbed land with approved MNDOT seed mixtures. Note: Please be aware of and review the 'bullet points' on the bottom half of the application. This application does not exempt the permit applicant from local, state, or federal authority that might require their approval. Applicant is responsible for utility locates by calling Gopher 1. (1-800-252-1166) | 10/07/2026 |
| Received |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 09/24/2026 |

**Conditions**

NOTE: This permit does not relieve the applicant of any requirements for other permits which may be necessary from Township, County, State, or Federal Government Agencies.

- Work in road right-of-way is subject to approval of road authority (Township, County, or State).
- For work within Legal drainage system right-of-way or RLWD Project Easement Areas, applicant agrees to move their utilities at their own expense if it is determined that the utility needs to be moved in the future by the RLWD.
- Unless otherwise noted, all approved permit applications expire one year from the date of board approval. A permit renewal can be applied for prior to the expiration date by contacting the district office.
- This Permit does not relieve you of any requirements for other permits, which may be necessary from Township, County, State, or Federal Government Agencies.
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Red Lake Watershed District

Permit # 26-128

Status Report: Approved

Expiration: 10/07/2027

### Applicant Information

| Name             | Organization   | Address                            | Email                 | Phone Number(s)   |
|------------------|----------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Belgium Township | Road Authority | 24406 120th St SW Euclid, MN 56722 | rsalentine5@gmail.com | tel: 218-289-1111 |

### General Information

- (1) The proposed project is a: **Culvert Installation / Removal / Modification**,
- (2) Legal Description
- (3) County: **Polk** Township: **Belgium** Range: **46** Section: **9**
- (4) Describe in detail the work to be performed: Replace Existing 24" culvert with 24" plastic pipe. Old culvert is rusted out and causing road to have hole in it.
- (5) Why is this work necessary? Explain water related issue/problem being solved. **The culvert is deteriorating so needs to be replaced**

### Status

| Status   | Notes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Date       |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Approved | The Red Lake Watershed District (RLWD) approves to replace a failed 24" with a new 24" culvert for replacement. Install new culvert at the current inverts. If any work is within a public road and/or public ditch Right-of-Way, applicant shall contact the appropriate road/ditch authority for their approval and must meet their specs/conditions. Directly downstream of the culvert applicant shall ensure that adequate grade and drainage is provided. Applicant shall install appropriate erosion control measures for energy dissipation at the tile/culvert outlet(s) to prevent erosion when applicable. Applicant shall install black dirt and re-seed any disturbed land with approved MNDOT seed mixtures. Note: Please be aware of and review the 'bullet points' on the bottom half of the application. This application does not exempt the permit applicant from local, state, or federal authority that might require their approval. Applicant is responsible for utility locates by calling Gopher 1. (1-800-252-1166) | 10/07/2026 |
| Received |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 09/24/2026 |

### Conditions

NOTE: This permit does not relieve the applicant of any requirements for other permits which may be necessary from Township, County, State, or Federal Government Agencies.

- Work in road right-of-way is subject to approval of road authority (Township, County, or State).
- For work within Legal drainage system right-of-way or RLWD Project Easement Areas, applicant agrees to move their utilities at their own expense if it is determined that the utility needs to be moved in the future by the RLWD.
- Unless otherwise noted, all approved permit applications expire one year from the date of board approval. A permit renewal can be applied for prior to the expiration date by contacting the district office.
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# **Administrator's Report**

**October 8, 2026**

**State Ditch 83:** Gates on right-of-way for SD 83 were installed on the Mickelson property last week. Gates will also be installed on the Rodahl property once the construction is complete.

**Drainage Work Group:** Included in the packet is a draft Drainage Work Group Assessment Report.

## Drainage Work Group Meeting

**When:** Thursday October 8, 2026 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Where:** MNDOT Contact District 3  
St. Cloud Office and Training Center  
3725 12th Street North  
St. Cloud, Mn 56303-2107

### Microsoft Teams [Need help?](#)

#### [Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 286 532 081 643 9

Passcode: vZ9SX2cP

---

#### Dial in by phone

[+1 651-395-7448,,354202555#](#) United States, Minneapolis

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 354 202 555#

#### Join on a video conferencing device

Tenant key: [mn@m.webex.com](mailto:mn@m.webex.com)

Video ID: 113 294 839 1

[More info](#)

For organizers: [Meeting options](#) | [Reset dial-in PIN](#)



#### Agenda:

- 11:00 Welcome and Introductions
- 11:05 Overview and any updates of agenda for the meeting  
Assessment update – Tom G.
- 11:10 **Share information about recent and upcoming drainage related events** – All
  - MN Watersheds Drainage Workshop Dec 2, 2026 Grandview Lodge Nisswa.
- 11:15 **Other Group updates/information–**
- 11:20 **Drainage Authority Initiated Abandonment Concept Update** – Lukas Croaker/Subgroup
- 11:50 **Break**
- 12:00 **DWG Assessment interview overview/themes Report Status and Next Steps** – Kaite Pratt
- 1:55 **Next DWG meeting, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Thursday, November 5, 2026 (First Thursday of Nov)**  
**MN DOT St. Cloud**
- 2:00 **Adjourn**

# **DRAFT Drainage Work Group Assessment Report**

**Date:** October 8, 2026

**To:** Drainage Work Group Members

**From:** Katie Pratt, Office of Collaboration and Dispute Resolution

## **Note on draft assessment report dated 10/8**

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This draft represents my (Katie Pratt's) first attempt to organize and consolidate information from the assessment process. The conclusions in the draft are still preliminary. I look forward to additional discussion with DWG members to refine and clarify the ideas presented here and correct any inaccuracies. I have the following questions for DWG members:

- What is your first impression of this assessment?
- What is missing that you were hoping to see?
- Of the suggestions included in the report, what do you think would be most helpful if implemented?
- What should be corrected or removed?

## **Background**

---

Over the past two decades, the Drainage Work Group (DWG) has served as a highly respected forum from navigating Minnesota's complex drainage landscape. Together, members have successfully shaped statutory revisions, balanced competing land-use demands, and fostered a dedicated space for science-based stakeholder dialogue.

The DWG was originally born out of a localized 2006 advisory cohort tasked with analyzing public drainage ditch buffer strips and now lives via the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) under 103B.101, Subd 13. Over the last twenty years, the scope of the DWG's work has expanded. Today, the group is routinely asked by the Legislature to deliberate on complex, interconnected issues like multipurpose drainage management, hydrological water storage, structural system abandonments, and outlet adequacy. As the DWG looks toward the future of drainage system and watershed management in Minnesota, the complexity of related process and policy evolution ahead will increase.

## OCDR's assessment process

---

To ensure the DWG is prepared for the work ahead, BWSR asked the Department of Administration's Office of Collaboration and Dispute Resolution (OCDR) -- the state's impartial dispute resolution office-- to conduct an independent assessment of the strategic purpose, operational framework, and the future work of the DWG.

OCDR's [assessment process](#) is an impartial review of a specific impasse or collaborative challenge. The assessment process incorporates diverse perspectives and key information in order to gain insight into options for moving forward. For the DWG assessment, OCDR took the following steps:

- Reviewed background documents and relevant sections of law.
- Reviewed the DWG's Process Summary (version dated 10-11-18).
- Conducted 23 hour-long, semi-structured interviews with individuals or small groups who participate in DWG or have done so in the past.
  - The interviewees represented a wide range of organizations and interests that are included in the DWG distribution list.
  - The interview topics drew from the list of questions and assumptions included in Appendix A.

This draft report presents key findings from the assessment process that OCDR feels are most useful for determining the future state of the DWG.

## Summary observations

---

Based on the assessment process, OCDR believes the DWG has value as an informal working group. The main strength of the DWG as it is currently configured is in filling a gap within Minnesota's water governance ecosystem for drainage practitioners and stakeholders to have multi-interest dialogue. It fills a need to bring people together across silos within drainage management to build shared understanding.

Given the growing complexity of drainage issues, the DWG is likely to face increasing challenges in developing drainage management policy recommendations that have a high level of consensus within the current structure of the group. The diversity of interests involved, the technical complexity of drainage, and the wide array of landscapes and communities that intersect with drainage, mean that solving that drainage management challenges may take more collaborative time and support than the group currently invests.

At the same time, DWG members have many potential creative solutions that are worth exploration and development. Making a modest investment in improving the processes and collaborative capacity of the group could help lead to more meaningful results of DWG.

### Key recommendations

- ✓ Update the Process Summary to maximize collaboration and minimize distractions from misaligned expectations.

- ✓ Have realistic expectations about what the DWG can accomplish within the time it has and set intentional, focused project goals.
- ✓ Create parallel spaces or targeted processes to grapple with boarder/more transformational issues that are not adequately dealt with in technical discussions.
- ✓ Increase the collaborative capacity of DWG membership by introducing structured collaboration tools and foundational skills in interest-based negotiation.
- ✓ Get support from a qualified negotiation expert when deliberations reach an impasse or are likely to reach an impasse.
- ✓ Replace the informed consent model with a model of recording the level of consensus on recommendations.
- ✓ Create tools to help measure and document shared learning, even when agreement about policy or program change is not achieved.
- ✓ Develop greater clarity about where the DWG sits within the water governance ecosystem, including in relation to BWSR, the legislature, the Clean Water Council, the state agency drainage group, and others.

### Other options considered

- **Sunsetting DWG.** Based on the input of DWG members, OCDR does not view sunseting the DWG as a wise option at this time. The value of the forum for information exchange alone is worth the time and resource investment in organizing the group.
- **Replacing DWG with a different collaborative body.** Given the already complex landscape of water governance in Minnesota and the complexity of drainage issues, OCDR feels replacing the DWG with a different collaborative body is not likely to deliver significantly enhanced outcomes. However, engaging in a design experiment – what *could* a different body accomplish – might be a helpful exercise.

## Strengths and what is working well

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Interviewees highlighted many strengths of the DWG. In particular, interviewees appreciated the ability to learn from and be in dialogue with people who play different roles in relation to drainage management. Top strengths include:

- **Unique forum.** Interviewees expressed an overall sentiment that the Drainage Work Group provides a unique and important forum for dialogue about drainage. Many pointed out the value of broad, multi-interest sharing of perspectives, and acknowledged that there is not another forum where this happens to the same degree.
- **History of meaningful work products.** Of the members who have been part of the DWG for a long time (some have been involved since the start), many felt DWG has made meaningful contributions to drainage management in Minnesota. The Drainage Handbook was mentioned many times as an important work product of the DWG.
- **Learning.** Interviewees appreciated the depth of professional knowledge at the DWG and the expertise of their colleagues.

- **Updates and information sharing.** Many interviewees value DWG meetings as a place to stay updated on drainage issues and track major changes and developments in the field.
- **Valuable technical work.** Many interviewees found technical committee work (several specific projects were mentioned) to be effective and valuable. Some suggested that wrestling with the specific drainage problems at a technical level is where the DWG does its best work. Some mentioned that even when that technical work did not result in a policy or program change, it could still inform the thinking and approach of practitioners in the drainage field.
- **Inclusivity.** Many people appreciate that the DWG openly welcomes participation and does not gate keep who comes to meetings or participates in discussions.
- **Informal nature.** The informal nature of the DWG was seen as beneficial by some members. They appreciated that it does not feel overly bureaucratic or hierarchical.
- **Meeting format.** The hybrid meeting format seemed to work well for participants. Many appreciated the effort both of BWSR and their colleagues to meet in person, but they also appreciated having a virtual option when needed.

## Specific challenges and possible solutions

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### 1. Different expectations about the scope of the DWG

#### Interviewee concerns

DWG members held different expectations about the scope of the DWG. Some members felt the DWG does its best work when it is focused more narrowly on technical issues arising from the implementation of 103E. They mentioned specific technical areas of work that could bring efficiency and consistency to drainage management in Minnesota. They also expressed frustration when technical projects failed to move forward because of issues they perceived were out of scope.

Others felt that the DWG has a responsibility to consider how the implementation of 103E impacts, and is impacted by, other water management requirements under, for example, the Clean Water Act. They also have an interest in seeing the DWG discuss more transformational approaches to drainage management than what they feel is currently included in DWG deliberations. Some of the transformative approaches mentioned include:

- Develop a mediation agreement for the Minnesota River Valley similar to the 1998 Red River Basin Mediation Agreement.
- Creating a statewide drainage authority.
- Developing a permitting program for agricultural drainage.
- Better integrating drainage management into One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P).

#### OCDR observations

- This misalignment of expectations can lead to mistrust and frustration among members, and time spent debating what is in and out of scope.
- Both the technical discussions and the broader considerations of drainage have merit, and the DWG could potentially be more creative in how both needs are integrated.

### OCDR recommendations

- **1a:** Within DWG projects, have clear statements of what problem the group is trying to solve. Create space for both technical issues and broader drainage considerations to be discussed in small groups, potentially in parallel conversations.
- **1b:** Consider having chairpersons on the DWG who help with agenda setting and managing the expectations of the members.

## 2. Different expectations about the role of the DWG in advising the legislature

### Interviewee concerns

Interviewees held different expectations about whether drainage policy recommendations must go to the DWG for review and consideration before going to the legislature. Some members believe it is the DWG's responsibility (implicit or explicit) to weigh all drainage policy proposals and recommend the ones that are ready for legislation. There is also an expectation by some members that recommendations that are considered by the DWG will carry more weight at the legislature as compared to those that are not. Other members pointed out that DWG is an informal working group and not specifically charged with vetting proposals. According to interviewees, different expectations have at times led to misunderstanding and mistrust.

### OCDR observations

- There are multiple pathways to influence the legislative process including through lobbyists, professional associations, direct conversations with elected officials, and more. Even if the DWG were explicitly charged by the legislature to approve drainage policy recommendations, those additional pathways would continue to exist.
- Drainage is a complex, ongoing issue area that involves a wide range of stakeholders and decentralized decision making. It is likely not realistic to expect that stakeholders will always go through the DWG to advocate for their interests. Specifically, if the DWG is not receptive to their interests, they will likely choose to use another pathway.
- That said, it can be mutually beneficial for stakeholders to work collaboratively on solutions to complex problems. Often, policy proposals that integrate a wide array of interests, have input from subject matter experts, and solve multiple shared problems are more likely to succeed and remain durable.

### OCDR recommendations

- The DWG should continue to strive to develop shared solutions to complex problems that integrate many needs and interests and demonstrate to the legislature the degree of support for proposals coming from the DWG (see section on consensus approach below).
  - **2a:** Update the Process Summary to include collaborative-problem solving as a core purpose.
- When proposals related to drainage are being advanced by members outside of the core work of the DWG, it can help build trust and collaboration to inform the group of those proposals.

When sharing information, parties should be explicit about whether they are looking for buy-in from the DWG or are simply providing an FYI.

- **2b.** DWC members should consider developing a short set of norms about legislative agenda sharing and add this to the Process Summary.

### 3. Consensus and collaboration approach

#### Interviewee concerns

The DWG uses an informed consent process and has a consensus/non-consensus report option. Interviewees expressed several concerns about this approach including:

- Lack of clarity about when the consensus/non-consensus option is used (some mentioned it was rarely used).
- Frustration that members could have minimal participation in collaborative deliberations but bring a dissenting view forward in the end stages of a project.
- Striving for full consensus meant that some viewpoints were sidelined.
- Challenges with aligning diverse perspectives and interests behind a single consensus member vote.
- Not enough balance of interests in the consensus member group.

#### OCDR observations

There are a wide array of interests and perspectives represented at the DWG. Achieving consensus is difficult and takes time. DWG has untapped collaborative-problems solving potential. (interviewees shared many creative and innovative ideas around drainage management), but more time and support are likely needed to develop those ideas collaboratively.

#### OCDR recommendations

- **3a:** Consider moving away from informed consent process. Implement a system of documenting degrees of consensus (such as through a red, yellow, green system) held by all members. Aim to achieve the highest degree consensus possibly by integrating the interests of all parties.
- **3b:** Develop and pilot a collaborative problem-solving template that helps DWG members integrate multiple needs to achieve the highest level of consensus possible.
- **3c:** Document lessons learned in a consistent manner to grow the collaborative potential of the group.

### 4. Lack of support for difficult negotiations

Many interviewees described past DWG projects that became contentious and/or stalled in the deliberation process. These impasses have led to frustration and a feeling of being stuck for some members. Additionally, some members felt disappointed with work products that came close to final but were stuck in the last stages.

#### OCDR observations

- Negotiating across different interests for mutual gain is a specialized skill set. Collaborative bodies typically have many collaboration and negotiation skills, but few have all the skills needed to work through difficult impasses on complex issues. The DWG may need additional support on some projects.

#### **OCDR recommendations**

- **4a:** Use the services of an impartial mediator or facilitator for projects that are likely to reach impasse.
- **4b:** Develop and pilot a collaborative problem template that guides parties through the interest-based negotiation process.
- **4c:** Provide training for all or selected members of DWG on interest-based negotiation.

## **5. Membership approach**

### **Interviewee concerns**

According to the Process Summary, the DWG is “open to all drainage stakeholders who are willing to invest time in DWG meetings and associated work on behalf of a drainage stakeholder organization they represent.” DWG members are categorized into consensus and non-consensus members when consensus report and non-consensus report option is used. BWSR also maintains an email distribution list. Interviewees raised several concerns about this membership approach including:

- Lack of clarity about who is on the DWG.
- Frustration with intermittence attendance and participation of some members.
- Feeling that the size and openness of DWG membership made the group unwieldy.

Although many interviewees did not feel this member system was working optimally, there was not a clear alignment on what to do differently. Some suggestions included:

- Adding another environmental group seat to the consensus membership group.
- Establishing the DWG as a formal legislative advisory body with named and appointed seats.

### **OCDR observations**

- Any membership structure of a collaborative body has opportunities and challenges in terms of whose voices are included and who gets a say in decision making.

### **OCDR recommendations**

- **5a:** Consider maintaining a single membership roster that is refreshed annually, with a capped number of members. Develop clearer expectations of what is required to be a listed member. Allow members to record their level of consensus on work products. Maintain a wider distribution list for stakeholders who would like to stay informed of DWG discussions, but who cannot participate actively.

## **6. Relationship between BWSR and the DWG**

### Interviewee concerns

Most interviewees felt that BWSR was a logical home for the DWG given BWSR's deep partnerships with local governments and landowners. However, some felt there was confusion about the relationship between BWSR and the DWG, given the fact that BWSR does not have specific jurisdiction over 103E. Some interviewees wondered if BWSR was purely an administrative home, or if it plays a more active role in reviewing and modifying DWG recommendations. Some members wondered what would happen if recommendations coming from the DWG were at odds with other parts of BWSR's mission or charge.

### OCDR observations

- Usually, the state entity that has jurisdiction to modify or implement a policy or program serves as the administrator of the collaborative body advising on that same policy or program. Because there is not a central state body beyond the legislature that governs or oversees 103E, the relationship between BWSR and the DWG is somewhat unusual.

### OCDR recommendations

- **6a:** In the process summary, further clarify the role BWSR relative to the DWG especially in terms of its approach to advancing, modifying, or vetoing recommendations developed by the group.
- **6b:** It may also be helpful to clarify where drainage authority sits within Minnesota's water governance ecosystem, by, for example, updating the water governance table on page 68 of the [2020 State Water Plan](#) to include drainage authorities.

# Appendix A

## Assumptions

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Based on a review of background materials, OCDR is making the following assumptions related to the purpose and work of the DWG. These assumptions will inform the assessment approach and OCDR welcomes input on these assumptions:

- There are complex needs and interests (environmental, social, economic) that inform drainage management decisions in Minnesota.
- Public Drainage management decisions in Minnesota have become increasingly complex over the past two decades and that trend is expected to continue.
- While DWG stakeholders disagree on many aspects of drainage management, they also share many common values around protecting Minnesota water and habitats and supporting thriving communities across the state.
- Decision making on most drainage decisions happens at the local level.
- Public Drainage must be administered in accordance with [Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103E Drainage](#).
- There are numerous local, state, and federal laws that intersect with drainage management decisions.
- Science and engineering informing draining management is always evolving.
- DWG stakeholders have different positions on how to best manage drainage to comply with the law and balance competing needs and interests.
- Disputes about specific drainage management decisions are typically resolved through:
  - Informal negotiation at the local level
  - Drainage authority proceedings and decisions
  - The judicial system
- The DWG has two primary purposes:
  - Foster science-based mutual understanding about drainage topics and issues
  - Develop recommendations for drainage system management and related water management, including recommendations for updating [Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103E Drainage](#) and related provisions.
- Currently, DWG members have different opinions about the effectiveness of the DWG and what (if any) changes are needed to the operation of the group.
- All options are on the table for the future of the DWG including no change, process updates, redesigning the group, sunseting the group, or other creative possibilities.

## Assessment question list

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OCDR has the following questions about the current and future state of the DWG:

### 1. Effectiveness and efficiency

- a. What does success of the DWG look like? Over the next five years, if the DWG was doing its best work, what would that look like?
- b. How will you know if the DWG is successful? What objective measures could be used to evaluate DWG effectiveness?
- c. Is Minnesota better off because of the efforts of the DWG?
- d. If the DWG stopped meeting beyond 2026, what would change in the way Minnesota approached drainage management?
- e. Is the amount of time invested in convening the DWG worthwhile relative to the accomplishments of the group?
- f. Which other states have effective systems for drainage management and stakeholder engagement that Minnesota could learn from?

## **2. Collaboration and consensus**

- a. BWSR is tasked with drainage stakeholder coordination under [Section 103B.101 Subd.13.](#)
  - i. Is that section of law still necessary?
  - ii. Is the DWG the best tool to accomplish that goal?
  - iii. What other tools could be used instead?
- b. In considering updates to drainage management and [Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103E](#) when is it helpful to build consensus? Which groups or parties should be working towards consensus?
- c. When is consensus not needed or not desirable?
- d. Is the DWG equipped to work through impasse to arrive at actionable recommendations? Why or why not?
- e. How should the level of agreement or disagreement on drainage management be documented and what should happen with that information?
- f. How do the deliberations of the DWG matter for decision making by a) drainage authorities, b) the legislature, c) BWSR and state agencies, d) the courts.

## **3. Specific future recommendations and priorities**

- a. What is the most important action needed for Minnesota to best manage public drainage over the next two decades?
- b. What is the most important change needed to the DWG in the next 1-2 years?
- c. What specific proposals do DWG members have to improve the work group and how difficult would it be to implement those changes?