Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Managers Of the Two Rivers Watershed District Held: Thursday, September 3, 2026 @ 9:00 a.m.

The Board of Managers of the Two Rivers Watershed District held their regular meeting beginning at 9:04 a.m. on Thursday, September 3, 2026. The meeting was held in the District office in the Kittson County Courthouse, 410 S. 5th Street, Hallock, MN.

Managers present included President Rick Sikorski, Vice President Roger Anderson, Secretary Daryl Klegstad, Bruce Anderson, Mark Langehaug, and Scott Klein. Treasurer Gerald Olsonawski was absent.

Others present included District Administrator Dan Money, District Technician Tyler Coffield, Attorney Jeff Hane (Brink Lawyers), Dawson Lindahl (Brink Lawyers), Engineer Jake Huwe (HDR Engineering), and Lee Pemberton.

The regular meeting was convened at 9:04 a.m. following the annual budget hearing. President Sikorski called for any additions or corrections to the proposed meeting agenda. The meeting agenda, regular minutes from August 6, 2026, and minutes from the Kittson County Ditch #13 Improvement Hearing were then approved upon a **motion** by Klein, **second** by B. Anderson, and **unanimous vote** of the Managers.

Permits:
The Board acted on the following permits. The review and comments of the Permit Review Group (PRG) were carefully considered and taken into consideration. Any comments provided by members of the PRG, road authorities, or affected landowners have been recorded and filed with the permit documentation in the District office. Conditions, if any, are listed on the permit sent to the individual.

App. #	*Applicant*	*Location*	*Purpose*	*Status*
2026-06	Justin Peterson	Poppleton 14	3 side water inlets, etc.	Tabled
	• Requested information has not been submitted			
2026-15	Keith Okeson	Percy 12	crossing on M. Br. Two Rivers	Tabled
	• Requested information has not been submitted			
2026-24	Shane Stewart	St. Joseph 9	install 2 -8" pvc center line clvt	Tabled
	• Referred to Permit Review Group			
2026-25	Doug Forst	Poplar Grove 18	install 18" cmp/driveway	Tabled
2026-27	John Harder	Bart 2 & 11	install 2 crossings/18" cmp	Tabled
	• Referred to Permit Review Group			
2026-28	Sander Dagen	Sprinbrook 26	install crossing / 24" cmp	Tabled
	• Referred to Permit Review Group			

Permits Approved by Staff / Review Group
The following applicants were previously approved in accordance with the Rules of the TRWD either by district staff or by the Permit Review Group. They are listed for reference to the Board of Managers.

App. #	*Applicant*	*Location*	*Purpose*	*Status*
2026-11	Mark Langehaug	Jupiter 2	new crossing w/culvert	Approved
2026-21	Randy Coffield	Cannon 28	30" center line culvert	Approved
2026-23	Brady Coffield	McKinley 19	install 24" cmp field xing	Approved
2026-26	Lee Pemberton	McKinley 5	Ditching & 18" cmp	Approved

- Conditions: must adhere to wetland conservation act culvert elevation; after the fact fees

Manager Langehaug left the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

Treasurer's Report:

Administrator Money presented the treasurer's report including the fund balances, accounts listing, and deposit detail. It was noted that checks written for the month include check numbers 10856 through 10878 and electronic funds transfers to PERA, MN Dept. of Revenue, Electronic Federal Tax Payment System, and MN State Retirement System as reported and contained within the report.

The treasurer's report was then approved with the addition of two invoices from Donaldson Precision Spraying in the amounts of $17,087.91 and $400.00 upon a **motion** by R. Anderson, **second** by Klegstad, and a **unanimous vote** by the Board.

Other:

After the Fact Permit:
Lee Pemberton was issued a permit for ditch work that was completed after the fact. As is Two Rivers Watershed District (TRWD) policy, Pemberton was assessed a $650 after the fact fee. Discussion was held regarding the timeline of the permit application, letters that were sent, notifications that were made, and verbal communications. Pemberton asked that the $650 after the fact permit fee be waived because of his good faith efforts, some confusion as to what was required, and discrepancies of what is required for permits by other agencies. Manager Klein suggested that the Board waive the $500 base fee but still require a $150 fee for inspections that had to be done due to the unpermitted work.

The Board made the following Findings of Fact:

- Applicant did originally apply for a permit
- Applicant made a good faith effort to comply, although there were complexities that led to confusion

Upon a **motion** by Klegstad, **second** by B. Anderson, and a **unanimous vote**, the Board approved waiving $500 of the $650 fee, so that Lee Pemberton shall pay the TRWD $150.

Administrator's Report:

District Administrator Money gave a report on the following and distributed a handout:

Minnesota Watersheds:
Minnesota Watersheds held the Minnesota Watersheds Annual Summer Tour in Detroit Lakes, MN, on August 25-26, 2026. Administrator Money attended the summer tour. The Annual Resolutions Meeting was held on August 31, 2026. All resolutions proposed by the legislative committee were adopted.

Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB):
The RRWMB held their 50th Anniversary celebration in conjunction with the Minnesota Watersheds Summer Tour in Detroit Lakes, MN, on August 25-26, 2026.

Flood Damage Reduction Work Group (FDRWG):
The FDRWG has asked that all watershed district managers fill out and return a questionnaire before September 24, 2024, to help determine which topics would be beneficial to cover at the 2027 Red River Basin Conference to be held in Moorhead, MN, on March 16-17, 2026. The Managers provided input/feedback and directed Administrator Money to reply on behalf of the Board.

TRWD Pickup:
The TRWD purchased a 2023 Ford F150 pickup with an on-board generator from C&M Ford of Hallock, MN, after the purchase was approved at the August 6, 2026, board meeting. The TRWD also purchased a six year bumper to bumper warranty. Payment was approved by the Board as part of today's Treasurer's Report.

Overall Plan:
The Board discussed the Overall Plan and approved some edits and additions. Administrator Money will send the Overall Plan out for a 60 day comment period, as required by law, as soon as the approved edits are completed. The Board discussed holding a Citizens Advisory Committee meeting in November near the end of the 60 day comment period or potentially on the same day as the scheduled November board meeting, which is November 5, 2026.

Enbridge Dispute:
Enbridge is claiming that the Minnesota Department of Revenue has used incorrect methodology or miscalculated valuations, leading to an overvaluation of its pipeline infrastructure and, therefore, excessive property taxes. Enbridge is seeking property tax refunds for 2024-2026. If Enbridge is refunded, it will cost the TRWD $189,955 for 2024, $177,167 for 2025, and $226,623 for 2026 (according to numbers from Kittson County). This is an emerging topic, and one that should be considered for the upcoming legislative session.

Projects Report:

Klondike Clean Water Retention Project (KCWRP):
Engineer Huwe distributed a handout and gave an update on the project. Huwe stated that the concrete contractor (A+ Concrete) did not follow the plans and specs provided for the rebar,

and that concrete was already poured. HDR's structural engineer is reviewing this, and Administrator Money and Engineer Huwe will meet with the contractor to discuss the next steps that need to be taken. Possible action may include A+ Concrete removing all the concrete and rebar that has been completed so far or providing HDR Engineering specific information to create an alternative plan. The Board stated that all extra costs incurred will need to be paid by A+ Concrete because it was their mistake. The Board's preferred solution is to have A+ Concrete remove everything that has been installed incorrectly and reinstall it according to specs and the contractor's expense.

Attorney Hane noted that all decisions, issues, problems, solutions, etc. regarding this matter need to be documented in writing. The Board reiterated that all extra expenses need to be the responsibility of the contractor. This issue will require further Board action after a meeting with Spruce Valley and A+ Concrete is held.

Administrator Money reported on the right of way and progress regarding the land exchange with MN DNR. The final exchange was approved at the federal level and will now go before the MN Land Exchange Board on September 22, 2026, for final approval.

Administrator Money also reported on wetland permitting. Brush, cattail, and other unwanted vegetation were recently sprayed by drone. A written report from Engineer Nordby was handed out stating that the contractor will mobilize and plans to be on site in early October to work on the wetland restoration.

Kittson County Ditch #13 (KCD13):
A written report from Engineer Nordby was provided to the Board and discussed. Houston Engineering is working on construction plans and will need to collect additional survey work. An updated cost estimate was done, and funding sources are being sought for bridges, culverts, side water inlets, and water quality improvements. Once construction plans are done, advertisements for bids can be posted.

Middle Branch Project:
The removal of a box culvert and installation of a Texas crossing in its place that was approved at last month's board meeting is scheduled to be completed in mid-September by Anderson Brothers Construction.

Proposed Transfer of Ditches from Kittson County to TRWD:
A public hearing to transfer authority for Judicial Ditch #31, State Ditch #84, and State Ditch #85 from Kittson County to TRWD will be held on September 23, 2026, in the Kittson County Courthouse. Kittson County Administrator Aimee Sugden will post the hearing notice in the paper two weeks prior.

With no other matters to come before the Board of Managers, the meeting was adjourned.

Attest:

Daryl Klegstad, Secretary

~~Rick Sikorski, President~~
Roger Anderson, Vice President