

Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz	X			

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3. Consent Agenda

- a) Regular Board Meeting Minutes – November 21, 2024
- b) Special Board Meeting Minutes – December 10, 2024
- c) Special Board Meeting Minutes – December 17, 2024
- d) Regular Board Meeting Minutes – December 19, 2024

The November 21st minutes were removed from the consent agenda.

Manager Schmaltz moved to approve the consent agenda as amended. Seconded by President Anderson. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	X			
Christopher Loth	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz	X			

4. Public Hearing: Heath Iron Enhanced Sand Filter Project Ordering

President Anderson opened the public hearing.

Dr. Wilkinson presented an overview of the Heath Iron Enhanced Sand Filter Project including primary staff members, project location and subwatershed, grant funding, and estimated pollutant removals. She explained the project will be located on a single, privately owned parcel which the District will acquire in fee title. Dr. Wilkinson indicated the estimated construction cost is approximately \$1.5 million. The anticipated project schedule includes construction in summer 2026. President Anderson noted how large the contributing drainage area is. Manager Toavs asked as to the origin of the hydrocarbons that are referenced in the report, and asked about chloride removal. Dr. Wilkinson replied that the hydrocarbons are from petroleum constituents in urban runoff, and that filtration technology doesn't remove chloride from stormwater.

President Anderson determined that no members of the public were present to speak, and closed the public hearing.

5. Public Open Forum

72 There were no comments.

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74 **6. Citizen Advisory Committee Update**

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76 Aidan Read reported that the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) met on January 14th,
77 including two new attendees, one of which has submitted an application to join the CAC.
78 Mr. Read reported that the CAC reviewed the AIS report and the cost-share policy
79 update, and is in the process of setting its priorities for the year 2025. Mr. Read also
80 mentioned that he will be sending an email soliciting managers to attend CAC meetings
81 as they are able throughout the year.

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83 **7. New Business**

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85 **a) FY25 Clean Water Fund Grant Agreement**

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87 Administrator Kinney indicated he expects that funding will be available sometime
88 in March, pending work plan approval and execution of the grant agreement by the
89 Board of Water and Soil Resources.

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91 President Anderson moved to amend the 2025 budget for account 5-225-C (Little
92 Comfort) Heath Ave IESF to \$52,000 and to transfer \$52,000 from account 000-3300
93 Grants Receivable to account 5-225-C. Seconded by Manager Schmaltz. Upon a roll
94 call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

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Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	X			
Christopher Loth	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz	X			

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97 Manager Schmaltz moved to amend the 2025 budget for account 5-229-A
98 (Comfort) Diagnostic Study Update to \$59,000 and to transfer \$59,000 from account
99 000-3300 Grants Receivable to account 5-229-A. Seconded by Manager Toavs.
100 Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

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Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	X			
Christopher Loth	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz	X			

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President Anderson moved to adopt resolution 25-01-01 authorizing the administrator to execute the Clean Water Fund grant agreement for the Heath Iron Enhanced Sand Filter Project and Sunrise River Headwaters Project Development. Seconded by Manager Toavs. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	X			
Christopher Loth	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz	X			

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b) Heath Iron Enhanced Sand Filter Project Ordering & Engineering

Administrator Kinney recommended the Board order the project by adopting the enclosed resolution and then authorize Emmons & Olivier Resources (EOR) to proceed with the next phase of project engineering.

Manager Schmaltz moved to adopt resolution 25-01-02 ordering the Heath Iron Enhanced Sand Filter Project. Seconded by President Anderson. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	X			
Christopher Loth	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz	X			

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President Anderson moved to authorize the administrator on advice of counsel to enter into an agreement with EOR in accordance with the January 16, 2025 scope of work, tasks 4-8, in an amount not to exceed \$105,517, and work not to begin until the associated Clean Water Fund grant agreement is executed. Seconded by Manager Toavs. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	X			
Christopher Loth	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Jackie Anderson	X			

Stephen Schmaltz	X			
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c) Heath Iron Enhanced Sand Filter Property Acquisition

Administrator Kinney explained that the Board reviewed the property appraisal last year, and staff have been coordinating with the landowner to prepare for acquisition this year.

President Anderson moved to authorize the administrator, on advice of counsel, to complete the acquisition of the Heath Ave Iron Enhanced Sand Filter project property as per the terms of the Purchase Agreement executed on June 13, 2024. Seconded by Manager Toavs.

President Anderson thanked staff and EOR for their persistence on this project.

Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	X			
Christopher Loth	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz	X			

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d) 2025 Blue Water Science Service Agreement

Administrator Kinney indicated the proposed service agreement is similar to past years' agreements.

Manager Schmaltz moved to approve the 2025 Blue Water Science Agreement for a total contract of \$30,200 and to authorize the administrator to sign the agreement, on advice of counsel. Seconded by President Anderson.

President Anderson noted the District has worked with Blue Water Science since the District's establishment, and she looks forward to another year working with Blue Water Science. Manager Bakke indicated he appreciates Steve McComas' experience, knowledge, and good work.

Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	X			

Christopher Loth	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz	X			

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e) 2024 Yearend Education & Outreach Summary

Administrator Kinney indicated this item and the following item are informational, and Adam Hjelm will prepare a presentation for the February 13th regular board meeting. Mr. Kinney encouraged managers to share their thoughts with Mr. Hjelm between now and February 6th. President Anderson indicated she saw the most recent newsletter and was impressed. She noted that the final page of the newsletter appears upside down.

f) 2025 Education & Outreach Implementation Plan

8. Old Business

a) 2024 Aquatic Invasive Species Report

Mike Sandager provided a recap of funding for the aquatic invasive species (AIS) program. Manager Schmaltz requested a more detailed breakdown of the tri-party funding agreement among the District, the City of Forest Lake, and the Forest Lake Lake Association. Manager Schmaltz recommended that the funding for the watercraft inspection program be detailed in more specific terms. Manager Bakke commended staff on the pre-recorded YouTube presentations and requested permission to share the videos with the Bone Lake Association. President Anderson indicated these videos should be shared with all three lake associations.

President Anderson moved to approve the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Report with revisions to address the matters raised by Manager Schmaltz. Seconded by Manager Schmaltz. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	X			
Christopher Loth	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz	X			

b) 2024 Watercraft Inspection Report

192 Manager Schmaltz requested that staff incorporate MN Department of Natural
 193 Resources inspectors' hours into the funding chart. Manager Schmaltz noted the
 194 Forest Lake Lake Association (FLLA) is not included on the funding contribution chart.
 195 Administrator Kinney explained that, because of the tri-party agreement, the FLLA did
 196 not directly contribute funding to the watercraft inspection program. Manager
 197 Schmaltz indicated he would review the contribution amounts with FLLA President
 198 Jerry Grundtner and reconnect with staff.

199
 200 Manager Anderson moved to approve the 2024 Watercraft Inspection Program
 201 Yearend Report, subject to staff review of FLLA financial contribution amounts in
 202 consultation with Manager Schmaltz. Seconded by Manager Toavs. Upon a roll call
 203 vote, the motion carried 5-0.

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Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	X			
Christopher Loth	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz	X			

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c) Blue Water Science Yearend Reports

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Connor McComas presented findings from lake surveys in 2024 including:

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- Bone Lake curly-leaf pondweed, Eurasian watermilfoil, and zebra mussel search surveys
- Comfort Lake curly-leaf pondweed and Eurasian watermilfoil surveys
- Moody Lake curly-leaf pondweed surveys
- Shields Lake curly-leaf pondweed surveys
- Forest Lake curly-leaf pondweed, Eurasian watermilfoil, flowering rush, and starry stonewort search surveys

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Manager Bakke indicated that volunteers around the lake did not observe any zebra mussels in Bone Lake in 2024. Administrator Kinney recommended that all lakeshore homeowners take steps to prevent zebra mussel spread when removing and storing their docks for the winter.

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Manager Anderson indicated she observed frequent high water levels on Comfort Lake in 2024. She commented that there is abundant water lily growth on Comfort Lake, and the aquatic species chart should reflect that. Mr. McComas indicated herbicide treatment shouldn't occur in areas with water lilies.

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227 Manager Anderson asked if Mr. McComas observed any effects from the District's
 228 alum treatments. Mr. McComas indicated that water quality is notably better in
 229 Moody Lake after the alum treatment. He indicated he observed plant species
 230 diversity and abundance in Forest Lake after the alum treatment. Manager Bakke
 231 asked for copies of the reports. Tori Philippi explained they are available on the
 232 District's website, and she can split them up by lake and send out copies.

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 234 President Anderson moved to accept Blue Water Science's 2024 Survey Reports with
 235 adjustments to the Comfort Lake reports to confirm plant species present. Seconded
 236 by Manager Schmaltz. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

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Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	X			
Christopher Loth	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz	X			

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d) Floodplain Vulnerability Modeling Report

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Cecilio Olivier indicated that the majority of the report, including modeling maps, was presented at the last board meeting. Emily Heinz noted that the technical report provides additional detail and methodology, but the main takeaways, i.e., the maps, have already been presented to the board.

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President Anderson said this work is critical for the Comfort Lake area because of urban stormwater runoff from the City of Forest Lake. She stated that the community workshops should include moving illustrations of the modeled flood response to development in particular areas, not just static maps.

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Manager Schmaltz moved to accept the engineer's floodplain modeling phase 3
technical report. Seconded by Manager Toavs. Upon a roll call vote, the motion
carried 5-0.

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Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	X			
Christopher Loth	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz	X			

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e) District Vehicle

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Manager Schmaltz moved to amend the 2025 budget for account 3-010-A and to transfer \$34,000 from account 000-2900 (Reserve Fund) to account 3-010-A. Seconded by Manager Toavs.

Manager Bakke reminded the board that it discussed the possibility of looking at used vehicles at the last meeting. Manager Toavs indicated he did some research into used electric vehicles himself and didn't find any good prices. He noted that the IRS Commercial Clean Vehicle Credit wouldn't apply to used vehicles. President Anderson estimated the state vehicle price is likely the best price the District is going to get.

Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 4-1.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke		X		
Christopher Loth	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz	X			

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Manager Schmaltz moved to authorize the administrator on the advice of counsel to purchase a District electric vehicle using funds from account 3-010-A. Seconded by Manager Toavs. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 4-1.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke		X		
Christopher Loth	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz	X			

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f) 2025 Cost-Share Policy

President Anderson moved to approve the 2025 Cost-Share Policy. Seconded by Manager Schmaltz.

President Anderson indicated the policy is well laid out, and she thanked staff for preparing it.

Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	X			
Christopher Loth	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz	X			

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g) Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership Work Plan Leverage

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Ms. Heinz presented the memorandum previously requested by the board reviewing the spending of the partners on water resource work and the state and local sources of that spending. President Anderson asked if the “other funding” indicated on page 3 comes from partner organizations. Ms. Heinz explained that it may come from partners’ local funds (e.g., tax levies) or other grants. She noted that the Watershed Based Implementation Funding (WBIF) match is similar in that it may come from partners’ local funds or other non-state grants (e.g., federal grants). She explained that partners must indicate a proposed match whenever they request WBIF grant funds from the partnership.

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9. Report of Staff

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a) Administrator

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Administrator Kinney reported he has met with other watershed districts to learn more about the processes they underwent to obtain new office spaces. Manager Bakke asked for an update on the Bone Lake South Wetland Acquisition process. Mr. Kinney explained that the property owner passed away, and ownership has been passed to his heir. District staff have been in communication with the heir regarding sale of the property. Manager Bakke indicated he hopes the acquisition can move forward.

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b) Emmons & Olivier Resources (EOR)

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Dr. Wilkinson indicated she had nothing further to report after the information presented earlier on the agenda.

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c) Smith Partners

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Nothing to report.

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10. Report of Treasurer

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a) Approval of Bills and Treasurer’s Report

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Treasurer Schmaltz reported income for the period of \$201,104.04 and expenses in the amount of \$217,594.46.

President Anderson moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report, transfer funds in the amount of \$376,600.00 and pay the bills in the amount of \$217,594.46. Seconded by Manager Toavs. Upon vote, the motion carried 5-0.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	X			
Christopher Loth	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz	X			

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11. Report of Officers and Managers

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Manager Bakke reported on the annual administrator review process. The next review meeting is at the District office, Tuesday, January 28th, 6-9pm.

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335 President Anderson indicated she attended the Metro MN Watersheds meeting and had
336 several notes. She explained that the group had discussed the District’s rapid progress
337 in delisting its nutrient-impaired lakes. President Anderson made note of several grant
338 programs that are available.
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12. Summary and Approval of Board Direction

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Board directives were summarized.

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- 345 • Regarding the CAC update, Manager Anderson referenced a participant
346 suggestion regarding historical markers of AIS over time. This information will be
347 conveyed to Blue Water Science, and staff will thank the CAC member that made
348 the suggestion.
- 349 • Mr. Hjelm will correct an upside-down slide in the otherwise excellent newsletter.
- 350 • With respect to the AIS report, Manager Schmaltz asked that staff take steps to
351 revise the funding table to more clearly give credit to all partners who contributed
352 funds or hours.
- 353 • With respect to the watercraft inspection report, Manager Schmaltz will consult with
354 staff regarding clarifying the tri-party agreement contributions of City of Forest
355 Lake and Forest Lake Lake Association before the report is finalized.
- 356 • Staff will share the YouTube videos of the AIS and watercraft inspection
357 presentations with managers so they can be posted on lake association websites.
- 358 • Staff will split up the Blue Water Science reports by lake and provide copies to the
359 managers.
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13. Adjourn

- a) Next special board meeting – February 4, 2025, 5:30pm
- b) Next regular board meeting – February 13, 2025, 6:30 pm

Manager Toavs moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Manager Schmaltz. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0, and the meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	X			
Christopher Loth	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz	X			

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Dave Bakke, Secretary -----