

MINUTES OF THE ROSEAU RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING HELD JANUARY 8, 2026

ORDER: Chairman Diesen called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MANAGERS PRESENT: Carter Diesen, Jim Johnson, Jason Braaten, LaVerne Voll, and Cody Schmalz

STAFF PRESENT: Administrator Halstensgard, Technician Broten, & Assistant Wensloff

OTHERS PRESENT: Daryl Wicklund, County Commissioner; Tom Enright, DNR; and Matt Fischer, BWSR

CONSULTING STAFF PRESENT: Erik Jones, Houston Engineering; Michelle Moren, Attorney; Nate Dalager and Torin McCormack, HDR Engineering.

AGENDA: A **motion** was made by Manager Voll, seconded by Manager Braaten, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD REORGANIZATION: A **motion** was made by Manager Voll to keep the appointments the same as last year. It was seconded by Manager Schmalz. Then motion carried unanimously. With this motion, the following appointments will stand for 2026.

2026

Chairman	Chairman Diesen
Secretary	Manager Voll
Treasurer	Manager Braaten
Official Depository	Bremer Bank, Citizens State Bank and Border State Bank
Official Newspaper	Roseau Times-Region
Legal Counsel	Moren Law Office
Engineering Firm	No primary engineering firm
FSA Representative	Chairman Diesen
RRWMB representative	Manager Braaten, Delegate
	Manager Voll, Alternate
RRIW representative	Managers Voll & Schmalz
Personnel	Managers Braaten & Voll

2026 Meetings -

Regular meetings:

January 8 – 12 p.m.	July 2 – 8 a.m.
February 12 – 12 p.m.	August 6 -- 8 a.m.
March 12– 8 a.m.	September 3 – 8 a.m.
April 2 - 8 a.m.	October 1 – 8 a.m.
May 7 – 8 a.m.	November 5 – 8 a.m.
June 4 -- 8 a.m.	December 10 -- 12 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA: Administrator Halstensgard stated that the Treasurer's Report in the packet is updated with also three additional bills to be added from Moren Law Office in the amount of (\$2,526.25), Houston Engineering - Hay Creek/Santl site (\$14,053.75), and Houston Engineering - WD3 (\$9,953.33)

There were no permits to be reviewed for the month of January.

Adoption of the Consent Agenda included:

- Approval of the December 11, 2025, regular board meeting minutes
- December Treasurer's Report
- Review and approve Manager and Employee expense vouchers as read by Manager Braaten.

A **motion** to approve the consent agenda was made by Manager Johnson and seconded by Manager Voll. The motion carried unanimously.

DELEGATE: Matt Magnusson addressed the Board as a landowner. Attorney Moren advised Mr. Magnusson and the Board that no discussion would take place on pending litigation, and the Board would listen to Mr. Magnusson but would not be responding. Mr. Magnusson proceeded to speak about the weir in SD 51 Cutoff 1, early overflow, and the stream gages on that were installed as part of the Roseau Lake Project.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no Old Business for this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) public informational meeting - Administrator Halstensgard would like to schedule the meeting for Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at the Roseau City Center, with a meal at 5 p.m. and meeting at 6 p.m. She also mentioned a few topics for discussion, such as Sprague Creek, Hay Creek and the Santl site. The Board supported scheduling the CAC meeting as suggested.

After discussion on the Houston Engineering General Services Contract, Manager Braaten made a **motion** to accept Houston Engineering General Services Contract with edits as recommended by Attorney Moren. Manager Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board discussed HDR Engineering General Services Contract. Manager Schmalz voiced an opinion on a possible different Engineering firm. There was discussion on the Board's involvement in the work being outlined in these contracts. Administrator Halstensgard stated combining the work authorized by the board into these general services contracts is an effort to improve transparency of the funding being spent on these services. Manager Johnson made a motion to accept the HDR General Services Contract. Manager Braaten seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Tom Enright, DNR, spoke about the Roseau Lake Joint Powers Agreement Amendment #3 for additional funding being presented for the board to consider. . Manager Braaten made a **motion** to accept Amendment 3 to SWIFT Contract No.253130. Manager Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Technician Broten discussed SD51 debris removal this winter. Manager Schmalz made a **motion** to hire Matt Anderson to clean from the border east with a \$15,000 budget. Manager Braaten seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Manager Johnson made a **motion** to hire Nathaniel Roseen to clean from Hwy 310 west with a budget of \$15,000. Manager Braaten seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

1:00 p.m. Bid Opening:

Roseau Lake Phase 5		Eng. Est. \$3, 646, 759.03	
Name	Bid Bond	Bid Amount	
Davidson Construction, INC.	X	\$	4,079,198.50
Gladen Construction, INC.	X	\$	3,198,616.00
RJ Zavoral and Sons, INC.	X	\$	5,199,824.00
Spruce Valley Corporation	X	\$	2,875,492.80
MNL	X	\$	2,893,516.00
Apex Drainage	X	\$	3,906,012.80
Aspen Construction	X	\$	4,446,366.00

There was **motion** made by Manager Voll to accept the apparent low bid of Spruce Valley contingent upon review by legal counsel. Manager Schmalz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

PROJECTS:

Roseau Lake: Technician Broten gave a construction update stating that the construction on Sprague Creek is complete. Manager Braaten made the **motion** to approve the two separate payment applications for Gladen Construction; Payment Application No. 03.-06.1 for \$496,518.95, and Payment Application No. 03.-06.2 for \$466,697.76. Manager Johnson seconded that motion. The motion carried unanimously. Manager Braaten made a separate **motion** to approve Payment Application No. 1 for \$226,576.90 to Northern Harbor Construction minus 5% retainage. Manager Schmalz seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CD8: Landowner meeting recap: Administrator Halstensgard gave a short recap on the meeting noting there has been no negative feedback. After discussion on the Reestablishment of record, Manager Johnson made a **motion** to proceed with the Reestablishment of Records. It was seconded by Manager Voll. Motion carried unanimously.

Administrator Halstensgard discussed the proposed Redetermination of Benefits stating no opposition has been presented to the office. Administrator Halstensgard will contact H2O Viewers and ask them to give a presentation at the February meeting.

WD3: Landowner meeting: Administrator Halstensgard gave a short recap on the meeting noting there has been no negative feedback on the information presented. Some landowners question the removal of the traps on lateral 2. Engineer Dalager recommended proceeding with repair of the Lateral 2 outlet realignment. Manager Voll made a **motion** to proceed with the

repair. Manager Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Manager Braaten made a **motion** to repair the sloughing on Lateral 2 with slope stabilization. Manager Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Administrator Halstensgard stated that the Roseau River Joint Powers Board (RRJPB) met this morning and authorized utilizing Watershed Based Implementation Funding (WBIF) funding as cost-share for the projects.

After some discussion, Manager Braaten made a **motion** to proceed with the Reestablishment of records, seconded by Manager Johnson. Motion carried unanimously.

Redetermination of benefits: It was the consensus of the Board to wait on the Redetermination of Benefits.

CLOSED MEETING: LITIGATION Manager Voll made a **motion** to adopt the resolution to close the public meeting for litigation discussion. Manager Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Manager Voll made a **motion** to reopen the public meeting. Manager Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS:

RRWMB: Manager Braaten provided an update on the RRWMB. That included mention of the Legislative open house March 3 & 4, Federal funding update, and staffing changes. He also mentioned the stream gage cost share contract was renewed.

ADMINISTRATOR: Administrator Halstensgard noted the IRS mileage rate update from \$.70 per mile to \$.72.5 per mile. She talked about the Flood Hazard Mitigation (FHM) grant funding and mentioned the possibility of a Special meeting to be scheduled if a contract is sent before the February meeting. Administrator Halstensgard also gave an update on the JPB meeting held earlier today and deferred to her written report along with the following items:

- Red River Basin Commission (RRBC) Conference [1/14/26-1/15/26]
- MN Watersheds Legislative Event [3/3/26-3/4/26]

WATERSHED TECHNICIAN: Technician Braaten updated the board on Sprague Creek stating construction is done.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The next meeting will be February 12, 2026, at 12:00 p.m. After a **motion** by Manager Voll and seconded by Manager Johnson, the meeting was adjourned at 2:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



LaVerne Voll, Secretary



Tracy Halstensgard, Administrator

January 2026 Bills & Receipts

Checkbook Balance as of December 30, 2025	\$376,615.66
Receipts:	
Citizens State Bank -- interest 12-15-25	\$ 198.93
State of Minnesota -- Market Value Credit	\$ 9,438.86
Roseau County -- Share of taxes	\$ 283,494.87
Total:	\$ 293,132.66
Bills:	
Tracy Halstensgard -- Salary, Ins stipend & cell reimbursement	\$ 6,160.20
Blaine Broten -- Salary, Ins stipend & cell reimbursement	\$ 3,915.14
Tawni Wensloff -- wages	\$ 3,193.49
Jason Braaten -- Per Diem & mileage	\$ 362.26
Carter Diesen -- Per Diem & mileage	\$ 392.71
James Johnson -- Per Diem & mileage	\$ 286.08
Cody Schmalz -- Per Diem & mileage	\$ 184.32
LaVerne Voll -- Per Diem & mileage	\$ 398.51
Tawni Wensloff -- Winnipeg Hotel Reimbursement	\$ 437.72
Elan Financial Services -- credit card	\$ 1,099.20
City Of Roseau -- utilities	\$ 450.03
Roseau Times-Region -- notices	\$ 1,009.80
Minnesota Energy Resources -- natural gas	\$ 81.44
Marco Technologies -- contract	\$ 91.00
Patrick Moren Law Office -- Legal Fees	\$ 2,526.25
Roseau Electric Co-op -- Int/phone --	\$ 126.86
Verizon Wireless -- Trimble	\$ 40.01
Multi Office Products -- paper	\$ 145.77
Quality Printing -- envelopes	\$ 143.88
Riverside Garage Door Company -- garage door repair	\$ 122.00
Northern Resources -- gas	\$ 210.39
Red River Watershed Management Board -- share of taxes	\$ 77,456.41
LSSP Corporation -- Pinpoint subscription renewal	\$ 2,250.00
Houston Engineering -- Invoices 77439, 80023 & 80022	\$ 27,009.08
Roseau Computers -- Laptop check and software update	\$ 589.98
Roseau Computers -- ink	\$ 67.98
League of Minnesota Cities -- 2026 membership dues	\$ 2,497.00
HDR Engineering -- Inv #1200781158, 1200780232 & 1200780225	\$ 40,119.30
HDR Engineering -- Inv #1200780226, 1200780227 & 1200780229	\$ 1,315.70
HDR Engineering -- Inv #1200780230, 1200782620 & 1200780228	\$ 7,832.25
Northern Harbor Construction -- Sprague Creek Mitigation	\$ 226,576.90
Gladen Construction -- payment Application 03-06.1	\$ 496,518.95
North Pine Services -- snow removal	\$ 1,172.30
Total:	\$904,782.91

RESOLUTION CLOSING BOARD MEETING

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Open Meeting Law, Minn. Stat. § 13D.05, subd. 3(b) states that "meetings may be closed if the closure is expressly authorized by statute or permitted by the attorney-client privilege;" and

WHEREAS, Darrell Lins, *et al* have commenced litigation regarding the Roseau Lake project and the Roseau River Restoration project; claiming *inter alia* unlawful deprivation of property; and

WHEREAS, the RRWD seeks to meet with its attorney, to discuss the pending litigation and potential settlement proposals; and

WHEREAS, it would be detrimental to the interests of the Board of Managers of the RRWD to hold a public discussion with its attorney regarding the strengths and weaknesses of its legal position(s), strategy, and potential settlement position where an opposing party or opposing attorney could listen to or be made aware of the RRWD's positions; and

WHEREAS, there is an absolute need for the RRWD Board of Managers to obtain confidential legal advice regarding pending litigation and potential settlement in order to maintain the attorney-client privilege.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Managers of the Roseau River Watershed District as follows:

1. The Roseau River Watershed District Board of Managers hereby closes this meeting based upon the attorney-client privilege pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13D.05, subd. 3(b);
2. The specific subjects to be discussed, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13D.01, subd. 3, are the legal strategy in responding to the pending litigation (Roseau Lake and Roseau River Restoration matters) against the RRWD and potential settlement position.

Dated this 6th day of January, 2026.


Chairman


Secretary



Sign-in sheet

RRWD 714 6th St SW Roseau, MN 56751

[illegible]