



Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

Minutes of Regular Meeting Thursday, September 18, 2025

8:30 a.m.

7800 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley MN

1. CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL

On September 18, 2025 at 8:32 a.m. Chair Cesnik called the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (Commission) to order.

Commissioners, city staff, and others present

City	Commissioner	Alternate Commissioner	Technical Advisory Committee Members (City Staff)
Crystal	Joan Hauer	Terri Schultz	<i>Absent</i>
Golden Valley	Paula Pentel	<i>Absent</i>	Drew Chirpich, Michael Ryan
Medicine Lake	Clint Carlson	Shaun Kennedy	<i>Absent</i>
Minneapolis	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Vacant</i>	Liz Stout
Minnetonka	<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Absent</i>
New Hope	Jere Gwin-Lenth	Jen Leonardson	Nick Macklem
Plymouth	Catherine Cesnik	Monika Vadali	Ben Scharenbroich
Robbinsdale	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Vacant</i>	Jenna Wolf
St. Louis Park	<i>Absent</i>	David Johnston	Erick Francis
Administrator	Laura Jester, Keystone Waters, LLC		
Engineers	Stephanie Johnson, Barr Engineering Co.		
Recording Secretary	<i>Vacant Position</i>		
Legal Counsel	Dave Anderson, Kennedy & Graven		
Guests/Public	None		

2. PUBLIC FORUM ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Pentel moved to approve the agenda as presented. Alternate Commissioner Johnston seconded the motion. Upon a vote the motion carried 6-0. The cities of Minnetonka, Minneapolis, and Robbinsdale were absent from the vote.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Hauer requested that Item 4A: Approval of August minutes be removed from the consent agenda.

MOTION: Commissioner Pentel moved to approve the consent agenda as amended. Commissioner Gwin-Lenth seconded the motion. Upon a vote the motion carried 6-0. The cities of Minnetonka, Minneapolis, and Robbinsdale were absent from the vote.

The following items were approved as part of the consent agenda.

- Acceptance of September Financial Report
- Approval of Payment of Invoices
 - Keystone Waters, LLC – August 2025 Administration
 - Keystone Waters, LLC – August 2025 Administrative Expenses
 - Barr Engineering – August 2025 Engineering Services
 - Triple D Espresso – September Meeting Catering
 - City of Plymouth – August 2025 Accounting Services
 - Kennedy & Graven – Legal Services
 - Stantec – WOMP Services
 - LB Carlson LLP – 2024 Financial Audit
 - Bridge Tower Media – Public Hearing Notice
 - Bolton & Menk – Parkers Lake Chloride Reduction Project
 - HDR – Website Maintenance and Update Project
 - ECM Publishers – Public Hearing Notice

4A Approval of Minutes – August 21, 2025 Commission Meeting

Commissioner Hauer noted an error with in 5D of the August minutes with regards to voting on the motion. She noted the vote should be 6-0 with the cities of Crystal, Minnetonka, and Robbinsdale absent from the vote.

MOTION: Commissioner Hauer moved to approve the minutes from the August 21, 2025 meeting, as revised. Commissioner Jere Gwin-Lenth seconded the motion. Upon a vote the motion carried 6-0. The cities of Minnetonka, Minneapolis, and Robbinsdale were absent from the vote.

5. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Receive Comments on Double Box Culvert Repair Project (FCP-1)

Chair Cesnik opened the public hearing at 8:38 a.m. She asked if anyone had questions, comments, or concerns about the Double Box Culvert Repair Project. Hearing none, Chair Cesnik closed the public hearing at 8:39 a.m.

6. BUSINESS

A. Consider Approval of Resolution 25-08 Ordering 2026 Improvement

- i. Ordering 2026 Improvements
- ii. Making Findings Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.251
- iii. Certifying Costs to Hennepin County

Administrator Jester reviewed the components of the resolution including officially ordering the Double Box Culvert Repair Project and certifying costs to Hennepin County. She noted that at the June meeting, the

Commission approved a 2026 maximum levy of \$2,503,500. She recommended a final levy of the same amount. Administrator Jester briefly reviewed a table showing levy amounts for parts of three CIP projects including the Bassett Creek Restoration Project Regent Ave. to Golden Valley Rd, Plymouth Creek Restoration Project Dunkirk Lane to 38th Ave. N., and the Double Box Culvert Repair Project.

MOTION: Commissioner Pentel moved to approve Resolution 25-08. Commissioner Carlson seconded the motion. Upon a vote the motion carried 6-0. The cities of Minnetonka, Minneapolis, and Robbinsdale were absent from the vote.

B. Receive Street Sweeping Prioritization Study Results

Commission Engineer Johnson presented the results of the Street Sweeping Prioritization Study which included a survey of cities and other road authorities to understand current practices and barriers when performing street sweeping, modeling expected pollutant removals, analyses against a sweeping baseline scenario as compared to actual practices, and prioritizing subwatersheds where additional sweeping would be beneficial. Engineer Johnson reported the survey of cities shows that sweeping frequency and timing varies widely across the watershed.

Commission Engineer Johnson reviewed the methodology used for modeling and analyses, noting the data included impervious surface coverage, existing water quality BMPs, tree canopy coverage over roads, and frequency and timing (season) of sweeping. She described how the study evaluated the relative effectiveness of different street sweeping scenarios in terms of:

- Recovery: stormwater pollutants recovered/collected by sweepers.
- Reduction: pollution reduction to downstream waterbodies when existing best management practices (BMPs) are taken into account.
- Cost-benefit: calculated on a seasonal basis

Engineer Johnson reported that currently, about 3.5% of total phosphorus (TP) (617 pounds) is recovered in sweepers while about 2.6% (455 pounds) is reduced from entering BCWMC waterbodies. She reported that a baseline scenario of 1 spring sweep, 1 summer sweep, and 2 fall sweeps was used to compare outcomes against current practices. She reported that if the baseline scenario was used across the watershed, it would result in an additional 203 pounds of TP of recovered pollutants or 114 pounds of TP reduced.

Commission Engineer Johnson noted the highest priority areas for additional pollutant reduction are the Plymouth Creek East and Medicine Lake Direct subwatersheds. She noted the data can also show prioritization by city. She reported that the cost benefit analysis was based on a detailed study in the City of Woodbury. She noted that fall sweeping offers the lowest cost per pound pollutant removal at about \$171/pound and that all sweeping is more cost efficient than most structural BMPs or CIP projects.

Commission Engineer Johnson also reviewed the analysis of using street sweeping to reduce chlorides including a literature review (with minimal references available), surveys from cities on current practices and challenges, and a review of relevant chloride TMDLs. She noted that with current practices, it's estimated that less than 0.01% of chlorides applied for winter road maintenance are recovered in sweepers, but that sweeping can be an important tool to pick up salt spills. She noted several challenges with sweeping salt including icy/wet road conditions and corrosion of equipment.

Commission Engineer Johnson reviewed study highlights, recommendations for next steps, and how other watersheds are using similar analyses and prioritization:

- Street sweeping is a cost-effective BMP for water quality improvements.
- Street sweeping is most beneficial (for addressing TP loading) in areas where there is high canopy cover, and most effective seasonally in the fall, followed by spring, then summer
- Results can be used to inform implementation of enhanced sweeping throughout the Commission and can be used to help BCWMC prioritize areas for working with cities to encourage additional sweeping.
- BCWMC may consider review of their [Capital Equipment Cost Share Policy](#) to incorporate findings from this study.

- Individual cities can use the study results to improve their street sweeping efforts

There was discussion on how results varied in different areas, the City of Plymouth's lack of space for swept debris in the fall (currently resulting in no fall sweeping in residential areas in Plymouth), and the need and current practice by BCWMC and many cities to encourage residents to keep street gutters clean through the Adopt-a-Drain program. It was recognized that the data should be summarized and provided to city public works staff – those responsible for implementing street sweeping programs.

MOTION: Commissioner Carlson moved to accept the report, distribute information to appropriate city departments, and to move forward with additional implementation ideas. Commissioner Gwin-Lenth seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: It was noted the report and data could also be used by the Education Committee to help distill talking points. It was noted the TAC should also be involved in summarizing and disseminating the information to city public works departments and brainstorming how to address barriers. There was discussion about the minor impact of salt collection by sweepers but acknowledgement that use of less rock salt and more brine means less material to actually sweep up. It was noted this study presented a good opportunity to continue and advance discussions on salt use and to gather pertinent information on current practices.

VOTE: Upon a vote the motion carried 6-0. The cities of Minnetonka, Minneapolis, and Robbinsdale were absent from the vote.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Administrator's Report

- Reminder of November Wednesday Meeting Date and Location – Meeting will be on Wednesday November 19th at Plymouth City Hall
- Update on Watershed Plan 60-day Review Comments – No comments received to date; expecting them on or just before the 9/30 deadline.
- Volunteers Needed for Water Blessing Event – Event will be held 10:00 – 11:00 on Monday, October 13th at West Medicine Lake Park; BCWMC is invited to table at the event, looking for volunteers. Commissioners Pentel and Kennedy expressed interest.

Administrator Jester also asked if any commissioners or alternates were thinking about attending the annual MN Watersheds conference in Nisswa in early December as she would like to reserve lodging. Commissioners Cesnik, Pentel, Kennedy, and Hauer expressed interest.

- Engineer** – Commission Engineer Johnson reported that Phase II of the Lagoon Dredging Project feasibility study is underway. She also reported that the Schaper Pond monitoring project has a revised monitoring plan due to recent issues with the city manhole where the equipment was housed. She noted there may be a budget amendment requested to cover the out-of-scope costs.
- Legal Counsel** – Commission Attorney Anderson reminded commissioners that they should not discuss Commission business while attending the Fruen Mill tour.
- Chair** – Chair Cesnik reported on tabling at the Canine for Clean Water event which offered an opportunity to connect with several engaged residents.
- Minnesota Watersheds**
 - Report on Meeting on Resolutions – Alternate Commissioner Kennedy reported that all proposed resolutions were approved by the MN Watersheds membership at the meeting on August 25th. He noted the resolutions will be prioritized at the annual meeting.
- Commissioners** – No reports.
- TAC Members**
 - Update on MN Attorney General [Task Force on Water](#) – St. Louis Park TAC member Francis is a member of the group and reported they are currently getting direction and setting the stage for future meetings.

He noted Arnie Carlson attended one of the first meetings and voiced concerns on impacts of agriculture and mining on water resources.

- ii. Update on Plymouth Creek Restoration Project – Plymouth TAC member Scharenbroich reported that 60% plans for the first phase of the project will be presented at the October meeting. He also reported that restoration plans for Wood Creek (a city project) will be submitted to the Commission Engineer for review at a future meeting. He also reported on a recent blue-green algae bloom on Medicine Lake and that the city is reviewing a potential policy on treating for such blooms. Administrator Jester noted she has received complaints about poor water quality in Sweeney Lake and Lost Lake this summer. She also noted the Commission's blue-green algae sampling protocol adopted in 2023.

H. **Committees** – No reports.

2. INFORMATION ONLY (Information online only)

- A. Administrative Calendar
- B. CIP Project Updates www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects
- C. Grant Tracking Summary and Spreadsheet
- A. WCA Notices Plymouth, Golden Valley, Minnetonka

7. **ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at 9:57 p.m.