

NORTHEAST RED WATERSHED DISTRICT

66156 Pineridge Road, Sunnyside, MB R5R 0G9

204-777-2223 admin@northeastred.ca

Board Meeting 2026-06

June 24, 2026

PRESENT Verner Johnson– NRWD Board Chairperson, Provincial Appointee
BOARD Scott Spicer – NRWD Board Vice Chairperson, Red River S.D. Chair
Edgar Scheurer – Carrs Creek/Lower Seine S.D. Chair
Elwood Lamont – Lower Cooks Creek S.D. Chair
Greg Mandzuk – Catfish Creek/ Gull Lake S.D. Chair
Russ Gawluk – Brokenhead S.D. Chair
Jack Kowalchuk – Devils Creek S.D. Chair

ONLINE Brad Ingles – Upper Cooks Creek S.D. Chair

STAFF Ana Isabela Landivar – Manager
Starr Harder – Administrator
Julie Litke – PWCP Coordinator
Makayla Baldwin – Program Coordinator

VIRTUAL Nick Kopeechuk, CPA Sensus Chartered Professional Accountants Ltd.

GUESTS Rene Bravo – Provincial Watershed Planner

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m.

1. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution No. 2026-33

BE IT RESOLVED the board approves the agenda with removal of 6.2 Springfield trees update pending, and adding drone surveillance to clean out Ste. Genevieve under old Business 6.2.

Moved: Jack Kowalchuk

Seconded: Russ Gawluk

CARRIED

2. Adoption of Minutes

2.1. Approval of NRWD Board Meeting 2026-05 Minutes May 20, 2026.

Resolution No. 2026-34

BE IT RESOLVED the board approves the minutes of the Northeast Red Watershed District Meeting 2026-5 on May 20, 2026, as provided.

Moved: Scott Spicer

Seconded: Elwood Lamont

CARRIED

3. Financial

3.1. Approval of financials reconciled to May 31, 2026.

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Resolution No. 2026-35

BE IT RESOLVED the board approves the monthly financials reconciled to May 31, 2026.

Moved: Edgar Scheurer

Second: Scott Spicer

CARRIED

3.2. Year-to-date Budget presented by Manager

3.3 New Carry-Over, the NRWD needs to catch up on spending operating grants as we have had a large carry-over persisting in recent years. Province assured this will not affect our Provincial grant. Manager revised the budget; this will allow us to catch up on spending. Goal is to use the full amount which will allow us to get bigger grants in future.

3.4 Final Budget 2026-2027, adjusted for new carry-over amount with same percentages in each category.

Resolution No. 2026-36

Be it resolved the board approves the adjusted carry-over of \$409,491 as presented.

Mover: Brad Ingles

Second: Scott Spicer

CARRIED

Resolution No. 2026-37

Be it resolved the board approves the 2026-2027 final budget as presented.

Mover: Russ Gawluk

Second: Elwood Lamont

CARRIED

4. Reports

4.1. NRWD Chair Report, meeting with Province, Infrastructure meeting, drainage, usual signing and Sensus questionnaire about board practices.

RM is trying to update GIS map to show last time everything was surveyed. Asset management plans are now being developed by RMs to qualify for funding. Goal is to establish a system which streamlines the identification and entering of projects in ArcGIS citywide by manager.

9:30 am Nick Kopeechuk signs in, address item 5.

10:10 am Nick departs meeting.

4.2. NRWD Staff Report, as provided. June was a busy month for infrastructure after significant rainfall.

Questions about disaster relief funding require partnering with RM. This past two weeks, roads have been blocked, culverts collapsed, land flooding concerns for farmers.

Request Province representative to attend the next Infrastructure meeting to discuss what can be done with Cooks Creek. Provincial Watershed Planner to add Cooks Creek issues to next Provincial Infrastructure meeting Agenda.

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4.3. Sub-District Committee Roundtable

Upper Cooks, Brad. Nothing to report.

Lower Cooks, Elwood. Traps on culverts at Cooks Creek haven't worked for years.

Carrs Creek/Lower Seine, Edgar. Issues with people opening traps. Water then drains backward into farm field. Good water movement this spring, mostly drained within five days. RM ditch work interrupted by rain.

Brokenhead, Russ. Rain has reduced fire risk, no flooding concerns. Ongoing challenges with joining Watershed District.

Devils Creek, Jack. Some damage and washouts north of Tyndall, RM of Brokenhead declared local state of emergency.

Catfish Creek/Gull Lake, Greg. Lac du Bonnet declared a state of local emergency. Major issue of drifting soil after severe rainstorm. Contacted Deputy Minister and MTI about dealing with the drifting soil and necessity to open up the drains.

Red River- Scott. Not a lot of challenges thanks to recent years' drainage work. No subdistrict meeting due to time limitations.

4.4. **Infrastructure Committee Report**, this week 10 projects created from rainstorm aftermath.

4.5. **Programming Report**, maxed cover crop budget, aside from a small portion of nitrogen management. Money lingering for Rotational Grazing projects that got pushed out of deadline. PWCP 2026 restarts August 1st.

4.6. **GROW Projects List**

Special focus on Project proposal A. Zurbyk, naturalizing cropland as native grassland on Eastdale road, a portion of quoted labor costs outstanding.

Based quotes on East Interlake Watershed District existing programs.

This will require maintenance to ensure seed survival as natives seeds are more costly. Plan is for permanent native perennial grass that remains in place by agreement for a minimum of 10 years.

Must plant native prairie perennial to qualify for restoration funds under program.

Upland conservation project for A. Plett, 28.5 acres of land for conservation on sections of wooded wetland, near working land retained for upland conservation. Based on 3% of the land value per acre, total over a ten year agreement.

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Resolution No. 2026-38

BE IT RESOLVED the Board approves the listed GROW conservation projects, with adjustment of Zurbyk Native grass to a maximum of 50%, and excluding Plett upland conservation project.

Moved: Russ Gawluk

Second: Brad Ingles

CARRIED

4.7 **MAW Report** – finance committee meeting looking at April and May, in good shape. As mentioned, PWCP starts August 1st. Small fee increase anticipated for the next conference.

4.8. **Provincial Update**, as provided. Encourage Watershed Districts to work on their tender policy for purchasing. NRWD has historically piggy backed off the RM existing tender process for best pricing.

4.9 **HR Review**

Motion to go IN CAMERA at 11:55am by Greg Mandzuk **second:** Russ Gawluk
Staff depart 11:55 a.m.

Motion to leave IN CAMERA at 12:00pm by Russ Gawluk **second:** Edgar Scheurer
Staff return 12:00 p.m.

Resolution No. 2026-39

WHEREAS the Board of the Northeast Red Watershed District (NRWD) instructed the HR Committee complete the annual job performance evaluation of the Manager for the 2025 calendar year;

AND WHEREAS The HR Committee has completed the evaluation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board accept and approved the recommendation of the HR Committee.

Moved: Greg Mandzuk

Second: Elwood Lamont

CARRIED

D. Racicot evaluation and recommendation to be provided for file

5. Old business

5.1 **Brokenhead River IWMP**- slide presentation from the Provincial Planner on how to complete an IWMP. Copy of presentation to be shared with Board by email.

5.2 **Response from Province** -Expansion request. Letter from Province to CAO of RM of Reynolds was shared. Essentially clarifies there will be no change to district boundaries, the district will be maintained based on the flow of the water. Manager and Russ to attend follow-up meeting with Minister Moyes.

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5.3 **Financial Audit**, as presented by Nick Kopeechuk, Sensus CPA
Audited financial statements for 2025-26 discussion of material. Same as prior year they can provide an unqualified report. Finances present fairly in all material respects. Page 6 shows district in a stronger financial position than last year. Deferred provincial levy (liabilities), not as overfunded as last year.

Resolution 2026-40

Be it resolved the board approves the Northeast Red Watershed District Audited Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2026 as presented by Sensus Partnership of Chartered Accountants.

Mover: Scott Spicer

Second: Jack Kowalchuk

CARRIED

5.4 Shoreline Stabilization and Vegetation Establishment for the RM of Springfield

Resolution No. 2026-41

BE IT RESOLVED the Board approves the \$5,000 contribution from NRWD towards the shoreline stabilization and vegetation establishment project for the RM of Springfield in coordination with IISD International Institute for Sustainable Development.

Moved: Scott Spicer

Second: Jack Kowalchuk

CARRIED

5.5. Residential Development Proposal North of PTH 44

This is a development plan amendment, step 1 of many steps. Currently designated resource and agriculture, changing to development. Step one, this goes through to subdivision it will be piped sewer and water. Secondly there is going to be green space along the creek. Nothing to stop board from replying to the RM of Clements requesting a buffer zone or green space. Manager plans to send a letter.

6. New Business

6.1. Small Acreages Program Proposal

Resolution No. 2026-42

BE IT RESOLVED the Board approves the purchases up to \$9,000 for the Small Acreage Program as presented.

Moved: Scott Spicer

Second: Russ Gawluk

CARRIED

Russ requested poster to be put up for the community.

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6.2 **Ste. Genevieve Drone**, table for next meeting.

7. Information and Correspondence

7.1. Meeting with Minister Moyes at the Legislature, August 14th.

8. Adjournment

Adjourned at 12:48pm Moved by Edgar

8.1. **Next meeting: Wednesday, July 22, 2026**, BBQ lunch to follow.

Verner Johnson -Chairperson

Starr Harder-Administrator