

NORTHEAST RED WATERSHED DISTRICT

66156 Pineridge Road, Sunnyside, MB R5R 0G9

204-777-2223 admin@northeastred.ca

Board Meeting 2026-07

July 22, 2026

PRESENT Scott Spicer – NRWD Board Vice Chairperson, Red River S.D. Chair

BOARD 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

GUESTS Rene Bravo – Provincial Watershed Planner

Verner contacted Scott to Chair meeting in his absence.

Meeting called to order at 9:04 a.m.

1. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution No. 2026-43

BE IT RESOLVED the board approves the agenda as presented.

Moved: Russ Gawluk

Seconded: Greg Mandzuk

CARRIED

2. Adoption of Minutes

2.1. Approval of NRWD Board Meeting 2026-06 Minutes June 24, 2026.

Resolution No. 2026-44

BE IT RESOLVED the board approves the minutes of the Northeast Red Watershed District Meeting 2026-6 on June 24, 2026, as provided.

Moved: Elwood Lamont

Seconded: Edgar Scheurer

CARRIED

3. Financial

3.1. Approval of financials reconciled to June 30, 2026.

Resolution No. 2026-45

BE IT RESOLVED the board approves the monthly financials reconciled to June 30, 2026.

Moved: Jack Kowalchuk

Second: Greg Mandzuk

CARRIED

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3.2. Year-to-date Budget presented by Manager

Growing spending on conservation dollars, largest expenses were emergency infrastructure repairs.

3.3 Levy Allocation

Resolution No. 2026-46

Be it resolved the Board approves the allocation of levy dollars for 2026-2027 as presented in the final budget.

Mover: Greg Mandzuk

Second: Elwood Lamont

CARRIED

4. Reports

4.1. NRWD Chair Report, none.

4.2. NRWD Staff Report, as provided.

Discussion about DFA application in coordination with the RM of Springfield, over 10 sites damaged. Manager working with RM to collect list of all works that were impacted by the storm. Manager to get total estimate of the 12 sites for planning purposes in case the funds are not provided from Province.

Small acreage bundles were a success and filled up within a week.

Planning a second release. Consider posters for smaller community.

4.3. Sub-District Committee Roundtable

Upper Cooks, Brad. Nothing to report.

Lower Cooks, Elwood. Need for cleaning out residue from culverts, lots of damage. Need a full check on culverts. Most issues located in Lower Cooks Creek and will be brought up at Infrastructure meeting.

Carrs Creek/Lower Seine, Edgar. Nothing to report. Drove around to complete spray map.

Brokenhead, Russ. Sent email to committee members to remind them to share issues they want put before the Board.

Devils Creek, Jack. Development continuing near Tyndall, concerns regarding greenspace allocations.

Catfish Creek/Gull Lake, Greg. Nothing to report.

Red River- Scott. Nothing to report.

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4.4. **Infrastructure Committee Report,**

Coordination with RM of Springfield on Swede Drain culvert replacements to begin within the coming weeks. Current plan is to start on North side. Elwood noted that there are driveway barricades on the South side and suggested looking at starting on that side. NRWD ordering some thicker culverts to increase lifespan. Discussion about option of plastic culverts, Greg mentioned frost issues can malform the ends.

Scott inquired about planned meeting with the Infrastructure committee, St. Clements, and Provincial representative. Manager waiting for Hydraulics assessments from Pier which has been delayed since end of May (original time estimate given). Report should be ready for the second week of August per most recent communication.

4.5. **Programming Report,**

Five outstanding agreements. Moved money from rotational grazing to cover cropping and nitrogen management.

Successful release of Environmental bundle main addition since last meeting, more completed projects not a lot of new additions. Completed mid-season check-in to ensure projects are still to be completed this season. Waiting on Trek for water retention project. WASP sprinklers on order from ABC, program will launch once we have the product.

4.6 **Grow Program Presentation- Watershed Planner, Rene Bravo**

Provincial update at end of next meeting due to Provincial blackout. Refresher of the purpose of GROW program. Presentation to be shared by email with all board members.

Great reminder of the function of a local GROW committee; to identify community priorities with local perspectives. Committee reviews and approves applications that meet local priorities. Consideration of what makes a strong project/investment. Questions used to evaluate and prioritize projects. Template of Priority Calculator provided as a tool. Template for agreements/contract for landowners to sign.

If a landowner signs an agreement, we need to visit and ensure they are fulfilling their side of agreement. If not in compliance we would end incentive payments, and may limit potential for extending future programming to the same applicant.

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Manager discussed our GROW funds that have been returned, projects that fulfill our priorities that have been rejected, and reminder that any unspent money must be returned.

If we do these projects, the external funder will keep increasing our grants, which supports our bottom line.

4.7. **GROW Projects List presented by Program Coordinator**, as provided.

Zurbyk project numbers based off a copy of project proposal from EIWD for similar project, quotes were compared to ensure cheaper option. Funding presented at 75% matching EIWD for similar project. Haying to continue on property. Ditch running through property to be stabilized naturally over time due to native perennial grasses. Plett project changed to Riparian incentive payments only, per last meeting.

Resolution No. 2026-47

BE IT RESOLVED the Board approves the three proposed GROW conservation projects presented, with the addition of 15 more environmental bundles

Moved: Jack Kowalchuk

Second: Russ Gawluk

CARRIED

4.8 **HR Review**

Motion to go IN CAMERA at 10:15am by Edgar Scheurer **second:** Greg Mandzuk
Staff and Provincial planner depart

Motion to leave IN CAMERA at 10:30 am by Russ Gawluk **second:** Greg Mandzuk
Staff and Provincial planner return.

Resolution No. 2026-48

WHEREAS the Board of the Northeast Red Watershed District (NRWD) instructed the HR Committee complete the annual job performance evaluation of M. Baldwin Program Coordinator for the 2025-26 calendar year;

AND WHEREAS The Manager has completed the evaluation;

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

Moved: Elwood Lamont

Second: Russ Gawluk

CARRIED

M. Baldwin evaluation and recommendation to be provided for file.

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Resolution 2026-49

Be it resolved the board approves the requested vacation for the administrator for up to three weeks as presented to manager.

Moved: Greg Mandzuk

Second: Jack Kowalchuk

CARRIED

5. New business

5.1 **Request for Watershed Districts Acts amendment through MAW-**

Concerns about quorum if attendance is low, about votes without levy contributions. Board agrees on the value of representation to our Watershed, yet there are two existing spaces available for Indigenous representation currently unfilled. There is a need to develop Partnership agreements for programming

Board agrees with existing spots available there is no advantage to formalize.

There is a desire to have Indigenous involvement but don't support this current MAW request.

5.2 **Request for drainage licensing fees adjustment for Watershed through MAW –**

Request province to reduce the fees for licensing to reduce the bureaucracy.

Discussion regarding licensing processes for water retention projects and infrastructure drains. The province wants a license for each property owner, it can be cost and time prohibitive.

Resolution No. 2026-50

BE IT RESOLVED the Board approves the letter from Manitoba Association of Watersheds to the Province requesting a change in drainage licensing fees charged to Watershed Districts as presented,

Moved: Edgar Scheurer

Second: Elwood Lamont

CARRIED

Letter : Request for consideration of Riparian buffers in development planning

Scott suggests the letter be nonspecific to Cooks Creek, but general to all Creeks. Manager can then share letter with all municipalities.

Manager will draft letter for future board review.

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6. Information and Correspondence

6.1 Compensation Survey

6.2 Letter of Recommendation

6.3 Manager vacation time

7. Adjournment

Adjourned at 11:02am Moved by Jack Kowalchuk

Next meeting: Wednesday, September 16, 2026, reminder no August meeting.

Scott Spicer – Acting Chairperson

Starr Harder-Administrator