

NORTHEAST RED WATERSHED DISTRICT

66156 Pineridge Road, Sunnyside, MB R5R 0G9

204-777-2223 admin@northeastred.ca

Board Meeting 2026-08

September 16, 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

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

REGRETS Verner Johnson, Provincial Appointee, NRWD Chairperson

Scott to Chair meeting in Verner's absence.

Meeting called to order at 9:05 a.m.

1. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution No. 2026-51

BE IT RESOLVED the board approves the agenda with the addition of 5.2 Letter of response and 6.3 PWCP Implementation cost.

Moved: Greg Mandzuk

Seconded: Brad Ingles

CARRIED

2. Adoption of Minutes

2.1. Approval of NRWD Board Meeting 2026-07 Minutes of July 22, 2026.

Resolution No. 2026-52

BE IT RESOLVED the board approves the minutes of the Northeast Red Watershed District Meeting 2026-6 on July 22, 2026, as provided.

Moved: Jack Kowalchuk

Seconded: Russ Gawluk

CARRIED

3. Financial

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

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Resolution No. 2026-53

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

Moved: Elwood Lamont

Second: Brad Ingles

CARRIED

3.2. Year-to-date Budget presented by Manager
Greater Infrastructure cost incurred by June storm. As of Monday, RM of Springfield has not received any DFA funds from the government.
Conservation expenses for Environmental Bundles reflected.

4. Reports

4.1. NRWD Chair Report, Scott did not attend MAW meeting due to time conflict with another meeting. Russ will provide report from MAW meeting.

4.2. NRWD Staff Report, as provided.

Discussion around beaver trapper. Manager to share contact with RM of St. Clements. WASP program response slower, coordinator will reach out to RM's to share online. Jack asked about pollinator garden information for the single homeowner, bring to Beausejour Ag fair.

4.3. Sub-District Committee Roundtable

Upper Cooks, Brad. Survey in Cooks Creek has been taken over by the Province, would still be worthwhile to assess from 48 to where it ties into Ste. Genevieve, look at the flow there leading to washouts.

Manager to invite St Clements representatives to the meeting when we have a response from Province, as they are taking over the study. No action until we receive results of the Hydraulics.

Lower Cooks, Elwood. Lots of activity on Swede drain, culverts challenge on Springfield, some cleanup from the washup around culverts.

Carrs Creek/Lower Seine, Edgar. Spray program took place, but they only killed bullrushes close to the road, middle of ditch is untouched.

Greg says Agassiz Weed Control has a longer boom that may be worth using. Check with Selkirk Weed Control too.

Brokenhead, Russ. Sent email to subcommittee for new topics to discuss, no reply. Held a meeting with Minister Moyes and Ana Isabela, RM of Reynolds conversation about annexation of Winnipeg River Watershed, not to be entertained. Province will only proceed with the individual Watershed plan as presented. At second meeting on September 10th, Reynolds indicated they cannot afford new Watershed structure as presented, nor afford current Levy's for program opportunities as they exist. Once an RM opts out of the Watersheds Program, is hard to get back into Watershed as per Minister Moyes.

Devils Creek, Jack. None.

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Catfish Creek/Gull Lake, Greg. RM of Lac du Bonnet engaged with MTI on drainage issues. Over the winter consultants will be engaged to put together an entire drainage plan for LDB on the west side of the river. Costly and overdue.

Red River- Scott. St Clements faced with Provincial drains that need clearing out, some of the farming practices are not optimal (cultivating back slope and spraying ditches). May require more education.

4.4. Infrastructure Committee Report,

Ongoing construction on Swede drain. South Bibeau Drain ready for reconstruction. Manager ordered pipes and locates. Coordinating costs with RM of Springfield. Online Infrastructure committee meeting planned for September 22.

4.5. Programming Report

As presented. Approximately \$300,000 allocated to PWCP projects with approximately 10% paid out to landowners so far. Approximately \$4,000 moved from approved to completed in conservation projects. Waiting on project completions.

4.6 Grow Projects List

Water retention projects are not reflected in chart yet. LCC and Brokenhead retention projects in the work, Prairie Originals just completed their project, provided invoices and environmental farm plan. We will get drone images at end of the month.

1 Incentive, H.Unger's retention finished, seeding to be done. Shelterbelts along berm are planted. Now looking at incentives for taking 5 acres land out of production. Estimates provided to help calculate funding approval. Watershed Planner provided reminder to double check maximums.

2 Incentive, Chopect. Found past signed Wildlands Conservation area former Cooks Creek conservation agreement with the Reid family. Concerning 45 acres of natural wooded land on private property. New incentive agreement could be made with current owners as a deterrent to expanding their farming practices. \$1,125 per year annual incentive proposed. Update sign, need to clear up access concerns.

3 Incentive, 72015 Ashfield road east of 59 in St. Clements. 90 acres currently rent out for cropland. Renter wants to fill in the holes, 1-2 wetlands are at a high risk of being drained to increase yield. We could offer the maximum \$125 per acre. Map provided. They can crop in dry years, incentive for wet years to prevent drainage work. \$12,500, 10 years max. Payments to be assessed on an annual basis based on what they can crop.

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Makayla will modify incentive agreement to reflect no cropping year, vs. cropping.

Landowner in Grand Marais concerned about Lake Winnipeg erosion, Coordinator to explore options. It is very close to the road (in RM of St Clements). Need to determine other interested parties including Province. Erosion control can be very expensive, and this type of project is not often preferred by MHC. NRWD could assist with coordination, consider project as a cost-share. Not likely to see any action before spring.

Board recognized potential to be a huge project that would stimulate lots of future requests, exceeding caution required. Not a part of our mandate nor eligible for GROW funds. Recommend individual to talk to Ward 3 councillor.

Jack referred to huge Winnipeg Beach restoration project done in the 90's for information.

Resolution No. 2026-54

Be it resolved the Board approves Unger and Chopect GROW projects as presented and the Fast GROW project with proposed changes to the incentive paid only when wetlands are not cropped.

Moved: Russ Gawluk

Second: Greg Mandzuk

CARRIED

4.7. Provincial Update, Rene Bravo

August update as provided. Audit received and answers to all questions provided by staff.

September update presented, reminder Q2 financial reports due Oct 15. MHC deadline for LOI shared due Oct 2nd. No-cost engineering support is available from government as well as hydrological services for planning, and timelines unavailable as of yet.

MAW report- Russ, Additional funding for internal project cost recovery within budget year discussed. Infrastructure committee meeting in October instead of September. The Current magazine is finished and to be out soon. MAW conference open, in understanding of elections registration requirements modified to accommodate potential attendee changes. MAW television commercial on Global, SRRWD hosted. Designed with intent for people to see commercial and seek out further information. Willing to entertain more commercials with different Watershed Districts as subjects to stimulate public interest.

MB Living Lab program presentation in PEI.

School program for education for youth.

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Letter to Minister discussed. Resolution regarding Indigenous inclusion in Watershed District will be redrafted with comments taken into account.

PWCP 12.6 million spent to Manitoba landowners, 2025-2026 season complete.

Living Lab looking at bio char research, Lake Winnipeg freshwater ecosystem.

Natural asset training for anyone interested Oct 6 & Oct 8. Each a 3 hour session, \$500 registration can allow up to three people to attend and MAW will cover cost. Next MAW Board meeting virtually at 8:30am on Oct 20th.

Scott added that the Finance Meeting had no concerns. Some of the government funds have been cut, so committee examined programs to determine how to function considering potential future cuts to spending.

5. Old business

5.1 PMT – IWMP Brokenhead

Manager handled logistics to select members for PMT by title to assist during time of election uncertainty. One rep from board representing each RM

Proposed currently Russ Gawluk, Elwood Lamont, Jack Kowalchuk, Edgar Scheurer, Brad Ingles and Greg Mandzuk plus someone from RM of Alexander

We are seeking Indigenous representatives for steering committee as well.

Resolution No. 2026-55

Be it resolved the Board approves Project Management Team (steering committee) for the Brokenhead River IWMP with a member of Council (with preference for a Watershed district Board member) representing the Rural Municipalities of Reynolds, Springfield, Lac du Bonnet, St. Clements, Brokenhead, Tache, Ste. Anne and of Alexander to be confirmed, and with representatives from the Indigenous community to be determined.

Moved: Brad Ingles

Second: Jack Kowalchuk

CARRIED

5.2 Response from Province

Letter received September 15th. Board member request to have copy of the letter shared by email.

6. New Business

6.1 Tender & Procurement Policy

Reviewed requirements with Watershed Planner, two policy documents attached for consideration.

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Resolution No. 2026-56

Be it resolved the Board approves option 1 of policy 2.10 for tendering policy.

Moved: Brad Ingles

Second: Edgar Scheurer

CARRIED

6.2 Oak Hammock Marsh – Schools sponsorship

Resolution No. 2026-57

Be it resolved the Board approves the use of the 2026-27 Water Festival budget up to \$3,000 towards the Oak Hammock Marsh virtual wetland field trips.

Moved: Brad Ingles

Second: Jack Kowalchuk

CARRIED

6.3 PWCP Implementation Cost

Program Coordinator has been using the range provided by the P.Ag for fuel, wear and tear on vehicle, and labour to account for implementation costs. Request to approve a general application form as basis for future implementation cost reimbursements.

Resolution No. 2026-58

Be it resolved the Board approves an implementation/seeding cost maximum of \$34.40/acre.

Moved: Brad Ingles

Second: Jack Kowalchuk

CARRIED

7. Information and Correspondence

7.1 MAW Conference

RM pays expenses for the councilors, district covers ratepayers expenses.

7.2 Sub-Districts Cooks Devils Creek Fall Tour

Planned for October 22nd, counts toward subcommittee meeting. Details will be coming in following week.

7.3 Annual Meeting

Manager planned for 3rd Wednesday of the month, likely save the elections for January. This meeting will review the year.

8. Adjournment

8.1. **Next meeting: Wednesday, October 21, 2026.**

Adjourned at 11:50am Moved by Greg Mandzuk

Scott Spicer – Acting Chairperson

Starr Harder-Administrator