

PELICAN RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT
MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Regular Monthly Managers' Meeting

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

8:30 AM

Wells Fargo Building, Second Floor Meeting Room, 211 Holmes St. West, Detroit Lakes, MN
(218) 846-0436

AGENDA

8:30AM	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Regular Meeting - Call to Order2. Approval of Consent Agenda<ol style="list-style-type: none">A. Secretary Report—September 13, 2023 Public Hearing & Regular Meeting MinutesB. Administrator's ReportC. Ditch Inspector's ReportD. Rules/Permitting Report
8:45 AM	<ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Treasurer's Report<ol style="list-style-type: none">A. Approve September 2023 Bills & Manager 3rd Quarter Per Diems & ExpensesB. Approve September Fund transferC. Review January-August 2023 Revenue & Expenses Report
9:00 AM	<ol style="list-style-type: none">4. Engineer's Report5. Attorney's Report6. Personnel Committee
9:15 AM	<ol style="list-style-type: none">6. New Business<ol style="list-style-type: none">A. MN Watersheds Delegate SelectionB. League of MN Cities Facilitator UpdateC. Cost Share Application—Becker County MuseumD. Storage building at Dunton Locks UpdateE. 2024 RFP—ConsultantsF. BWSR Grant CWP Rice Lake Phase 1 Extension Date
10:15 AM	<ol style="list-style-type: none">8. Unfinished Business<ol style="list-style-type: none">A. Campbell Creek Project UpdateB. Rules Update
10:30 AM	<ol style="list-style-type: none">9. Public Forum
10:35AM	<ol style="list-style-type: none">10. Pulled Consent Agenda Items
10:45 AM	<ol style="list-style-type: none">11. Announcements— MN Watersheds Annual Conference & Trade Show, Nov. 28—Dec. 1
10:45 AM	<ol style="list-style-type: none">12. Meeting Adjournment

Zoom link available upon request by contacting the office by 3:30 PM 10/17/2023 at 218-846-0436 or email prwdinfo@arvig.net

**PELICAN RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT
PUBLIC HEARING – 2024 BUDGETS, LEVIES/ASSESSMENTS & FEES
FOLLOWED BY REGULAR MEETING BOARD MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 13, 2023**

Managers Present: Dennis Kral, Orrin Okeson, Chris Jasken, Rick Michaelson, Charlie Jasken, Laurie Olson, Phil Hansen

Managers Absent: NONE

Staff: Administrator Guetter, Moses, Kemper

Consultants: Attorney Skoyles, Engineer Mackowick (via IT)

Others: John Okeson (Becker County Commissioner), Jim Bond, Aimee Gourlay (League of MN Cities Insurance Trust) (via IT).

PUBLIC HEARING: The Public Hearing for the 2024 Preliminary Budgets, Levies, Assessments and Fees was called to order by President Kral at 8:30 AM. Notice of the public hearing was published in the area newspaper and posted at the District office and on the District website. No questions or comments were received from the public. President Kral closed the Public Hearing at 8:31 AM.

CALL TO ORDER. The Regular Managers' meeting was called to order by President Kral at 8:31 AM. Introductions were made by meeting attendees.

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA: Motion to approve the Consent Agenda including the Secretary's Report – August 16, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes, September 2023 Administrator's Report, September 2023 Rules/Permitting Report (except violations), and the September 2023 Ditch Inspector's Report (Michaelson, Okeson), carried unanimously. Discussion was held regarding the process for amending or requests for adding items to be on the agenda. Kral appraised the managers that going forward he would be enforcing the meeting protocols more tightly and blind motions from the floor would not be allowed. Action items of importance would need to be on the noticed agenda so that the managers and staff are able to properly vet and consider and affected parties/public can make comments or show up in person. Agenda requests need to be submitted to the Administrator at least a week prior to the scheduled meeting with sufficient detail (purpose, presenter(s), time allocation, etc.) in order to take into account available time and action priority. It was suggested a formal policy could be an item to develop in the future (see Aimee Gourlay – League of MN Cities Insurance Trust).

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Approval of September 2023 Bills. Treasurer Michaelson reviewed the September 2023 claims. **Motion to approve the September 2023 claims including bills not yet received from Bank of America, RMB Labs, Office of MNIT Services (Checks 15137-15147 and EFT 2237-2242) in the amount of \$14,381.22 (Michaelson, Charlie Jasken), carried unanimously (attached hereto).**

- a. **September 2023 Fund Transfer.** Michaelson recommended transferring \$40,000 to cover the regular monthly expenses. **Motion to transfer \$40,000 from the Bremer Bank savings account to the checking account (Michaelson, Charlie Jasken), carried unanimously.**
- b. **Financial Report.** The January-August 2023 Revenues and Expenses Report was reviewed by the managers. **Motion to approve the January-August 2023 R & E Report (Michaelson, Olson), carried unanimously.**

NEW BUSINESS.

- a. **Approve 2024 Preliminary Budget, Levies, Assessments, and Fees.** Guetter reviewed the proposed 2024 budgets and Levies, Assessments, and Fees for the General, Utility, Project DCM-01 (monitoring), Project LMP-01 (lake management), Project 1B (Sallie/Melissa), Project 1C (Detroit/Curfman), and Ditch 11-12, 13, and 14 accounts. **Motion to approve the 2024 Preliminary Budget, Levies, Assessments and Fees (Michaelson, Hansen) carried unanimously.**
- b. **League of MN Cities Insurance Trust – Aimee Gourlay.** Ms. Gourlay, Collaborator Services Manager with the League of MN Cities Insurance Trust, provides risk management services as a mediator and facilitator in environmental and public policy conflict resolution. She gave examples of how she could potentially help the board develop decision-making policies and procedures such as clarifying processes for agenda setting, open meeting law, decision-making, board and staff roles and responsibilities, engaging respectively to manage conflict and resolve issues, etc. Ms. Gourlay stressed she only works with boards who are willing to participate in the collaboration process. Her approach would be to meet individually with managers, staff, and consultants to find out what the top key priorities and issues are and report the aggregate results to the Board. The next step as a group would be to decide what the Board wants to undertake and the timeline. Gourley explained this is an orderly process and it may take some time to work through. Manager Hansen asked what the ultimate goal of the facilitation process would be.

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Kral responded his goal is stop the month-to-month discord and to re-establish "good will" for working together in the decision-making process. It was generally agreed there is a need to understand the issues and to jointly develop processes in order to better interact with each other and help reduce conflict going forward. **Motion to approve engaging the collaboration and risk management services of Aimee Gourlay, League of MN Cities Insurance Trust (no cost to the District) to provide conflict assessment and recommendations, mediations, facilitations, and coaching/mentoring to the District. Managers and staff will participate in individual interviews in late September, results will be presented at a meeting in late October where priorities will be established by the Board. (Michaelson, Chris Jasken) carried unanimously.** The managers agreed it would be time well spent.

ATTORNEY REPORT. Attorney Skoyles reported that she has been working with Kemper on violations on East Shore Drive and Munson Lake.

ENGINEER REPORT. Engineer Mackowick reported that all is quiet as the District has not submitted any projects this month.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

- a. **MPCA 319 Small Watershed - Campbell Creek Project – Engineering Services.** After the on-site technical meeting, Becker County SWCD informed Administrator Guetter that due to other projects they did not have the time for this project. There was general agreement to use the services of the District's engineering firm, Stantec. Managers would like to view this site before the weather turns this fall. There will be a doodle poll sent to managers to set a date. Due to injury, Guetter may find someone else knowledgeable with the area to lead the tour. **Motion to engage the engineering services of Stantec (District's engineering firm) to design the plans for the streambank stabilization project and provide a cost estimate for project construction (Michaelson, Chris Jasken) carried unanimously.**
- b. **Update PRWD/County staff permitting/communication meeting.** PRWD staff met with Pat Oman, County Administrator, and Kyle Vareberg, Administrator of Planning & Zoning on 9/12/23 to discuss 1) Collaboration, 2) County permitting software, and 3) Violations. There was good discussion on all topics and we would like to see monthly meetings scheduled between the Watershed District, County Staff and City Staff to be sure we are all moving in the same direction.

PUBLIC FORUM.

Jim Bond (Lake Melissa & Sallie Improvement Association) offered strong support for the District's water quality initiatives. The flyer included in the manager packet regarding the District Resolution for Chinese Mystery Snail research would also be supported by his lake association as they are a growing concern on Lake Sallie.

David Pettit (Floyd Shores Lake Association). Mr. Pettit was not present, however, Board Chair Kral read a letter that was delivered to the PRWD office addressed to the Board of Managers. The Floyd Shores Lake Association supports PRWD maintaining jurisdiction to permit and enforce current laws and regulations as the best means to protect water quality in the District (attached hereto).

PULLED CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS.

Rules Violations (Munson Lake - Nord, Eilers; Detroit Lake -Hausmann). Water Resource Coordinator, Kemper reviewed site pictures with excessive vegetation removal/changes and site grading in the Shore Impact Zone noting the sites either did not follow the issued permit or failed to obtain a District permit. Manager Hansen addressed the Managers and asked if these violations were acceptable, and all managers responded the violations were not acceptable. **Motion to authorize Attorney Skoyles and staff to pursue all legal means against the violations with Nord - 15216 East Munson Lake Road; Eilers -15092 East Munson Lake Road; and Hausmann-1670 East Shore Drive per the District's Water Management Rules, Section 7 Enforcement) (Michaelson, Kral), carried unanimously.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS. Review 2024 Regular Board Meeting Dates/Times. The next board meeting is on Wednesday, October 18th at 8:30 AM.

ADJOURNMENT. Motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 11:28 PM (Kral, Chris Jasken) was carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Jasken, Secretary

Meeting Approved: _____

**Pelican River Watershed District
Claims Paid - September 2023**

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<u>Employee Expenses (ACH)</u>			
*Guetter, Tera	09/20/2023	EFT2237	85.48
*Moses, Brenda	09/20/2023	EFT2238	358.24
			\$ 443.72
<u>Vendor Expenses (AutoPay)</u>			
Bremer Bank	09/15/2023	ACH	18.50
Loffler Companies, Inc.	09/15/2023	ACH	176.91
			\$ 195.41
<u>Vendor Expenses (ACH)</u>			
Lakes Computer, Inc.	09/20/2023	EFT2239	190.00
RMB Environmental Labs, Inc.	09/20/2023	EFT2240	6,888.00
Stantec Consulting Services Inc.	09/20/2023	EFT2241	912.00
Wells Fargo-Office Lease	09/20/2023	EFT2242	1,299.58
			\$ 9,289.58
<u>Vendor Expenses (Checks)</u>			
Arvig	09/20/2023	15137	70.95
Bank of America	09/20/2023	15138	482.35
County 6 Amoco & Bait	09/20/2023	15139	201.06
Emmons & Olivier Resources, Inc.	09/20/2023	15140	949.44
Forum Communications	09/20/2023	15141	37.56
Holiday Division of Circle K	09/20/2023	15142	6.50
League of MN Cities	09/20/2023	15143	VOID 0.00
Loffler	09/20/2023	15144	143.51
Office of MNIT Services	09/20/2023	15145	90.42
Premium Waters, Inc.	09/20/2023	15146	13.72
Tech Sales Co.	09/20/2023	15147	236.00
League of MN Cities	09/20/2023	15148	2,221.00
			\$ 4,452.51
<u>Employee Compensation (ACH)</u>			
Supplemental Benefit	9/11/2023	EFT 2231-2233	3,018.60
Employee Payroll	9/14/2023	EFT 2234-2236	4,491.63
Federal Withholding	9/15/2023	ACH	2,300.24
Employee Payroll	9/28/2023	EFT 2243-2245	4,491.63
Federal Withholding	9/30/2023	ACH	1,564.42
MN State Retirement Systems	9/30/2023	ACH	5,676.00
MN Revenue	9/30/2023	ACH	591.00
PERA	9/30/2023	ACH	2,563.06
			\$ 39,077.80
TOTAL SEPTEMBER EXPENSES:			\$ 39,077.80

Exhibit A
Pelican River Watershed District
2024 Preliminary BUDGET AND TAX RESOLUTIONS
September 13, 2023

A public hearing was advertised and held on September 13, 2023 and followed by the Board of Managers regular September meeting. The managers reviewed prior years 2021 through 2023 and the proposed 2024 budgets, levies, assessments and fees of the District's programs and projects. The managers have projected the 2024 program/project needs for the General, Stormwater Utility, DCM-01, LMP-01, Project 1B, Project 1C, Drainage Systems 11-12, 13, and 14, and Drainage Buffer System Enforcement.

GENERAL FUND – The General fund levy is capped by statute at **\$500,000** and the District is entitled to levy an additional amount to pay for insurance in accordance with MS 466.06. The District expects to pay insurance premiums of **\$8,500** in 2024, based upon 2023 rates. The Managers have projected **\$258,500** is needed in 2024 to undertake the costs attributable to the General fund.

PROJECT LMP-01- The LMP-01 project was established on July 15, 2010 to undertake Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) research, education, treatments, and management. The District is permitted to levy up to \$0.00798% of taxable market value for a period not to exceed 15 consecutive years in accordance with MS 103D.905, Subd.3. The Managers have projected **\$10,000** is required to undertake the project costs in 2024.

PROJECT DCM-01- The DCM-01 project was established on July 15, 2021 to conduct water quality monitoring and assessment, data collection, research, special studies, education, and public outreach activities. The District is permitted to levy up to \$0.00798% of taxable market value for a period not to exceed 15 consecutive years in accordance with MS 103D.905, Subd.3. The Managers have projected **\$90,000** is required to undertake the project costs in 2024.

STORMWATER UTILITY FUND- On February 16, 2000, the Stormwater Treatment Project (MS 103D.730) was established to implement water quality projects, programs, and capital improvement projects to provide recreational benefits, navigational benefits, and preservation and improvement of water quality within the District. The costs of the Stormwater Treatment Facility Project are funded by a district-wide Water Management District (MS 103D.729, MS 444.075, Subd. 2a). The Managers have projected the need of **\$305,000** in 2024 to undertake the project costs and have adopted the 2024 fee schedule, **with the minimum parcel amount of \$20.00 and the maximum parcel amount of \$65.00.**

PROJECT 1B- Project 1B was established on October 8, 1984 for control and management of aquatic vegetation in lakes Sallie and Melissa. The Managers have projected **\$30,000** is needed in 2024 to undertake the project maintenance costs.

PROJECT 1C-Project 1C was established on September 21, 1989 for the control of aquatic vegetation in Detroit and Curfman lakes. The Managers have projected **\$15,000** is needed in 2024 to undertake the project maintenance costs.

DITCH 11-12 – Campbell Creek (Moon Lake to Floyd Lake)
The Becker County Commissioners transferred the drainage authority to the Pelican River Watershed District in the late 1990's. The Managers have projected **\$10,000** is needed in 2024 to undertake the Ditch maintenance costs.

DITCH 13- Pelican River (Little Floyd Lake to Detroit Lake)
No Assessment

DITCH 14- St. Clair Lake area)
The Becker County Commissioners transferred the drainage authority to the Pelican River Watershed District in the late 1990's. The Managers have projected **\$10,000** is needed in 2024 to undertake the Ditch maintenance costs.

Motion to approve the 2024 Preliminary Budget, Levies, Assessments, and Fees above:

Motion: Michaelson

Second: Hansen

AYES: 7

NAYS: 0

Pelican River Watershed Board of Managers,

Floyd Shores Lake Association has had the pleasure of working alongside Pelican River Watershed (PRWD) staff since the inception of our organization in 1973. During that time we have repeatedly called on the staff of PRWD to ensure that the water resources of Floyd Lakes remain preserved, not only for lake residents, but for people residing in Becker County, and beyond. It comes with great concern to our board of directors, that there are currently talks of eliminating the permitting, and enforcement powers of the PRWD.

Floyd Shores is concerned about the proposed limiting of permitting and enforcement powers for multiple reasons. PRWD has a proven record of having staff that are knowledgeable about the shoreline impact zone, and can best educate property owners on how to develop their property, while limiting negative impacts to the environment. This includes working with landowners to find a plan that best meets their needs, but also limiting sediment and stormwater runoff. Without having knowledgeable staff, who work alongside property owners, it is our concern that water quality will diminish, and these impacts will be seen throughout the watershed. PRWD already has the knowledge and established management systems in place to ensure that current regulations are being followed. By preserving the power of the PRWD to permit and enforce projects, the watershed's goal of managing our water resources will continue to be met for generations to come.

Regulation is never a fun thing to discuss. At a time when it seems that different entities are trying to regulate every aspect of citizens' lives, we as a board, understand the push to limit, or remove regulations. However, we as citizens must remember that our water and soil are our most valuable resources. Floyd Shores Lake Association sees our water resources as something that is worth fighting for. We believe that maintaining the PRWD jurisdiction to permit and enforce current laws and regulations, is the best means to continue protecting our waters for years to come.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Pettit
Floyd Shores Lake Association President

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S MONTHLY REPORT
OCTOBER 12, 2023

Surface Waters Protection and Enhancement

1. Capital Improvement Projects/Structural and Non-Structural Practices

- a. **Rice Lake Capital Improvement Project (CIP). Phase 2- Lower Structure.** Project permit application has been submitted to MN DNR. The BWSR Clean Water Grant for Phase 1 Upper Structure has unspent funds and will expire at the end of this year. The District will make a grant extension request for unspent funds for the Phase 2 lower structure project at the October meeting.
- b. **Campbell Creek Project (CIP).** A technical meeting (via IT) was held October 2nd with MN DNR , MPCA, and Stantec to discuss the site area. The MN DNR informed the group an EAW may be required for the project. Another meeting was scheduled with Stantec to discuss the EAW on October 4th. A two-stage drainage improvement on the outlet of Campbell Lake is also noted in the workplan and it was discussed to have the EAW cover the entire project area (Campbell Creek area) and include all project phases within the project area. The responsible government unit is identified in the EAW and either the District or MN DNR can be the RGU. A meeting will be scheduled in the next couple of weeks with the MN DNR and MPCA to discuss the selection of the RGU if an environmental assessment is required for the Campbell Creek project(s). Staff will continue to work with the MPCA to finalize a two-year workplan.
- c. **MN DNR FEMA Otter Tail River HUC8 Watershed on a "Risk Map" project.** A project check-in meeting was held on September 21st with Stantec and Guetter. Stantec provided an update on the 1D and 2D modeling, draft stormwater plan report, and scheduling a stakeholder engagement event. A public informational meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, November 8, at the Police Department meeting room from 1:00-3:00 PM . There will be a presentation and information. Invites will be sent out October 16th week and notices will be in the newspaper.

2. Becker County Drainage Systems 11, 12, 13 and 14

- a. **Ditch 11** - No activity to report.
- b. **Ditch 12** – No activity to report.
- c. **DITCH 13 (Little Floyd Lake to Big Detroit)** – Feldt Plumbing was contracted to remove beaver dams at 11th Ave by the City dog park and near Lori Avenue, at the railroad trestle crossing. Josh Campbell is trapping beaver near Long/Jackson Ave. near the railroad trestle and in the Industrial Park near the Rice Lake project. Campbell is also responding to a request by Bill Dillon of a suspected blockage and beaver activity near Little Floyd Lake.
- d. **DITCH 14 and BRANCH 1 (HWY 10 to St. Clair Lake to Pelican River)** – Guetter reviewed a blockage at the Fairgrounds stormwater treatment pond area with City staff. The blockage was not on the ditch main stem and was a floating bog blocking the culvert to the treatment pond. No action by the District required.

WATER MANAGEMENT RULES – see enclosed report.

Water Management Rules Update/Clarification. It is the hope to get back working on the Rules Update/Clarification shortly after the Board mediation/facilitation process with LMCIT is completed (approximately 2 months) and bring back Jay Michaels-EOR to move this effort forward. Manager Chris Jasken requested to discuss at this month's meeting permitting for adequate direction for the Board and PRWD.

3. HABITAT PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT

- a. **River/Stream Connectivity – Barriers to Fish Movement**

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S MONTHLY REPORT
OCTOBER 12, 2023

- i. **Little Floyd Lake Structure Modification** –Guetter has been in touch with the soon-to-be new landowners and sent them the design plans. They have questions on the designs and HEI and MN DNR will answer their questions. MN DNR has requested to meet in person and on the site to review the plans and address any concerns raised. The MN DNR has dam right-of-way and perpetual access easement on the lake outlet area for the State of MN , its agents and servants to go upon and across the lands described for the purpose of erecting, maintaining, operating, repairing, and rebuilding said dam.

b. **Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention and Management.** Nothing further to report.

4. EDUCATION AND OUTREACH (Website, Social Media, and Workshops)

a. Local Media/Mailings.

Hodge Podge Radio – Kemper was the guest on Hodge Podge on September 21 and discussed wrapping up 2023 lake monitoring, fall lake “turnover”, educational field trips in the schools and available education grants.

Social Media Posts (Facebook) –September 2023

- 9-12-2023 – Meet Colton Utech, new shared employee.
- 9-19-2023 – Kemper wrapping up 2023 monitoring on lakes.
- 9-22-2023 – Fall lake “turnover”
- 9-22-2023 – PRWD purchase of Dunton Locks Park in 1976

b. **Environmental Field Trips-** With the help of PRWD grants, several students have had the opportunity to learn in the outdoor classroom this fall. Fourth graders visited the Cormorant Lakes Conservation Club, fifth graders spent a half a day at the Ike Fischer Farm, sixth graders visited Sucker Creek, and 7/8th grade Special Education students visited Dunton Locks County Park. There is one more field trip planned for October that will have second graders going to Hamden Slough.

5. DISTRICT OPERATIONS/ADMINISTRATION

- a. **Facilitator-** Aime Gourlay, LMCIT Collaboration Services Manager, met with Managers and staff the week of 9/25/23 and finishing up 10/2/23. She will present her assessment findings in October/November. She will contact the office to schedule a meeting.
- b. **Contracted Services** – Requests for Proposals/Quote. Manager Chris Jasken asked for discussion on the agenda. The District contracts for Legal, Engineering, and Auditing services.
- c. **Staff Workshop-**Diane Lynch, Sacred Earth Science, will facilitate a workshop on *Navigating Stress from the Inside out*, on Monday, October 16th.
- d. **Personnel-** Moses has submitted a letter to the District stating her intent to retire on February 23, 2024. We will begin advertising for the position in mid-October, with the intention of her replacement starting on January 1, 2024 or sooner. This will allow a two-month overlap for training and completing the 2023 audit.
- e. **Vehicle Maintenance-**Both pick ups were detailed in September, so they are clean and ready to go in the spring.
- f. **2024 Board Meeting Calendar-**The current meeting time of the third Wednesday of the month at 8:30 AM is not working very well for staff or consultants. We would propose moving the meetings to the third Thursday of the month beginning at 3:00 PM beginning in January. If this is a conflict for any managers, please advise staff.
- g. **Storage Building at Dunton Park** – Guetter and Manager Hansen met with Becker County staff Steve Skoog and Mitch Lundeen on September 15th to review the site. The site has building limitation due to native American archaeological findings in many of the soils “test” sites. There would be no restrictions or building on the storage site footprint. PRWD informed Becker County staff the District uses the building, but would be open to discussion if the County will provide funding for a shed in the County 6 vicinity (near RMB labs, gas station, etc).

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S MONTHLY REPORT

OCTOBER 12, 2023

Grant Oversight - Campbell Creek Watershed Restoration (MPCA Section 319 Small Watersheds Focus Group C Grant Funding), FEMA Grant, BWSR Clean Water Rice Lake Project – Phase 1 & Phase 2. MN DNR – Conservation Partners Legacy Grant, Otter Tail 1W1P Implementation Grant.

Otter Tail River 1W1P Partnership – WEBSITE: <https://www.eotswcd.org/ot1w1p/>

- a. **1W1P Shared Shoreland Technician** — Colton Utecht; started August 14th.
- b. **1W1P Grant** Fairgrounds Stormwater Study - Guetter discussed the study with City Administrator Klemm and Shawn King on September 20th. Guetter met with Stantec to discuss the scope of work. The district will include additional water quality monitoring at the inflow of the upstream wetland and the inflow and outflow of the stormwater pond Stantec completed modelling for the FEMA study and did the study work for the Washington Mall Parking lot.
- c. **OTW Policy Committee** (Kral, Hansen-Alt). No meetings scheduled.
- d. **OTW TAC Committee** (Guetter). Nothing further to report.
- e. **OTW Stakeholder Advisory Committee**. No meetings scheduled.
- f. **OTW Forest Land Stewardship Plan** (Kemper). No meetings scheduled.

MN Watersheds Association

- a. **MN Association of Watershed Administrators (MAWA)** – Guetter attended the MAWA meeting on September 27th in Baxter, MN. Summer Tour locations were discussed and our WD could host the 2025 tour – lots of projects to review.
- b. **Finance** –Guetter and Kral attended the October 12th virtual meeting and reviewed the 2024 Budget. There is no change to the 2024 Dues. Ms Voit reported the association picked up a few WD and WMO memberships over the past year. In 2024, the lobbyist will be retiring and the association will be hiring for that service with some overlap in 2024. Ms. Voit was complimented on the increased communication and involvement with state agency meetings. Drainage issues are a major legislative thrust and legal and drainage system experts have been retained by the Association.
- c. **MN Watersheds Annual Conference**. Tuesday November 28 - Thursday, Nov 30, 2023, at Arrowwood Conference Center - Alexandria, MN. Registration and hotel information was emailed from MN Watersheds to all managers. If you need assistance with room reservation or registration, please contact Brenda at the office.
- d. **MN Waters Resolution:** The Association committee is in the process of reviewing submitted resolutions.

DATA COLLECTION AND MONITORING PROGRAM

Lakes and Streams - Lake water quality monitoring has been completed for the year. Streams will continue to be monitored until freeze up, bi-weekly unless there are major rain events. Data is currently being entered in the MPCA EQUIS system for their records.

Weather

September 2023 Temperatures

The weather for September was remarkable for record-setting warmth. Most climate stations reported a mean monthly temperature that is 4°F to 6°F warmer than normal making this the warmest September in state history, surpassing that of 2015. Temps for the most part were above average for Detroit Lakes. Detroit Lakes reported 3 days in the 90s °F and the lowest temp was 43°F. There were 10 days below the historical average and 20 days that were at or above the historical average, and 12 of them occurred on the 18th – 29th.

Hottest Day - 95°F – September 3rd

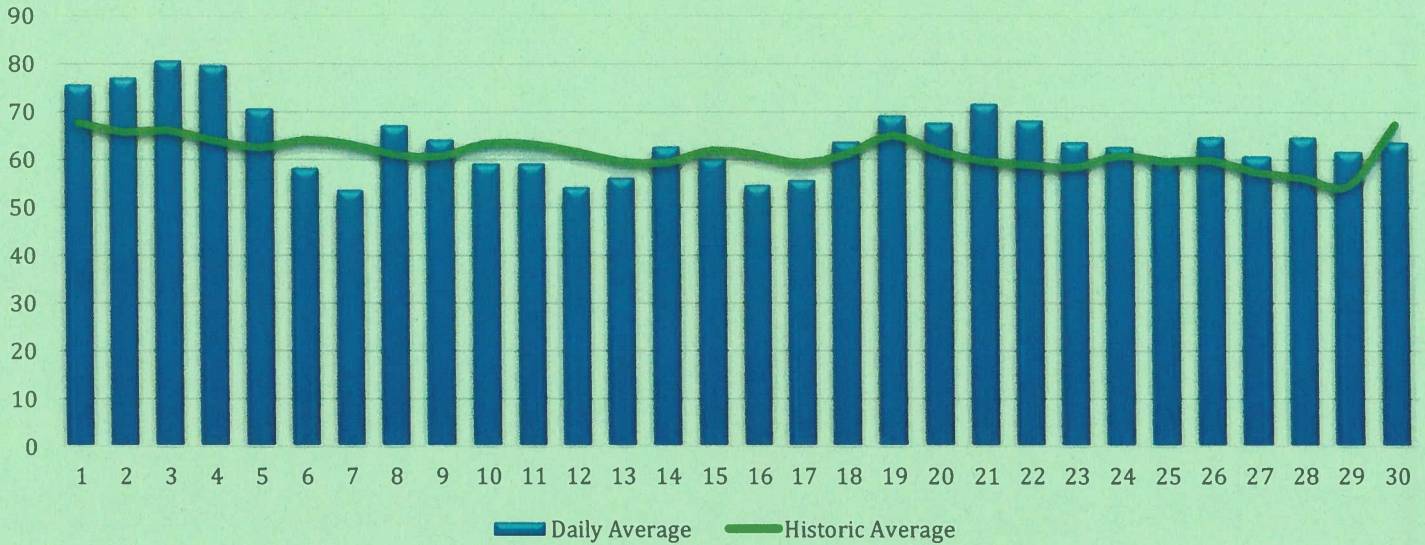
Coldest Day - 43°F – September 7th & 17th

Monthly average temperate 64.5°F

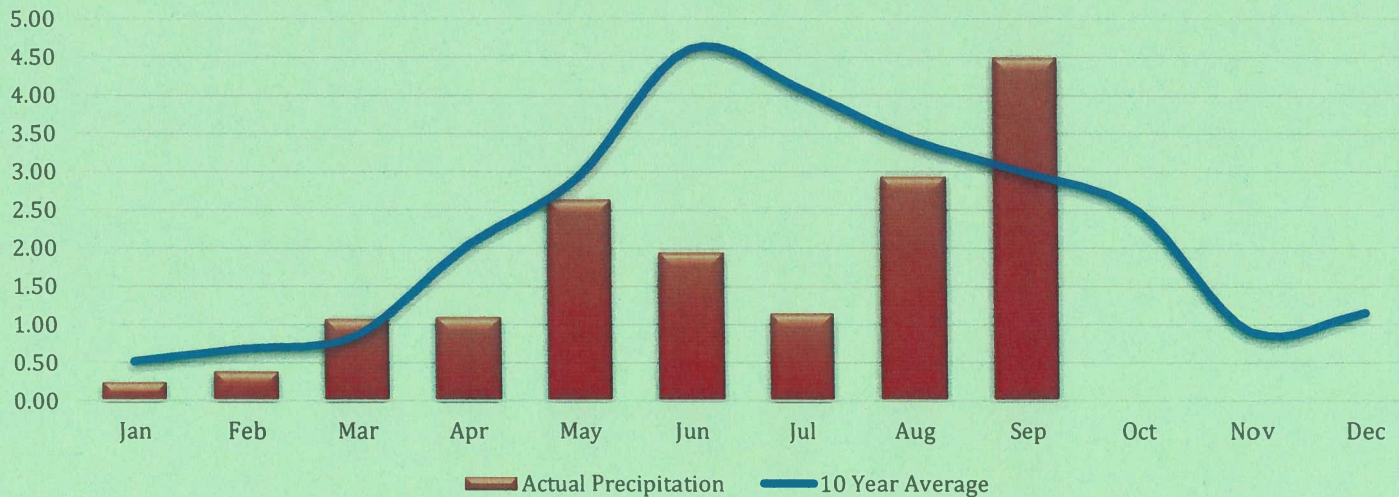
Daily average High for Detroit lakes is 74°F.

Daily average low temperatures are 55°F.

2023 September Temperature - Detroit Lakes, MN (Daily Average)



2023 Precipitation - Detroit Lakes, MN



September 2023 Rainfall

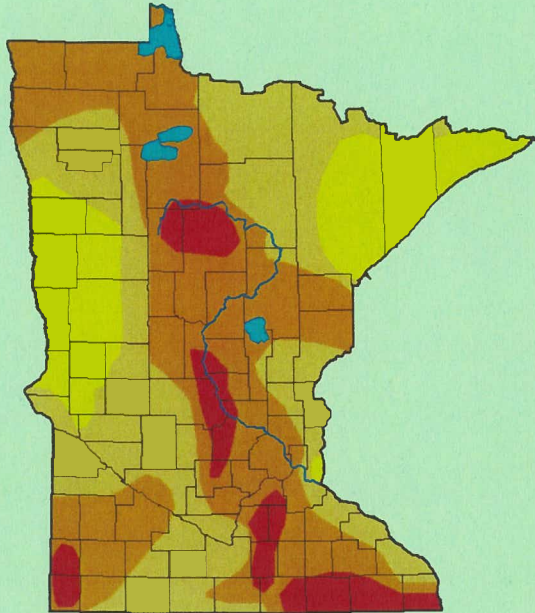
Rainfall was extremely variable across the state. Some areas received less than an inch of rain for the month, especially in southwestern counties. In the northeast counties many climate observers reported over twice normal rainfall, exceeding 6 inches in many places. Some long-term climate stations have already set records for their wettest ever September. In Detroit Lakes the total rainfall was 4.49 inches which is almost double compared to the 10-year average of 2.99 inches. The majority of the rain fell on the 23rd and 24th (2.83 inches).

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S MONTHLY REPORT

OCTOBER 12, 2023

According to the U.S. Drought Monitor the rains of last week helped to reduce the area of Minnesota affected by Moderate Drought or worse. This area shrunk by over 17 percent. However over 80 percent of the Minnesota landscape remains in the grip of Moderate Drought or worse as we end of the month of September. West Becker County is abnormally dry while East Becker County is in moderate drought.

U.S. Drought Monitor Minnesota



September 26, 2023
(Released Thursday, Sep. 28, 2023)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	82.65	46.85	8.03	0.00
Last Week 08-19-2023	0.00	100.00	94.50	64.01	26.07	2.82
3 Months Ago 06-27-2023	7.68	92.32	44.17	4.92	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-03-2023	29.19	70.81	44.90	15.91	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-27-2022	45.67	54.33	22.48	4.37	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 09-27-2022	45.67	54.33	22.48	4.37	0.00	0.00

Intensity

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author

Richard Heim
NCEI/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

RULES Report

October 2023

Permits Issued

<u>No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address/Area</u>	<u>Approved Project</u>
23-70	First Lutheran Church	912 Lake Ave.	Parking lot reconstruction—Install 106' x 15' x 3' rain garden.
23-71	Ness, Gary	26359 Paradise Point Rd.	SIZ: Regrade slope to divert storm water away from lake-new construction.
23-72	Maas, Kelly	1125 North Shore Dr.	SIZ: remove 2 dying trees and replace with 2 maples in SIZ.
23-73	Lill, Carl & Kathryn	1175 Long Beach Dr.	SIZ: remove and replace 2 trees in SIZ, edger around rain garden, Raised rain garden feature. Addition of landscape rock in rain garden.
23-74	Deadshot Est Condo Owners Assoc.	NE Shore of Curfman Lake	SIZ: planting 6 replacement trees, grinding down 9 total old stumps flush with ground, and installing 10' of stepdown area to lake. Sodding 10'x10' area along shoreline.
23-75	Liechty, Rachel & Curt	630 South Shore Dr.	SIZ Alt & Stormwater Mgmt: New home construction with 29.92 % impervious surface coverage-mitigation needed. 4' wide lake Access stairway. Install 15' wide native vegetation buffer full Length of shoreline.
23-76	Korbel, Sandy & Brian	944 South Shore Dr.	Residential SW Mgmt: Over 25% impervious surface coverage. Installing (3) French drains to mitigate for 578 CF of stormwater for 1014 SF garage .
23-77	Hanish, Charles	19862 County 131	SIZ: Remove retaining wall and re-slope towards home. Install riprap with plantings behind.
23-78	City of Detroit Lakes	Terry St. & Dandrew St.	<i>PENDING</i>
23-79	Hamre, Todd &	15146 E. Munson Dr.	SIZ: install a grass swale behind sand blanket area to divert water and prevent erosion.
23-80	Andes, Rebecca & Russell	20099 Town & Country Estate	SIZ: Riprap installation, install a 8'x6' landing area of crushed rock, removal of 5 dead trees and replace with native species.
23-81	Eilers, Cary & Jill	15092 East Munson Rd.	SIZ: Vegetation restoration. Plant 10 replacement trees in SIZ. Removal of Buck Thorn, 1 dying tree and 2 dead stumps.
23-82	Ask, Matthew	1817 Heritage Dr.	Residential SW Mgmt: >10,000 SF in Shoreland District. Install 30'x4'x1' raingarden to mitigate for stormwater.
23-83	Rehder, Ken & Bonnie	23971 County Hwy 22	SIZ: re-vegetate hillside with native plants and shrubs.
23-84	Karskey, Tim & Sharon	1231 Long Beach Dr.	SIZ: Replace concrete steps with flagstone, repair 66' of riprap, install perched sand blanket with edger, install a 8'x4' pea rock area behind shed.

Permit Applications Pending

Wallace Danielson—685 South Shore Dr. Over 25% impervious surface coverage. **10/10:** Neither PRWD or City has received a site plan or issued a permit. We continue to work with the contractor.

Chad & Julie Pazdernik-25886 Brolin Beach Rd.—Owners are still developing site plan.

John Tigges—2272 Long Lake Rd.—A site visit is scheduled for later this week.

Dave & Pam Vipond— 1168 South Shore Dr.—New construction, building plan is at 29.9% impervious lot coverage. Mitigation is needed.

RULES REPORT

October 2023

Violation *****

Marty Solmon, 12044 Cty Rd. 17: Work done in the SIZ without a permit. Permit 21-12 for riprap and grading has expired. A boulder wall >200 ft on the shoreline was constructed without a required permit from the MN DNR or PRWD. A Stop Work Order was issued on 6/29/23. Mr. Solmon applied for a MN DNR permit for the retaining wall which requires an engineered plan. He was informed he could add rock in front of the boulder wall and it would be considered rip-rap and not a retaining wall (a MN DNR permit is also required for this action due to the shoreline length). **10/10/23:** He will be meeting with Ulteig Engineering on site in the next week to look over project. We are expecting site plan after Engineer has reviewed. Mr. Solmon called the office and stated he has secured Letter of Credit.

Goetz, Jordan & Marianna, 1422 East Shore Dr., Permit has been issued for restoration and Surety has been paid. **10/11/23:** Staff met with Contractor on site. Work is currently underway.

Hausmann, Jeffrey & Diane, 1670 East Shore Dr.: Work in SIZ without a permit including extensive vegetation clearing and excessive riprap. Attorney Skoyles sent the violation notice to the landowners. A permit application and remediation plan have been received by the District and we are waiting for a signature on the Maintenance Agreement. **10/3/23:** PRWD staff met with Becker SWCD and Contractor to discuss recommended plant species and quantities. **10/9/23:** Staff met with contractor on site. The excess rock on the slope has been removed and it is anticipated the plantings will be completed within the next week.

Eilers, Cary & Jill, 15092 E Munson Rd., Attorney Skoyles sent the violation notice to the landowners. Vegetation restoration plan submitted along with Letter of Credit. Permit has been issued. **10/10/23:** Work continues on the site.

Nord, Chris, 15216 E. Munson Dr.; Attorney Skoyles sent the violation notice to the landowner. Vegetation removal and grading in the SIZ **9/19:** Owner requested an extension on the 9/22/23 date to complete soil stabilization to 9/29/22—approved; **9/29:** Owner requested another extension to stabilize the soils to 10/10/23 and an extension to plant the replacement trees by 6/1/24 with a \$500 escrow agreement—approved with the condition if the site is not stabilized by 10/10/23 a surety of \$5,000 would be required. **10/11:** Staff contacted Mr. Nord to see if the remediation work had been completed, but was informed it had not been done, however on 10/12 work had started.

Permit Applications Expected

Gehrig Properties/Southwood Shore Estates— New development off of South Shore Dr. The City of Detroit Lakes did approve R-2 zoning for residential development and the Developer will begin with 7 lots. **8/9/23:** The City bid the infrastructure, however all were rejected because they were too high. Due to the late summer timing, they don't anticipate going out for more bids until next year. The County approved a site for a gas station, but we have not received that application yet.

City of Detroit Lakes-MN Flyers— Met with architect and MN Flyers staff to discuss building addition and parking lot improvements. Nothing further to report at this time.

Zion Lutheran Church— A preliminary on-site meeting was held to review potential stormwater management options depending upon what building direction they take (new building, addition, etc.).

Strand Subdivision—13370 270th Ave., The District has received a Stormwater engineering plan from Lowry Engineering. Permit application and information was sent to the owners.

Leighton Broadcasting—Randolph Road. Stormwater management plan for parking lot needed.

District Comments to Becker County Board of Adjustments— September 27, 2023

Linda Harris—Pearl Lake Dr.—Request zoning change from Residential to Agricultural on Pearl Lake shoreline. We recommended denial as there was no information on how the property would be pastured, watering system, manure management, number of animal units.

October 25, 2023 Meeting—No comments being submitted.

District Comments to City of Detroit Lakes Planning & Zoning— September 28, 2023—No comment made.

Technical Review Panel Meeting— Lake Ridge Road—Lake Sallie Bluff Area. A meeting was held to review a centralized mooring request for an anticipated conservation subdivision. Due to the bluff, the developer is proposing to construct 16 homes, storage buildings, and a centralized dock system with 16 slips. Lot and Block subdivision would allow 8 building sites, or with a centralized mooring system 8 slips. Variances will be needed for the number of sites and boat slips. The panel recommended a conservation easement (PRWD) on the bluff area to protect it and further soils geotechnical investigation of the building area on the back side of the bluff. Little Floyd Lake development protected the bluff area and has a centralized mooring area. Sewer and water would be provided by the City of Detroit Lakes or a centralized system or systems will be needed.