

MINUTES OF MEETING NO.65-25

NAME	Executive Board	PAGE	Page 1 of 6
LOCATION	WIWD Office	DATE	May 15, 2025
PRESENT:	T. Nevakshonoff	Chairperson	WIWD
	M. McLelland	Board Appointee/Vice Chair	WIWD
	S. Hofer	Director	Swan Creek Sub-District
	J. Stefanson	Director	Shoal Lake Sub District
	B. Fleury	Director	Lake Francis Sub District
	D. Germain	Director	Dog Lake Sub-District
	C. Howse	Director	Lake St. Martin Sub District
	B. Sigfusson	Board Appointee	WIWD
	J. Cruise	Provincial Appointee	WIWD / MAW
	D. Timmerman	Watershed Planner	MECP
	C. Cuvelier	Watershed Planner	MECP
	I. Zotter	Manager/GROW Coordinator	WIWD
	K. Christensen	Financial Administrator	WIWD
REGRETS:			
WRITTEN BY:	K. Christensen	Financial Administrator	WIWD

ITEM		ACTION BY
1.0	<b>Call To Order</b>  T. Nevakshonoff called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.  The Board welcomed new employees, including a new Watershed Planner.	
2.0	<b>Approval of Agenda</b>  <u>568-25: D. Germain – S. Hofer</u> <b>BE IT RESOLVED THAT</b> the Board approved the agenda as presented with the addition of 8.1 Tree Planter.	CARRIED
3.0	<b>Approval of Minutes</b>  <u>569-25: B. Fleury – B. Sigfusson</u> <b>BE IT RESOLVED THAT</b> the Board adopted the minutes of the Executive Board Meeting # 64-25, April 17, 2025, as presented.	CARRIED
4.0	<b>Financial Report</b>	
4.1	<b>Bank Activity</b>  K. Christensen presented the financial report:  Access Credit Union Statement of Accounts from March 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2025 to March 31 <sup>st</sup> ,2025; Q4 Report - Expenditures to Date: April 1 <sup>st</sup> – March 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2025.  <u>570-25: M. McLelland – B. Fleury</u> <b>BE IT RESOLVED THAT</b> the Board approved Access Credit Union Statement of Accounts March 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2025 to March 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2025; Q4 Report - Expenditures to Date: April 1 <sup>st</sup> – March 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2025.	CARRIED
5.0	<b>Reports</b>	
5.1	<b>Financial Administrator Report</b>	

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	Attached	
5.2	<div>Manager's Report</div> <div>Attached</div> <div>571-25: J. Cruise – B. Sigfusson</div> <div>BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Boad approves to incur the expense of \$22,320.00 for radio advertisement on two stations for 21 X 30-second commercials per week + PortageOnline with Golden West Broadcasting for a 1-year duration.</div>	CARRIED
5.3	<div>Technician Report</div> <div>Attached</div>	
5.4	<div>Environmental Technician Assistant Report</div> <div>Attached</div>	
5.5	<div>Chairperson Report</div> <div>T. Nevakshonoff provided a verbal update</div>	
5.6	<div>MAW Rep Report</div> <div>J. Cruise provided a brief verbal update</div>	
5.7	<div>Watershed Planner Report</div> <div>Attached</div>	
6.0	<div>In Camera Discussion</div> <div>572-25: D. Germain – M. MaLelland</div> <div>BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board approves to move in-camera at 10:14 a.m.</div> <div>573-25: D. Germain – J. Stefanson</div> <div>BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board approves to move out-of-camera at 10:59 a.m.</div> <div>The Board requested that a monthly report on employee sick and absent days be provided.</div> <div>574-25: M. MaLelland – J. Cruise</div> <div>BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board approves to move in-camera at 11:03 a.m.</div> <div>575-25: J. Cruise – M. McLelland</div> <div>BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board approves to move out-of-camera at 11:56 a.m.</div> <div>15 minutes break</div> <div>576-25: B. Sigfusson - D. Germain</div> <div>BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board approves to move in-camera at 12:10 p.m.</div> <div>577-25: D. Germain – B. Sigfusson</div> <div>BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board approves to move out-of-camera at 12:54 p.m.</div>	<div>CARRIED</div> <div>CARRIED</div> <div>CARRIED</div> <div>CARRIED</div> <div>CARRIED</div> <div>CARRIED</div>

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	<p><b><u>578-25: J. Cruise – B. Sigfusson</u></b></p> <p><b>BE IT RESOLVED THAT</b> the Board approves wage increases, retroactive to April 1, 2025, as follows:</p> <p>I. Zotter: \$2.50</p> <p>K. Christensen: \$2.50 (subject to review after a 6-month performance evaluation)</p> <p>D. Kaartinen: \$5.00</p> <p>Y. Li: \$2.00, effective with her transition to permanent employee status.</p>	
7.0	<p><b>Old Business</b></p>	
7.1	<p><b>WIWD Expansion</b></p> <p>The WIWD received a request from S. Sabiston, Regional Director, Northern Affairs Branch, Municipal &amp; Northern Support Services (MNSS) to send an invoice for payment to the Homebrook Community Council for 2025.</p>	
7.2	<p><b>Narcisse DU Project</b></p> <p>T. Nevakshonoff provided a verbal update.</p>	
7.3	<p><b>NW IWMP</b></p> <p>A Project Management Team (PMT) meeting is scheduled for June 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Grahamdale RM office.</p>	
7.4	<p><b>RALP Program</b></p> <p><b>RALP 2023-2024 Projects:</b></p> <p>T00072 “Exclusion Fencing in the West Interlake Watershed District to Enhance and Restore Riparian Areas” and T00071 “Creating Pollinator Habitats in the West Interlake Watershed District” –reports have been submitted; the remaining funds have not been received yet.</p> <p><b>RALP 2024-2025 Projects:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Agroforestry Establishment in the West Interlake Watershed District (\$20,000.00)</li><li>• Exclusion Fencing in the West Interlake Watershed District to Enhance and Restore Riparian Areas (\$100,000.00).</li><li>• Cultivating Environmental Resilience through Perennial Forage Establishment. (\$100,000.00) – Interim report has been submitted.</li></ul> <p>Staff are working with previously identified producers and recruiting new ones to participate in and complete the project.</p> <p><b>RALP 2025-2026 Projects:</b></p> <p>Proposals were submitted, and funding has been confirmed for the following projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2025 Riparian Restoration and Water Quality Improvement in the West Interlake Watershed (\$100,000.00)</li><li>• Cultivating Environmental Resilience through Perennial Forage Establishment in the West Interlake Watershed in 2025-2026 (\$100,00.00)</li><li>• Agroforestry Establishment in the West Interlake Watershed District 2025-2026 (\$21,900.00)</li></ul> <p>Agreements have not been signed yet.</p>	

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7.5	<div><b>GROW Program</b></div> <div>GROW Trust 2025-2027 Project - <i>‘Building watershed resiliency: A Sustainable Path 2025’</i> -has been approved for \$528,703.00.</div> <div>Awarded GROW Funds from MHC:<div><div>GROW 2023-2025 - \$500,000.00</div><div>GROW 2024-2026 - \$467,442.50</div><div>GROW 2025-2027 - \$284,520.00</div><div>Total: \$1,251,962.50</div></div></div> <div><div>Funds Expended to date: \$554,900.25</div><div>Projected expenditures: \$484,154.00</div></div>	
7.6	<div><b>Funding for seasonal employees</b></div> <div>Application for the Urban Green Team Funds has been submitted for two (2) summer positions.</div> <div>Application for the Canada Summer Job Funds has been submitted for a 16 week of employment period. Approved for 8 weeks for \$5032.00</div> <div>Application for the MMF Summer Employment has been submitted, funds are approved for the period of June 30, 2025- August 29, 2025, at \$17.80 per hour</div> <div>Application to the Eco Canada has been submitted. The WIWD received the following notification: “The funding project has been fully allocated. Your application has been added to a waitlist”.</div>	
7.7	<div><b>PWCP</b></div> <div>Manager reported on projected costs for the 2024-25 fiscal year, the WIWD received an additional \$39,909.53 of funds.</div> <div>To date allocated:<div><div>Cover Crops: \$156,870.00</div><div>Rotational Grazing: \$520,587.16</div><div>Nitrogen Management: \$247,452.37</div><div>Total Projected cost: \$924,452.37</div></div></div> <div>Awarded PWCP funds for FY 2025-26: \$1,025,000.00</div> <div>Invoices for PWCP Activities 3 expenses and Subscription/Professional Development expenses have been submitted to MAW.</div>	
7.8	<div><b>Website Upgrades</b></div> <div>B. Morden will provide website upgrade services at a rate of \$30/hour.</div>	
7.9	<div><b>Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Fund (FWEF)</b></div> <div>The WIWD submitted a full proposal for the ‘Dog Lake Watershed Aquatic and Riparian Habitat Review and Enhancement Plan’, on November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, requesting funds in the amount of \$50,000.00. Waiting for a response.</div>	
7.10	<div><b>Conservation Trust (CT)</b></div>	

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	<p>CT Project "West Interlake Watershed Pollinator Gardens – Interconnection Between Communities and Our Native Pollinators" has been approved; Agreement has been signed for funding of \$20,000. First payment for the amount of \$8,000.00 has been received.</p> <p>Extension for previous Pollinator Project has been approved. Trees have been received.</p>	
7.11	<p><b>Green Municipal Fund</b></p> <p>The WIWD has submitted a proposal to the Local Leadership for Climate Adaptation Climate-Ready Plans and Processes program, requesting \$70,000 in funding. The manager is continuing to work with the review team on the proposal.</p>	
7.12	<p><b>Conservation and Climate Fund</b></p> <p>The WIWD has applied for \$15,000 through the Conservation and Climate Fund. The application has received conditional approval stating that funding will be awarded on the condition that a participating municipality signs the Agreement. The RM of West Interlake signed the Agreement; manager is working with the RM of West Interlake and H. Venema on the development of workplan.</p>	
7.13	<p><b>WIWD Workshops</b></p> <p>Three workshops held throughout the district were well received, attracting a total of 30 participants.</p>	
7.14	<p><b>Office Renovations</b></p> <p>Manager reached out to Lakeside Decorating to request a quote for painting the 4 offices, quote to include moving furniture to access all walls.</p> <p>One individual expressed interest in providing cleaning services. The Executive Board has authorized the manager to hire an office cleaner.</p>	
7.15	<p><b>Blue Bird Houses</b></p> <p>Technician submitted a proposal to Nature Manitoba for the Manitoba Bluebird Fund Salzmänn Songbird Grant, for the amount of \$5,000.00.</p>	
7.16	<p><b>Water Testing Days</b></p> <p>Summer Students have been inputting the Water Request forms into the internal database. To date, there are 77 residents who have applied.</p>	
8.0	<p><b>New Business</b></p>	
8.1	<p><b>Tree Planter</b></p> <p>A member found a tree planter for sale and is willing to go look at it on behalf of the district.</p> <p><b>579-25: J. Cruise – D. Germain</b> <b>BE IT RESOLVED THAT</b> the Board authorizes B. Fleury to purchase a tree planter for a total cost of up to \$800.00.</p>	<b>CARRIED</b>

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9.0	Sub-District Recommendations	
9.1	Report on Climate Adaptation and Disaster Mitigation Workshop  Tabled	
9.2	Recommendations  <u>580-25: B. Sigfusson – J. Cruise</u> BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board approves to move in-camera at 2:03 p.m.  <u>581-25: D. Germain – J. Cruise</u> BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board approves to move out-of-camera at 2:19 p.m.	
10.0	Correspondence  N/A	
11.0	Review of Action Items  ➤ Manager to reach out to the RM of Portage la Prairie regarding the possibility of WIWD putting a hand-out in with the tax-bills, in hopes of engaging with new producers in the area.	
12.0	NEXT MEETING:  June 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2025 9:00 a.m. WIWD Office	
13.0	ADJOURNMENT  <u>582-25: B. Sigfusson – S. Hofer</u> BE IT RESOLVED THAT we adjourn at 2:21 p.m.	CARRIED
	These minutes are the writer's best interpretation of discussions held during the meeting. Please inform the writer of any noteworthy omissions or errors	
	<div>Tom Nevakshonoff, Chairperson WIWD</div> <div>Irina Zotter, Manager / GROW Coordinator WIWD</div>	