

OTWMD

Otter Tail Water Management District

Event: The OTWMD monthly board meeting

Location: Community Center building in Ottertail City, MN

Date: July 9, 2025

Time: 4:00pm

Officers present: Adm. Kvidt, Chair. Johnson, Treas. Wheeler, Sec. Dean

Board members present: Com. Bleichner, Com. Langren,

Member absent: Com. Erwin, Com. Cannady

Guests: Dave Nathe

Quorum: yes

Next Meeting Date: Aug 13, 2025

1. **Meeting:** Called to order by Chair Johnson

2. **Minutes:** Minutes were sent by email prior to the meeting.

Motion by Treas. Wheeler to accept the minutes. 2nd by Sec. Dean. **Motion passed.**

3. **Treasurer Report:** The report was presented by Treas. Wheeler.

Motion to accept the report by Com. Langren;

2nd by Com. Bleichner. **Motion passed.**

TOTAL CASH ON HAND

6/30/2025: \$857,018.25 **6/30/2025:** \$826,398.47

4. **Pay Bills:** Bills were presented by Adm. Kvidt. Motion by Com. Bleichner to pay the bills; 2nd by Sec. Dean. Motion passed.

5. **Rearing Pond Property:** presentation by Dave Nathe regarding bow hunting on the property. Board denied the change.

6. **35852 County Highway 72:** if there is room, keep it on the property.

7. **Carlson SV:** working on the 2024 audit.

8. **MCIT Workers Compensation Payroll Audit:** District owes \$446.00

9. **Jake Christensen:** will mow clusters and do repairs as needed.

10. **Active Maintenance 2025 Update:** Adm. Kvidt presented

11. **Property dispute Deer Lake Update:** nothing new

12. **On Call:** Motion by Com. Bleichner; 2nd by Treas. Wheeler to eliminate on call on weekends and holidays beginning Sept 2025. Will need on call while Administrator is on vacation. The District voice mail will tell the MEMBER to call a contractor to pump the system until the Administrator can return.

13. **Administrator's Report:** Adm Kvidt presented the report.

Cindy Dean, Sec

Otter Tail Water Management District Monthly Meeting

Meeting Date: July 9th, 2025

Next Meeting Date: August 13th, 2025

Agenda:

1. Open Meeting
2. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting
3. Treasurer Report
4. Pay Bills
 - a. Transferred Money to cover bills from Money Market to:
 - 7/2/2025 Pumping Account \$20,000.00
 - 7/2/2025 Tanks and Lines Account \$10,000.00
 - 7/2/2025 Pumps and Controls Account \$5,000.00
5. Rearing Pond Property
 - a. Dave Nathe hear is here to talk to the board about possibly reconsidering Bow Hunting on the property.
 - Attached to the agenda is a document he put together.
6. 35852 County Highway 72. Property owners are wondering if they can attach to the cluster system even if they have room on their property for a septic system. Board Thoughts?
 - a. No easily accessible hook up without being bored under Highway 72 or getting an easement across the neighbor's land.
7. Carlson SV working on OTWMD 2024 Audit. Hopefully be able to present to the district board in August.
8. MCIT Workers Compensation Payroll Audit
 - a. The District owes \$446.00. MCIT will send a bill in December 2025.
9. Jake Christensen will be mowing all the cluster sites like last year and he will be repairing the obvious fences that are in high traffic areas. We do still have some supplies, and he will use those for the repairs.
10. Active Maintenance 2025 Update
 - a. 6/30/2025 36338 Augustana Drive. Brogards Plumbing will be doing the replacement tanks on this property. A timeline will be worked out between them and the property owner for the installation.
 - b. 6/24/2025 Precision Electric hooked up the alarm/pumps at:
 - 28141 State Highway 78
 - 28972 Augustana Trail
 - Bills on are on the bill sheet
11. Property dispute Deer Lake Update
12. On Call Scenarios for Board to Consider starting Fall 2025
 - a. No on call on weekends or holidays (still would need someone to fill in weekdays for vacation throughout the year)
 - Homeowners could find a contractor to pump the tanks, and the district could pay that bill.
 - b. On Call Saturdays from 7:30 AM to Noon every Saturday from Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day Weekend
 - c. Hire a full-time weekends and holidays on call person. This person would also fill in during vacations.
 - d. Hire a company to do on call work weekends, holidays and vacations.
 - e. Open to other ideas from the board?

Administrator's Report:

1. Manhole Covers to Surface since last meeting:
 - a. 6/10/2025 38682 Walker Lake Drive. Brought to surface during a compliance inspection pumping.

- 15.** 7/5/2025 Swan Point Resort CIC. Bluffton Hardware called about septic backing up in his cabin. Hawes Pumping pumped out the tanks today. Will inspect further this week and will update the board after that is completed.

 - a.** 7/7/2025 Cameraed the outlet of the septic tank. There is a blockage between the septic tank and lift station. Brogard Plumbing will roto rooter the line. I will update after that is completed.
- 16.** 7/6/2025 41953 Sugar Maple Drive. Alarm on. Visited property and found that the pump is working but not getting to the drainfield. The pump may be undersized or there is a blockage in the line. Hawes Pumping pumped out the tanks today. Will investigate further this week and update the board after that is completed.
- 17.** 7/6/2025 41190 County Highway 1. Alarm on. Pump is no longer working. Hawes Pumped out the tanks today. Will be working with a contractor to replace this pump. Will update the board after that is completed.
- 18.** 7/6/2025 35893/38903/35909 County Highway 72. Alarm on. Visited the property. This lift station is shared by all three properties. This pump runs slow but was pumping when I arrived onsite and the alarm had shut off. It appears there was just a big influx of water, and it took a while for the pump to catch up. The homeowners will call if they notice any further issues.

7/2/2025

**Otter Tail Water Management District
Treasurer's Report**

6/30/2025

Savings Acct

Checking Accounts	General Acct	Tank/Line	Pmps/Cntrls	Pumping	Money Mkt	Rearing Pond	Totals
	4118	7802	7829	7810	0490	2140	
Beginning balance June 1, 2025	\$14,675.08	\$9,049.85	\$6,605.89	\$9,008.75	\$438,612.54	\$11,137.33	\$489,089.44
Interest income for month	\$4.66	\$4.32	\$1.19	\$2.42	\$1,050.19	\$12.36	\$1,075.14
Receipts for month	\$1,362.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,362.80
Internal transfers	\$20,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$12,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$62,000.00
	\$36,042.54	\$39,054.17	\$6,607.08	\$21,011.17	\$439,662.73	\$11,149.69	\$553,527.38
June disbursements	\$13,928.16	\$31,151.23	\$1,152.52	\$15,675.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$61,906.91
Internal transfers	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$62,000.00	\$0.00	\$62,000.00
Ending balance June 30, 2025	\$22,114.38	\$7,902.94	\$5,454.56	\$5,336.17	\$377,662.73	\$11,149.69	\$429,620.47

Disbursements for month

12 checks	\$9,189.29	Gen Acct
7 ACH pymts	\$4,738.87	Gen Acct
8 checks	\$31,151.23	Tank/Line
2 checks	\$1,152.52	Pumps/Controls
1 checks	\$15,675.00	Pumping

CD Summary

CD #	Int rate	Time period	Gen Acct	Tank/Line	Pmps/Cntrls	Pumping	Maturity Date
0001	4.05%	12 Month		\$252,962.58			1/20/2026
0002	4.05%	12 Month				\$29,061.25	1/20/2026
0003	4.05%	12 Month			\$145,373.95		1/20/2026
CD TOTALS				\$252,962.58	\$145,373.95	\$29,061.25	\$427,397.78
SAVINGS TOTALS							\$11,149.69
ACCOUNT TOTALS			\$22,114.38	\$260,865.52	\$150,828.51	\$34,397.42	\$377,662.73
			\$11,149.69				\$857,018.25

TOTAL CASH ON HAND	\$857,018.25
6/30/2025	

6/30/2024	\$826,398.47
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Otter Tail Water Management District Accounts Payable
7/9/2025

Balance in General Account on Date of Monthly Meeting(NOW 3)	\$	16,665.93	7/8/2025
Deposits made between May & June Monthly Meeting	\$	692.26	7/8/2025

General Account Total
\$ 12,844.39

General Fund Bills:		Amount:	Check Number	
Alex Kvidt	Monthly Salary	\$ 4,500.01	46998	7/9/2025
Alex Kvidt	On-call/Balance of Salary	\$ 691.52	46999	7/9/2025
Alex Kvidt	Rent	\$ 375.00	47000	7/9/2025
Medica	Alex Kvidt Insurance	\$ 426.89	ACH	7/2/2025
HealthEquity	Alex Kvidt HSA	\$ 358.11	ACH	7/7/2025
Loren Hawes	On-call	\$ 944.35	47002	7/9/2025
Loren Hawes	Mileage	\$ 18.20	47003	7/9/2025
PERA	Contribution	\$ 1,240.34	ACH	7/5/2025
US Treasury	Federal Tax Deposit	\$ 2,375.51	ACH	7/3/2025
MN Dept of Revenue	State Tax Deposit	\$ 450.00	ACH	7/5/2025
Arvig	Internet/Phone	\$ 117.45	ACH	6/27/2025
Loffler	Computer Program	\$ 30.00	ACH	7/3/2025
Krekelberg Law Firm	Attorney Fees	\$ 667.50	47001	7/9/2025
	Subtotal	\$ 12,194.88		

Credit Card Charges		Amount:	Check Number	
QuickBooks	Computer Program	\$ 38.00	ACH	7/2/2025
CyberSprout	Website	\$ 59.00	ACH	6/6/2025
Zoom	Computer Program	\$ 18.24	ACH	6/9/2025
Verizon	Cell Phones	\$ 70.40	ACH	6/22/2025
Adobe	Computer Program	\$ 21.56	ACH	7/1/2025
QuickBooks	Checks	\$ 166.41	ACH	6/5/2025
Battle Lake Standard	Vehicle Gas	\$ 67.23	ACH	6/5/2025
USPS	Stamps	\$ 73.00	ACH	6/11/2025
Battle Lake Standard	Vehicle Gas	\$ 67.45	ACH	6/20/2025
Dollar General	Light Bulbs	\$ 24.16	ACH	6/26/2025
Battle Lake Standard	Vehicle Gas	\$ 44.06	ACH	6/29/2025
	First National Bank	\$ 649.51	47004	7/9/2025

Amount in account at Meeting Date:		\$		7/8/2025
Pumping Fund Fees(NOW 1)				
Hawes Pumping	Active Pumping and Breakdowns	\$ 7,618.00	423	7/9/2025
	Subtotal:	\$ 7,618.00		

Amount in account at Meeting Date:		\$		7/8/2025
Tanks & Lines Fees(NOW 2)				
Gopher One	Gopher One Calls	\$ 167.40	1907	7/9/2025
JD Locating	Locates	\$ 3,727.35	1908	7/9/2025
	Subtotal	\$ 3,894.75		

Amount in account at Meeting Date:		\$		7/8/2025
Pumps & Controls Fees(NOW)				
Precision Electric	Active Maintenance Alarm Hook up 28972 Augustana T rail	\$ 1,549.55	1564	7/9/2025
Precision Electric	Active Maintenance Alarm Hook Uup 28141 State Highway 78	\$ 937.11	1565	7/9/2025
	Subtotal:	\$ 2,486.66		

Total Bills Per Month \$

26,843.80

Blanche Lake Rearing Ponds, owned by the State of Minnesota. Originally designed as rearing ponds to raise walleye and northern fingerling for area lakes. Property did not function as intended then changed into a Wildlife Management Area.

It appears at some point the State DNR added a rule to disallow firearms hunting for deer which was in place for many years with no known incidents ever reported. I am aware of one hunter that was harassed by walkers and he simply quit hunting the property. During DNR management, people mowed walking trails that according to WMA rules is not allowed.

Have seen a number of different bow hunters use the property over the years. Most are young people that most likely do not have access to private land hunting. There is limited if any land in a 10 mile radius open to public hunting. The closest properties are around Dead Lake and Head Lake.

If the intended purchase “was acquired by the Otter Tail Water Management District with funds donated by local property owners to ensure that it remains available for recreational purposes in perpetuity” Based on scope of purchase would request the board to continue to allow hunting without firearms in the spirit of supporting recreational use by the public.

Public being injured by bow hunters is considered highly unlikely. MN DNR reported only one bow hunting incident in 2024 in which a bow hunter injured himself in the thigh. 2023, 2022, 2021 and 2020 no bow hunting incidents reported.

If bow hunting is not allowed should other more dangerous activities be disallowed as an example dogs on property. Dog bites are a significant public health concern in the US, with approximately 4.5 million people bitten annually. Many of these bites result in injuries requiring medical attention, and some even lead to fatalities. Children, in particular, are disproportionately affected.

Minnesota Recreational Use Statute: Designed to limited owner liability for public use

Purpose:

The statute aims to encourage landowners to open their land for public recreational use by limiting their liability.

Liability Protection:

It generally protects landowners from liability for injuries to recreational users, as long as they don't charge a fee for access.

Who it covers:

The statute applies to "owners" of the land, which includes not just those with title but also those who occupy or lease the land.

604A.21 RECREATIONAL LAND USE; DEFINITIONS.

Subdivision 1.General. For the purposes of sections 604A.20 to 604A.27, the terms defined in this section have the meanings given them, except where the context clearly indicates otherwise. Subd. 2.Charge. "Charge" means any admission price asked or charged for services, entertainment, recreational use, or other activity or the offering of products for sale to the recreational user by a commercial for profit enterprise directly related to the use of the land. Subd. 2a.Dedicated. "Dedicated" means made available by easement, license, permit, or other authorization. Subd. 3.Land. "Land" means any of the following which is privately owned or leased or in which a municipal power agency has rights: land, easements, rights-of-way, roads, water, watercourses, private ways and buildings, structures, and other improvements to land, and machinery or equipment when attached to land. Subd. 4.Owner. "Owner" means the possessor of a fee interest or a life estate, tenant, lessee, occupant, holder of a utility easement, or person in control of the land.

Subd. 5.Recreational purpose. "Recreational purpose" includes, but is not limited to, hunting; trapping; fishing; swimming; boating; camping; picnicking; hiking; rock climbing; cave exploring; bicycling; horseback riding; firewood gathering; pleasure driving, including snowmobiling and the operation of any motorized vehicle or conveyance upon a road or upon or across land in any manner, including recreational trail use; nature study; water skiing; winter sports; noncommercial aviation activities; and viewing or enjoying historical, archaeological, scenic, or scientific sites. "Rock climbing" means the climbing of a naturally exposed rock face. "Cave exploring" means the planned exploration of naturally occurring cavities in rock, including passage through any structures placed for the purpose of safe access, access control, or conservation, but does not include the exploration of other man-made cavities such as tunnels, mines, and sewers. "Noncommercial aviation activities" means the use of private, nonstaffed airstrips for takeoffs and landings related to other recreational purposes under this subdivision that are not commercial operations under section 360.013, subdivision 45.

Subd. 6. Recreational trail use. "Recreational trail use" means use on or about a trail, including but not limited to, hunting, trapping, fishing, hiking, bicycling, skiing, horseback riding, snowmobile riding, and motorized trail riding.