

**Metropolitan
Mosquito Control District**

**Commission Meeting
December 17, 2025
6:00 PM**

Information Packet

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

DECEMBER 17, 2025, 6:00 PM

1. Roll Call
2. Welcome and Introduction

CONSENT AGENDA *The following items (3-4) are administrative in detail and will be approved in one motion unless a commissioner wishes to withdraw an item for discussion.

3. Approval of Commission Meeting Minutes for October 22nd, 2025
4. General Checks and Claims 80986-81159

REGULAR AGENDA

5. Staff Retirement Recognition
6. Legislative Update – Peg Larsen, Kim Scott
7. Public Hearing: MMCD Payable 2026 Total Levy and 2026 Budget
8. MMCD 2026 Final Levy* and Budget*
9. Executive Director’s Report
10. Other Items
11. Adjournment

* Action Requested

2026 TENTATIVE MEETING DATES

Annual Organizational Meeting: Thursday, January 8, 2026 at 9:15 a.m.

Next Executive Committee Meeting: Wednesday, January 28, 2026 at 9:15 a.m.

Next Commission Meeting: Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at 9:15 a.m.

COMMISSIONER	COUNTY	COMMISSIONER	COUNTY
___ Mandy Meisner	Anoka	___ Angela Conley	Hennepin
___ Jeff Reinert	Anoka	___ Heather Edelson	Hennepin
___ John Heinrich	Anoka	___ Rena Moran	Ramsey
___ John Fahey	Carver	___ Garrison McMurtrey	Ramsey
___ Lisa Anderson	Carver	___ Kelly Miller	Ramsey
___ Mary Hamann-Roland	Dakota	___ Tom Wolf	Scott
___ Laurie Halverson	Dakota	___ David Beer	Scott
___ Liz Workman	Dakota	___ Bethany Cox	Washington
___ Kevin Anderson	Hennepin	___ Fran Miron	Washington

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

OCTOBER 22, 2025 – 9:15 AM

Roll Call:

Commissioner Rena Moran, Chair	Ramsey County
Commissioner Mandy Meisner	Anoka County
Commissioner John Heinrich	Anoka County
Commissioner Jeff Reinert	Anoka County
Commissioner Lisa Anderson	Carver County
Commissioner John Fahey	Carver County
Commissioner Liz Workman	Dakota County
Commissioner Mary Hamann-Roland	Dakota County
Commissioner Kevin Anderson	Hennepin County
Commissioner Heather Edelson	Hennepin County
Commissioner Angela Conley	Hennepin County
Commissioner Garrison McMurtrey	Ramsey County
Commissioner Kelly Miller	Ramsey County
Commissioner Tom Wolf	Scott County
Commissioner David Beer	Scott County
Commissioner Bethany Cox	Washington County
Commissioner Fran Miron	Washington County

Staff:

Daniel Huff, Business Director
Maria Mancilla-Diaz, Business Administrator
Jon Peterson, Assistant Director
Jennifer Macchia, Business Office Manager
Mark Smith, Integrated Services Manager
Scott Larson, PhD, District Entomologist
Jordan Mandli, PhD, Vector Ecologist
Janet Jarnefeld, Tick Specialist
Alex Carlson, Public Affairs Manager
Tim Stich, Facilities Manager
Jon Litchy, Safety Coordinator
Monte Ebbesen, Administrative Assistant

Guests:

Peg Larson, MMCD Lobbyist
Kim Scott, MMCD Lobbyist
Sam Ketchum, MMCD Legal Counsel
Nate Roisen, BWBR Principal Architect

Chair Rena Moran was absent, and Commissioner and Vice-Chair John Fahey joined remotely due to travel. As a result, Commissioner and Secretary Jeff Reinert acted as Chair and called the meeting to order at 9:17am.

Commissioner Reinert invited all present Commissioners to review the meeting agenda. Commissioner Miron motioned to approve the agenda as it stood; Commissioner Anderson of Hennepin County seconded the motion. The motion to approve the agenda carried without dissent. Commissioner Hamann-Roland then moved to approve the August Commission meeting minutes; Commissioner Meisner seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent.

Acting Chair Reinert invited MMCD lobbyists Peg Larsen and Kim Scott to provide their legislative update on intergovernmental affairs. Ms. Larsen and Ms. Scott spoke primarily about the impact of the federal shutdown on Minnesota state programs. They also briefly spoke about Governor Tim Walz's inability to call a special session for gun reform due to a Democratic minority in the Minnesota Senate. Ms. Larsen and Ms. Scott ended their update by noting the high number of legislator changes in 2025 and anticipated for 2026. Acting Chair Reinert thanked Ms. Larsen and Ms. Scott for their update.

Acting Chair Reinert then invited the MMCD Tick Team to present on the District's Tick Surveillance program. MMCD Vector Ecologist, Dr. Jordan Mandli, began the presentation with a brief overview of tick species found in Minnesota and their life cycles. Commissioner Meisner asked Dr. Mandli some questions about tick-borne diseases in Minnesota. Dr. Mandli continued and noted the rates of reported and detected in Minnesota residents and mice sampling, respectively. District Entomologist, Dr. Scott Larson, spoke briefly about MMCD's surveillance of tick populations via the means of tick drags. Dr. Larson answered some questions from Commissioners about pathogen testing and inter-public health agency collaboration. Some discussion occurred about the District's future ability to conduct in-house testing. MMCD Tick Specialist, Janet Jarnefeld, briefly presented on the District's second method of surveillance, live mammal trapping and release. After their presentation, Dr. Mandli, Dr. Larson, and Ms. Jarnefeld fielded questions from Commissioners regarding large-scale control methods, educational outreach, and preventative measures. Acting Chair Reinert thanked the MMCD Tick Team for their time and information.

Acting Chair Reinert then opened the room to discuss MMCD's proposed OPEB fund policy. MMCD Legal Counsel, Sam Ketchum, provided a brief overview of the origin of the OPEB fund and the proposed policy that would allow the District to use OPEB funds to reduce employee contribution towards health insurance. Several Commissioners asked clarifying questions, which Mr. Ketchum and Executive Director Daniel Huff answered. Commissioner Miron noted that the Executive Committee conducted an extensive discussion on the issue and made a motion to approve the resolution for the OPEB Fund policy. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, and the motion passed without dissent.

Acting Chair Reinert invited Business Administrator Maria Mancilla-Diaz to present on the Fund Balance policy. Ms. Mancilla-Diaz provided a brief overview of the proposed policy, which was reviewed and discussed at several prior Commission meetings. Commissioner Miron moved to approve the Fund Balance Policy, Commissioner Hamann-Roland seconded. Commissioner Miron expressed his approval that the policy was crafted. Several Commissioners agreed. The motion to approve the Fund Balance Policy was approved without dissent.

Ms. Mancilla-Diaz then presented the contract with BWBR Architectural Services for the entomology laboratory renovation at the St. Paul office and the renovation of the Maple Grove facility. She provided a brief overview of the process of evaluating RFPs. Ms. Mancilla-Diaz then invited BWBR Principal Architect Nate Roisen to introduce himself and BWBR.

Acting Chair Reinert asked what the estimate of actual cost was for the combined projects. Ms. Mancilla-Diaz responded that an exact figure could not be provided, and Mr. Huff added that the estimation was \$5-7 million. District Facilities Manager Tim Stich also added that there were several factors (such as ADA compliance) that made calculating an exact figure difficult. Some discussion occurred regarding the Plymouth facility and the necessity for two separate MMCD facilities serving Hennepin County. Substantial clarifying discussion occurred regarding a cost estimation conducted by BWBR. Commissioner Workman expressed concerns about a contract that lacked safeguards to ensure the design did not exceed the target budget. Commissioner Anderson and Reinert suggested including additional services in the contract. Mr. Roisen also clarified that the design process included phases that would serve as course corrections for financial targets. Mr. Huff interjected and reassured the Commission that BWBR was a solid choice for the imminent need of a laboratory renovation.

Commissioners Miller and Meisner expressed comfort with the contract and reiterated that BWBR staff would be working closely with MMCD staff. Commissioner Miller made a motion to approve the contract; Commissioner Meisner seconded. Commissioner Reinert suggested that the additional services be added to the contract. Commissioner Miller assented and amended her motion to include the additional services within the contract. Acting Chair Reinert stated that the Executive Committee would be checking in on the process and commenced a vote.

The following Commissioners voted **YES** for approval of the BWBR and MMCD contract for architectural design services of the St. Paul facility laboratory and Maple Grove facility:

Miron, Cox, McMurtrey, Miller, Reinert, Hamann-Roland, Heinrich, Anderson (Hennepin), Beer, Meisner

The following Commissioners voted **NO**:

Workman, Wolf

Thus, by majority vote, the Commission approved the BWBR contract.

Ms. Mancilla-Diaz then introduced the contract between Savills and MMCD. Under contract, Savills, a commercial real estate company, would evaluate the Plymouth facility and provide the District with options for eventually having a functional facility that would serve the needs of the District and field staff (up to and including seeking existing real estate, demolition and rebuilding, or renovation).

Commission Workman made a motion to approve the contract; Commissioner Hamann-Roland seconded. All Commissioners present voted YES to approve the contract.

Mr. Huff then presented his Executive Director's report and spoke briefly on upcoming union negotiations, treatment data from the 2025 season, and the collaborative efforts of MMCD staff in surveilling and controlling a population of an invasive mosquito species in Ramsey County.

Some discussion occurred regarding the assignment of a Chair in hybrid Commission meetings. Commissioner Hamann-Roland moved to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Wolf seconded. No dissent. The meeting was adjourned at 11:19am.

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

Presented by:
Daniel Huff

Informational:
Employee Recognition

The Metropolitan Mosquito Control District would like to recognize the following staff members who have announced their retirement. These individuals have a combined 119 years of experience at MMCD!

Scott Grant - 36 years

Mark Smith - 33 years

Eric Sell - 28 years

Monica Wickelgren - 22 years

We thank them for their dedication and wish them the best in retirement!

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

Presented by:

Kim Scott & Peg Larsen

Informational:

Legislative Update

The upcoming Minnesota legislative session will be focused on fraud and positioning for the upcoming election, a bonding bill and gun control, and very little else. There are about a dozen candidates running for the Republican primary for governor, including the latest, Mike Lindell from My Pillow.

Minnesota's Paid Family and Medical Leave law officially takes effect on January 1, 2026. The November budget forecast showed a \$2.5 billion surplus in the current budget. However, a projected deficit of \$2.96 billion is projected for the next biennium. Higher health care costs are a big component of the increased structural imbalance. Given the budget outlook, there will not likely be surplus budgets for 2026. With the equally divided House and election concerns, the passage of many bills will be deterred. It is a bonding year and the Capital Investment committees are hard at work building a package of infrastructure projects from across the state of Minnesota.

We met with the Association of Minnesota Counties to discuss MMCD's tire collection program, the issue of illegal tire dumping, and the growing cost of MMCD's program. AMC has been open to looking into and working together on a solution. We are continuing to reach out to relevant stakeholders and increasing awareness of the problem.

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

Public Hearing

Truth in Taxation: MMCD Payable 2026 Total Levy and 2026 Budget

Introduction to the 2026 Budget and Truth-in-Taxation Summary

Overview:

The Metropolitan Mosquito Control District's 2026 Proposed Budget balances fiscal responsibility with strategic investments in workforce capacity, scientific capability, and long-term infrastructure. This budget supports implementation of the 2025–2027 Strategic Plan while maintaining a modest levy increase below the preliminary maximum adopted in July.

After incorporating updated personnel needs, capital priorities, and fund balance policy requirements, the final proposed levy reflects a **4.85% year-over-year increase**—a reduction from the **5.31% maximum levy**. These adjustments were made without compromising the District's ability to deliver effective mosquito and black fly control, tick surveillance, and public health response services across the seven-county metropolitan area.

Key Drivers of the 2026 Final Budget

Targeted Personnel & Benefit Adjustments:

To strengthen organizational capacity and align with statewide mandates, the 2026 budget includes:

- **Health Savings Account Restoration (\$58,500):**
A \$1,500 HSA contribution to incentivize enrollment in the lower-cost high-deductible health plan.
- **Paid Family & Medical Leave Act (PFMLA):**
Employer contributions budgeted at **50%** of projected costs, partially offset by eliminating short-term disability for most employees.
- **Human Resources Position Upgrade:**
Funding to recruit a higher-level HR professional to support HR coordination across MMCD, MELSA, and MESB, improving compliance, recruitment, and cross-agency collaboration.
- **Elimination of Senior Manager Position:**
With the retirement of the Integrated Services Manager, the position has been eliminated, resulting in long-term personnel savings.

OPEB Withdrawal (4%):

The budget incorporates a **4% withdrawal** from the District's OPEB Trust in accordance with adopted policy. This supports ongoing health insurance obligations for employees and retirees and appears in the budget as "Other Uses/Transfer – OPEB."

Capital Outlay for Strategic Infrastructure Investments:

The Assigned Capital Plan directs reserves toward essential facility modernization:

- **Entomology Laboratory Renovation – \$5,000,000**
- **Maple Grove Storage Structure – \$2,625,000**

These projects address safety, capacity, efficiency, and long-deferred infrastructure needs outlined in the District's new 10-year capital plan.

Fund Balance Impacts:

Consistent with the 2024-adopted Fund Balance Policy, the budget draws on reserves for capital projects and treatment work above the 10-year average. As a result, the General Fund balance is projected to decrease by **22.06%**, from **\$34.56 million** to **\$26.93 million**.

Despite this planned reduction, the District remains fully compliant with fund balance requirements, including:

- **Working Capital Reserve Requirements**
- **Assigned Treatment Reserves**
- **Emergency/Disease Vector Control Funds**
- **Nonspendable Control Material Inventory Impact on Taxpayers**

MMCD's portion of total property taxes is small relative to city, county, and school district levies. Under the proposed levy:

The MMCD tax on a **median-valued property** is expected to increase only modestly at approximately **\$0.53**

This limited impact reflects the District's continued commitment to operational efficiency and conservative long-term planning.

How This Budget Supports the Strategic Plan:

The 2026 budget directly supports each pillar of the 2025–2027 Strategic Plan:

- **Resources + Capacity:**
Investments in personnel, training, benefits, and HR coordination strengthen organizational capability.
- **Environmental Sustainability + Stewardship:**
Capital projects modernize aging facilities, improve energy efficiency, and support environmentally responsible operations.
- **Outreach + Collaboration:**
Travel, training, and engagement resources enable regional planning, coordination with researchers, and public education.

- **Border-to-Border IPM:**
Operational funding ensures District-wide service delivery while supporting the planning required for implementation of the Border-to-Border Integrated Pest Management initiative beginning in 2027.

Public Hearing Process

The Truth-in-Taxation hearing provides an opportunity for residents to:

- Review the proposed levy and budget
- Understand how MMCD uses taxpayer resources
- Ask questions or submit comments

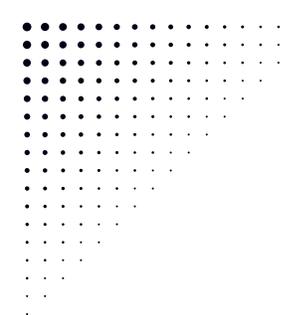
Following the presentation, members of the public may offer comments before the Commission considers budget adoption.

2026 BUDGET



Prepared By:
MMCD





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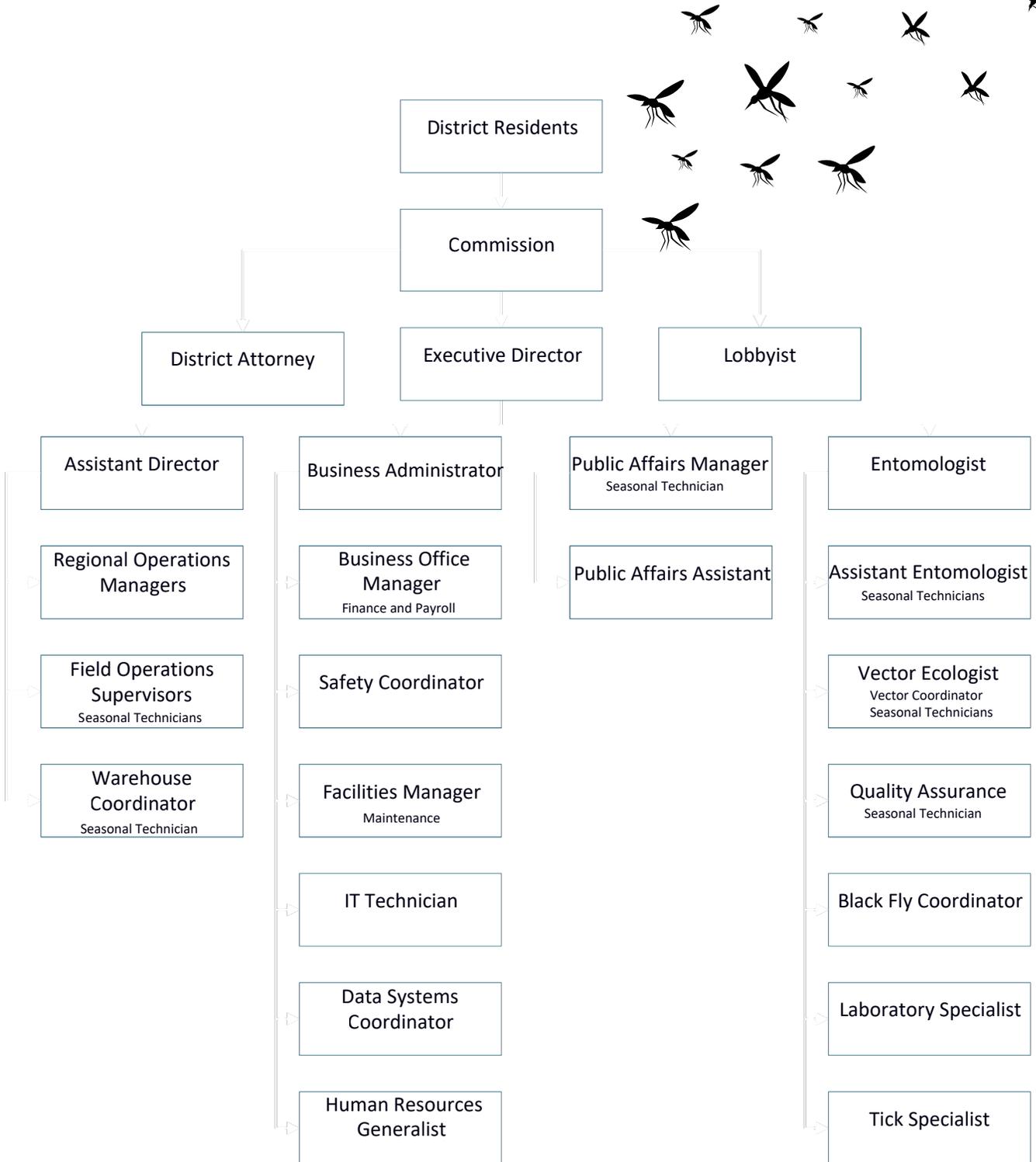
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2026 Organizational Chart





The Honorable MMCD Commission:

I am excited to present this proposed Metropolitan Mosquito Control District Budget for Fiscal Year 2026. Balancing fiscal prudence with essential investment in our physical and human assets, this document reflects our commitment to our newly adopted Strategic Plan. I am particularly pleased in a reduction of the final levy from the maximum set in July.

Building on 2025 Success: Operational Metrics and Strategic Goals

In Fiscal Year 2025, MMCD staff executed the District's mission through world-class operations, exceeding work levels of the past nine years. MMCD successfully completed 269,006 acres of larval mosquito treatments and 319,067 catch basin treatments, while responding to 1,226 resident calls. We advanced Environmental Sustainability by responsibly recycling 22,225 tires. District staff aggressively responded to record levels of West Nile Virus, a child with La Crosse Encephalitis, and the introduction of a breeding population of the invasive mosquito, *Aedes aegypti*.

2026 Budget Framework: Focused Investment

The 2026 budget represents a comprehensive, strategic use of **all** District assets.

1. **Fund Balance:** Implementation of the newly adopted fund balance policy with expenditure of funds for new capital investments and treatment expenses above the 10-year average.
2. **OPEB:** Withdraw of funds to support current health insurance benefits for all employees and retired OPEB members.
3. **Building Assets:** Renewed investment in operations, maintenance and capital improvements of all District-owned facilities based upon the new 10-year capital plan including new warehouse space in Maple Grove and laboratory updates in St. Paul.
4. **Fleet Assets:** Full implementation of the District's fleet replacement schedule with significant improvements to fuel efficiency.
5. **Human Assets:** Competitive Market Adjustment for salaries and health benefits. Incorporation of mandated changes, notably the new Paid Family and Medical Leave (PFML).
6. **Cost Reductions:** Elimination of one FTE through targeted restructuring in Senior Leadership.

The 2026 Proposed Budget is a transparent, fiscally balanced plan that strategically invests in the people, science, and infrastructure necessary to deliver world-class mosquito and black fly control and tick surveillance. We are well-positioned to honor our Strategic Vision: *Protect all people in the District from vectors and improve their time outdoors.*

Thank you for your review, support and continued partnership.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel Huff", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Daniel Huff MPA REHS
Executive Director
Metropolitan Mosquito Control District



MMCD STRATEGIC PLAN 2025-2027

Making the Outdoors Better Since 1958



VISION

We protect all people in the District from vectors and improve their time outdoors.



MISSION

To promote health and wellbeing by protecting the public from disease and annoyance caused by mosquitoes, black flies, and ticks, in an environmentally sensitive manner.



VALUES

We value integrity, trust, cooperation, respect, and competence in our interactions with colleagues and customers.



RESOURCES + CAPACITY

Ensure financial and organizational capacity that supports the implementation of strategic priorities.

- Define resources and timing needs for staff, equipment, and material.
- Design a clear system of accountability and transparency.
- Create financial plan based upon prudent use of efficiencies, innovation, additional funding sources, and taxpayer dollars.



OUTREACH + COLLABORATION

Build supportive relationships with identified partners.

Engage residents on Integrated Pest Management (IPM).

- Identify all partners and determine targets / asks for each.
- Collaborate with researchers, other districts, and public health agencies to strengthen IPM plan.
- Engage and inform residents and expand education outreach (internally and externally).



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY + STEWARDSHIP

Minimize environmental impact of operations and treatments.

- Positive environmental use of properties.
- Reduce energy usage of buildings, vehicles, and equipment.
- Reduce waste stream.
- Reduce non-target impact of material.
- Minimize environmental impact of field work.



BORDER-TO-BORDER IPM

Provide Services to all people in the district.

- Identify what services are delivered and create criteria to use.
- Determine resources and timeline based on criteria.
- Develop useful metrics and expectations.
- Implement Border-to-Border plan.

Strategic Plan and 2026 Budget Alignment

1 Resources + Capacity

The budget prioritizes the largest expense—Total Compensation (\$10.8M), coupled with investments in team development and increased healthcare benefits, directly supporting the Resources + Capacity pillar by ensuring a competent, well-resourced staff and managing accountability.

2 Outreach + Collaboration

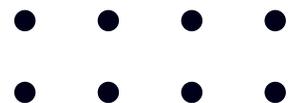
Operational expenses like Travel and Mileage and General Expense provide the necessary resources for staff to attend conferences for networking with researchers, other districts, and public health agencies to strengthen the IPM plan. This travel ensures the team is able to identify all partners and determine targets / asks for each.

3 Environmental Sustainability + Stewardship

The Capital Outlay (\$7.6M) and operational Repair and Maintenance (\$665K) and operating Capital (\$1.8M) are dedicated to asset modernization, facility planning (lab/warehouse renovation, Plymouth planning), and a vehicle replacement plan. These investments are crucial for minimizing environmental impact and reducing energy/waste, directly supporting the Environmental Sustainability + Stewardship pillar.

4 Border-to-Border IPM

Control Operations (\$7.3M), ensures core services are maintained while staff time is dedicated to the essential planning phase for the Border-to-Border IPM pillar. In 2026, the focus is on identifying criteria, resources, and timelines to build the plan for full implementation in 2027 and subsequent years.



Revenues/Expenses

	2024 Actual	2025 Budget	2025 Projected	2026 Budget Proposed
Sources of Revenue				
Levy (Property Taxes)	\$19,650,128.00	\$20,502,106.00	\$20,502,106.00	\$21,497,131.39
Other Income	\$1,878,200.00	\$850,000.00	\$1,200,000.00	\$1,500,000.00
Other Uses (transfer in OPEB)				\$284,969.28
Total Revenues	\$21,528,328.00	\$21,352,106.00	\$21,702,106.00	\$23,282,100.67
Expenditures				
Total Compensation	\$8,821,357.00	\$9,823,871.14	\$10,226,273.00	\$10,763,134.61
Rent and Building Costs	\$683,247.00	\$803,773.20	\$714,121.00	\$825,126.40
Supplies and Expense	\$439,111.00	\$479,825.80	\$475,856.00	\$493,470.58
General Expense	\$564,604.00	\$755,700.00	\$643,639.00	\$733,557.00
Travel and Mileage	\$210,865.00	\$311,970.00	\$244,125.00	\$321,329.10
Insurance	\$272,335.00	\$310,000.00	\$310,000.00	\$322,100.00
Repair and Maintenance	\$207,566.00	\$461,466.00	\$285,088.00	\$665,833.98
Control Operations	\$7,880,735.00	\$7,063,100.00	\$8,535,451.00	\$7,301,651.00
Total Operating Capital	\$1,006,033.00	\$1,342,400.00	\$952,856.00	\$1,855,898.00
Total Expenses	\$20,085,853.00	\$21,352,106.15	\$22,387,409.00	\$23,282,100.67
NET TOTAL (Revenues - Expenses)	\$1,442,475	\$ (0)	-\$685,303	\$ (0)
Max Levy YOY				5.31%
Projected Levy YOY				4.85%
Variance				-.46%

5 Year Projected Expenses

EXPENSES	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
RFT Salaries	5,370,667	5,783,568	6,273,825	6,754,030	7,172,490	7,537,038
FICA Tax RFT	410,856	442,443	479,948	516,683	548,696	576,583
PERA RFT	402,800	433,768	470,537	506,552	537,937	565,278
Seasonal	2,750,000	2,818,750	2,889,219	2,961,449	3,035,485	3,111,373
FICA Tax Seasonal	210,375	215,634	221,025	226,551	232,215	238,020
PERA Seasonal	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,001	6,002	6,003
Medical/Dental Ins/HSA	356,100	731,291	784,129	807,653	831,883	856,839
Life/Disability Insurance	37,073	51,680	103,714	105,788	107,904	110,062
Unemployment	240,000	240,000	240,000	240,000	240,000	240,000
Uniforms	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
Total Compensation	9,823,871	10,763,134	11,508,396	12,164,707	12,752,611	13,281,196
Rent buildings	276,000	281,520	287,150	292,893	298,751	304,726
Utilities	151,200	155,736	160,408	165,220	170,177	175,282
Other Utilities	19,439	20,022	20,623	21,242	21,879	22,535
Janitorial Services	91,000	93,730	96,542	99,438	102,421	105,494
Janitorial Supplies	9,500	9,785	10,079	10,381	10,692	11,013
Grounds Services	12,434	12,807	13,191	13,587	13,995	14,414
Telephone	7,000	7,210	7,426	7,649	7,879	8,115
Cell Phones	132,000	138,020	142,161	146,425	150,818	155,343
Cell Phone Hardware Replace/Repair	2,000	0	0	0	0	0
Computer Access	100,000	103,000	106,090	109,273	112,551	115,927
Meeting/Misc Expense	3,200	3,296	3,395	3,497	3,602	3,710
Rent and Building Costs	803,773	825,126	847,065	869,605	895,694	922,564
Printing & stationery	3,735	3,847	3,962	4,081	4,203	4,329
Postage & mailing	3,600	3,708	3,819	3,934	4,052	4,173
Office Supplies	36,950	38,059	39,200	40,376	41,588	42,835
Copy Machine	12,700	13,081	13,473	13,878	14,294	14,723
Subscriptions, memberships,bids	39,900	41,097	42,330	43,600	44,908	46,256
Computer Supplies	12,000	12,360	12,731	13,113	13,506	13,911
Computer Hardware	85,000	87,550	90,177	92,882	95,668	98,538
Computer Software	85,900	88,477	91,131	93,865	96,681	99,582
Headquarters Expense	53,300	54,899	56,546	58,243	59,990	61,790
Field Equipment/Supplies	34,507	35,542	36,609	37,707	38,838	40,003
Field Boots/Waders	42,818	44,102	45,426	46,788	48,192	49,638
Field Safety Supplies	10,548	10,864	11,190	11,526	11,872	12,228
Lab & Research Supplies	33,868	34,884	35,930	37,008	38,118	39,262
Disease Testing/Ramp Kits	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Supplies and Expense	479,826	493,471	507,525	522,000	536,910	552,268
Employment Costs	30,000	30,900	31,827	32,782	33,765	34,778
Employee Training/Recognition	30,000	30,900	31,827	32,782	33,765	34,778
Outside Services	458,800	377,750	354,705	361,799	369,035	376,416
Legal Fees/Audit	60,000	111,800	63,654	65,564	67,531	69,556
Equipment Rental	0	0	0	0	0	0
Study grants & Continuing Ed.	147,500	151,925	156,483	161,177	166,013	170,993
Public Information	18,400	18,952	19,521	20,106	20,709	21,331
Testing/Occupational Health	11,000	11,330	11,670	12,020	12,381	12,752
General Expense	755,700	733,557	669,686	686,230	703,199	720,604
Mileage & expenses	5,170	5,325	5,485	5,649	5,819	5,993
Travel out of District	100,000	103,000	106,090	109,273	112,551	115,927
Vehicle/Equipment Fuel	206,800	213,004	219,394	225,976	232,755	239,738
Travel and Mileage	311,970	321,329	330,969	340,898	351,125	361,659
Property/Liabilities Insurance	113,000	120,500	123,000	128,000	130,500	133,000
Truck & Auto Insurance	60,000	61,500	62,000	63,240	64,505	65,795
Workmen's Comp Insurance	135,000	138,000	141,000	142,000	143,000	144,000
Surety Bond	2,000	2,100	2,150	2,150	2,150	2,150
Insurance	310,000	322,100	328,150	335,390	340,155	344,945

5 Year Projected Expenses

Office Equip. repairs	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,501	2,502	2,503
Equipment Repair and Maintenance	24,000	24,716	25,453	26,213	26,995	27,801
Auto Repair and Maintenance	131,866	135,818	139,889	144,081	148,400	152,848
Computer Repair	2,800	2,800	2,800	2,800	2,800	2,800
Operations Radio Expense	300	0	0	0	0	0
Building repairs	300,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Repair and Maintenance	461,466	665,834	670,642	675,595	680,697	685,952
Tire Recycling	85,000	87,546	90,168	92,869	95,652	98,517
Helicopter	2,219,400	2,219,400	2,419,400	2,419,400	2,419,400	2,619,400
Control Material	4,758,700	4,994,705	5,091,465	5,204,485	5,271,790	5,271,790
Control Operations	7,063,100	7,301,651	7,601,033	7,716,754	7,786,842	7,989,707
Office Capital	0	0	0	0	0	0
Field Capital	68,600	68,600	68,600	68,600	68,600	68,600
Auto Capital	353,800	650,298	629,160	648,040	807,984	702,200
Radio Capital	0	0	0	0	0	0
Building Improvement Capital	850,000	1,117,000	1,117,000	1,117,000	1,117,000	1,117,000
Intangible Capital	70,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Total Capital	1,342,400	1,855,898	1,834,760	1,853,640	2,013,584	1,907,800
	21,352,106	23,282,100	24,298,227	25,164,821	26,060,816	26,766,695

Our Team in 2026

The 2026 Personnel Budget balances the need for fiscal conservatism (net 1 FTE reduction) with the operational necessity of retaining a skilled workforce (market adjustments). The resulting personnel plan is fully aligned with the Strategic Plan's emphasis on efficiency, organizational capacity, and mission delivery.

Table 1: FTE Summary by Employee Type

	2025 Approved Full Time	2025 Approved Seasonal	2026 Proposed Full Time	2026 Proposed Seasonal
MMCD	60	205	59	208
Variance			-1	3

Table 2: Personnel Cost Impact and Variance Analysis (2026 Proposed)

	2025 Approved Cost (\$)	2026 Proposed Cost (\$)	Cost Variance (\$)	Primary Driver
Full-Time (FT) Salary & Wages	\$5,370,667	\$5,783,568	\$412,901	Market Adjustment
Full-Time (FT) Benefits (Health, Retirement, etc.)	\$1,486,829	\$1,939,181	\$452,352	Employer Contribution PFML
Seasonal Wages & Mandated Benefits	\$2,966,375	\$3,040,384	\$74,009	PT COLA
TOTAL MMCD PERSONNEL BUDGET	\$9,823,871	\$10,763,133	\$939,262	(Market Adjustment, Insurance improvement & PFML)

Our Projects in 2026

The Assigned Capital Plan is a strategic component of the organization’s long-term financial stability, ensuring that surplus funds are directed toward necessary infrastructure and asset renewal.

Fiscal Year 2026 Capital Allocation

For Fiscal Year 2026, the Assigned Capital Plan includes a total planned expenditure of \$7.625 million to address key facility modernization and improvement initiatives



Capital Outlay Projects

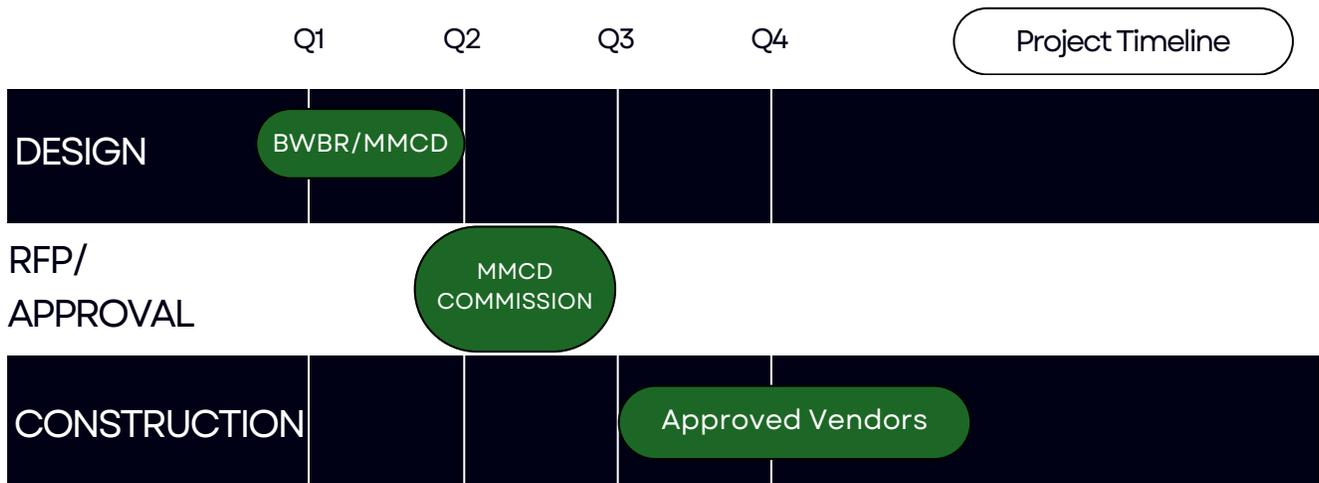
St. Paul Lab Renovation	\$5,000,000
Maple Grove Warehouse	\$2,625,000

Total Cost of Capital Outlay **\$7,625,000**

General Fund (GF) Balance

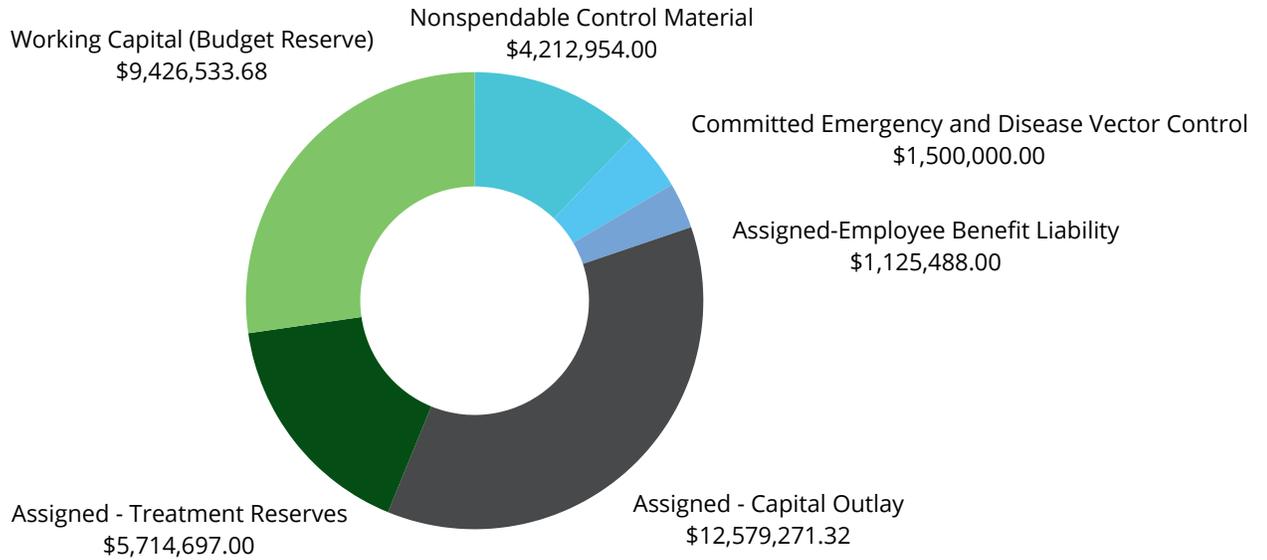
2025 General Fund (projected)	34,558,944
Capital Outlay	-7,625,000

2026 Projected General Fund Balance **\$26,933,944**

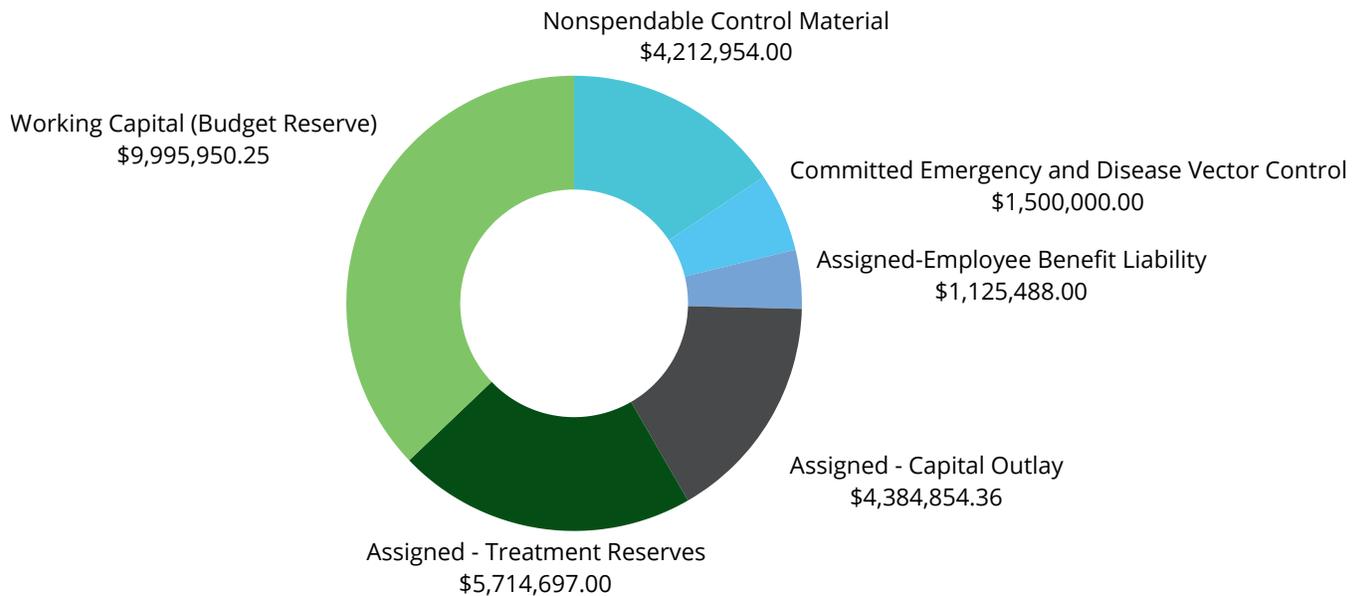


Fund Balance

2025 GF Balance (Projected) \$34,558,944



2026 GF Balance (Budget) \$26,933,944



YOY General Fund Balance

-22.06%

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

Action Item:

Approve 2026 Budget and Levy

Action Requested:

Approve the following resolutions regarding the 2026 budget and the adjusted levy.

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO.1

RESOLUTION SETTING THE FINAL LEVY FOR TAX YEAR 2026

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Mosquito Control District (MMCD) remains in a sound financial position, continuing to leverage efficiency, innovation, and prudent fiscal management to maintain high-quality mosquito control services while keeping the levy impact on the median property among the lowest of all surveyed mosquito control districts nationwide; and

WHEREAS, the Commission, at its meeting on July 23, 2025, adopted a maximum levy for tax year 2026 in the amount of **\$21,590,768**, representing a potential **5.31%** increase over the 2025 levy; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Minnesota Statutes §§ 275.065 and 275.066, the District held its Truth-in-Taxation public hearing on December 18, 2025, providing residents the required opportunity to review, comment on, and ask questions regarding the proposed 2026 levy and budget; and

WHEREAS, the District’s five-year financial plan supports moderate, phased levy increases to sustain essential capital investments, address workforce and facility needs, and manage inflationary pressures on operations, while ensuring long-term fiscal stability; and

WHEREAS, following review of updated financial projections and expenditure requirements, the Commission finds that a levy slightly below the maximum is sufficient to maintain current operations, fund planned investments, and preserve appropriate reserves; and

WHEREAS, the proposed **final levy for tax year 2026** is **\$21,497,131.39**, representing an increase of **\$995,025.39**, or **4.85%**, over the 2025 levy; and

WHEREAS, this level of funding will allow the District to continue its core mosquito control programs, advance its fleet and facility replacement plans, and support employee compensation and benefits aligned with market conditions and organizational needs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission of the Metropolitan Mosquito Control District hereby approves the **final levy for tax year 2026** in the amount of **\$21,497,131.39**.

Rena Moran, Chair

ATTEST:

Maria Mancilla-Diaz, Business Administrator

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO 2

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Mosquito Control District (MMCD) continues to fulfill its mission to protect public health and improve outdoor quality of life through effective and environmentally responsible mosquito and black fly control and tick surveillance programs; and

WHEREAS, the District's 2026 Budget has been developed to align with the newly adopted Strategic Plan, ensuring that financial resources are allocated to sustain operational excellence while investing strategically in the District's physical, fleet, and human assets; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director has presented a proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Budget totaling **\$23,282,100.67**, reflecting a balanced approach that maintains fiscal prudence while advancing key strategic initiatives; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Minnesota Statutes §§ 275.065 and 275.066, the District held its Truth-in-Taxation public hearing on December 18, 2025, providing residents the required opportunity to review, comment on, and ask questions regarding the proposed 2026 levy and budget; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 Budget incorporates planned expenditures from fund balance in accordance with the District's new Fund Balance Policy to support capital investments and treatment levels above the ten-year average; and

WHEREAS, the Budget provides for:

- Continued funding of current and retired employee health benefits through OPEB withdrawals;
- Implementation of the 10-year Capital Improvement Plan, including facility upgrades in St. Paul and Maple Grove;
- Full execution of the fleet replacement schedule to improve reliability and fuel efficiency,
- Competitive market adjustments to salaries and benefits, including compliance with new Paid Family and Medical Leave requirements; and
- Cost savings achieved through targeted restructuring of senior leadership; and

WHEREAS, the Commission recognizes the District's continued success in exceeding operational performance metrics, advancing environmental sustainability, and responding effectively to emerging vector-borne disease threats; and

WHEREAS, the Commission further acknowledges that the **final 2026 levy of \$21,497,131.39**—a reduction from the maximum levy set in July—demonstrates the District's ongoing commitment to fiscal discipline and stewardship of public resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan Mosquito Control District Commission approves the **Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2026** in the total amount of **\$23,282,100.67** on this day.

Rena Moran, Chair

ATTEST:

Maria Mancilla-Diaz, Business Administrator

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

Presented by:
Daniel Huff

Informational:
Executive Director's Report

The off-season is underway. Field crews are updating maps and inventorying equipment, while the lab continues to identify samples from the season. This is our time for training, data review, planning for next year, and restocking supplies.

This winter, we are diving into our Strategic Plan. Several staff members will be attending and presenting at professional conferences.

Be sure to check out our new recruitment video, created by our seasonal Public Affairs Assistant, Abbie Brown. After watching it, you may be tempted to resign from your elected office and join our team—but please don't! We value having you on the Commission.

Maria Mancilla-Diaz and I enjoyed seeing many of you at the Association of Minnesota Counties meeting. We gained useful insights from the excellent sessions we attended.

A special thanks to our HR team, Jennifer Macchia and Sam Peterson, for their work guiding District staff through open enrollment with a new health provider and for educating staff on Minnesota's new Paid Leave law.

Staff Retirements

We are celebrating the retirement of four long-term team members whose dedication and service have been instrumental to the District's success:

- Scott Grant, Field Operations Supervisor, Oakdale – 38 years
- Mark Smith, Integrated Services Manager – 33 years
- Eric Sell, Field Operations Supervisor, Rosemount – 27 years
- Monica Wickelgren, Field Operations Supervisor, Rosemount – 21 years

I am grateful for Scott, Mark, Eric, and Monica's service to the District and our community.

2026 Budget

A huge thank you to Maria Mancilla-Diaz for her excellent work finalizing the proposed 2026 budget.

I'm pleased to report that we are proposing a levy lower than the maximum set by the Commission in July. This budget supports increases in staff compensation and capital investments in our buildings and fleet. It also prepares the District for implementation of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Act taking effect in January.

Importantly, the budget includes funding for a new Human Resources position that will provide shared support to MMCD, the Metropolitan Emergency Services Board (MESB), and the Metropolitan Library Services Agency (MELSA). By sharing this position among our sister metro agencies, we are adding capacity while creating efficiencies that save taxpayer dollars. I continue to meet regularly with the directors of MESB and MELSA to explore additional partnership opportunities.

Collective Bargaining

Field Operations Supervisors are members of City Employees Union Local 363. The current labor agreement between MMCD and the union expires on December 31, 2025. In October, we began meeting with the union to draft a new labor agreement. After more than 20 hours of meetings, the union ended

negotiations and moved to mediation. The Bureau of Mediation Services has assigned a mediator, and we hope to schedule mediation as soon as possible.

Capital Projects

The District's real estate consultant is preparing a Broker's Opinion of Value for the Plymouth facility and has begun the search for potential locations for a new facility.

Our architect has been meeting with staff as they gather input on needs for the Maple Grove facility and the laboratory. The proposed 2026 budget includes estimated capital costs for both projects.

Helicopter Contract

We met with Scott Churchill, owner of Scott's Helicopter Services, to review the past season and discuss future operations. Our contract runs through the end of 2026, and we continue to enjoy an excellent working relationship. Mr. Churchill expressed enthusiasm for our ongoing partnership.

Thank You to Our Veterans

Last month we celebrated Veteran's Day. We honor our MMCD veterans and thank them for their service to our country and for protecting our freedom:

- Andrea Lectka (Maple Grove) – U.S. Navy (current reservist)
- Paul Youngstrom (St. Paul) – U.S. Navy
- Paul Krawetz (St. Paul) – U.S. Marine Corps
- Commissioner John Heinrich (Anoka County) – U.S. Marine Corps

We also recognize and appreciate Maria Mancilla-Diaz for her service in the U.S. Army Reserves.

Methoprene-Resistant Mosquitoes

Dr. Caleb Corona partnered with the North Shore Mosquito Control District (outside Chicago) to test mosquito larvae collected within the District for Methoprene resistance. Methoprene is one of our primary control materials. MMCD uses it for pre-hatch treatment in many wetlands in Priority 2 areas and for cattail mosquito control. The mosquitoes tested did indeed show resistance to Methoprene.

As part of the upcoming lab remodel, Dr. Corona will be able to conduct regular resistance testing for all our control materials. This data will guide decisions on when and where we use specific materials. Next year, we are introducing a new product, Sumilarv®. Dr. Corona conducted field trials this summer and found Sumilarv® to be a highly effective replacement for Methoprene in catch basins.

Remote Meeting Attendance

We are working with our colleagues at MESB to update the audio and video capabilities of the Board Room to better accommodate remote attendance at meetings. I apologize for the difficulties at previous meetings and appreciate the work of MESB staff who are testing new equipment for this purpose. We have updated our public notice for all meetings to allow for remote attendance.

2025 in Review

2025 was a year full of challenges, hard work, and success for MMCD. We faced the highest rate of West Nile Virus infection in mosquitoes, along with the highest number of human cases since the virus was first detected in 2002. After discovering a breeding population of the invasive mosquito—and tropical disease vector—*Aedes aegypti* at the Como Conservatory, District staff mobilized an intensive

surveillance and treatment response. After two months of focused work, we are no longer detecting this mosquito in our surveillance.

We also increased our levels of mosquito and black fly treatment to the highest in years.

Alex Carlson is leading the effort to create a new format for our annual report, which he will present at the February meeting. I am excited about the accessible and engaging format he is developing.

MMCD Highlights from 2025

Field Operations

- 268,969 acres of Larval Control! (Most since 2016)
- 247,187 acres by helicopter
- 12,770 acres by drone
- 16,305 acres by hand or backpack (ground)
- 60,576 acres of Cattail Treatments (MMCD record!)
- 319,699 catch basins treated (Most in 10+ years)
- 1,425 acres of Adult Control
- 22,959 tires removed (Most in 10+ years)

Recruiting - 2025

- Total Applications = 1108
- Regular Full Time Applications = 361
- Seasonal = 747
- Hired -214 Seasonal Employees
- 62% Male
- 38% Female
- 36% Protected class

Entomology Lab

- 22,980 samples identified (above 25 year average)
- Below average Spring *Aedes*
- Highest number of cattail mosquitoes (*Coquillettidia perturbans*) since 2020
- Highest number of *Culex tarsalis* (West Nile vector) in 10+ years.

Black Fly Program

- 55 gallons of small stream treatments (MMCD record!)
- 5,364 gallons of large river treatments
- 3,566 gallons for Minnesota River (MMCD record!)

Vector Program

- 112 human cases of West Nile virus in Minnesota (44 in the District)
- Big response from MMCD:
- 2,195 additional larval inspections
- 200+ acres of additional larval treatments
- 140 adulticide treatments
- Interagency collaboration and media outreach (16 news stories)

Public Affairs

- 1,283 resident calls
- 438 mosquito annoyance/breeding site calls (fewest in 10+ years)

- 837 tire calls (including appointments for drop-off events)
- Highest amount of calls came from Hennepin (315), Anoka (260), and Washington (246) counties.
- 60 public events and parades
- 42 schools visited and over 4,500 students reached
- 27 community presentations
- 89 media stories (print, television, radio)

Departmental Updates

Field Operations

Jon Peterson, Assistant Director

The cold, snow, and ice have arrived in Minnesota. Wetlands are now frozen and covered in snow. Even though there is snow on the ground, the metro area is drier than normal. The current U.S. Drought Monitor, Figure 1, shows most of the metro in the “abnormally dry” range. If this trend continues throughout the winter, it could have a positive effect by potentially reducing the number of spring mosquitoes we see in April and May. We will continue to monitor field conditions and plan accordingly.

Field staff have been updating maps, checking new areas, and preparing for next season. They will use this information, along with data collected this year, to plan for 2026. Over the next few months, we will also review all 2025 operations, as we do each year, to ensure our work remains efficient and effective.

We also have three Field Operations Supervisors—Eric Sell, Monica Wickelgren, and Scott Grant—retiring in early January. We plan to begin the hiring process by mid-January, with the goal of having their replacements in place by March.

Minnesota

[Home](#) / Minnesota

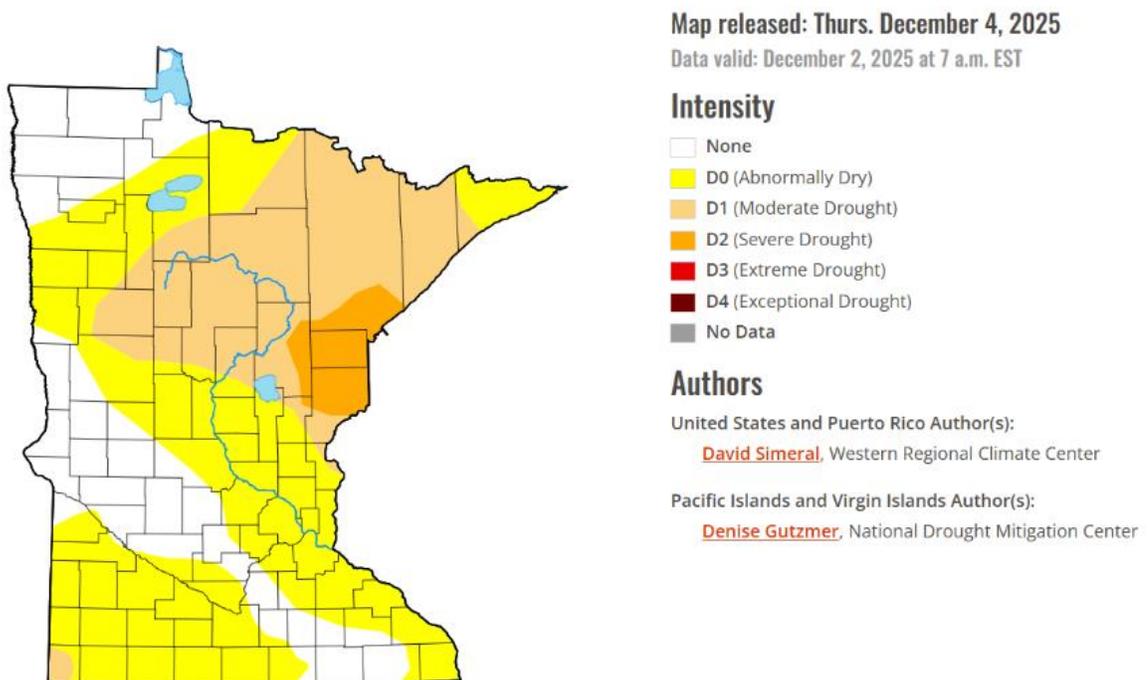


Figure 1 – Current drought conditions in Minnesota. <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?MN>

Integrated Services

Mark Smith, Integrated Services Manager

Three staff members participated in the Employee Exchange program. They visited two large mosquito control districts in Florida and attended the annual meeting of the Florida Mosquito Control Association. Staff participated in various mosquito control operations, reviewed new surveillance methods and innovative control processes.

Staff have conducted presentations at regional meetings and are preparing presentations for additional regional and national meetings. MMCD staff are regularly requested to share our expertise at regional meetings.

Our team continues to work with our Technical Advisory Board members on workgroups focused on control materials, integrated pest management, and our public health program.

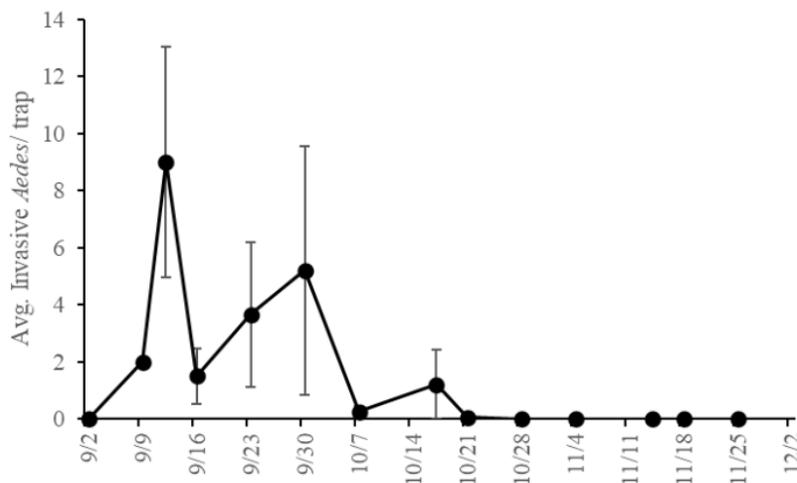
Staff continue to work on database documentation processes and metrics development.

Staff continue to work with architects on space requirements and redesigning workspaces for a future remodel of the St Paul office. Staff are also reviewing stored documents and removing unnecessary paperwork & equipment.

Entomology Laboratory

Dr. Scott Larson, District Entomologist

Surveillance at Como Park has concluded for the year after six consecutive weeks without detecting any invasive *Aedes* mosquitoes inside the conservatory spaces. Control measures are still in place including treating their fertilizer water with Bti (to kill mosquito larvae) and the deployment of Insecto traps (to kill adult mosquitoes and any eggs they may lay). Como Park staff will continue to alert us if they see any mosquitoes inside their facilities. We plan to resume surveillance next year before winter is over.



Otherwise, the lab has been busy identifying all low priority samples from the summer. We have ~4,000 mosquito larval samples left to identify. We will shortly be moving on to identify invertebrate organisms collected from the Mississippi River to determine the effect of our control treatments for reducing the populations of black flies. The DNR requires this in order to allow treatments and, so far, we have never detected any differences in invertebrate communities between areas where we treat versus areas where we do not. Non-treated areas are locations outside the service area of the District.

Public Affairs

Alex Carlson, Public Affairs Manager

City Summaries

Hard copies of the city summaries were mailed and electronic versions were e-mailed right before Thanksgiving to City Administrators and City Communications staff to over 120 cities and townships in the Metro area. Several cities have posted the information online or in print newsletters for residents. We are following up with offers to deliver presentations at city meetings to explain the information in more detail. When we set up presentations with different cities, we will send the information to the associated Commissioner.

Below is an example of a City Summary:

2025 Activity Summary for Brooklyn Park

MOSQUITO CONTROL

Most efforts by MMCD are to control mosquito larvae that develop in standing water and are most common after rain. Treatments use dry granules that are specific to mosquito larvae and are not harmful to people, pets, or wildlife. Materials are applied via helicopter, backpack, drone, or by hand. Adult mosquito control is done sparingly, usually in areas of elevated disease risk.

Larval Control in Brooklyn Park in 2025:
Sites Inspected: **534** | Acres Treated: **1726.77**
Adult Mosquito Control in 2025:
Sites Inspected: **172** | Acres Treated: **36.46**





DISEASE PREVENTION

Controlling the mosquito species that are most likely to spread disease is a top priority for MMCD. Removing containers that could hold stagnant water is critical to reducing the spread.

Disease Prevention Activity in Brooklyn Park in 2025:
Tires Removed: **58** | Catch Basins Treated: **4558**
Disease Prevention Property Inspections: **8**

PUBLIC INTERACTIONS

Outreach to the public is an important part of our program and we connect with residents when they call us to request service, or through public events and presentations.

Customer Calls from Brooklyn Park in 2025: 5
Events or Presentations in 2025: Brooklyn Days Parade, Brooklyn Park City Council, Brooklyn Park Safety Camp, Prairie Seeds Academy



For questions about your city's data,
please contact Alex Carlson -
acarlson@mmcd.org



Tire Collection Updates for 2026

A team met to discuss the MMCD Tire Recycling program for 2026. Based on the success of the drop-off events held in Dakota, Carver, and Scott counties in 2025, we have decided to have all facilities adopt that model next year with two dedicated drop-off events for each facility and a District-wide event at the end of the season. Field staff will still do tire pickups at their discretion to remove vector habitat. Residents can call to make appointments for the tire drop-off events, but not to request individual tire pickups.

More information will come out soon, but we feel this will be a great way to efficiently use staff time while maintaining the MMCD tire budget and targeting vector habitat removal.

Mosquitoes in the News:

[Collecting and studying the bugs we avoid to address a public health challenge](#) – University of Minnesota, November 25, 2025

- MMCD gets a shoutout in this article about how Dr. Jon Oliver’s entomology classes study insects that play a role in public health. This article also covers how bees tie into public health efforts.

[Climate change could expand habitats for malaria mosquitoes, researchers warn](#) – University of Copenhagen, Phys.org, November 26, 2025

- Most malaria cases in the world are concentrated in sub-Saharan Africa. A new study from the University of Copenhagen suggests that changing temperatures may allow these species to expand across Africa and potentially to other parts of the globe.

[Genes on the Move: USU Ecologist Reports Spread of Disease-carrying Mosquitoes and Their Hybrids](#) – Mary-Ann Muffoletto, Utah State University, October 17, 2025

- The species *Culex quinquefasciatus*, also known as “quinx,” has been expanding in North America and inter-breeding with other species that are all capable of transmitting West Nile virus. Their adaptations make them harder to combat.

[Mosquito proboscis repurposed as a fine nozzle for 3D printing](#) - Matthew Sparkes, NewScientist, November 19, 2025

- When engineers struggled to make 3D printer nozzles narrow enough for their needs, they turned to nature and found the proboscis of a female mosquito had exactly the properties they needed

[Some high-flying tropical mosquitoes carry disease-causing pathogens long distances, study finds](#) - Mary Van Beusekom, MS, CIDRAP, November 26, 2025

- Mosquitoes studied in Ghana and Mali that fly at high altitudes (including *Culex*, *Aedes*, and *Anopheles*), were found to be carried hundreds of kilometers by the wind in a single night. This implies disease transmission could cover much more territory.