



# LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

## Executive Summary for Action

Lower Minnesota River Watershed District Board of Managers Meeting

Wednesday, February 21, 2024

### Agenda Item

#### Item 7. B. - 2024 Legislative Action

#### Prepared By

Linda Loomis, Administrator

#### Summary

The Legislature convened Monday, February 12, 2024. Lisa Frenette has been meeting with legislators and attending committee meetings. Her perception is that not much is planned this session, other fixing some legislation passed last session and then a small bonding bill. We went through the MN Watershed Legislative Action Plan and there is much in there that the LMRWD can support and a few things that the LMRWD would not support.

There is no legislation that the LMRWD plans to introduce this session, the LMRWD will only be ensuring that dredge management funding continues and that in any year that the LMRWD does not use funding for dredge management left over funds can be used to address sediment reduction projects.

In addition to the dredge management funding, the LMRWD plans to support the following issues if legislation is introduced:

- Voluntary Certification with Limited Liability for Commercial Winter Maintenance Applicators and other legislation to reduce salt entering the natural environment;
- Invasive Carp Species – support actions to control the movement of invasive carp species;
- Support funding for statewide River Watch Programs;
- Support Native Fish Protection - "Respecting and protecting Minnesota's diverse native fish" - update regulation verbiage and adopt bag limits for ALL species;
- Support Water Storage Initiatives – this includes support for MN River hydrology studies that identify and prioritize areas that provide the most beneficial and cost-effective implementation for storage;
- Support legislative requests of partners of the LMRWD; Carver Levee Improvement Project, Shakopee River Bank Stabilization, etc.;
- Lower Minnesota River Landfill Remediation Projects.

Representative Hansen has introduced [House File 3550](#) relating to natural resources; modifying provisions for watersheds, soil and water conservation districts, and wetland management on the first day of the session. The bill was referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy. I have not yet reviewed the Bill.

#### Attachments

No attachments

#### Recommended Action

Motion to adopt legislative priorities