



# LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

## Executive Summary for Action

Lower Minnesota River Watershed District Board of Managers Meeting

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

### Agenda Item

#### Item 8 B. – Minnesota River Boat Tour

#### Prepared By

Linda Loomis, Administrator

#### Summary

The 2024 budget included money for the LMRWD to host a boat tour. Staff asked barge operators, Upper River Services and LS Marine, about the possibility of using a barge to host the event. If we are not able to secure a barge, there are two other companies that have been used for tours, Magnolia Blossom, and Jonathan Packet Boat Company. Which company we choose will depend on how many people we would like to attend.

It would be great if we could arrange the tour so that we can see Area #3. If that is not possible then we would likely begin the tour from CHS and head downstream. Tours usually last 3 hours and then buses will take passengers back to their cars.

The list for invitations includes City Officials from cities within the LMRWD, County Commissioners from Carver, Dakota, Hennepin and Scott Counties, Supervisors from Carver, Dakota, and Scott County Soil & Water Conservation Districts, State Representatives and Senators from the entire Minnesota River Basin, Officials from the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), MN Department of Natural Resources, MN Pollution Control Agency, MN Department of Agriculture, US Congressmen and Senators, Chambers of Commerce, trade associations, such as the Soybean Growers, Farmers Union, MN Corn Growers MN Farm Bureau, Association of Minnesota Counties, MN Association of SWCDs, Friends of the Minnesota Valley, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Friends of the Refuge, MN Valley Land Trust, Freshwater Society, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community, St. Croix Research Station, Lake Pepin Legacy Alliance, Friends of Pool 2, US Army Corps of Engineers, adjacent watershed districts, Metropolitan Council, USGS, University of Minnesota Extension Services, MN Water Resource Center and a few other groups/agencies. The Board should determine other people/groups they would like to see invited.

The Board should also decide the program that will be presented. Speakers have been invited in the past and have come from; Friends of the MN Valley, MN Soybean Growers, MPCA, USGS, Freshwater, St. Croix Research Station, Upper River Services, CHS, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Chart, Inc., Lake Pepin Legacy Alliance, and others.

#### Attachments

No attachments

#### Recommended Action

Provide direction to staff