



LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

Executive Summary for Action

Lower Minnesota River Watershed District Board of Managers Meeting

Wednesday, August 21, 2024

Agenda Item

Item 5. E. - Support to extend the dedication of lottery-derived revenue to Environment and Natural Resources Fund for 25 years

Prepared By

Linda Loomis, Administrator

Summary

Conservation Minnesota has requested that the LMRWD consider supporting extension of the dedication of lottery derived revenue to the [Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund \(ENRTF\)](#). These funds are what is distributed by the [Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources \(LCCMR\)](#). The Board should determine if it wants to publicly support this ballot initiative.

If the Board determines to support the extension of the dedication of lottery derived revenues its name will be added to the long list of organizations that can be found on the '[Minnesotans for our Great Outdoors](#)' website.

More information about this ballot question and a list of groups supporting extension, can be found on Ballotpedia using this [link](#).

Attachments

Resolution 24-11 Endorsing the Constitutional Amendment to Reauthorize the Dedication of State Lottery Proceeds to the Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund

Recommended Action

Motion to adopt Resolution 24-11 Endorsing the Constitutional Amendment to Reauthorize the Dedication of State Lottery Proceeds to the Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund and authorize distribution

LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT, MINNESOTA

RESOLUTION NO. 24-11

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT ENDORSING THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO REAUTHORIZE THE DEDICATION OF STATE LOTTERY PROCEEDS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

Manager _____ offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, in 2023, the Minnesota State Legislature voted to include the following question on the November 5th, 2024 primary election ballot, “Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to protect drinking water sources and the water quality of lakes, rivers, and streams; conserve wildlife habitat and natural areas; improve air quality; and expand access to parks and trails by extending the transfer of proceeds from the state-operated lottery to the environment and natural resources trust fund, and to dedicate the proceeds for these purposes?”; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota has benefited greatly from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund, which, since being approved by voters in 1991, has provided over \$800 million to more than 1,700 projects around the state “for the public purpose of protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state’s air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources.”; and

WHEREAS, the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District acknowledges that the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund has been a crucial investment that has protected ecosystems, aided local communities, promoted outdoor recreation, improved health outcomes, pursued environmental equity, bolstered agricultural resiliency, and supported strong businesses and good-paying jobs across the state.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Manager of the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District, as follows: that this body supports the constitutional amendment to reauthorize the dedication of state lottery proceeds to the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund and urges Minnesotans to vote “YES” on election day - Tuesday, November 5th, 2024.

The question was on the adoption of the Resolution was seconded by Manager _____ and upon a vote being taken there were ___ yeas and ___ nays as follows:

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
BARISONZI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
KUPLIC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
LAMMERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SALVATO	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
VISWANATHAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The President declared Resolution 24-11 adopted by the Board of Managers of the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District this 21st day of August 2024.

LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER
WATERSHED DISTRICT, MINNESOTA

Attest:

Joseph Barisonzi, President

Lauren Salvato, Secretary