



Please note the meeting will be held in the County Board Room at the Carver County Government Center, 600 East 4th Street, Chaska, MN.

LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

Executive Summary for Action

Lower Minnesota River Watershed District Board of Managers Meeting

Wednesday, October 24, 2018

Agenda Item

Item 6. C. - 2019 Legislative Action

Prepared By

Linda Loomis, Administrator

Summary

Lisa Frenette will be at the October meeting to introduce herself to the board, since Managers have not had an opportunity to meet Lisa since she was retained by the District.

Lisa and I have had discussion about the 2019 Legislative agenda for the LMRWD. Managers have indicated in the past that State sharing in the cost of managing dredge material is an ongoing concern of the District. Another issue that the LMRWD should consider weighing in on at the state is the closure and clean-up of the Freeway.

The Board has also discussed supporting the Limited Liability for winter maintenance contractors, funding for the MN River Basin Data Center at Minnesota State University Mankato and state funding for the US Corp of Engineers Minnesota River Basin Integrated Watershed spin-off studies.

The Legislative Water Commission held a series of stakeholder meetings this summer and one of the topics covered keeping water on the land. We are not yet sure if any legislation will evolve around this, but the Board may want to support legislative action that would lead to better water management upstream in the MN River Basin.

The Minnesota River Congress will be meeting on November 8th in New Ulm and has appears to working toward more basin wide approach to managing the River. Topics for discussion at the Congress are as follows:

1. Sharing by the Minnesota River Congress of an example basin-wide strategy such as ravine to floodplain restoration from the current old growth wooded vegetation that has been established since European settlement to a more erosion resistant vegetation cover.
2. Small group discussion to identify a list of other basin-wide strategies that could be best implemented through a partnership process that includes basin-wide funding and planning with local implementation including local planning, design, and project completion.

Staff will be looking for direction from the Board, in order to draft a legislative agenda for the 2019 session.

Attachments

No attachments

Recommended Action

Provide direction to staff