



# LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

## Executive Summary for Action

Lower Minnesota River Watershed District Board of Managers Meeting

Wednesday, February 19, 2020

### **Agenda Item**

#### **Item 6. D. - Letter to the US Army Corps of Engineers**

### **Prepared By**

Linda Loomis, Administrator

### **Summary**

The Board may remember that the US Army Corps of Engineers asked the LMRWD if it would be willing to be a partner on spin-off studies related to the Minnesota River Watershed Integrated Basin Study. The previous letter expressing interest from the District is attached. The Corps is getting ready for a new round of funding and has asked the LMRWD to provide an updated letter if the District is still interested in a "spin-off" study.

An updated letter has been prepared and is attached indicating the LMRWD is still interested in becoming a partner with the Corps in the spin-off study.

### **Attachments**

June 13, 2018 letter to USACE

February 19, 2020 letter to USACE

### **Recommended Action**

Motion to continue interest in spinoff studies and authorize updated letter to the Corps of Engineers

June 13, 2018



LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER  
WATERSHED DISTRICT

Carver

Vacant

Dakota

Yvonne Shirk  
President

Hennepin

David Raby  
Secretary/Treasurer

Vacant

Scott

Jesse Hartmann  
Vice President

Colonel Samuel L. Calkins  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
St. Paul District  
180 Fifth Street Suite 700  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Dear Colonel Calkins:

This is in reference to the United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Minnesota River Watershed Study "spinoff study" opportunity. The Lower Minnesota River Watershed District would like to state our interest in partnering with the Corps to further assess the following:

1. Analysis of how land-use changes may increase or decrease sediment delivery rates to the lower Minnesota River and an assessment of the ecological and economic impacts of sedimentation has on the Lower Minnesota River Watershed.
2. Assessment of water storage opportunities and benefits associated with water storage in the Minnesota River basin .

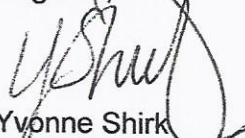
The Board wishes to support the further study of the Minnesota River Basin. We have particular interest in both possible studies detailed. Addressing issues critical to the understanding of increasing sediment transport in the Minnesota River is in line with the goals of the LMRWD and is consistent with the strategies and policies of the Watershed District.

We therefore fully support this initiative. We encourage the US Army Corps of Engineers to fund this project and wish every success to finding additional partners and for the accomplishment of the proposed work.

The Lower Minnesota River Watershed District understands study costs will be shared 50/50 pursuant to the terms of a Feasibility Cost Share Agreement and that other partners will be sought. This document is not legally binding in character.

Please contact District Administrator, Linda Loomis, by telephone at 763-545-4659 or by email at [naiadconsulting@gmail.com](mailto:naiadconsulting@gmail.com) to arrange a further discussion of this inquiry.

Regards,

  
Yvonne Shirk  
President

Linda Loomis, Administrator  
Home/Office: (763) 545-4659  
Cell: (763) 568-9522

112 East 5th Street  
Suite 102  
Chaska, MN 55318

E-mail: [lowermnriverwd.org](http://lowermnriverwd.org)

February 20, 2020



LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER  
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Hennepin

David Raby  
Secretary/Treasurer

Adam Frey  
Vice President

Scott

Jesse Hartmann  
President

Colonel Karl Jansen  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
St. Paul District  
180 Fifth Street Suite 700  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Dear Colonel Jansen:

In June of 2018, the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District expressed its interest in participating with the US Army Corps of Engineers in possible “spinoff studies” related to the Minnesota River Watershed Study. Specifically the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District would be interested to partner with the Corps to further assess the following:

1. Analysis of how land-use changes may increase or decrease sediment delivery rates to the lower Minnesota River and an assessment of the ecological and economic impacts of sedimentation has on the Lower Minnesota River Watershed.
2. Assessment of water storage opportunities and benefits associated with water storage in the Minnesota River basin .

The Board wishes to support the further study of the Minnesota River Basin. We have particular interest in both possible studies detailed. Addressing issues critical to the understanding of increasing sediment transport in the Minnesota River is in line with the goals of the LMRWD and is consistent with the strategies and policies of the Watershed District.

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Regards,

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President

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