



Red River Watershed Management Board
Meeting Highlights – April 17, 2018

1. **Financial Activity** – The RRWMB has accepted a proposal from its banking institution to raise the interest rates on all accounts and to reduce or eliminate several monthly fees. The RRWMB will be working on an investment strategy in the coming months to take advantage of higher interest rates.
2. **Joint Powers Agreement (JPA)** – The RRWMB held discussion about the JPA and continues its work towards enhanced communication and transparency.
3. **Treasurer** – RRWMB Manager Jason Braaten of the Roseau River Watershed District was asked to transition into the treasurer position as current RRWMB Treasurer Dan Wilkens moves towards retirement. Jason will be working with Dan and RRWMB staff over the coming months on the annual audit, monthly financial information, internal controls, and other general accounting and reporting activities.
4. **Office Location** – The RRWMB managers approved a lease with the Wild Rice Watershed District to provide office space for the principal place of business for the RRWMB. It is anticipated that remodeling of the Wild Rice Watershed District's current office space will begin this spring.
5. **Insurance Coverage** – The annual premium is approximately \$11,000 for RRWMB bond, directors/officer's liability, workers compensation, and various other insurance coverages. The RRWMB has obtained a preliminary quote that will significantly reduce the annual premium.
6. **Strategic Plan** – The RRWMB Managers held a strategic planning session in the afternoon. Input recently obtained from small group discussions at the annual conference in March was provided to the Managers. It was affirmed that a strategic plan is necessary and staff will continue to work with the Managers to move the plan forward.
7. **Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA)** – A presentation was given to the Managers regarding BCA of flood impoundment projects. This information and discussion was held in the afternoon as part of the strategic planning session and will help inform the Managers as they review the current mission and goals.
8. **Reports** – Several reports were given by RRWMB partners including the Red River Retention Authority, Red River Basin Commission, and the International Water Institute. In addition, a number of written reports were provided to the Managers by other partners.
9. **Upcoming Meetings:**
 - RRWMB Public Information Committee Meeting – April 30, 2018 in Ada.
 - Next RRWMB Board Meeting – May 15, 2018 at the Sand Hill River Watershed District in Fertile, MN.