



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

1. **Fiscal Year 2019 Operating Budget** – The Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB) Managers approved the 2019 operating budget, which is down nine percent from the 2018 approved operating budget. The RRWMB will continue to focus on fiscal transparency and reducing or eliminating costs in 2019 and beyond. The RRWMB Fiscal year is from January 1 to December 31. The RRWMB sets the operating budget for the upcoming Fiscal Year each July.
2. **Fiscal Year 2019 Levy** – The RRWMB Managers determined that the levy for 2019 will remain at 100 percent, which is where the 2018 levy is currently set. The RRWMB managers have been responsive to taxpayers in recent times and reduced the levy to 75 percent for Fiscal years 2015, 2016, and 2017. The return to the 100 percent levy in 2018 and 2019 is in response to factors including but not limited to limited availability of state funding, and increasing construction, land acquisition, and overall project costs. The RRWMB sets the levy rate for the upcoming Fiscal Year each July.
3. **Project Funding** – Several projects planned by the Middle-Snake-Tamarac, Red Lake, and Wild Rice Watershed Districts were discussed and will continue to move through the RRWMB funding process.
4. **Internal Controls** – An Internal Controls document was provided to the RRWMB Managers for discussion and review. Minor changes from the RRWMB auditor will be incorporated and the updated document will be presented for discussion and approval at the August 21, 2018 RRWMB meeting.
5. **Reports** – Several reports were provided or presented in person by the Red River Retention Authority, Red River Basin Commission, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, International Water Institute, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, and Minnesota Department of Agriculture.
6. **Upcoming Meetings:**
 - Next RRWMB Board Meeting – August 21, 2018 at the Red Lake Watershed District in Thief River Falls, MN. This meeting will also include a tour of projects being planned by the Middle-Snake-Tamarac and Red Lake Watershed Districts. The upcoming agenda for the August 2018 RRWMB meeting will provide more information and details.