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## *Meeting Highlights – February 18, 2020*

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- 1. Red River Basin Commission Long-term Flood Solutions Funding (LTFS):** The Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB) Managers previously approved funding for the LTFS update being managed by the Red River Basin Commission (RRBC) in 2018 and 2019. The RRWMB approved a funding agreement of \$80,000 for this effort along with a scope of services via Resolution 2020-08.
- 2. RRBC Annual Allocation:** The RRWMB Managers approved funding for the regular annual allocation of \$85,000 to the RRBC for fiscal year 2020. The RRWMB approved a funding agreement and scope of service for this effort via Resolution 2020-07. The RRBC provides a basin-wide approach to water management issues in the Red River Basin. The RRWMB has two voting members on the RRBC board of directors. The RRWMB also heard that the RRBC annual retreat is March 4 and 5, 2020 at the Canad Inn at Grand Forks, ND and the RRWMB will be in attendance.
- 3. International Joint Commission (IJC) Water Quality Objectives:** A presentation was given by MPCA Regional Manager Jim Ziegler regarding proposed IJC water quality objectives for the Red River at the international border. The IJC recently held a public hearing on the Objectives at the January 2020 RRBC annual conference in Fargo, ND. The Managers discussed a draft comment letter developed by staff and determined that the RRWMB Water Quality and Monitoring Advisory Committee should review the draft letter at the Committee meeting on February 25, 2020. The comment deadline on the proposed IJC Water Quality Objectives is February 28, 2020.
- 4. Project Funding Discussion:** Tracy Halstensgard, Administrator for the Roseau River Watershed District, provided a presentation and information to the RRWMB Managers regarding the need for additional RRWMB funds during the project development phase. Engineering, surveying, permitting, environmental review, and cultural resources inventories are some of the areas during project development where additional funding is needed. The RRWMB Managers held discussion and determined that the Governing Documents Committee should reconvene in the coming weeks to further discuss. The RRWMB Managers will be holding more detailed discussion over the next couple of months on this matter either at a regular board meeting or a special meeting.
- 5. Red River Basin Water Quality Initiative:** Ted Preister, Executive Director of the RRBC presented draft legislation to the RRWMB Managers related to cities in the Red River Basin that are addressing phosphorus limits at wastewater treatment facilities. The RRWMB Managers held discussion about this issue related to how draft legislation would potentially proceed during the 2020 Minnesota legislative session. The RRWMB Managers determined that the Water Quality and Monitoring Advisory Committee should review the matter on February 25, 2020.
- 6. 2020 RRWMB Legislative Priorities:** The RRWMB Managers approved recommendations for 2020 legislative priorities, which will be shared and distributed as a factsheet both electronically and in person with legislators, RRWMB members, stakeholders, and partners. Two additional factsheets regarding bonding needs and the funding process for flood damage reduction projects in the Red River Basin were also discussed and will be shared electronically during the legislative session.
- 7. Next RRWMB Meeting:** Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 10:00 AM at the Marriott Hotel and Convention Center in Moorhead, MN.