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## *Meeting Highlights – July 21, 2020*

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- 2021 Levy and Operating, Program, and Project Budget:** The RRWMB Managers approved setting the levy at 75 percent and the 2021 Budget of \$7,921,204.85, which includes \$3 million for Flood Damage Reduction (FDR) projects and \$3 million for water quality projects. Additional 2021 budgetary information will be forthcoming in an upcoming RRWMB e-newsletter. The Budget also includes line items for all programs, projects, and initiatives that are managed or implemented by the RRWMB, including pass through funds from the State of Minnesota.
- STar Value Discussion:** Information was presented to the RRWMB Managers about the STar Value and associated calculation worksheet. The Managers discussed historic trends, current conditions, and future projections related to funds allocated by the RRWMB towards FDR projects of its member watershed districts. Cashflow analysis was also discussed and it was determined that the RRWMB Technical Advisory Committee would be directed to develop additional information related to future projects costs as it relates to the STar Value.
- Black River Flood Impoundment Project:** The RRWMB approved funding this Project at approximately \$5,922,000, with the Red Lake Watershed District (RLWD) allocating \$2,961,000 towards the Project. The RLWD has applied for \$3,000,000 in federal funding for the Project and will likely know this fall if funding will be received. If the RLWD is successful in obtaining federal funding the RRWMB share of this project will be reduced. No State of Minnesota funding will be received for this Project.
- Water Quality Funding:** The RLWD submitted a Base Funding request of \$100,000 to install Side Water Inlets in several areas of the Red Lake Watershed. In addition, the RLWD also submitted a Competitive Funding Request of \$166,000 for work related to the Thief River Falls Oxbow Restoration and Stormwater Treatment Project. Details for both projects can be found in the RRWMB meeting packet for July 21, 2020 online.
- Funding Agreement Template for Water Quality Program:** A template was approved for funding agreements related to Competitive Funding applications submitted by RRWMB member watershed districts. The new template mirrors requirements, process, and procedure that was approved in March 2020 by the RRWMB Managers for the Water Quality Program. The Template also provides for funding projects by the RRWMB on a reimbursement basis, which will ensure additional transparency and openness regarding how RRWMB processes reimbursement payments.
- Red River Basin Feasibility Study Funding Agreements:** Funding agreements were approved by resolution for Houston Engineering Incorporated, Moore Engineering Incorporated, HDR Engineering Incorporated, and Widseth Smith Nolting and Associates Incorporated to conduct and finalize hydraulic/hydrologic modelling related to the Red River Basin Feasibility Study. More detailed information about the Study scope can be found in the RRWMB meeting packet from July 21, 2020 at the RRWMB website.
- International Water Institute – River Watch Voyager Award:** Lisa Frenette, RRWMB Legislative Liaison, was recognized for her legislative efforts in securing River Watch Program Funding by the International Water Institute. Congratulations Lisa!
- Next RRWMB Meeting:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 at 10:00 AM in Ada, MN pending the current pandemic situation.