



BOARD ORDER

Fiscal Year 2024 Water Quality and Storage Grant Program Awards

PURPOSE

Authorize the FY24 grant awards for the Water Quality and Storage Grant Program.

RECITALS /FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Laws of Minnesota 2021, 1st Special Session, Chapter 6, Article 2, Sec. 80 provides the statutory authority for the Water Quality and Storage Program (Minn. Stat. 103F.05), and includes the purposes of the Program that are “to control water volume and rates to protect infrastructure, improve water quality and related public benefits, and mitigate climate change impacts”, identifies eligible practices, and establishes that the priority areas for the program are the Minnesota River basin and the lower Mississippi River basin.
2. Laws of Minnesota 2023, Regular Session, Chapter 60, Article 1, Sec. 4(p), appropriated \$17 million in Fiscal Years 24-25 to a water quality and storage program.
3. Based on board order #24-03, staff issued a request for proposals in the amount of \$3 Million for the Water Quality and Storage Grant Program. The application period opened on February 12, 2024 and closed April 11, 2024.
4. Twenty-seven (27) applications were received requesting \$9,372,320. Board Staff reviewed the applications for eligibility and determined that four (4) of the applications were ineligible. After ranking and scoring the remaining twenty-three (23) applications, staff recommend that ten (10) projects be fully funded.
5. The Grants Program and Policy Committee, at their May 13, 2024 meeting, reviewed the proposed grant awards and recommended approval to the Board.

ORDER

The Board hereby:

1. Approves the allocation of funds as listed in the FY2024 Water Quality and Grant Program Funding Recommendations table (Attachment A).
2. Rescinds board order #24-03 as all elements (policy and RFP) of the board order have been completed.

3. Authorizes staff to enter into grant agreements with these funds, consistent with MN Statute 103F.05 and the legislative appropriation.
4. Authorizes staff to adjust the awards based on final cost estimates.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, May 22, 2024.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES



 Todd Holman, Chair
 Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date: 5/22/2024

Attachment A: FY2024 Water Quality and Storage Grant Program Funding Recommendations

<i>FY2024 Water Quality and Storage Grant Program Funding Recommendations</i>	
Organization	Request
Blue Earth County SWCD	\$596,075
Faribault County SWCD	\$332,500
Le Sueur County SWCD	\$424,499
Area II Minnesota River Basin Projects (Holly 22 Retention)	\$555,770
Area II Minnesota River Basin Projects (North Hero 34 Retention)	\$867,549
Lyon SWCD	\$12,000
Nobles County	\$24,000
Renville SWCD	\$82,250
City of Apple Valley	\$60,000
Jackson County	\$35,000
Total	\$2,989,644



BOARD ORDER

**Fiscal Year 2024 and 2025 Lower Minnesota River Watershed District
Dredge Management Grants Approval**

PURPOSE

Approval of the fiscal year 2024 and 2025 Dredge Management grants to Lower Minnesota River Watershed District.

FINDINGS OF FACT / RECITALS

- A. The Laws of Minnesota 2023, 1st Special Session, Chapter 1, Article 1, Section 4(h), appropriated \$240,000 for each fiscal year 2024 and 2025 for Minnesota River channel management.
- B. This grant is available for the cost of operating and maintaining sites for dredge spoil to sustain the state, national, and international commercial and recreational navigation on the lower Minnesota River.
- C. The Lower Minnesota Watershed District will develop and submit a work plan to BWSR to cover activities for fiscal year 2024 and 2025.
- D. The Grants Program and Policy Committee, at their May 13, 2024 meeting, reviewed the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District Dredge Management grant allocation and recommended approval to the Board.

ORDER

The Board hereby:

- 1. Authorizes staff to enter into a grant agreement for the FY 2024 and 2025 Lower Minnesota River Watershed District Dredge Management Grants consistent with the provisions of the appropriation.
- 2. Authorizes staff to review and approve the work plan for 2024 and 2025 prior to payment of grant funds.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this May 22, 2024.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES



Todd Holman, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date: 5/22/2024