



MEMORANDUM

Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District

Date: February 15, 2024
To: CLFLWD Board of Managers
From: Mike Kinney, District Administrator
Subject: Legislative Briefing and Day at the Capitol



District Wide

Background/Discussion

The Minnesota Watersheds 2024 Legislative Briefing & Day at the Capitol is scheduled for March 6-7 in Saint Paul. This event provides MN Watersheds members with a great opportunity to build relationships with key legislators and to advance our legislative agenda.

Each Watershed District is responsible for scheduling meetings with their local legislators on Thursday, March 7th. The registration fee is \$120 per person. Please let Tori know if you would like to be registered and if you need hotel accommodation. As of today, Manager Anderson has indicated an interest in attending the first day.

Recommended Motion

Manager _____ moves to authorize payment for managers and staff to attend the MN Watersheds Legislative Briefing & Day at the Capitol. Seconded by Manager _____.

Attached

- Agenda



2024 Legislative Briefing and Day at the Capitol
Radisson Hotel - Capitol Ridge
161 St. Anthony Avenue, St. Paul | March 6 – 7, 2024

Agenda – Wednesday, March 6, 2024

Welcome to the Minnesota Watersheds 2024 Legislative Briefing. The following schedule is approximate. Speakers and times may change as needed to accommodate the ever-changing schedules of lobbyists and directors.

3:00 – 4:00 Minnesota Watersheds Top Legislative Priorities

- 3:00 Welcome and Announcements – Jan Voit, Minnesota Watersheds Executive Director
- 3:05 Capitol Activity Update – Ray Bohn and Jess Lindeen, Minnesota Watersheds Lobbyists
- 3:20 The Legislative Process and Strategies for Working with the Legislature and State Agencies on Minnesota Watersheds Legislative Priorities
 - BWSR report to the legislature regarding the Drainage Work Group (DWG), outlet adequacy, and public notice
 - Support limited liability protections to certified commercial salt applicators
 - Modernization of watershed law – M.S. Chapter 103D
 - Support for the DWG
 - Support 2024 bonding requests and stable funding for flood damage reduction and natural resources enhancement projects
 - Q & A

4:00 – 4:55 Agency Updates*

- 4:00 Governor’s Office – Bonding (invited)
- 4:15 Tom Johnson - Minnesota Pollution Control Agency - Chloride Update (invited)
- 4:30 John Jaschke, Board of Water and Soil Resources – M.S. 103D Housekeeping
- 4:45 Q & A

4:55 Closing Remarks/End of Briefing

- 4:55 Jan Voit, Executive Director

5:00 – 7:00 Legislative Reception: Minnesota Watersheds Members and Legislators

Invitations to this reception and networking event were sent to all legislators. However, individual invitations from members helps provide additional encouragement for them to attend.

Take advantage of this opportunity to network with other members and chat with legislators as they arrive. **Please also use this time for informal regional caucus discussion.** There will be a cash bar. Light food options will be served for you to enjoy.

Agenda – Thursday, March 7, 2024

7 am – 8:30 am Networking Event: Minnesota Watersheds Members

Take advantage of this opportunity to have a buffet breakfast with Minnesota Watersheds members at the Capitol Ridge Hotel and discuss our legislative priorities.

9 am – 4 pm Meet with Legislators

Please use this occasion to visit with legislators in their offices or at the Capitol.

*Speakers and topics may change as schedules evolve.