

Minnehaha Creek Watershed District

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

MEETING DATE: November 21, 2019

TITLE: Approve Attendance at 2019 American Geophysical Union Conference

RES. NUMBER: 19-099

PREPARED BY: Brian Beck

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TELEPHONE: 952-471-8306

REVIEWED BY: Administrator Counsel Program Mgr.
 Board Committee Engineer Other

WORKSHOP ACTION:

<input type="checkbox"/> Advance to Board mtg. Consent Agenda.	<input type="checkbox"/> Advance to Board meeting for discussion prior to action.
<input type="checkbox"/> Refer to a future workshop (date):_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Refer to taskforce or committee (date):_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Return to staff for additional work.	<input type="checkbox"/> No further action requested.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): Approval at November 21, 2019 Board Meeting	

PURPOSE or ACTION REQUESTED:

Approval of funding for one staff member (Brian Beck) to attend the 2019 the American Geophysical Union conference in San Francisco, CA.

PROJECT TIMELINE:

The conference will be held from December 9-13, 2019 in San Francisco, CA.

PROJECT/PROGRAM COST:

Fund name and number: 500-5001-4065
Current Budget: \$8,000
Expenditures to date: \$5,768.62
Requested amount of funding: \$2,200 (not-to-exceed)

SUMMARY:

Each year, the American Geophysical Union (AGU) holds a national conference, highlighting emerging issues, new trends, and cutting edge research in a variety of fields such as geology, climatology, hydrology, and hydrogeology. The AGU meeting is able to bridge the gap between atmospheric sciences, geologic sciences, and water resource sciences to improve our ability to understand the complexities of hydrologic systems. More importantly, the 2019 AGU meeting has several sessions and tracks that will directly inform Minnehaha Creek Watershed District initiatives (MCWD or District), which include:

- Water and Society: Adaptive Management for Floods and Droughts in the face of Global Climate and Socioeconomic Change
- Modeling Hydrological Processes and Changes Under a Changing Environment
- Machine Learning in Hydrologic Modeling

- Advances in Understanding Impacts of Land Use and Land Cover Change in a Changing Climate Using System Records and Models
- Advances in Integrated Data Collection, Analysis, and Flood Modeling of Complex Urban Systems
- Long-Term Climate Modeling and Hydrologic Projection

All of the topics listed above are extremely timely since the District is developing a better understanding of its role in climate adaptation planning, which will require updated tools to develop predictions for future extreme weather events. To carry out this vision, the organization will need to gain a better understanding of:

- 1.) How climate change impacts hydrology within the District
- 2.) What tools to develop predictions for future extreme weather events

Attendance of the AGU meeting will allow District staff to develop a greater understanding of methods and tools being used by natural resource managers, academics, and policymakers across the country.

Staff is requesting funding to send one staff member (Brian Beck) to attend the 2019 AGU meeting for an amount not-to-exceed \$2,200. This amount will cover conference registration, travel, and accommodations.

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 19-099

TITLE: **Approve Attendance at 2019 American Geophysical Union Conference**

WHEREAS, the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers has adopted a balanced urban ecology policy that recognizes the multi-sector value of integrating natural systems and land use planning;

WHEREAS, the Research and Monitoring Department support the District's mission by diagnosing water resource issues, informing project location and design, and communicating results;

WHEREAS, implementation of the Research and Monitoring strategic priorities requires continued professional development in areas of data analysis, data visualization, and watershed management;

WHEREAS, the Board of Managers supports professional development as it pertains to delivering on the District's mission and goals;

WHEREAS, the AGU hosts an annual meeting providing professional development, continuing education, and networking opportunities for water resources and hydrology professionals;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers authorize one staff member to attend the 2019 American Geophysical Union conference for a cost not to exceed \$2,200 for registration, travel, and accommodations.

Resolution Number 19-099 as moved by Manager _____, seconded by Manager _____.
Motion to adopt the resolution ___ ayes, ___ nays, ___ abstentions. Date: _____.

Secretary

Date: _____