



Title:	2023 National American Planning Association Conference Attendance
Resolution number:	23-015
Prepared by:	Kate Moran, Policy Planning Coordinator 952.641.4520 kmoran@minnehahacreek.org
Reviewed by:	Becky Christopher, Policy Planning Manager
Recommended action:	Approval of funding to send up to two staff members – Abigail Ernst and Kate Moran – to the 2023 national conference of the American Planning Association in Philadelphia, PA.
Schedule:	The conference will be held Saturday, April 1 – Tuesday, April 4
Budget considerations:	Fund name and code: Permitting (2001) and Policy Planning (2008) Fund budget: \$10,000 for training and \$5,000 for expenses in 2001; \$3,300 for training and \$2,700 for expenses in 2008. Expenditures to date: \$0 Requested amount of funding: \$6,400 (registration, travel and accommodations)

Summary:

Each year, the American Planning Association (APA) holds a national conference highlighting emerging issues, new trends, and best practices in the planning field. The conference program includes the following:

- climate change planning and implementation
- diversity, inclusion, and equity planning
- data and technology utilization
- land use, transportation, and infrastructure planning
- other subject areas that are relevant to the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD)

MCWD's Balanced Urban Ecology Policy (BUE Policy) focuses on the integration of land-use and water planning to effectively align natural resources with social and economic value to create vibrant communities. Increased participation in the APA – locally, regionally, and nationally – provides a professional development opportunity to increase staff's ability to effectively implement MCWD's strategy of integrating land use and water planning.

Staff is requesting funding of an amount not-to-exceed \$6,400 for up to two (2) staff members – Abigail Ernst and Kate Moran – to attend the conference in early April. This amount will cover conference registration costs, as well as travel and accommodations based on projected costs of approximately \$2,900 – \$3,200 per attendee.



RESOLUTION

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- WHEREAS the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (District) Board of Managers has adopted a Balanced Urban Ecology (BUE) policy that recognizes the value of integrating natural systems and land use planning;
- WHEREAS implementation of the BUE policy and organization strategic direction requires continued professional development in areas of municipal and land use planning;
- WHEREAS the District has continued its presence at the National and Minnesota Chapters of the American Planning Association (APA) through conference presentations and attendance;
- WHEREAS the Board of Managers supports professional development in areas beyond water resources in order to effectively integrate its work with that of our land-use partners;
- WHEREAS the APA hosts an annual conference providing professional development, continuing education, and networking opportunities for planning professionals; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers authorize up to two (2) staff to attend the 2023 National American Planning Association conference for a cost not to exceed \$6,400 for registration, travel and accommodations.

Resolution Number 23-015 was moved by Manager _____, seconded by Manager _____. Motion to adopt the resolution ___ ayes, ___ nays, ___ abstentions. Date: 2/23/2023

_____ Date: _____
Secretary