



Item 5C.
BCWMC 11-14-18

Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

November XX, 2018

Ms. Ruth Schaefer President
Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts
101 10th St E #613
St. Paul MN 55101

Dear President Schaefer;

The Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (BCWMC) (formally a watershed management organization (WMO) established in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 103B.211) has been working since 1969 in the Twin Cities Metro Area to reduce flooding and improve and protect surface waters in the Bassett Creek Watershed. As you're aware, WMOs have many of the same goals and perform much of the same type of work as watershed districts, but have not been members of the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) to date.

The BCWMC appreciates now being invited to be a member of the MAWD. However, we understand the current membership being offered is limited and does not include a right to vote within the organization. The BCWMC respectfully requests that the MAWD Board consider amending its bylaws to allow WMOs to be full voting members of MAWD.

The BCWMC would like the ability to participate as a full MAWD member; to have a voice in offering potential resolutions, and a vote when MAWD sets legislative priorities or makes policy decisions. Without the ability to vote, limited membership in MAWD has little appeal as our Commissioners and staff already have access to MAWD trainings, tours, and the annual conference, even as non-members.

Thank you for considering this request. Please contact our Administrator, Laura Jester, at 952-270-1990 or laura.jester@keystonewaters.com if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jim de Lambert
Chair

CC: Emily Javens, MAWD Executive Director
BCWMC Commissioners and Alternate Commissioners