Last month, the District Board approved a Memorandum of Understanding for the local funding share of the Missouri River Levee System Units R-613 and R-616 Certification Project. The cost of this levee modification is currently estimated at $25,000,000. Under the MOU, the maximum contribution from Sarpy County, and the Cities of Bellevue and Omaha is $3 million each with the District not expected to contribute more than $5 million. The remaining funds are anticipated to come from the State of Nebraska.

Nebraska’s portion of funding for this project is expected to come from the Water Sustainability Fund (WSF) overseen by the Natural Resources Commission. The available percentage of cost share under this fund is 60%, not including any other state or federal funding. Therefore, a WSF application 60% of eligible project costs (~$15,000,000) is being prepared for submittal prior to the deadline of December 30, 2015.

Staff recommends that the subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the General Manager be authorized to execute and submit a Water Sustainability Fund application in the amount of 60% of eligible project costs for the Missouri River R-613 and R-616 Levee Certification Project, subject to changes deemed necessary by the General Manager.