

WILD RICE WATERSHED DISTRICT

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SPECIAL MEETING November 30, 2009 UPPER BECKER AND LANDOWNER MEETING APPROVED MINUTES

1. A Special Meeting of the Wild Rice Watershed District Board of Managers was held on Monday November 30, 2009, at the Ogema Community Center, Ogema, MN. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss options for Upper Becker, along with a meeting with landowners. The following Managers were in attendance: Dean Spaeth, Mike Christensen, Greg Holmvik, Duane Erickson, John Austinson and Diane Ista. Absent: Joe Spaeth. Also in attendance were Interim Administrator Loretta Johnson, Executive Assistant/Project Coordinator Kari Kujava, Engineer Jerry Bents, Attorney Elroy Hanson, Consultant Dennis Ertelt and members of the audience that included landowners on Upper Becker. Chairman Christensen called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

PERMIT APPLICATIONS

2. Mattson Brothers, Section 31, Riceville Township, Becker County. A **motion** was made by Manager Erickson and **seconded** by Manager Austinson to approve Permit Application #11-30-09-1 of Mattson Brothers to install drain tile in Section 31 of Riceville Township, Becker County. **Carried.**

3. Discussion was held by Managers with Dennis Ertelt, consultant hired for negotiations with landowners on Upper Becker. The final appraisals were reviewed and consensus of Managers was for Ertelt to begin negotiations immediately.

Ertelt also requested that appraisals be done on the property that the District already owns, to give him the value of the land that would be for trade. A **motion** was made by Manager Holmvik and **seconded** by Manager Austinson authorizing Hoefs Asc, to do the appraisals. **Carried.**

Engineer Bents reviewed a PowerPoint presentation and landowners asked questions. The budget, which is estimated at 10.7 Million with 2.3 Million land acquisition, 7.4 Million construction and 1.0 Million for Engineering, Legal and Administration, was discussed. The State of MN would contribute 5.3 Million, the RRWMB, based on storage would be 3.3 Million and the District's local cost share would be 2.1 Million.

The Riceville Township Board submitted a resolution against building the North Becker Dam at the proposed level. Tom Bergren also brought up a list of arguments he had regarding the District's operation and maintenance on the current Becker Dam Project.

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Christensen adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

John Austinson, Secretary