



Wild Rice Watershed District

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**Project #42 Informational Meeting
Monday, March 5, 2007, Ulen, MN
APPROVED MINUTES**

A special informational meeting was held at 6:00 p.m. on Monday March 5, 2007, at the Ulen VFW Meeting Room. The purpose of the meeting was to provide information to landowners on individual sites within Project #42. The following members were in attendance: Warren J. Seykora; Bob Wright; Diane Ista and Joe Spaeth. Members absent were Jim Wagner, Sr., Jim Skaurud and Dave Vipond. Also in attendance were Administrator Steve Dalen, Engineer Jerry Bents, Secretary Loretta Johnson, audio recorder Royal Knutson and interested landowners. Chairman Seykora called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Seykora noted that the meeting is being recorded by the Concerned Citizens.

Following are the agenda items for discussion:

1. UN5
2. UN15
3. CD18

Large maps were provided for each site and Engineer Bents reviewed the information with individual landowners. The seven maps included for each site provided the following data:

1. Dike alignment, how wide the site; inundation level to riser crest; depth of water to emergency spillway; if water is full to the top of the dam, what area of land would be inundated at that level
2. Inundation at the 2, 10 and 100 year rain events to the top of the dam
3. Map of typical soil types throughout the region and where soil borings were taken last fall
4. Wetland areas identified on the National Wetland Inventory Register
5. One foot contours from LIDAR data collected and how it would affect drainage
6. Land ownership map: (records were taken from the Clay and Becker County Auditors showing the current landowners as they have them listed.)
7. Wetlands within each site that would have to be mitigated to some extent; working with the COE & BWSR would be necessary to determine the mitigation

Manager Ista requested that Engineer Bents provide location of each site by section and township.

- UN5 Most Upstream site on Balky Lake; dam site located in Section 13, Atlanta Township
- UN15 dam site near Braseth building site located in Sections 4-5, Atlanta Township
- CD18 southeast of Ulen in Sections 10-11 of Goose Prairie Township
- UN35 North side of the Wild Rice River in Sections 20, 28-29 and 33, Walworth Ulen
- UN45 Sections 8, 16-17 Walworth Township
- UN 55A Northwest of Ulen, Sections 9, 16 & 21 of Ulen Township
- 55B Sections 11-12 of Ulen Township

David Larson stated that he wanted the recording shut off. Royal Knutson stated that it is a public meeting and the Watershed District cannot stop someone from recording. Larson stated that he did not care; he wanted the recording shut off. Knutson stated that it wasn't really his decision as he is hired by Curt Jacobson. After discussion, Knutson agreed to turn off the recording microphones.

David Larson, Yvonne Engeseth Opdahl and Ron Mattson discussed site UN5. Opdahl stated that she didn't think that UN5 can take anymore water; she did not want to take additional land out of production; had concerns about putting her land in the floodplain; and the water not being able to get out of the impoundment as fast as necessary. Larson, renter of Opdahl's, asked why it was necessary to hold the water 30 days. Engineer Bents stated that it would be a benefit to the Wild Rice River; the 30 days holding maximizes RRWMB funding; and we want to hold it long enough to affect downstream flooding. Opdahl felt that this water does not flood Perley at Hwy. #75. Larson asked how the District gets a permit from the USFWS. Administrator Dalen stated that is an issue that will need to be addressed. Administrator Dalen stated that if landowners would be interested in a land trade they should contact the District office, as staff is in the process of contacting an agent for the District for the purchase of land for trade for anyone in the project. David Larson and Yvonne Opdahl asked how land ownership would be addressed. Dalen stated that details will be discussed at a later date however it may be fee title, land trade or the District may purchase a flood storage easement with landowner retaining the land to keep grass rights. Opdahl stated that if she had a choice she would rather not have a land trade.

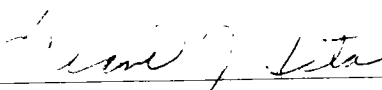
Landowners within the UN15 site discussed maps of the areas of interest to them. It was noted that this session is now being taped. Robert Braseth representing Steve Braseth asked how economically feasible it is to have a ten foot dike on the east and down to two feet and how effective and correct is the LIDAR information. Engineer Bents stated that LIDAR has a six inch accuracy as imaging is taken from aerial photography. Braseth stated that this is good farmland. Questions were also asked regarding the life expectancy, how would the project be maintained and who would be in charge of the gates. Engineer Bents stated that the core samplings were good to maintain a dike; the watershed district would maintain the project by assessments and the district would also be in charge of the gates although they may appoint someone else to maintain them. The dike would hold 3,500 acre feet of storage to the top of the dam, but the project would be designed so that the level of water would never get to the top of the dam. The yellow markings on the maps indicated 1670 acre feet of storage. Braseth stated that he is totally opposed to the site and indicated that he would ask the Board to stop this project. Braseth stated that no one here is in favor of this project and asked that it be dropped. Landowners suggested going to the legislature and requesting that they remove the necessity of taking land to mitigate the wetlands; they felt that you couldn't take good farmland out of production to protect other landowners; and why spend money on something that none of the people here support. Manager Ista stated that she had visited with landowners and hears that there is a lot of support for onstream storage and asked how many are in favor of it. Ista also asked for a positive committee of landowners at the meeting to work with landowners who are onstream and address that issue.

Engineer Bents reviewed information with landowners on CD18. The accuracy of LIDAR was questioned. Bents stated that it has a six inch accuracy taken from aerial photo imaging. Questions and concerns included how much land would be purchased; would crop insurance cover land bordering the project; who is going to pay the taxes; there is USFWS land close which already backs up water onto their land; also there is WRP on the east side; if the DNR gets their finger in this project area, they might as well give up farming. This is the best farmland in the area. Engineer Bents stated that it has not been determined at this time the number of acres of land needed and he was not familiar with the crop insurance issue.

Lawrence Pollock brought forth a map of another site that he wanted the District to look at as an alternative. Pollock stated that maybe the DNR and USFWS who own the land could work with landowners. Pollock felt that it has the potential to be a good alternative.

Questions were also asked about Clay County Ditch #18 maintenance; who would repair the roads if the water broke out; and beaver dams causing problems.

There being no further discussion the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.



Diane Ista, Secretary

March 5th, 2007 meeting
Ulen MN.

Barry Nelson	12972 Co Hwy 11	Audubon MN
David Larson	30674 Co. Hwy 7	Lake Park Mn.
Vern Engstrom	HWY 113	Waubesa, MN
Pamela Walsh	27780 180th Ave N	Ulen, MN.
Ralph Emerson	1014 Main St	Hawley Mn 56549
John Kinkadee	415	Hawley Mn 55549
James Linn	309 2nd	Ulen, mn
Bruce Schneider		Ulen MN.
Arthur Schneidemann		ULEN Minn.
David Christensen		Ulen, MN.
Robert Nodde		Hittlerdal Mn.
Harkan Wentz		Atunda, Mn.
Dwight + Leif		Ulen
Darrel Portchard.		Ulen, mn
Les Ritchard		Ulen mn
Glorie Ivers		Ulen
Lynne Klempetson		Ulen
Harry Moe		Ulen
David Stumho		Hawley
Danell Klabberhoff		Ulen
John Austinen		Ulen
Michael Klempetson		FLORA
Roy Klempetson		Ulen
Roger Hamerik		Ulen Twin Valley
Stan Gustafson		Ulen mn
Chris Frid	26239 140th Ave N	Ulen, MN 56583

Daniel Kleinsten
Michael Lothart
Jürgen P. Lorenz
Karl Hübner
Jörg Hübner
Richard Smith

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Wam
Wam

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Steve Bravetti		596-8559
Ernie Hill		754-4752
Ray Stone	Ulen	596-8568
Erik Bakke	Ulen	596-8373
Richard A. Smith	Ulen	596-8885
Bob Kinnison	Ulen	596-8644
David Schuermann	Ulen	596-8260
Barry Papp	Perley	861-6511
Don Lutzgerson	Bowling	587-3316
David H. Larson	Leke Park	2-38 5824
Kevin Quirk	Bowling	582-3252