

WILD RICE WATERSHED DISTRICT
11 FIFTH AVENUE EAST
ADA, MN 56510
PH: 218-784-5501

CLAY COUNTY DITCH #18 - INFORMATIONAL/SPECIAL MEETING

A special meeting of the Wild Rice Watershed District Board of Managers was held on **Thursday, June 16, 2005**, at the Ulen VFW Meeting Room. The purpose of the special meeting was to discussing the following concerning Clay County Ditch #18:

- ditch maintenance
- beaver removal
- ditch committees

The following members were in attendance: James Wagner, Sr., Joe Spaeth, Diane Ista, Bob Wright and Warren Seykora. The following members were absent: Steve Dalen and Jim Skaurud. Also in attendance were Kelly Schultz, Gene Schultz, David Stumbo, Daniel Pritchard and Joe Gerner.

Chairman Seykora called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Seykora stated that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss ditch maintenance, beaver control and to establish a ditch committee for Clay County Ditch #18. Seykora gave a brief history of the ditch system explaining the assessment area, benefits and the present financial status and balance of the ditch system.

General discussion followed.

Manager Wagner talked about the ongoing beaver problems and stated that because of the conditions, and the importance of keeping the beaver under control. Wagner also discussed costs related to beaver control. The USFWS has given permission to hunt the beaver and remove the beaver dams.

Spraying the ditch system was another option discussed. Gene Schultz stated that the ditch should be kept in a workable condition.

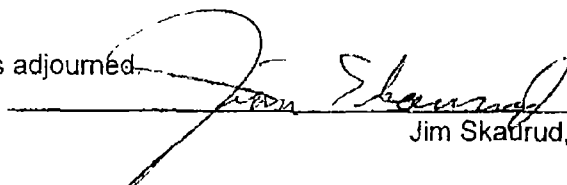
Manager Wagner suggested starting to trap beavers and pull the dams on the north end of the ditch system. If he continues to watch for beaver activity and there is no rebuilding of the dams, he will know that the beaver are removed.

Consensus was to have three landowners on the ditch committee, one from the upper, middle and lower part of the ditch system. The committee would be responsible for inspecting the ditch and reporting back to the Watershed District. The three landowners appointed are Joe Gerner, Dan Pritchard and Kelly Schultz. They requested a letter of appointment from the District office indicating their position on the ditch committee.

Also discussed was outlet repair of the system and the fact that FEMA may supply some funding for the repair.

Consensus of those in attendance was to allocate funds up to \$5,000 for beaver control and upkeep on the ditch system for the summer, fall and winter of 2005 at which time a report will be provided to the committee.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Jim Skaurud, Secretary