

**PROCEEDINGS OF ROSEAU COUNTY & KITTSO COUNTY BOARDS OF
COMMISSIONERS STATE DITCH NO. 95 JOINT DITCH AUTHORITY**

December 21, 2007

State Ditch No. 95 Joint Ditch Authority comprised of Commissioners of the Kittson County Board and the Roseau County Board met at the Greenbush Community Center , Greenbush, MN at 10:30 a.m. on December 21, 2007. Members present were: Roseau County Commissioners Mark Foldesi and Orris Rasmussen; Kittson County Commissioners Craig Spilde and Leon Olson. Also present were Roseau County Engineer Brian Ketring; Assistant Roseau County Engineer Tim Erickson; Kittson County Engineer Kelly Bengtson Two Rivers Watershed District Board Managers John Younggren, Richard Novacek, and Neil Larson; Two Rivers Watershed Administrator Dan Money; Two Rivers Watershed District Technician Boyd Johnson; Roseau County Coordinator Teresa Klein; and the following constituents: Ken Chruszch, Rick Sikorski, Jim Bergren, Mark Gonsorowski, Mel Wange, Peter Beito, Dale Novacek, Luke Novacaek, Floyd Haugen, Ernest Janousek, Bredie Christianson, Jim Kukowski, Carter Novacek, Brad Blawat, Neil Novacek, Joe Novacek, Dale Kuznia, Mark Novacek, Virgil Gryskeivwicz and several other interested parties.

Roseau County Commissioner Mark Foldesi called the meeting to order at 10:30 am. Commissioner Foldesi explained the purpose of calling an official Joint Ditch Authority meeting and reviewed briefly the roles that the various entities play and the authority they have.

Commissioner Foldesi turned the meeting over to Roseau County Engineer Brian Ketring and Kittson County Engineer Kelly Bengtson.

Ketring and Bengtson provided an overview of recent work done on the ditch system including ditch clean outs, culvert replacements and ditch grade surveys. They reviewed the results of the recent ditch grade survey done by Roseau County Highway Department on a section of State Ditch No. 95, Lateral No. 1 from CSAH 103 west to CSAH No 3 at the Kittson County line. Initially the survey was going to be more extension, but it became cost prohibitive so the engineers agreed to survey the section of the ditch that has historically been problematic. It was noted that in the "bottleneck area" located in Sections 5/6 of Polonia Township there is only a legal grade of 0.02%. Some high spots were discovered in the ditch between stations 20 + 00 and 60 + 00. It was noted that sloping "may" be done from station 0 +00 to station 100 +00.

Bengtson noted that the area to the west of the county line to the outlet (river) has a very flat grade as indicated by the as-built plans of only 3.8 feet of drop in 10 miles which equates to a grade of 0.007%. This is extremely flat when compared to the nearly 40 ft. of fall from Badger to Roseau CSAH 7.

Additional information concerning the newly constructed Ross Impoundment near Badger was given by TRWD Administrator Dan Money and TRWD Technician Boyd Johnson. This project will control the flow from 18.2 square miles of land at the eastern edge of the SD 95 benefit area. This is nearly 20% of the entire 90 square mile drainage area for the ditch. A significant improvement should be experienced when this project is entirely operational in late '08 or early '09. Mr. Money explained that per Statute 103E, any improvement to the system requires a petition to the TRWD and a \$10,000 bond. The bond money is used to conduct a feasibility study. The study must be conducted by an engineer and then three viewers must be

appointed to determine which will be taxed to pay for the project. If the project moves forward, the bond money is returned. If a project does not get done, the bond money is forfeited.

A brief discussion was also held concerning the SD 72 system when it overflows into the 95 system. Changes to berms and culverts were discussed that could help the SD No. 95 system; particularly the removal of one (1) line of 72" culvert at the NW corner of Sec. 6 Polonia Township and the flattening of berms adjacent to laterals 6 and 8 of SD 72 which would open up the natural waterway in the SD 72 area.

Landowner comments/requests included finding solutions to control/reduce the water from the north – the Roseau River Watershed - that comes into the Two Rivers Watershed District; exploring more water retention projects, including making better use of the "swamp" located just across the county line in Kittson County; comparing ditch capacity at Mike's Lake vs. flow in SD 95 at Badger; and re-visiting the Juneberry Ridge impoundment proposal.

Engineer Ketring summarized the intended outcome of the proposed projects as trying to solve the problems for these landowners as best we can without negative consequences to other people.

TRWD Administrator Dan Money stated that each entity needs to review the ideas discussed today and take responsibility for the solutions under their authority. He noted that landowners can petition to get projects moving.

Commissioner Foldesi thanked everyone for attending and for their comments.

Upon motion carried, the meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Attest:

Teresa Klein, County Coordinator
Roseau County, Minnesota

Jack Swanson, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners
Roseau County, Minnesota