SPECIAL WATERSHED MEETING MINUTES #595.1

The Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank Watershed Board of managers held a special meeting on Thursday, September 26, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. located in the Lac qui Parle County Annex, Madison, MN. The meeting was called to hold presentations and interviews with interested viewing teams for the proposed redetermination of benefits for County Ditch #4, Branch 1 & 2 CD #4, Branch 4 of CD #4, Lateral A of CD #4, Lateral B of CD #4, Branch 5 of CD#15, CD #10, CD #20, Branch 2 CD #20, CD #44, & CD #45.

Chairman Ellefson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. **Managers present**: Chairman Darrel Ellefson, Secretary David Craigmile, & Treasurer David Ludvigson. **Managers absent**: Vice-Chairman John Cornell, & Publicity Manager Michael Frank. Chairman Ellefson determined the Board had a quorum present at the meeting. **Staff present**: Administrator Trudy Hastad, & Drainage Manager Jared Roiland. **Others present**: Joe Jacobs, David Schmidt, Brad Wick, Richard Kvols, Mark Dietz, Shantel Hecht, Derek Ebertowski, & Bryan Murphy

Administrator Hastad explained that the special meeting was called to have presentations and interviews with the viewing teams that showed interest in doing the redetermination of benefits for the County Ditch #4 system and the ditches (listed above) that outlet into County Ditch #4. The Lac qui Parle County Commissioners asked that the Watershed Board make a recommendation to them on whom to hire for the viewing. Hastad gave some background information on the process that had been done to date via the County. The County held a landowner meeting on July 15, 2019 with the County Ditch #4 landowners with support to do a redetermination of benefits on the whole system and the systems that outlet into County Ditch #4. The Lac qui Parle County Board of Commissioners requested that the Watershed Board make a recommendation for a viewing team to view the County Ditch #4 systems as the local viewers would not be able to do the project due to having property within the system.

The Watershed District staff sent out an RFP in early September and received response from two viewing teams. The Joe Jacobs viewing team and the H2Overviewers team and set up a meeting time for presentations and questions.

At 10:45 a.m. Joe Jacobs, David Schmidt, Brad Wick, Richard Kvols, & Mark Dietz with the Joe Jacobs viewing team met with the Watershed board and staff and gave their presentation. They answered many questions for the Board, reviewed their timeline to complete the project & estimated costs and payment schedule.

The Board recessed the meeting at 12:05 p.m. for lunch.

Chairman Ellefson reopened the special meeting at 12:50 p.m.

At 1:00 p.m. Bryan Murphy, Shantel Hecht, & Derek Ebertowski from H2Overviewers met with the Watershed Board and staff and gave their presentation. They answered many questions for the Board, reviewed their timeline to complete the project & estimate costs and payment schedule.
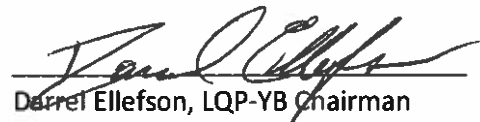
At 2:45 p.m. the Watershed Board of Managers and staff reviewed and discussed the following points for consideration:

1.) Communications, presentations, & interviews
2.) Business Philosophy & Practices
3.) Lac qui Parle Counties Internal viewing experiences
4.) Watershed District managers & staff viewing experiences
5.) Other Minnesota Counties viewing experiences with both the Joe Jacobs viewing team & the H2Overviewers team.
6.) County Ditch #4 property owners' considerations.
7.) Engineering Councel
8.) Legal Councel

M/S/P Upon reviewing information from multiple sources, we the Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank Watershed Board of Managers conclude that employing H2Overviewers to proceed with the viewing of County Ditch #4 and the above mentioned ditches that outlet into CD #4 would be in the best interest of the property owners and Lac qui Parle County.

    Motion: David Ludvigson   **S**econded: David Craigmile   **P**assed: 3-0

The Watershed Board special meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Darrel Ellefson, LQP-YB Chairman

ATTEST:

David Craigmile, LQP-YB Secretary

Minutes prepared by Hastad