

Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank Watershed District
Special Meeting Minutes #596.1
October 28, 2019

The Special Watershed meeting was called to order by Chairman Darrel Ellefson at 9:00 a.m. at the Lac qui Parle County Courthouse, Commissioners' Room, Courthouse, 600 6th Street, Madison, MN.

Managers present: Chairman Darrel Ellefson, Vice-Chairman John Cornell, Secretary David Craigmile, & Treasurer David Ludvigson. **Managers absent:** Michael Frank. **Staff present:** Administrator Trudy Hastad, Drainage Manager Jared Roiland. **Others present:** Engineer Jacob Rischmiller, Engineer Chris Nelson site inspector, & Contractor Brad Herickhoff.

The special meeting was called to discuss the construction progress of the Improvement of County Ditch #54. ISG Engineer Jacob Rischmiller reported 4,000 feet of tile was installed to date. This puts them just on the outside of Anhalt's property. During the first 4,000 feet the contractor encountered one bad spot that needed additional rock and dewatering and they have now come to another spot that is worse than the first bad spot. He showed drone footage of the project as of Friday, October 25, 2019.

They can handle the side water with dewatering but they are also encountering high ground water and it is putting back pressure on the pipe making it float. They are about 18' down and it is sandy soils. They suggested a couple options:

- 1.) Pull out and let the water table lower, come back in the spring with a bigger dewatering system.
- 2.) Alternate route using bigger rock (2-2 ½ inch) with a 2-3 foot base at invert of the pipe. With this option, the rock is more expensive than a bigger dewatering system. Discussion followed.

The Contractor, Brad Herickhoff said the 2 inch rain last week didn't help with the project. He would like to cap the pipe over winter, hopefully let the ground water settle so they can come in the spring and dewater, still use the one inch rock, and be able to finish the project. They lost three weeks to rain and dewatering. He reported they have had approximately 15 inches of rain in the past month and he is concerned with the quality of work if they continue in these conditions. Discussion followed.

Manager Ludvigson inquired if the old system was working somewhat. Engineer Rischmiller reported the old system is ¾ full & taking water and the new install is taking water. Manager Ellefson said the springs open up in the fall and no doubt is causing a lot of the problems. Contractor Herickhoff replied they are in the deepest part of the job, and anything below the 15' mark seems to get into wild stuff.

Manager Ellefson said that Chris Nelson, site inspector is doing a great job for the contractor and the owners of the system. He also commended Ag Tech Drainage on the job they are doing on the project with the working conditions they are encountering, and mentioned the workers have a good attitude.

Manager Ellefson asked if they were asking for an extension. Engineer Rischmiller replied probably, as the original contract has a March 2020 completion and they may request an October 2020 extension. Contractor Herickhoff replied if it's a reasonable spring they will dewater and get after it. It was supposed to be a 60-90 day project but with the considerable rain days, dewatering, natural springs has made for difficult working conditions. He said they would like to cap the pipe for winter, camera the

system that is currently installed, and then have engineer & board sign off on the portion that is complete. They wouldn't have to re-camera the 4,000 feet when the whole project is completed. Manager Ellefson questioned if they would still retain 10% and asked when the three year warranty period would start. Engineer Rischmiller replied the three year warranty starts after final payment for the whole project is complete, and there would be the 10% retainage on the 4,000 feet. Manager Ellefson said he wouldn't have a problem as long as the 10% retention and warranty doesn't start until end of project. Manager Ludvigson said it might be advantageous to camera the 4,000 feet of installed tile as if they encounter a trouble spot they can fix it before the next section of pipe goes in the ground. Contractor Herickhoff agreed and said it gives his workers a level of confidence that it is laid correctly.

Manager Ellefson replied he would like to have a landowner meeting and have the Engineer & contractor explain status of project, and what the landowners can expect in the spring. Engineer Rischmiller will send letters with project status to landowners and we will coordinate a landowner meeting sometime in December.


Contractor Herickhoff replied they would finish out on Anhalt's property, get end of pipe capped properly, and finish up cleanup on the Anhalt property so they don't have any ponds in the spring due to construction. Manager Ludvigson replied working in that kind of water, that deep, is a mess. Contractor Herickhoff said there is also the safety factor for his workers. Manager Ellefson replied they are doing a great job on safety. Contractor Herickhoff said they need to let the ground water go down some as they are in some tricky soil conditions. They will anticipate more dewatering in the spring which should improve quality so they can move less dirt which is safer and makes for a better install.

Manager Ellefson agreed and will look forward to a December landowner meeting. Engineer Rishmiller agreed it will be good to bring landowners up to speed on the project. The managers thanked the Contractor & Engineer for the updates.

Manager Craigmile asked to discuss the Stone Hill Park & Del Clark Lake rules & regulations update. He asked to add a sentence to Section 5 "Boating, Fishing, and Beaches" item #4 to add "preferably in the upper designated parking areas." Hastad will add this and bring to the Board for approval at the November, 2019 meeting.

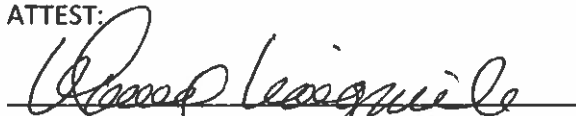
Hastad gave a brief update on the Emergency Action Plan for Canby Creek.

Meeting adjourned at 10:17 a.m.



Barrel Ellefson, LQP-YB Chairman

ATTEST:



David Craigmile, LQP-YB Secretary

Minutes prepared by Hastad