

**Minutes of the Public Hearing for the
Redetermination of Benefits
Roseau County Ditch #4
Held: Thursday, February 29, 2024 @ 11:00 a.m.**

The Board of Managers of the Two Rivers Watershed District held a public hearing beginning at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 29, 2024. The meeting was held in the downstairs meeting room in the Kittson County Courthouse, 410 S. 5th Street, Hallock, MN.

Managers present included President Rick Sikorski, Vice President Roger Anderson, Secretary Daryl Klegstad, Bruce Anderson, Scott Klein and Mark Langehaug. Treasurer Gerald Olsonawski was absent.

Others present included District Administrator Dan Money, District Technician Tyler Coffield, Attorney Jeff Hane (Brink Lawyers), Engineer Erik Jones (HEI Engineering), Viewers Jon Vold and Tom Meisner and landowners Brandon Langaas, Erik Heggedahl, Maryel Anderson, Cecil Anderson, Darwyn Anderson, and Mark Melby.

The meeting was called to order by President Sikorski. Sikorski noted that the purpose of the meeting is to explain the redetermination of benefits for Roseau County Ditch #4 and provide an opportunity for affected landowners to provide comments in accordance with MN Statute 103E.351.

Sikorski referred to Administrator Dan Money to give the project background. Money noted the Board of Managers had made a determination that the existing benefits were last determined in 1948 and therefore they do not reflect reasonable present day land values. Three Viewer's were appointed by the Board to look at all lands benefited and damaged by the ditch and prepare a Viewer's Report. The Viewer's Report has been filed and the hearing today is to take public comment regarding the report. Money referenced a map of the ditch and the benefit area and noted that a property owners report had been sent out to all affected landowners.

Attorney Jeff Hane described the statute that is being followed. He noted that this meeting is for official testimony and that anyone providing comments identify themselves. He noted attendees should sign the meeting sign in sheet.

Viewers Jon Vold and Tom Meisner presented their report. They pointed out that they looked at land values and how each 40-acre parcel was affected by the ditch. They decided on a three-tiered benefit system depending upon the land use as agriculture, pasture, or brush / trees / wetlands. They followed MN Statute 103E.315 – 103E.321 in preparing the Viewer's Report.

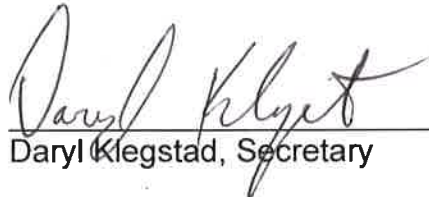
The following comments were received from landowners that were present at the meeting:

- Darwyn Anderson asked a question regarding how the drainage boundary line was established. The viewers used mapping, aerial photography, and Lidar technology as well as ground truthing and inspections.
- Brandon Langaas discussed the west ½ of section 28 in Lind Township and had a question regarding the drainage in that area. In the future it is being considered to be tiled and he would like it to be in the benefitted area so that tile could drain to RCD 4.
- A comment was made regarding land south of Marshall County Road #27 and that center line culverts are present in the road; therefore, the viewers should reconsider lands to the south of the road being in the benefitted area. Generally, this is in the vicinity of section 1 of East Park Township.
- A comment was made that section 25 of Lind should not be included, but the NE ¼ section 26 Lind should be included.

The Board of Managers deliberated the information presented and the comments that were received. Upon a motion by Klegstad, second by R. Anderson and unanimous vote, it was decided to recess the meeting and reconvene on April 4, 2024, at 11:00 pm in the Kittson County Courthouse. The Viewers were directed to reconsider the parcels that have been discussed taking into account the comments that have been received and submit a revised Viewers report.

With no other matters to come before the Board of Managers, the meeting was recessed at 12:18 p.m.

Attest:



Daryl Klegstad, Secretary



Rick Sikorski, President