"Local Watershed Meets"

The Board of Managers, Buffalo-Red River Watershed District (BRRWD), held their regular meeting on 11/26/07 at 7:00 PM in the Barnesville office. Chuck Fritz, Director, International Water Institute (IWI), gave a report regarding the Red River Basin Mapping Initiative. The project will publicly deliver a seamless high-resolution digital elevation map of the entire Red River Basin. Fritz discussed funding needed for the project, estimated to cost $5 million. The local-state funding is basically in place, but they're still waiting for the federal funds. Five separate data collects will take place over a period of two and one-half years. The first collect should begin in the spring of 2008. The BRRWD has committed $50,000 to this project. Project benefits include more accurate floodplain maps; enhanced planning and project development; detailed surface hydrologic and hydraulic modeling; more efficient natural resource management; problem identification; and increased agricultural productivity.

Other business included:

- Approved permits to: David Watt/Chad Leach to install an 18" dia. culvert on the quarterline to drain water standing in the SE¼, Section 32, Spring Prairie Township, Clay County; Jerry Janssen to install approximately 1,000' of 4" dia. drain tile along the east side of Stony Creek in the SE¼, Section 34, Skree Township, Clay County; and David Watt to install a ditch along the east side of a farmstead in the SW¼, Section 25, Moland Township, Clay County.

- Discussed a diking violation near Downer. The Board will meet with the party who installed the dike, and if the issue can't be resolved, they are prepared to address this matter civilly.

- Discussed the progress of the Oakport Flood Mitigation project. A meeting for all project landowners will be scheduled for sometime in early 2008.

- Noting that the next meeting of the BRRWD's Mediation Project Team will be held on 12/13/07 at 1:30 PM at the MSUM Science Center east of Glyndon.

- Noting that all Managers plan to attend the upcoming Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) Annual Meeting in Alexandria on November 29-December 1.

- Authorized Houston Engineering, Inc., to review the possible repair of Clay County Ditch No. 63 near Glyndon.

- Approved payment of bills totaling $59,655.08.

The Board of Managers, BRRWD, will hold their next regular meeting on Monday, December 10, 2007, at 7:00 PM in the Barnesville office. All meetings are open to the public. For more information, please visit our Website at www.brrwd.org.