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## Clay County Ditch No. 50 Partial Abandonment Hearing Minutes

Tuesday April 5, 2022

**Managers Present:** Peter Fjestad; Catherine Affield (remote); John Hanson; Gerald Van Amburg; Mark Hanson.

**Managers Absent:** Paul Krabbenhoft; Troy Larson.

**Staff Present:** Kristine Altrichter, Administrator; Lee Olson, Watershed Specialist; Matthew Schlaruderaff, Watershed Specialist.

**Consultants Present:** Erik Jones, Engineer, Engineer, Houston Engineering, Inc. (HEI).

**Others Attending:** Dan Hanson, Engineer, Moore Engineering, Inc.; Frank Gross, Clay County Commissioner; Roger Haglund.

President Fjestad called meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

This meeting was held to discuss Petition for Partial Abandonment of Clay County Ditch No. 50 submitted by City of Dilworth for reconstruction of 7<sup>th</sup> Street NE.

City of Dilworth proposing to abandon portion of Clay County Ditch No. 50 north of Highway 10 and east of 7<sup>th</sup> Street NE. Portion west of 7<sup>th</sup> Street NE would remain unchanged. Portion of ditch will be abandoned to widen 7<sup>th</sup> Street NE. Currently, portion proposed to be abandoned is a rural ditch section with steep slopes filled with cattails. Portion west of 7<sup>th</sup> Street NE is concrete lined. Proposed project will improve ditch performance. Outlet of abandoned portion through 7<sup>th</sup> Street NE will have a 58" by 36" concrete arch pipe, which is consistent with what is proposed on east side of 7<sup>th</sup> Street NE.

Project must meet the following criteria: 1) floodplain criteria because some of this area has been mapped as floodplain, and 2) drainage system requirements to maintain design drainage capacity. Both criteria require ditch is designed for 100-year flood event. This portion of Clay County Ditch No. 50 has been mapped as floodplain and floodway. Standard for floodplain here is no net rise. Design of project had to ensure that upstream end of Clay County Ditch No. 50 would have to have same capacity as open ditch.

Jones provided his Findings and Recommendations to Board of Managers. Proposed project does not adversely impact drainage and will maintain drainage benefits for upstream benefitting landowners. Since this regulatory floodplain and floodway, City of Dilworth completed a "No Rise" analysis for project. We concur that project does not adversely affect Base Flood Elevation. 100-year design flood water surface elevation is not adversely affected by project. Once reconstruction of 7<sup>th</sup> Street NE is completed, portion of Clay County Ditch No. 50 sought to be abandoned as part of this project will be replaced in function by installed storm sewer piping. As a result, that part of the drainage system does not serve a substantial useful purpose as part of the drainage system to any property remaining in the system and is not of a substantial public benefit and utility so ditch system can be abandoned. We would recommend that the portion of ditch from downstream end of existing Clay County Ditch No. 50 culvert in 7<sup>th</sup> Street NE and upstream be abandoned. Going forward into the future, no ditch system funds can be used for future maintenance on that portion of the system. Proposed 7<sup>th</sup> Street Reconstruction project will be maintained as part of City of Dilworth's stormwater system.

Buried pipe will be 58" by 36", which is larger than downstream culverts. Current system is more restrictive than postconstruction designs.

Hanson noted that City of Dilworth received grant funding to replace roadway. City of Dilworth wants to widen roadway to better accommodate traffic flows crossing Highway 10. City of Dilworth would like to expand roadway to east towards Clay County Ditch No. 50 because they are limited in road right-of-way to west based on current road alignment.

There was additional discussion regarding modeling used to ensure that design capacity would remain unchanged. Jones noted that models used 2012 Flood Insurance Study values. In addition, City of Dilworth has installed stormwater ponds to provide storage capacity on landscape to help address large rain events.

Conveyance is expected to be improved with project.

Board of Managers will consider an Order at their next Meeting April 11, 2022.

President Fjestad adjourned meeting at 7:21 PM.

/s/ John Hanson

Secretary