

North Fork Crow River Watershed District
JD2 Culvert Repair and Maintenance
Proposed Special Meeting Minutes
June 29th, 2016

Managers Present: Wuertz, Barchenger, Hanson

Managers Absent: Brauchler, Berndt,

Staff Present: Tara Ostendorf

Others Present: Joe Lewis (HEI), Dale Gruber, Letta Stafford, Merlin Krupke, John Mueller, Bill Wuertz, Verna Gruber

Call to Order:

Managers met at the posted location and traveled to the site located on the Gruber and Mueller properties in Section 34 of Lake Henry TWP. Chairperson Wuertz called the meeting to order. Wuertz stated that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the location and capacity of the current culvert on the Gruber property.

Review Ditch Record:

Ostendorf presented current drainage record related to the project.

Review Maintenance Request and Current Conditions:

Joe Lewis, project engineer, summarized the technical memo prepared at the Board's request which provided recommendations for culvert sizing and hydraulic capacity. The current pipe is 42", which had been downsized from a 48" culvert on a previous repair. The pipe capacity was analyzed using guidelines from the MN Drainage Manual. The 42" culvert currently drains approximately 422 acres and is shown to be able to handle a flow rate of 46 cubic feet per second (cfs). The recommended flow rate for the drainage area and channel capacity would be 21 cfs. Lewis stated that the current culvert is likely oversized at more than double the needed capacity and recommends any replacement be no greater than the current 42" culvert in place.

Public Comment:

Wuertz asked for comment on the engineer's report. John Mueller stated that he still felt that the culvert should be returned to its original size due to the fact that his tile lines just upstream are underwater and that the landowners were never noticed that the culvert was going to be downsized. Dale Gruber gave a brief history of how the crossing was originally constructed and the decisions that led to the current downsized culvert.

Lewis stated that his recommendation was to maintain the current culvert size and, if needed, lower the culvert to the ACSIC grade, approximately 6". Merlin Krupke stated that he did not want anymore water coming down the ditch any faster, as he already floods out at the bottom. Dale Gruber stated that the low flow moves through the ditch fine now and he expressed that he did not want to spend any additional money on the ditch.

John Mueller stated that the culvert was not correct and he felt that the ditch shouldn't have to fix work that was supposed to have been done correctly the first time.

After additional discussion, Mueller, Wuertz, Ostendorf and Lewis inspected Mueller's tile outlet upstream of the crossing. The bottom of the ditch was found to have standing water just below the tile. Mueller stated that the tile had been designed by NRCS in the 1980's, but had been repaired since then. Wuertz suggested that Mueller provide the District with the original elevations of the tile outfall.

After additional discussion, Wuertz recommended that the discussion of the culvert replacement be tabled until Mueller presents the design elevations of his tile outfall upstream. At that time, the Board will review the information and make a decision regarding the replacement of the culvert and address the current request for maintenance on that stretch of the ditch.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Manager Hanson, seconded by Manager Barchenger. Meeting Adjourned.

John Hanson, Secretary