

THIEF RIVER STORAGE AND DIVERSION

Project Work Team

September 26, 2001

Jody Horntvedt called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Everyone on the Project Team was present, with the exception of Chuck Meyer, Tony Radar, Delray Larson, and Arlo Rude.

Jody asked the Team to review the meeting notes of July 25, 2001. Noting two minor changes, they will go on record as approved.

Dale Nelson, RLWD President, reported on the September 4, 2001 meeting that was held with the landowners on the lower diversion phase of the project. He added that Charlie Anderson will be coming to the October 11, 2001 board meeting to talk about the structure on the lower diversion.

Jody asked the PT what the issues were that needed to be resolved regarding the upper diversion. Responses were as follows: (1) landowner concerns about the culvert through the dike; (2) control structure location and operation; (3) what is the benefit or loss of benefit if the Ditch 11 system is not included in the diversion; and (4) what is the object of the downstream control structure.

Jody asked if the diversion ditch would change the condition of wetness in the area. It was the consensus of the PT that it would not.

Tom Raster asked if the structure would affect Elm Lake. Charlie responded by stating it would help Elm Lake.

The PT commenced discussion on the culvert issue. Charlie explained the purpose of the 12" culvert.

Tom Raster commented that if you place spoil on wetlands, you will have permitting issues. Leonard Moe asked how this could be sold to the public. Stacy Martin stated the dike will be protecting the landowners to the west. Trent Stanley asked "At whose expense?" Stacy continued that to get drawdown done more rapidly, it will be alleviating problems along ditch 20 and ditch 83.

Following comments and disagreement by the group, Jody asked for them to get back on focus and asked them to list the purpose of the structure. One reply was to maintain water levels in wetlands that are being restored and also to have drawdown capabilities.

Jody asked if there was agreement of where the structure would be. The answer was "yes".

Charlie Anderson reviewed the operating scenario of the structure, assuming the control structure will be in the angle ditch.

Moe stated he is totally opposed to the structure in the angle ditch, because we are spending a lot of money for work that beavers do for free. Jody asked Moe who he represents. He replied that he represents the people and county commissioners. Dale Nelson stated that Moe's opinion was not necessarily the opinion of the RLWD Board of Managers.

Lowell Smeby stated he was opposed to the project, and also noted that Agdar Township was opposed and that this is where the structure would be. Loiell Dyrud responded that it depends who you talk to on the town board, but Smeby stated it is on record from the town board being opposed.

Jody attempted to go around the table for a consensus from the group as to whether or not they could live with the placement of the structure. Upon lengthy discussion and disagreement, Jody stated she could not continue as facilitator of this group if a structure was not followed.

Brian Dwight recommended forming a sub-committee to discuss line item issues. Jody will work this out with the group to schedule this meeting.

Next meeting is scheduled for October 24, 2001.