

FARIBAULT COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
DRAINAGE AUTHORITY
COUNTY DITCH 7
REDETERMINATION OF BENEFITS HEARING
FEBRUARY 25, 2015

The Faribault County Board of Commissioners met at the Faribault County Ag Center in the City of Blue Earth as the Faribault County Drainage Authority for a Redetermination of Benefits Hearing for County Ditch 7 at 9:00 a.m. on February 25, 2015. The following members were present: Bill Groskreutz, Tom Loveall, John Roper, Tom Warmka, and Greg Young Commissioners. County Auditor/Treasurer/Coordinator John Thompson, Drainage Engineer Joe Mutschler, Drainage Inspector Merissa Lore, Viewer Chris Christenson, and Viewer Robert Hanson also attended.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Groskreutz.

* * * * *

Young/Loveall motion carried unanimously to accept the affidavit of mailing, affidavit of publication and affidavit of posting for the hearing as presented by County Auditor/Treasurer/Coordinator John Thompson.

* * * * *

Viewer Chris Christenson presented the viewer's report for the redetermination of benefits on County Ditch 7 (CD 7) and the property owner's report. The viewers found that CD 7 consists of 4,935.88 acres of farmland and building sites, 124.82 acres of roads and railroad, 5,060.70 total acres, 37,066' of County open ditch, 26.17 acres of grass strip easement on cropland (16.5') paid at \$8,320 = \$217,734, .42 acres of grass strip easement on farmable wetland (16.5') paid at \$6,240 = \$2,621, 1.49 acres of grass strip easement on wetland (16.5") paid at \$832 = \$1,240, 104.58 acres of construction easement (63.5') paid at \$416 = \$43,505, \$265,100 total easement damages, 22,300' of County tile, \$44,600 of County tile benefits, \$7,110,414 total benefits. 60 acres from outside of the watershed are tiled into the watershed from SW ¼ of section 2 of Barber Township. They reported that CD 11, CD 19, and CD 56 tile systems all outlet into CD 7. These three systems will pay a percentage of all future repairs and maintenance on Faribault CD 7 and that CD 11 will have an outlet benefit of 13%, CD 19 will have an outlet benefit of 15%, CD 56 will have an outlet benefit of 4%. They reported that two informational meetings have been held with landowners and that several changes were made to identify areas with tile bringing drainage in and out of the CD 7 system. The viewers recommended that the report be approved.

* * * * *

The public comment portion of the hearing was opened. Scott Morgan, property owner, addressed a repair issue.

The public comment portion of the hearing was closed.

* * * * *

Loveall/Warmka motion carried unanimously to direct staff to prepare order stating that:

1. The original benefits and/or damages determined in the drainage proceedings no longer reflect reasonable present day land values and that the benefitted areas have changed; and
2. The Viewer's Report for the redetermination of benefits of County Ditch 7 have been made and completed under Minn. Stat. 103E; and
3. The Viewer's Report made or amended is complete and correct; and
4. The damages and benefits have been properly determined and that damages include a one rod permanent grass buffer strip and an easement for a right of way of 100 feet on either of the ditch center line as a described in the Viewers Benefit and Damages Statement for repair purposes; and
5. The effective date of the acquisition of the one rod grass strip is to be October 1, 2015; and
6. The redetermined benefits and damages and the benefitted and damaged areas shall be used in place of the original benefits and damages and benefitted and damaged areas on all subsequent proceedings related to County Ditch 7.

* * * * *

The hearing was adjourned.

William Groskreutz, Jr. , Chair

John Thompson, Auditor-Treasurer-Coordinator