

COUNTY DITCH 24 DRAINAGE AUTHORITY

- At 2:00 p.m., Chair Walling entered into a Public Hearing for the redetermination of benefits for County Ditch #24 pursuant to Minnesota Statute 103E.351. Present at the meeting were: Redwood County Commissioners Lon Walling, Dave Forkrud, Dennis Groebner, Jim Salfer, and Bob VanHee, Environmental Director Scott Wold, Redwood County Administrator Vicki Knobloch, Administrative Assistant Heidi Wersal, and Environmental Administrative Assistant Lali Ortega. Others in attendance were Ditch Viewers: Jim Weidemann, Dave Schmidt, and Steve Johnson and Landowner Jeff Schultz for County Ditch #24.
- Chair Walling called for welcome and introductions.
- Redwood County Environmental Director Scott Wold indicted in accordance with MN Statute requirements that the notices of the public hearing was published for three consecutive weeks in the Redwood Gazette (official paper), Wabasso Standard, and the Standard-Gazette & Messenger, on the bulletin board and the front doors of the Government Center and all interested landowners and parties were mailed a public hearing notice.
- Jim Weidemann presented an overview as to how the redetermination of benefits were determined on County Ditch #24. Weidemann explained the purpose is to bring in lands that are benefiting from the system but are not currently paying benefits; and to bring the land value of the ditch system up to the current dollar values in order to have the ability to make major repairs if necessary.
- Chair Walling opened the hearing for comments/questions from Interested Parties.
- For public record no written testimony was received.
- Landowner Jeff Schultz questioned how they (land owners) would be getting billed for the benefits and how they (land owners) would be expected to pay?
- Environmental Director Scott Wold, explained that they would be receiving a bill in the mail for a onetime fee apart from their taxes. After that any maintenance costs that are incurred would be assessed yearly in their taxes. He recommended they contact the Auditor/Treasurer's Office for further explanation.
- Commissioner Lon Walling added that there is currently a 3 year period in place to pay the owed amount with interest or that the bill could be paid in full.
- Chair Walling called for further public comments three times. Chair Walling closed the hearing to public comment.
- At the close of the public comment hearing, Commissioner Jim Salfer moved to direct staff to prepare Findings and an Order consistent with the proceedings, including all comments received through the public comment process; that the draft Findings and Order be written to confirm the redetermined benefits and damages as reported by the viewers, and that the Board recess the hearing to the Board's regular meeting on August 7, 2018 at which meeting the Board will consider Findings and Order approving the Redetermination of Benefits. Commissioner Dennis Groebner seconded the motion carried.
- There being no further business, Chair Walling declared the County Ditch #24 redetermination of benefits meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

County Ditch 24 Minutes, July 17, 2018

Lon Walling
Ditch Authority Chair

Attest: _____
Scott Wold
Redwood County Environmental Director