

Chippewa River Watershed Project
Committee Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2005
Benson Fire Hall, Benson, MN

Present: Dean Shuck, Kandiyohi Co. Commissioner; Dick Hanson, Swift Co. Commissioner; Randy Nelson, Prairie Country RC&D; Kenneth Koenen, Chippewa Co. Commissioner; Roger Rasmussen, Kandiyohi SWCD Supervisor; Mandy Urich, Pope SWCD; Charles Ballou, Villard Area Lakes Sanitary District; Dean Helstrom, Bolton & Menk, Inc.; Muriel Runholt, MPCA-Marshall; Chris Skarsten, landowner East Branch Chippewa River; David Wrocson; Jeremy Lanctot, Sustainable Farming Assn.; Jean Diggins, Chippewa SWCD; Lucas Youngsma, Shakopee Creek Headwaters Project; Leon Johnson, Chippewa County Farm Service Agency; Glenn Matejka, Douglas SWCD Supervisor; Brad DeWolf, Bolton & Menk, Inc.; Kylene Olson, Jennifer Hoffman, Paul Wymar, CRWP

Introductions:

Jennifer called the meeting to order and introductions were made.

Sub-basin Highlight: Lucas Youngsma, Shakopee Creek Headwaters Project Coordinator was on hand to give an update on the happenings in the Shakopee Creek sub-basin. Shakopee Creek's headwaters are in Kandiyohi County in the area of Norway, Games and Andrew Lakes. Shakopee Creek flows south and west into Chippewa and Swift Counties until it meets up with the Chippewa River in Swift County south of Benson. A lot of work has been done in the Headwaters area through grant and loan dollars. Currently there are two active grants for this sub-basin: the Shakopee Headwaters Continuation and the Greater Shakopee 319 Grant. Both grants provide cost-share and incentives for water quality improvement projects. The grants also allow for water quality monitoring and education activities.

Lake Florida's New Sanitary System: Brad DeWolf, engineer with Bolton & Menk, Inc. presented on the new sanitary system being installed on Lake Florida. Lake Florida is in Kandiyohi County and a part of the Shakopee Creek sub-basin. Kandiyohi County hired Bolton & Menk approximately two years ago to study the possibility of adding lakes to the current Green Lake Sanitary Sewer System, which is overseen by the Kandiyohi County Board. GLSSS was designed with expansion in mind, and currently operates at 35% capacity and discharges into the Crow River. The new system servicing Lake Florida will be comprised of three parts: Individual Low Pressure System, Low Pressure Common Force Main, and Trunk Wastewater Improvements to the GLSSS. The common force main will have a loop system around the lake, will be 3-6" in diameter and will be installed by underground boring. Each individual low pressure system on private property will have a 1¼" line bored underground from the home to the road, a grinder pump, catch basin and control panel. The Trunk will be an 8" force main bored into the right-of-ways from Lake Florida to the Green Lake Beach Lift Station. It will go by George, Henderson, and Nest Lakes for possible future hook-ups. Right now, projected total assessment for existing homes is \$14,180 or \$1238/20 years. All hook-ups will be voluntary although if a property chooses not to hook-up and its ISTS was installed prior to 2000, there will need to be a compliance inspection. Incentives will be in place for property owners who choose to hook-up during the initial phase. There will also be user fees and rates charged to each hook-up to help pay for maintenance of the system and to help cover the trunk costs. At a public hearing on September 24, the Kandiyohi County Board voted to move forward with the Lake Florida proposal. If all goes as planned, construction will start Spring 2006 and hook-ups will be complete by Summer 2007.

CRWP Updates: The latest edition of the Chippewa River Watershed Project newsletter, *Citizen Connection*, was distributed electronically earlier this month. It is also available for download off of our website www.chippewariver.com. Jennifer passed around paper copies for those to review who had not viewed it electronically.

The Local Work Group has been meeting regularly and approving cost-share and incentives for landowners in the East Branch, Lower Mainstem, Upper Mainstem and Greater Shakopee Creek sub-basins. The next scheduled LWG meeting is December 10th at 10:00 am at the Swift USDA Service Center.

Three MPCA/319 grants applications were submitted by the October 7th deadline. The proposals address the Little Chippewa/Middle Chippewa sub-basin, the Dryweather Creek sub-basin and the overall coordination of the entire watershed respectively. Award announcement will be made by December 31st.

Next Meeting: The next meeting scheduled for December 16th 2005, at 10:15 am at the Benson Fire Hall.