

**SPECIAL SESSION OF THE MOWER COUNTY  
DITCH BOARD**

August 23, 2005

The Mower County Ditch Board in and for the County of Mower, Minnesota, met in Special Session August 23, 2005 at 11:30 a.m. at the Courthouse in Austin, Minnesota.

All members present, viz:     Raymond Tucker, Chair  
  David Hillier  
  Dick Lang  
  Garry E. Ellingson  
  Richard Cummings  
  Craig Oscarson, County Coordinator

Motion made by Commissioner Cummings, seconded by Commissioner Ellingson to approve the ditch minutes of April 5, 2005 and August 2, 2005 and also the ditch minutes of August 23, 2005 subject to the review and approval of the Ditch Board Chair. Motion carried.

Engineer Steve Penkava from Jones, Haugh & Smith, Inc. reviewed the project status and the proposed solution. It was suggested that a crop damage payment be set. The estimated cost for the project is \$600,250.

The chair asked for public input. Three individuals questioned different aspects of the project such as water inlets and tree stumps being left or removed depending on the tree's location to the ditch. One question was how the cost of the project would be divided among the property owners. Sherwood Vereide, County Auditor, explained that the ditch system recently went through a redetermination of benefits that determines each landowners proportionate share of the ditch system which then determines what each landowner pays for the project.

The project will take approximately one year to complete and will involve approximately 11,000 acres.

No one spoke against the project.

Motion made by Commissioner Cummings, seconded by Commissioner Hillier to accept the Engineer's Report on County Ditch #1. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Cummings, seconded by Commissioner Ellingson to authorize the project to commence and have the engineer prepare the specifications and set the bid date per the engineer's recommendation. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Hillier, seconded by Commissioner Cummings to set the crop damage figure at \$300 per acre. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Cummings, seconded by Commissioner Lang to authorize that the requested low water crossing be included as part of the project. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Ellingson, seconded by Commissioner Cummings to adjourn the meeting at 12:09 p.m. Motion carried.

**THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**BY:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairperson**

**Attest:**

**By:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Clerk/Coordinator**

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