

**SPECIAL SESSION OF THE FREEBORN MOWER COUNTIES
JOINT DITCH BOARD FOR JOINT DITCH #26**

June 24, 2008

The Freeborn Mower Counties Joint Ditch Board in and for the Counties of Freeborn and Mower, Minnesota, met in Special Session June 24, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. at the Courthouse in Austin, Minnesota.

All members present, viz: Raymond Tucker, Chair
Dan Belshan
Dave Tollefson
Richard Cummings
David Hillier
Craig Oscarson, County Coordinator

Also present: Rick Morrison, Mower County Ditch Inspector
Dennis Distad, Freeborn County Auditor/Treasurer
Representatives from I & S Group, The Nature
Conservancy, University of Minnesota
Landowners

Rich Biske, The Nature Conservancy, provided information concerning the project indicating that grant funds have been received to construct, monitor and maintain a 4000 foot section of Judicial Ditch #26 for a two-stage ditch project. Bruce Wilson, University of Minnesota, explained that a two-stage ditch design would provide a self-sustaining ditch minimizing erosion and seepage, and minimizing the need for ditch cleanouts and repairs.

The Board questioned whether this work is classified as a "repair" or and "improvement". The section of the ditch will be deepened and widened. The determination will be made by the attorney, Kurt Deter.

The Board also questioned the impact on the upstream and downstream drainage in terms of volume and speed. Chuck Brandel, I & S Group, reported that there would be little to no affect on the flow of water downstream. There would be a slight affect on removing the culvert by the railroad.

Motion by Commissioner Hillier, seconded by Commissioner Cummings to request the Nature Conservancy to prepare an agreement for the project for consideration at the next Joint Ditch Board and to adjourn the meeting at 2:02 p.m. Motion carried.

THE FREEBORN MOWER COUNTY JOINT DITCH BOARD

BY: _____
Chairperson

Attest:
By: _____
Clerk/Coordinator

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