



Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources.
Minutes.

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AGENDA
BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
Conference Room A
90 West Plato Boulevard
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107
December 23, 1987

9:00 a.m.

1. Call Meeting to Order - Chairman Ogaard
2. Adopt Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes of November 25, 1987
4. Development of Logo for BWSR
5. Discussion of Proposed Retreat for BWSR
6. Chairman's Report
Comments
Board of Water and Soil Resources Policy Discussion
 - a. Federal Agency Issues and Input
 - USDA-Soil Conservation Service - Gary Nordstrom
 - USDA-Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service/Agricultural Conservation Program - Greg Anderson
 - Extension Service - Dr. Bill Larson
 - b. University of Minnesota - Dr. Bill Larson
 - c. Counties - Mike Rhyner

11:00 a.m.

7. Water Planning Update - Mel Sinn and Kim Benson
 - a. 110B Update (including LCMR funded project and local planning handbook)
 - b. 509 Plans - Dan Steward
8. Metropolitan Erosion and Sediment Control Issue/509 Planning Process - Mark Nelson

Noon

Lunch

1:00 p.m.

9. Environmental Quality Board/Water Resources Committee Report - Loni Kemp
10. Programs
 - a. Cost-Share Rollover Allocations - Dennis Pond
 - b. Budget Status - Jim Birkholz
 - c. Legislative Initiatives
 - d. Status of SWCD Appeals
 - e. Sauk River and Coon Creek Watershed District Boundary Change Orders - Mel Sinn
 - f. Isanti SWCD Violations Action Plan Status - Jim Birkholz
11. Additional Agenda Items
 - a. Newsletter Discussion

12. Open Discussion

13. Upcoming Meetings/Hearings

- a. Rabbit-Mustinka Watershed District Hearing,
January 11, Wheaton
- b. Ditch No. 58 Appeal - Coon Creek Watershed District,
January 26, St. Paul
- c. National Association of Conservation Districts Convention,
January 31 - February 4, Little Rock, Arkansas
- d. Conference on Minnesota Water: 1988 A Statewide
Conference on Water Resources Issues in Minnesota,
February 15-16, St. Paul
- e. Association of Minnesota Counties Annual Conference,
January 31 - February 2, Bloomington

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 23, 1987 MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

Appointed Members in Attendance

Don Ogaard, Chairman
John Williamson
John Boulton
Don Warner
Eugene Kalmes
Douglas Bade
Lowell Moen
James Hoese
Natalie Haas-Steffen
John Brooks, Jr.
Loni Kemp
Howard Peterson
Jack Graba
William Cofell

Appointed Members Absent

Ken Schellack
Loren Harste

Others in Attendance

Rollin Dennistoun, Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Mike Finn, Minnesota Department of Health
Bruce Gerbig, sitting in for Steve Thorne, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Wayne Anderson, sitting in for Mike Robertson, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Dwain Otte, Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Allen Dornfeld, Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts
Mike Rhyner, Association of Minnesota Counties
Bill Larson, University of Minnesota, Soil Science Department
Gary Nordstrom, Soil Conservation Service
Marlyn Libbesmeier and Franklin Denn, Minnesota Association of Townships
John Wells, State Planning Agency

Staff in Attendance

Jim Birkholz
Mel Sinn
Mark Nelson
Dennis Pond
Kim Benson
Dan Steward
Denice DeFrates
Mary Jo Anderson

Call Meeting to Order - Chairman Ogaard called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., in Conference Room A of the Department of Agriculture Building, St. Paul, Minnesota.

87-22 **Adopt Agenda** - Moved by Warner, seconded by Williamson, to adopt the agenda as circulated. Affirmative: Ogaard, Boulton, Williamson, Warner, Kalmes, Bade, Moen, Hoese, Brooks, Peterson, Graba, Kemp, and Cofell. Opposed: None. Carried.

87-23 **Approval of Minutes from November 25, 1987** - Moved by Cofell, seconded by Kalmes, to adopt and approve the minutes of November 25, 1987. Affirmative: Ogaard, Boulton, Williamson, Warner, Kalmes, Bade, Moen, Hoese, Brooks, Peterson, Graba, Kemp, and Cofell. Opposed: None. Carried.

Development of Logo for BWSR - The Board suggested that staff develop various options and samples for a logo that the Board could choose from.

87-24 Moved by Boulton, seconded by Peterson, that staff develop a logo with options that the Board can choose from. Affirmative: Ogaard, Boulton, Williamson, Warner, Kalmes, Bade, Moen, Hoese, Brooks, Peterson, Graba, Kemp, and Cofell. Opposed: None. Carried.

Proposed Retreat for BWSR - The Board decided that a retreat is necessary to address specific issues, and to develop and define policies. The Board would invite resource people to help address these issues.

87-25 Moved by Moen, seconded by Williamson, that Chairman Ogaard and staff work together on setting a date in February for the retreat. Affirmative: Ogaard, Boulton, Williamson, Warner, Kalmes, Bade, Moen, Hoese, Brooks, Peterson, Graba, Kemp, and Cofell. Opposed: None. Carried.

Chairman's Report - Chairman Ogaard reported that he attended the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts Convention in Fargo/Moorhead on December 4-5, and the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts Convention in Brainerd on December 6-9. He stated that both had record-breaking attendance, and were very good conventions. Chairman Ogaard also attended the Iowa Association of Counties supervisors' meeting in Ames, Iowa. The Iowa Association paid his expenses. He will be attending the MASWCD Metro Meeting in January.

Agency Issues and Input

University of Minnesota - Dr. Bill Larson reported on the University of Minnesota and the Extension Service. There are three colleges within the Institute of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics: forestry, agriculture, and home economics. There are ten departments within the college of agriculture. The Extension Service relates to each college and has an office in each county. The mission of the university is research and education. The Extension Service current programs involve: water quality, soil survey, waste management, tillage and soil erosion, cost cutting production, RIM, climatology, and the Agricultural Research Service. Future efforts include: water quality, waste management, cost cutting production, and land management and allocation. Proposed 1988-89 legislative requests for Extension Service include water quality and community and economic development. Proposed 1988-89 legislative requests for the Experiment Station include: agricultural product

utilization technologies alter native crops and products, and computer-assisted dairy health, and production management. Various informational brochures were distributed to the Board. Dr. Larson stated that the university programs cooperate with other agencies and services.

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS), Greg Anderson reported that ASCS administers the federal farm programs such as: ACP, Rural Clean Water Program, Emergency Conservation Program, Forestry Improvement Program, and the Water Bank Program. ASCS annually allocates money through county committees. The annual budget for ACP was \$4 million, with \$1 million of that turned back in 1987. Mr. Anderson stated that approximately 1.5 million acres are enrolled in the CRP program in Minnesota. Another sign-up for the CRP program will be held in February. Informational brochures were distributed to the Board.

Soil Conservation Service (SCS), Gary Nordstrom reported that SCS will be co-sponsoring two-day interagency FSA training sessions with the Minnesota Extension Service, ASCS, BWSR and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. The training sessions will consist of two parts. The first day will provide an overview of the entire program, and the second day will be for the individual agencies to hold their own training session. Gary Nordstrom invited Board members to attend. The training sessions will be held as follows:

Rochester - January 5-6
St. Cloud - January 7-8
Alexandria - January 11-12
Marshall - January 13-14
Thief River Falls - January 25-26
Mankato - January 27-28

Gary Nordstrom stated that all of the FSA required conservation plans for individual farmers must be done by 1990. 65% of those plans must be completed by 1989 to stay on schedule. 40-45% are complete. The overall budget reduction estimate is 2% for 1988. The accelerated soil survey looks reasonably good, committed to be complete by 1990. SCS has been working with the U of M and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency on water quality best management practices (BMPs). SCS will hold a water resource workshop in January on water quality.

Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) - Mike Ryhner reported that AMC was a strong supporter of the merged board. There are 35 county commissioners that sit on the AMC Board who work on legislative issues. AMC has participated heavily in: water planning legislation, RIM, cost-share, water quality. Ryhner stated that county officials are concerned about soil and water issues, land and water resources. AMC priorities related to BWSR include: local water management planning, technical assistance and implementation, assistance of local water management planning, interface with county government. Ryhner felt that strategic planning and the retreat for the Board is necessary. Plan review and implementation should be on the priority list for BWSR, and that AMC is willing to assist wherever possible in that implementation process. Mr. Ryhner is very delighted to attend all BWSR meetings.

Chairman Ogaard called a ten-minute recess. The meeting reconvened at 11:05 a.m.

Chairman Ogaard introduced other advisors that were present at the meeting. Marlyn Libbescmeier and Franklin Denn, Minnesota Association of Townships; Allen Dornfeld, President, Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts; Dwain Otte, Vice-President, Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts; Bruce Gerbig, sitting for Steve Thorne, Department of Natural Resources.

Water Planning Update - Kim Benson, Land Use Specialist, gave a brief update on 110B, and distributed a map showing counties that are involved in the local comprehensive water management planning. John Wells, State Planning Agency, distributed for the Board's information "The Handbook for Comprehensive Local Water Planning Under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 110B" prepared by the Minnesota State Planning Agency. John Wells stated that 1500 copies of the handbook were printed and will be sent to Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Watershed Districts, zoning people, etc. for their information. Mel Sinn reviewed a memo that was included in the Board members' packet regarding the need to report to the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources by January 15, 1988 on the status of Chapter 110B implementation. He invited the Board members to comment on the ideas in the memo and to suggest other issues to include in the Board's LCMR report.

509 Planning - Dan Steward, Hydrologist, reported on the status of the Metropolitan Water Management Act. Since the Act passed in 1982, 33 joint powers agreements have been formed. When added to the three joint powers agreements and 10 watershed districts that were already in existence when the law passed, there are a total of 46 watershed management organizations (WMOs) preparing water plans in the metro area. The responsibility for the final review and approval rests with the MBWSR after reviews by the local units of government, the Metropolitan Council, the DNR, and the PCA. The Water Resources Board approved four 509 plans which leaves a total of 42 WMO plans yet to be reviewed and approved. The review of the remaining 509 plans represents a very considerable workload for MBWSR staff. Dan Steward also briefly discussed the status of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek 509 plan review. He hopes to meet with representatives of the WMO to discuss the plan before the January Board meeting. Mel Sinn reviewed a memo that was included in the Board members' packet regarding procedures and policies for review of metropolitan watershed management plans. He invited the Board members to comment on the preliminary draft of 509 plan review procedures and policies, and said they would be further refined and brought back to the Board for action at a future meeting.

Chairman Ogaard adjourned the meeting for lunch at 12:10 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 1:10 p.m.

Metropolitan Erosion and Sediment Control Issue/509 Planning Process - Mark Nelson, Board Representative, gave a slide presentation on conservation practices used around the metro area. Three main obstacles in the metro area are: 1) cost to implement practices; 2) the variety of Regulatory Governmental Units; and 3) lack of education and training. To overcome the obstacles the following is needed: 1) policy direction; or 2) legislative direction; or 3) rules for WMO process. The staff will be working closely with PCA on this. Staff needs policy from the Board.

Environmental Quality Board/Water Resources Committee Report - Loni Kemp reported that the committee met on December 3rd. The committee discussed forming an advisory committee to review the state groundwater and pesticide/nutrient management strategies. The suggested composition included two representatives from ag groups, representatives from business and environmental groups, two representatives from government groups, and a city representative. The Board should contact Loni or John Wells with suggestions on advisory committee members. Issues discussed at the meeting were groundwater and pest and nutrient management strategies. The EQB/WRC draft recommendations on these issues included: adequate funding for 110B; implementation funds for approved 110B plans; broaden ACP to include well abandonment; encourage SWCDs to cost-share feedlot upgrades; require county water plans to address aquifer-specific problems; and develop mechanism to facilitate local input into state and federal groundwater rules. The WRC also discussed container problems; risk assessment; aquatic use of herbicides; and local controls. Natalie Haas-Steffen stated that there is a need to recognize where the money for new programs will be coming from. Loni Kemp stated that a coordinated and integrated approach is needed to sponsor training workshops on pesticide and nutrients. The EQB/WRC hopes to have a 20-page draft strategies document for the Board's review within two months. John Brooks, Jr., stated that he was happy to hear that BWSR issues and concerns that were discussed at the BWSR's November meeting were also discussed at the EQB/WRC meeting. The Board felt that the containers issue needs to be addressed in the legislature this session. Chairman Ogaard expressed appreciation for Loni Kemp's efforts on the EQB/WRC.

Programs

Cost-Share Rollover Allocations - Dennis Pond stated that \$488,550 has been requested from seventeen SWCDs for the 233,000 of rollover funds available to be re-allocated. Priority is given to SWCDs whose original allocation is low, their funds are encumbered and projects are ready for encumbrance. Discussion followed.

87-26

Moved by Boulton, seconded by Bade, that the Board approve the cost-share rollover allocations as recommended by staff. Affirmative: Ogaard, Boulton, Williamson, Warner, Bade, Moen, Hoese, Haas-Steffen, Brooks, Peterson, Graba, Kemp, and Cofell. Opposed: Kalmes. Carried.

Chairman Ogaard stated that the Executive Director position will be advertised until February 15, 1988.

Budget Status - Jim Birkholz reported that the staff is doing a comprehensive workload analysis and budget projections. The information will be available in January for the Board. He stated that the average cost per monthly regular BWSR meeting is \$3,000, that's \$36,000 per year. The staff will have a budget meeting with the Department of Finance and Accounting people to straighten out the budget reports the Board receives. Chairman Ogaard stated that he appreciates staff efforts on working on the budget issues.

Legislative Initiatives - It was stated that there was a bill introduced (S.F. 1543) at the end of the 1987 Session by Senator Gary DeCramer to recodify the Watershed Act. There maybe an opportunity to include certain needed language changes to Chapter 112 in that bill. The staff is initiating ideas on how the BWSR can participate in the Environmental Trust Fund.

Status of SWCD Appeals - Dennis Pond stated that he has been in contact with the Attorney General's office on the SWCD appeals. There are three appeals at present: one cost-share violation, and two that are appealing use of the administrative grants. The Attorney General's feeling is that the Board has the authority to grant an extension to a contract where the required work has not been completed. In the cases where there are violations of rules, the Board cannot grant an appeal. They can only make a determination on whether a violation has occurred and payback provisions. The Board decided that the SWCDs appealing be given proper notification and this issue be brought up again at the January meeting.

Sauk River and Coon Creek Watershed District Boundary Change Orders - Mel Sinn stated that both of these draft boundary change orders were non-controversial. The proposed Sauk River Watershed District boundary change was needed to correct an obvious error in the location of the original boundary. The Coon Creek order was needed simply to correct technical errors in a previous boundary change order.

87-27 Moved by Graba, seconded by Haas-Steffe, to approve the Sauk River Watershed District boundary change order. Affirmative: Ogaard, Boulton, Williamson, Warner, Kalms, Bade, Moen, Hoese, Haas-Steffen, Brooks, Peterson, Graba, Kemp, and Cofell. Opposed: None. Carried.

87-28 Moved by Haas-Steffen, seconded by Warner, to approve the Coon Creek Watershed District boundary change order. Affirmative: Ogaard, Boulton, Williamson, Warner, Kalms, Bade, Moen, Hoese, Haas-Steffen, Brooks, Peterson, Graba, Kemp, Cofell. Opposed: None. Carried.

Mel Sinn reported that the Stockton-Rollingstone-Minnesota City Watershed District in Winona County was established in 1958. The Water Resources Board had encouraged the watershed district to revise their overall plan because it was over 20 years and also because it was not a very active watershed district. A draft revised plan was submitted and a public hearing was held on it in November of 1986. Mel said the plan's narrative lacks clarity, the charts and maps are unclear, it does include a water management strategy, and does not commit the District to become more active and vital. Mel said he discussed the plan with Chairman Ogaard, and they agreed to recommend that the BWSR not prescribe it, but instead urge the District to become involved with developing Winona County's 110B plan. There is no urgent need at present for a revised overall plan. It was felt that a letter implementing the recommendation should be drafted for consideration at the January meeting, and that the District be notified of their opportunity to address the Board on the issue at the January meeting.

87-29 Moved by Cofell, seconded by Warner, to direct staff to draft a letter to the Board of Managers informing them of the BWSR's decision not to prescribe for consideration at the January meeting. Affirmative: Ogaard, Boulton, Williamson, Warner, Kalms, Bade, Moen, Hoese, Haas-Steffen, Brooks, Peterson, Graba, Kemp, Cofell. Opposed: None. Carried.

Isanti SWCD Violations Action Plan Status - Jim Birkholz reported that he received today an action plan submitted by the Isanti SWCD. The Isanti SWCD has been working with the county attorney on this issue. The Isanti SWCD indicates that they have addressed concerns over administration of state grants and the problems are being resolved locally. Staff will update the BWSR on this issue and any needed Board action at the January meeting.

Chairman Ogaard stated that the Dispute Resolution Committee (DRC) met on December 22 with Paul Strandberg, Attorney General and Mel Sinn, and suggested three options for ensuring Board member attendance at hearings on the formation of watershed districts: 1) that the entire Board or delegation be present; 2) a nucleus group plus additional adhoc members; and 3) the DRC alone. Discussion followed. For the Rabbit-Mustinka Watershed District Hearing on January 11, 1988, in Wheaton, a proper delegation will attend the hearing.

87-30 Moved by Peterson, seconded by Moen, that option #2 be followed, meaning a nucleus group comprising the Dispute Resolution Committee plus additional adhoc members, with at least five people to be in attendance. Affirmative: Ogaard, Boulton, Williamson, Warner, Kalmes, Bade, Moen, Hoese, Haas-Steffen, Brooks, Peterson, Graba, Kemp, and Cofell. Opposed: None. Carried. Chairman Ogaard will make sure that there will be at least five people in attendance at that hearing.

A Resolution for Change of District Name was submitted by the East Agassiz Soil and Water Conservation District. They request their district name be changed to Norman County Soil and Water Conservation District.

87-31 Moved by Moen, seconded by Haas-Steffen, to accept and approve the Resolution for Change of District Name from East Agassiz to Norman County Soil and Water Conservation District. Affirmative: Ogaard, Boulton, Williamson, Warner, Kalmes, Bade, Moen, Hoese, Haas-Steffen, Brooks, Peterson, Graba, Kemp, and Cofell. Opposed: None. Carried.

Newsletter Discussion - It was suggested that a consolidated newsletter be published with the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts, the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and the Board of Water and Soil Resources. The Board decided that the staff come before the BWSR with a format, financial status, and staffing possibilities. It was also suggested that the Association of Minnesota Counties be invited to submit guest editorials and articles.

87-32 Moved by Kalmes, seconded by Haas-Steffen, that the two newsletters be consolidated, and that staff notify the two Associations of this, and staff to report back to the BWSR on the various possibilities. Affirmative: Ogaard, Boulton, Williamson, Warner, Kalmes, Bade, Moen, Hoese, Haas-Steffen, Brooks, Peterson, Graba, Kemp, and Cofell. Opposed: None. Carried.

Open Discussion - It was suggested by Natalie Haas-Steffen that a legislative committee be considered.

William Cofell suggested the following policy statements/issues that are needed: appeals; containers; relationships staff/BWSR; operations in other areas. He also suggested that a strategic plan and development of policy statements be issues at the retreat.

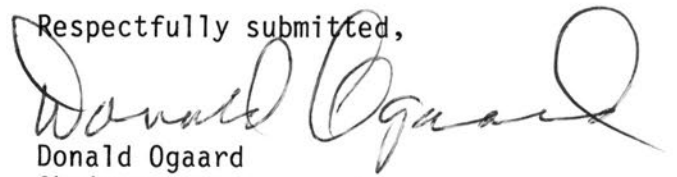
Eugene Kalmes stated that Winona County has coordinated a container recycling system. This item will be an item on the January agenda.

Upcoming Meetings/Hearings

- Rabbit-Mustinka Watershed District Hearing,
January 11, Wheaton
- Ditch No. 58 Appeal - Coon Creek Watershed District,
January 26, St. Paul
- National Association of Conservation Districts Convention,
January 31 - February 4, Little Rock, Arkansas
- Conference on Minnesota Water: 1988 A Statewide Conference on Water
Resources Issues in Minnesota, February 15-16, St. Paul
- Association of Minnesota Counties Annual Conference,
January 31 - February 2, Bloomington
- Soil Conservation Society of America Annual Meeting,
January 22, St. Cloud

Chairman Ogaard adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Donald Ogaard
Chairman

DEPARTMENT : Board of Water and Soil Resources

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office Memorandum

DATE : December 16, 1987

TO : Members of Board of Water and Soil Resources

FROM : Mel Sinn *MS*

PHONE : 612 - 297-2622

SUBJECT : Annual Report on Comprehensive Local Water Planning

The Board is directed by Minnesota Statutes Section 110B.28 to report by January 15th of each year to the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCMR) on implementation of the Comprehensive Local Water Management Act. The LCMR provides funding for various pilot natural resources projects with state cigarette tax revenue. The LCMR is currently providing 50% cost-share grants through the State Planning Agency to 54 counties involved in preparing comprehensive water plans.

The law directs the Board's annual report to include any recommendations for changes in Chapter 110B and any recommendations for funding.

Attached is a copy of last year's report.

The State Planning Agency will be providing the LCMR with a progress report on county water planning grants by January 1st. Therefore, the Board's report will not need to go into much detail about the status of planning in the 54 grant-funded counties.

The Board's 1988 report could include the following:

1. A list of those counties outside the 54 grant-funded counties that have shown interest in preparing local water plans, including Carlton, Pine, Nobles, Rock, Wright, and...?
2. A description of the agency coordination, and information and education efforts that took place in 1987, including completion of the State Planning Agency's local water planning handbook.
3. A recommendation that four staff positions (based on the Water Resources Board's and Soil and Water Conservation Board's last budget requests) be added to the Board's complement to allow it to take the lead role in agency coordination, and to accelerate the information and education efforts concerning Chapter 110B, that are currently being led by State Planning Agency staff pursuant to a memorandum of agreement with the Board.

MEMORANDUM

Members of Board of Water and Soil Resources

Re: Annual Report on Comprehensive Local Water Planning

December 16, 1987

Page Two

4. A recommendation that the LCMR consider future funding for innovative programs and projects proposed in local comprehensive water plans.

Board members are encouraged to respond to these ideas and to suggest any additional information, issues, or recommendations they would like to see included in the Board's 1988 LCMR report.

Attach.

WATER RESOURCES BOARD
2ND STATUS REPORT
ON THE
COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT ACT
(Minnesota Statutes 1986, Chapter 110B)

January 1987

WATER RESOURCES BOARD
2ND STATUS REPORT
ON THE
COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT ACT
(Minnesota Statutes 1986, Chapter 110B)

The Minnesota Water Resources Board is directed by Minnesota Statutes Section 110B.28 to provide the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources with an annual update on implementation of the Comprehensive Local Water Management Act. The Board's first report was submitted to the Commission in January 1986. This second report outlines progress made over the last year.

BACKGROUND

The Comprehensive Local Water Management Act of 1985 was an important initiative in the state's overall effort to strengthen management of our water resources. The Act encourages counties to prepare and implement comprehensive water plans that pull together relevant water-related information and establish objectives for sound local water management. Importantly, the Act requires communication between counties and other local units of government and state agencies. The Act is intended to strengthen local water management capabilities, foster coordination between local units, and build a local-state partnership in water resources management.

RULE DEVELOPMENT

The Board is directed by Minnesota Statutes Section 110B.10, Subdivision 2, to adopt rules to implement the Act.

The Board's January 1986 status report discussed the Board's Memorandum of Agreement with the State Planning Agency, appointment of a Local Advisory Committee, organization of a Technical Advisory Committee, and other preliminary steps taken to develop rules for the Act.

During the first half of 1986, the two advisory committees worked diligently along with State Planning Agency staff to assist the Board in developing proposed rules for the Act. The State Planning Agency provided staff support to the Local Advisory Committee, chaired the Technical Advisory Committee, and prepared drafts of the rules.

The first draft of recommended rules was completed in June 1986, and was widely distributed to state agencies and local units of government during July and August to solicit their comments. The first draft was mailed to over forty environmental, conservation, and public policy organizations for their review. A special informational meeting on the draft rules also was held for these organizations. The first draft of rules was presented to county commissioners by State Planning Agency and Water Resources Board staff at nine regional meetings of the Association of Minnesota Counties during August 1986.

All the comments received during this informal review process were considered by the local advisory committee and technical advisory committee in September 1986. Many of the comments were incorporated into a second draft of recommended rules in late September 1986.

This second draft of recommended rules was approved by the Water Resources Board with only two minor additions, and published as proposed rules in early November 1986. The Board received only three comment letters on the proposed rules. The proposed rules, as

published, were approved and adopted by the Board on December 12, 1986, and approved by the Attorney General on January 6, 1987. The rules will be effective five days after notice of adoption is published in the State Register.

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

The Act directs the Water Resources Board to conduct an information and education program concerning the Act's requirements and purposes.

An overview of the Act was presented to county commissioners at nine regional Association of Minnesota Counties meetings in August 1986. A presentation on the Act also was given to township supervisors at the Association of Minnesota Townships annual meeting in Duluth in November 1986. A workshop session on the Act is scheduled for the annual meeting of the Association of Minnesota Counties later this month in St. Paul.

Water Resources Board and State Planning Agency staff have discussed the Act at several other meetings of local officials, including community health services groups.

Staff and funding limitations continue to preclude a broad-based information and education program.

LOCAL INTEREST

A number of local governments in the state responded to the LCMR's invitation for funding requests last spring by submitting proposals for local comprehensive water planning. Eight separate proposals potentially involving up to 57 counties were submitted. The Commission ultimately included in its 1987 budget recommendations a total of \$900,000 for local comprehensive water planning. Of that

amount, \$830,000 would be available through the State Planning Agency for local planning grants, and \$70,000 would be used by the State Planning Agency to assemble information packets for distribution to counties preparing comprehensive water plans. The packets would provide state agency data directly to counties engaged in comprehensive water planning.

The planning grants in the Commission's package would require a soft match from local governmental units. Some county officials are also pursuing McKnight and other private foundation monies to help finance local comprehensive water plans.

AMENDMENTS TO THE ACT

At the present time the Water Resources Board is not recommending any changes in Chapter 110B.

FUNDING

The availability of state cost-share grants to help counties finance preparation of comprehensive water plans will be crucial to broad implementation of the Act. Many counties have indicated a willingness to develop plans, counting on some state financial assistance. Without some financial help, most county boards are unlikely to initiate comprehensive water planning.

The availability of additional resources at the state level also will be critical to effective implementation of the Act. Without additional staff resources, it will be extremely difficult for the Water Resources Board to effectively promote and pro-actively work with counties in their planning efforts, to fulfill the requirements of Section 110B.10. It also will be hard for other state agencies with water-related functions to assist counties in developing plans, unless some staffing is specifically provided for this purpose.

STATE OF MINNESOTA
BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

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Regional Offices

December 16, 1987

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218-755-3963

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Duluth, MN 55802
218-723-4752

West Central Region
611 Iowa Avenue
Staples, MN 56479
218-894-1692

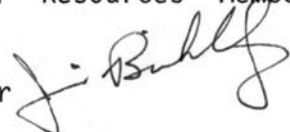
South Central Region
Box 756
New Ulm, MN 56073
507-354-2196

Southeast Region
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507-537-7260

East Central Region
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St. Paul, MN 55107
612-296-3767

TO: Board of Water and Soil Resources Members and
Advisors

FROM: Jim Birkholz, Office Manager 

SUBJECT: December 23, 1987 Board Meeting

Attached is an agenda and informational material for the December 23rd meeting. The meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. in Conference Room A of the Department of Agriculture Building, 90 West Plato Boulevard, St. Paul.

Following is some information relevant to the agenda items:

- Scheduling of BWSR Retreat - A proposed agenda, location and dates for a BWSR Board/Staff Retreat will be proposed. Please bring your calendars so we can schedule this.
- Agency Reports - Last month we heard from the various state agencies which have programs that inter-face with BWSR programs. This month we would like to hear similar presentations from the Soil Conservation Service, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, the Extension Service, the University of Minnesota, and the Counties. While primarily informational in nature, these presentations should indicate areas for future policy decisions for the BWSR. The agencies have been asked to identify their responsibilities which inter-face with BWSR programs, to comment on the historical working relationships, to describe current agency priorities, particularly as they relate to water quality policies, and to identify future issues needing Board policy attention.
- Water Planning Update - Mel Sinn will brief the Board on the status of statewide comprehensive local water planning (110B). Also to be included is an update on the LCMR funded water planning project, and the comprehensive local water planning handbook recently completed and published by the State Planning Agency. An update on the status of Chapter 509 plan reviews will also be given.

December 16, 1987

- Metropolitan Erosion and Sediment Control - This item deals with the rationale for a standardized erosion and sediment control approach in the seven county metropolitan area. Board members will be briefed on the nature of the issue, how it can be resolved through the existing 509 responsibilities, and will be briefed on possible legislative attempts to deal with this issue.
- Environmental Quality Board/Water Resources Committee - Loni Kemp will brief the Board on issues arising from the last meeting of this committee.
- Programs
 - A budget status report will be given at the meeting.
 - Cost-Share Rollover Allocations - The Board will be asked to approve allocations for the State Cost-Share Program to Soil and Water Conservation Districts. This allocation is for slippage dollars which have become available since the end of the last fiscal year.
 - Isanti SWCD Violations Action Plan - I expect a written action plan from the Isanti SWCD which will correct deficiencies in the administration of state grant funds.

As always, if you have any additional agenda items, please forward them to the Board office as soon as possible. I look forward to seeing you at the Board meeting.

JB:mja
Enc.

DEPARTMENT :Board of Water and Soil Resources

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office Memorandum

DATE :December 16, 1987

TO :Members of Board of Water and Soil Resources

FROM :Mel Sinn *MS*

PHONE :612 - 297-2622

SUBJECT :Draft 509 Plan Review Procedures and Policies

Dan Steward and Kim Benson are reviewing the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Organization plan and will make a status report at your December meeting. Pioneer-Sarah is one of the 46 WMOs responsible for local watershed planning under the Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act of 1982. The Water Resources Board had reviewed and approved four WMO plans prior to October 1987. The Board of Water and Soil Resources will be responsible for reviewing the remaining 42.

Most 509 plans will be lengthy and complex documents. They will take considerable staff time to digest and develop recommendations on. Beyond presenting a challenge to staff, the plans represent a key mechanism for the Board to guide and coordinate local resource management activities. I recommend that the Board consider adopting written policy statements to help ensure consistent and meaningful plan review.

Most agencies are provided with rulemaking authority to make more specific the general laws they are charged with administering. Agency policies can be formally established through the rulemaking process. In 1982-83 the Water Resources Board decided not to develop rules governing the review of 509 plans. In lieu of rulemaking, Water Resources Board staff worked with a 25-member local advisory committee to develop nonbinding plan content guidelines. The guidelines took the form of a checklist of items that should be included or addressed in 509 plans to meet the intent of the law. Because guidelines do not carry the force and effect of law, they cannot be relied upon to justify a decision to disapprove all or part of a plan. The Board's final decisions regarding 509 plan reviews must be based on the requirements listed in state law.

Given the absence of specific rules, written Board policies concerning plan review would provide both support and direction to staff. They would help narrow the area of possible misunderstandings between the Board and staff in interpreting the broad language of the statute.

MEMORANDUM

Members of Board of Water and Soil Resources

Re: Draft 509 Plan Review Procedures and Policies

December 16, 1987

Page Two

Attached is a very preliminary draft of policy statements for 509 plan review. No action from the Board will be requested at the December meeting, but any comments or ideas you have about plan review would be appreciated. Staff will likely ask the Board to act on a revised draft of 509 plan review procedures and policies at a future meeting. The enclosed draft was just put together and has not been reviewed by staff.

Attach.

DRAFT

Metropolitan Water Management Act Plan Review Procedures and Policies

In reviewing 509 plans, Board of Water and Soil Resources staff shall:

1. Read the plan and all written comments submitted by local governmental units, the metropolitan council, pollution control agency, department of natural resources, department of health, and any other interested agencies, organizations, or individuals.
2. Determine how pertinent comments have been responded to by the WMO or incorporated into plan amendments.
3. Review the plan's content for consistency with the requirements of the Metropolitan Water Management Act and other pertinent laws and rules, using the guidelines developed in cooperation with the "509 Local Advisory Committee" as a general checklist.
4. Place special emphasis on determining how the plan addresses:
 - a. Preservation and use of wetlands and other natural water storage and retention systems;
 - b. Recognition of existing local, state, and federal water management programs and regulations;
 - c. Conflicts and gaps between the WMO plan, local comprehensive plans, and other existing plans of affected local governmental units;
 - d. Communication and coordination between the WMO and other local governmental units, and state and federal resource agencies; and
 - e. Use of local authorities to manage existing problems and prevent potential water and related resource problems.
5. Encourage the WMO to incorporate into its plan:
 - a. An executive summary;
 - b. Available information on groundwater resources;
 - c. National wetland inventory maps; and
 - d. A "management responsibility" chart showing whether the WMO, other local governmental unit, or an agency is expected to carry out specific implementation tasks.

DRAFT

6. Discuss any significant issues, or recommended additions or amendments, with the WMO and any affected local unit or agency. If no significant problems are anticipated, proceed to publish notice of filing of the plan pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 112.401. If staff determines that a public hearing should be ordered, staff should place the matter on the Board's regular meeting agenda for Board consideration.
7. Consult with the WMO during the 30-day comment period provided in the notice of filing to try to resolve any remaining issues through negotiation. Offer the WMO advice, ideas, examples from other WMO plans, and general assistance in bringing the plan into conformance with the requirements of state law and rule. Make use of the review principles listed at Minnesota Rules, part 9300.0170, subpart 4 in analyzing plan issues.
8. If plan approval is recommended, present a draft Order for Board action at a regular meeting.
9. If disapproval of parts of a plan would be recommended due to failure to reach agreement with the WMO on one or more significant issues, present the Board with a written report on the disputed plan elements. Provide notice and opportunity for the WMO to address the Board at a regular meeting.
10. Provide notice to all affected local units, agencies, interested organizations, and individuals of Board approval of the plan.

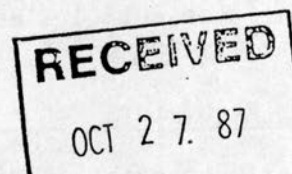


STATE OF
MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BOX 32, 500 LAFAYETTE ROAD • ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA • 55155-40 32

DNR INFORMATION
(612) 296-6157

October 26, 1987



Mr. Donald N. Ogaard
Board of Water and Soil Resources
90 West Plato Boulevard
St. Paul, MN 55107

Dear Mr. Ogaard:

PROPOSED RABBIT-MUSTINKA WATERSHED DISTRICT

District Boundary

This Department will forward under separate cover the preliminary watershed map of the proposed watershed district. This map shows the natural hydrologic boundaries of the Rabbit, Mustinka and Bois De Sioux River watersheds. This is consistent with the map attached to the nominating petition.

The total area within the proposed Rabbit-Mustinka Watershed District is approximately 1,435 square miles. The area within each of the six counties is tabulated below:

Big Stone	103 square miles
Grant	381
Otter Tail	63
Stevens	144
Traverse	546
<u>Wilkin</u>	<u>198</u>
TOTAL	1,435 square miles

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5 minute series topographic mapping was used to determine the watershed divide. Drainage patterns within several portions of the proposed watershed district are not well defined. Many water basins are clearly landlocked while others may have two or more outlets. Landlocked basins were included within the proposed district if it was determined that they would drain toward the Rabbit, Mustinka or Bois de Sioux Rivers if water levels ever become high enough.

Water Resource Issues

During the past several years, the Department has been involved in numerous water related problems in the proposed watershed district. Agricultural drainage has been a significant issue. Associated with agricultural drainage are problems with flooding, utilization of wildlife management areas for flood retention, and maintenance of Judicial and County Ditches. Additionally, conflicts in water appropriation have occurred.

The Department anticipates that drainage will continue to be an issue and that water quality and quantity will become increasingly important.

Existing Regulatory Programs

The Department has authority over major water use programs such as protected waters and water appropriations permits, floodplain management and shoreland development. Other state and federal agencies have additional water regulations. The creation of a watershed district does not diminish the Department's role. Watershed District's responsibilities and activities should be in concert with, and in addition to, existing state and federal programs and policies.

Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 105, authorizes the DNR to regulate work which alters the course, current or cross-section of protected waters. Chapter 105 also authorizes the DNR to regulate appropriation and use of all waters of the state. The DNR's existing appropriation and protected waters permit programs will not be affected by establishment of the proposed watershed district. The establishment of the watershed district also will not affect the Corps of Engineer's Section 404 permit program.

Under the Minnesota Floodplain Management Act, Chapter 104, the DNR has the primary role in coordinating floodplain management activities at the state level. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) coordinates the National Flood Insurance Program at the federal level. Jeanne Millin, 431-5500, is currently the FEMA contact for Minnesota.

Within the proposed district, two communities, Tintah and Dumont, and four counties, Stevens, Wilkin, Traverse and Big Stone, have adopted floodplain ordinances; work is under way to develop an ordinance in Grant County. Because of the high number of lakes in Ottertail County, shoreland ordinances are used for flood plain management statutory requirements. The county ordinances are for unincorporated areas of the county. No other communities are required to develop ordinances at this time. If better data becomes available to the state, a community's obligations to develop or improve local flood plain regulations might change. The only flood insurance studies completed are for Tintah, and Wilkin and Big Stone Counties; therefore, 100-year flood elevations and floodway delineations are available only for this community and for selected areas in these counties. The remainder of the watershed does not have computed 100-year flood elevations. The proposed watershed district could provide significant assistance to local governments in the future by developing flood elevation data, analyzing proposed floodplain development activities and promoting and implementing various flood damage reduction strategies.

Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 105, required the DNR to develop standards and criteria for the subdivision, use and development of shoreland areas. These minimum, or sometimes more stringent standards, are adopted by city and county government as a shoreland management ordinance. All counties in the proposed district have adopted shoreland ordinances for their unincorporated areas. Elbow Lake has adopted a municipal shoreland ordinance. Any effort by the

watershed district to regulate shoreland development should complement these existing local controls.

Public Drainage Systems

Numerous public drainage systems are located within the watershed. The nominating petition states that a purpose of the district will be to "repair", improve, relocate, and modify, consolidate, and abandon, in whole or in part, drainage systems within a watershed district. It is especially important to establish and ensure that grass strips are maintained will have significantly lower maintenance costs and lessen negative environmental impacts. A watershed district can provide for consistent management of public drainage systems as well as mediate disputes which cross county borders.

A watershed district should assess the impacts of drainage activities on a total watershed basis. The current practice is to evaluate the impact of each drainage project as a discrete element. Analysis of the cumulative impact of the proposed project and of existing and future drainage activities on downstream flooding is a desirable goal of a watershed district.

Political Boundaries

Hydrologic boundaries most often do not coincide with political boundaries. One of the primary reasons for establishing a watershed district is to coordinate an effective response to a water problem between two or more governmental units. Governmental units often have difficulties resolving a water problem especially when the perceived cause of the problem occurs under one jurisdiction while the adverse impacts occur in another. A watershed district should manage its water resources regardless of existing political boundaries, balancing downstream interests against upstream interests.

The Rabbit-Mustinka Watershed District includes portions of six counties. Many of the identified issues could be resolved by county government. In reality, however, county government has so many other responsibilities that sufficient attention often cannot be directed toward water related issues. Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 375B, allows county government to provide and finance various governmental services within a "service district". Additionally, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 110B, authorizes counties to develop and implement county water and related land resources plans. Five of the counties included in this watershed district are working together to develop their county plans on a regional water planning basis. The proposed watershed district should be involved actively in these plans.

Conclusion

In concept, watershed districts can provide significant leadership in water resource management. Their primary advantage lies in their ability to transcend political boundaries. Counties and municipalities often have limited jurisdiction when resolving water problems. A watershed district can identify, evaluate and implement solutions regardless of political boundaries. In addition, when resolving a water problem, it is very important that new problems are not created up or downstream.

Mr. Donald N. Ogaard
Page 4

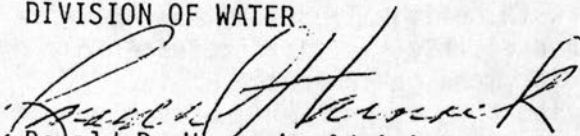
Existing local, state and federal agencies often cannot, or will not, actively respond to a citizen's complaint due to the lack of staff, money, expertise or statutory authority. Watershed districts are in a better position to coordinate a response to many specific water related problems.

Watershed districts do not always achieve the goals stated in their nominating petition. Communication channels must remain open among all governmental units and the general public. Sufficient funding must be available. The district should have the support of the local communities. The primary function of a watershed district, to provide an overall perspective, can easily be lost if the only activity of the district is to narrowly view individual development proposals.

The Department of Natural Resources supports the formation of the Rabbit-Mustinka Watershed District. Numerous water related problems have occurred and will continue to occur, within the watershed. The proposed district would have the opportunity to provide coordinated water resource management over the entire basin.

Sincerely,

DIVISION OF WATER



Ronald D. Harnack, Administrator
Permits and Land Use Section

RDH/LR:tjb

cc: Jerry Paul, Regional Hydrologist
Terry Lejcher, Area Hydrologist
The Honorable Gerald Lacey, Grant County Commissioner
The Honorable Wallace Staples, Stevens County Commissioner
The Honorable Mel Olson, Otter Tail County Commissioner
The Honorable Gerald Geurts, Traverse County Commissioner
The Honorable James Phalen, Big Stone County Commissioner
The Honorable Kalvin Michels, Wilkin County Commissioner

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
90 West Plato Boulevard
First Floor
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

In the Matter of the Petition for Changes
in the Boundary of the Sauk River
Watershed District Filed October 14,
1987 (Minn. Stat. Sec. 112.39, Subd. 4)

ORDER AMENDING
THE BOUNDARY OF THE SAUK
RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

A petition having been filed pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 112.39, Subdivision 4 (1986) seeking certain changes in the boundary of the Sauk River Watershed District (District); and notice of filing of the petition having been given; the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On October 14, 1987 the District filed a petition requesting that the following described lands in Stearns County in Township 124 North, Range 28 West (St. Cloud) totaling approximately 360 acres be excluded from the District: a) the South Half of the Southwest Quarter of Section 30; b) the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 30; c) the Northwest Quarter of Section 31; and d) the West Half of the Southwest Quarter of Section 31.
2. The Board published Notice of Filing of the petition in the Cold Spring Record in Stearns County on November 4 and 11, 1987. On November 17, 1987 the Board mailed Notice of Filing to the Auditor of Stearns County, the managers of the District, the Division of Waters of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and other persons. The Notice of Filing described the

boundary change requested in the petition; invited written comments; stated that any person who objected to the proposed boundary changes could submit a written request for hearing; and stated that if no written requests for hearing were received by December 11, 1987 the Board would make a decision on the petition without conducting a hearing.

3. No comments or requests for hearing were received by the Board in response to the Notice of Filing.
4. Before filing the petition, a representative of the District inspected the lands proposed to be excluded in response to concerns raised by the landowners who believed the lands were improperly included within the District's boundary. Upon inspection, the District found that the lands were not, in fact, a part of the watershed.
5. The petition states that the lands proposed to be excluded from the District have not been assessed any benefits or damages for any previous District improvement project.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Board has proper jurisdiction in this matter.
2. All relevant, substantive, and procedural requirements of law have been fulfilled.
3. It would be in the public welfare and public interest, and would subserve the purpose of the Minnesota Watershed Act, to amend the legal boundary of the District by excluding the lands described in the petition because it would make the District's legal boundary more closely conform to the actual watershed divide, and the District can perform the functions for which it was established without the inclusion of said lands.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED

1. That the land described in Paragraph 1 of the above Findings of Fact are hereby excluded from the territory of the Sauk River Watershed District.
2. That any existing District tax levies on the lands described in Paragraph 1 of the above Findings of Fact shall continue in force until fully paid.
3. That the territory of the Sauk River Watershed District is defined by the former Water Resources Board's Order dated July 22, 1986, which originally established the District's boundary, as modified by this Order.

Dated at Saint Paul, Minnesota 55107, this 23rd day of December 1987.

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

Donald H. Ogaard
Chairman

RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION

To approve the draft Order amending the
boundary of the Sauk River Watershed District.

Board of Water and Soil Resources
90 West Plato Boulevard
First Floor
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

In the Matter of a Joint Petition for
Changes in the Boundary of the Coon Creek
Watershed District Filed July 13, 1987
(Minn. Stat. 1986 Sec. 473.8771)

ORDER
CORRECTING
ORDER

A sufficient petition having been filed with the former Minnesota Water Resources Board (WRB) pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 473.8771 (1986) seeking certain changes in the boundary of the Coon Creek Watershed District (District); proper notice of filing of the petition having been given by the WRB; the WRB having adopted Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and an Order on September 21, 1987 making the boundary changes proposed in the petition; the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) having received a letter from Mr. Charles R. Lefebvre, Anoka County Auditor, on October 23, 1987 that pointed out certain errors in the legal descriptions of the WRB's September 21, 1987 Order; and Board staff having contacted the Anoka County Auditor's Office to double check the accuracy of the Auditor's suggested corrections; the Board makes the following:

ORDER CORRECTING ORDER

1. Paragraph 6 of the Findings of Fact of the former WRB's Order dated September 21, 1987, which described certain lands excluded from the Coon Creek Watershed District, is amended to correct errors in the property descriptions as follows:

- a. In the last seven lines on page 3, change the fourth identifier in each of the five parcel identification numbers listed from "31" to "42"; and
 - b. In the tenth line on page 5, insert "Block 4," before "Woodland Terrace"; and
 - c. Strike lines eleven and twelve on page 5, and insert the following: "the east lines of Lots 9 through 1, Block 4, Woodland Terrace, and Lots 7 through 10, Block 1, Woodland Terrace 2nd Addition, extended to the south line of the".
2. The boundary of the Coon Creek Watershed District is defined by the former Water Resources Board's Order dated December 3, 1959, which originally established the District's boundary; as modified by boundary change Orders dated February 21, 1964; July 13, 1967; March 8, 1985; December 12, 1986; April 10, 1987; and September 21, 1987 as corrected by this Order.

Dated at Saint Paul, Minnesota, 55107, this 23rd day of December 1987.

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

Donald H. Ogaard
Chairman

RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION

To approve the draft Order correcting certain errors in the legal descriptions contained in the Coon Creek Watershed District boundary change Order dated September 21, 1987.

STATE OF MINNESOTA
BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

90 W. Plato Blvd.
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107
Telephone: (612) 296-3767

Regional Offices

Northwest Region
1819 Bemidji Ave.
Bemidji, MN 56601
218-755-3963

Northeast Region
Government Service Center
320 W. 2nd Street
Room 603
Duluth, MN 55802
218-723-4752

West Central Region
611 Iowa Avenue
Staples, MN 56479
218-894-1692

South Central Region
Box 756
New Ulm, MN 56073
507-354-2196

Southeast Region
Friedell Bldg., Room 140
1200 S. Broadway
Rochester, MN 55904
507-285-7458

Southwest Region
Box 111
1400 E. Lyon Street
Marshall, MN 56258
507-537-7260

East Central Region
90 W. Plato Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55107
612-296-3767

December 16, 1987

Board of Managers
Clearwater River Watershed District
Box 481
Annandale, Mn. 55302

Re: Project 87-1, Clear Lake Restoration

Managers:

The Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) received the engineer's report on Project 87-1 on December 2, 1987. The report contains 14 pages of text and five appendixes, and is signed by Norman C. Wenck, professional engineer.

I. The Proposed Project

The District received a petition from landowners seeking a project to improve the water quality of Clear Lake. Clear Lake is located about three miles southwest of Watkins in Meeker County.

The engineer's report discusses past fishery management projects conducted by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. In 1969, rotenone was applied to the lake by the DNR to kill rough fish populations and the lake was restocked with game fish in 1970.

The lake continues, however, to experience intense algal blooms that can reduce water transparency to as little as two feet. Excessive weed growth and a return of bullhead populations are other concerns of lakeshore owners and lake users.

The engineer's report recommends preparation of a grant application under Section 314 of the federal Clean Water Act for matching funds to perform a Phase I Diagnostic/Feasibility Study for the lake. If funding is approved, the study could begin in October 1988 and be completed by December 1989. The study would identify options in restoring water quality and would assess their cost-effectiveness in accordance with EPA regulations for Diagnostic/Feasibility Studies.

The report estimates a total cost of \$16,000 for preparing the grant application, the engineer's report, the appraisers' report, and other related administrative costs, including contingencies. The Diagnostic/Feasibility Study itself is estimated at \$30,000. If the grant is obtained, the local share of the Study would be 50%, or \$15,000. The estimated total local cost is \$31,000.

Completion of a Diagnostic/Feasibility Study that identified feasible and cost-effective lake restoration alternatives would make the District eligible for Phase 2 implementation grants from the EPA.

II. Conformance with the Minnesota Watershed Act

The proposed project does not involve any construction or acquisition of easements, so several of the engineer's report requirements listed in the statute do not apply. It can be considered a project nonetheless, since the Watershed Act's definition of "project" includes planning and development.

The report generally contains the information required by Minnesota Statutes Section 112.49, Subdivision 1.

III. Board Comments

A. Financing

The report proposes that the project be funded by assessing benefitted landowners, and includes a list of 134 potentially benefitted landowners as Appendix E. It appears that they represent the owners of the entire 7,800 acre contributing watershed area.

The concept of including contributing lands in financing water management projects has been part of the Watershed Act for many years. The concept was introduced into the Minnesota Drainage Code just this year by Chapter 239, Laws of 1987, which added criteria for assessing properties that contribute to downstream sedimentation or increased flooding.

If the District encounters problems in using the special assessment approach for this project, one alternative would be the survey and data acquisition fund authorized by section 112.61, subdivision 8. It would spread the cost district-wide, however, instead of targeting landowners on the lake and within the contributing drainage area.

The District also should keep in mind the possibility of securing future implementation funds through the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's new Clean Water Partnership Program.

B. Local Coordination

The Board encourages the District to coordinate the project with the Meeker Soil and Water Conservation District and Meeker County. There may be an opportunity for the Soil and Water Conservation District to target some of their programs to this subwatershed as part of a future comprehensive lake restoration project.

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES


Donald H. Ogaard
Chairman

CC- BWSR Members
Stuart Steelman, Consultant
Norman Wenck, Engineer
Stan Weinberger, Attorney
Meeker SWCD Office
Meeker County Planning and Zoning
Jim Solstad, Division of Waters, DNR

STATE OF MINNESOTA
BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

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URBAN EROSION & SEDIMENT CONTROL PRESENTATION
FOR THE
BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
December 23, 1987

THE NEED

Since the recent lowering of interest rates the number of housing starts in the Twin Cities area has risen dramatically. Indeed the Metropolitan Council reports that the record for the value of all building permits has been broken in the first half of 1987 for the fifth consecutive year. Most of the increase is in single-family permits.

To build most of these houses, land is usually converted from natural vegetation. Until the roads are paved and the lawns established, the site can be wide open to erosion due to the lack of vegetative cover. In fact, sites with erosion potential may need best management practices to prevent erosion and protect watercourses and waterbodies. To prevent erosion and sedimentation good planning and plan review is needed.

Currently in the metropolitan area planning for construction sites is accomplished by the developer, contractor, etc. Plan review is accomplished by Watershed Management Organizations, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Municipalities, and Counties.

The problem is that plan review is not always conducted in a systematic and consistent fashion. This is a problem for developers who build in various areas in the seven county metro region and conform to various sets of rules. This can also be a problem to municipalities who lay within two or more WMO's (watersheds). They must in turn review and enforce various sets of rules.

THE SOLUTION

The obvious solution to this problem is to have uniform guidelines with which to plan, review, and implement the development E & S control process in the seven county metro area. These guidelines can be contained in a convenient handbook which I propose to call the "Minnesota Erosion & Sediment Control Handbook".

This handbook is already under development by our staff. It is hoped the handbook will be informative and convey good planning techniques to the plan drafter. Another goal of the handbook will be to teach the plan reviewer (often representing government) a consistent method.

"This all sounds so good", you must be thinking. "Why hasn't this already been done?"

There are three main barriers to establishing a uniform E & S Control program.

1. There is a dollar cost to protect our resources. The cost of implementing BMP's will trickle down to the home buyer. There is also a cost to review site plans and inspect the site during construction. This cost is borne by the municipality, county, or WMO.
2. The Regulatory Governmental Unit for site plans varies throughout the Metropolitan area. This has inhibited development of a uniform program.
3. Lack of Education and Training for RGU people. The Soil and Water Conservation Districts in the metro area have a longstanding interest in this issue but have not received much support from other agencies and units of government.

The barriers mentioned above can be overcome by policy direction and/or legislative direction.

POLICY

It is important that the BWSR consider a policy regarding a uniform program. Staff can then integrate erosion & sediment control into the WMO plans before final plan approval.

LEGISLATION

A uniform program may not be expedient without legislation. This is because of the barriers mentioned earlier.

Two different ideologies for future legislation have been discussed rather extensively. In a nutshell they are as follows:

1. Require by State Law that WMO's adopt a consistent E & S Control Program. This will create a uniform program throughout the Metropolitan area.
2. Put in State law that a county may adopt the BWSR E & S Control Program and require the WMO's in their county to adopt the program. This approach may not create a metro-wide program but is definitely friendlier.

Another avenue for the Board to consider is how much of this can be accomplished through its rulemaking authority.

SUMMARY

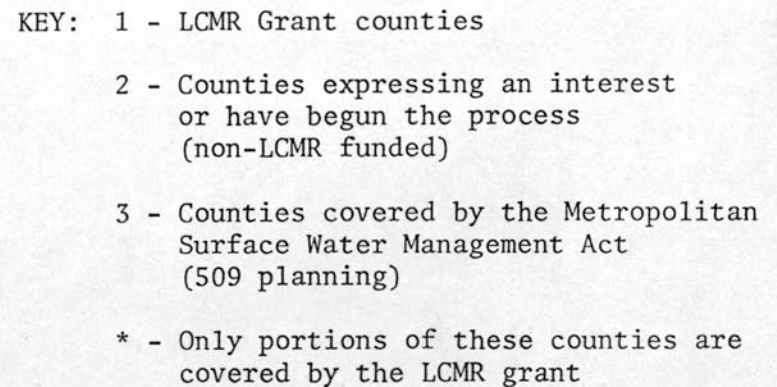
To close, this is an issue that is overdue in being addressed. To implement a program of this type is to really do something to improve water quality. This issue has been dealt with for years.

It is important that the board give policy direction to this issue. We will work with MPCA to include our work in their Urban BMP Manual. In the meantime WMO's and local units of government need good planning information in the form of a handbook.

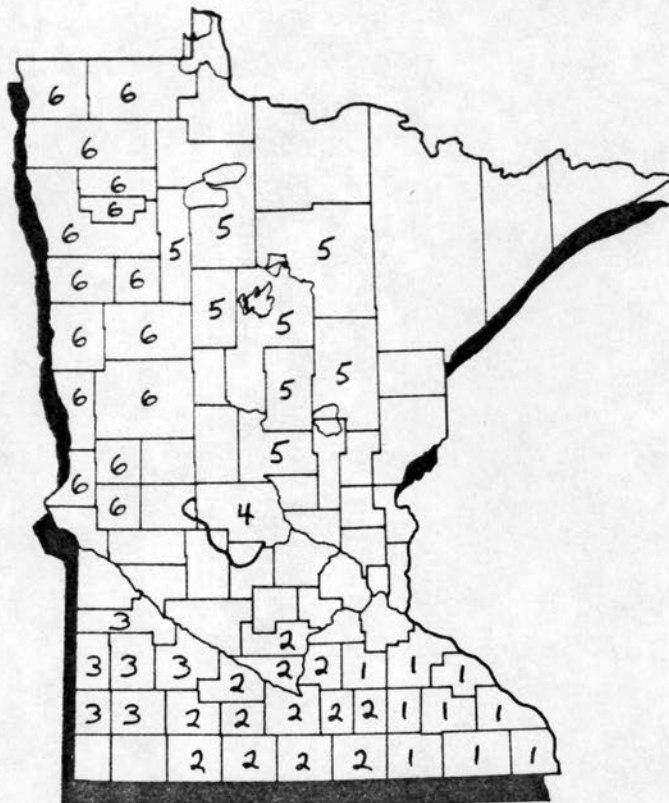
Mark Nelson, Board Representative

MN:kd

County involvement - December 16, 1987



Complied from: LCMR Committee Meeting
State Planning Agency Notes
News Articles/Conversions with
staff and counties



Map Key

LCMR PILOT COMPREHENSIVE WATER PLANNING PROJECTS

1. Zumbro-Root River Joint Powers Board.
2. South Central Minnesota Counties Water Planning Project.
3. Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area Board.
(Includes Yellow Medicine River Watershed District)
4. Stearns County.
(Includes North Fork Crow River Watershed District)
5. Mississippi Headwaters Project.
6. Northwest Minnesota Counties Water Planning Project.



**Minnesota
Environmental Quality Board**

100 Capitol Square Building
550 Cedar Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
Phone _____

**PROJECT MANAGERS
EQB-LCMR PILOT COMPREHENSIVE WATER PLANNING PROJECT**

1. Zumbro/Root River Task Force County Water Mgt. Plan
Pamela Hunt
Winona State University - Rochester Center
859 30th Ave SE
Rochester, Mn 55904-4497
(507) 285-7139
2. South Central Minnesota County Water Planning
Henry Quade
Biology Dept. Mankato State U.
Mankato, MN 56001
(507) 389-2786
3. Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area (RCRCA)
Robert Finley
P.O. Box 69
Redwood Falls, MN 56283
(507) 637-2142
4. Stearns County
Lee Wallace
Box 13
St. Cloud, MN 56302
(612) 259-3695
5. Mississippi Headwaters Board
Molly MacGregor
Cass County Courthouse
Walker, MN 56484
(218) 547-3300 Ext. 263
6. International Coalition for Land and Water Stewardship
Lance Yohe
Box 127
Moorhead, MN 56560
(218) 233-0292



STATE OF MINNESOTA

State Planning Agency

300 Centennial Building

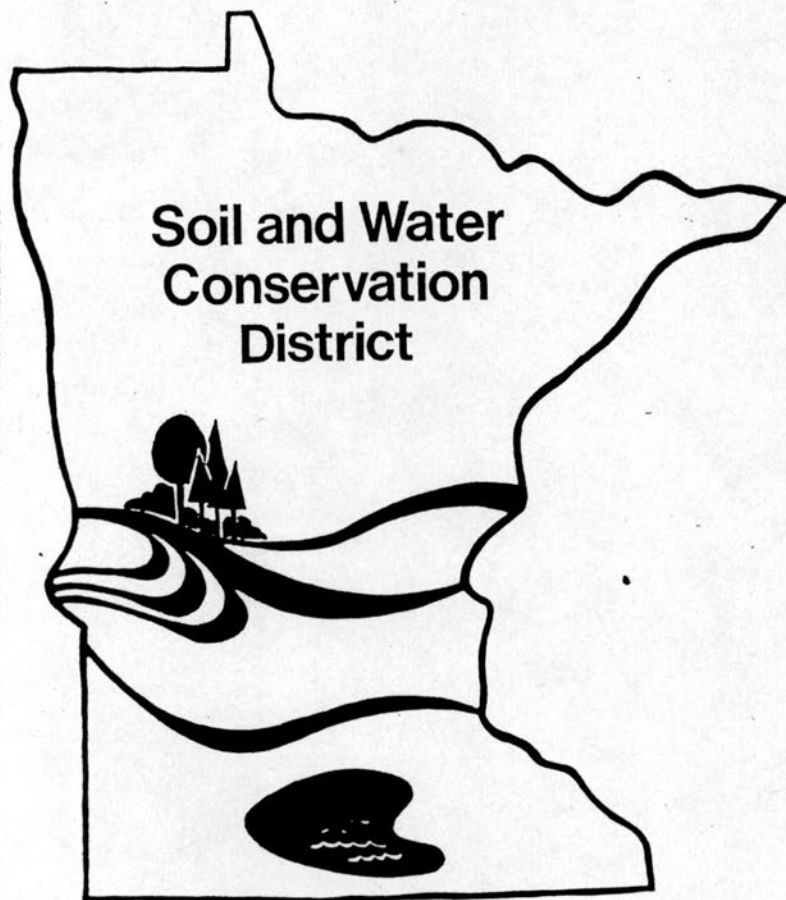
658 Cedar Street

St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

(612) 296-3985

LOCAL WATER PLANNING TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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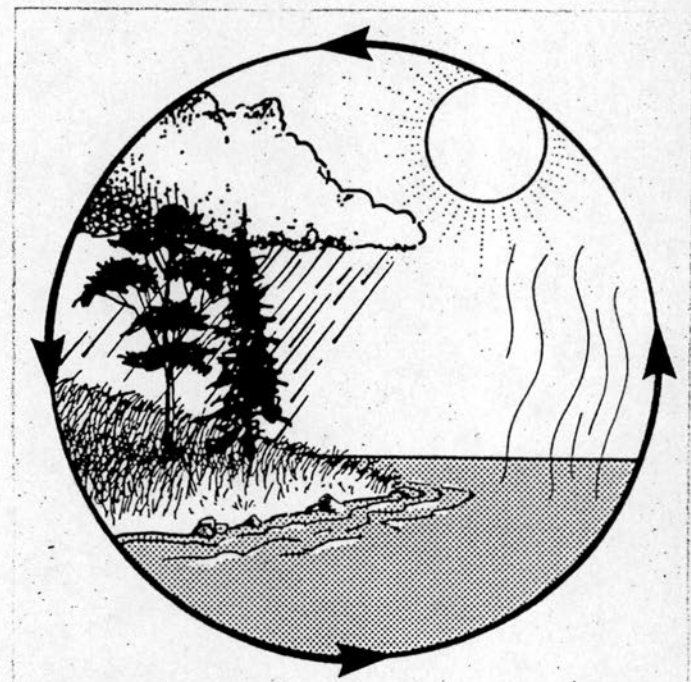


United States Department of
Agriculture

**MINNESOTA
ASSOCIATION OF
WATERSHED
DISTRICTS, INC**



The Freshwater Society



Minnesota State Planning Agency

Cost-Share Program
Roll-over Allocations
FY88

District	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Aitkin	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Blue Earth	52,000	30,450
Carlton	24,000	24,000
Faribault	6,000	6,000
Kandiyohi	9,750	9,750
Mower	14,000	14,000
Olmsted	20,000	- 0 -
Pine	15,000	15,000
Ramsey	100,000	37,500
So. St. Louis	10,000	10,000
Pope	15,000	- 0 -
Stearns	27,500	- 0 -
Stevens	31,600	31,600
Wabasha	22,000	22,000
Washington	34,000	25,000
Winona	100,000	- 0 -
Yellow Medicine	4,700	4,700
	<u>\$488,550</u>	<u>\$233,000</u>

1988-89 Legislative Requests



for the
Minnesota
Extension Service
and the
Agricultural
Experiment Station



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
The Institute of Agriculture,
Forestry and Home Economics

Minnesota Extension Service Special Appropriation

The Minnesota Extension Service is the outreach arm of the University of Minnesota that offers research-based education to people of all ages throughout the state, in cooperation with county, state, federal and private partners.

Our mission is to enable people of Minnesota to foster full development of themselves, their families and their communities; to improve our economy, especially the food and fiber sector; and to provide effective natural resource management.

In our strategic plan, "Focus on People", adopted in 1986, we state that: "We will focus on people. We will aim at the central issues affecting the lives of people. We will place a premium on relevance." This plan pledges to renew and expand the outreach efforts of the University's "Commitment to Focus."

Major social and economic changes are taking place in Minnesota and new emphases are emerging. By reviewing our past program and implementing a statewide needs assessment involving numerous citizens, the Minnesota Extension Service identified four central issues of wide public concern to Minnesota people.

Economic Development
Environment and Natural Resources
Human Development
Community Leadership

The new four-year program plans for the period of October 1987 through September 1991 will challenge these central issues with high impact interdisciplinary educational programs utilizing the unique statewide network of the Minnesota Extension Service and the University of Minnesota.

University-based research from the Agricultural Experiment Station and cooperating University departments becomes the reality of education as county and cluster agents, specialists and partner agencies in all 87 counties reach two million Minnesotans annually. The new structure will allow the Minnesota Extension Service to continue many strong programs while at the same time providing a mechanism to respond more flexibly and effectively to critical and emerging issues.

The special appropriation from the State of Minnesota is our primary funding source. Combined with county and federal allocations, special grants, contracts and fee income, these funds permit the Minnesota Extension Service to bring the University of Minnesota to the people.

The 1988-89 Special Legislative Request has two major issues identified:

- 1) Water Quality
- 2) Community and Economic Development

Both issues clearly address commitment to outreach education using University research.

1) Water Quality

Recognized by the Minnesota Extension Service as a priority educational issue, coordinating the research of the Agricultural Experiment Station into Extension educational programs is paramount to impact.

Ground water is one of Minnesota's most valuable resources providing 95 percent of our rural population and 52 percent of the total population with a quality supply of drinking water. We know our present water quality is directly affected by some agricultural practices.

Improved management practices and other significant research findings are being identified by the Experiment Station, Center for Agricultural Impacts on Water Quality and other research centers around the country.

The Minnesota Extension Service must sort out and provide leadership to an already developed design plan to educate Minnesota's communities as to the research, findings, and rules of more than 30 state and federal agencies involved with water quality. Extension can also provide a visible immediate response to critical geographic areas already experiencing water quality loss. (Southeast Minnesota and the sand plains of East Central Minnesota.)

We request one specialist in water quality to give leadership to a statewide educational response in addressing this serious need. In addition, two cluster area specialists (shared funding University 65 percent, county clusters 35 percent) are requested to establish immediate educational response programs and personal consultation to the two strategic areas experiencing immediate need. Without these appropriations, the research being developed and Extension's priority response plan would have very limited impact. No other state agency is as available or capable of meeting this significant need on a statewide basis.

2) **Community and Economic Development**

Local community people, leaders, and businesses are faced with devising strategies for coping with massive and accelerating changes in the economic and social structure of rural communities.

The priority effort of the Minnesota Extension Service in 1988 will be to coordinate the following efforts under one organization-wide, integrated issue called "Project Future":

- Economic Development
- Small Business Development
- Community Development
- Community Leadership Development
- Sustaining Agriculture
- Rural Revitalization

This critical need identified through the ongoing effectiveness of Project Support is already in implementation stages.

Project Future will address six areas for program emphasis critical to community revitalization:

- Economic Development
- Education
- Human/Social Development
- Change Process
- Leadership
- Information systems

The Minnesota Extension Service provides elements not addressed by other available resources. Examples are:

- a systematic approach to understanding the compositions of local economies and the impact of specific changes on their current or future structures;
- increasing the survival rate of small rural businesses by developing peoples' entrepreneurial abilities;
- providing plausible economic and social options for communities;
- assisting in development of local policies and plans providing life long learning opportunities;
- encourage cooperation and integration by developing local community leaders to meet the necessary challenge of community action, be it expansion or dignified decline.

One additional state specialist in small business development is needed to handle current requests for specified workshops from the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics. These demands are anticipated to increase dramatically as county field staff implement Project Future. The Minnesota Extension Service also requests funding for four cluster agent specialists in development to service targeted clusters where problems have already been identified and assistance requested by local community leaders.

One state specialist position is requested to design and advise the Project Future plans of enabling local decision makers to better assess current conditions and make informed decisions.

If rural communities are to survive, structures and processes must be put into place that not only involve citizens in decision making, but harness local initiative to carry out developmental programs. Minnesota Extension Service will have a greater impact if these additional appropriations are received.

**MINNESOTA EXTENSION SERVICE
1988-89 LEGISLATIVE REQUEST
SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS**

***Water Quality Education* \$125,000**

- \$ 75,000 State Specialist — Water Quality Coordinator
\$ 50,000 Two Cluster Specialized Agents — Waters/Soils (65 percent University, 35 percent County Clusters)

***Community and Economic Development* \$250,000**

- \$ 75,000 State Specialist — Small Business
\$100,000 Four Cluster Specialized Agents — Development (65 percent University, 35 percent County Clusters)
\$ 75,000 State Specialist — Community Leadership

TOTAL REQUEST \$375,000

**Agricultural Experiment Station
Special Appropriation**

The Agricultural Experiment Station has a mission to organize and support basic and applied research in agriculture, forestry, home economics, veterinary medicine and related areas for the benefit of the states' economy and the well-being of its citizens. A major area of research is the production, processing, marketing and distribution of food and other agricultural products. Research is also directed at examining and improving public policies, at forests and forest products, other natural resources, human nutrition, family life, rural development, recreation and tourism and overall environmental quality. The program of the station is closely integrated with that of the Minnesota Extension Service, with the latter serving as a primary disseminator to the public of the applied research results.

The special appropriation, entitled "General Agricultural Research," from the State of Minnesota to the Agricultural Experiment Station is the station's major funding source. Combined with federal formula funds, gift, grant and contract funds (federal, state, and private), and income and fees, this funding permits the station to conduct research to address both the short- and long-term needs of Minnesota and its citizens.

The Agricultural Experiment Station is particularly needed in rural Minnesota, which is trying to adjust to current economic and social changes. Among the problems that face these areas: severe economic problems and the decline of traditional family-size farms; the decline of the agricultural economic base in many counties; the need to seek off-farm income for an increasing number of farm families; the need to develop a diverse economic structure in rural areas; and increased stresses on our natural resource base.

The 1988-89 Special Legislative Request has three major initiatives identified:

- 1) Agricultural Product Utilization Technologies
- 2) Alternative Crops and Products
- 3) Computer-Assisted Dairy Health and Production Management

These initiatives clearly address high priority agricultural research programs for which new funding is requested to combine with existing and reallocated funding.

1) Agricultural Product Utilization Technologies

Current supplies of many agricultural products exceed demand. Some alternative uses, especially food uses, for many agricultural products may only replace current uses with no net gain to the agricultural enterprise as total world food demands are relatively inelastic.

However, new uses for commodities produced in Minnesota and for which Minnesota farmers have a comparative production advantage could enhance the profitability of Minnesota agriculture. A particular emphasis must be placed on industrial and non-food products as well as on new food and feed uses.

New product development requires the concerted and coordinated efforts of both the public and the private sector. This collaboration has been enhanced by the University of Minnesota's emphasis on increasing its patents on new technologies and its licenses and proprietary agreements with private sector firms. The 1987 legislation to form the Greater Minnesota Corporation should also provide a considerable stimulus to public-private partnerships to enhance economic development.

In the development of most biological products, the research involves phases of defining market needs, characterizing component parts and functional characteristics of raw materials, developing processes to separate, alter and form component parts into useable products, and finally, deciding how the new product will be marketed and distributed. These phases of research and product development needs are frequently addressed by a combination of public and private sector inputs. The most clearly defined and appropriate role for public sector research is to define or characterize the component parts of raw materials, and whenever possible, provide insights through applied experiments where the characteristics of these components can be used to address problems and opportunities that exist in commercial products. However, the market analyses, product development and marketing concepts are clearly a private sector function because the primary role of the public sector is not in product marketing. Therefore, it is essential that useful concepts and fundamental research be transferred from the public to the private sector. It should also be evident why products developed in the public sector have historically not been successful in the marketplace.

The University of Minnesota is positioned to fulfill a unique role that the private sector will not — to conduct the basic research on agricultural commodities that will open the door to potential new uses, food and non-food. A fundamental roadblock in many cases is our lack of understanding of the physical, chemical, microbiological and biological properties and structure of agricultural commodities as well as the mechanisms that determine biological, chemical and physical properties.

A recurring annual appropriation increase of \$250,000 is requested to conduct research and assist technology transfer with the following objectives:

- To define and characterize fundamental physical, chemical and biological properties and structures of agricultural commodities.

- To understand the mechanisms to control or modify biological, chemical, and physical properties of components in agricultural commodities.
- To demonstrate functional feasibility for the use of commodities or their components in new or improved applications.
- To provide assistance in technology transfer.

These funds would be used to support University scientists to conduct this fundamental research. Special emphasis would be placed on funding research in units not traditionally funded by the Agricultural Experiment Station, such as the Departments of Chemical and Materials Engineering, Chemistry and the Biological Process Institute. No new permanent positions are requested *per se*. The funds would be used for: a) partial salary support of existing faculty; b) postdoctoral research associates; c) graduate research assistants; and d) supplies, expenses and equipment. This appropriation would also place the University in a better competitive position to attract outside funds to support this important area of research.

2) **Alternative Crops and Products**

The long-term profitability of farming in Minnesota is affected by technological change, quantity and quality of farm resources, prices of farm inputs and products, policies of financial institutions and government farm programs. New and alternative crops and technologies, marketing strategies, and institutional arrangements for financing need to be investigated and integrated as farming system options.

The Agricultural Experiment Station is currently conducting and increasing its research in many of these areas. Among the initiatives has been the establishment in 1987 by the Experiment Station, with the College of Agriculture and the Minnesota Extension Service, of a Center for Alternative Crops and Products. Directed by Dr. Luther Waters in Horticultural Science, this center is focusing on the evaluation of an array of fruits, vegetables, and non-traditional agronomic crops which have potential for Minnesota's climate and soils and

for which there are potential markets. However, the resources currently available to support the center's research program are very limited and external funding is generally not available for "high risk" crops.

A recurring annual appropriation increase of \$125,000 is requested to support the Center for Alternative Crops and Products in conducting research on the development and/or adaptation of new crops for food and feed uses and for the specialty needs of industry and non-food uses.

- To identify and support research on minor crops and animal products that have potential for expanding the alternatives available for farm income or meeting on-farm needs such as for livestock feed.
- To define market opportunities and product requirements for minor crops and animal products that are sold off the farm and where there is no current industry information available.
- To conduct research on the harvesting, further processing, storage and packaging that is necessary to test the feasibility of minor product needs and opportunities for introduction into the commercial sector.

These funds would be used to enhance and accelerate the research of existing University scientists in this important area. Funds would be expended for: a) postdoctoral research associates and/or graduate research assistants; b) student labor; and c) supplies, expenses and equipment.

3) **Computer-Assisted Dairy Health and Production Management**

This research initiative has the goal of improving the efficiency and viability of Minnesota's family dairy farms. The goal will be attained by enhancing animal health so that productivity gains are obtained without a significantly increased investment of labor or capital. Faculty of the College of Veterinary Medicine

have assumed a leadership role, in collaboration with faculty in Animal Science in the College of Agriculture, in employing computers to obtain health-related information that impacts on efficient dairy production.

The \$2.3 billion Minnesota dairy industry, which supports over 40,000 Minnesota families, is at a critical economic crossroads. Rapidly changing economic and technological forces will continue to impact on the structure of the dairy industry. The future will be more competitive. Intensive management will be required to ensure farm profitability. Limits to productivity will have to be identified and promptly corrected. An information management system, requiring the use of on-farm computers and the practice of monitoring herd performance on a regular basis, will become essential for efficient farm management.

Chief among factors that impair productivity are reproductive inefficiency and mastitis. Other factors include: management practices, nutrition, housing, enteric and respiratory diseases of calves, etc. The objective of the computer-assisted dairy health and production project is to develop software which will permit the on-farm identification of production inefficiencies and to provide a database for health and production-related research.

College of Veterinary Medicine faculty have become worldwide leaders in computer use to analyze health-related information and examine the impact of sub-optimal health on efficient livestock production. Faculty have successfully developed programs such as PigChamp to identify swine health-management factors that are economically beneficial. From preliminary studies in Minnesota, it has been estimated that the use of a similar program for dairy herds (DairyChamp) could increase the profitability of the average Minnesota DHIA dairy farm (56 cows) by more than \$10,000 annually.

The Agricultural Experiment Station and the College of Veterinary Medicine have recently reallocated some resources to the development of DairyChamp and related research. Additional support is required to accelerate and refine the research:

A recurring annual appropriation increase of \$125,000 is requested to support Computer-Assisted Dairy Herd Health and Production Management research having the following objectives:

- To develop and refine a microcomputer software system for use on the farm and/or veterinary clinic.
- To collect data from Minnesota dairy production units, maintain a database, and employ statistical procedures to identify key factors that reduce the efficiency of production.
- To develop conceptual models of dairy production systems pertinent to Minnesota. This would include research to identify least-cost alternatives to improve production efficiencies.

These funds will be used to enhance and accelerate existing pilot research in this area. Funds will be expended to support computer programmers, a statistician, a veterinary graduate student who will serve as a research assistant, equipment, supplies, and other project expenses.

MINNESOTA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

1988-89 LEGISLATIVE REQUEST SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS

<i>Agricultural Product Utilization Technologies</i>	\$250,000
<i>Alternative Crop and Products</i>	\$125,000
<i>Computer-Assisted Dairy Health and Production Management</i>	\$125,000
TOTAL REQUEST	\$500,000

November 1987

The University of Minnesota is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, religion, color, sex, national origin, handicap, age, veteran status, or sexual orientation.

United States Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

Program Aid Number 1355

ASCS Conservation Programs



Conservation Programs

For nearly 50 years the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) has fostered the wise use of the Nation's agricultural land and water resources in partnership with farmers and ranchers.

ASCS conservation programs protect soil against erosion and waterways from pollution, encourage development of private forests, enhance wildlife habitat, and provide emergency assistance in the wake of natural disasters. In these ways ASCS conservation programs help preserve and improve the wealth and promise of America's farmlands.

Programs to solve soil loss, water conservation, and water pollution problems justify government support through cost-sharing and technical assistance by maintaining agricultural productivity and protecting the natural environment.

ASCS conservation programs are administered through local ASCS offices. A farmer-elected Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation committee works with people within the community to assess conservation problems and determine which measures should be offered to landowners in their areas to solve these problems.

The Agricultural Conservation Program (ACP) is the principal channel through which ASCS helps farmers and ranchers carry out conservation and environmental protection practices. Related programs—Forestry Incentives, Rural Clean Water, Emergency Conservation, and Water Bank—emphasize particular aspects of conservation.

ASCS carries out its conservation programs in cooperation with other Federal and State agencies and organizations.



No-till planting in last year's crop residue

Agricultural Conservation Program

ACP is a cooperative endeavor by farmers, ranchers, government agencies, and other groups to solve soil, water, and related resource problems through cost-sharing and exchange of technical expertise. The program is nationwide in scope, and emphasizes enduring conservation practices of long-term benefit to the public. Practices that are primarily production oriented or have little or no conservation or pollution abatement benefits are not eligible for ACP cost-sharing.

Under the regular ACP, cost-share levels are set by local committees and are fixed for each practice. A departure from this method uses variable levels of cost-sharing. The cost-share levels are based on the severity of the erosion, and the percent reduction in soil loss obtained by installation of the practice. With emphasis on the most serious erosion problems, the cost-share per ton of soil saved is substantially less.

Practices similar to those under ACP are used extensively in related programs that define specific areas of soil, water, and forestry management, and pollution control.

Among soil-saving practices, ACP assistance is available for establishing terraces on land with steep slopes, planting grasses and legumes to anchor the soil,

installing sod waterways and structures to divert runoff water, practicing minimum tillage and no-till farming, and adopting other measures intended to control erosion, conserve water, or reduce pollution on agricultural land.

ACP funds help farmers reduce sediment, chemicals, and livestock wastes that contaminate streams and lakes by managing the flow of these pollutants at their source, by catching them in sediment basins, and by filtering them through grass and other plants.

ACP also provides assistance in establishing and improving timber stands with owners of small woodland tracts to reduce soil erosion, conserve water, improve wildlife habitat, and develop timber resources.

Emergency Conservation Program

The Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) provides emergency funds for sharing with farmers and ranchers the cost of restoring to productive use farmland seriously damaged by natural disasters, and for carrying out emergency water conservation measures during periods of severe drought.

ECP assistance is available only to help solve new conservation problems caused by a natural disaster that (1) impair and endanger the land, (2) materially affect the productive capacity of crop acreage, (3) represent

extensive damage that, except for wind erosion, is not likely to recur frequently in the same area, and (4) result in repairs so costly that Federal assistance is justified to return the land to productive agricultural use. Conservation problems existing prior to the disaster are not eligible for ECP assistance.

Emergency conservation assistance is available for removing debris from farmland, farmsteads, and private roadways associated with farmland use, grading, shaping, and releveling farmland, and restoring permanent fences, dams, ponds, irrigation systems, and other installations. Assistance is based on the type and extent of the damage.

Rural Clean Water Program

The experimental Rural Clean Water Program (RCWP) aims to prevent or reduce the amount of sediment, chemicals, livestock wastes, and other agricultural pollutants from entering streams and lakes.

The program provides long-term financial and technical assistance to owners and operators of privately held agricultural land in selected project areas who install and maintain Best Management Practices to control critical water quality problems in the area.

RCWP is designed to build on experience gained from ACP and other programs, but is limited to designated project areas with significant agriculture-related water quality problems.



Flooded cropland



Private woodland

Forestry Incentives Program

The demand for timber in this country is expected to exceed the supply within a generation unless more trees are planted and more forest land is placed under good forest management. Since commercial and public forest lands do not have the potential to meet this demand, private nonindustrial landowners, who control 58 percent of the Nation's forest lands, are encouraged to develop and properly manage their woodlands.

Through the Forestry Incentives Program, Federal and State agencies share the costs of tree planting and timber stand improvement with private forest landowners who often cannot afford to make the long-term investment required to develop their woodlands.

While the Forestry Incentives Program is specifically aimed at producing timber, forested lands also provide shelter for wildlife, conserve water, prevent soil erosion, and enhance the natural environment.

Water Bank Program

The Water Bank Program is designed to preserve, maintain, and improve inland fresh water and adjacent areas in important migratory waterfowl nesting, breeding, and feeding areas through long-term agreements with landowners and operators primarily in the central and Mississippi River flyways.

The program also serves in these protected marshes and other wetlands to enhance the habitat for migratory waterfowl and other wildlife, and contribute to control of soil erosion, flood prevention, and improved water quality. Under the Water Bank Program, landowners receive annual payments for conserving and protecting wetlands

from drainage, filling, or other practices which may destroy the character of the wetland.

Land eligible for the program must be privately owned inland fresh wetlands which are suitable for the nesting, breeding, or feeding of migratory waterfowl. Adjacent privately owned land may be included in the program if the land is needed to protect the wetland or is essential for carrying out the purposes of the program.

Beyond Tomorrow

Concern over the continuing depletion of the Nation's productive soils, the ravaging effects of pollution on our lakes and streams, and the mounting costs of soil and water conservation has led to new approaches to identifying and treating these conditions.

USDA began in 1981 to give special attention to critical resource problem areas, targeting solutions to excessive soil erosion, water shortage, or other threats to long-term agricultural productivity. Designated target areas receive additional technical and financial assistance to control or significantly reduce the problem.

By fiscal year 1987, targeted assistance is planned to account for 25 percent of the technical and financial assistance budget of ASCS and Soil Conservation Service. Targeting is also supported by USDA's Forest



Wildlife habitat



Reelfoot Lake, Tennessee

Service, Agricultural Research Service, Economic Research Service, Cooperative State Research Service, and Extension Service.

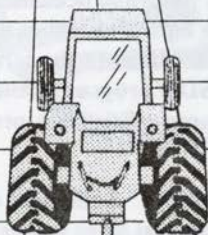
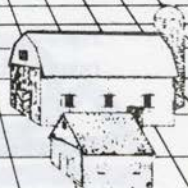
Over the years, one of the problems facing conservation program managers has been a lack of adequate data to determine the cost-effectiveness of practices. The Conservation Reporting and Evaluation System (CRES) is designed to provide data about the performance of USDA conservation programs.

These and other approaches, such as the ACP variable cost-share method of identifying the more severe soil erosion problems for priority treatment, are intended to assure that the most effective use is made of available conservation funds. That way, the Nation's prime soil and water resources are being protected and improved for generations ahead.

For more information about these ASCS programs, contact your local ASCS county office.

Participation in ASCS programs is open to all eligible applicants without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, age, or sex.

Time Is Running Out —



Do you know how the
Conservation Provisions
of the 1985 Farm Bill
affect you?

Can You Afford to Lose Your USDA Program Benefits?

For the first time, a farmer's conservation activity is linked to his or her eligibility to receive farm program benefits.

Under the 1985 Farm Bill, farmers who have highly erodible fields must be carrying out an approved conservation plan by January 1, 1990. Failure to do so will make them ineligible for farm program benefits listed below in any year a crop is produced on such fields.

Here are the provisions of the Farm Bill that are responsible for this new approach.

Conservation Provisions

Swampbuster: Under swampbuster, if you convert naturally occurring wetland and use it to produce agricultural commodities after December 23, 1985 (the date the farm bill was signed), you lose USDA program benefits the year in which such commodities are produced.

Sodbuster: Sodbuster applies to highly erodible fields that were not used for crop production during the period 1981-1985. If you plant annual crops on this land, you must have a conservation system approved by the local conservation district in order to remain eligible for USDA program benefits.

Conservation Compliance: Conservation compliance, or managing your land in keeping with an approved conservation plan, applies to highly erodible fields on which annual crops were grown at least once during the years 1981-1985. To remain eligible for certain USDA program benefits, you must develop and be actively applying a locally approved conservation plan for those highly erodible fields by January 1, 1990. These plans are to be fully implemented by January 1, 1995.

Conservation Reserve: You may retire highly erodible cropland from production under 10-year Conservation Reserve Program contracts. You receive annual rental payments each of the 10 years and half the cost of establishing permanent grasses, legumes, trees, windbreaks, or wildlife plantings on your highly erodible cropland.

USDA Programs Affected

To remain eligible for benefits in the following programs you must farm according to your conservation plan if you are tilling highly erodible soil and discontinue production on newly converted wetlands.

- * Wheat, cotton, feed grain, and rice payments
- * Commodity loans
- * Farm storage facility loans
- * Tobacco price support
- * Peanut price support
- * Conservation Reserve Program annual payments
- * Dairy indemnity payments
- * Storage payments
- * Wool and mohair payments
- * Crop insurance
- * Farmers Home Administration loans

Remember, the loss of eligibility applies to all the land you farm, not just to specific erodible or wetlands fields.

What Is Highly Erodible Land?

About one-quarter of America's cropland is considered highly erodible. To be considered "highly erodible land," potential maximum erosion must be more than eight times the rate at which the soil can erode and maintain productivity. To be considered a highly erodible field, one-third or more of a field must be highly erodible, or the highly erodible area must be 50 acres or more.

What can you do if you are farming highly erodible cropland—or if you aren't sure if your land is highly erodible?

* Contact the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) to see if this provision applies to you and your land.

* Farm your land according to a conservation plan which you develop for your highly erodible fields in cooperation with SCS and your local conservation district. Farming according to your plan will help you reduce soil loss to levels that are technically and economically achievable. You will retain eligibility for USDA farm program benefits.

* Plant permanent cover on fields where annual crops cannot be grown without excessive erosion. If you choose this option, you may enter the land into the Conservation Reserve and plant permanent grasses, legumes, trees, windbreaks, or wildlife cover. You will continue to have the option of participating in other USDA programs.

* Farm highly erodible fields without using a locally approved conservation plan. You will lose your eligibility for certain USDA farm program benefits.

For conservation planning assistance, contact your local conservation district or SCS office. USDA staffs are ready to help you continue to qualify for program benefits and to explain the conservation provisions of the 1985 Farm Bill.



CONSERVATION PROVISIONS OF THE FARM BILL



Helping America's Farmers

protect the land,
safeguard water quality,
enhance wildlife habitat,
and
strengthen the economy.

This brochure is provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the National Wildlife Federation Corporate Conservation Council and the Tennessee Valley Authority to help farmers and ranchers to protect soil and water resources.



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE



TENNESSEE
VALLEY
AUTHORITY



NATIONAL
WILDLIFE
FEDERATION

The Center for Agricultural Impacts on Water Quality



Minnesota Extension Service
University of Minnesota

Water is one of Minnesota's plentiful and valuable resources. Its high quality supports a very productive agricultural economy, an abundant fauna of fish and wildlife, and a large and profitable tourist industry. Water is a natural resource that should be protected and maintained at any cost.

Agriculture is a major contributor to Minnesota's economy. At the same time, the cropland is subjected to large inputs of agricultural chemicals. Minnesota ranks fifth in the nation in fertilizer nitrogen use and third in use of pesticides. Pesticide use is predominately herbicides, but significant amounts of insecticides and fungicides are used in certain areas.

The potential for transport of these chemicals into waters is great. Since these chemicals are applied in large quantities, and some of them are toxic at very low concentrations, water contamination has serious consequences.



The Center for Agricultural Impacts on Water Quality

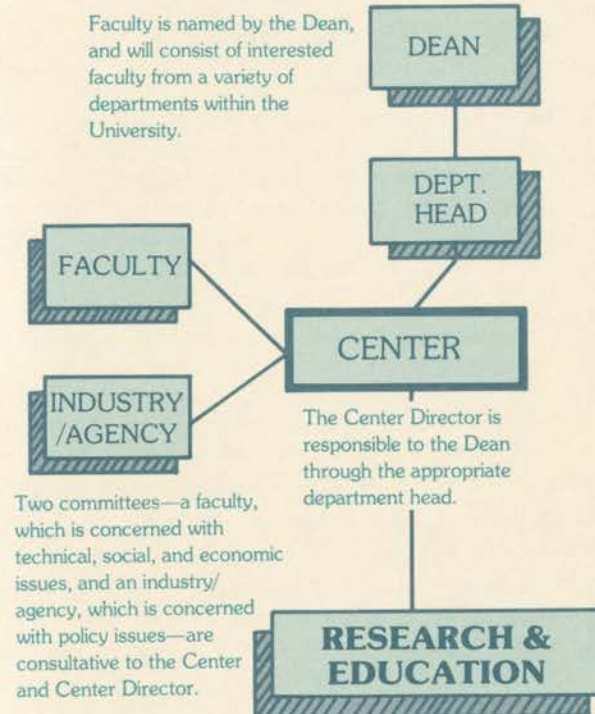
With the diversity of research and educational groups involved with water, none were closely focused on research concerning water quality relating to agricultural management practices. The College of Agriculture, charged with research and educational programs related to agriculture, established the Center for Agricultural Impacts on Water Quality to focus on this important issue. The Departments of Agronomy and Plant Genetics, Plant Pathology, Entomology, Agricultural Engineering, Soil Science, and the Branch Station all have relevant expertise through their missions of fertilizer and pesticide usage and natural resource management. Individuals in other departments such as Agricultural and Applied Economics also have relevant expertise and interest.

What is the Center's Role?

The Center:

- provides information on agriculturally-related water quality issues to legislators, state and federal agencies, educational bodies, and the general public
- facilitates multi-disciplinary research on water quality issues
- provides leadership in prioritizing research and educational needs
- obtains funding for research and education
- procures and supervises the use of laboratory equipment and facilities

How Does the Center Operate?



The Center's Research and Objectives

Research at the Center focuses on the basic behavior of chemicals and nutrients in the environment, the practices for responsible management of chemicals, and modeling of chemical behavior in the environment. Its objectives include minimizing groundwater contamination by agricultural chemicals, developing and improving managerial procedures that reduce agricultural chemical use, and increasing our understanding of the behavior and longevity of agricultural chemicals in soil and groundwater systems, and assessing the social and economic impacts of management practices.

Looking Ahead

Symposia, conferences, and workshops will be conducted that will address problems and questions raised about the impact of agricultural practices on both surface and ground water quality. Some symposia will be of national and international nature; others will focus specifically on Minnesota concerns, problems, and solutions.

The Center will establish research sites in sensitive soil and hydrogeologic areas, encourage and support field-oriented basic and applied research on agricultural management practices, and review the technical aspects of research plans and completed projects.

Other University of Minnesota faculty and persons outside the University will be encouraged and supported to conduct research projects on relationships between agricultural practices and water quality. Research results will be published in the appropriate technical and scientific journals, extension publications, conference and workshop proceedings, and periodicals.

For further information, contact:

**Jim Anderson, Director
Center for Agricultural
Impacts on Water Quality
S501 Soil Science
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
(612) 625-8209**

Minnesota Extension Service • University of Minnesota

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Impacts on Water Quality
S501 Soil Science
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108**

**THE FUTURE OF MINNESOTA'S
SOIL AND WATER RESOURCES
WILL BE DETERMINED BY
WHAT WE DO TODAY.**



**A Plan to Create
An Endowed Chair
for
Soil and Water Resources**

**SOIL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA**

Impacts from the Past- Hope for the Future

Our soil and water resources constitute the base for Minnesota's economy. They influence the quality of water in our streams, rivers, and lakes - our source of water for:

- Agriculture
- Forestry
- Drinking and Human Survival
- Fish and Wildlife
- Recreation and Tourism
- Industrial Use

The abuse or inadequate understanding of one of these resources may have grave consequences for the other. Minnesota is unique in its abundance of these natural treasures.
We have:

- 23 Million Acres of Cropland
- 17 Million Acres of Forest Soils
- 7 Million Acres of Organic or Peat Soils
- Over 14,000 Lakes
- Thousands of Miles of Streams and Rivers (our waters flow north, south and east)
- Some of the Finest Recreational Areas in the World

Maintaining-Improving Soil and Water Quality

The integrity of our soil and water resources is being threatened in ways we do not fully understand. For example, the quality of both surface and ground water is intimately related to soil characteristics and soil management. Rainfall on fields or forests either runs off, carrying dissolved constituents and sediments, or infiltrates the soil, to later appear, perhaps, in our ground water, lakes, rivers or streams. Polluted soils and waters lose their agricultural, industrial, and recreational / tourism value, becoming hazardous to public health.

Careful research and study are required to evaluate the extent of these and other potential problems and to design programs that can correct degradation of our soils and water. Minnesota provides an unparalleled natural laboratory for integrated research because of its unique qualities of :

- Soils
- Waters
- Geology
- Diverse Land Use
- Geographic Location

Faculty members of the Soil Science Department at the University of Minnesota have received national recognition for soil and water resources analysis. It is important that we expand and strengthen their leadership in researching and solving these problems.

Building on Minnesota's Strengths...

The University of Minnesota seeks to create an Endowed Chair for Soil and Water Resources Development and Conservation. This chair will strengthen the Soil Science Department's research programs investigating soil and water resources. The end result will be wise land use, protection, and conservation of these natural resources. From this enhanced research effort will develop :

- An Improved Data Base
- New Guidelines for Optimum Land Use and Conservation
- A Resource Center for Educational Programs
- Guidance for Public Policy Decisions

A distinguished scientist who excels in the field of soil and water resources will be recruited for this chair. This individual will work closely with colleagues within the Soil Science Department and with counterparts in the University of Minnesota, other colleges, and governmental and non-profit agencies to :

- Conduct an active research program providing solutions to soil and water resource problems
- Disseminate information on research to students and decision makers
- Attract high caliber undergraduate, graduate, and post doctoral students and visiting professors
- Strengthen Minnesota's leadership as a national center for soil and water resource development and conservation study

...With Your Help

Please become a partner in this effort by making a contribution and/or pledge to the Endowed Chair for Soil and Water Resources Development and Conservation. Your contribution to the University of Minnesota Foundation is tax deductible and may be pledged over a period of up to 10 years.

We have a unique opportunity to match contributions for this chair with monies from the Permanent University Fund. That Fund will match up to one million dollars in private gifts provided for this chair.

Please act today. Endowed chairs are a catalyst for building and maintaining lasting excellence at the University of Minnesota.

Your expressed concern for soil and water through your contribution will help insure and enrich Minnesota's future for us all.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Director of Development
Institute of Agriculture, Forestry,
and Home Economics
201 Coffey Hall 1420 Eckles Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55108
(612) 624-4777

Dr. William E. Larson
Department Head
Soil Science Department
439 Borlaug Hall
University of Minnesota
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(Retired)

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Group Vice President
Agronomy and Transportation
Cenex / Land O' Lakes

LAURIS KRENIK
Former Chair- Board of Regents
University of Minnesota; Farmer

WILLIAM E. LARSON, Ph.D.
Department Head
Soil Science Department
University of Minnesota

RONALD NARGANG
Director
Division of Waters
Department of Natural Resources
State of Minnesota

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President, Rosen's Inc.

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Executive Director
Minnesota Association of Cooperatives
(Retired)

D. WILLIAM TIFFANY
Farmer

ROBERT D. MUNSON, Ph.D.
Chair - Endowed Chair Fund Campaign
Soil Science Department
University of Minnesota



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Soil
Conservation
Service

200 Federal Building
316 North Robert Street
St. Paul, MN 55101

December 3, 1987

To: All Agencies

Subject: Interagency FSA Training Sessions

The Minnesota Extension Service, Soil Conservation Service, Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service, Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be putting on a training session for the following:

1. All the agencies listed above.
2. Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry, Waters, Wildlife and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.
3. Minnesota Soil and Water Conservation District supervisors and their employees.
4. Minnesota Land Improvement Contractor (LICIA) members and other conservation contractors.
5. Commissioners and other political representatives.
6. Officers of key organizations such as Wheat Growers, Pheasants Forever, Minnesota Farmers Union, Ducks Unlimited, etc.
7. Lending institution representatives, newspaper reporters and anyone who can help get the word out to farmers.

The training session will consist of two parts. The first day will provide an overview of the entire program. The second day will be for the individual agencies to hold their own training session and will be held at the agency's discretion.

The Soil Conservation Service will provide an indepth training session on the second day for the Soil Conservation Service and the Minnesota Soil and Water Conservation District employees.

All participating agencies are requested to send out notification of these meetings to their field staff. The Soil Conservation representative at the field office level should contact all the local people listed above, either by phone or letter, and inform them about the first day's session. The meeting location and times will be sent from the SCS area conservationist at a later time.

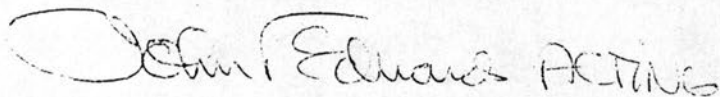
-more-



We hope that by using a two-way information approach everyone that should be invited will receive at least two requests to attend.

The training sessions will be held as follows:

Rochester	January 5 January 6	All participants SCS/SWCD employees
St. Cloud	January 7 January 8	All Participants SCS/SWCD employees
Alexandria	January 11 January 12	All participants SCS/SWCD employees
Marshall	January 13 January 14	All participants SCS/SWCD employees
Thief River Falls	January 25 January 26	All participants SCS/SWCD employees
Mankato	January 27 January 28	All participants SCS/SWCD employees

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gary R. Nordstrom", followed by the word "ACTING" in all caps.

GARY R. NORDSTROM
State Conservationist

Cost-Share Program
Roll-over Allocations
FY88

District	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Aitkin	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Blue Earth	52,000	30,450
Carlton	24,000	24,000
Faribault	6,000	6,000
Kandiyohi	9,750	9,750
Mower	14,000	14,000
Olmsted	20,000	- 0 -
Pine	15,000	15,000
Ramsey	100,000	37,500
So. St. Louis	10,000	10,000
Pope	15,000	- 0 -
Stearns	27,500	- 0 -
Stevens	31,600	31,600
Wabasha	22,000	22,000
Washington	34,000	25,000
Winona	100,000	- 0 -
Yellow Medicine	4,700	4,700
	<u>\$488,550</u>	<u>\$233,000</u>