

South Valley Initiative  
Minutes 2-27-2008  
Dakota Magic Casino  
Hankinson, ND

Welcome and introductions. Lance Yohe explained who the RRBC is and the purpose of the meeting and gave an overview of the last meeting including the North Ottawa Project.

South Fargo Project Update: Jeff Volk – Moore Engineering  
The city of Fargo is the lead on the project along with Cass county.  
Most of the flooding in 1997 came out of the Wild Rice River

There are 5 alternatives on the table for the project and include a mix of levees with or without diversion channels and storage inside and outside the protected area:

- [Wild Rice River Levee](#) (PDF)
- [70th Avenue South Outlet](#) (PDF)
- [Rose Coulee Outlet](#) (PDF)
- [Wild Rice River Diversion](#) (PDF)
- [Wild Rice River Bypass](#)

The 5<sup>th</sup> option is a complete diversion of the Wild Rice River.

There is also the option of water storage in Antelope Creek. There are 5 possible sites but not specific as there has not been a formal meeting with decision makers or land owners.

Questions:

Gene: How and where dams on Antelope Creek?

A: Jeff: nothing specific as they haven't spoken with the right people yet.

Gene: Estimate on Antelope storage?

Jeff: Could take off 6-12 inches.

Gene: What about Whiterock dam storage?

Jeff: Will help some but the drainage area is relatively small

Richland and Cass need to come together to control Wild Rice – Fargo cannot make that decision

500-600 acres of farmland used for Maple Dam Project.

Question on Fargo going West or North?

Sheyenne and Maple Rivers to West and north has more water

Jon Roeschlein updated that the Bois de Sioux watershed district has 3 projects currently that could potentially store additional 10000 ft.

## County Reports:

SE Cass WRD: Tom Fischer  
Southside project

Richland County – Arv Burvee

Sargent – Richard Engst

- Water from Rutland 2 weeks downstream
- Watershed in hills – great benefit
- Drainage complaints and tile drainage issues
- Watershed dams – 40 year life, what is next?

Mark: How does a local water district get money to research a project for a dam?

Jeff: 25% match – focus of a drainage center

Randy also states that the ND State Water Commission has engineers that can do this.

Jeff Volk commented that it is difficult to get land included in project costs for % of funding.

Buffalo/Red – Bruce Albright

- Bruce commented that using MN DNR land for dams and FDR projects can be done as they have done it in the Buffalo Red.
- Plan to build 18.5 mile levy around Oakport township
- MN obtains their land voluntary and through easements – they do not buy land
- Since 1997 they have built 20 farmstead ring dikes
- Area north of Breckenridge has petitioned to be part of Buffalo Red

Bois de Sioux WD – Jon Roeschlein

- Bois de Sioux seems to be similar in statistics to Buffalo Red.
- Watching land sales – if there are benefits they are purchasing
- Red Path Project result – 7000 acre/ft, water behind gate to store
- 12 mile creek project – El Dorado 7 – 2000-2500 acre/ft off Mustinka
- 1<sup>st</sup> petition for project – lake north of city of Herman

Marshall County – no one present to report

Roberts County – Roger Navratil

Water quality issues

Browns Valley spillway – Little MN River

- Small amount of water from Little MN going into Lake Traverse

ND State Water Commission – Randy Gjestvang

If there are any proposed projects and want to apply for cost sharing they need the details. Long term projects need to be submitted as well to get it on the list.

Steve Fischer – Riparian Project (southern end)

- Will limit watersheds that are included

- RC&D covers southern counties
- He will be visiting each county to address river reach

#### NDSU Project

- Wants to test affluent out of tile drains for water quality

#### MAWD Tour

- Tour of watershed including Browns Valley and North Ottawa project
- June 21 – they are meeting at the casino

RRBC Manitoba Floodway tour – first Wednesday in June

Mentioned about linking tour and next meeting with MAWD

Lance had offered the opportunity to elect leadership in the South Valley Group. They will further discuss it at the next meeting.

Adjourn

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Attendance: South Valley Initiative, 2-27-2008, Dakota Magic Casino

Dave Link	Mooreton, ND
Richard Engst	Milnor, ND
Kurt Lysne	Moore Engineering
Jeffrey Volk	Moore Engineering
Roger Navratil	New Effington
Cathy Peterson	Grand Forks, ND (Senator Conrad's Office)
Steve Fischer	Fargo, ND
Arden Anderson	Wahpeton, ND
David Breker	Lidgerwood, ND
Bruce Albright	Barnesville, MN
Arv Burvee	Fairmont, ND
Gene Wefel	Wahpeton, ND
Cari Wefel	Wahpeton, ND
Don Smith	Horace, ND
Jon Roeschlein	Wheaton, MN
Perry Miller	Wahpeton, ND
Ray Ward	Wahpeton, ND
Jack Lalor	US Fish & Wildlife Service
Duayne Baldwin	Lidgerwood, ND
Jim Bosse	Stirum, ND
Mark Breker	Rutland, ND
Randy Gjestvang	ND State Water Commission
Don Holen	Wahpeton, ND
Dan Jacobson	Forman, ND