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NEWS & VIEWS

RED RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT BOARD

WATERSHED DISTRICT REQUESTING BIDS FOR IMPOUNDMENT CONSTRUCTION

(Roseau, Minn.) Construction bids for a water impoundment project that will eventually store 9500 acrefeet of flood water are being accepted by the Roseau River Watershed District. The \$10 million Hay Creek/Norland Impoundment will soon begin with the construction of phases one and three. When completed, District Administrator Rob Sando says the project will contribute significantly to the District's flood management and natural resource conservation initia-

"The Hay Creek/Norland project is significant both for its flood management benefits and also for its natural resource enhancements," says Sando. Besides flood control, the project provides for wetland and prairie restoration, migratory bird habitat, and improves water quality.

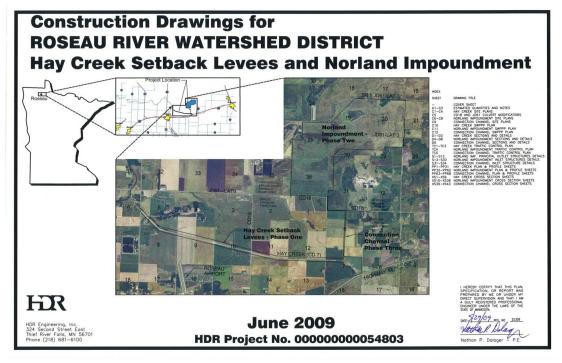
HDR Engineering of Thief River Falls has designed the project. Nate Dalager of HDR notes that phase one will include the construction of setback levees along Hay Creek and phase three includes construction of a connection channel. "The construction of the levees and channel provides the needed infrastructure for the entire project," says Dalager.

The Hay Creek/Norland
Project is consistent with
the mission of the Roseau
River Watershed District, says
District board member Steve
Lee. "The board has worked
hard to make sure this is a
great project for the citizens
of the Roseau River Water-

shed District," says Lee.

The project is funded by the State of Minnesota, the Red River Watershed Management Board, and the Roseau River Watershed District. The partnership allows for cost sharing so that no one agency has to fund the entire cost of the project. The Red River Watershed Management Board funds flood management projects throughout the Red River valley in Minnesota. It is comprised of affiliated watershed districts in Wheaton, Ada, Fertile, Warren, Thief River Falls, Hallock, Humboldt, and Roseau.

Information about bid submittals is available at the Roseau River Watershed District office.



RRWMB Step 2 Funding Request: Total Funding is 75% State, 25% Local (Total Project Cost ~ \$10,000,000); 75% State of Mn Bonding = \$7,500,000; 12.5% Proposed RRWMB Cost Share = \$1,250,000; 12.5% Proposed RRWD Cost Share = \$1,250,000.

RRWMB MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

At its regularly scheduled June meeting, the RRWMB:

- Received a report from Mark Meister, Public Information Officer and authorized \$2,800 with Radio/FM and KFGO to retain Joel Heitkamp to broadcast from two project locations in the basin.
- Authorized a discretionary budget of \$10,000 for the Public Information Committee.
- Received an update from Julie Goehring, Communications Coordinator, Red River Basin Commission (RRBC), regarding the stream gaging effort jointly funded by the RRWMB and the Red River Joint Water Resource Board of North Dakota to gather flow information in areas where no USGS gaging was being conducted.
- Received a report from Ron Harnack,
 Project Coordinator and agreed to
 partner with Minnesota Recovers as
 the fiscal agent for the Environmental
 Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) for
 the installation of farmstead ring dikes.
- Approved a reallocation of \$1M
 previously authorized for the local share
 of natural resource enhancements for the
 North Ottawa Impoundment Project to
 be used towards land acquisition for the
 Redpath Project up to \$750,000.
- Received a report from Naomi Erickson, Administrator.
- Authorized the Step II submittal of the Hay Creek/Norland Project of the Roseau River WD.

EVENTS COMING UP

The next meeting of the RRWMB will be on Tuesday, July 21, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. at The Blue Moose, East Grand Forks, MN with the Red River Joint Water Resource Board. A tour of projects in the Red Lake and Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed Districts will be conducted following lunch.

Watershed District Developments

MIDDLE SNAKE TAMARAC RIVERS WD

The Middle Snake Tamarac Rivers WD reported that the completion of Phase I (Embankment) on the Agassiz Valley Water Resource Management Project is expected in time for the Joint Annual Meeting bus tour scheduled for July 21, 2009.

Phase II (Inlet Works) construction has started on the south inlet ditch (.5 miles) with only seeding remaining. The north inlet ditch (3.5 miles) has also started construction. Completion of Phase II is anticipated this summer.

Phase III (Wetland Mitigation) which is the final phase of the project is also expected to be completed this summer.

Grand Forks, ND

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