Agenda Item: 6.

Memorandum

To: FEL Subcommittee

From: Amanda Grint, Water Resources Engineer

Date: September 30, 2013

Re: Kennard Lagoon Property Update

In 2010, the Village of Kennard completed a project that improved their wastewater system by pumping sewage to the City of Blair for treatment. The Board supported this regionalized wastewater system because it provided benefits to water quality and overall public health, so the District contributed \$250,000 to the Village of Kennard.

As part of the agreement, the Village transferred title of the former 18 acre treatment lagoon site to the NRD (see attached map). This property is located on the banks of the Big Papillion Creek just south of Highway 30. It should be noted that the 18 acres is within the top of dam elevation for a previously studied Dam Site 3C project, although the reservoir has never been a planned project.

A farm lease has been in place with Merle Andersen since the District obtained ownership of the property. Earlier this year, it was requested by a director that the District look at selling this property and in November the farm lease with Mr. Andersen will expire.

Although there are numerous options, staff has identified several viable options for the property:

- The property could be sold at auction.
- The District could retain ownership of the property but accept sealed bids for a farm lease; the bids could establish rent for a 3-5 year period.
- The District could retain ownership of the property but enter into an agreement with a conservation group, such as Pheasants Forever, who would establish and maintain habitat on the property at no cost to the District.







