

Agenda Item: 9.

Excerpt from the December 7, 2010 PPO Subcommittee Meeting.

Burt-Washington Drainage District Request for Funding for the Burt County Drainage Ditch Cut Off Project:

Jim Becic gave an overview of the project noting that the Burt-Washington Drainage District is proposing to construct a drainage ditch cutoff which would intercept flow from the upstream hills and divert to the Missouri River. Bids for the project were received and the estimated project cost is \$2.8 million with an estimated \$1.6 million in construction costs and another \$1.2 million in right of way, design and utility relocates. Mr. Becic noted that the NRD has a history of working with this drainage district on special watershed projects notably the Silver Creek watershed which drains into the area that the diversion ditch is planned for. It was recommended by staff that the NRD work with the drainage district to establish another special watershed to target runoff upstream before it gets to the drainage ditch cutoff.

Randy Olson addressed the Subcommittee as the representative of the Burt Washington Drainage District. He gave a presentation on the project, Brunner Ditch Extension, and the history of the B-W Drainage District. Mr. Olson noted that the project provides flood protection for the communities of Tekamah and Herman as well as protecting agricultural land.

Mark Mainelli, with Mainelli Wagner and Assoc. addressed the Subcommittee as the engineer for the project. He noted that his firm had been working on the project for 3 years and that the channel design was optimized to handle all water flowing to it rather than for a certain storm frequency. The channel also incorporates environmental considerations such as providing less steep side slopes, buffers and wetland mitigation. He noted that right of way is nearly complete and that all permits including the 404 permit have been obtained.

There was discussion with the Board and staff that the NRD's practice in the past has been to work on special watershed projects which by definition in the program is upstream controls to help with flooding and sediment. It was noted that the B-W Drainage District should continue discussions with the NRD on this project and look at potential projects which might fit the special watershed program.

- **It was moved by Director Fred Conley and seconded by Director Thompson that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the Burt-Washington Drainage District funding request for the Brunner Ditch Cutoff Project be denied and that Management work with the Drainage District and NRCS to select a recommended Special Watershed Project Area for consideration of planning and implementation by the Board.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Voting yes: Conley (Fred), Klug, Tesar, Thompson, Conley (John)
Voting no: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Excerpt from the December 9, 2010 Board of Directors Meeting.

B. Programs, Projects and Operations Subcommittee: Director John Conley reported that the PPO Subcommittee met on December 7, 2010 and he gave a brief recap of the meeting.

•• **MOTION NO. 5** It was moved by Director John Conley that the following recommendation be adopted:

PPO Recommendation #1: Burt-Washington Drainage District Request for Funding for the Burt County Drainage Ditch Cut Off Project – Recommendation that the Burt-Washington Drainage District funding request for the Bruncker Ditch Cutoff Project be denied and that Management work with the Drainage District and NRCS to select a recommended Special Watershed Project Area for consideration of planning and implementation by the Board.

Director Japp submitted petitions regarding funding for the “Bruncker” Project. Copies of the petitions are attached to the file copy of the minutes. There was discussion.

Roll call vote was held on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 9-yea, 1-nay and 1-abstention.

Voting Yea	-	Bradley, Conley (Fred), Conley (John), Erickson, Fowler, Klug, Tesar, Thompson, Kolowski
Voting Nay	-	Japp
Abstaining	-	Lanphier
Absent	-	None