Statement in regards to Schnitker Law Office Letter, Dated November 20, 2019

Executive Director Johnson and LSOHC members,

On behalf of the Roseau River Watershed District, I would like to clarify some concerns that were raised by the November 20th email from Schnitker Law Office and the attachment submitted from Otisco Engineering. First and foremost, the extension request is specific to the grant agreement between the MNDNR and the LSOHC, and not the Roseau River Watershed District. Our understanding, from our project partners within the Department of Natural Resources, are that negotiations are proceeding for the parcels eligible for acquisition using the applicable grant funds.

It appears that the primary concern of Mr. Schnitker and Otisco Engineering on behalf of their shared client goes as follows: how many acres of land owned by their shared client is subject to the project’s footprint and how does that change the existing flood dynamics to said property within the drained lake? Per the data request the following link was supplied allowing the public access to all documents subject to the project team process https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1sEsJ4redD-LQnQoG41A0cW4Y1o8damR9. The first document in this google doc (36 in total) was specific to the preferred alternative corridor as it overlays on private lands. Within this corridor, infrastructure i.e. dykes, ditches, culvert etc., may be shifted to avoid cultural or wetland resources to comply with state and federal regulations. As a result of this potential to shift the alignment within the corridor, we have refrained from submitting acres impacted by the project to subject landowners to avoid confusion. We share the frustration in project timelines, as these large multi-faceted projects tend to move slowly, however we have met with delays in part due to our willingness to work with private landowners. The Project Team met with private landowners (including those retained by council) to adjust the final corridor of dikes to reduce overall impact on private land through fragmentation. As a result of this action, the modified alignment required follow-up investigation for cultural and wetland resources, creating substantial delays to the project.

Thank you for your time in this matter.

Respectfully,

Torin McCormack
Watershed Specialist – Roseau River Watershed District
2, 5, and 10 Year, 10-Day Events
Existing and 2a' Hydrographs at Ross

Flow (cf/s)

Model Time (days)

3683 ac-ft
3003 ac-ft
3660 ac-ft

1.4 Days
1.1 Days
4.2 Days
4.4 Days

3816 cfs
3779 cfs
Difference = 37 cf/s

3077 cfs
3040 cfs
Difference = 37 cf/s

2474 cfs
2275 cfs
Difference = 199 cf/s

Legend:
- Existing 2-Yr, 10-Day Flow
- Existing 5-Yr, 10-Day Flow
- Existing 10-Yr, 10-Day Flow
- 2-Yr, 10-Day 2a'
- 5-Yr, 10-Day 2a'
- 10-Yr, 10-Day 2a'
FDR Tiers – Adjacent Lands and Downstream

Frequent Benefit
- 2-5 year flood frequency….improved conditions up to about 35 feet for adjacent lands and downstream

10 year 10 day Benefit
- Improved conditions downstream and similar to existing conditions and/or flowage easement for affected lands

100 year Flood
- Minimal impact
Embarkment Height - Alternative 2A

LEGEND

- Embankment Height
  - < 2.0 FEET
  - 2.1 - 4.0 FEET
  - 4.1 - 6.0 FEET
  - 6.1 - 8.0 FEET
  - > 8.1 FEET

- Major Roads
- County Roads
- Township Roads
- Waterway
- Sections
Roseau Lake - Landowner Perspectives
Roseau Lake 2017
Looking North East across "Kveen Island"
Elevation – 1033’

- Project Footprint
- Parcel Boundaries
Roseau Lake 2019
Looking South across “Kveen Island”
Elevation ~ 1032’ in April
Elevation ~ 1035’+ in October

- Parcel Boundaries