

Newfolden / Middle River Subwatershed Flood Damage Reduction Project Team Meeting #5
6:00 PM, April 24, 2017
Newfolden Community Center
Newfolden, MN

A meeting of the Newfolden / Middle River Subwatershed Flood Damage Reduction Project was held at the Newfolden Community Center in Newfolden, MN on April 24, 2017 at 6PM.

In attendance were: Kevin Pierce, Joel Swan, David Lokstad, David Myhrer, Glenn Meekma, Bruce Knutson, Chris Knutson, Greg Hufnagle (City of Newfolden), Darin Jacobson, Tammy Hansen (City of Newfolden), Denise Oakes (MPCA), Matt Fischer (BWSR), Ruth Anne Franke (MNDNR), Jason Anderson, Sharon Bring (Marshall County), Eunice Liedberg, Jerad Liedberg, Rodney Liedberg, Norman Lindemoen, Dillon Nelson (HDR), Nate Dalager (HDR), David Bakke (MSTRWD), Ben Kleinwachter (MSTRWD) and Brent Silvis (MSTRWD).

Brent Silvis, Administrator of the Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District gave a short introduction, during which he discussed the history of the project, progress made since the previous meeting, and the agenda. Introductions were made by those in attendance.

Dillon Nelson gave a presentation. The slides can be viewed here: <http://mstrwd.org/wp-content/uploads/Newfolden-PT5.pdf>. Dillon showed a picture of the culverts under the Canadian-Pacific railroad dated March 30, where water had backed up behind the railway was higher than the tops of some of the culverts.

The Purpose and Need Statement of the Project was discussed. Comments about the proposed statement had been received from the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers and those comments had been addressed.

The Purpose and Need Statement that has been developed:

PURPOSE

Remove Newfolden from 1% Annual (100 year) Floodplain

NEED

- ~43 Residences, multiple elevator structures, a church, park, and apartment building in floodplain
- 10 out of 14 properties surveyed are within ½ foot of the Preliminary BFE of 1098.1'
- Structures within floodplain with federally secured mortgage require flood insurance
- City of Newfolden required to adopt a floodplain ordinance
- Economic & residential expansion will be difficult
- Structures in the floodplain will have less value
- New structures must be built 1.5' above BFE
- Home additions may not exceed 50% of home value
- Eliminate unsafe dam hazard
- Rehabilitate deteriorating RR culverts
- Provide safer passage for trains carrying HAZMAT

David Myhrer inquired whether it was known what the 100-year flood elevations were that FEMA had identified. It was agreed that these had not been finalized yet.

Dillon continued with his presentation, and reviewed the alternatives that have been identified.

Tammy pointed out that lowering the 100-year flood stage by one foot should be sufficient for removing the city from the flood plain. It was also suggested that the railroad and MN Highway 59 culverts could be joined.

Dave Myhrer pointed out that there would need to be a guarantee that the selected alternative would remove the city from the flood maps.

The time and date of the next meeting were discussed. It was suggested that a meeting be held earlier in the day, to accommodate some potential partners that have not been attending the meetings. It was suggested that the next meeting be held at 9 AM on May 22.

Dave Thompson suggested that some action items to be completed before the next meeting should be identified. The following list was compiled:

- Determine FEMA Appeal Status
- Discuss Topography & Elevations with FEMA and MnDNR
- Set / Hold Meeting with Railroad
- Continue Landowner Meetings
- Preliminary Modeling Results
 - Improved RR culvert inundation areas
 - Bypass
 - Minimum storage required to lower 1'-2'
 - Pierce Site

The meeting was adjourned by Brent.