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Driven to DiscoverSM

A Presentation of the 2013 Drainage Research Forum

November 14, 2013

SDSU Extension Regional Center

Sioux Falls, SD

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
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The logo for SDSU Extension, featuring a stylized leaf design with three leaves in blue, green, and yellow.



Drainage System Assessments – Evaluations in Minnesota

IA-MN-SD Drainage Research Forum

Sioux Falls, SD

11-14-13

Al Kean, Chief Engineer, BWSR



Minnesota Stakeholder Drainage Work Group (DWG)

- Started as an advisory group for the “Public Drainage Ditch Buffer Strip Study”, Feb. 2006
- Focus is on drainage law, drainage records modernization, and science-based mutual understandings
- Facilitated by BWSR
- Voluntary participation – Consensus based



Drainage Work Group Membership

Drainage Authorities	AMC – Association of Minnesota Counties
	MAWD – Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts
Farm Groups	MFB – Minnesota Farm Bureau
	MFU – Minnesota Farmers Union
	Reps. of other Ag and Producer Groups (MAWRC, MCGA, etc.)
Environmental Groups	MCEA – Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy
	FWLA – Fish and Wildlife Legislative Alliance
	MCF – Minnesota Conservation Federation
Other Associations	MASWCD – MN Assn. of Soil and Water Conservation Districts
	MVA – Minnesota Viewers Association
	MACATFO – MN Assn. of Co. Auditors Treasurers Financial Officers
	MADI – Minnesota Association of Drainage Inspectors
	RRWMB – Red River Watershed Management Board
	MAT – Minnesota Association of Townships
State Agencies +	BWSR, DNR, MDA, MPCA + UMN, MSU-M
Legislature	Legislators and/or House and Senate committee staff



Context for this Presentation - 1

- Drainage Work Group discussion about drainage system assessments for perpetual conservation easements
- Urban DWG member experience with stormwater utilities, for which assessments are runoff based
- Could runoff-based drainage system assessments provide incentive to reduce runoff? Could it work for drainage system assessments?
- MN Chapter 103E drainage system “**viewing**” to **determine benefits and damages** is **mass appraisal based** to define increased value or reduced costs with and without drainage



Context for this Presentation - 2

- 2011 MN Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) grant to BWSR: **“Conservation Based Approach for Assessing Public Drainage Benefits”** → BWSR hired UMN
- DWG current discussion about drainage system assessments to road authorities
- MnDOT concerns about consistency of, and basis for, assessments
- Water Management Districts involving old ag drainage ditches in Twin Cities Metro are being established by watershed districts with runoff-based assessments (use NRCS Runoff Curve Number)



Questions?

Hand-off to Dr. Gary Sands