

MEETING NOTES PREPARED BY SHERRY HOSFORD

SHORTFOOT CREEK WATERSHED PLANNING

LANDOWNER MEETING (#8)

FEBRUARY 2, 2018

GENESEO ND

Pat Downs, Moore Engineering, Inc. (MEI) welcomed the audience to the Shortfoot Creek Watershed Area landowner meeting. A list of those in attendance are attached to the meeting notes.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the Shortfoot Creek Watershed and the Park Lake concept Alternate # 12 with area landowners. This group will review the Project Team process and planning efforts as well as discuss the options, concepts and the future process and timeline. The Project Team role is to bring local perspective and on the ground reality, guide the decision making process, review comments from agencies and the public and make a recommendation to the Water Resource Board on desired solutions.

Mr. Downs reviewed the draft purpose and need; the adopted goals; the prioritized problem areas, range of alternatives for consideration and the alternatives developed for review.

The next steps are soil borings; survey; preliminary design; environmental review and mitigation plan, operating and maintenance draft plan, economic analysis, Federal permit application, right-of-way; and funding plan - assessment vote.

All alternatives are reviewed by the project team. Impoundments - methodology would be carried forward as it meets the purpose and need including the site investigation factors - damage areas; inundation areas; topography; available storage and avoid impacts to existing structures and major roads. The elevation in the north area of Park Lake is 1153 feet while the elevation in the south end of Park Lake is 1155 feet. Some landowners suggested that SD should keep all the water or at least have the dialogue with someone in SD.

Other questions posed were can this project use eminent domain, how far do the landowners want to lower Park Lake and who will pay. There has not been a project approved at this time and the landowners have the final decision. No information on the depth of the lake is available and would have to analyze all areas. The cost comes down to what the final project entails and where money is available for cost share. If the project entails control structures or pumps would determine how much money is needed for a project; but there is not a project at this time so that information is not known.

Luke Siemieniewski, SC Water Resource Board Chairman explained that another portion of work in the northern part of Shortfoot Creek is scheduled for bid opening in March by the Richland-Sargent #1 Board. Progress is slow on this portion of the creek as they can only do as much work as money becomes available.

The four options that are still on the table include: Impoundment # 7 in Section 22 of Marboe Township, Sargent County; Impoundment #10 in Section 13 of Marboe Township and Section 19 in Duerr Township, Richland County; Impoundment #12 in the Park Lake area, Richland County as well as a portion of SD; and Diversion #29 coming out of SD and following Drain No. 12 in Sargent County.

Looking forward there will be a future landowner meeting for Alternative #7. Alternate #10 will be combined with Alternative #12 as the planning continues. Additional meetings with USFWS

and NDGF will be conducted. The meeting concluded with distribution of access agreements for landowners to sign to allow surveying and environmental review.

Sherry Hosford, Secretary-Treasurer

Sargent County Water Resource District