

ILA Water Quality Committee September 23, 2015

Bud Nielson and Don Erstad reported on their meeting with Douglas County Ditch and Weed Director, Tom Anderson. They said that Tom agreed to help, but can't do anything without direction from the County Board of Commissioners.

They also spoke with the head of Douglas County Land & Resources, Dave Rush. Dave was unfamiliar with the project. Dave is also in favor of putting in the holding pond, but it is not under his department.

Dian Lopez informed the committee that she has spoken with County Commissioner, Jerry Johnson, a few times about getting the DNR holding pond plan completed. Jerry informed the rest of the Commissioners about the project during one of their working sessions. The Commissioners have directed Tom Anderson to get this project done. There is no time to do it this year, so HOPEFULLY it will get done next summer.

Problem-there are three or four different plans: All of the different plans were not explained.

1. Emily Siira from the DNR has a plan, which according to Dian is not very good.
2. Steve Henry's plan using the DNR property to create a new holding pond, which he explained at the first committee meeting.
3. Tom Anderson also has a plan.

Jim Conn said the County Commissioners should be pressed to specify the plan to be completed in a resolution.

Don Erstad and Wes Smith volunteered to attend the next County Commissioners meeting on October 6, 2015 to keep abreast on the progress of the project.

Questions: Who will be responsible for applying for the grants and how much will the ILA have to contribute.

Dian is continuing to work on getting a bigger wetlands area that would last as good filtering system for Lake Ida for about 30 years. She was informed by Jerry Johnson that the property owned by Gladys Freudenberg, may qualify for Wetlands Restoration. If the property qualifies the property owner could receive a one-time payment of up to \$7,000 an acre for use of the property. Dian informed the property owner of this possibility. The property owner seemed favorable and is considering this option. Nothing is definite as of now.

The priority is to get the DNR plan done first and continue to work on the Freudenberg project.