

MEMO TO: Rice Creek Watershed District
Board of Managers

FROM: E. A. Hickok

RE: Judicial Ditch No. 1
Transfer of Control from Ramsey and Washington
Counties to Rice Creek Watershed District

DATE: November 15, 1973

Judicial Ditch No. 1 is a fish-hook shaped drainageway immediately north of White Bear Lake and, at its closest point, one half mile from the north shore. It rises in the vicinity of Fish Lake in Washington County and flows south for one mile before bending west and northwest into Ramsey County. Total length is approximately two miles.

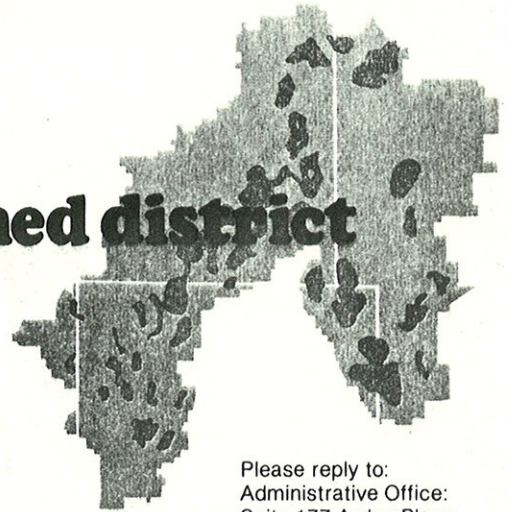
Article 112.65 of Minnesota Watershed District Law describes the mechanics of transferring components of county drainage systems to watershed districts. Article 112.72 incorporates, by reference, all regulations of county drainage systems into the watershed district law.

Watershed districts exist for the purpose of managing all water resources within a specific drainage area. Their effectiveness is based largely on their ability to coordinate an overall program involving any combination of local governmental units. The District has the staff and organization to deal directly, on a frequent and regular basis, with questions involving drainage systems where other governmental units may require special hearings or the convening of special purpose meetings to make decisions. These include issues like flood control, erosion abatement, public health, flow regulation and proposed changes or improvements.

Judicial Ditch No. 1, originally a natural waterway, represents a typical situation. It is subject to regulation by two counties, at least one municipality and the Rice Creek Watershed District. In the interest of simplification the Watershed District is uniquely suited to fit this component into a total program for water resource management.

Rice Creek watershed district

C/O CITY OF ARDEN HILLS, 1450 W. HWY 96,
ARDEN HILLS, MINNESOTA 55112
TELEPHONE (612) 633-5676



February 16, 1979

Board of Supervisors
Grant Township
3715 Briarwood Ave
Mahtomedi, MN 55115

Please reply to:
Administrative Office:
Suite 177 Arden Plaza
3585 Lexington Ave. No.
Arden Hills, MN 55112
(612) 483-0634

BARBARA BLUME Admin. Ass't.

Re: Goodrich Avenue & Washington Co.
Judicial Ditch No. 1

Gentlemen:

Please refer to the attached copy of E.C. Johnson's letter of September 30, 1975 to Mr. Frank Murray, Rice Creek Watershed Attorney, addressing the removal of an existing culvert on Goodrich Ave. approximately 600' south of the intersection of Washington Co. Judicial Ditch No. 1 and Goodrich Ave. This culvert was removed as part of the 1968 improvements to Goodrich Ave. The stormwater runoff previously carried by the removed culvert was to drain northerly along the west ditch of Goodrich Avenue to Judicial Ditch No. 1. A field check by our office indicates that the west ditch along Goodrich Ave is blocked immediately south of Judicial Ditch No. 1 for a distance of approximately 150 feet. The blockage results in water standing in the Goodrich Avenue ditch to a depth of approximately one foot.

The Board of Managers of the Rice Creek Watershed District have instructed me to request that Grant Township check out the above condition and advise the District when ditch maintenance would be performed to assure proper drainage in this area.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation on this matter.

Very truly yours,

E.A. HICKOK AND ASSOCIATES
Engineers for the District

William D Weidenbacher /p.l.

William D. Weidenbacher, P.E.
WDW/pcl

cc: Board of Supervisors, White Bear Township
Board of Managers, RCWD
BOARD OF MANAGERS
F. Murray, RCWD Attorney

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RCWD Office

TOWN of GRANT

STILLWATER, MINNESOTA

55082

September 30, 1975

Mr. Frank Murray, Atty.
400 Pioneer Bldg.
St. Paul, Mn. 55101

Dear Mr. Murray:

Bob Briggs, Grant Town Attorney, has brought to our attention, the concern of the watershed district regarding the drainage pattern on Goodrich Avenue, North.

To review the present situation, improvements were made to Goodrich Avenue in 1968. At the time of the work, the engineering studies concerning the flow of water suggested that the existing culvert which allowed water to drain from west to east under Goodrich and then in a northerly direction along Goodrich emptying into a county ditch could be replaced by allowing the water to flow naturally in a northerly direction to this same ditch in the west ditch of Goodrich Avenue. The levels of the culvert and adjoining road ditch were essentially the same and would allow for normal water runoff from the natural swamp and ponding areas to the west of Goodrich. Furthermore, by elimination of the culvert the problems often encountered by normal filling in of such culverts in swamp areas would be eliminated, thereby assuring a more consistent flowage pattern.

It is the Townships position that to alter the current water runoff pattern would constitute a change in the natural flow and would not serve the public interest.

If you have any further questions regarding this subject we would be very happy to discuss them with you.

Best Regards,

E. C. Johnson
E. C. Johnson

Town Board Supervisor

ECJ/a

Frank - we feel that any effort to drain the above mentioned swamp would require a permit from your agency. I'm sure everyone would want a thorough review of such a permit. E. C. Johnson