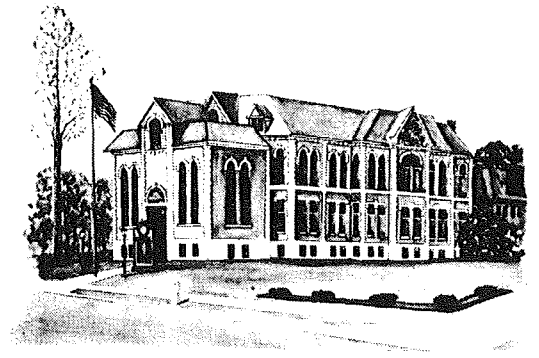


# Brown County

Brown County Planning & Zoning Office  
Brown County Courthouse Room 212  
New Ulm Minnesota 56073



October 16, 1991

Ms. Zona Dewitt  
Legislative Library  
645 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Ms. Dewitt:

Please find enclosed two (2) copies of the Biennial Report 1989-1990 of the Project Riverbend Board of Review for placement on record in the Legislative Library.

If you have any question on this matter, please give me a call at (507) 359-7900.

Sincerely,

Charles Enter  
Zoning Administrator

Enclosure

CE:tc

PROJECT RIVERBEND  
Biennial Report

The following report is submitted for the Project Riverbend Six County Management Plan, in compliance with HF 1915, as signed into law on March 23, 1982. The counties of Blue Earth, Brown, LeSueur, Nicollet, Redwood and Renville respectfully submitted the attached materials as the Minnesota River Management Plans activity summary for the 1989-1990 biennium.

Attached are the following:

1. Minutes of Project Riverbend Annual Board of Review Meeting dated February 28, 1990, as approved by the Board of Review on February 15, 1991.
2. Minutes of Project Riverbend Annual Board of Review Meeting dated February 15, 1991, which will be considered for Board of Review approval at the Board of Review Annual Meeting in February 1992.

During the biennium 1989-1990, there were no formal applications brought before the Project Riverbend Board of Review. As noted in the meeting minutes, the counties reviewed various planning & zoning matters within the Project Riverbend area which were found to be consistent with the Project Riverbend Ordinance.

Respectfully submitted,

*Charles Enter*

Charles Enter, Brown County  
Zoning Administrator  
1990 Project Riverbend Secretary

MINUTES  
Project Riverbend Annual Board of Review Meeting  
February 28, 1990  
Elks Lodge, Mankato, Minnesota

The Project Riverbend Annual Board of Review met on Wednesday, February 28, 1990 at the Elks Lodge, Mankato. Present were Lin Barnes (Blue Earth County Commissioner), Martin Steffel (Brown County Commissioner), Corwin Iverson (Renville County Commissioner), Robert Casey (Le Sueur County Commissioner), Jim Harberts (Blue Earth County Planning Director), Richard Jacobson (Redwood County Commissioner), Larry Zupke (Renville County Zoning Administrator), Leo Getsfried (Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Mankato), Chuck Enter (Brown County Zoning Administrator), Jim Sehl (Department of Natural Resources (DNR), New Ulm), Jim Tersteeg (Renville County Auditor), Terry Bovee (Le Sueur County Planning and Zoning).

Presiding Chairman Barnes called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Chairman Barnes asked everyone to introduce themselves and identify who they are representing.

Moved by Mr. Casey, seconded by Mr. Iverson, to approve the agenda as sent out, the motion carried. Mr. Steffel made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 23, 1989 meeting of the Project Riverbend Board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jacobson and carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was the activity reports from each counties on projects conducted within the Project Riverbend's planning area. Mr. Harberts, representing Blue Earth County, indicated that there had been no conditional use permits, rezonings, or building permits issued in the Project Riverbend area in Blue Earth County in 1989. Mr. Harberts stated that the concrete rubble, which was deposited along the river bank in the summer of 1988 had not yet been removed. The DNR and County were still trying to determine a course of action. Mr. Getsfried indicated that the rubble contains a significant amount of rebar, which has to be removed before any final action can be taken with this material.

Mr. Enter said that the County had issued two building permits within the project area in 1989. Mr. Enter indicated that both building permits were in conformance with the Project Riverbend plan.

Mr. Bovee indicated there were no permit activity in Le Sueur County in 1989, but there was some activity in the flood plain, which they have stopped and they are working with. Mr. Bovee stated that the Uniman Mining Company was proposing an expansion, but that expansion was outside of the Riverbend Planning area. An Environmental Assessment Worksheet had been completed for that expansion. Mr. Bovee also stated that Le Sueur County was working on a revision to their existing flood plain ordinance.

Mr. Enter said that all the counties should have a similar flood plain regulation and that there should be some review of the flood plain ordinance by other adjoining counties.

Project Riverbend Annual Meeting - 2/28/90  
Minutes - Page 2

Mr. Bovee stated that he supports common reclamation standards by each county for sand and gravel operations.

Mr. Jacobson reported that there are two kalin projects within the Riverbend area operating in Redwood County. Kalin is a material that is excavated. There was no other reported activity in Redwood County.

Mr. Zupke reported that there was no activity in Renville County for 1989. He said that after last year's annual meeting, a report had been sent to the State and a letter had been sent back indicating receipt of that report by the State.

End of County reports for the project area.

It was announced that Brown County will be the administering agency for the Project Riverbend area for 1990 and any requests that need Project Riverbend action should be sent to Chuck Enter of Brown County.

Next item was miscellaneous discussion amongst the group. Mr. Bovee again indicated that Le Sueur was working on flood plain maps around the City of St. Peter. He said that they have a problem with what is called the flood fringe. He doesn't want County in any sort of bad situation when it comes to working with the flood plain maps.

The Minnesota River Assessment Project was discussed and it was indicated the group was looking at the entire water shed would try to figure out what the best method was to protect the river. Many state and federal agencies are involved in this project. It was indicated that the counties are not playing much of the role yet.

Mr. Getsfried said that DNR would like the Project Riverbend group to look at expanding the Project Riverbend area to include bluff lines throughout the boundaries of the Project Riverbend area. He stated that the Department of Natural Resources doesn't want another St. Croix River example happening along the Minnesota River. He suggested that counties keep tabs on proposals for development along the river. He felt that the counties have to develop stronger preservation attitudes towards the river.

The Shakopee bypass on Hwy 169 was discussed and it was felt by those present that such a bypass could have a significant impact on the river in that there may be an added attraction for people to move out along the river.

Meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

/laf

MINUTES  
PROJECT RIVERBEND ANNUAL BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING  
February 15, 1991  
Brown County Courthouse, New Ulm, Minnesota

The Project Riverbend Annual Board of Review Meeting was called to order by Chairman Guggisberg at 10:10 A.M. on February 15, 1991, in the Commissioners Room #204 of the Brown County Courthouse in New Ulm, Minnesota. Members present included Commissioners Charles Guggisberg (Brown County), Lynn Barnes (Blue Earth County), William Stangler (LeSueur County), Cliff (Skip) Wenner (Nicollet County), Richard Jacobson (Redwood County), and Marcie McLaughlin (Renville County).

Ex-officio members present were Terry Bovee (LeSueur County), Jim Harberts (Blue Earth County), Larry Zupke (Renville County), and Charles Enter (Brown County). Others present were Leo Geistfried, DNR Area Hydrologist; Jim Sehl, DNR Area Hydrologist; and Scott Sparlin, SCCMR.

Commissioner Lynn Barnes made a motion to approve the Project Riverbend Board of Review meeting minutes of February 28, 1990. Commissioner Stangler seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

County Activity Reports Within Project Riverbend Area in 1990

Jim Harberts noted that two building permits were issued in 1990 in Blue Earth County in the Project Riverbend area. The permits were for a house and for a garage. A two-lot land survey was approved, which was consistent with the Blue Earth County and Project Riverbend regulations.

Charles Enter noted that Brown County issued one building permit for an addition to an existing cattle barn. The addition was 200'+ from the Minnesota River and was on an elevation above the 100 year flood level. The Conditional Use Permit for a Kaolin mining operation in Eden Township is currently under review for a renewal of three years. The Brown County Shoreland Zoning Ordinance Section will be updated this summer with respect to the new DNR Shoreland Regulations.

Terry Bovee noted that no building permits were issued in the Project Riverbend area in LeSueur County in 1990. A replat of an Auditor's Subdivision from approximately 1900 was completed in the St. Peter area to clarify locations of lot lines. The DNR and Corps of Engineers are involved in review of a possible rezoning of floodway/flood fringe areas in the east St. Peter area. Businesses would like to expand but a question remains concerning the strength of emergency levees constructed along the Minnesota River in 1969. Mr. Bovee is investigating an appliance recycling operation in the Project Riverbend area. Also under review is a proposed 75 acre expansion of a silica sand mining operation that is on the edge of the Project Riverbend area.

Commissioner Wenner noted that minimal activity took place in the Project Riverbend area in Nicollet County. A wildlife pond was established in the Courtland area within Project Riverbend and another is being proposed. These are private wildlife ponds. Several culvert clean outs have been reviewed with the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

Commissioner Jacobson report that Kent Runkel is serving as the interim Zoning Administrator for Redwood County. Redwood County will be reviewing the one and a half mile area within Project Riverbend this year. Kaolin mining continues to take place near Redwood Falls within the Minnesota River Valley. A reclamation plan is on file for the present Kaolin mine which is outside the Project Riverbend area.

Larry Zupke noted that no permits were issued in the Project Riverbend corridor in Renville County in 1990. Renville County has set up additional regulations for bluff areas for the review of development plans before construction along the Minnesota River Valley. Mr. Zupke expressed thanks to the Project Riverbend Board for the suggested bluff line controls outside of the Project Riverbend corridor. It was noted that the bluff areas are handled by the individual counties zoning ordinance since the bluff areas are outside of the Project Riverbend corridor. Blue Earth County, LeSueur County, and Nicollet County have Conservancy Districts, which usually require large lot sizes but don't necessarily address bluff protection.

DNR Area Hydrologists Leo Geistfried and Jim Sehl noted that they would review the Renville and Nicollet County Zoning Ordinance bluff line regulations and prepare a proposal for consistent bluff line regulations for consideration by the Project Riverbend Board and the six counties in the Project Riverbend area. The consensus noted was that each county would look at the need for bluff line regulations individually while keeping in mind the need to maintain consistency as much as possible within the Project Riverbend area.

SCCMR

Scott Sparlin, Coordinator for the Sportsman Coalition for a Clean Minnesota River, noted that a three (3) day convention is planned in September 1991. The theme of the convention will be the need for clean Minnesota River. The convention will include seminars with agency representatives explaining what studies and projects are occurring on the Minnesota River and what citizens can do to help clean up the Minnesota River. Mr. Sparlin requested that the Project Riverbend Board be represented at the convention. Commissioner Jacobson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Barnes, to have the Board member from Brown County represent the Project Riverbend Board of Review at the SCCMR convention in September 1991 in New Ulm.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

*Charles Enter*

Charles Enter  
Brown County Zoning Administrator