

ANOKA COUNTY
COUNTY DITCH INSPECTION REPORT

DITCH # 14

DATE: 7/19/94

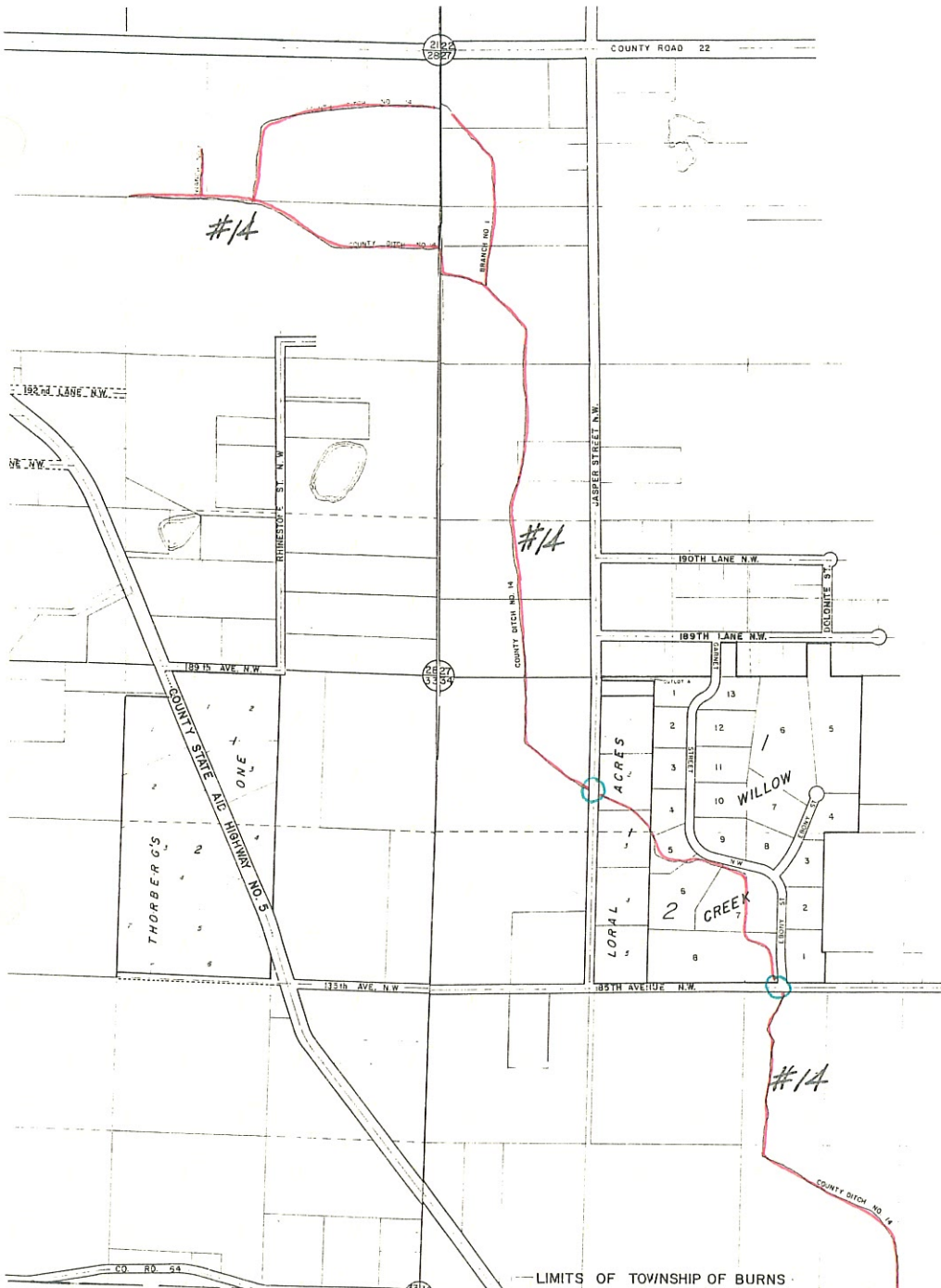
BY: P K Ruud

COMMUNITIES: Burns, Ramsey

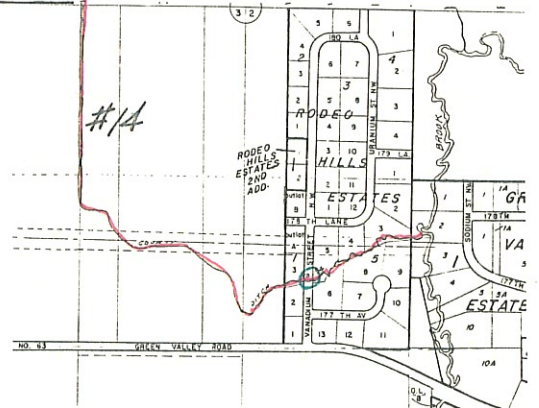
REMARKS:

Vanadium Street	Ditch defined but overgrown with brush and canary grass. Ditch is flowing.
185th Ave NW	Ditch is defined but overgrown on south side with willows. Ditch is flowing.
Jasper Street	Ditch defined and widened to the west. Ditch is flowing. Some use of the meadow to the west for hay.

ACTIVITIES:



--- LIMITS OF TOWNSHIP OF BURNS ---



CO DIT #14

#14

7/19/94

PKR

Vanadium St

Ditch defined but overgrown with brush & canary grass. Flowing.

135th Ave. N.W.

Ditch defined, overgrown on south side with willows. Flowing.

Jasper St N.W.

Ditch defined & widened to west. Flowing.
Some use of meadow along ditch to west for hay.

PUBLIC DRAINAGE DITCH INVENTORY FORM
(Laws of 1990, Chapter 601, Section 27)

1. Drainage authority name: Anoka County (Burns/Ramsey)
2. Drainage ditch name and number: #14
3. Ditch location and drainage area boundary: (shown on attached quadrangle map)
4. Drainage area in acres: 1120 ; Benefitted area in acres: 462
5. Approximate length in miles: Open Ditch 3.97 Buried Tile 0
6. Year constructed: 1892 ; Original cost: \$ 273.62
7. Are original plans on file? Yes No ; Location: Anoka County Courthouse
8. Date of original plans: 1891
9. Are "as built" plans on file? Yes No ; Location: _____
10. Year(s) improved: None
11. Are improvement plans on file? Yes No N/A ; Location: _____
12. Year(s) repaired: 1921
13. Are repair plans on file? Yes No ; Location: Anoka County Courthouse
14. If the ditch was transferred from a county or joint county ditch authority to a watershed district or WMO, is the transfer order on file? Yes No NA
15. Is the list of lands benefitted and damaged on file? Yes No
16. Have the benefits and damages been redetermined? Yes No ; If yes, year(s) of redetermination: _____
17. Has right-of-way been acquired for a 1-rod permanent grassed strip? Yes No ; If yes, has it been maintained? Yes No N/A
18. Is there a maintenance fund for the ditch? Yes No ; If yes, current balance in maintenance fund: \$ _____
19. What was the last year maintenance work was performed by drainage authority:
unknown

20. Have other local units or private parties performed maintenance work on the ditch?
Yes _____ No ; List parties: _____

21. Have the alignment, grade, bottom width, or bridge or culvert crossings been materially changed from the original or improved construction, without going through formal ditch proceedings? Yes _____ No

22. Is the ditch inspected annually _____; every 2-5 years _____; every 5-10 years; only when a problem arises ; or never _____? Year of last inspection: unknown

23. Approximate percentage of the ditch's contributing drainage area that is currently urbanized: 3 %; rural: 97 %

24. Have any substantial areas of wetlands originally totally drained by the ditch reestablished themselves due to lack of ditch maintenance? Yes _____ No

25. What is the general condition of the ditch?

- a. well-maintained _____
- b. fairly well-maintained
- c. poorly maintained _____
- d. very poorly maintained _____
- e. functionally abandoned _____

26. Describe the existing condition of the ditch, including erosion/sedimentation problems:

Several additional ditches have been tied into original ditch. Ditch appears to function fairly well as to current land use. Much land is now idle.

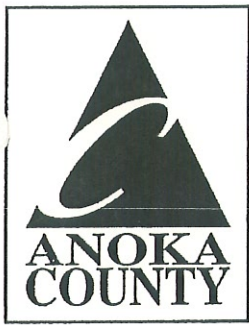
27. Does the ditch continue to serve a useful purpose to one or more properties? Yes
No _____; Estimated acres of agricultural land currently benefitting: 434

28. What plans are there for future management of the ditch? A. Monitor the ditch for problems that occur, such as deadfalls, unapproved culverts/crossings, or filling, that block or impede the normal flow. B. Review, with municipalities & the WMO's, the impact of new development on the drainage system. C. Monitor & repair/replace drainage structures at county highway crossed by the ditch.

29. Additional comments or recommendations for statutory changes: _____

A. Need legislation that allows for maintenance of the county ditch system

B. Need changes in county ditch legislation that provides for a method (s) of assessing property within a drainage area to pay for approved repairs or improvements.



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Investigation Division
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August 11, 2004

TO: Larry Hoium, County Surveyor
FROM: Pamela McCabe, Assistant County Attorney
RE: County Ditch No. 14

Green Line

I am writing in response to your inquiry about County Ditch No. 14 as it relates to a proposed plat.

Your office currently is reviewing a proposed plat that includes an area through which the original County Ditch No. 14 was originally constructed during the 19th century. A number of years later in the early 1920s as part of repair proceedings authorized by the County Board, the ditch was reconstructed. During this repair, the county engineer appointed by the County Board for this repair project realigned the ditch and provided two branches to the ditch.

As part of the contract for this ditch project, the engineer provided that fill from the construction should be placed in the old ditch. The engineer's survey and map includes a portion of the original alignment of County Ditch No. 14 as Branch 2. County Ditch No. 14 as constructed as part of the repair project passes south of the property involved in the proposed plat.

The portion of original alignment that is involved in the proposed plat was not included as part of either Branch 1 or Branch 2. On the County Engineer map, this portion was labeled original location.

Current drainage statutes have specific requirements for the improvement of a drainage system and require a repair project to be converted to an improvement project in order to lengthen, widen, deepen, or change the channel of an existing county ditch. But the repair activities at issue in this situation were undertaken in 1920 and were subject to different statutes applicable to county ditches.

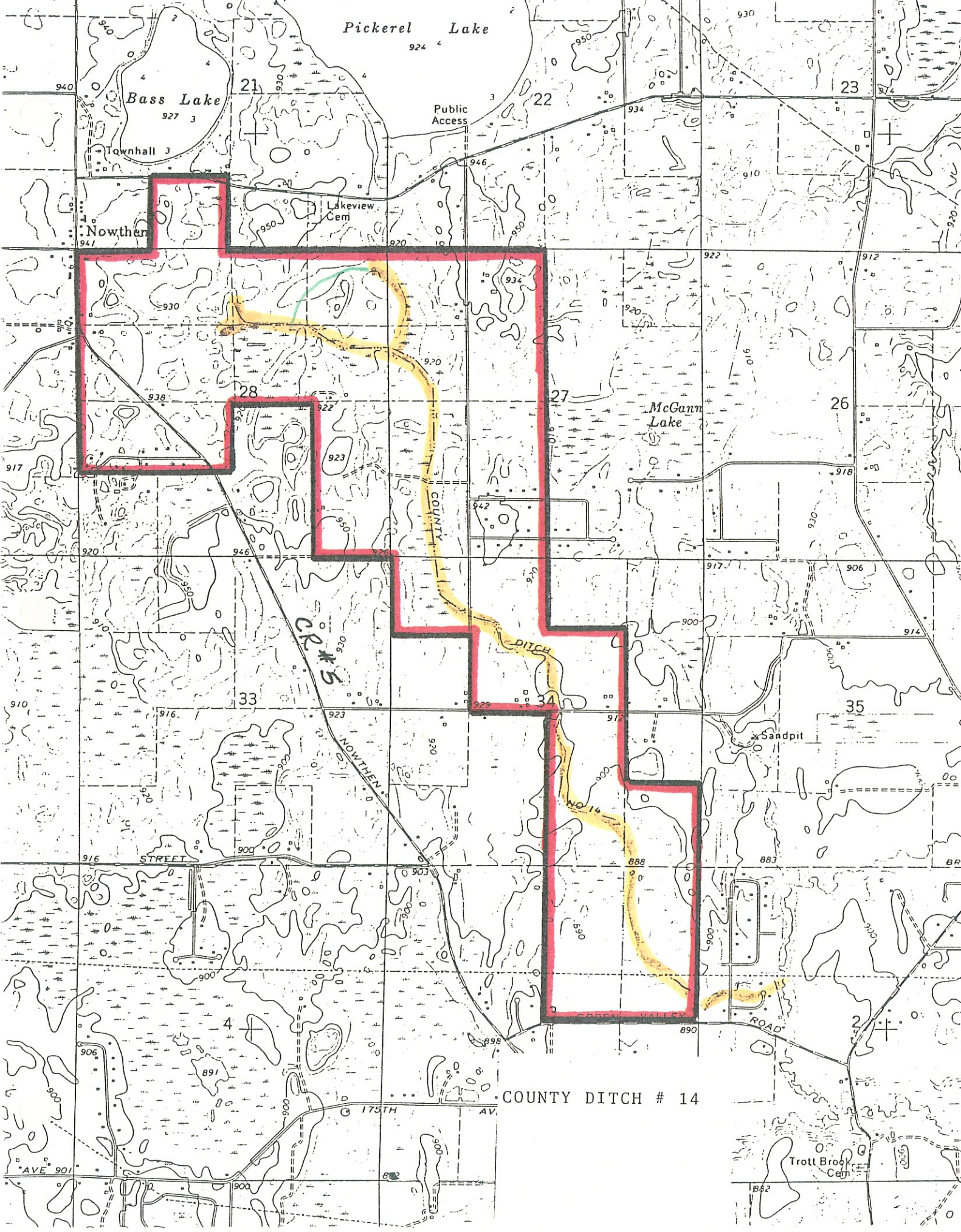
Except for that portion used as Branch 2, the detailed specifications of the engineer do not include the original alignment as a continuing portion of County Ditch No. 14. The 1971 County Ditch Map does not show County Ditch No. 14 as including the original alignment. The Public Ditch Inventory completed in 1992 also does not include the original alignment. County Ditch No. 14 is depicted with two branches and the main ditch passing south of the property being platted. This is the configuration of County Ditch No. 14 that has existed since 1922.

The 1992 Public Ditch Inventory also notes the fact that several additional ditches have been tied into County Ditch No. 14. These additional ditches are classified as private ditches that would facilitate drainage of the benefited properties. The additional ditches are not classified as branches and do not function as part of the county ditch. The property owner may have continued to use a portion of the original ditch configuration as a private ditch.

Based on these facts, I would recommend that the proposed plat be revised to eliminate the depiction of a county ditch on this property.

✓ cc: Jon Olson, Anoka County Ditch Inspector

Affirmative Action / Equal Opportunity Employer



Pickerel Lake

Bass Lake

Public Access

Townhall 3

Nowthen

Lakeview Cem

McGann Lake

CR. S.

DITCH

Sandpit

STREET

NOWTHEN ST.

ROAD

COUNTY DITCH # 14

175TH AV.

Trott Brook Cem