

PETITION FOR PUBLIC DITCH.

To the County Board of the County of Anoka and State of Minnesota.

The undersigned land owners, whose lands will be liable to be affected by or assessed for the expense of the construction of a public ditch and branches herein-after described, would respectfully represent that the public health, convenience and welfare and the reclamation of wet and overflowed lands require the establishment and construction of a public ditch along the following described route in the town of Ham Lake in said County of Anoka, and that the construction of the same will be of a public benefit and utility and will promote the public health and will benefit the lands adjacent thereto, and is necessary for the following reasons, to-wit:-

The land to be drained by the proposed public ditch and necessary branches consists of a large area of low meadow, marsh and bog land, which is overflowed and covered with stagnant water during a large portion of the time, and is too wet, soft and cold to be of use during other times, rendering it, to a large extent, valueless for any purpose in its present condition; that the soil thereof is of great fertility and when drained will be of great value for agricultural and other purposes of various kinds;

The stagnant waters, which from time to time accumulate and stand upon said lands, emit noisome odors and exhalations and furnish a breeding place for great numbers of mosquitoes and other pests and constitute a menace to the health of the inhabitants in the vicinity and of the public generally, which menace will be removed by the drainage to be obtained through the establishment of the proposed public ditch and the necessary branches;

The main ditch proposed to be so laid out and constructed will follow generally the course of the water course known as Coon Creek, from the point where a large County Ditch, known as County Ditch number 44 of Anoka County terminates in said Creek, and continuing to a point where the public ditch numbered 2 of said Anoka County joins the said Coon Creek so called, in the North half ( $N\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the Southeast Quarter ( $SE\frac{1}{4}$ ) of Section Thirty (30), Township Thirty-Two (32) North of Range numbered Twenty-Three (23) in said Anoka County, where the fall will become sufficient to furnish proper drainage to the lands along the creek and the proposed public ditch; that the present course of the said Coon Creek is very crooked and the bed of said

Creek is filled up in places and grown up to weeds and other natural grasses, by reason of all which the natural flow of said creek is impeded and the said basin and meadow lands contiguous and adjacent thereto become overflowed and covered with stagnant water to a considerable extent for a large portion of each year; that at present the said Creek is not of sufficient depth, width or straightness to give proper drainage to the lands contiguous and adjacent thereto.

A general description of the proposed starting point, route and termination of the said proposed ditch is as follows:-

Commencing at a point where County Ditch number 44 of Anoka County intersects the North and South quarter section line of Section Twenty-Seven (27) in township thirty-two (32) and North of Range numbered twenty-three (23), said point being also the intersection of Coon Creek, so called, with the said quarter section line, thence following generally the course of Coon Creek, West through the town of Ham Lake in said County, and continuing west, following generally the course of said Creek through the said town of Ham Lake in said Anoka County, widening, deepening and cutting the bends of the same, to the point where public ditch numbered 2 joins the said Coon Creek, so called, in the North half ( $N\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the Southeast Quarter ( $SE\frac{1}{4}$ ) of Section Thirty (30), Township Thirty-Two (32) North of Range numbered twenty-three (23) in said Anoka County, and there terminating in the said Coon Creek as its outlet; with such branches, extensions and laterals as may be proper and necessary to effect the purpose of the drainage project herein petitioned for and to include branches extending in the same general direction as other creeks flowing into the said Coon Creek at any point along the route of the proposed ditch as above set forth, and as may be deemed necessary and proper by the engineer appointed in these proceedings, and as provided by law.

Your petitioners further represent that the benefits to be derived from the construction of said ditch and its branches as hereinbefore set forth will greatly exceed the cost thereof.

Wherefore, your petitioners pray that you will proceed to lay out and establish said public ditch and branches and cause the same to be constructed as provided by Chapter Two Hundred and Thirty (230) of the General Laws of Minnesota for the year 1905 and acts amendatory thereof and supplementary thereto.

Dated January 22nd A. D. 1916.

Petitioners

Ben Swanson

Albert Hanson

E. C. Finseth

Melvin Moore

Will Clarke

Christ Gillund

A. J. Ross

G. G. Ross

O. Eggen

L. J. Palmquist

Ole Hanson

F. A. Griswold

E. M. Briggs

Adolph Tillong

O. H. Halline