

A SPECIAL MEETING of ratepayers along the
"SHANNON FLOODWAY" in the Rural Municipality
of Morris was held in Lowe Farm on APRIL 30,
at 8 p.m.

-- 80 persons in attendance --

Reeve

Bruce MacKenzie chaired the meeting and summarized the performance of the Shannon Floodway since 1952 and the subsequent reconstruction of same. Since heavy flooding and considerable damage occurred this year, in spite of the new reconstruction, ratepayers were asked to express their views on same and give their opinions as to what should be done to remedy the difficulties experienced.

Councillor B.W.Thiessen illustrated by diagram on the blackboard, how the "Shannon" worked this year. The distance from dyke to dyke was 265' and the bridges spanning the floodway with a 90 foot span. In his opinion these bridges were built too low and not long enough. The berm of the floodway was not carrying but obstructing the flow of water.

Councillor W.F.Recksiedler stated that the "Railroad" bridge North of Sec. 32-4-1 EPM must be enlarged in order to have the "Shannon" function properly; Bridges along the floodway should be raised,

Councillor W.F.Schellenberg suggested lowering of berm, raising and lengthening of bridges, possibly raising dykes and improvement to the mouth of the Shannon.

Bob Davidson: "Outlet to Red River must be properly cleaned and made adequate to handle water East of the Meridian. Railway and Highway bridge N of 32-4-1E must be enlarged.

Leo Kuntz: "Reconstruct outlet of "Shannon" first; lower berms, lengthen and raise bridges, to handle maximum flow of water when fast break-up occurs.

Walter Anderson: "Increase flow of water along Shannon from Meridian East. North dyke should be higher than South dyke, so that when channel cannot handle the flow, less farm buildings would be flooded. (Heavier population to the North of Dykes). - If feasible, construct a reservoir or channel into a valley, at West end of Shannon Floodway, to control flow of waters.

George Schroeder: "Size and height of present bridges along "Shannon" not adequate when snowfall and break-up is similar to what was experienced this year. - The area South of dyke suffered flooding for many years and I would certainly not be in favor of raising the North Dyke only.

Bruce MacKenzie: "We must consider, that we are trying to alleviate hazards and avoid damage claims on both sides of the "Shannon".

Abram Schroeder: "Berm on floodway mostly stopped snow and ice, impeding proper run-off of water.

Willie Klassen: Dykes need surveying; difference in height of about 2 feet from one side to the other, in places.

J. Wiens: "More damage was caused South of the "Shannon" than to the North.

Many other ratepayers expressed viewpoints similar to those already noted.

Council was asked to make recommendations to the Government along the following lines:

"That we recommend to the ^{Water Control & Conservation Board} ~~Drainage Maintenance Board~~ to take over that portion of the Shannon Floodway from Section 32-4-1EPM to the Red River, reconstructing the outlet, enlarge the capacity of the "Railway" and "Highway" bridge, raise dykes by a minimum of two (2) feet in a straight line along the "Shannon", as well as clear berms, raise and lengthen existing bridges, to adequately handle "West" waters when severe spring break-ups occur."

Bruce MacKenzie: The elements this year proved that improvements will be required to the "Shannon Floodway". We will try and get the best possible settlement under the circumstances.

The Meeting adjourned.

D. J. Harder
Secretary
R. M. of Morris