

VALLEY FLOOD RESIDENTS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD OCTOBER 2, 2011

Committee members present:

Harold Begger, Patty Davidson, Archie Harper, Les Harris, Sharlene LaRance, Jeannene Maas, Wynne Maas, Nikki Peters, Shamus Peters, Ray Reed, Carl Mattfeldt, Marlys Mattfeldt.

Committee Members Absent:

Lloyd Humphries, Tim Lahey, LaDawn Whiteside.

Official Name of Committee:

Since all members were affected by 10 Mile or Silver Creek, our official name is VALLEY FLOOD RESIDENTS COMMITTEE.

Elect coordinator(s) for Committee:

Sharlene LaRance volunteered for the job. Archie Harper will be co-coordinator. We armed Sharlene with questions to ask Derek Brown.

Discussions:

- Keep the commissioners moving on taking care of flood control.
- We want to know what are the commissioners flood plans, deadlines, priority lists, mid-term and long-term projects for flood prevention.
- Could we also review proposed plans from the hydrologists that the commissioners hired?
- How future developments will put other residents as well as us at risk.
- Storage of flood water—need to move it away quickly or the water table stays up—could cause more problems next year and even for more residents.
- Maintenance of 10-mile. What's being done to clean it out? Waiting for next spring to clean out the logjams may be too late.
- When can we expect a county website regarding the county's progress on flood plans which would be routinely updated?
- Can our committee add a site to that website so that interested citizens can see what the committee is doing?
- Ask if we can have a designated county liaison so we can share information back and forth.
- Has the county contacted MDT yet to discuss getting floodwater across the interstate?
- Educating people to pursue the path of future floods and about the reasons that cause floods.
- A lawsuit against the County was even discussed. However the committee feels that the commissioners are going to work with future flood control and we hope to keep them moving in that direction.
- Need for more culverts to move the water.

- How the flood water was stored at the gun club **and cemetery sites and how it raised the ground water levels.**
- McHugh bridge holding back the water, the lack of culverts on Forestvale and Montana Ave to pass the water **to a final storage area (Lake Helena?).**
- The possible need to add a mill levy so flood control **mitigation** can take place **more quickly.**

Discussion Issues for Derek Brown and Sharlene:

- **When can we expect a county website regarding the county's progress on flood plans which would be routinely updated?**
- **Can our committee add a site to that website so that interested citizens can see what the committee is doing?**
- **When is the next County Commissioners public meeting scheduled? Believe we agreed to the end of October at the Aug. 30 public meeting.**
- **Ask if we can have a designated county liaison so we can share information back and forth.**
- **Has the county contacted MDT yet to discuss getting floodwater across the interstate?**
- **Sharlene will follow up with a hard copy of the issues to the County.**

Goals for Committee (ongoing as we get more information):

- Getting a flood plan in effect asap to get the water moving as quickly as possible in order to keep the ground water level down.
- Keep the commissioners moving on flood control.
- Educating people about the reasons that cause floods.
- Study the commissioners short and long-term plans for flood control so the committee can give feedback on the plans.

It was agreed that the next meeting will be November 3, 7:00, at a place yet to be determined. Sharlene and Marlys will work on getting a meeting site.

Secretary,
Marlys Mattfeldt
459-5288

Coordinator(s),
Sharlene LaRance
458-6509

Archie Harper
458-9028