

February 15, 2012

Mr. John Jaschke
Executive Director
MN Board of Water & Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Petition to enlarge Buffalo Red River Watershed District

Dear Mr. Jaschke:

At its regular meeting on Tuesday, February 14, 2012, the Clay County Board of Commissioners discussed the Wilkin County, Otter Tail County, and Buffalo Red River Watershed District's petition for:

- 1) enlargement of the Buffalo Red River Watershed District; and,
- 2) to increase the number of members on the Board of Managers of the Buffalo Red River Watershed District from five to seven.

The Clay County Board of Commissioners is in agreement and supports enlargement of the District into Wilkin and Otter Tail Counties.

The attached chart displays the population, drainage area and tax capacity of the current Watershed, as well as the proposed additional area. Currently, Clay County holds the majority of population, drainage area and tax capacity in the District. With the proposed enlargement this majority will continue to hold true. In addition, Clay County is heavily affected by the run-off in the Watershed area.

The Clay County Board feels it is important for the Board of Water & Soil Resources to comply with MN Statute 103D.301, and base the number of managers according to population as stated in Subd. 1: ***More than one affected county. If more than one county is affected by a watershed district, the board must provide that managers are distributed by residence among the counties affected by the watershed district.***

Sincerely,

Grant Weyland
Chair
Clay County Board of Commissioners

Attach.

BUFFALO RED RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT TAX CAPACITY, DRAINAGE AGEA, AND POPULATION COMPARISONS

	Clay County	Wilkin County	Becker County	Otter Tail County
What is the land value tax capacity in BRRWD for property currently in ...	40,710,504 (83.2%)	2,842,700 (5.8%)	4,860,120 (9.9%)	540,288 (1.1%)
What is the drainage area in BRRWD for property currently in ...	797 sq. mi. (58%)	232 sq. mi. (17%)	290 sq. mi. (21%)	60 sq. mi. (4%)
What is the population in BRRWD for property currently in(2010 census)	57,377 (88.7%)	925 (1.4%)	5,911 (9.1%)	520 (0.8%)
What is the land value in proposed new BRRWD District for	40,710,504 (72.7%)	8,893,158 Tax Capacity Value (15.9%)	4,860,120 (8.7%)	1,496,598 (guess) (2.7%)
What is the drainage area in BRRWD for property proposed in new District for	797 sq. mi. (44.1%)	553 sq. mi. (30.6%)	290 sq. mi. (16%)	166 sq. mi. (9.1%)
What is the population in BRRWD for property in proposed new District for ... (2010 Census)	57,377 (82.0%)	5,220 (7.5%)	5,911 (8.4%)	1,474 (2.1%)

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Note: The bottom set of numbers is a TOTAL of the current BRRWD **plus** the proposed new area.