

NEON Minutes
January 11, 2018, Biotechnology Advancement Center

Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance and Nobles County Administrator, Tom Johnson, presided over the meeting.

2018 Legislative Priorities update: portfolio folders will be available soon; a copy will be emailed to the NEON group.

Nobles Home Initiative – Guidelines renewed through December 31, 2022. These have been approved by Nobles County, City of Worthington, and City of Adrian.

Urban Lawmaker Tour Update: Nobles County Commissioners will take the lead on organizing the tour. The intent is to show them we are different but not that different. Showcase our challenges; break down the rural/urban divide, daycare, employees, dreamers, and water.

Nobles County Website Navigation: Tom Johnson pointed out areas of interest on the Nobles County Website and how to navigate it; GIS map viewer-Beacon, Officials Guide.

Around the Table:

Kurt Lintelman/Citizen of Round Lake: No report.

Aaron Hagen/Worthington Public Utilities: No report. Water Tank – two samples are painted on it, testing the weather on each, if one is successful, it will be painted in the summer. Well levels are at good levels.

Gary Ewert/Heron Lake Watershed: Drainage systems authority; conservation tillage workshop on January 22.

Rod Sankey/Citizen of Worthington: Selling church he purchased in Wilmont to a pastor from California, they will have regular services. Discussed the following topics: BitCoin, data centers, block chain programming.

Amy Ernst/City of Worthington: Recognition at the Minnesota School Board Convention: Steve Schnieder and Joel Lorenz for 20 years of service on the School Board, Linden Olson for 7 years on the MSBA. Movie Theatre for Worthington–looking for an investor.

Don Linssen/Nobles County: Meetings with New Fashion Pork regarding building a feed mill in Round Lake.

Gene Metz/Nobles County: Dark Store Accessing – building should be taxed at an empty building rate instead of the business rate, Tax Court is agreeing with them. Wind project in NE Nobles County, Fall 2018, construction in 2019. Too many water issues – ditches and draining.

Robert Demuth Jr./Nobles County: Lake Ocheda Management Plan – signed and approved by the Commissioner. Ducks Unlimited and DNR engineered the dam, draw lake down two feet this August and it will kill all fish, restock it with Northern Pike and Perch and it will grow some vegetation. Stateline bridge by Jeppesen Gravel will be redone in hopes of getting a clean lake.

Technology at the BAC: Nobles County Information Technology Department is trying to schedule a time when Shaun can come and work on it.

Collaborative Project: Trying to get in on a bonding bill.

Please forward ideas for the next meeting to the Nobles County Administration Office.

Next Meeting:

February 8, 2018 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm
BioTechnology Advancement Center
1527 Prairie Drive, Worthington, MN 56187

The meeting adjourned.