



**BOLTON
& MENK**

Real People. Real Solutions.

1243 Cedar Street NE
Sleepy Eye, MN 56085

Ph: (507) 794-5541
Fax: (507) 794-5542
Bolton-Menk.com

November 26, 2019

Kevin Nordquist
Jackson County Auditor-Treasurer
405 4th Street
Jackson County, MN 56143

RE: Supplemental Information to the Final Engineer's Report – Branch B
Judicial Ditch No. 24 Improvement
BMI Project No.:S12.107995

Dear Mr. Nordquist:

The intent of this letter is to provide supplemental information to the Final Engineer's Report for the proposed Judicial Ditch No. 24 Improvement project in Jackson County. At the continuation of the Final Hearing on September 23, 2019, additional information was requested from the Drainage Authority regarding Branch B.

Historic Jackson County plans for JD 24 depict a Branch B tile system in Section 26 of Round Lake Township. The tile system on the plans consists of a Branch B main tile, and a Branch B1 and Branch B2 laterals. The Branch B main tile shown on the plans drains from the NW ¼ of Section 26, cuts across the southwest corner of the NE ¼ of Section 26, and then runs diagonally through the SE ¼ of Section 26 and discharges into the JD 24 open ditch. The size of the tile shown on the plans for the Branch B main tile is 8". The Branch B1 tile drains from the SW ¼ of Section 26 and runs northeast to the Branch B main tile in the SE ¼ of Section 26. The size of the tile shown on the plans for the Branch B1 tile is 6". The Branch B2 tile drains from the NE ¼ of Section 26 and runs southwest to the Branch B main tile in the SE ¼ of Section 26. The size of the tile shown on the plans for the Branch B2 tile is 8".

There exists a private easement that describes a tile in the same general area as the Branch B main tile. This private easement was presented to the Drainage Authority at the Final Hearing. The existence of the private easement raised the question if the tile that drains this portion of Section 26 is a private tile or a JD 24 system tile.

On November 15, 2019 Jackson County staff performed exploratory work on JD 24 Branch B to determine the location, size, and number of tiles in the area. Shaun Luker, P.E. was also on site to observe the tiles found. Attached is a map created by Jackson County showing the location of the excavations and the GPS coordinates of the located tiles.

The exploratory work discovered that only one tile existed in the vicinity of Branch B, Branch B1, and Branch B2. This fact removes the possibility that both a private tile and a JD 24 system tile exist. The location of the tiles found generally corresponds with the location of the Branch B, Branch B1, and Branch B2 tiles shown on the historic Jackson County plans, and as described in historic Jackson County documents. The tile located in the field is concrete tile and from visual inspection appears to be in relatively good condition.

The only discrepancy between the historic Jackson County plans, and the tile located in the field, is the size of the tile in two locations. Attached is a marked up copy of sheet 3.01 from the FER preliminary

Name: Kevin Nordquist, Jackson County Auditor-Treasurer

Date: November 26, 2019

Page: 2

plan set that shows the historic JD 24 plan tile size, the size of the tile located in the field, and what the proposed tile size is in the FER. A summary of this information is also in the table below.

	Branch B Upper	Branch B Lower	Branch B1	Branch B2
Historic JD 24 Plans	8" Tile	8" Tile	6" Tile	8" Tile
Field Locate	8" Tile	12" Tile	6" Tile	10" Tile
Proposed	10" Tile	12" Tile	8" Tile	10" Tile

As can be seen on the marked-up sheet 3.01 and the table above, the size of the tile on the Historic JD 24 plans and what was found in the field are the same for the upper portions of Branch B and Branch B1. However, a larger tile size was found for the lower portion of Branch B, and for Branch B2.

It should also be noted that the tile material encountered during the exploratory work was concrete. The JD 24 system tile exposed previously has been clay tile.

It is our opinion that the exploratory work neither confirms nor denies the status of the tile within Section 26 to be a private tile or a JD 24 system tile.

Additional copies of this information should be distributed to the County Board members prior to the continuation of the Hearing.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Bolton & Menk, Inc.



Shaun P. Luker, P.E.

cc: Petitioners
Jeff Braegelmann, Petitioner's Attorney
Tim Stahl P.E., County Engineer
Dave Macek – County Ditch Inspector
Royal Larson, Agriland Management & Reality, LLC
Ron Ringquist – Ditch Viewer