

MINNESOTA CONSERVATION FEDERATION
QUARTERLY MEETING

December 10, 2016

Resolution #8

Belle Plaine, Minnesota

Regarding Drainage Ditch Benefits on Conservation Lands

WHEREAS, drainage ditches are a strong component of agricultural practices in Minnesota, and

WHEREAS, only lands that are directly benefited by a drainage system should be assessed benefits, and

WHEREAS, lands that are held in conservation easements or ownership should not be assessed “drainage benefits”, and

WHEREAS, land owners land that are held in conservation easements also provide much needed habitat for fish and wildlife, soil and water conservation, and

WHEREAS, ditches drain the land for agricultural benefits and not conservation benefits.

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that The Minnesota Conservation Federation (MCF) meeting at its quarterly meeting in Belle Plaine, Minnesota support lands held in conservation and that those lands should not be assessed “drainage benefits,” and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MCF encourages the State Legislature, state and local governments to do everything possible to see to it that lands that are held for conservation purposes, thru easements or ownership, including lands owned by private, state or federal authority’s, should not be assessed drainage benefits.

Submitted by Lance Ness and Rylee Main