

State P. L. Watershed Requirement Met

State Conservation Men to Meet Here Today

Of Upper Lake

Two Local Provisions Of State Approved Project Completed

Eldora and county representatives were able to report to state conservation officials Wednesday two completed and two semi-completed county provisions of the \$93,000 Upper Pine Lake Improvement Bill signed in late March by Gov. Herschel C. Loveless.

Hardin and Grundy county conservationists, Cal Moore and Max Hawk, reported that the necessary 75 percent of the watershed land is now under conservation practices and the county stated contracts have been let to Welding Bros., of Iowa Falls, for construction of a pre-stressed concrete bridge on the north-south road east of the present lake.

The remaining two local provisions, the procuring of \$10,000 for purchase of 50 acres of land needed for the improvement and the donation of \$5,000 by the county conservation board is moving along satisfactorily. The conservation board has announced it will donate the funds following the procurement of the \$10,000 and completion of the 75 per cent conservation requirement.

Five state officials, William Rush, chief of division of land and waters; Roy Mitchell, superintendent of state parks; Wm. Frank, supervisor of erosion control; Everett Pierce, soil erosion technician; and E. L. Galliard, district park supervisor, met with county officials to discuss the Upper Lake project.

One of the officials, Everett Pierce, has already been assigned to field work on the project, working on the watershed and securing cooperators. Construction on the raising of the dam is not expected until next spring, however.

Rush explained to the group the various steps in the fulfillment of the project. Those mentioned were:

1. The State Conservation Commission to pass a resolution of necessity.

2. A permit be received from the National Resources Council to impound the water. Prompt action is expected on both of these issues.

3. The county conservation board obtain title to the necessary land, passing it on to the state.

Rush reported that this is the first project requiring 75 percent of the land under conservation, despite the fact it has been law for two years. He commended the conservationists for obtaining the necessary 75 percent, but urged them to continue their effort with the hope of securing 100 per cent participation.

A survey party is expected to arrive during the next couple of weeks to begin observation of the project. Following the survey, plans and specifications of the spillway and new dam will be drawn and a working scale model constructed to test the workability of the project. This study is expected to take from three to six months.

Following completion and acceptance of the plan, bids will be let and the state budget and financial committee will release the \$93,000 following approval.

The lake will be out of service for one year to allow construction, while no fishing will be allowed until the third year or no boating until the lake reaches the minimum requirement of 100 acres.

Local men attending the meeting were Harold Luiken of the county conservation board; Dean Kelsey, chairman of the Hardin Soil Conservation District; Sherman Held, county engineer; Moore; Hawk; C. O. Rubow; George Stauffacher; and Greg Webster.

RUMBLINGS

From The Town Pump

• Ackley has the distinction of being the first Hardin county town to report funds raised for the enlarging of Upper Pine Lake. By Monday they had over \$125 in the "kitty". Several other towns are planning to give aid to the project.

• After talking to Wm. A. Rush of the Lands and Waters division of the State Conservation Commission it became very clear that this community is very fortunate to secure state aid of \$100,000 to improve the Pine Lake area at this time. It is one of only three large appropriations approved by the legislature this session for lake and park improvement.

• Rush and three other State Conservation men were here Tuesday to outline in detail the manner of procedure including local prerequisites. When they learned that options had been taken on the land for the lake enlargement; the contract had already been let for a new bridge over Pine Creek; that the watershed requirement was approaching the necessary 75% and that the fund drive was progressing on schedule they seemed both surprised and pleased. "It looks like you men are in business already", one conservation man told the committee.

• The lake committee and all friends are pleased with the cooperation the farmers in the Pine Lake Watershed are giving by agreeing to soil conservation practices. Soil Conservationists Cal Moore of Eldora and Max Hawk of Grundy Center are to be congratulated for their fine work. Hawk reported that he signed one farmer enroute to the Tuesday meeting making it possible for him to report that Grundy county now had 75% of it's watershed land in a soil saving program. Thanks to our farmer friends and to these two conservation men.

Will Discuss Lake Project With Local Officials, Committees

Two representatives of the State Conservation Board, including William A. Rush, chief of division of Land and Waters for the board, are to arrive in Eldora today, April 14, according to Hardin County State Representative Paul Walter.

They are to meet at 3 p.m. with representatives of the Pine Lake Improvement Committee, county conservation board and Hardin Soil Conservation District, of which Dean Kelsey of Iowa Falls is chairman. Hardin County Soil Conservation Head Cal Moore and Max Hawk, Grundy county soil conservationist, are also to attend the meeting.

The Upper Pine Lake watershed, the survey of the area and other details of the lake project are expected to be discussed.

Moore, Hardin county soil conservationist, has notified the Herald-Index that the county now has 70 percent of the watershed under proper soil conservation practices. The bill to enlarge the Upper Lake, signed by Gov. Herschel C. Loveless in late March, calls for 75 percent of the watershed land to be under conservation practices.

Other provisions of the bill provide the state to spend \$93,500 for construction of a new spill-way dam; the community secure approximately 50 acres of land; the county raise and maintain a small stretch of road and construct a new bridge on the north-south road east of the present lake; and the county conservation board contribute \$5,000 to the project to be matched by \$5,000 by the state for conservation work on state owned land around the lake.

The plan calls for raising the Upper Lake Dam five feet. This will increase the lake from 72 acres to 106, large enough under state law for boats with out-board motors.