

*Daniel & Elizabeth Wilkens*  
1646 290 Ave.  
Mora, MN 55051

June 22, 2009

To: Susan Thornton and Members of LCCMR

From: Elizabeth A. Wilkens

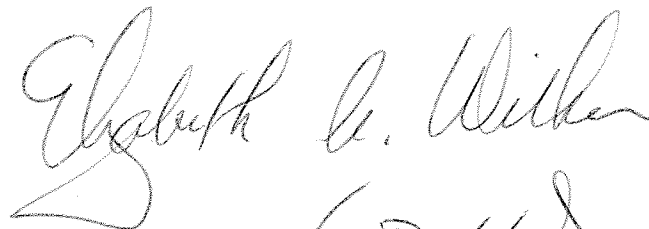
Re: Potential Conflict of Interest

On the agenda for the June 24, 2009, meeting is a presentation on Conservation Easements by the DNR. Although it does not look like an action item, it did remind me of a potential conflict of interest.

For the past four years, my husband and I have been working with the DNR on both an acquisition and conservation easement. 160 acres of our farm lying along approximately 6000 feet of the Knife River is proposed for the Little Knife Aquatic Management Area. The remaining 90 acres of our farm will be put into a conservation easement.

It is unlikely that funding for either the AMA or Conservation Easement will be coming from LCCMR funds. The cost of the AMA will be reduced by landowner contribution with the remaining fee coming from funds requested by the DNR from the 2009 legislature for this purpose. We will receive no payment for the conservation easement so that the DNR can apply those moneys to Little Knife AMA purchase or easement/purchase of surrounding river land. However, in order to eliminate the appearance of monetary gain from my membership on the commission, I believe it would be best to abstain from commenting or voting on any action items relative to AMA or Conservation Easement acquisition until after the land transactions are complete.

Thank you,

  
(Betty)