

Information for File # 2015-02573-TJH

Applicant: North Branch Township Board

Corps Contact: Tom Hingsberger

Address: 180 E. 5th Street, Suite 700, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1638

E-Mail: thomas.j.hingsberger@usace.army.mil

Phone: (651) 290-5367

Primary County: Isanti County

Sections: 5, 8, and 17

Township: 35N

Range: 22W

Information Complete On: July 16, 2015

Posting Expires On: August 24, 2015

Authorization Type: LOP-05-MN

This application is being reviewed in accordance with the practices for documenting Corps jurisdiction under Sections 9 & 10 of the Rivers and Harbor Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act identified in Regulatory Guidance Letter 07-01. We have made a preliminary determination that the aquatic resources that would be impacted by the proposed project are regulated by the Corps of Engineers under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Our jurisdictional review could result in modifications to the scope of the project's regulated waterbody/wetland impacts and compensatory mitigation requirements identified above.

Project Includes: Road construction to include widening, road bed repairs, and gravel resurfacing.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE: North Branch Township is proposing to make improvements to approximately two miles of Virgo Street NE from TH 95 to 307th Street NE. These improvements will include gravel resurfacing and widening to a uniform 24-feet. The existing width of the road is between 20-feet and 24-feet with no shoulders. The proposed 24-feet meets the minimum requirements of a 12-foot wide travel lane for a 55-mph posted gravel surface road set by the MnDOT Design Manual, Chapter 4-3.01.02. A 1-foot wide shoulder will be added to both sides of the road to meet the minimum MnDOT requirement for a gravel-surfaced collector with an ADT of less

than 50, such as Virgo Street NE. For safety reasons, the township has proposed to further widen the road at the 313th Avenue NE intersection. The Township will increase the width at this four way stop to 28-feet (26-foot lanes with 2-foot shoulders) in order to increase sight lines, which are currently blocked by vegetation. In the process of making the proposed improvements, the Township will be repairing any deficiencies found within the subgrade and road bed with clean clay, rock or CL-5 gravel.

NAME, AREA AND TYPES OF WATERS (INCLUDING WETLANDS) SUBJECT TO LOSS: Fill material would be discharged into ten wetlands located along the Virgo Street alignment. The vegetative communities that would be filled are Type 2 Wet meadow wetlands. The ten proposed wetland impact areas are listed in the following table and are shown on the attached drawings.

Aquatic Resource ID (as noted on overhead view)	Aquatic Resource Type and Existing Plant Community	Aquatic Resource Impact Type	Duration of Impact Permanent (P) or Temporary (T)	Size of Impact (Acres)	County, Major Watershed, and Bank Service Area (BSA) of Impact Area
W1	Type 2 Wetland	Fill	p	0.03	Isanti, 37, 6
W2	Type 2 Wetland	Fill	p	0.04	Isanti, 37, 6
W3	Type 2 Wetland	Fill	p	0.05	Isanti, 37, 6
W4	Type 2 Wetland	Fill	p	0.09	Isanti, 37, 6
W5	Type 2 Wetland	Fill	p	0.04	Isanti, 37, 6
W6	Type 2 Wetland	Fill	p	0.10	Isanti, 37, 6
W7	Type 2 Wetland	Fill	p	0.33	Isanti, 37, 6
W8	Type 2 Wetland	Fill	p	0.03	Isanti, 37, 6
W9	Type 2 Wetland	Fill	p	0.01	Isanti, 37, 6
W10	Type 2 Wetland	Fill	p	0.58	Isanti, 37, 6

The project would result in the permanent loss of 1.30 acres of wetlands that are part of the tributary system of the North Branch of the Sunrise River.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BY THE APPLICANT: The no-build alternative is not a prudent alternative for this project. The current configuration of Virgo Street NE does not meet township or MnDOT minimum standards for a 55-mph gravel surface roadway with an ADT of less than 50 vehicles. Additionally, the road continues to fail, creating large potholes.

The Township considered not widening the road and only repairing deficiencies in the road bed. This would increase the stability of the road, but not address any safety issues. Although this road is used for residential access, there are several farm accesses as well for farm equipment and tractor-trailer use. By keeping the road below the minimum standards, safety is compromised, particularly when oncoming traffic meets larger agricultural vehicles.

IMPACT MINIMIZATION: In order to minimize wetland impacts, in-slopes have been decreased from the MnDOT-recommended 6:1 slopes to 4:1 throughout the project. Although these slopes are steeper, MnDOT feels that vehicles can recover from these slopes. Additional minimization has been reached by using the MnDOT standard for road and shoulder requirements. The township standards are a 26-foot road surface with 2-foot

shoulders. The decrease to the MnDOT standards reduced the roadway and shoulder width by 2 feet. The Township feels that the width of the proposed improvements is appropriate for the rural and low traffic nature of Virgo Street NE.

COMPENSATORY MITIGATION: Compensatory mitigation for the permanent loss of 1.30 acres of wetlands would be provided via a wetland credit withdrawal of 1.30 credits from the BWSR Road Replacement Program.

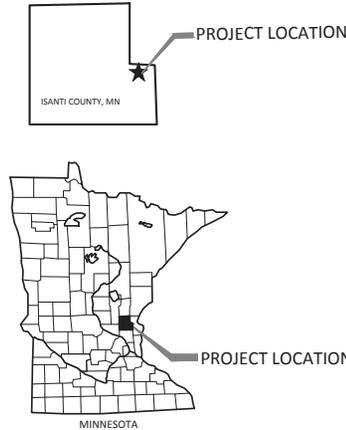
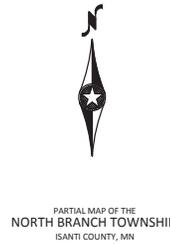
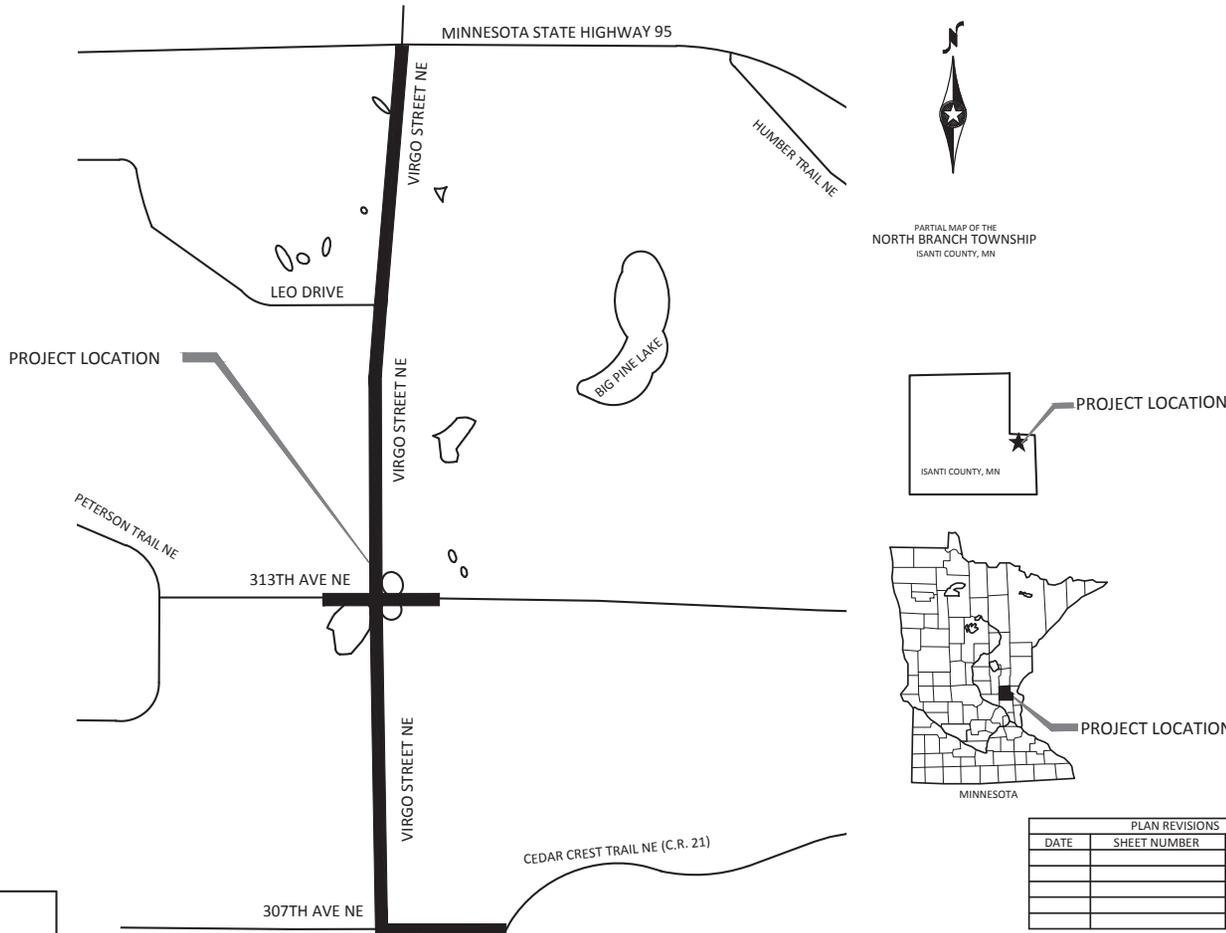
Drawings See attached.

NORTH BRANCH TOWNSHIP, ISANTI COUNTY, MINNESOTA

CONSTRUCTION PLANS FOR 2015 VIRGO STREET IMPROVEMENTS

STREET GRADING AND SURFACING

JUNE, 2015



SHEET INDEX

SHEET NO.	GENERAL
1.1	TITLE SHEET
2.0	LEGEND
2.1	ESTIMATED QUANTITIES
2.2-2.4	DETAILS
3.1-3.7	SWPPP & EROSION CONTROL
4.1-4.2	TRAFFIC CONTROL
5.1-5.19	VIRGO STREET PLAN & PROFILE
6.1-6.13	VIRGO STREET CROSS SECTIONS
7.1-7.2	313TH AVENUE PLAN & PROFILE
8.1-8.2	313TH AVENUE CROSS SECTIONS
9.1-9.3	307TH AVENUE PLAN & PROFILE
10.1-10.5	307TH AVENUE CROSS SECTIONS

NORTH BRANCH TOWNSHIP

TOWN HALL: 29113 NOTRE DAME STREET NE
NORTH BRANCH, MN 55056

SUPERVISORS: ROBERT SCHMIDT
RON PEDERSEN
DEAN BEEKEN

TOWN CLERK: SHAWN WILLIAMS
TREASURER: BONNIE METTLING

UTILITY COMPANIES:

CENTURY LINK
TOM BURNEY
651-302-5313
763-712-5006
1-877-837-7944

FAST CENTRAL ENERGY -- POWER

RON JOHNSON
612-300-3145
BRAHAM, MN 55006
1-800-254-7944

VIKING GAS TRANSMISSION CO.

CHAD FLOEGER
320-266-8832
TEAM MILACA
MILACA, MN 56353

NOTE: EXISTING UTILITY INFORMATION SHOWN ON THIS PLAN HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY THE UTILITY OWNER. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL FIELD VERIFY EXACT LOCATIONS PRIOR TO COMMENCING CONSTRUCTION AS REQUIRED BY STATE LAW. NOTIFY GOPHER STATE ONE CALL, 1-800-252-1166 OR 651-454-0002 OR 811.

THE SUBSURFACE UTILITY INFORMATION IN THIS PLAN IS ONLY A QUALITY LEVEL D. THIS UTILITY QUALITY LEVEL WAS DETERMINED ACCORDING TO THE GUIDELINES OF CI/ASCE 38-02, ENTITLED "STANDARD GUIDELINES FOR THE COLLECTION AND DEPICTION OF EXISTING SUBSURFACE UTILITY DATA."

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAN, SPECIFICATION, OR REPORT WAS PREPARED BY ME OR UNDER MY DIRECT SUPERVISION AND THAT I AM A DULY LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.

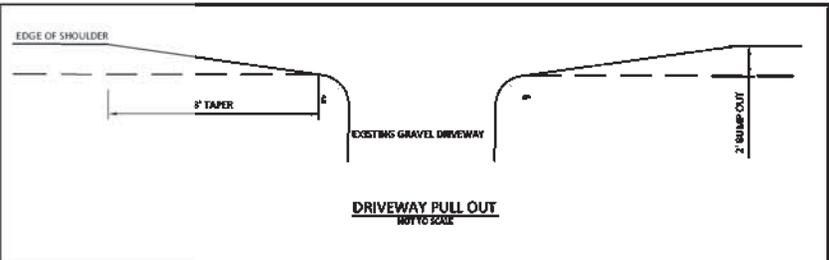
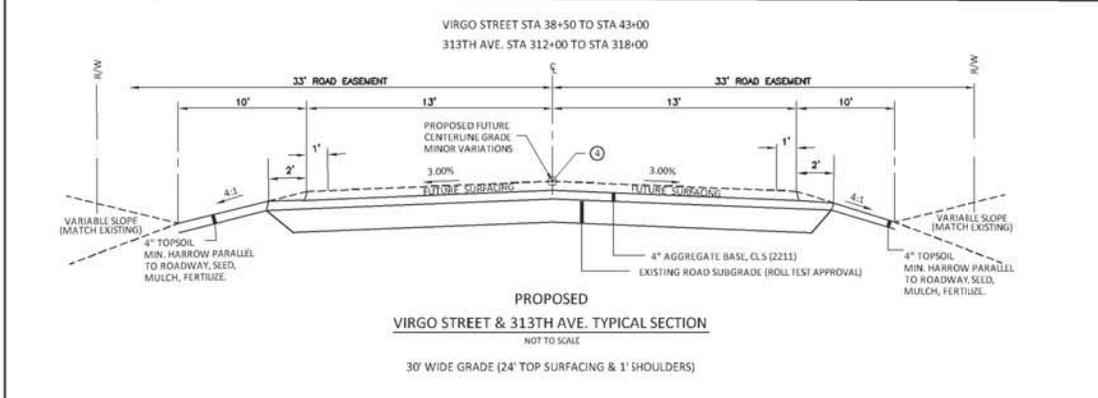
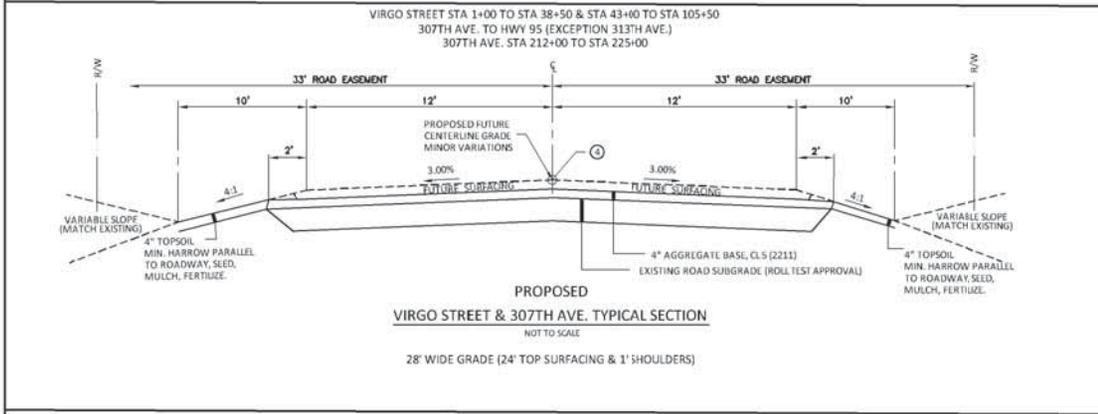
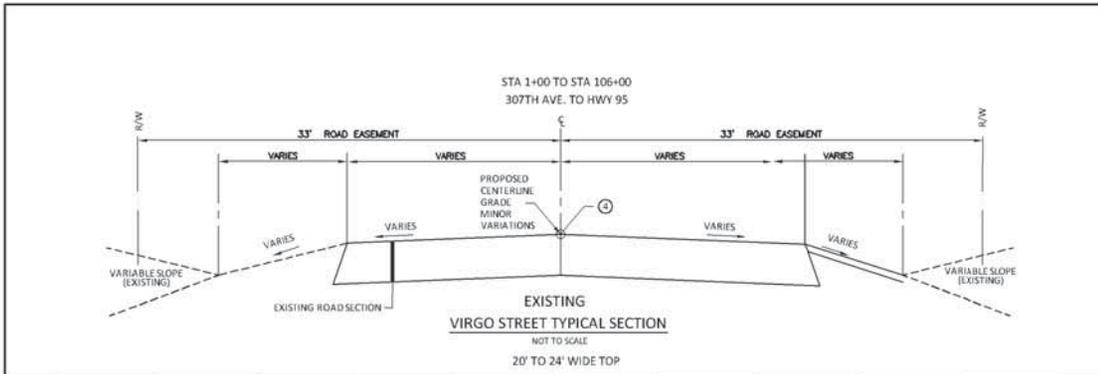
JOSEPH D. PELAWA, P.E.
LIC. NO. 42603 DATE: 07/01/2015

PLAN REVISIONS		
DATE	SHEET NUMBER	APPROVED BY



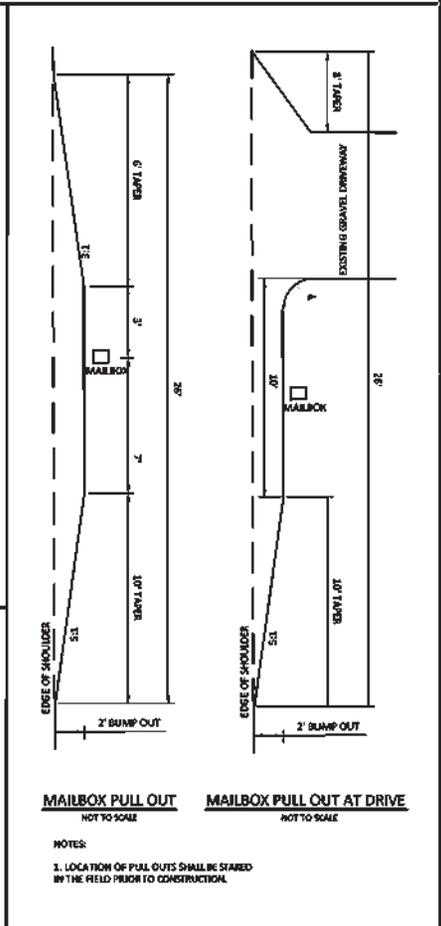
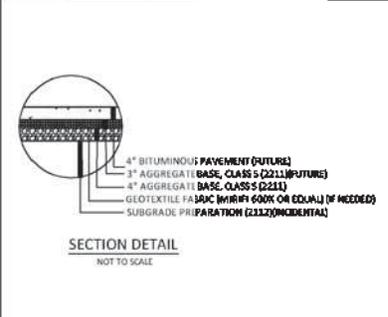
BOLTON & MENK, INC.
Consulting Engineers & Surveyors
MANKATO, MN FAIRMONT, MN SLEEPY EYE, MN BURNSVILLE, MN WILLMAR, MN
CHASKA, MN SHAKY, MN MAPLEWOOD, MN SARTER, MN ROCHESTER, MN
AMES, IA SPENCER, IA DES MOINES, IA FARGO, ND

PROJECT DATUM: ISANTI COUNTY COORDINATES	RECORD DRAWING INFORMATION	NORTH BRANCH TOWNSHIP, MINNESOTA	SHEET
HORIZONTAL: NAD 83, 1996 ADJUSTMENT	DATE:	VIRGO STREET IMPROVEMENTS	1.1
VERTICAL: NAVD 88 DATUM	CONTRACTOR:	2015-02573-TJH, 1 of 8	
	DATE:		



NOTES:

1. ANY VARIATIONS FROM THE TYPICAL SECTION DIMENSIONS ARE SHOWN ON THE PLAN DRAWINGS
2. SURFACING SLOPES AT INTERSECTION LOCATIONS MAY VARY FROM THOSE SHOWN ON THE TYPICAL SECTION
3. GRADE ALL TOPSOIL AREAS TO 4" DEPTH BELOW FINISHED SURFACES PRIOR TO PLACING TOPSOIL
4. ELEVATIONS SHOWN ARE RELATIVE TO FUTURE C/L ELEVATION AND DO NOT RELATE TO ACTUAL CONSTRUCTION GRADES
5. TYPICAL SECTION IS THE BASE FOR PROPOSED FUTURE ROAD IMPROVEMENTS TO ADD AGGREGATE CLASS 5 AND BITUMINOUS PAVEMENT FOR FINAL ROAD SECTION





Virgo Street Improvements

North Branch Township
June, 2015

Delineated Wetlands

Exhibit F-2



Legend

- Construction Limits
- ▨ Proposed Impacts
- Delineated Wetland
- Culvert

0 100 Feet
Source: ESRI Imagery (2010)

W3 - Type 2
Fresh (Wet) Meadow
0.05-acres

W4 - Type 2
Fresh (Wet) Meadow
0.09-acres

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Virgo Street Improvements

North Branch Township
June, 2015

Proposed Wetland Impacts

Exhibit 2-C







Virgo Street Improvements

North Branch Township
June, 2015

Proposed Wetland Impacts

Exhibit 2-F



Legend

- Construction Limits
- ▨ Proposed Impacts
- Delineated Wetland
- Culvert

0 100
Feet

Source: ESRI Imagery (2010)

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