

District Engineering and Legal Staff

The District has been served by three attorneys: Robert Irvine (1966-1970), Williams Briggs (1970-1986), and Charles Ramstad (1986-present). This legal team has provided invaluable on-going service regarding the interpretation of Watershed and Ditch laws, as well as supervising procedures having to do with creating and implementing projects and carrying out other business of the District. Only rarely has the District had to seek some remedy in the court, most notably in connection with a breach-of-contract dispute with a dredging company in the early 1980's. Other instances have included condemnation and rules enforcement.

For most of its history, the District's (Head) Engineer was affiliated with the Larson firm (also known as Larson Associates, and later Larson-Pederson and Associates). The record shows that In many ways, Winston Larson, who also served as the Detroit Lakes City Engineer, played a very strong role in shaping the direction and business of the District. Though Larson associates Peterson and Bakken served for short periods, Gary Nansen succeeded Winston Larson after 1986, and was himself replaced by another Larson-Pederson engineer, Dave Grinaker, from 1991 to his sudden death in 2002. He was replaced for a short time, by Larson-Pederson associate Jim Schulz. Since 2003, the District has been represented by Rod Ambrosie, of the Wenck Engineering Firm.