

JEFFERSON COUNTY FARM DRAINAGE BOARD

Monthly Board Meeting

Jefferson County Courthouse

311 S. Center Avenue, Room 202

Jefferson, WI 53549

April 11, 2022

9:30 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER was made by Chairman Hughes at 9:30 a.m.
2. ROLL CALL: Board Members Present – Chairman Hughes (Zoom), Secretary Magnoni, and Ron Griebenow
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion made by Chairman Hughes to approve the agenda. Seconded by Ron Griebenow. Motion carried.
4. CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE: Agenda posted on County website
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Chairman Hughes made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2022, monthly Drain Board meeting. Motion seconded by Ron Griebenow and passed 3-0.
6. CORRESPONDENCE: Copy of letter sent to Jaeckel Brothers by Secretary Magnoni concerning brushing south of Britzke Road to Hwy 18 (with attachment).
7. CITIZENS PRESENT: Patricia Cicero from Land & Water Conservation and Anita Martin, Jefferson County Board District 13.
8. REPORT OF THE DRAINS:
  - A. **DRAIN 16**
    1. Secretary Magnoni gave a report concerning the procedural change of spreading spoils. Originally Ranger Power did not want the spoils spread, however, they did change their mind and later asked that the Drain Board spread the spoils. This was done at a cost of \$1500.00 by contractor Jaeckel Brothers. This spreading of spoils is now complete.
    2. Secretary Magnoni reported that he and Jaeckel Brothers did complete a final inspection of all maintenance drain work, brushing and spreading of spoils. Photographs of this final inspection was attached to the agenda. Secretary Magnoni will send a letter to Attorney Griggs noting this inspection of the work done by Jaeckel Brothers and approval by the Drain Board.
    3. Secretary Magnoni reported that Ranger Power was granting the 40 foot set back (possibly a 75 foot setback) and was redrafting the engineering maps illustrating this change. Copies of these new maps will be sent to the Drain Board and all other parties as this new set back will be where the wildlife fencing will be installed.
  - B. **DRAIN 15MAIN**
    1. Secretary Magnoni reported that engineer Dan Prunuske had completed his assessment for the Town of Lake Mills for their share of the Britcke Bridge stone removal project. Attorney Griggs had some concerns with the assessment and needed to discuss these concerns with engineer Prunuske.
    2. The Drain Board wants this assessment completed so a determination can be made for additional work to be done in Drain 15Main-15D.

3. Secretary Magnoni reported that the brushing north of Britzke Bridge was delayed due to the contractor being sent to bury chickens dying from the Asian disease.
4. Secretary Magnoni reported he had met with Jaeckel Brothers on the brushing south of Britzke Bridge to Hwy 18. This time and materials work will begin shortly. A copy of this work to be done was distributed under the category "Correspondence Received".

#### **C. DRAIN 44**

1. Chairman Hughes gave a report concerning the progress on this disagreement issue. He stated that a meeting has been scheduled between Barton Chapman (DATCP) and engineer Prunuske to attempt to resolve the disagreement. Chairman Hughes asked that a copy of the original invoice be sent to him illustrating specifications as this was requested by engineer Prunuske.
2. Information received from attorney Griggs recommending the Drain Board move forward with a lawsuit against the insurance company concerning the settlement issue. The Drain Board did not take action on this suggestion.

#### **D DRAIN 23 (DANE COUNTY)**

At the March Drain Board meeting, Dave and Ron asked me to contact Dane County Drainage Board to inquire about their current non-agricultural assessments for residential, commercial, manufacturing, and municipal properties. I was to also inquire about current arrangements with the City of Sun Prairie for cost sharing for Dane County Drain 23 which empties into our Drain 15Main.

#### **RESULTS OF INQUIRY**

Financial assessments now in official use by Dane County Drainage Board

1. Residential           \$230.00 per house or real property per assessment
2. Commercial        10 times \$230.00 or \$2300.00 per assessment
3. Manufacturing     15 times \$230.00 or \$3450.00 per assessment
4. Municipalities     Negotiated per assessment

With these new assessment formulas listed above in place, the Drain Board assessed their Drainage District #9, which is west of Middleton. The district for #9 consists of farming to the west with large subdivisions, commercial and manufacturing to the east along Hwy 14. The water flow from District #9 flows both west (about 50% of the land area) and east to Lake Mendota (about 50% of the land area). Following the assessment the landowners to the east filed with the Circuit Court for dissolution of the drain. They were supported in their filing by Dane County Land and Water Conservation. The farmers to the west of the district oppose dissolution and stated they will sue the Drain Board if this request is approved by the Circuit Court. The date of the court hearing is April 28.

#### **COST SHARING DRAIN 23 WITH SUN PRAIRIE**

The district drain cleaning for Drain 23 has been completed from inside residential Sun Prairie, and then south to County Hwy TT which is slightly north of I94 in Cottage Grove. The cost in total was \$500,000 of which Sun Prairie paid 45% of the total cost.

To progress, from Hwy TT, south and then east to Kroughville where our District Drain 15Main takes over, cleaning was not done. The reason for not going further was that Bart Chapman would not approve the cleaning without an engineering study completed first. I was at the landowner meeting two Decembers ago and the landowners did not approve the engineering study.

12. DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

The date for the next meeting of the Drain Board is Monday, May 9, 2022, beginning at 9:30 a.m. in Room 202.

13. MOTION TO ADJOURN

With no further business before the Drain Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m. Moved by motion by Chairman Hughes and seconded by Ron Griebenow. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted for the meeting of April 11, 2022  
Peter Magnoni, Secretary, Jefferson County Farm Drainage Board