

JEFFERSON COUNTY FARM DRAINAGE BOARD
Monthly Board Meeting
Highway Department Committee Room
1425 South Wisconsin Drive
Jefferson, WI 53549
February 13, 2023
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, Secretary Magnoni and Ron Griebenow.
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Chairman Hughes made a motion to approve the agenda. Motion seconded by Ron Griebenow and 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 January 16, 2023, monthly Drain Board meeting. Motion seconded by Ron Griebenow and passed.
6. CORRESPONDENCE: Minutes of the Finance Committee which were attached to the January Drain Board minutes.
7. CITIZENS PRESENT: Matt Zangl, Anita Martin, Patricia Cicero, Bruce Degner, Dean Jaeger, and Randy Bermke
8. REPORT OF THE DRAINS:

A. DRAIN 16

1. Randy Bermke of Alliance Energy reported that their review of using Lidar Data did not prove beneficial. He said that they are now returning to standard survey methods to determine the exact placement of the wildlife fencing. He wanted the Drain Board to know that alliance will be removing the incorrectly installed fencing to correct the error in placement that was made.
2. Secretary Magnoni stated that email correspondence was sent by Barton Chapman to Drain Board attorney, Andrew Griggs, requesting information concerning who Alliance Energy was using as a contractor, what work was being done, where the work was being done, and if waters were being sent into drainage district ditches. Secretary Magnoni then asked Mr. Bermke if he was aware Mr. Chapman's involvement in this issue. Mr. Bermke stated that he was aware, however, he had not yet responded to this request.

B. DRAIN 41

Ron Griebenow reported that he was awaiting the bid from Jaeckel Brothers for brushing. He needs Jaeckel Brothers cost quote to compare with the bid from Bark River Brush Service in order to make the decision to move forward.

C. DRAIN BOARD 36

1. Chairman Hughes reported that two bids had been received for under-road boring. They are as follows: a. Michels - \$750,000.00 and b. Badgerland - \$100,000.00
The Board responded that the wide difference in the bid amounts might indicate the contractors did not understand what was being requested. Chairman Hughes stated he had sent each contractor the engineering drawings and specifications for the project request.
2. The landowners and Drain Board concerns with Michel's boring on the north side of Highway 16 is that they may not be aware of our culvert and electrical line in this boring area. There has been no request for approvals sent to the Drain Board. If Michels were to bore 4 ½ feet below the existing structure it would not be deep enough.

3. During the meeting a call came in from Michels Construction concerning the issue of power line boring on the north side of Highway 16. Bruce Degner, County Board Supervisor and landowner was given the phone to arrange a meeting to present the concerns regarding this issue. A meeting was arranged by Mr. Degner with Michels Construction including Drain Board member, Ron Griebenow, to present the concerns of the Drain Board and landowners.

4. Anita Martin raised a question, asking if the Jefferson County Corporate Attorney should get involved in this D.O.T. issue. It was discussed and recommended that County Board Supervisor Degner and Martin should inquire of Drain Board Attorney, Andrew Griggs, to get all the legal background material supporting this issue. Ron Griebenow reported that Attorney Griggs was currently investigating the D.O.T. resistance to deal with this culvert replacement issue.

5. Matt Zangl suggested that we approach Brian Udovich of the Jefferson County Hwy Department involved with this issue. Secretary Magnoni will follow up with Mr. Udovich.

D. DRAIN 15

Chairman Hughes reported that the village is hopeful that the Cambridge Foundation is willing to help with the project. He further stated that no additional information has been received from the City of Cambridge or Cambridge Foundation concerning this issue.

9. FINANCE REPORT

- a. Patricia Cicero distributed the final draft of the 2022 expenditures. The report indicated that the Drain board was \$2,003.54 under budget for the 2022 year.
- b. The Finance Committee of Jefferson County approval of the 2023 fund allocation is attached to the January 2023 minutes distributed today.

10. PREVIOUS AGENDA ITEMS NEEDING FURTHER DISCUSSION

- a. **DRAIN 20** – Ron Griebenow reported that he was awaiting Jaeckel Brothers review of the project. Chairman Hughes will follow-up with Contractor Jaeckel.
- b. Secretary Magnoni proposed a possible motion to increase the size of the Drain board appointment to five. This would then allow current members to leave the Board at any time. The goal would be to keep the Board at three members, however, there is a need to educate new members on the various duties and responsibilities of Drain Board members. Chairman Hughes made the motion to approve increasing the number of Drain Board members to five. Motion seconded by Ron Griebenow and passed unanimously.

11. OTHER BUSINESS AS ALLOWED BY LAW:

- a. Secretary Magnoni reported that after three telephone calls to find out the status of the Drain Board Association meeting and dues, no return calls were received.
- b. Secretary Magnoni reported that County Board Supervisor, Curt Backlund had offered his drone videography service to the Drain Board at a reduced cost of \$400.00. This service would require one Drain Board member to be present during the filming. Bruce Degner stated he had talked to Mr. Backlund about the service and he spoke in support of this service. Patricia Cicero stated that Jefferson County also has this service which might be available to the Drain board. It would be necessary for someone to followup with the County to determine if this service is available and at what cost.

11. APPROVAL OF INVOICES:

There were no invoices submitted for approval. Secretary Magnoni is to contact Finance Office to inquire about invoices.

12. DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Drain Board will be on Monday, March 13, 2023, at the Highway Department Committee Room located at 1425 Wisconsin Drive, Jefferson, Wisconsin beginning at 9:30 a.m.

13. MOTION TO ADJOURN

With no further business before the Drain Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:16 a.m. Motion made to adjourn by motion by Ron Griebenow and seconded by Chairman Hughes. Passed.

Respectfully submitted for the meeting of February 13, 2023

Peter Magnoni, Secretary, Jefferson County Farm Drainage Board