

JEFFERSON COUNTY FARM DRAINAGE BOARD  
Monthly Board Meeting  
Highway Department Committee Room  
1425 South Wisconsin Drive  
Jefferson, WI 53549  
June 12, 2023  
9:30 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER was made by Chairman Hughes at 9:31 a.m.
2. ROLL CALL: Board Members Present -- Chairman Hughes, Secretary Magnoni and Ron Griebenow.
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Ron Griebenow made a motion to approve the agenda. Motion seconded by Chairman Hughes 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 May 8, 2023, monthly Drain Board meeting. Motion seconded by Ron Griebenow and passed.
6. CORRESPONDENCE: Email from Anita Martin and Email from Randy Bermke of Alliant Energy
7. CITIZENS PRESENT: Anita Martin, Patricia Cicero, Bruce Degner, and landowners from Drain 20 (see attached sign in sheet)
8. REPORT OF THE DRAINS:

**A. DRAIN 20**

Five landowners appeared at the Drain Board meeting, reporting that weed growth in this drain was blocking water flow. Secretary Magnoni stated that the Drain Board has had good success using Vegetative Management Services in Plover, Wisconsin, for weed growth problems. The five landowners, both from the Drainage District and private ditches, selected Michael Traub to be their representative to meet with Vegetative Management Services to determine if spraying was the proper way to proceed. Ron Griebenow will also meet with Vegetative Management to represent the Drainage District. Donald Anderson is the party from Vegetative Management who will secure all DNR permits if this service is moved forward. (See sign in sheet attached).

**B. DRAIN 36**

Chairman Hughes reported that he had reviewed all files related to the history of Drain 36. Hughes stated that Secretary Magnoni also visited the file storage warehouse of Jefferson County to attempt to find historical records of the drain related to the culvert under Hwy 16. Chairman Hughes stated that prior to 1963 all drainage district drains were town drains until the State created chapter 88 which then brought all drains statewide under the jurisdiction of the State of Wisconsin. Bruce Degner stated he had reviewed the Town of Xonia records and found no information on the issue of the culvert under Hwy 16. Chairman Hughes stated that Engineer, Dan Prunuske recommended that a base line be established by sending a camera through the drain tile. No action was taken by the Drain Board.

**C. DRAIN 20**

Secretary Magnoni submitted two invoices from Jaeckel Brothers to the Drain Board for work done on this drain as requested by the Drain Board.

**D. DRAIN 15**

Chairman Hughes reported on the progress of the dead fall tree removal in Cambridge. He stated that the contractor was waiting for a tree trimmer to remove trees which was necessary due to

cable optic fiber lines. The contractor, Jaeckel, Brothers, stated he believed he would be able to start removing dead falls in two weeks.

#### 9. FINANCE REPORT

Patricia Cicero distributed and reported on the Finance Report for County expenditures from January 1 through May 31, 2023. She also passed out the recent draft of the County/Drain Board agreement worked on by her and Secretary Magnoni. No action was taken by the Drain Board.

#### 10. PREVIOUS AGENDA ITEMS NEEDING FURTHER DISCUSSION

**DRAIN 16** – Secretary Magnoni distributed a copy of an email from Randy Bermke from Alliant Energy. Mr. Bermke was requesting that the Drain Board consider an exception to the installation of an inverter junction box which resulted in a small encroachment to the 40 foot set back of the wildlife fence. Following a review of the Bermke email, Chairman Hughes made a motion to approve the request for the exception as requested in the Bermke email of June 7, 2023. That email is to be included as part of these minutes. Ron Gribenow seconded the motion which passed.

#### 11. OTHER BUSINESS AS ALLOWED BY LAW:

A. Secretary Magnoni passed out an email from Anita Martin, requesting copies of a letter to Alliant Energy, written reports or handouts from the State Drain Board Association meeting, written reports, handouts, and power point documents from the NRCS presentation, and Richard Sneider, Commissioner of Public Lands report. Secretary Magnoni stated that these items discussion points and passouts were part of the minutes hardcopy file; copies to reproduce would need to be charged at a rate of 24 cents per copy, plus postage, plus Secretary's time. He also stated that the Alliant Energy letter was not written due to Secretary Magnoni's visitation to the solar site and the determination that the wildlife fence was installed on a private drain. Anita Martin, who was present at this meeting, withdrew her request for the copies.

B. Chairman Hughes passed out a letter from Lucas Vellema, who operates a clearing and grubbing company. Chairman Hughes stated he called Mr. Vellema and asked for costs of his service. The response was \$275.00 per hour for excavator and drum grinder, and \$50.00 per hour for worker and chain saw. This letter and cards will be put with these minutes.

#### 12. APPROVAL OF INVOICES:

The Drain Board received and approved

- |                                  |                 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| a. Griggs law Group              | Multiple Drains |
| b. We Energies                   | Drain #36       |
| c. Jaeckel Brothers (2 invoices) | Drain #20       |

The detail of invoices paid can be reviewed in the County Finance office, 302 South Center Avenue, mobile office across from the County building.

#### 13. DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Drain Board will be on Monday, July 10, 2023, at the Highway Department Committee Room located at 1425 Wisconsin Drive, Jefferson, Wisconsin beginning at 9:30 a.m. This meeting will NOT be on Zoom.

#### 13. MOTION TO ADJOURN

With no further business before the Drain Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:37 a.m. Motion made to adjourn by motion by Ron Gribenow and seconded by Chairman Hughes. Passed.

Respectfully submitted for the meeting of May 8, 2023

Peter Magnoni, Secretary, Jefferson County Farm Drainage Board



Peter Magnoni &lt;phmagnoni@gmail.com&gt;

**Crawfish inverter junction box fence - Drainage set back**

2 messages

**Bermke, Randy** <RandyBermke@alliantenergy.com>

Wed, Jun 7, 2023 at 11:02 AM

To: "phmagnoni@gmail.com" &lt;phmagnoni@gmail.com&gt;

Cc: "Haus, Nick" &lt;nick.haus@deshaw.com&gt;, "Heupp II, Jeff" &lt;jeff.heupp.ii@deshaw.com&gt;, "Nowicki, Richard" &lt;RichardNowicki@alliantenergy.com&gt;

Peter,

As we have been discussing, the project has one final clearance issue to the drainage district set back.

This is at the inverter junction box area we inspected previously.

Attached is a picture where I added 2 lines to help visualize the set back and fence.

As you will see, there is a small encroachment into the set back and WPL would like to ask for relief in this specific spot only.

The Red line the set back from the ditch bank (40 foot) and the Yellow is the expected fence line.

Due to the way I had to put the line on the photo it looks a little exaggerated especially as you look down field (south in the picture).

We pulled a tape from the top of the ditch bank to the yellow line. Our maximum interference at the corner is approximately 4 foot then tapers back to no interference.

The fence was laid out to be able to meet working room around the junction box structure and also be in compliance with the NEC codes regarding access to electrical panels.

It is my understanding the original request for the 40 foot setback is based on room to spread spoils when there is ditch cleaning.

North of this interference (Behind me taking the picture looking south) the project fence line to 40 foot setback increases considerably. I would estimate the fence is 60 to 80 foot from the ditch bank and would provide more area to spread spoil in the immediate vicinity.

If you have any question or concern an wish to discuss before your meeting please reach out to me via cell phone.

I will be on vacation starting this afternoon but will be mostly able to jump on a call.

If I don't answer please leave a message and I'll call back as soon as possible.

Thanks

Randy

Randy Bermke

Alliant Energy

randy.bermke@alliantenergy.com

920-946-1690



Junction box interference\_mark up.jpg  
3656K

Peter Magnoni <phmagnoni@gmail.com>  
To: Corinne Magnoni <camagnoni@yahoo.com>

Wed, Jun 7, 2023 at 12:13 PM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Bermke, Randy" <RandyBermke@alliantenergy.com>  
**Date:** June 7, 2023 at 11:02:53 AM CDT  
**To:** phmagnoni@gmail.com  
**Cc:** "Haus, Nick" <Nick.Haus@deshaw.com>, "Heupp II, Jeff" <Jeff.Heupp.II@deshaw.com>, "Nowicki, Richard" <RichardNowicki@alliantenergy.com>  
**Subject:** Crawfish invertor junction box fence - Drainage set back

[Quoted text hidden]





Peter Magnoni <phmagnoni@gmail.com>

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## Alliant Energy Exception

1 message

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**Peter Magnoni** <phmagnoni@gmail.com>

Mon, Jun 19, 2023 at 2:34 PM

To: "Bermke, Randy" <RandyBermke@alliantenergy.com>

Cc: Dave Hughes <hugheshogs@hotmail.com>, Ron Griebenow <barbaragriebenow@gmail.com>, Matt Zang!  
<mattz@jeffersoncountywi.gov>

Randy, at the June 12, 2023, Drain Board meeting your request for an exception to the 40 foot set back was approved by the Drain Board.

The approval is specific to your request for the exception, as communicated in the Bermke email of June 7, 2023, needed due to the installation of the Invertor junction box which resulted in a small encroachment to the 40 foot set back of the wildlife fence,

Hope this agrees with your request.

Peter

Sign In 6/1-23

Tom Bauer 20

~~Anita Martin~~

Frank Schimpf 20

Franky Schimpf 20

Michael Traub 20 262-490-2892

~~Bruce Degner~~ 26-41-44

Derek Kramer 20

Trip Downing 20



Peter Magnoni <phmagnoni@gmail.com>

## WI Drain Board mtg, letter to Alliant Energy

1 message

Anita Martin <AMartin@jeffersoncountywi.gov>  
To: Peter Magnoni <phmagnoni@gmail.com>

Tue, May 30, 2023 at 11:41 AM

Hello Peter,

Good morning.

Do you have copies of the following items:

1. The letter sent to Alliant Energy, referenced in the April 10, 2023 meeting minutes;
2. Written report or handout(s) from the State Drain Board Association meeting held this spring; and
3. Written report, handouts, and/or PowerPoint from Steve Becker's NRCS presentation on the drainage issue from Sun Prairie to Hwy T in Cottage Grove?

If yes, could you please forward them by email (if available in electronic format), or send them via postal mail?

Thank you,  
Anita Martin  
District 13 County Supervisor  
261 Pinnacle Drive  
Lake Mills, WI 53551-2003  
(920)285-6875

Get Outlook for Android



L&L Clearing LLC

June 5, 2023

Drainage Districts of Wisconsin

Re: Introduction

275. /HR FOR EXCAVATOR; TRUM GRINDER  
50. /HR MAN + CHAIN SAW

Hello, my name is Lucas Vellema. I own and operate a clearing and grubbing company along with a chemical application company for right of ways and natural areas, L & L Clearing LLC and Vellema Vegetation Services LLC. We are based out of Fairwater, Wisconsin and we offer statewide services.

As a drainage district, it's important to ensure that your water ways are free and clear of debris and overgrowth to help ensure adequate drainage and prevent potential flooding and other issues. That's where I come in. I offer full clearing and grubbing services, chemical applications, and yearly maintenance to help establish right of ways and to keep the areas you're responsible for in top condition.

As for more about us, I started this a few years ago, with a goal of staying conservation oriented. I grew up farming and continue to do so, that being said I understand many issues when it comes to proper drainage, the importance of upkeep, along with the importance of quality. With quality in mind, we maintain a small crew and we run some of the most technologically advanced and efficient equipment offered in our field. Bigger isn't always better. I have met with people in my immediate area associated with drainage districts and within this past year I have been a part in helping establish a plan for Northern Ozaukee Drainage District.

I'm confident that our skills and experience could be a tremendous asset for your district to keep your waterways clear and help keep your district operating smoothly. If you have any questions or would like to learn more about our services, please don't hesitate to reach out. I look forward to the opportunity to work with you.

Thank you,

Lucas Vellema

(920) 904-0840

Lucas@llclearing.com

