

JEFFERSON COUNTY FARM DRAINAGE BOARD
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
Jefferson County Building
Room C1021, 31 South Center Avenue
Jefferson, WI 53549
January 13, 2025
9:30 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER was made by David 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. Ron Griebenow seconded the motion and carried.
4. CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE: Agenda posted on County website
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Ron Griebenow made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2024, monthly Drain Board meeting. Motion seconded by Chairman Hughes and passed.
6. CORRESPONDENCE: Chairman Hughes stated a letter was sent by Dan Prunuske to Andrew Griggs.
7. CITIZENS PRESENT: Bruce Degner, Matt Zangl, Brian Udovich (via Zoom), Anita Martin, Patricia Cicero, and Tracy Saxby.
8. REPORT OF THE DRAINS:

A. DRAIN 36

-Chairman Hughes made a motion to approve the December 17, 2024, Landowner/Public Hearing minutes. Ron Griebenow seconded the motion and it carried.

-Under Status of Assessment: Secretary Magnoni reported that Attorney Griggs' office stated that the assessment order would be mailed by week end. Tracy Saxby stated that her understanding was she would review the assessment list to make final changes prior to mailing. Pataricia Cicero stated that she understood that her office would help with the mailing. She also raised the question of Statute 88.41 which requires a 4 month notice, beginning from the date of the order of assessment, for the assessment to be paid. The Drain Board approved the beginning date of December 17, 2024, with a 90 day due date for the assessment to be paid. Following considerable discussion the Drain Board directed Secretary Magnoni to immediately contact Attorney Griggs regarding these concerns and understandings.

-The Drain Board discussed the status of pump replacement costs and heard a report from landowner, Bruce Degner. Mr. Degner reported that his best estimate for the pump replacement would be following:

a. Cost of new pump	\$6,000.00
b. All other costs	\$4,000.00
Total	\$10,000.00

All other costs would include electrical work, mounting the structure for the pump, new electrical parts replacement, and access grading including gravel road materials. Mr. Degner asked for some direction as to how to proceed. Brian Udovich stated that he was following up with the D.O.T., to inquire as to the bid results on Hwy 16. This would give direction concerning the under highway culvert. The Drain Board position was to await the D.O.T. results before replacing the pump. It is everyone's understanding that the D.O.T. bid results would be completed in the month of January 2025.

B. DRAIN 15

Under the report from Engineer Dan Prunuske, Chairman Hughes reported that a letter was sent by Prunuske to Attorney Griggs requesting the following:

1. The letter stated the maps part of this effort was now complete.
2. Mr. Prunuske requested that benefited acres be updated by a factor of 10.
3. Mr. Prunuske requested a legal certification of Judge Brantmeier's action in terms of the standard for the town of Lake Mills or does the Drain Board need to complete an annexation.

The letter from Mr. Prunuske was not submitted to all members of the Drain Board. Following discussion, Chairman Hughes made a motion to approve benefited acres to be updated by a factor of 10. Motion seconded by Ron Griebenow and carried.

C. DRAIN 33

Secretary Magnoni stated that some areas of this drain could improve with a weed cleanout including a few areas of bank wash outs. In discussion with some of the landowners, they suggested that because it only impacts some areas the landowners may want to clean the drain without involving the entire district. If this idea were to move ahead it would require a Drain Board approved contractor and would need to be supervised by a Drain Board member. If it does not move forward then possibly a drain assessment would be recommended.

D. DRAIN 16

Secretary Magnoni reported that Emily Straka, representing Badger Solar, requested a signed copy of the approval that DATCP sent back in 2022 for the Badger Solar project. Magnoni stated he did not have a signed copy. Chairman Hughes also did not have a signed copy. Emily was referred to Attorney Griggs.

E. DRAIN BOARD AGENDA ADDITIONS

The Drain Board directed that Professional Vegetation Management be reminded that Drain 41 and Drain 20 be sprayed this August 2025. Secretary Magnoni will contact them.

9. FINANCE REPORT-

Patricia Cicero distributed the end of year financial report for Jefferson County's allocation. She indicated that this report may not be the final as additional postings still could be made.

10. PREVIOUS AGENDA ITEMS NEEDING FURTHER DISCUSSION

Ron Griebenow reported that the landowner from Drain 41 still has not responded concerning the shared cost for the additional culvert size.

11. OTHER BUSINESS AS ALLOWED BY LAW-None**12. APPROVAL OF INVOICES: None received from the Finance Department****13. DATE FOR NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Drain Board will be on Monday, February 10, 2025, at the County Building, Room C1021, 311 South Center Avenue, Jefferson, WI 53549, beginning at 9:30 a.m. This **will not be** a Zoom meeting.

14. MOTION TO ADJOURN

With no further business before the Drain Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:33 a.m. Motion made to adjourn by Ron Griebenow and seconded by Chairman Hughes. Passed.

Respectfully submitted for the meeting of January 13, 2025
Peter Magnoni, Secretary, Jefferson County Farm Drainage Board