

DANE COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING
December 13, 2018

Location: Sun Prairie City Hall, 300 E. Main St., Sun Prairie, WI 53590

Drainage Boards Members Present: Scott Ringelstetter and Leonard Massie

Others Present: John Mitby (Board Attorney), Elizabeth Spencer (Board Attorney), Mayor Paul Esser (City of Sun Prairie), Rep. Gary Hebl (Wisconsin State Representative, 46th Assembly District), Tom Veith (City of Sun Prairie), and Adam Schleicher (City of Sun Prairie).

District Members present:

District No. 8 Jerry Bradley, Charles Bollig, and Alden Bosben

Meeting called to order by President Scott Ringelstetter at 2:05 PM

Opening Statements

- Jerry Bradley provides that he gave Mayor Esser a tour of the Districts resulting in this meeting so that Sun Prairie and the Board can come to an agreement regarding the maintenance of the Districts.
- Mayor Esser provides that Sun Prairie recognizes that it does contribute to Districts 8 and 9 and that it must have input and contribute to the maintenance. The city understands the importance of having well maintained ditches that operate as well as possible.

Sun Prairie Proposal

- Tom Veith provides the overview of Sun Prairie's work to determine the contribution that the City should be making for the upkeep of District 8 and 9. Overall, the evaluation is similar to REA and the city has viewed District 8 and 9 together instead as separate districts.
- There are 17,630.6 acres that drain in District 8 and 9. Sun Prairie's total acreage in the districts is 8,011 acres and of those acres, 5,621 drain into the Koshkenong. Currently, only 1083 acres are paying assessments.
- Sun Prairie has determined that it is responsible for 32% of the sub-watershed in Districts 8 and 9.
- A cost estimation was performed. If the costs for maintenance/repair were low at around \$562,000, then Sun Prairie would be responsible for \$196,700. If the costs were high at around \$987,000, Sun Prairie would be responsible for \$345,000.
- The City proposes that they contribute to 35% of the costs. This is with the understanding of the city's contributions to the system, the benefits it receives, and the extra storm water.

Discussion of Sun Prairie Proposal

- J. Bradley asks how long is water held in detention ponds before being release from them. T. Vieth states that the release of water cannot be any worse than that of before development and that Sun Prairie has more restrictive regulations than those of the county or state.

- John Mitby asks will the City's 35% contribution eliminate the \$75 assessments for residential home owners in Sun Prairie. T. Vieth provides that the 35% proposal would eliminate these as to not double charge the residents. The city will pay one bill in full.
- J. Mitby proposes a nonbinding memorandum of understanding to hire an engineer to come up with specifications and to bid out the project and then determine how to proceed with the potential to phase out any work. Leonard Massie provides that currently there is about \$175,000 combined for District 8 and 9.
- There is discussion of adding land but that is discouraged as it is a lengthy fight and not necessarily successful. Both Charles Bollig and Alden Bosben express concern over neighbors who do not pay assessments but obviously benefit.
- T. Vieth reaffirms Sun Prairie's position that the city would like to treat Districts 8 and 9 as one, that they will contribute 35% to the work for mains and laterals. They want maintenance to be done so that the drains can be as effective as possible. The City would like a 5 year plan if possible. A memorandum of understanding with this would be ideal.
- T. Vieth will provide his materials and calculations for REA to review.
- Discussion on the maintenance of corridors, berm, and spoils.
- J. Mitby proposes that a memorandum of understanding be completed by the end of January. The memorandum will cover clean out and maintenance. Sun Prairie will have 30 days to review plans and specifications before items are bid out.

Discussion of District 8 and 9 ends at 3:20pm

Matters of Other Districts

- Wisconsin Association of Drainage Districts.
 - S. Ringelstetter attended the WADD annual meeting. Changes to administrative law so that it will be in compliance with Chapter 88 was discussed. The WADD recommends that Board members get insurance because of the changes to Ch. 88.
 - J. Mitby will follow up with the State Drainage Engineer and other counties regarding insurance.
 - Discussion over the dissolution of District 23 occurred as several other counties have moved to dissolve districts more frequently.
- Sun Prairie Proposal
 - The Board will wait until Board Member Paul Maly is present to make any decisions.
- Assessments
 - District 4 moved to assess for \$15,000 at the last meeting.
 - District 11 has one outstanding invoice. The Board will likely assess for \$15,000.
- The Board will plan to meet in early January to discuss any changes related to new law.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 PM.