

**DANE COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING**  
**February 20, 2020**

Location: Bristol Town Hall, 7747 County Road N, Sun Prairie, WI

Drainage Board Members Present: Scott Ringelstetter and Leonard Massie.

Others Present: John C. Mitby, (Board Attorney) Elizabeth Spencer (Board Attorney), and Adam Gross (City of Sun Prairie), Bart Chapman (State Drainage Engineer), Lawrence Beech (Albion), Carson Patzmer (Dried UP Drainage).

District Members present:

District No.4: Dennis Laufenberg, Annie Tremaine

District No. 8: Jerry Bradley, Alden Bosben, Charles Bollig, Nick Brattlie, and Brent Brattlie

District No. 9: Josh Miller

District No. 10: Larry Donahue, Bonnie Donahue, and Greg Wolff.

District No. 16: Jarrod Wileman.

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM by Chairman Scott Ringelstetter.

Review and Approve Minutes for February 11 and 13 Meetings.

- S. Ringelstetter and L. Massie review the minutes.
- L. Massie moves to approve minutes. P. Maly seconds. MC 2-0.

Districts 8/9

- S. Ringelstetter notes that the Memorandum of Understanding has been signed by both the Board and the City of Sun Prairie.
- J. Mitby states that the concern now is issuing notices prior to March 1 for work that will occur in 2020. Estimates will need to be obtained and a meeting will need to take place prior to the onset of this work. The work may need to be reviewed by the State Drainage Engineer.
- A. Gross is here on behalf of Tom Veith. Sun Prairie is ready for any work that the Board is set to conduct. They request that they be allowed to review the plans and to remain involved.
- J. Bradley notes that from his observations that first the trees need to be removed and then a new profile created. He recommends that the two districts should not be done separately, but that the work in both locations should receive a single bid and be performed simultaneously. Then an engineer should be retained for the dredging.

- J. Miller notes that it is ideal for REA to do this work in the winter, as the trees have no leaves.
- L. Massie states that the last data was collected in 2005. While there is an approved plan and profile, we don't know whether any significant changes have occurred. REA has indicated where spoil piles must be reduced, so that the machines can pass through the corridor and remove trees/material. There is a blockage at Bailey Road. He proposes to begin cleaning the channel where District 9 enters District 8 for 10,000 ft. Tree removal must occur first, then the spoil bank would be reduced.
- J. Bradley notes that there are several trees that appear not to be in the corridor, but there was a previous motion to expand the corridor. How are these to be dealt with?
  - L. Massie will contact REA about these.
  - B. Chapman notes that we need new plans/profiles to expand the corridor. This will require a hearing.
- L. Massie notes that REA and Sun Prairie will need to discuss the specs and corridors to hire the contract.
  - A. Gross states that the Board will need to set up a time to meet with Tom Veith, as he will want to review any plans.
- J. Bradley asks the Board, how does it know that the corridors will be wide enough?
  - J. Millers states that they have traveled to and observed several areas.
  - S. Ringelstetter stats that the state will need to approve the widening, as it is a change in specifications.
  - B. Chapman would like to double-check the law regarding corridor expansion. It is possible that a new engineering plan is needed. If the trees are outside the corridor and the landowners will not allow removal, the Board cannot remove them. He will also need to check whether the corridor has to be at an elevation at the top of the spoil bank.
- A. Bosben is glad to see that the MOU has been executed, but asks whether all drainage areas are in the district, and if everyone residing in the watershed is paying?
  - L. Massie notes that the Board cannot do things outside the district. J. Mitby notes that it is possible to annex land outside the district.
- S. Ringelstetter notes that for ease of satisfying the March 1 notification deadline, the Board will send a notice that states that work will occur on the main, but it will be sent to everyone.
- **L. Massie moves that the following steps shall occur in compliance with the MOU: the Board shall select trees to remove, send a notice to all district members that maintenance work will occur in 2020, bid out the maintenance projects, have a meeting with Sun Prairie, award a bid upon meeting with Sun Prairie, and ensure that they obtain the State Drainage Engineer's approval for all plans to ensure that the corridor is wide enough. S. Ringelstetter seconds. MC 2-0**

- J. Mitby asks the Board to clarify the time frame within which the anticipated work would occur. S. Ringelstetter states that actual maintenance/cleanout will occur this fall. The Board will notify Sun Prairie in accordance with the timelines set out in the MOU.
- J. Miller raises concern over the resulting timber, as it may create the same problem that they are trying to correct here. He thinks it is possible that entire corridor will need to expand.

#### District 8/9 Petitions

- S. Ringelstetter notes that the Board needs to have hearings on 3 petitions to withdraw land.
- C. Bollig, a petitioner, asks what the costs will be to have a hearing, and whether all hearings will occur at once? His desire for withdrawal is based on a lack of equitability as demonstrated by the patchwork nature of the district boundaries.
  - J. Mitby- All hearings can be done at once and the landowners will bear the costs. It will cost approximately \$500. He suggests an alternative of having the land being assigned a benefit of zero.
  - S. Ringelstetter reminds all of the history of the formation of district boundaries.

#### District 16 Bill Conklin

- S. Ringelstetter worked the property a month ago and the ditch is full of silt. It is a main that needs to be cleaned out. He believes there to be a blockage somewhere north of Hammond. At this time the Board will find the blockage and plan to clean laterals D2 and D3 and potentially a portion of the main.

#### District 16- Tile Lateral

- The lateral north of Hammond Road on the Anderson Property, along the fence line with trees, was going to be reconstructed. We do not know for sure whether this was done, but no bill has been provided to the Board. The Board will check the status of this.

#### District 16- Wilemans

- J. Wileman asks whether the line will be put in this spring.
  - L. Massie states that this depends on whether State Drainage Engineer approval is needed.
- S. Ringelstetter explains that there is a main blowout, and Wileman needs access at one point. The outlet must be fixed and a new tile lateral needs to be run out to Wileman.
- B. Chapman states that a new plan is needed, along with DATCP approval. Under the previous administration, there was no funding for the State Drainage Engineer position;

thus, we could not previously secure the necessary approval. He requests that the Board submit a write-up for the project, along with plans/specs for the construction design. A contractor may submit plans, but a professional engineer must approve and stamp the plans. He estimates this costing around \$4,000.

- L. Massie will get in contact with REA. S. Ringelstetter will ask the contractor for maps/plans.

#### District 10

- L. Massie explains that the District was in good working order about 10-15 years ago. There are about 5,000 feet of ruined tile, and the Board has obtained prices for double-walled plastic tubing. It will cost approximately \$30,000 for the piping. The labor costs are not yet known. There is an alternative option of digging a ditch.
- The Board and present district members review the maps of the district.
- L. Massie would like to know how the district members would like to proceed.
  - Members would like another meeting with the Board.
  - The Board will lay out all options at a future meeting in March.

#### Public comments

- N. Brattlie of District 8 comments that the Board should be cautious about letting people withdraw from the District. Second, regarding the annual inspection, he would like it brought to the Board's attention that the ditch on Joe Bones's property did not get cleaned out.

S. Ringelstetter moves to adjourn meeting at 8:15 p.m. L. Massie seconds. MC 2-0.