

Northen

OZAUKEE COUNTY FARM DRAINAGE BOARD MINUTES

Special Meeting -- Monday, June 27, 2022

The special meeting of the Ozaukee County Farm Drainage Board was called to order at 10:08 a.m., on the 27th day of June, 2022, by Chairman Daniel Teunnisen. Present were Commissioners Daniel Teunnisen, Dan Birenbaum and Gerald Gantner, and Attorney for the District, Michael P. Herbrand. Notice of the meeting was found to have been properly published in the Ozaukee Press and the Lakeshore Weekly, for two consecutive weeks prior to the meeting date.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. The Public hearing was opened for the purpose of hearing public comment, consideration, and possible action on the assessment of the District. Attorney Herbrand presented three different potential assessment levels for general repairs and maintenance to the District - \$20,000/\$30,000/ and \$40,000. This was a general maintenance assessment, and the assessment was divided equally among all land owners within the District. Dan Birenbaum noted that the list of individuals to be assessed in the Village of Belgium included those owners with Deduct Meters, which are not served by the sanitary sewer plant, and, therefore, those meters would have to be removed from the assessment list. He estimated that this was approximately 60 total meters in the Village. He will get a revised list to Attorney Herbrand prior to the final assessment being sent.

The Board and public talked about the assessment payment timeline and that the State statutes gave owners 120 days to pay the assessment. The Board talked about work to be done in the District. Approximately \$5,000 was spent on maintenance work this year, and that completed slightly less than 1 mile of ditch maintenance. That included volunteer labor and rental equipment, and lower fuel costs.

It was discussed that the Town of Belgium and Ozaukee County helped, at their sole cost, resolve a drainage issue on Jay Road near the bike path by removing rip rap. The Board discussed cost estimates over the next 5 – 6 years of brush cutting to catch up on maintenance work and the different maintenance equipment that could be utilized and the related costs. There was discussion of spraying brush killer after completing the maintenance.

The Board talked about passing an annual assessment to raise enough money to do all work needed and the consensus of the discussion was that \$40,000 was the minimum to get the needed projects started.

Motion by Gerald Gantner, second by Dan Birenbaum to close the public hearing.
Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Motion by Gerald Gantner, second by Dan Birenbaum to approve the general

maintenance assessment of the District at the \$40,000 level. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Chair Teunnisen then discussed the possibility of the District buying used equipment to perform the maintenance in the future. Discussion occurred about the benefits of buying versus renting equipment. There was discussion of storage of the equipment and the Chair confirmed that Dave Mueller has offered to maintain the equipment and store it at no cost to the District, subject to reimbursement for parts. Insurance for the equipment was also discussed. It was agreed that the Chair would keep looking at equipment and notice a meeting if a piece of equipment appeared worth consideration for purchase.

There was discussion of the District hiring Cindy Oskey as a Records Retention Clerk for the District. Ms. Oskey was not present at the meeting but was available on speaker telephone. The position would not be a formal office, but an independent contractor position. It would allow her to be authorized by the District, to help with general administrative duties (agenda preparation, postings, etc.) and record keeping. Costs would likely be offset by the reduction of attorney's fees, as Attorney Herbrand's office is currently performing these duties. Motion by Gerald Gantner, second by Dan Birenbaum to hire Cindy Oskey as the District Records Retention Clerk, subject to development of a job description and hourly wage determination. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

There was consensus among the Board to hold future meetings at the Village of Belgium Village Hall, as it was more convenient to residents in the District.

Motion by Gerald Gantner, second by Dan Birenbaum to adjourn. Motion passed by unanimous vote.