

NORTHERN OZAUKEE FARM DRAINAGE BOARD MINUTES

Special Meeting -- Monday, July 24, 2023

The special meeting of the Northern Ozaukee Farm Drainage Board was called to order at 10:04 a.m., on the 24th day of July, 2023, by Chairman Daniel Teunissen. Present were Commissioners Daniel Teunissen, Dan Birenbaum and David Mueller, Attorney for the District, Michael P. Herbrand and District Record Retention Clerk, Cindy Oskey. Guests in attendance were Sandi Tretow, Ozaukee County Treasurer, Laura Henning-Lorenz, Sheboygan County Treasurer, Brian Gesch, Don Feyereisen, Roger Prinsen and Tamara Salchert. Notice of the meeting was found to have been properly published in the Ozaukee Press and the Lakeshore Weekly, for two weeks prior to the meeting date.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Prior meeting minutes were presented to the board and guests with one correction to be made to Gwendy Gesch's name. Motion by David Mueller, second by Dan Birenbaum to approve the minutes with the correction. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

The meeting was opened for public comment.

Roger Prinsen brought to attention the difficulty he was having with combining his parcels within Sheboygan County due to the lack of information Sheboygan County has about the parcels included in the district. Laura Henning-Lorenz stated the County needs legal descriptions for the previous District 1 to determine proper combinations. Chair Dan Teunissen explained the Board and County treasurers will need to meet with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection agency (DATCP) to copy necessary documents. Laura also described how a district in Hingham, located in Sheboygan County, settled the boundary issue by using plat surveys. Laura will contact DATCP to set up an appointment for meeting.

There was discussion about the method of the assessment by parcel rather than the benefit or use value. Roger Prinsen did not think it was equitable because it is the same per parcel and thought it should be by acre. Brian Gesch expressed his idea that it should be by economic value and agriculture vs nonagriculture purposes. Chair Dan Teunissen explained the different methods of assessment per the state statutes for the Drainage districts. Cindy Oskey will look at the process of assessment per the state statutes.

Don Feyereisen inquired about erosion policies. He expressed concern that a landowner is spraying the ditch to keep down the grass. David Mueller said he looked at the area in question and has pictures he took on June 19, 2023 and June 26, 2023 that support the concern. Attorney Herbrand will draft a letter to the landowner.

Chair Dan Teunissen closed the public comments.

Sandi Tretow provided a brief update on collections from the May 2023 assessment. She estimated \$14,000 had been collected. She will provide a formal report at the next meeting.

The next item on the agenda was the bid proposal. Attorney Herbrand did not have a draft available for review and approval. This will be done for the next meeting.

There was some discussion on what should be included in the bid request in regard to tree and brush removal, (remove vs spread on site), scope of work, time frame of years to complete and time of year to do the work with a weather clause. The bid would include the option of having the property owner keeping any wood. The plan would include a maintenance program. Chair Dan Teunissen expressed the land owners will be contacted about future work and clean up. He also expressed the bids will have to be published.

Tamara Salchert presented a view of the website developed ozaukee-farm-drainage.com. There was discussion about what will be included on the website such as the projects being work on, a frequently asked question section, previous meeting minutes, board members, maps, communications, electronic payments, history and pictures.

The Board discussed the next meeting date to discuss bids. There was consensus to hold the next meeting on August 28, 2023 at 10 am.

Motion by Dan Birenbaum, second by David Mueller to adjourn. Motion passed by unanimous vote. Meeting adjourned at 11:10 am.

Respectfully submitted,

David Mueller, Secretary

APPROVED:

Daniel Teunissen, Chair