

FARIBAULT COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
DRAINAGE AUTHORITY MEETING
MARCH 21, 2023

The Faribault County Board of Commissioners met at the Courthouse Annex in the City of Blue Earth as the Faribault County Drainage Authority pursuant to the conclusion of the regular session on March 21st, 2023. The following members were present: Tom Loveall, Bruce Anderson, Bill Groskreutz, John Roper, and Greg Young Commissioners. Faribault County staff Auditor/Treasurer/Coordinator Darren Esser, Drainage Manager Merissa Lore, and Acting Clerk to the Board Sarah Van Moer also attended.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Anderson.

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Groskreutz/Roper motion carried unanimously to approve the agenda of March 21st, 2023.

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Groskreutz/Young motion carried unanimously to approve payment of drainage voucher bills totaling \$34,334.43.

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Loveall/Young motion carried unanimously to approve Resolution 23-DA08-19 an order to initiate a redetermination of benefits and damages and appoint viewers on CD73. Commissioners Groskreutz, Roper, Young, Loveall, and Anderson voted yes.

R E S O L U T I O N

Findings:

1. The Faribault County Board of Commissioners is the drainage authority for County Ditch #73.
2. County Ditch #73 was established in 1948. Benefits for County Ditch #73 were determined concurrent with establishment in 1948, prior to the initiation of modern, intensive farming and drainage practices within Faribault County.
3. The current benefits roll reflects the benefitted properties, benefitted areas, and benefit values as determined by viewers based on assumptions regarding the future use and drainage of said properties.
4. Since the original establishment of County Ditch #73 and the original determination of benefits and damages, land uses, and drainage practices have changed to accelerate and increase the flow of water to the drainage system changing the nature and value of benefits accruing to lands from construction of County Ditch #73.

5. Since the original determination of benefits and damages, land values have changed within the benefitted area of County Ditch #73.
6. The drainage authority held a public meeting on March 21st, 2023, to discuss the need for a redetermination of benefits for County Ditch #73.
7. The drainage authority finds that the conditions required for the initiation of a redetermination of benefits exist, that the original benefits and damages do not reflect reasonable present day land values, and the benefitted areas have changed.

Order:

Based on the foregoing Findings and the entire record of proceedings before the Board, the Board, acting as the drainage authority for County Ditch #73, hereby orders as follows:

- A. The Board shall follow the procedures of Minn. Stat. § 103E.351 to conduct a redetermination of benefits for County Ditch #73.
- B. That Mark Behrends, John Thompson, Robert Hansen, Kendall Langseth, and Bruce Ness are hereby appointed as viewers to redetermination and report the benefits and damages for County Ditch #73.
- C. That within 5 days of this Order, the County Auditor-Treasurer shall execute an Order designating a time and location for the first meeting of the viewers and mail to the viewers a copy of the Auditor-Treasurer Order along with a certified copy of this Order.

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Young/Groskreutz motion carried unanimously to approve Resolution 23-DA09-20 an order to set the CD44 Repair Hearing for April 5th, 2023, at 1:00pm in the Ag Center Conference Room in Blue Earth. Commissioners Groskreutz, Roper, Young, Loveall, and Anderson voted yes.

R E S O L U T I O N

Findings:

1. Faribault County Board of Commissioners is the drainage authority for County Ditch #44.
2. Complaints of tile issues on County Ditch #44 East Main have been reported. An inspection and televising of the East Main was completed in the Fall of 2022 by drainage staff.
3. A staff repair report was submitted to the Board on March 21st, 2023.
4. A repair report was filed with the Faribault County Auditor on November 29th, 2022.
5. Staff recommends abandoning portions of the East Main that no longer serve a public purpose due to changes landowners have made in the watershed.

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6. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 103E.705, subd. 3, a public hearing must be noticed by mail to petitioners, owners of property, and political subdivisions likely to be affected by the proposed drainage project.

Order:

Based on the foregoing Findings and the entire record of proceedings before the Board, the Board, acting as the drainage authority for County Ditch #44, hereby orders as follows:

- A. A hearing on the repair report shall be held on April 5th, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. at the Ag Center Conference Room, 415 South Grove Street Blue Earth, MN 56013.
- B. At least ten days before the hearing, the Faribault County Auditor shall mail and publish notice of the time and location of the hearing to petitioners, owners of property, and political subdivisions likely to be affected by the proposed drainage project in the repair report.

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Young/Loveall motion carried unanimously to approve the meeting minutes from the February 16th CD52 Final Redetermination of Benefits and Improvement Hearing.

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Groskreutz/Loveall motion carried unanimously to set the 2023 crop damages rates at \$1,100 per acre for corn and \$775 per acre for soybeans.

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Roper/Loveall motion carried unanimously to approve the bid from Leland Drainage and Excavating in the amount of \$23,725.00 for the CD41 Lateral 22+50 Tile Replacement project.

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Young/Groskreutz motion carried unanimously to approve the bid from Leland Drainage and Excavating in the amount of \$24,400 for the CD72 Side Inlet Replacement project.

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Groskreutz/Young motion carried unanimously to approve publishing a noxious weed notice in all local newspapers.

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The Faribault County Drainage Authority was adjourned for March 2023.

Bruce Anderson, Chair

Sarah Van Moer, Acting Clerk to the Board

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