

FARIBAULT COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
DRAINAGE AUTHORITY MEETING
APRIL 4, 2023

The Faribault County Board of Commissioners met at the Courthouse in the City of Blue Earth as the Faribault County Drainage Authority at 1:00 p.m. on April 4th, 2023. The following members were present: Tom Loveall, Bruce Anderson, Bill Groskreutz, John Roper, and Greg Young Commissioners. Auditor/Treasurer/Coordinator Darren Esser, Drainage Manager Merissa Lore, Drainage Project Manager Dustin Anderson, and Acting Clerk to the Board Sarah Van Moer also attended. Participating virtually were Faribault County staff B. Rauenhorst, J. Blair, K. Anderson, L. Adams, L. Mehrhof, P. Krill, and S. Hauskins.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Anderson.

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Groskreutz/Loveall motion carried unanimously to approve the agenda of April 4th, 2023, with an addition.

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No public comment was received.

Commissioner Groskreutz spoke about the calls and emails he received from a constituent regarding CD24.

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Loveall/Young motion carried unanimously to approve payment of drainage voucher bills totaling \$33,782.25.

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Groskreutz/Roper motion carried unanimously to approve repair projects as shown below:

System	Repair #	Branch	Comm Dist	Twp	Sec	Landowner	Problem/Proposed Work
JD13F	22-133	A+305	1	Rome	27	JUDITH K RIECKHOFF QTIP TRUST	Headwall falling in, replace outlet
JD13F	23-002	Branch B	1	Rome	14	FARIBAULT COUNTY AUDITOR	Bank Slough
CD14	23-003	Branch A	4	Prescott	35	EBERLINE, WILLIS A	Renter suspects plugged tile
JD9FBE	23-001	Branch J	4	Lura	06	OSMUNDSON, RONALD E	Buried utility cable caused tile hole in south road ditch

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Groskreutz/Roper motion carried unanimously to approve the JD19F Repair Hearing meeting minutes from March 21st, 2023.

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Roper/Groskreutz motion carried unanimously to approve Resolution 23-DA10-24 to order the JD19F repair. Commissioners Groskreutz, Roper, Young, Loveall, and Anderson voted yes.

RESOLUTION

The Faribault County Board of Commissioners, sitting as the drainage authority for Judicial Ditch #19, received repair requests regarding a portion of the mainline open ditch. A system inspection was completed by drainage staff verifying repair needs on the system; having noticed and conducted a public hearing on the staff repair report and followed all requirements of chapter 103E, based on the record and proceedings, the Faribault County Board of Commissioners, acting as the Drainage Authority for Judicial Ditch #19, adopts the following Findings and Order:

Findings:

1. Faribault County Board of Commissioners is the drainage authority for Judicial Ditch #19.
2. A system inspection and survey were completed by drainage staff on Judicial Ditch #19 in the Fall of 2022. Upon inspection, the open ditch was found to be in disrepair.
3. An informational meeting was held on February 17th, 2023, after notice to all landowners and public authorities. The Inspection report and staff repair report were presented to the drainage authority on November 1st, 2022.
4. The drainage authority met at 11:00 am on February 21st, 2023, at the Faribault County Courthouse Minnesota Room and ordered a public hearing on the staff repair report.
5. The drainage authority, by order, set a public hearing for review of the staff repair report on March 21st, 2023, at 1:00 pm at the Faribault County Courthouse Minnesota Room, 412 North Nicollet Street Blue Earth, MN 56013. Notice of the hearing on the repair report was provided by mail to the owners of property, and political subdivisions likely to be affected by the repair in the repair report in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 103E.715, subd. 3.
6. At the public hearing, Dustin Anderson, Drainage Staff, presented the staff report. Anderson recommended a repair of portions of the drainage system, which included open ditch cleaning, crossing replacement, tile outlet repairs, side inlet replacement, crossing abandonment and removal, headwall removal, bank slough repairs, and reseeding disturbed buffer strips and ditch banks.
7. Staff estimated the cost of the repairs to be \$167,981.00.
8. Cost-share is available from the Faribault County Soil and Water Conservation District to provide grant funds to offset the costs of the side inlet repairs. The estimated cost of the side inlet repairs

is \$22,600.00. Cost-share would provide grant funds for 75 percent of the cost for a total of \$16,950.00. System cost would be \$5,650.00.

9. The staff repair report contains all the details, plans, and specifications necessary to prepare and award a contract for the repairs.
10. No public comment.
11. The drainage authority finds, consistent with the staff repair report, the public comments received at the public hearing on the staff repair report, and the entire record of proceedings, that portions of Judicial Ditch #19 in Jo Daviess Township Sections 27, 28, 32, 33, and 34 of Faribault County is out of repair; that the condition of these portions of Judicial Ditch #19 impedes the flow of water and reduces the hydraulic efficiency of the drainage system below that established by the original construction and/or subsequent improvement of the drainage system.

Order:

Based on the foregoing Findings and the entire record of proceedings before the Board, the Board, acting as the drainage authority for Judicial Ditch #19, hereby orders as follows:

- A. That the proposed repair to Judicial Ditch #19 in the location specified in these findings and recommended in the staff repair report is approved consistent with the staff recommendations and is necessary for the best interest of the affected property owners.
- B. Drainage Staff shall proceed with securing grant funds through the Faribault County Soil and Water Conservation District for the replacement of side inlets associated with the repair.
- C. The Auditor and Drainage Staff shall proceed and prepare and award a contract for the repair of the drainage system consistent with the procedures required by Minn. Stat. ch. 103E and under Minnesota law. The contract must be for the repair described in the repair report and as determined necessary by the drainage authority in these findings and order and be prepared in the manner provided in Minn. Stat. ch. 103E for the original drainage system construction.
- D. The cost of the repair shall be paid from the funds in the maintenance account for Judicial Ditch #19 and/or by assessments made to the properties benefited by the drainage system in the drainage system records.

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Roper/Groskreutz motion carried unanimously to approve the cost-share contract with the Faribault County Soil and Water Conservation District for JD19F Repair Alternative Side Inlets for \$18,645.00 (cost estimate \$24,860.00).

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Roper/Loveall motion carried unanimously to approve the cost-share contract with the Faribault County Soil and Water Conservation District for the CD8 and CD42 Repair Alternative Side Inlets for \$40,804.50 (cost estimate \$54,406.00).

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Discussion was held regarding repair options for the bridge on CD64.

Loveall/Young motion carried unanimously to approve the cost-share contract with the Faribault County Soil and Water Conservation District for the CD64 expanded 2-stage ditch for \$23,980.00 (cost estimate \$23,980.00) with Soil and Water paying 100% of construction cost.

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Groskreutz/Young motion carried unanimously to adjourn.

The Faribault County Drainage Authority was recessed to April 18, 2023.

Bruce Anderson, Chair

Sarah Van Moer, Acting Clerk to the Board