

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
JOINT LE SUEUR/BLUE EARTH COUNTY
DRAINAGE AUTHORITY**

July 14, 2020

The Joint LeSueur/Blue Earth County Drainage Authority met in the Blue Earth County Boardroom at 1:30 PM. Present were LeSueur County Commissioners Danny O’Keefe, Steven Rohlfling, and Lance Wetzel and Blue Earth County Commissioners Kip Bruender and Will Purvis. Also present were staff from LeSueur and Blue Earth County.

The Joint Drainage Authority met to consider an order initiating a redetermination of benefits on Joint Ditch 1.

Public comment was heard from Mr. Ted Wolfe and Mr. Dan Hiniker.

Commissioner Wetzel moved and Commissioner Purvis seconded the motion to approve the following resolution:

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
JOINT DRAINAGE AUTHORITY FOR LE SUEUR AND BLUE EARTH COUNTIES
SITTING AS THE DRAINAGE AUTHORITY FOR JD 1**

In the Matter of the Redetermination of Benefits of JD 1	Findings and Order Initiating the Redetermination of Benefits
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Findings:

1. The Joint Drainage Authority for Le Sueur and Blue Earth Counties is the drainage authority for JD 1.
2. JD 1 was established in 1907. Benefits for JD 1 were determined concurrent with establishment in 1942, prior to the initiation of modern, intensive farming and drainage practices within Le Sueur County and Blue Earth 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 JD 1 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 JD 1.
5. Since the original determination of benefits and damages, land values have changed within the benefitted area of JD 1.
6. The joint drainage authority noticed and held a hearing on the proposed redetermination of benefits for JD 1 on July 14th, 2020. The informational hearing was attended by landowners who confirmed certain conditions related to benefits on the drainage system.
7. The joint 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 JD 1, hereby orders as follows:

- A. The Board shall follow the procedures of Minn. Stat. § 103E.351 to conduct a redetermination of benefits for JD 1.
- B. The following viewers from H2Over Viewers are appointed: Bryan Murphy, Shantel Hecht, Larry Murphy & Robert Conely (alternate). The Le Sueur County Auditor-Treasurer shall coordinate a first meeting of the viewers (which may be remote) and administer and document required oaths for the record of proceedings.

The motion carried.

Commissioner Bruender moved and Commissioner O'Keefe seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:52 PM. The motion carried.