

2023 Annual Drainage Report

Operation Year from 9/1/2022 – 8/31/2023
WINNEBAGO COUNTY DRAINAGE DISTRICT

DRAINAGE DISTRICT OFFICIALS

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD Howard Miller

SUPERVISORS John Kunde
 Mike Pfankuch
 Peter Romberg
 David Sleik

SUPPORT SERVICES Holly Stevens – Administrative and Clerical Services

TREASURER Diana Hellman (Winnebago County)

CONSULTANT ENGINEER Ben Hamblin, P.E. - McMahon Associates

STATE DRAINAGE DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

ENGINEER Barton Chapman

Financial Report

INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes the financial components of the Winnebago County Drainage District Annual Report. The Winnebago County Drainage Board supervises the drainage districts in Winnebago County, which currently only includes the Larsen Drainage District. The 2021 operating year is from 9/1/2020 to 8/31/2021.

COUNTY: Winnebago
DISTRICT: Larsen Drainage District
DATE: 08/31/2023

FINANCIAL STATEMENT	DEBTS	CREDITS
Starting balance on September 1:		160,086.10
Assessments collected:		13,055.71
Interest earned on assessments:		
Interest earned on borrowed funds:		
Other receipts:		
TOTAL OF ALL RECEIPTS		178,377.71
Amount paid out for district activities:	7,050.02	
Amount paid out to repay loans or bonds:		
Other payables (Board Per diems):	721.48	
Total of all expenditures	7,771.50	
Ending balance on August 31, 2023:		165,370.31
Uncollected Assessment:		

NO bonds have been issued or paid during the preceding twelve months.

Engineering Report

INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes the engineering components of the Winnebago County Drainage District Annual Report. The Winnebago County Drainage Board supervises the drainage districts in Winnebago County, which currently only includes the Larsen Drainage District. The 2023 operating year is from 9/1/2022 to 8/31/2023.

LARSEN DRAINAGE DISTRICT

The Larsen Drainage District is the sole drainage district under the oversight of the Winnebago County Drainage Board. The Larsen Drainage District is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Arrowhead River, which drains 5.6 square miles of land distributed throughout the following municipalities:

- Town of Winchester
- Town of Winneconne
- Town of Clayton
- Town of Vinland
- Allenville (unincorporated)
- Larsen (unincorporated)
- Mlkesville (unincorporated)

This Annual Report is being completed based on applicable state regulations, Chapter 88 of the Wisconsin State Statutes and Drainage Rule ATCP 48 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code. Briefly, the Drainage Board has the responsibility for:

- Operating and maintaining district drains and dams within drainage districts.
- Levying assessments against landowners who benefit from the drainage provided.
- Awarding appropriate damages to landowners injured by the construction and maintenance of district drains.
- Inspecting the district drains and corridors.
- Making or recommending modifications to a drainage district.
- Resolving drainage disputes.
- Notifying landowners that their property is within a drainage district.

LARSEN DRAINAGE DISTRICT OPERATING YEAR ACTIVITY SUMMARY

Within the Larsen Drainage District, the Winnebago County Drainage Board completed only minor maintenance activities. No major storm occurred, and no major storm reports were filed. The following activities occurred during the 2023 operating year:

- Held three public meetings.
- Requested Circuit Court renewal for the reappointment of Howard Miller to a 5-year term expiring in 2028.
- Continued a General Engineering Agreement to continue Professional Engineering Services with McMahon Associates, Inc.
- Continued implementation of adopted guidelines recommended by the Administrative Services for managing operating budgets, tax assessments, and minimum fund balances.
- Expanded a river flow monitoring program at various bridges crossing the Arrowhead River adding additional data collection points.
- Completed an annual inspection of the Arrowhead River Corridor with the use of a UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) “Drone”.
- Further developed a Geographical Information System with McMahon Associates, Inc. to spatially capture, record and document various sets of data associated with the Arrowhead River, including documenting various existing river corridor conditions. The GIS system is an efficient tool that can be used to track and document the Arrowhead River, providing a timeline of the river’s evolution and providing critical information needed to identify maintenance requirements.
- Identified eight locations with obstructions in the river corridor. Property owners were notified of the issues with requests for removal of the obstructions. Follow up was received from two of the property owners confirming resolution. The Board will conduct follow up and monitoring procedures for the remaining six identified areas of concern.
- Continued to monitor the stormwater runoff issue identified in 2022 which is causing erosion and a significant sediment deposit along the corridor. Board Members have confirmed that conditions have stabilized. Implementation of the plan for removal of sediment and remediation of conditions to minimize and potentially prevent future issues was delayed due to adverse shoreline conditions preventing access for the work to be completed. The Board is monitoring the area and plans to take the corrective action when conditions allow for access.
- Chairman Howard Miller attended each of the following providing reports to the Winnebago County Drainage Board.
 - 10/04/2022 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Lake Winnebago Water Level Fall Review
 - 02/07/2023 Winnebago Waterways Level Assessment Team Meeting
- Chairman Howard Miller and Board Member Peter Romberg attended the following meeting, reporting pertinent information to the Board.
 - 04/04/2023 Wisconsin Association of County Drainage Boards Annual Meeting
- The District continued the review to determine best practices for implementation of WI Stats. §88.92 which requires review of plans and specifications for connection to District drains. Discussions were held at the Annual Meeting of Wisconsin Drainage Boards.

LARSEN DRAINAGE DISTRICT OPERATING YEAR ACTIVITY SUMMARY continued

- Discussions and consideration to amend District boundaries to capture all property owners who are benefitting from the District drains continues. The Board and District Engineers believe there are more properties benefitting from the drain as a direct result of increased development which produces added and expanded storm water management systems, as well as increased and expanded use of agricultural tiling and drainage techniques. Research into the statutory process to identify benefitted properties is in process.
- Board members met with staff from the US Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) regarding a federal program which provides grant funding to supplement the costs relating to the maintenance of secondary ditches. In October 2022, members met with Lynn Szulczewski of the US Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources Conservation Service to walk an identified secondary ditch for program consideration. After the site visit, an engineering field survey was completed by federal officials in Spring 2023. The Board is waiting for their report and proposed plan.