



AUGUST 26, 2025
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
NICOLLET SIBLEY JOINT DRAINAGE AUTHORITY

The Nicollet-Sibley Joint Drainage Authority convened in regular session on Tuesday, August 26, 2025, at 1:30 p.m., with Commissioner Marie Dranttel presiding. Present were Nicollet County Commissioners Marie Dranttel and Kurt Zins, and Sibley County Commissioners Lyle Grochow and Steve Saxton. Also in attendance were Ditch Inspector Nate Henry, Public Services Director Jaci Kopet, and Recording Secretary Whitney Anderson. Commissioner Nicole Helget was absent.

Election of Chair

Motion by Commissioner Zins and seconded by Commissioner Saxton to nominate Commissioner Dranttel as Chair. Motion carried unanimously.

Election of Vice Chair

Motion by Commissioner Saxton and seconded by Commissioner Zins to nominate Commissioner Grochow as Vice Chair. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Dranttel and seconded by Commissioner Saxton to approve the consent agenda items as follows:

- a. May 9, 2017 Joint Drainage Minutes

Motion carried unanimously.

Public Appearances:

There were no public appearances.

Public Services

Public Meeting: 1:30 p.m. – Cleaning Requests for JD 15NS

Ditch Inspector Henry presented repair requests for JD 15NS submitted at the request of landowners. The request involves the cleaning of the open ditch system. Following the presentation, Ditch Inspector Henry noted he was available to address questions and receive public comment regarding the proposed repairs.

Land owner Lee Shott addressed the Board requesting additional information regarding when the ditch was originally established and the proposed costs associated with its maintenance. He noted the ditch is blocked prior to the highway and that the dam has consistently been a concern. Shott reported observing at least three feet of water in the ditch and suggested extending the cleaning approximately one-half mile further at minimum to the highway.

Land owner Ron Bruss requested that, rather than cleaning a portion of the ditch that does not require maintenance, the cleaning be extended in another area where it is needed.

Land owner Todd Stolt asked whether the ditch has been redetermined, expressing disagreement with how the current benefits are allocated. He requested that a redetermination

be completed before any cleaning takes place.

Director Kopet noted that the Board would need to appoint a redetermination, which requires going through the formal process. She stated the request for repair would need to be revisited at a later date.

Commissioner Saxton agreed, stating that it is up to the landowners to decide whether to proceed under the old benefits or wait for a redetermination.

Land owner Gordy Rodning requested that the cleaning be continued through and under the County Road 52 bridge.

Land owner Spencer Schott requested if the redetermination could be made a priority.

Director Kopet then requested a public show of hand on how to proceed with the ditch cleaning. The vote resulted in 1 in favor of proceeding with the cleaning and 5 in favor of delaying the cleaning to complete the redetermination.

Commissioner Zins suggested tabling the matter for three weeks to appoint viewers and gather additional information from the landowners.

Director Kopet suggested tabling the matter until the next Board meeting on September 9th.

Chair Dranttel on behalf of the Nicollet-Sibley Joint Drainage Authority, a motion was made to table/reconvene the meeting until September 9, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. in the Nicollet County Board Room to appoint viewers for JD 15NS.

The meeting was recessed at 2:09 p.m.

The Nicollet-Sibley Joint Drainage Authority reconvened on Tuesday, September 9, 2025, at 1:30 p.m., with Commissioner Marie Dranttel presiding. Present were Nicollet County Commissioners Marie Dranttel, Kurt Zins, and Nicole Helget, and Sibley County Commissioners Lyle Grochow and Steve Saxton. Also in attendance were Ditch Inspector Nate Henry, Assistant County Attorney James Dunn, Public Services Director Jaci Kopet, and Recording Secretary Whitney Anderson.

Chair Dranttel called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm for the continuation of the DJ15 NS cleaning request meeting from August 26, 2025.

Director Kopet provided a brief recap of last week's Joint Drainage Authority meeting and discussed next steps. An update on redeterminations was also given, noting that Mark Behrends is willing to take on the eight joint ditches. Work is underway to schedule meetings in order to complete the appointment of viewers, with all joint meetings planned to be held concurrently. Today's discussion will focus on the cleaning request.

At 1:32 p.m. Chair Dranttel opened the meeting for public comment:

Ron Bruss – Commented that he owns land at the start of the ditch and is among the first affected when it does not drain. He noted that his shallow tile connects to a shallow portion of the ditch, which then fails to drain properly.

Todd Stolt – expressed that a compromise is needed, noting that certain repairs from the T to the Y should be completed immediately. He recommended proceeding with those repairs now, and addressing the cleaning after the redetermination.

Gordy Schmidt – Noted that the T is located at 481st Street. He stated that after driving the ditch from the T to the Y, he observed significant grass and debris. He expressed that

there should be no delay with work proceeding beyond the Y.

Spencer Shott – Stated that there are issues extending from the dam that need to be addressed immediately. He expressed support for cleaning the ditch all the way through to the wetlands.

Lee Shott – Submitted photos showing approximately four blocked areas. He requested that those sections be cleaned immediately, at a minimum.

Commissioner Dehen asked to clarify that the purple areas on the map need to be cleaned immediately.

Lee Shott responded that he would like to see the cleaning extend at least through Highway 22.

Wayne Wills noted that the area near his property does not require cleaning, but the area by BR3 does.

Commissioner Saxton moved, and Commissioner Helget seconded, to approve the petition and expand the cleaning to Highway 22, to be completed as soon as possible. Motion carried unanimously.

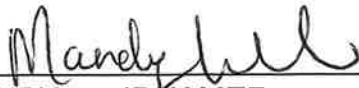
Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.



MARIE DRANTTEL, CHAIR
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:



MANDY LANDKAMER,
CLERK TO THE BOARD