

DRAINAGE BOARD

September 16, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Larson called the regular meeting of the Davison County Drainage Board to order at 7:00 p.m. Deputy Auditor Norwick took roll call as follows: Members of the Board present were Jay Larson, Chet Edinger, Jerry Buchholz, Gregg Bult, Mark Klumb, & Denny Kiner. Members Absent were Chris Nebelsick. Ex-Officio members present were Drainage Acting Administrator Wegleitner. Ex-Officio members absent were Drainage Administrator Bathke, Highway Superintendent Weinberg, and Director of Equalization Vissia.

Guests – Kiera Leddy, Scott Estabrook, John Fraser, Dakota Poe, Bailey Schmiedt, Gordon Stahl, & Steve & Verla Vlieger.

MEETING EXPECTATIONS

Chairman Larson recited the meeting's expectations.

Each permit will be considered based on a checklist of items required in accordance with the Davison County Drainage Ordinance and SDCL 46A-10A. The checklist is on file in the Davison County Auditor's office and the Drainage Administrator's office.

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Bult, seconded by Edinger to approve the agenda for the September 16, 2025, meeting. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

DECLARE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Chairman Larson asked about any conflicts of interest. None.

APPROVE AMENDED MINUTES

Motion by Buchholz, seconded by Bult to approve the amended minutes of the July 15, 2025, meeting. Consider Estabrook Ag Drainage Request was changed to Consider Shannon Hutterian Brethren, Inc. Drainage Request. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT & CITIZEN COMPLAINTS

Chairman Larson asked for any public input for items not on the agenda and reminded all in attendance that no action would be taken.

CONSIDER GORDON STAHL DRAINAGE REQUEST

Motion by Edinger, seconded by Klumb, based on findings, to grant a drainage permit to drain the following, the NE ¼ of Section 18, the NW ¼ of Section 17, & the S ½ of the SW ¼ of Section 8, all in T 102 N, R 60, in Davison County, South Dakota with the location of the outlet in the SW ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 17, T 102 N, R 60, in Davison County, South Dakota.

The plan is to install approximately 105,000' of drain tile in the S ½ of the SW ¼ of Section 8, the NW ¼ of Section 17, & the NE ¼ of Section 18, all in T 102 N, R 60, in Davison County, with the outlet in the SW ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 17, T 102 N, R 60, in Davison County. The water will drain into Enemy Creek, which will drain into the James River in Hanson County.

Application received: August 26, 2025.

Applicant and necessary neighbors notified: September 2, 2025.

Published in the paper: September 6, 2025.

Acting Administrator Wegleitner explained there were no calls from abutting property owners or other residents. Bryce Gillen from Gridline was present to answer questions. He explained the project consists of putting in new drain tiles along with cleaning out existing ditches which are shown on the drain tile map. The board asked if the outlet will be in the ditch and Bryce explained it will stay on the property owner's land. There are no issues with the NRCS.

Board members were given a few minutes to review the items to consider prior to a decision, in accordance with Section 2:05 of the Davison County Drainage Ordinance. The items were placed on the screen for all to view.

A roll call vote was taken as follows. Buchholz-aye, Bult-aye, Edinger-aye, Larson-aye, Kiner-aye, Nebelsick-absent, Klumb-aye. Motion carried.

VLIEGER PROPERTY DRAINAGE DISCUSSION

Kiera Leddy, an attorney from Leut Services, presented some drainage issues addressed to her from concerned landowners, Scott Estabrook, John Fraser & Tom Bannwarth, on property owned by Steven Vlieger. The property of concern is legally described as the SW1/4 of Section 11, T 104 N, R 62 in Davison County, South Dakota. Mr. Vlieger's property has a county coordinated ditch running through it with culverts used as a place to cross from the NE side to the SW side, as there is no other way to access the SW side due to the ditch. Mr. Vlieger has been approached several times to clean out the ditch and fix the culverts, as the water is being blocked from flowing properly, and this causes the upstream landowners flooding, which floods out roads, crops and land. Mr. Bannwarth has also stated he would clean out the ditch using his own time and equipment, but Mr. Vlieger has refused any requests to help with the issues. According to a vested drainage right found, the last time the county cleaned out the ditch was before Mr. Vlieger owned the property in 1988, as he has owned the property since 1994. Pictures were presented to the board showing how the ditch in the SW1/4 of Section 11 was cleaned out and the ditch on Mr. Vlieger's property was unclean. Also, a video was presented to show how the water flows. Scott Estabrook presented information on the watershed and flood water path to the board. He explained water is overtop of roads 243rd, 245th, & 245th. This information is available in the Planning & Zoning Office. The landowners affected by the flooding caused by the uncleaned ditch would like the ditch cleaned and trees removed. Also, to remove the obstruction caused by the culverts, as law requires the drainage function of the ditch to be maintained.

Steve Vlieger explained when he purchased the land in 1994 there were 2 24" plastic pipes, and he purchased 2 36" culverts to replace the 24" pipes. He stated the ditch is functional, as you can walk down it. He said he had done some tree removal but never done dirt work. He explained that there are other blue lines and natural drainage ways that flow north is another source of the water issues. The board asked who could clean out the ditch, Acting Administrator Wegleitner explained county or the landowner can, but landowner must give county permission to be on the property. The board expressed

how the ditch is upholding water. Mr. Vlieger said he has no issues cleaning out the ditch, but he doesn't want his trees removed or mess with the slope. The board discussed the options of what culverts are needed to match the flow of the watershed and asked how wide the ditch is where Mr. Vlieger thought it was around 10'-12' wide. The board asked Mr. Vlieger how long it takes to drain, and it would take a week or two.

Acting Administrator Wegleitner reminded the board this was a discussion only and no action could be taken at this time.

ADMINISTRATIVELY APPROVED APPLICATIONS

Acting Administrator Wegleitner informed the board that there has been one administratively approved application from Gordon Stahl on August 28, 2025. The legal description of the project is the SE1/4 of Section 4, T 102 N, R 60 in Davison County, South Dakota. Gordon Stahl plans to clean out an existing county coordinated ditch, 11 which will help the ground out. The ditch is only on his property.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

None.

SET DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT MEETING

Chairperson Larson set October 21, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. as the next meeting date and time.

ADJOURN

At 8:45 p.m., Chairman Larson adjourned the meeting.

ATTEST

Christy Norwick, Deputy Auditor

Jay Larson, Chairman

Publish Once
Approximate Cost