



EATON COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER

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FAQS

Board of Determination Meeting Belaire Hills Drain

Why did I receive a notice?

A petition was filed with the Eaton County Drain Commissioner requesting location, establishment, and construction of the Drain. All property owners with lands in the Drainage District were sent a copy of the notice.

What is a Drainage District?

A drainage district is the land area that benefits from the drain. The drainage district makes up the watershed that contributes water to the drain. Each property and municipality within the drainage district pays for the construction (or establishment) of the drain and for future maintenance and improvement of the drain.

What is a Board of Determination?

A Board of Determination is a 3-member panel of disinterested property owners in Eaton County. The members do not own lands or live in the Belaire Hills Drain Drainage District or in Delta Charter Township. When a petition is filed with the Eaton County Drain Commissioner, the Michigan Drain Code requires the Drain Commissioner to set up a public meeting of the Board of Determination.

What does the Board of Determination do?

The only role of the Board of Determination is to receive evidence and hear testimony of interested persons and affected municipalities at the Board of Determination meeting and to determine whether the petitioned location, establishment, and construction is necessary and conducive to the public health, convenience, or welfare.

The Board of Determination members do not play a role in designing a project or determining the cost of a project.

Does the decision of the Board of Determination have to be unanimous?

No, only a majority vote of the Board of Determination is required. Only the members of the Board of Determination vote. The attendees at the meeting do not vote, but instead provide testimony to the Board members to assist in their determination.

Does the Board of Determination decide what work gets done?

No, the Board decides necessity, but does not determine the scope or cost of the project. Further, the Board does not determine how much property owners and municipalities will be assessed.

Do I have to attend the Board of Determination meeting?

No, you are not required to attend.

Can the decisions of the Board of Determination be appealed?

Appeals of the Board of Determination's decisions are provided under MCL 280.72a.

What is my assessment amount?

Estimated assessment amounts are not yet determined. If the Board of Determination finds the project necessary, the Drain Commissioner will hold a public meeting to review apportionments after a project scope has been determined. Notices for this public hearing on apportionments will be sent out at a later date.

How can I get more information?

Visit the Eaton County Drain Commissioner's website at www.eatoncounty.org/207/Drain-Office or call the Eaton County Drain Commissioner's office at (517) 543-3809.