



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

GARY MCDOWELL  
DIRECTOR

**Notice of Drainage Board Meeting  
For Determination of Necessity  
GEERS INTERCOUNTY DRAIN  
GORBY INTERCOUNTY DRAIN  
(Kent and Newago Counties)**

**DATE:** January 13, 2022  
**TIME:** 10:00 am  
**LOCATION:** Grant Township Hall  
1617 E. 120<sup>th</sup> St., Grant, Michigan

The Geers Intercounty Drain Drainage Board and the Gorby Intercounty Drain Drainage Board will meet at the above date, time and location to hear all interested persons, receive evidence and determine whether the maintenance and improvement, as set forth in the petition dated January 4, 2021, is necessary for the public health, convenience, or welfare; and further, to determine whether it is necessary to revise the boundaries of the Drainage District pursuant to Chapter 8 of Public Act 40 of 1956, as amended.

Proceedings conducted at this public meeting will be subject to the provisions of the Michigan Open Meetings Act. Written comments may be submitted prior to the meeting, or additional information may be obtained from the following offices:

**Ken Yonker**  
**Kent County Drain Commissioner**  
1500 Scribner Ave. NW  
Grand Rapids, Michigan  
616-632-7910

**Dale Twing**  
**Newago County Drain Commissioner**  
306 S. North St.  
White Cloud, Michigan  
231-689-7213

Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Drain Commissioner of their County at the number listed above or through the Michigan Relay Center at 7-1-1 (TDD) at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance.

Anyone aggrieved by the decision of the Intercounty Drain Drainage Board may seek judicial review pursuant to MCL 280.122a.

Dated: December 10, 2021

Brady Harrington, Deputy  
For Gary McDowell, Director  
Michigan Department of Agriculture and  
Rural Development

## **History and procedure**

The Kent County Drain Commissioner received a petition from Grant Township on January 4, 2021 requesting maintaining and improving, and consolidation with the Gorby Intercounty Drain, of the Gorby Intercounty Drain to address drainage issues in Tyrone Township in Kent County and Grant Township in Newaygo County.

The Drainage Board met on March 4, 2021 and determined that the petition was sufficient and the requested improvement was practical. A portion of the Gorby Drain was consolidated with the Geers Drain at that meeting. The Drainage Board retained Spicer Group to provide preliminary engineering alternatives and cost estimates.

Today's meeting is to make a public presentation of the preliminary engineering study and engineer's recommendations and cost estimates and to receive additional public testimony. The Board will make a decision based on the engineering study and testimony received at this hearing and earlier in the process, from the petitioners, landowners and local officials as to whether or not it is necessary and conducive to the public health, convenience, or welfare to proceed with some level of construction project to provide the relief requested.

The decisions today will be made by a majority vote of this Board. The Chairperson does not vote except in the event of a tie (abstentions are not allowed)

Again, it should be made clear that the Board will be deciding if there should be a project to address the relief requested in the petition and whether the project is necessary for the good of the public health, convenience, or welfare.

If the Board makes the determination that there is no need for any level of project, and there is no appeal, the petition process comes to an end and the costs of the procedure to date will be apportioned among the drainage district counties. These costs will be apportioned according to the benefits that would have accrued to the counties if the project had been completed.

If this Board finds a project Necessary at the end of today's proceedings and there is no appeal within the designated 10 days, this Board in conjunction with the recommendations of the engineer and testimony received from the hearing process, will decide on scope and breadth of the project to be constructed.

You have the right to appeal the decision of the Board whether the Board decides yes or no. Your appeal is to the Circuit Court of the county in which you reside, within 10 days of today's hearing. The scope or design of the project is not subject to appeal.