

Article 25 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, title "County Commissioners," sub-title "Draining Lands," to follow immediately after Section 81AA of said Article (Vol. 3 of the Annotated Code), to be designated as Sections 81AB to 81AZ, inclusive, and to read as follows:

81AB. Whenever the owner or owners of any swamp or low grounds shall deem it fit to have them drained, if the owners of said lands cannot agree, or should any be married women, infants, non compos mentis, or non-residents of the county where swamp or low lands are situated, they or any of them may petition the County Commissioners, sitting in the county where such swamp or low lands or any part thereof are situated, for the appointment of commissioners to locate or lay out a ditch or ditches or drains for the purpose; and the County Commissioners shall thereupon appoint a board of three or more Drain Commissioners, to be composed of judicious and impartial freeholders, to be taken from the neighborhood, or vicinity of said swamp or low lands.

The Drain Commissioners so appointed being first duly sworn to execute their duties faithfully and impartially, shall call to their assistance a skillful surveyor or engineer, sworn in like manner, and shall go upon and view the swamps or low grounds mentioned in the petition, and lay out, by specified courses, distances and breadths such ditch or ditches, or drains, as shall have sufficient fall to carry water and to drain the said swamp or low grounds. They shall estimate the probable cost or expenses, including damages, if any, of cutting such ditch or ditches, or installing drain tile, and the sum or proportion thereof which each owner or possessor or person benefitted shall be bound to pay.

81AC. The Drain Commissioners so appointed shall make out and return to the County Commissioners, at their next meeting thereafter to which it may be practicable a report in writing, under their hands, with a plat or map attached, containing a description by general delineation, without survey, of the boundary lines of the swamp or low grounds mentioned in the petition and also a delineation of each owner's or possessor's lot or parcel, with the estimated quantity of acres the same contain, with the name of every person, to whom they may award damages, and the amount thereof, and the sum or amount each owner or possessor, or person benefitted, shall be bound to pay as his proportion of the cost or expense of cutting