

Whenever a petition signed by not less than one third of the landowners or by the owners of not less than one third of the land in a watershed is filed with the clerk of the board of county commissioners of the county in which all or any part of such body of land is located, setting forth that such body of land, described in such a way as to convey an intelligent idea of its location, IS in need of drainage for optimal crop production and that the public benefit or utility, or the public health, convenience or welfare would be promoted by draining or ditching the same, or by changing or improving the natural watercourses, and asking for the establishment of a public drainage association for such purposes, it shall be the duty of the board of county commissioners forthwith to appoint a board of drainage viewers, to be composed of three or more judicious and impartial citizens, residing in the vicinity of the watershed provided, however, that no member of the board of drainage viewers shall be the owner of any land which will be affected by the proposed improvements. No person appointed as a member of the board of drainage viewers shall act in that capacity until he has given the board of county commissioners written notice of his acceptance of his appointment.

If any member of the board of viewers appointed by any order of the county commissioners shall die, or remove from the county or counties in which the watershed is situated, or otherwise be or become unable to act, the county commissioners shall appoint another person in his stead as soon as practicable, and such appointment shall in no wise affect the validity of any of the work of the board of viewers theretofore done.

87.

(a) All drainage improvements ~~IN---CAROLINE---~~COUNTY constructed under [Article 25,] §§ 52 through 95 OF THIS ARTICLE shall be under the control and supervision of the COUNTY board of managers. It shall be the duty of the board to keep the drainage improvements in good repair.

(b) Also for this purpose, the COUNTY board of managers may at any time levy a tax for drainage improvements maintenance on the lands benefited. Taxes for maintenance purposes shall be levied, collected and disbursed in the same manner and proportion as were the original taxes for drainage improvements.

(c) If the CAROLINE COUNTY board of managers requests, the [county commissioners] CAROLINE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS may appoint a board of drainage viewers to evaluate changes in land use made after the original assessment for drainage improvement. The COUNTY board of managers may use the evaluation report as a basis for the levy of a tax for drainage improvements maintenance.

Article 25A - Chartered Counties of Maryland

5.