

**Article 25 - County Commissioners**

54.

THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, AT THEIR FIRST MEETING AFTER RECEIVING A PETITION AND REPORT, SHALL REJECT THEM IF THEY ARE NOT IN PROPER FORM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW; THEY SHALL BE REFERRED BACK TO THE PETITIONERS TO BE CORRECTED AND RETURNED TO THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING. IF THE PETITION AND REPORT ARE IN PROPER FORM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL APPOINT A DAY FOR A PUBLIC HEARING UPON THE REPORT AND PETITION AND SHALL GIVE NOT LESS THAN 10 DAYS' NOTICE OF THE TIME AND PLACE OF THE HEARING. THIS NOTICE SHALL BE PUBLISHED IN A NEWSPAPER OR NEWSPAPERS HAVING A GENERAL CIRCULATION IN THE COUNTY OR COUNTIES IN WHICH THE LANDS IN THE DRAINAGE ASSOCIATION ARE LOCATED. DURING THIS TIME A COPY OF THE REPORT SHALL BE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, AND SHALL BE OPEN TO INSPECTION BY ANY LANDOWNERS OR OTHER INTERESTED PERSON, AND THE NOTICES SHALL SO STATE THIS RIGHT TO INSPECT. A NOTICE OF THIS AND ALL SUBSEQUENT HEARINGS SHALL BE SENT TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND THE STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE.

57.

AT THE HEARING, THE PETITIONERS, AND THE AFFECTED SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT OR DISTRICTS BEING REPRESENTED, ANY PERSON INTERESTED IN THE MATTER MAY APPEAR IN PERSON OR BY COUNSEL AND MAKE KNOWN HIS OBJECTION TO ANY PART OF THE REPORT. THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY, IN THEIR DISCRETION, DISAPPROVE THE PETITION AND REPORT AND REFER THEM BACK TO THE PETITIONERS FOR AMENDMENT IN VIEW OF THE OBJECTIONS PRESENTED, OR THEY MAY APPROVE THE PETITION AND REPORT AS SUBMITTED OR AS IT MAY HAVE BEEN AMENDED. UPON APPROVAL OF THE PETITION AND REPORT, THE COMMISSIONERS SHALL DECLARE ESTABLISHED AN ORGANIZATION, TO BE KNOWN AS \_\_\_\_\_ PUBLIC DRAINAGE ASSOCIATION, COMPOSED OF THE OWNERS OF ALL THE LANDS WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

67.

(A) THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE PUBLIC DRAINAGE ASSOCIATION SHALL PROCEED TO DEVELOP A PLAN FOR THE WATERSHED OR SUBWATERSHED AREA FOR AGRICULTURAL DRAINAGE AND SOIL CONSERVATION TO PROMOTE OPTIMAL CROP PRODUCTION BY ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING WATERSHED DRAINAGE SYSTEMS CONDUCIVE TO PUBLIC HEALTH, CONVENIENCE, AND WELFARE. IT SHALL ENGAGE THE SERVICES OF A COMPETENT AND EXPERIENCED PRIVATE ENGINEER OR MAY USE THE SERVICES OF PLANNERS AND ENGINEERS OF LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL AGENCIES.