

**654C.5 Mediation agreement.**

1. If an agreement is reached between all parties, the mediator shall draft a written mediation agreement, which shall be signed by the parties. The mediation agreement shall provide for a waiver which the mediator shall file in the office of the recorder of deeds of the county in which the benefited land is located, as provided in [section 459.205](#). The mediator shall forward a mediation agreement to the farm mediation service.

2. The parties agreeing to mediation shall personally attend and participate in all mediation meetings. However, if a party is not a natural person, the party must be represented by a natural person who is an officer, director, employee, or partner of the party. If a person acts in a fiduciary capacity for a party, the fiduciary may represent the party. If the party or an eligible representative is not able to attend and participate as required in [this subsection](#) due to physical infirmity, mental infirmity, or other exigent circumstances determined reasonable by the farm mediation service, the party must be represented by another natural person. Any representative of a party must be authorized to sign instruments provided by [this chapter](#), including a mediation agreement or a statement prepared by the mediator that mediation was waived. [This section](#) does not require a party to reach an agreement. [This section](#) does not require a person to change a position, alter an activity which is a subject of the dispute, alter an application for a permit for construction of an animal feeding operation, or restructure a contract.

3. The parties to the mediation agreement may enforce the mediation agreement as a legal contract.

4. If the parties do not agree to proceed with mediation, or if a mediation agreement is not reached, the parties may sign a statement prepared by the mediator that mediation proceedings were not conducted or concluded or that the parties did not reach an agreement.

[95 Acts, ch 195, §31; 98 Acts, ch 1122, §4](#)