

Sec. 29. This Act, being deemed of immediate importance, takes effect on the tenth day after its enactment.

Approved May 25, 1987

CHAPTER 143

DRAINAGE DISTRICT IMPROVEMENTS

H.F. 345

AN ACT relating to the procedures for authorization of drainage district improvements.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section 1. Section 455.135, subsection 4, paragraph a, Code 1987, is amended to read as follows:

a. When the board determines that improvements are necessary or desirable, it shall appoint an engineer to make surveys as seem appropriate to determine the nature and extent of the needed improvements, and to file a report showing what improvements are recommended and their estimated costs, which report may be amended before final action. If the estimated cost of the improvements does not exceed five thousand dollars, or twenty-five percent of the original cost of the district and subsequent improvements, whichever is the greater amount, the board may order the work done without notice. If the estimated cost of the improvements does not exceed ten thousand dollars or twenty-five percent of the original cost of the district and subsequent improvements, whichever is the greater amount, the board may order the work done after holding a hearing and publishing notice of that hearing in a newspaper of general circulation published in the county not less than twenty days before the day set for the hearing. The board shall also mail a copy of the notice to any state agency which is a landowner in the district. The board shall not divide proposed improvements into separate programs in order to avoid the limitation for making improvements without notice. If the board deems it desirable to make improvements where the estimated cost exceeds ~~that the ten thousand dollar or twenty-five percent limit~~, it shall set a date for a hearing on the matter of constructing the proposed improvements and also on the matter of whether there shall be a reclassification of benefits for the cost of the proposed improvements, and shall give notice as provided in sections 455.20 to 455.24. At the hearing the board shall hear objections to the feasibility of the proposed improvements and arguments for or against a reclassification presented by or for any taxpayer of the district. Following the hearing the board shall order that the improvements it deems desirable and feasible be made, and shall also determine whether there should be a reclassification of benefits for the cost of improvements. If it is determined that a reclassification of benefits should be made the board shall proceed as provided in section 455.45. In lieu of publishing the notice of a hearing as provided by this subsection the board may mail a copy of the notice to each address where a landowner in the district resides by first class mail if the cost of mailing is less than publication of the notice. The mailing shall be made during the time the notice would otherwise be required to be published.

Approved May 26, 1987