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## State of Misconsin 2023 - 2024 LEGISLATURE

 $\begin{array}{c} LRB-2015/1 \\ ZDW:skw \end{array}$ 

# **2023 SENATE BILL 85**

March 1, 2023 – Introduced by Senators Testin, Ballweg, Roys, Wanggaard, Felzkowski and Nass, cosponsored by Representatives Krug, Armstrong, Dittrich, Mursau and Rettinger. Referred to Committee on Transportation and Local Government.

1 **AN ACT** to amend 33.26 (2), 33.30 (2) (a), 33.32 (1) (c), 33.32 (1) (e) and 33.32 (1)

(f) of the statutes; **relating to:** authorizing email for notice of public inland lake protection and rehabilitation district board business.

## Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill authorizes email to be used for providing notice of business conducted by the board of a public inland lake protection and rehabilitation district.

Under current law, districts may be created to protect and rehabilitate a lake within the district. When creation of a district is proposed, the county board must send notice by mail to each landowner within the proposed district. Once created, a district board must have an annual meeting, notice of which must be provided by mail to electors in the district.

Under current law, a district board may levy a special assessment to carry out lake protection and rehabilitation projects or lake management or sanitary service activities. Notice of proposed and final assessments must be provided by mail to each owner, mortgagee, lessee, or other person with an interest in a parcel affected by the assessment.

The bill provides that email is an acceptable method of providing these required notices.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

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**SECTION 1.** 33.26 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

33.26 **(2)** Notice announcing the hearing and stating the boundaries of the proposed district shall be published in a paper of general circulation in the county in which the proposed district is located as a class 1 notice, under ch. 985, and shall be mailed <u>or emailed</u> by the county board to the last-known address <u>or email address</u> of each landowner within the proposed district.

**Section 2.** 33.30 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

33.30 (2) (a) The annual meeting shall be preceded by written notice mailed or emailed at least 14 days in advance of the meeting to all electors within the district whose address or email address is known or can be ascertained with reasonable diligence, to all owners of property within the district at the owner's email address or address as listed in the tax roll, and to the department. The district board of commissioners may substitute a class 2 notice, under ch. 985, in lieu of sending written notice to electors residing within the district.

**SECTION 3.** 33.32 (1) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

33.32 (1) (c) The commissioners shall file in the office of the county clerk a report of the assessments made. Notice shall be given to each owner, mortgagee, lessee or other person having an interest in an affected parcel that the report is open for review at a specified place within the district for 30 days after the date of the notice and that on a day named therein, which shall not be more than 3 days after the expiration of the 30 days, the commissioners will hear objections that may be made to the report. Notice shall be by mail <u>or email</u> to each person whose post-office address <u>or email address</u> is known or can be ascertained with reasonable diligence, accompanied by a statement of the assessment, and shall also be published as a class 2 notice, under ch. 985, in a newspaper having general circulation within the district.

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SECTION 4.	33.32 (	$(1)$ ( $\epsilon$	e) of	the	statutes	is	amended	to	read	:
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33.32 (1) (e) When a final determination of assessments has been made, the secretary shall publish a class 1 notice, under ch. 985, within the district that a final determination has been made, and shall notify by mail <u>or email</u> each person entitled to notice under par. (c) of the amount assessed against the affected parcel.

**Section 5.** 33.32 (1) (f) of the statutes is amended to read:

33.32 (1) (f) An owner, mortgagee, lessee or other person having an interest in any parcel affected by the determination who feels aggrieved thereby may, within 40 days after the date of mailing or emailing of notice, appeal therefrom to the circuit court of the county in which the district is located by causing a written notice of appeal to be served upon the secretary of the district. The secretary in case such appeal is taken shall make a brief statement of the proceedings had in the matter and shall transmit the same with all papers in the matter to the clerk of the circuit court. Such appeal shall be tried and determined in the same manner as cases originally commenced in said court.

16 (END)