

# Sumner must pay company's legal costs

A Jefferson County circuit court judge has ruled that the Town of Sumner must pay Badgerland Excavating, Corp. \$1,563 in legal costs. Brian Christianson, the chairman of Rock-Koshkonong Lake District's board of commissioners, announced the news during the board's quarterly meeting last Thursday night.

The town sued the company last year, alleging that the company's dump trucks caused \$11,000 of damage to North Shore Road in the spring of 2013. The trucks were hauling rock to the north shore of Lake Koshkonong as part of a dredging project carried out by the RKLD.

Christianson said it was impossible to determine what caused the damage to the road. Nonetheless, the RKLD offered the town \$2,500 to pay for part of the damages but the town refused the money.

Last month, the judge dismissed the town's lawsuit. The judge ruled that the town had failed to submit expert testimony from which a jury could conclude that Badgerland's trucks had caused the damage. The judge also ruled the case shouldn't go to a jury because the town could have lowered the weight limit on the road but failed to do so.

The Sumner Town Board met in closed session on Monday night, May 11 to confer with the town's lawyer about the judge's order. Sumner Town Chairman John Dohner told the Reporter last Friday that he would make a statement next week after the town's lawyer reviewed the statement.