

June 04, 2025

The Newton County Drainage Board met in the Commissioner's Room of the Newton County Courthouse at 10:08 a.m. CST on June 4th, 2025.

Members present were Councilman Scott Carlson, Commissioner Steve Eilers, Commissioner Rob Churchill, Drainage Board Attorney – Jacob Ahler, Drainage Board Secretary – Jamie Rowe and Surveyor – Beau Watkins. Also present were Brent and Tammy Skrzekut of Dirt Diggers Excavating, Inc.

Councilman Carlson called the meeting to order.

Minutes

05-07-2025

Commissioner Eilers made a motion to approve the minutes. Second by Commissioner Churchill. Motion passed 3-0.

Bid Opening – Denham Subdivision (705)

Surveyor Watkins shared his estimate with the Board.

One bid was received:

- Dirt Diggers Excavating, Inc. for \$22,800.00

After due discussion, Commissioner Churchill made a motion to accept the bid from Dirt Diggers Excavating, Inc. for \$22,800.00. Second by Commissioner Eilers. Motion passed 3-0.

2026 Drainage Board Budget

Secretary Jamie Rowe presented the requested 2026 Budget to the Board for approval.

After due discussion, Commissioner Eilers made a motion to accept the budget as presented. Second by Commissioner Churchill. Motion passed 3-0.

Follow-Up

Lake Village Project

Surveyor Watkins provided the Board with a quote from Fratco for 12-inch single wall till with sock and 12-inch dual wall with sock (sock manually installed) for the roadside ditches of W 875 N, W 883 N, W 890 N & W 896 N.

Discussion held regarding what might be best for the roadside ditches. Surveyor Watkins will consult Sharon Domonkos, Superintendent of the Highway Department, to determine if 8-inch single wall would work.

Kindig-Montgomery (573)

Surveyor Watkins advised this was to be done in the winter but has not been completed yet. Since this is on the unregulated stretch leading to the Iroquois River, he will contact the landowner to confirm approval of entry during the summer.

Thompson Ditch (612) – Wall in Ade

Surveyor Watkins has yet to hear back from NIPSCO. After discussion, Surveyor Watkins told the Board he will contact a local construction company for suggestions regarding specifics of the replacement process, while still working with Christopher B. Burke Engineering.

VC Borklund (508) / Landfill

Surveyor Watkins recommended reworking the waterway to get it on grade should alleviate the problem, which may be something that will need done every few years. He suggested using the Good Neighbor fund for this, likely in the fall/spring.

Zoborosky Tile (524)

Surveyor Watkins advised that the Ames property line was fixed. The tree line wall along Misoras will need investigated in the fall.

Knight-Moffitt (581)

Surveyor Watkins advised the Board that Josh Yoder has done one bank repair and will be working on the other within the next few weeks.

Secretary Jamie Rowe advised the Board that we have received a Chemical Maintenance invoice from Jasper County.

Other Matters

Chemical Maintenance

Surveyor Watkins advised the Board that Jake Wetzel of Heritage Drone Service contacted him that they will be doing some spot spraying. Once this is done Surveyor Watkins will review the drains chemically treated.

Attorney Ahler confirmed that he did respond to the letter from Michael Knapp's attorney.

Sumava Levee

Surveyor Watkins provided the Board with an estimate from Dirt Diggers Excavating, Inc. of \$27,382.00.

After due discussion, *Commissioner Churchill make a motion to approve the fix to Sumava Levee as quoted by Dirt Diggers Excavating, Inc. Second by Commissioner Eilers. Motion passed 3-0.*

This will be presented to the Board of Commissioners at their June 18th meeting.

Adjournment

Commissioner Churchill made a motion to adjourn. Second by Commissioner Eilers. Motion passed 3-0.

X

Scott Carlson
President

X

Steve Eilers
Vice President

X

Robert Churchill