

DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING
Dec. 5, 2011 – 10:00 A.M.
Newton County Courthouse

The Newton County Drainage Board met on December 5, 2011 at 10:00 A.M. in the Newton County Courthouse with the following persons present: Board Members Russell Collins, James Pistello and Tim Drenth; County Engineer Larry Holderly; Drainage Board Attorney Dan Blaney; LeAnn Sale; Surveyor Chris Knochel; Secretary Debra Chapman Risley. The meeting was opened by Russ.

Minutes –October 17, 2011 – Signed

Minutes – November 7 & 21, 2011 – Jim made a motion to approve the minutes from the Nov. 7th & Nov. 21st meetings with a second from Tim. Motion carried. Minutes were then signed.

Control Structure: Davis-Watts System – Ollie Dorn was present to ask for approval for a control structure. Jim made a motion to approve the structure with a second from Tim as long as Ollie proceeded with the necessary steps to secure the necessary permits. Motion carried.

Battleday Lateral Tile Quotes – Two bids were received for the Battleday Lateral Tile project: Tony Garriott \$3,700.00; Matt Donahue \$1,800.00. Chris gave an estimate of \$7,285.00. Jim made a motion to accept the Matt Donahue bid as long as it meets Chris' specifications. Tim made a second motion. Motion carried.

Sign Contracts – The **East Kent Ditch – Kindig Structure** contract was previously signed. The board signed the **Mary Spitler Tile** contract.

Classification of Drains 2012 Narrative – Chris reviewed the order and content of orders that were changed in the classification of drains for 2012. The drains were re-prioritized which Chris stated could be done on an annual basis. Jim made a motion to accept the current changes in the Classification of Drains with a second from Tim. Motion carried.

Wiseman Lateral Report – This is a lateral to the John R. Camblin Main. Dan said from both a legal and practical standpoint the lateral should be combined to extend the regulated drain. The board suggested this be added to the agenda for discussion at the second meeting in January (January 17th) with the involved parties being notified prior.

Coleman Obstruction – Dan Blaney stated there is no room for garage, trailer and septic all on one side of ditch and no resolution has been reached. Larry and Chris are to check on the possibility of moving the easement to the west side of the property.

Hibler Report – Chris explained to the board that he had not yet received the report from HEC. He also mentioned that there would be a separate work order from Heyde's for the additional reports as they were not included in the contracted amount. **Hidden Pines – Insalaco Lateral – Original Otis-Joint** – Chris mentioned that we can change the grade of Hidden Pines which is west of the county line. Technically speaking no water in Newton will go into Jasper and Jasper can keep their water. We can devise a way to drain the water in Newton to stay in Newton. We have had Newton County residents paying assessments to Jasper County and have had no results of that. If we redefine the watershed the people in Newton County will no longer be paying assessments to Jasper County.

Obstructed Tile Easements Report – Chris notified the board that through the years there have been tiles that have had trees growing into the tile and obstructed the tiles. We have identified 19 tiles with this type of history. Once we understand the problem we are now listing these and in the future if the landowner has a tree growing over a tile that obstructs it, they will receive a letter declaring they have a responsibility to remove the obstruction. The statutes allow for this and it will also help keep the assessments down.

Chemical Maintenance Report – Chris stated that we are up to 42 miles for 2012 and that the chemicals will be applied again. These are all regulated drains.

Battleday Landfill Fund – Deb reported that the special landfill drainage fund (Fund 0906) currently has a balance of \$72,687.65 so there is plenty of money to do the repairs on the Battleday.

Iroquois River Conservancy District – Larry stated that LeAnn needs to establish an assessment roll for the IRCD. Larry stated the IRCD boundary should follow the watershed boundary and right now it does not. Jim made a motion to correct the watershed for the Iroquois River with a second from Tim. Motion carried. Danielle is working on the watershed now and she is to give the list to LeAnn and Dan. Dan will send a letter to the landowners regarding the assessment on the IRCD once he receives the list. Grant was approved for Jasper County in the amount of \$160,000-\$170,000. Dan stated that the Corp of Engineers has approved removing the log jam from the river behind Foresman so now we are waiting on grant approval.

Minutes on Website – Deb mentioned to the board that it is possible for the minutes to be on the website and asked if this is something they would like to see happen. The board said if this can be done without a lot of work – yes. Dan recommended that we do this.

Monjon Tile Hearing – Board recommended that we discuss this at the hearing and ask for landowner input as to how long they want to be assessed. Chris mentioned it needs to be presented at the higher amount as the assessment can be lowered at the hearing but not raised. Jim stated that he wants the rate established at the hearing and the length discussed at that time. He wants the same thing done on the Mary Spitler.

Other Matters – Roger Saxon had talked to Chris about draining SR 10 & 600 East up through his subdivision. Chris, Steve and Larry had gone up there to get elevations. There is a catch basin on the east side of Hidden Pines. The roadside ditch at SR 10 & 600 E is the same as the elevation at the bottom of the catch basin on the east side of Hidden Pines. Unless we dig the ditch deeper through Hidden Pines we are unable to do this going north based upon the

elevations. We could possibly take it to the south but it will cost \$100,000 to go under SR10. Chris stated that once it is a regulated drain it becomes part of the infrastructure and the state would pick up future expenses/repairs.

O'Brien Ditch – Deb reported that this ditch has a current fund balance of \$26,749.61 and is currently being assessed at \$3.58/ac as established in 2003. It is scheduled for chemical maintenance in 2012 at a cost of approximately \$1100. Chris reminded the board that this ditch had major problems in 2008 & 2009 and therefore had a lot of emergency work done at that time. Chris recommended lowering the assessment however the board disagreed. They stated the assessment had been established based upon the work that was done and since the fund balance does not exceed the annual income times four, the assessment rate for the O'Brien Ditch is to remain as it is. Tim made the motion to adjourn with a second from Jim. Motion carried.