

DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING

March 1, 2021 – 12:00 P.M.

Newton County Courthouse, Kentland, IN

The Newton County Drainage Board met on March 1, 2021 at 12:00 P.M. at the Newton County Courthouse with the following persons present: **Board Members – Scott Carlson, Tim Drenth and Butch Cain; Surveyor – Steve Snell; Secretary - Debra Chapman; Drainage Board Attorney – Candace Armstrong; Armstrong Law - Jen Hayes; VS Engineering – Randy Strasser.** Meeting was opened by Scott Carlson.

Minutes – December 2, 2020 & January 19, 2021 – Butch motioned to approve minutes from both meetings with a second from Tim. Motion Carried 3-0. Minutes were signed.

Project Updates – Steve Snell gave updates on: **Moran Tile (BLN)** – Tim motioned for BLN to proceed with the additional insurance through the railroad and flagger fees with a second from Butch. Carried 3-0. **Darroch (BLN)** – Bi-County drain & FEMA project – need Newton/Benton meeting; **Bridgeman (BLN)** – Continue with hand holes and retention pond plan; **Beaver Lake @ LaSalle (KBBE II)** – Tree removal has started. Proceed with permit application for dipping ditch; **Drake Tile (DeYoung Drainage)** – Attempted to reach Matt DeYoung several times via phone and email – no response. Project was to commence Sept. 2020 and be completed by 11/20 and it has not yet been started. **Rebecca Spitler (Dirt Diggers)** – Proceeding; **Shue Ditch (Watkins & Assoc)** – 50% complete; **Best Ditch** – Funds are set aside for this project. Will be reviewing and reporting back to board.

VS Engineering On-Call Contract – Randy Strasser – Discussion. After review and revisions by legal counsel & VS Engineering, the VS Engineering on-call contract was signed by Chairman Carlson. Board approved surveyor to proceed with **Kent Main Tile** plans according to FEMA guidelines and using funds provided by FEMA.

McGraw Tile Assessment – Discussion. No change, no action.

Certified Drains to be Assessed – Deb presented a list of certified drains to be assessed for 2020 pay 2021. Tim motioned to approve the list for assessments with a second from Butch. Carried 3-0.

Bi-County Chemical Spraying – Jasper County is requesting email approval of joint Jasper-Newton drains designated to be chemically sprayed this year. Discussion. Board suggests a limited ZOOM meeting to vote. No action taken.

Other Matters – Brunton-Decker – Surveyor presented his revised estimate. Discussion. No action. **Appointed Drainage Board Member** – Legal counsel suggested it to be best practice to have commissioners confirm Scotts’ (Carlson) appointment as drainage board member. **Stormwater Drainage Ordinance** – Discussion. **Tort Claim Notice** – Discussion.

Tim motioned to adjourn with second from Butch. Carried 3-0 and adjourned.

Scott Carlson, Chrm.

Tim Drenth

Butch Cain