

DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING

September 3, 2019 – 12:00 P.M.

Newton County Courthouse, Kentland, IN

The Newton County Drainage Board met on September 3, 2019 at 12:00 P.M. in the Newton County Courthouse with the following persons present: **Board Members – Mickey Read, Scott Carlson & Tim Drenth; Surveyor - Chris Knochel; Secretary - Debra Chapman; Attorney – Candace Armstrong.**

The meeting was opened by Mickey.

Minutes – August 5th – Tim motioned to approve the minutes with a second from Scott. Motion carried. Minutes were signed.

Beaver Lake/Lawler Ditch – Jason Durr, CBBE, will be present at next meeting.

Subdivision Approval – Butch Cain was not present since the only subdivision he had to submit had already been presented to the board which was the subdivision at Fair Oaks Farms. Deb explained that the board had approved the subdivision previously contingent upon approval by Jasper County as surveyor of record. In case a motion of approval was not previously made, **Tim made a motion to approve the industrial park subdivision at the Fair Oaks Dairy with a second from Scott. Motion carried.** (*From July 15, 2019 Drainage Board Minutes regarding Tri Point Project at Fair Oaks Farm: Tim made a motion to approve the drainage plan as long as it is accepted and approved by Jasper Co. Mickey seconded the motion and the motion carried.*)

Beaver Lake Ditch Outlet Repair Ph III – Chris stated the contractor on this project (KB&E II) would be using a subcontractor, R & R Services, to grind the trees on this project. **Tim made a motion to approve the use of R & R Services for this project. Scott seconded motion. Motion carried.**

Sign Contracts – Contracts were signed for McGraw Tile and Morrison Tile #3 Reroute projects.

Financial Reports – Financial reports were included in meeting packets and reviewed for William Martin Tile, Sheep Creek, C.C. Kent (Lateral to Morrison Open) and the General Drain Improvement Fund.

Bid Opening – William Martin – No bids were received. Chris will resend notices to contractors. **Sheep Creek Open** – Chris' estimate was \$39,404.75; JD Excavating \$14,850.00. **Scott motioned to award the project to JD Excavating as long as it meets specifications. Tim seconded motion and motion carried.** **C.C. Kent Open** – Chris' estimate \$18,260.00; Elwyn W. Mattocks & Sons \$5,068.00; JD Excavating \$9,500.00. **Tim made a motion to award the project to Mattocks & Sons as long as it meets specifications. Scott seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Surveyor Reports – (Thorpe) Beagley Chizum Tile #538 – Chris presented the report proposing a LiDAR boundary and estimated reconstruction cost of \$54,314.81 to replace the tile and a proposed assessment of \$9.95/ac for 8 yrs. With debt of \$18,949.47 + reconstruction cost this

equates to approximately \$13.50/ac. for 8 yrs. **Scott made a motion to set the assessment rate at \$14.00/ac. and to schedule a hearing before the deadline at beginning of next year. Tim seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Joe Flagg (Lateral to Thompson Main) – Estimate presented for \$26,427.50 to repair tile. Drain assessed as part of Thompson Main only - not independently - therefore no fund of its own. Discussion followed concerning primary funds paying for lateral expenses. Scott thinks it is fine if we are consistent but we are not. Some laterals have their own watershed and pay their own expenses while others are paid through the primary watershed. Chris was asked to provide a watershed map of everything in the Thompson watershed including all open laterals.

Rebecca Spitler #714 – A report was reviewed for tree removal and clean-out on this drain with an estimated expense of \$53,075.00. **Tim made a motion to proceed with the project and send it to bid with expenses paid from the earmarked funds in GDIF. Scott seconded motion and motion carried.**

Defries Lateral #711 – Chris presented estimate for clean out and tree removal in the amount of \$28,764.36 excluding Marvin Crook property. Landowner Marvin Crook wants to dip out his own section so his area was not included in estimate. Chris is to send a letter to Mr. Crook regarding the tree and sediment removal. **Tim made a motion to proceed and send project to bid with expenses being paid from earmarked funds in GDIF. Scott seconded motion. Motion carried.**

William Martin Tile – Chris reported a hump had been found in the tile and that the lower part of the tile also needs work. More research needs done after crops are out of field. He suggested holding off on the upper reconstruction until facts are gathered on the Wm. Martin Lower.

Obstruction – Mention was made of obstruction in unregulated drain. Chris said the landowner can petition per the Obstructed Drain Law for the neighboring landowner to remove the obstruction.

There will not be meeting on Sept. 16th as suggested by Surveyor Knochel; however the drainage board will meet in regular session on Monday, October 7th at 9:30 a.m. CDT at the government center in Morocco. The Hibler System hearing will follow at 12:30 P.M.

Mickey Read, Chrm

Scott Carlson

Tim Drenth