

DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING

February 4, 2019 – 12:00 P.M.

Newton County Courthouse, Kentland, IN

The Newton County Drainage Board met on February 4, 2019 at 12:00 P.M. in the Newton County Courthouse with the following persons present: **Board Members – Mickey Read, Tim Drenth & Scott Carlson; Surveyor - Chris Knochel; Secretary - Debra Chapman; Randy Peterson – Abonmarche Consultants; Randy Strasser – VS Engineering; Landowners - Gus Ellicott (Kankakee Ventures Inc.), Allan Cameron, Jr. & Allan Cameron IV (Indian Gardens).** The meeting was opened by Mickey.

Kankakee River Bank Stabilization Project – Randy Peterson, Abonmarche – Randy reported that the plans for mitigation had been submitted to the state prior to Christmas. It was discussed to do 1200' a year ago but now we are looking at 1600'. IDEM did not want the full wetlands disturbed for 8000'. Due to the risk we discussed with the initial phase we are now only disturbing 1 ac. of wetlands. The plan is to reconstruct 1600' of the bank as a pilot project. After 1 yr. of observation, IDEM would review and hopefully go ahead with more. Chris stated that the KRBC engineering report had come back on the entire Kankakee River embankment. Due to the lack of continuity on the embankment Christopher B. Burke Engineering sees no reason to do anything with the embankment. State appropriation funds were received for the pilot program. Chris mentioned that the Cameron's are here again. Randy said the purpose of the project is to repair and stabilize the banks as they are in poor condition. "After the study received from KRBC do we continue", asked Randy. Chris responded, "We need to move forward and get the permits. The plans are submitted and we should receive the permit anytime". Randy stated, "Even after we get the permit we can't do any work from April – November due to endangered bats". Allen Cameron stated that counties have done work and it has been unsuccessful as banks are sloughing off again. Chris reported that there are two counties that have funds in place without KRBC. One is spending 2.8 million dollars to send the water downstream faster. Chris stated that the engineering report suggested less concentration on embankment and more on installing berms. "What are you going to do", Chris asked Cameron's. "Hodge Ditch was just cleaned again and it has to go somewhere". Chris mentioned, "There was a place on the river at the CSX Railroad that washed out and Cameron's have actually fixed the bank and repaired it themselves". Randy proposed to the board a Permanent Erosion Control Solution called flex-mat that is used to armour embankments. It contains little concrete domes, comes in rolls and costs \$1.25/sq. ft. Randy said we are looking at 6600' sq. ft. of coverage or 160 lineal feet. Randy will check on the certification required to place the flex-mat and see if there are contractors they have used. Randy is to continue with the permitting. Cameron's asked if we are going to do anything with the trees on the bank to which Randy replied, "No". Chris replied, "The engineering report stated that the Kankakee River has returned to a natural channel and will carry the water". Kankakee River financials were included in the meeting packet and a verbal report was given by Deb on the GDIF stating it currently has a cash balance of \$445,411.01.

Designated Funds – Assignment & Repayment – Deb reported that there seems to be some issues on the designation of funds for the drains as well as the direct repayment of loans to the landfill fund. Scott & Deb are to meet with the auditor's office regarding the loans on the individual ditches.

Haynes Co-Mingle Revisions – Chris mentioned that the roadside ditch water needs separated from the field water. He said we need to keep the field water in the field. There is a completed profile and the cross sections have also been completed. The project will be sent out for bids and all work will be done in the easement.

LiDAR – Mary Spitler Open Main #575, Mary Spitler Open Lateral #2 #564 and Mary Spitler Tile #515 – Chris mentioned that since the LiDAR watersheds were established for both the Clark-Deardurff and the Mary Spitler Open Main #575 the watersheds for the Mary Spitler Open Lateral #2 #564 and Mary Spitler Tile #515 have also been affected. He is asking if they should also have a LiDAR watershed created for them and if so the board would need to call for a surveyor's report. **Scott called for a surveyor's report on the Mary Spitler Open Lateral #2 #564 and Mary Spitler Tile #515 with a second from Tim. Motion carried.**

1125 N ROW Recommendation – The regulated drain is on the north side of 1125 N. Chris said there are issues on the south side of 1125 N in the county road ROW. Trees are growing in the roadside ditch and the grade needs corrected. Chris is to work with Dave of the NCHD.

Strole Crossover Permits – Chris reported that the permit had finally been received from Army Corp and approval has also been received to use rip-rap. Chris needs to talk to the landowner, Mike Osowski to verify if he is still planning to pay 50% of the cost of the project as he previously agreed.

Quietus – Deb informed the board that a quietus had been received showing the receipt of the \$10,000 payment from the landfill per the Good Neighbor Agreement.

The next drainage board meeting is scheduled for March 9th at 12:00 noon at the courthouse.

Tim made a motion to adjourn with a second from Scott. Meeting adjourned.

Mickey Read, Chrm.

Tim Drenth

Scott Carlson