

DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING

March 2, 2020 – 12:00 P.M.

Newton County Courthouse, Kentland, IN

The Newton County Drainage Board met on March 2, 2020 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; Drainage Board Attorney – Candace Armstrong; VS Engineering – Randy Strasser; Randall Miller & Associates – Randy Miller; DNR - Mike Schoof ; LaSalle FWA - Zack DeYoung & Jared Emmach; NCHD - Dave Pluimer & Kathy Meier.** The meeting was opened by Mickey.

Minutes – February 18, 2020 – Scott motion to accept minutes, Mickey second, carried 3-0 and minutes were signed.

Lawler Ditch Status Reports – Discussion – Mike Schoof, Willow Slough – Mike requested \$3,500 for chemical maintenance to treat easements. Chris mentioned because of plug in ditch, Willow Slough will no longer be paying into Beaver Lake south of 300 N. **Scott motioned to approve \$3,500 with a second from Tim.**

Approved 3-0. Zack DeYoung – LaSalle FWA – Zack reported on wetland project, clearing of equalizer ditch on Davis-Watts plus $\frac{3}{4}$ mi of Best Ditch and installation of control structure. Zach requested \$1500 for chemical maintenance to treat F & W Equalizer Ditch and part of Best Ditch. **Scott approved the request of \$1500 with a second from Tim. Approved 3-0**

Engineering Updates – Randy Strasser – VS Engineering – Kent Main – Discussion. Survey & design agreement will be available in a month. **Haynes Tile** – Randy advised that survey crew is 30% done and Amy Moore is project manager.

Engineering Reports – Randall Miller & Associates – William Martin Reconstruction – Discussion. No action taken with RMA (Randy Miller & Associates). Surveyor Knochel is to work up an estimate proposing to combine the Frank Best as a lateral to the William Martin Tile taking into consideration RMA proposal and debt owed on drain. **VC Borklund Lateral #1** – Chris is proposing to extend the 425' drain another 2000' to CR 500 S. This will require a route narrative be done by a licensed surveyor/engineer. Randy is proposing \$5,500 to complete the work necessary for a legal route narrative. **Scott made motion to accept proposal from Randy Miller & Associates in the amount of \$5,500.00 for legal route narrative on VC Borklund Lateral #1 with a second from Tim. Motion carried 3-0. The board also requested a LiDAR watershed on the Borklund Tile.**

Surveyor Reports – Best Ditch – Discussion. Chris is to update the LiDAR w/s for the Best Ditch based upon the information received from LaSalle FWA. Tim questioned where we stand on the petition to regulate the Knight – Moffit to the Kankakee River north of St. Rd 10. **The board called for a surveyor's report and LiDAR watershed on the petitioned portion of the Knight-Moffit. Hibler System – Valley Forge Lateral, Jeremy Drake Lateral & Hidden Pines North Lateral** – Discussion. No action necessary.

Bid Opening – Chemical Maintenance North Newton Co. – Surveyor Estimate \$35,172.52; Bids – The Dalton's \$15,721.00, Anderson Tree Service \$22,760.00. **South Newton Co. –** Surveyor Estimate \$45,712.13; Bids – The Dalton's \$37,104.00, Anderson Tree Service \$80,769.00. **Tim motioned to accept the bids from The Dalton's in the amounts of \$15,721.00 for North Newton Co and \$37,104.00 for South Newton Co. Scott seconded and motion was approved 3-0.**

Other Matters – Chris distributed a document outlining **Senate Bill 229** concerning wetland activities and maintenance of drainage ditches.

The **watershed boundary** has been settled with **DNR** for the **Kankakee River**.

Houseworth-Riner – DNR recognizes the plug in 300 N and therefore established 300 N as the watershed boundary. **Chris is to present the documentation from DNR stating the plug is to remain in place and that this is the watershed boundary line.**

Davis – Watts – This is not assessed and there is no LiDAR watershed. **Tim requested a LiDAR watershed on the Davis-Watts.**

Tim motioned to adjourn with second from Scott. Meeting adjourned.

Mickey Read, Chrm

Scott Carlson

Tim Drenth