

DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING

October 5, 2020 – 12:00 P.M.

Newton County Courthouse, Kentland, IN

The Newton County Drainage Board met on October 5, 2020 at 12:00 P.M. in the Commissioners Room of the Newton County Courthouse with the following persons present: **Board Members – Scott Carlson & Tim Drenth; Surveyor - Chris Knochel; Secretary - Debra Chapman; Drainage Board Attorney – Candace Armstrong; Christopher B Burke Eng – Jason Durr; Dirt Diggers Excavating – Brent & Tammy Skrzekut; Strole Farms – Mike Osowski.**

Minutes – September 8th & 21st, 2020 – Tim motioned to accept minutes for Sept. 21st with a second from Scott. Motion carried 2-0. Minutes signed. No motion on September 8th minutes.

Project Updates – Jason Durr, CBBE – Hidden Pines – Preliminary grading & culvert replacement plans reviewed. West lateral to Hidden Pines has not yet been surveyed. CBBE will proceed with survey. **Valley Forge** - Preliminary grading & culvert replacement plans reviewed. There is no record that the portion upstream from the subdivision is regulated. **Lawler** – The portion of the project south of 400 S was previously eliminated by the board as there would be no benefit to proceed

Strole Ditch Crossover Project – Discussion with surveyor, board and Mike Osowski. The culvert was damaged during backfill while protecting private tile outlets and should be replaced. The centerline of the ditch could possibly be changed along with moving the outlet of the culvert. Surveyor Knochel will get with the contractor, KB & E II, Inc. to discuss options.

Shue Open Ditch Crossover Replacement – Specifications and Bid Proposals – Discussion. **Scott made motion to award project to Watkins & Assoc. as other two bidders did not meet specs. Tim second. Motion carried 2-0.**

Bid Proposals – Valley Forge Lateral – Surveyor estimate \$72,253.50; Dirt Diggers \$108,220.00; Anderson Tree \$156,400.00. **Scott motioned to accept both bids and asked surveyor to review his estimate and specs to confirm. Tim second. Motion carried 2-0.** **Hibler System Ph 2 Main & Laterals** – Surveyor estimate \$149,229.30; Dirt Diggers \$118,022.00; Anderson Tree \$164,476.00. **Tim motioned to accept the bid from Dirt Diggers in the amount of \$118,022.00 as long as it meets specs. Scott second. Motion carried 2-0.** **Kent-Morrison Open** – Surveyor estimate \$6,265.00; Dirt Diggers \$9,270.00. Chris K. re-evaluated his estimate and revised it to \$8,765.00. **Tim motioned to then accept the bid from Dirt Diggers in the amount of \$9,270.00 as long as it meets the specs. Scott second and motion carried 2-0.**

DeHaan Funding \$6,787.01 – Discussion on how to handle the monies owed to Jasper Co. for DeHaan legal fees. **Tim motioned to request \$12,500 additional for legal services to cover DeHaan and drainage board legal services for remainder of year. Scott second. Motion carried 2-0.** Discussion followed with Atty. Armstrong on the possibility of changing her fees from hourly to a set monthly amount + contingencies for 2021.

Knight-Moffitt – Laterals – Four (4) laterals have been identified in Newton Co, two of which are tiles that were converted. **Tim motioned to request Butch Cain as designated board member for Jasper-Newton Joint Meeting on December 8th as long as he is not included in Knight-Moffitt watershed. If unable to fulfill**

position then ask Jim Pistello. Scott second. Motion carried 2-0. LiDAR Watershed Ph I & Ph II – No action taken.

Sizelove Tile – Tim requested a LiDAR watershed for the Sizelove Tile. Scott seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

Existing O'Brien Watershed – Tim motioned to convert the entire O'Brien watershed to LiDAR. Scott second. Motion carried 2-0.

Alfonse Deardurff Invoice – Tim motioned to pay the Geri & Steves Carpentry invoice in the amount of \$280.78 from GDIF and then forgive the debt and write off as allowed by statute. Scott second. Motion carried 2-0.

Other Matters – Surveyor Knochel reported he is meeting with Jasper Co Surveyor, Vince Urbano this week and will report back by Dec. 8th. Knochel did respond to Bryan Berry, Benton Co. Drainage Board Member in regard to requested bi-county meeting. He is waiting for harvest before touching base with Benton Co Surveyor, Dave Fisher.

Tim motioned to adjourn. Scott second. Motion carried.

_____ **Absent** _____
Mickey Read, Chrm.

Scott Carlson

Tim Drenth