

DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING

January 19, 2021 – 12:00 P.M.

Newton County Government Center, Morocco, IN

The Newton County Drainage Board met on January 19, 2021 at 12:00 P.M. at the Newton County Government Center 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; Christopher B Burke Eng – Jason Durr.**

Meeting was opened by Scott Carlson.

Election/Appointment of Officers – Tim nominated Scott Carlson for President/Chairman of the Newton County Drainage Board with a second from Butch. Motion carried 2-0, Scott opposed. Butch nominated Tim Drenth for Vice-President/Vice-Chairman with a second from Scott. Motion carried 3-0. Tim motioned for Deb (Chapman) to continue as secretary with a second from Butch. Motion carried 3-0.

Appointments to Joint Drainage Boards – Tim motioned for Butch and Scott to serve as members of the Jasper-Newton/Newton-Jasper Joint Boards and for Scott and Tim to serve as members on the Benton-Newton/Newton-Benton Joint Boards. Butch seconded the motion and the motion carried 3-0.

February Meeting & Hearing – Due to Monday, February 15th being a holiday, Butch & Tim motioned to correct the meeting and hearing date to Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 12:00 PM. Motion carried 3-0.

Progress Reports – Jason Durr, Christopher B Burke Engineering – Updated reports were received for the Lawler, Hidden Pines, Valley Forge and Hibler projects.

Revised Brunton-Decker Watershed Acres – Watershed acres were verified at 1081.00 acres.

Bid Opening – Decker Lateral Reconstruction – Surveyor's estimate \$111,249.82; Yoder Drainage \$125,251.00. Tim motioned to accept bid and take under advisement with a second from Butch. Motion carried 3-0. Surveyor is to verify his estimate prior to the hearing.

Strole Ditch Culvert – Surveyor reviewed information on original designs and specifications, introduced pictures and reviewed work done on project. Tim motioned to pay contractor in full, send invoice to landowner for \$6,000 and deem the project completed as is. Scott seconded the motion and motion carried 3-0.

VS Engineering On-Call Contract Update – Discussion. Review of changes and recommendations. Tim motioned to approve the on-call contract with the legal changes and amendments discussed subject to the contract being emailed to board for final review before signatures. Butch seconded motion and motion carried 3-0.

Legal Services Contractual Agreement – Discussion. No changes are necessary at this time.

Fiber Optic Permit – Surveyor Snell reported a permit had been received from Jasper Co REMC to install fiber optics under the Haynes Ditch in Newton Co. Per the permit the conduit will be bored 5’ below the bottom of ditch. Surveyor recommends that the board accept and allow the permit as written. **Butch motioned to accept the recommendation of the surveyor on the boring with a second from Tim. Motion carried 3-0.**

Other Matters – Length of Term for Drainage Board Appointment – Based upon legal research the appointment of a non-commissioner member to drainage board is a position that rolls over every three (3) years. The appointment stands until the member is removed. **McGraw Tile Assessment** – Discussion on assessment rate. Research of minutes and 3/4/13 hearing necessary. No action at this time. **Sizelove LiDAR Watershed** – Surveyor Snell presented a report on Sizelove LiDAR watershed indicating only 3% difference between the historical (347.61 ac.) and LiDAR (356.37 ac.) watersheds. **Tim motioned to accept the surveyor’s LiDAR acreage and LiDAR watershed. Butch seconded the motion and the motion carried 2-0. Scott abstained as he is part of this watershed. Rebecca Spitler** – Discussion. No action. **Beaver Lake Project** – Project needs done. Tim stated it is time to get the drains done that outlet into the **Kankakee River**, the **Best Ditch** being one of them. The outlets are dry and now is the time to get the work completed.

Butch motioned to adjourn with a second from Tim. Adjourned.

Scott Carlson, Chrm.

Tim Drenth

Butch Cain