

July 02, 2024

The Newton County Drainage Board met in the Commissioner's Room of the Newton County Courthouse at 11:22 a.m. CDT, upon the closure of the Newton County Board of Commissioner's Meeting on July 2nd, 2024.

Members present were Glen 'Butch' Cain, Scott Carlson and Abbey Rossiter. Also present were Surveyor - Beau Watkins, Drainage Board Secretary – Jamie Rowe and Drainage Board Attorney – Candace Armstrong.

Glen 'Butch' Cain called the meeting to order.

Minutes

June 11, 2024

Abbey Rossiter made a motion to approve the minutes. Second by Scott Carlson. Motion passed 3-0.

Thompson Ditch (612) – Wall at Ade Elevator

Surveyor Watkins stated that he has yet to hear back from the engineering company or the Rail Road. He said he does have a new contact for NIPSCO regarding the gas line.

Best Ditch (717)

Surveyor Watkins informed the Board that we are still waiting on all parties to confirm a date to schedule the SEA meeting.

Lake Village Drainage

Steve Sprouse and Todd Wilson of VS Engineering were present and updated that the substantial completion date of this project was 7/1/2024 and the contact completion date is set for 7/16/2024.

Discussion was held regarding the dirt placed on the Christensen property (on the west side of Highway 41).

Rob Churchill, farmer for the Christensen property, was present. Discussion was held between Rob Churchill and Tammy Skrzekut of Dirt Diggers which resulted in the agreement that Dirt Diggers will remove the dirt in November and that Mr. Churchill will take the dirt at that time.

Final payment was discussed. There were questions regarding any retainage and how the OCRA grant would impact retainage/final payment. Attorney Armstrong will reach out to Shawn Cain of KIRPC for more information.

2024 Chemical Maintenance

Surveyor Watkins advised the Board that he has reviewed all the ditches and there has been very minimal kill rate.

Discussion held regarding spraying. Councilman Carlson asked the Surveyor to revisit the ditches with Dirt Diggers, to determine what may be resprayed.

Scott Carlson made a motion to table the chemical maintenance claim until the next meeting, for further information on the per ditch completion and review of the Surveyor and contract as to what got done and to what degree kill there is. Second by Abbey Rossiter. Motion passed 3-0.

Other Matters

Secretary Jamie Rowe advised the Board that a landowner within the Batton Addition (in Kentland) contacted the office regarding a petition that the office was providing assistance on several years ago. The Board advised that the landowner should prepare and circulate the petition, then bring to the Board.

Adjournment

Abbey Rossiter made a motion to adjourn. Second by Scott Carlson. Motion passed 3-0.

X

Glen 'Butch' Cain
President

X

Scott Carlson

X

Abbey Rossiter