

## **September 12, 2025**

The Newton County Drainage Board met in the Commissioner's Room of the Newton County Courthouse at 8:30 a.m. CST on September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025. This meeting was originally scheduled for the Government Center however had to be moved due to a water outage. A sign was posted to inform the public of the change in location and the reason for the move.

Members present were Councilman Scott Carlson, Commissioner Steve Eilers, Commissioner Rob Churchill, Drainage Board Secretary – Jamie Rowe and Surveyor – Beau Watkins. Also present were Brent and Tammy Skrzekut of Dirt Diggers Excavating, Inc.

**Councilman Carlson called the meeting to order.**

### **Minutes**

**08-06-2025**

*Commissioner Eilers made a motion to approve the minutes. Second by Commissioner Churchill. Motion passed 3-0.*

### **Bid Opening - Thompson Ditch (612)**

Surveyor Watkins shared his estimate with the Board.

Two bids were received:

- Dirt Diggers Excavating, Inc.           \$138,200.00
- Ellas Construction Co., Inc.           \$156,000.00

The Board expressed concern about an open contract being past its completion date and the fact that this project would require the temporary closure of an entrance to Keystone Cooperative (Ceres). It was noted that Ellas Construction Co., Inc. has completed a similar project for the Newton County Highway Department in a timely manner.

*After due discussion, Commissioner Eilers made a motion to award the project to Ellas Construction Co., Inc. for \$156,000.00. Second by Councilman Carlson. Motion passed 3-0.*

### **Rebecca Spitler**

The Board reviewed a request from a landowner whose access is landlocked by the regulated drain running through their property. The Board requested that Surveyor Watkins meet with the landowner to determine the preferred location for a culvert and bring his recommendation to the Board at the October Drainage Board Meeting.

### **Follow-Up**

#### **Chemical Maintenance**

Surveyor Watkins advised the Board of communication between himself and Jake Wetzel of Heritage Drone Services regarding vegetation that appeared to die but has sprouted back. The Board requested that Mr. Wetzel be present for the October Drainage Board Meeting.

**Denham Subdivision**

Discussion was held between the Board, Surveyor Watkins and Dirt Diggers Excavating, Inc. regarding the contract specifications of this job.

**Adjournment**

Being no other matters, *Commissioner Churchill made a motion to adjourn. Second by Commissioner Eilers. Motion passed 3-0.*

**X**

Scott Carlson  
President

**X**

Steve Eilers  
Vice President

**X**

Robert Churchill

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