

March 05, 2025

The Newton County Drainage Board met in the Commissioner's Room of the Newton County Courthouse at 10:07 a.m. CST on March 5th, 2025.

Members present were Councilman Scott Carlson, Commissioner Steve Eilers, Drainage Board Secretary – Jamie Rowe and Drainage Board Attorney – Jacob Ahler. Also present were Commissioner Abbey Rossiter, Attorney Linda Harris and Shawn Garmong.

Councilman Carlson called the meeting to order.

Legal Counsel

Attorney Jacob Ahler disclosed for the record that he serves as the attorney for both the Benton and Jasper County Drainage Boards. In the event of a joint County Drainage Board meeting involving a contested issue, each county would be required to obtain separate legal counsel to proceed.

Minutes

02-05-2025

Commissioner Eilers made a motion to approve the minutes. Second by Councilman Carlson. Motion passed 2-0.

Lake Village Drainage Project

Discussion was held regarding tree mitigation plans. Secretary Jamie Rowe advised that she had spoken to Amy Moore with VS Engineering, who stated that plans had been provided. The Board discussed an in-lieu fee as a probable solution; however, tree costs and maintenance will be researched further.

Secretary Jamie Rowe also advised the Board of an updated Additional Request for review at the County Council's March 19th meeting.

Discussion was also held regarding the need to petition a portion of this project as a regulated drain. Secretary Jamie Rowe will provide the necessary information to Attorney Ahler.

Legal Counsel Continued

Further discussion was held regarding special legal counsel in the event of a conflict with either Jasper or Benton County. County Attorney Linda Harris was present and advised that she would be willing to assist the Board as special legal counsel if needed.

Follow-Up

Thompson Ditch (612) / Ade Elevator

No information to report.

VC Borklund (508) / Landfill

No information to report.

Other Matters

Zoborosky Tile (524) – Landowner Shawn Garmong was present to discuss drainage issues along this tile. Discussion was held regarding tree clearing and a hearing held in 2017.

After due discussion, *Commissioner Eilers made a motion for the Surveyor to review the Zoborosky Tile and report to the Board. Second by Councilman Carlson. Motion passed 2-0.*

Itemized Invoices – Discussion was held regarding the requirement of itemized invoices, for auditing purposes.

Reports – The Board was presented with updated Drain and Active Project reports.

Adjournment

Commissioner Eilers made a motion to adjourn. Second by Councilman Carlson. Motion passed 2-0.

X

Scott Carlson
President

X

Steve Eilers
Vice President

X

Robert Churchill