

Meeting Minutes

No 131 Intercounty Drainage Board Meeting Gratiot and Montcalm Counties

Thursday, June 16, 2022, at 11:00 AM
Montcalm County Drain Commission
211 W Main St, Stanton, MI 48888

1. Call to Order and Introductions:

Meeting was called to order by Brady at 10:02 AM

Present:

Brady Harrington – Chair, Michigan Department of Agriculture
Bernard Barnes – Board Member, Gratiot County Drain Commissioner
Todd Sattler – Board Member, Montcalm County Drain Commissioner, via phone
Ross Bower – Fahey Schultz
Pete Buurstra – LRE
Anne Gaylord – Montcalm County Drain Commission

2. Motion to Elect a Secretary

A motion was made by Bernie and seconded by Anne to select Montcalm as Secretary. Motion Carried.

3. Review and Set the Agenda

Bernie stated that there were two sets of minutes to approve for the NO 131 ICD Drainage Board. First set was from January 14, 2019, and the second set was from April 3, 2019. A motion was made by Bernie and seconded by Anne to approve the agenda as amended. Motion Carried.

4. Approval of the Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Bernie and seconded by Anne to approve the minutes for January 14, 2019, as presented. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Bernie and seconded by Anne to approve the minutes for April 3, 2019, as presented. Motion Carried.

5. Communications and Reports of Board Members, Committees and Consultants

a. *Discuss Wind Farm Agreements*

Pete provided plans for the wind farm to be located on the 131 ICD. Property owners are asking for the least impact on farmland for the easements. Ross is putting together crossing agreements for each drain and advised of possible maintenance fees for back roads and crossings.

A motion was made by Bernie and seconded by Anne for Bernie to negotiate and execute crossing agreements for the Heartland Wind Farm. Motion Carried.

b. *Discuss Maintenance*

Bernie stated that the NO 131 ICD is the worst drain in Gratiot County and will get the most benefit from a maintenance project. They will be putting in a 3.4 ft bench in the drain for a more stable flow. It was stated that a compensation cut will need to be made but cannot be filled back in. Gratiot will do the maintenance dig and the compensating cut. The contractors will be completing the work, but the invoices are being paid by Invenergy. Todd asked about monetary maintenance limits and was advised that the maintenance limit is 65k. Todd asked if this project will be a benefit to Montcalm or only to Gratiot. Bernie advised that the top end of Montcalm's water will be running through there and does benefit Montcalm. Brady suggested that an agreement be made with Heartland to cover costs, but the District could contribute up to the maintenance limit if necessary.

A motion was made by Bernie and seconded by Anne to authorize Gratiot County Drain Commission to negotiate and execute an authorization letter to EGLE and a 425 Agreement with Heartland/Consumers on behalf of the Drainage Board. Motion Carried. A motion was made by Bernie and seconded by Anne to authorize a maintenance project for up to 65K on the NO 131 Intercounty Drain. Motion Carried.

c. Receive the Treasurer's Report

Anne provided a financial report to the board with a current balance of \$522.80. She advised that since the last meeting, Montcalm had paid one bill to Spicer for account support and completed three drain inspections.

A motion was made by Bernie and seconded by Anne to accept the treasurer's report. Motion Carried.

6. Approval of Invoices

No invoices for approval.

7. Other Business

Bernie is going to talk to Heartland to find out how much they are willing to contribute to the project.

8. Public Comment

No public present.

9. Set Date and Time for Next Meeting

Waiting for plans before setting the next meeting date.

10. Adjourn

A motion was made by Brady and seconded by Bernie to adjourn the meeting at 11:59 AM. Motion Carried.



Todd Sattler, Secretary
Dated: June 16, 2022