

**Curtice & Branches Intercounty Drain**  
**Intercounty Drain Drainage Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, January 17, 2023**

The Drainage Board for the Curtice & Branches Intercounty Drain met at the office of the Midland County Drain Commissioner, 220 W. Ellsworth St., Midland, Michigan at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 17, 2023.

**Present:** Mike Gregg, MDARD, Chairman  
Joe Sova, Midland County Drain Commissioner  
Terry Walters, Gladwin County Drain Commissioner

**Also Present:** Norma Stuart, Midland County Deputy Drain Commissioner  
Nick Czerwinski – Spicer Group  
Christian Valesano – Spicer Group  
Brittany Nichol – FSBR  
Joe Brezvai, MDARD  
Jim Davis – MDOT  
Tonya Lewandowski – ECT via Teams

Chairman Gregg called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Terry Walters made a motion to elect Midland County to serve as secretary, seconded by Joe Sova.  
Motion carried.

Sova moved to approve the agenda. Walters seconded the motion.  
Motion carried.

Sova made a motion to accept and file the minutes from October 18, 2022, with the correction of Chairman Gregg to be changed to Chairman Brezvai. Walters seconded the motion.  
Motion carried.

Chairman Gregg then turned the meeting over to Christian Valesano for an update on the confirmation of easements on the Drain. Valesano stated that all easements are accounted for except for the upper 500 – 600' of the main drain in Gladwin County. Walters will speak to the landowners in that area about getting a ROW.

Walters made a motion to authorize FSBR to do affidavits of the existing ROWs to be recorded under the current property owners. Sova seconded the motion.  
Motion carried.

Nick Czerwinski received direction from ECT regarding making culverts eligible for NRCS grant funding. That culverts have to be buried deeper, so to not lose head loss, the culverts would need to be increased in size. Spicer will review 40 culverts and change them to meet grant eligibility then send report to Tonya Lewandowski to meet with NRCS to see if approved for grant funding.

Sova made a motion to authorize Spicer to review the culverts and update sizes etc. to make grant eligible. Seconded by Walters. Valesano said that this can be done by the next meeting, and that Czerwinski would compute the cost of the upsizing of culverts.

Lewandowski gave an overview of the T&E/Wetland /Cultural Review. The field work was performed late October 2022. Information (data files) was turned over to NRCS on November 18, 2022. Barb Smith from NRCS will review file to make sure it meets requirements. Lewandowski will be meeting with NRCS next week in regards to the CPA52 documents (states meets NEPA requirements).

Wetlands review is now in NRCS hands, and there is no update at this time that the information (data files and shape files) ECT sent to NRCS is enough to make decision.

The Cultural Resources field study was completed on December 12, 2022. An area of large spoil piles were not done and are not considered disturbed areas. At this time the data sheets are being complied by ECT and NRCE to turn over to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) which also has to sign off on the report. We should know more in the next 30-60 days. Lewandowski did not see anything on lower end that would trigger a dig.

ECT is going to ask NRCS to cover the cultural survey costs, since it should have been performed by NRCS, but since weather dependent and the unavailability of NRCS staff to perform, ECT has performed this part of the study with some help from the NRCS staff, and it was finished on December 22, 2022. Lewandowski asked that we hold any payments for invoices of the cultural study until a decision from NRCS is made about covering these costs.

Lewandowski sent over a Cultural Survey PSA today via email, she is not looking for advisement today to approve the Cultural PSA, until she meets with NRCS next week to find how the flow of money would happen if NRCS agree to cover.

Chairman Gregg stated that we will meet again in approx. 6 weeks so he is hopeful that the invoicing and the approval of the PSA for the Cultural Study will be done by then, as far as NCRS participation/coverage of that. Lewandowski is hoping that it will be resolved by then. She hopes that she will have an update on that next week.

Chairman Gregg presented the financial report. Current balance is (\$200,794.27). Joe Sova made a motion to accept and file the Treasurers report, seconded by Terry Walters.  
Motion carried.

Chairman Gregg presented Invoice #7865 from FSBP in the amount of \$71.00. Sova made the motion to pay the invoice, seconded by Sova.  
Motion carried.

A Drain Order was circulated for signatures.

Chairman Gregg presented the following invoices from ECT:	#225921	\$ 760.00
	#224969	\$ 5,347.50
	#225628	\$ 2,835.76
	#225639	\$ 4,165.00

Walters made a motion to pay the invoices, seconded by Sova

Motion carried.

Drain Orders were circulated for signatures.

Chairman Gregg presented the following invoices from Spicer:

#218980	\$ 7,886.25
#218763	\$ 7,614.00
#217994	\$ 6,826.75

Sova made a motion to pay the invoices, seconded by Walters.

Motion carried.

Drain Orders were circulated for signatures.

No Public Comment

Date of next meeting was set for March 2, 2023, at Midland, 10:00a.m.

Terry Walters made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Joe Sova. Meeting adjourned at 11:47a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph J. Sova

Midland County Drain Commissioner