

**Curtice & Branches Intercounty Drain
Intercounty Drain Drainage Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 2, 2022**

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 2:00 p.m. on Monday, May 2, 2022.

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

Also Present: Lucy Zeestraten, Gladwin County Deputy Drain Commissioner
 Norma Stuart, Midland County Deputy Drain Commissioner
 Nick Czerwinski – Spicer Group
 Christian Valesano – Spicer Group
 Jim Davis – MDOT
 Kim Webster – NRCS (virtual)
 Tonya Lewandowski – ECT (virtual)

Chairman Gregg called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

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

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

Terry Walters made a motion to accept and file the minutes from March 17, 2022. Joe Sova seconded the motion.
Motion carried.

Chairman Gregg then turned the meeting over to Nick Czerwinski for an update on plans for improvements on the Drain. Nick stated that he has met with the Midland County Road Commission (MCRC) and the Gladwin County Road Commission (GCRC). Nick stated that the feedback from both the MCRC & GCRC were that the scope of the project is good and was in line with what they had expected.

Christian Valesano has contacted Consumers and AT&T and is waiting to hear back from them regarding the poles along Br. No. 1 & 2. Half the battle is getting the lines on the poles identified as to which company owns those lines. Nick said that we want the poles moved out of the Drain ROW, which should not be a big issue. Mike Gregg asked if any underground utilities are in the ROW. Nick stated that nothing has jumped out at them. Nick stated the poles are the focus at this point.

Nick spoke with Jim Davis from MDOT regarding any issues or supplemental benefits that MDOT may need and then Kim Webster – NRCS and Tonya Lewandowski from ECT regarding the grant and what items would fall under the match rule.

Joe Sova asked what the estimated cost of the project is, Nick replied that it is \$3.2 million.

Chairman Gregg introduced Kim Webster and Tonya Lewandowski and then asked for all participants to introduce themselves. He then asked Tonya and Kim for their input on which activities would qualify for the grant and/or match.

Tonya shared her screen and showed an overview of the RCPP project which is to help offset construction costs to the landowners. Five projects are included in the RCPP project, with the Curtice ICD being one of those projects. The items included in this grant project is sediment reduction, and all activities used to remove the sediment, bank and channel stabilization, access, mobilization, SESC, conservation practices. Culverts (grey area) could fall under stabilization. NRCS will have to approve the plans to be sure that it meets their requirements. There are 2 parts to the grant. There is the 50/50 match and also reimbursement. If the NRCS would not approve reimbursement of a part of the project, then it could be used toward the 50/50 match for the RCPP grant.

Joe asked about how much of the total estimated project cost would be covered under the grant. Tonya responded that the 75 - 80% of project line items would be eligible for the grant match, which could be up to \$1.6 million.

Nick asked about the need to borrow funds to cover costs until the reimbursement can be received. Kim Webster explained that payment requests can be taken on a weekly, monthly or quarterly basis. That reimbursement can be dispersed within in a week or two after submission.

Mike Gregg explained that monthly progress meetings are held for the duration of the project to provide status of project and to approve progress and engineering payments. He asked how reimbursement would work for that. Tonya explained that as soon as the bid form and the engineers estimate is complete they would go through each line item and mark the items that NRCS finds applicable for the grant. Mike Gregg explained that that would help with the Board determining what amount is going to have to be borrowed for the project.

Nick asked about the boundaries of the RCPP watershed. There is a portion of the drain that extends south of the watershed boundary. Kim explained that any work done on the portion of the drain that is south of the boundary will not be subject to the grant match or reimbursement.

Jim Davis said MDOT has projects along M-18, but not in the Curtice ICD. Nick explained that the culverts in Branch No. 4 in Gladwin County were replaced by the GCRC, but they are set too high. Nick explained that the estimated cost of working in the MDOT area and replacing culverts could be up to \$1 million.

Jim Davis will get information/requirements for MDOT to Nick prior to the Hearing of Necessity.

Joe Sova would like to have an estimated cost for landowners at the Hearing of Necessity.

Mike Gregg suggested June 29, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. for the Hearing of Necessity. Gladwin County will check with the Beaverton High School to see if the gymnasium is available for the hearing. Midland County will schedule the Court Reporter. Mike Gregg will contact Stacy at Fahey, Schultz to confirm their availability.

Mike Gregg asked Nick about the presentation for the Hearing of Necessity. Nick explained that it would be similar to the one used at the Hearing of Practicability, but a more detailed version. It was a consensus that the board should meet prior to the Hearing of Necessity to review the PowerPoint

presentation. The next meeting was scheduled for May 25, 2022 at 1:30 p.m. at the Midland County Drain Commission.

Chairman Gregg presented the financial report. Current balance is (\$123,329.75). Joe Sova made a motion to accept and file the Treasurers report, seconded by Terry Walters.

Motion carried.

Chairman Gregg presented Spicer invoice #213662 in the amount of \$15,213.75. Joe Sova made a motion to pay the invoice, seconded by Terry Walters.

Motion carried.

A Drain Order was circulated for signatures.

There was no public comment

Terry Walters made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Joe Sova. Meeting adjourned at 4:32 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph J. Sova

Midland County Drain Commissioner