

Unapproved Minutes JT Boards Emmet County & Dickinson County Minutes

April 30, 2018, 4:00 p.m.

Special Joint Drainage Informational Meeting for ED#3

Farm Bureau Office, Estherville, IA

Present: Emmet County Supervisors:

Bev Juhl

John Pluth

Jeff Quastad

Tim Schumacher

Dickinson County Supervisors:

Tim Fairchild

Bill Leupold

Emmet County Supervisor, Juhl, Chair, stated that this is an informal informational meeting to discuss repairs and improvements to joint Drainage District ED#3.

Present were several landowners, Rick Hopper Engineer from Jacobson-Westergard & Associates and also Derek Behrens, Engineer Intern, from Jacobson-Westergard & Associates.

Engineer Hopper and Engineer Intern, Behrens took the floor. They presented everyone present with a handout of five options for the improvement and or repair. Hopper stated that we are only in a very preliminary stage on this at this time. There are approximately 850 acres of land in Dickinson County (or about ¼ of the land in the district) and 2600 acres in Emmet County (or about ¾ of the land in the district). Emmet County is the controlling County, but both Boards would have to agree on a decision on what option to take.

Behrens then presented the five different options that Jacobson-Westergard had compiled. There was much discussion and in general, landowners thought option 1 would work if they extended the tile to right across County Road A-48. The current estimate for cost of Option 1, without extending the tile, was estimated at \$227,451.00.

Hopper explained the entire drainage process that would follow if joint boards decided on this project. First, Jacobson-Westergard would have to do a formal Preliminary Engineering report; forty days later Board would have a hearing, but all landowners would need to be notified. The notice would also have to be published. At that public hearing, the majority of landowners owning 70% of the land in the district, could stop the project. If the engineering report is accepted, then bids would be taken for the project. The Engineer and two landowners (out of the district) would then get together; these individuals would also have to do an easement report. Hopper stated that it is always good to have landowners involved with these meetings. When the project is finished, a completion hearing would be held. For the completion hearing, people, especially along the tile improvement/repair, would again get a notice. At that time, landowners could submit any claims for damages.

Hopper stated that technically, this would be a reclassification of ED#3 joint drainage district. Juhl asked Hopper what direction they need to go at this time. Hopper stated that the Joint Boards need to have a motion for the Engineers to prepare a Preliminary Engineering Report. It was stated that the tile is approximately 100 years old and it has to be in tough shape. Pluth stated that we would have to check the tiles draining into this main tile to see what shape they are in also.

A motion was made by Pluth, seconded by Quastad to go ahead and have Jacobson-Westergard prepare the Preliminary Engineering Report. All ayes, motion carried. Hopper stated that in the absolute worst-case scenario, work would start this fall and they would have a winter bid, he stated you save 10% on a winter bid, with early spring construction. With the planting season just getting started, they will not disturb the fields this spring.

A motion was made by Schumacher, seconded by Pluth, to adjourn the meeting at 5:05 p.m. All ayes, motion carried.

Colleen Anderson, Assistant to the Auditor

Bev Juhl, Emmet County Supervisor

Tim Schumacher, Emmet County Supervisor

Jeff Quastad, Emmet County Supervisor

John Pluth, Emmet County Supervisor

Tim Fairchild, Dickinson County Supervisor

Bill Leupold, Dickinson County Supervisor