

The Rush County Drainage Board met in the Commissioner's Room of the Courthouse November 25, 2019 at 10 a.m. with the following present: Mark Bacon, Paul Wilkinson, Bruce W. Levi, members; Marvin L. Rees, Surveyor; Leigh Morning, Board Attorney; Shelle Hendrix, Secretary. Warren Norris, Mike Dora, and Doug Hall were also present.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Mike Dora provided information on loans for watersheds. He stated the loan would be a fixed rate and up to 40 years. The bond is owned by the Federal government and no bond council is needed. Engineers would look into the project before the loan process is started. Rees stated that this could be used for the Carr/Stanley reconstruction

COHEE DRAIN

Landowner Doug Hall wants to cut down dead ash trees and requested the County hire a contractor to pull them aside and Hall would dispose of them. The Surveyor said he will contact Kevin Peggs to do the tree removal. Leigh Morning stated since it would be less than \$25,000.00 no bidding would be required. A motion was made by Wilkinson with a 2nd by Levi to hire someone to pull from the ditch the dead trees Hall will cut down, and lay them aside for Hall to dispose of. Motion carried.

GEISE/STEVENS

Rees reported the surveying is done on the Stevens property and he will contact the forester again to come and evaluate the trees.

DON WRIGHT MUTUAL DRAIN

The Surveyor read a letter dated Oct. 29, 2019 stating that Wright withdrew his petition to remove a blockage in a mutual drain.

BIDS

At 10:30 a.m. bids were opened. The first was for the James S.E. Hilligoss Tile: Ramsey Farms bid \$93,237.50. R.L. Coon Excavating bid \$200,496. ADI Ag Drainage Inc bid \$160,674.95. Wilkinson made a motion with a 2nd by Levi to accept the Ramsey bid. Motion carried.

The next bids were on the James S.E. Hilligoss Bore: Ramsey Farms bid \$28,500 and will sub-contract to Schneider Construction. Dave O'Mara Contractors bid \$67,950. Levi asked Ramsey if his insurance would cover the subcontractor and Ramsey said it would. Wilkinson made a motion with a 2nd by Levi to accept the Ramsey bid. Motion carried.

Next bid was for the Tinsley/Meal Open: R.L. Coon Excavating bid \$89,250. Wells Excavating bid \$33,836. Levi made a motion with a 2nd by Wilkinson to accept the Wells bid. Motion carried.

The Surveyor stated Cindy Humphrey, Rush County Treasurer, said Pre-payment is not an option for the tile reconstruction. Rees reported he had contacted all the local banks and heard back from three: First Financial offers 3.31% with a \$2,000.00 underwriting fee. USLA rate is 3.95% with \$250 fee. Citizens rate is 3.25% with \$500 fee. Wilkinson made a motion with a 2nd by Levi to go with Citizens State Bank. Motion carried. Leigh Morning said to make sure there are no 'early payment penalties' associated with the loan.

KEVIN GEISE

Landowner Kevin Geise appeared before the Board with several questions regarding the location of the tile and the cost of trees he will be required to compensate Jerry Stevens. He asked for one of the Board members to come out to the site and show him exactly where the tile will be located to which Mark Bacon declined, saying the decision and solution has already been made. Rees gave Geise a map outlining the exact location, which is marked with flags. Rees agreed to meet with Geise at a later date to show him the exact location.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Levi made a motion to adjourn with a 2nd by Wilkinson. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

Mark Bacon

Paul Wilkinson

Bruce W. Levi