

IN THE MATTER DRAINAGE DISTRICT No. 18
WORTH COUNTY, IOWA

MINUTES

The Board of Supervisors of Worth County, Iowa, acting for and on behalf of Drainage District No. 18, Worth County, Iowa met at the Worth County courthouse at 9:30 A.M. CST, August 26, 2024.

Members present: A.J. Stone, Chairperson
 Mark Smeby, Vice-Chairperson
 Enos Loberg, Supervisor

Also present: Jacki Backhaus, Auditor
 Valerie Paulson, Drainage Clerk
 Jacob Hagen, Bolton & Menk (via Zoom)
 Colton Cunningham, Bolton & Menk
 Tyler Buman, Bolton & Menk
 Landowners: Eliot Evans, Arlyn Tenold,
 Paul Tenold, Andrew Tenold, Carol J.
 Abbey, Josh Bruns, Rich Lindflott, Mark
 Hanna, Jason Woods representing Beverly
 Land Co, Eric A Evans (via Zoom), Nate
 (via Zoom)

Public hearing held to discuss repairs and or improvements that are needed for DD No. 18.

Colton Cunningham went over the Amendment to the Engineer's Report that he submitted. The district was established in 1914. There was a petition back in 2016 for improvements which did not happen. This report includes 4 options which include 36" tile (1/2" DC) estimated \$1,439,000; 42" tile (3/4" DC) estimated \$1,842,000; 48" tile (1" DC) estimated \$2,060,000; and an open ditch option estimated \$1,950,000.

Bolton and Menk are recommending the 36" tile. This will give the standard 1/2" DC and be the cheapest option. They also recommend possibly adding a grass waterway.

If it is a grass waterway, right-of-way will need to be purchased. If they go with a farmable waterway, right-of-way will not need to be purchased. The district will need to pay to maintain the waterway and it can be added to the spray schedule.

The open ditch option will provide more capacity. The open ditch will require the purchase of right-of-way and severance to landowners affected. The landowners present discussed waiving severance to save the district money. This will need to be determined by each landowner. The construction cost of an open ditch is estimated at \$90,000 and the rest of the \$100,000 are additional associated fees.

Landowners expressed concern about the land not having enough fall north of A38. Colton recommends stopping at Cardinal Ave.

There are seven gas lines that currently run underneath the current tile. Bolton & Menk will have to wait until crops come out to fine the gas lines. They may need to reroute them if an open ditch option is selected. If the current 20" tile is replaced with a 36" tile the gas lines may not need to be rerouted.

The railroad will need to replace their bridge if an open ditch option is selected. The ditch East of the railroad may also need to be dug deeper. If the tile option is chosen, then rip rap will be used under the railroad to prevent any further erosion.

The estimates in the report do not include replacing any of the branch tiles in the calculations. The open ditch option does not include road crossings, Secondary roads will incur most of those costs. If any of the property is spit in half because of an open ditch the landowner will be responsible for all crossing costs and will need the approval of the drainage district.

Discussion about the Tenold and Olson properties in the NW corner and how there is already existing tile there and to exclude these properties in the plans to help reduce costs.

Time frame on tile with grass waterway could have plans and bids within 6 weeks and could possibly start construction right away and have a completion in the Spring of 2025.

Time frame for open ditch will take much longer. Bolton & Menk will have to wait until crops are out to locate the gas lines and then the gas lines will have to be rerouted. Permits will need to be acquired from the DNR. The railroad will have to construct a new bridge, which could take some time. The county will have to construct new culverts for road crossings.


An open ditch will likely see a few inches of water which will allow grass to grow in the bottom of the ditch. The district will have to maintain it at least every 20 years.

Tile will typically last 150-200 years with minimal maintenance.

Bolton & Menk estimated 50 private tiles to connect back into the main as well as the current district laterals.

Majority of the landowners present want to see bids for 42" tile or open ditch. They would also like for the landowners to waive severance if right-of-way is purchased for open ditch.

The board decided to continue the meeting for a later date, possibly late November or December. Bolton and Menk will present a more detailed report for open ditch option. Notice will be mailed to everyone in the district and published in the local newspaper.



A.J. Stone
Chairperson

ATTEST:



Valerie Paulson
Drainage Clerk