

Minutes of **SPECIAL MEETING**

Held April 20th, 2017

2:00 PM

TOWNSHIP OF MARATHON

Dawn Johnson, Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 2:00 PM by Supervisor Moorhouse,

ROLL CALL

Fred Moorhouse, Supervisor
Dawn Johnson, Clerk-Absent
Nolan Kinder, Treasure
Sandi Glesenkamp, Trustee
Dale Fuller, Trustee

Others in attendance
See Sign in Sheet

The sole purpose of this meeting was to discuss a drain assessment for maintenance work on the Kester Drain. The work will be performed under the direction and authority of the Lapeer County Drain Commission.

The Lapeer County Drain Commissioner Joe Suma along with Mike from BMJ Engineering informed the township board and the Marathon Township residents that were in attendance of what the project will cost to repair over the next 3 years. The county drain commission is only allotted \$20,000 a year to maintain each drain within the county. The Kester Drain project will exceed the \$20,000 amount. Tom Valentine, farm land owner on the corner of Otter Lake and Fostoria Rd approached Suma about standing water on his farm land due to the back up of water from the Kester Drain. Suma gave Tom Valentine approval to go ahead and fix the area on his farm land where the overflow from the drain is causing standing water on Valentines property. Suma at that point assessed the 3 mile long Kester Drain and found that many areas of the drain where 2/3's of the culverts are full and there is erosion on Fostoria Rd. Suma stated that the maintenance on the drain will benefit all of the properties in this district not just the farmland. The maintenance on the drain will help with drying up the wet areas on properties and lower the water table.

Drain Commissioner Suma presented the lowest bid he received, from K&K Contracting to Marathon Township Board members for review. K & K Contracting bid \$63,000 to take on the full project which would be completed by mid fall. The residents that are part of this drain district would get an assessment for 3 years on their tax bill to pay for their portion of the drain. If the Township board members do not agree to allow the Drain Commission to exceed its limits of \$20,000, they can chose to have the drain project completed in 3 stages over a length of three years. Suma stated that if the Board choses to do the project in three stages, he could not be guarantee the same bid amount which could make the drain project more costly. If the Township Board does not go forward with a motion to exceed the limits, the Lapeer County Drain Commission will still maintain \$20,000 worth-of work on the Kester Drain.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ernest Eagle- Property owner on Fostoria Rd, does not feel as though he should be assessed for the Drain. Drain does not even run through his property.

Mike Folsom- Property owner on Otter Lake Rd, does not feel he should have to be assessed for the Drain, never has been assessed before. Drain does not run on his property. Wanted to know if Deerfield Township has been advised of the maintenance that will be taking place on the Kester Drain? Concerned that there will be work needed on the Forest Drain that flows from the Kester Drain into another drain in Deerfield Township.

Joseph and Carol Wells-Property owners on Castle Rd, concerned about how much their property tax will increase because of the drain assessment.

The Marathon Township Board members will hold a special board meeting on Monday April 24, 2017 at 1:00pm to make a decision on the Kester Drain project.

ADJOURNMENT 3:50 PM

Submitted by Amanda J. Krause
Amanda J. Krause, Deputy Clerk

Approved by Fred Moorhouse
Fred Moorhouse, Supervisor

6/12/17
date