

**GRANT COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD
401 SOUTH ADAMS STREET
MARION, INDIANA 46953**

The Grant County Drainage Board meeting was held August 9, 2016, in the Grant County Council Chambers. Chairman Mark Bardsley called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m. Other members present were Gordon Gough, Kenny Cates, Pat Pinkerton, Richard Cox and Jim Todd, Grant County Surveyor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Pat Pinkerton made the motion to approve the minutes from the July 26, 2016 meeting as presented; Seconded by Kenny Cates. Motion carried with support 3-0, Gordon Gough and Richard Cox abstained since they were not in attendance for the meeting.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Jim Todd reviewed the claims as follows;

Kenny Cates Abstain

Byron Cook – \$1,770.00 Pipe Creek; \$153,259.74 in the fund

Byron Cook – \$2,752.50 Taylor Creek; \$46,526.21 in the fund

Richard Cox made the motion to approve the above claims as presented; seconded by Pat Pinkerton. Motion carried, with support 4-0, with Kenny Cates abstaining due to owning land in the water sheds.

OLD BUSINESS:

Little Crane Pond

Jim Todd informed the Board that there is nothing new to report; all the trees are down but we have not yet received an invoice. Jim stated that he has called Smoke Valley Tree Service and reminded them that they need to get an invoice turned in.

Hummel Creek

Jim Todd informed the Board that he had a good meeting with Gary Ott and Mr. McCoy. Jim added that Mr. Ott is requesting from the Board permission to use his own construction company under our specifications and with Matt Meade (Engineer) inspecting the work as it is being done. Richard Cox asked Jim Todd who would be paying this; Jim replied it would be Mr. Ott paying for the removal of obstruction. Jim informed the Board that he and Matt Meade are meeting Mr. Ott for lunch to discuss the options for mitigation of the obstruction.

Matt Meade and Lenny Noens of Christopher Burke Engineering are present before the Board. Mr. Meade stated that it would be up to the Drainage Board as to who would be hired to remove the pipes. Mr. Meade added that as far as the observation of the work being done, that is not part of the original contract, so that would be a separate invoicing. Mr. Meade stated that Mr. Ott still wants access to his property on the other side of the creek; therefore, they will discuss what options he has for a crossing. Mr. Ott had stated to Mr. Meade that he had a couple of ideas, one of them being a low-flow crossing in which he could just drive something through there. Jim Todd stated that he was not aware that the inspection was not included in the contract, suggesting that he could do the approval and if needed, could call Mr. Meade in by the hour. Mr. Meade stated that he has the IDEM permit and the Corp permit, he is just waiting for the DNR permit. Kenny Cates asked about the amount that has been spent; how much can we recoup from Mr. Ott; Jim Todd replied that is something that the Board would need to check with the attorney about. Jim added that the entire water shed will be responsible for the amount owed in the red. Mark Bardsley added that the Board will need to have a public hearing and levy a ditch tax on Hummel Creek. Gordon Gough asked Mr. Matt how much would it cost to have him work with Mr. Ott instead of Jim Todd; Mr. Meade responded that he would not be the one that would oversee this, they have a department that does this. Mr. Lenny Noens of Christopher Burke Engineering stated that someone would not have to constantly be out there during the process; possibly just check in occasionally, this could be about twenty hours at the rate of \$135.00 to \$145.00 per hour. Mr. Noens agreed that their firm could remain on an "on call" basis. Gordon Gough made the motion that Jim Todd would work with Mr. Gary Ott observing that

they are doing the work per the specs. If there are any problems, the Board will call Christopher Burke Engineering for inspection. Also, Christopher Burke Engineering will do the final approval. Mr. Ott may use his own construction equipment. Seconded by Kenny Cates, motion carried with support 4-0, with Richard Cox abstains due to land in the Hummel Creek water shed.

Jocinah Creek

Duane Phipps, 2154 W 600 N-27 LaFontaine, Indiana.

Gail Phipps, 6237 N. Wabash Road Lafontaine, Indiana.

Both Mr. Phipps are present before the Board. He stated that he was previously at a Drainage Board meeting (April 2016) requesting help with putting in a drop box structure in Jocinah Creek. They have given a copy of the estimates from Mr. KC's Unlimited Excavating for tree removal and dredging of Jocinah Creek and also an estimate for a drop box structure. These two estimates total \$4,200.00; Jim Todd stated that there is \$16,459.00 in the maintenance fund. Mr. Phipps would like the Board's permission to begin by getting the trees pulled out and the ditch dredged. Mr. Phipps said that it has not been dredged in 35 years. Jim Todd recommends that this work be done. Richard Cox asked if this needed cleaned out to the highway, they stated that they have not walked it to know. Richard Cox made the motion to allow the Phipps to do the requested work in Jocinah Creek. Seconded by Gordon Gough, motion carried with support 5-0.

Mr. Phipps stated that he has one more item that needs to be mentioned. Just west of this location, there was a crossing on Jocinah Creek. Mr. Phipps stated that about 5 or 6 years ago, this crossing caved in. He has a five foot diameter pipe that is 18 feet long that he would like to install there, he is requesting the Boards permission. Mr. Phipps stated that he is aware that the Drainage Board will not pay for putting this in or for the maintenance of this crossing.

Gordon Gough stated this this needs to be at the proper level; Mr. Phipps stated that this would be put on the existing bottom after dredging. Jim Todd feels that there was an existing crossing, he sees no problem. Richard Cox made the motion to allow them to reinstall their private crossing at their cost on Jocinah Creek. Seconded by Gordon Gough, motion carried with support 5-0. Jim Todd will inspect this crossing when it goes in; per the Boards request.

Fadley & Owl

Kenny Cates stated that we need to get going on the Fadley & Owl; Jim Todd replied that we are waiting on Brad Rayl of Rayl Engineering, and when he is done, we may move forward towards a public hearing.

NEW BUSINESS:

Honey Creek

Jim Todd stated that Mary Weesner has the assessment roll completed for Honey Creek and she is ready to receive a date for a public hearing. Mary stated that the soonest she could be ready would be for a hearing date of September 13, 2016. Jim added that Huntington County has waived their rights. After discussion, the Board agreed with September 13th. Gordon Gough made the motion to set the public hearing for Honey Creek for September 13, 2016. Seconded by Pat Pinkerton, motion carried with support 5-0.

Robb Tile

Jim Todd stated that his office has been going over the Robb Tile parcels and have discovered some regular parcels that have been left off. Jim added that it has a \$150.00 home site rate. Jim has spoken to the County Auditor Roger Bainbridge about this; Mr. Bainbridge stated that he had concerns about adding these without Drainage Board minutes adding them on. Jim Todd stated that we had our public hearing and the ad stated "To whom it may concern", this would include anybody that was left out. But still, Mr. Bainbridge is reluctant to add these. There is just one home site and several empty lots missing. Mark Bardsley stated that all parcels within the watershed shall pay their ditch assessment.

OTHER BUSINESS:

ADJOURN:

Kenny Cates made a motion to adjourn at 11:34 a.m.; Seconded by Pat Pinkerton, motion carried with support 5-0.

The next scheduled meeting to be held August 30, 2016 at 11:00 a.m.

Minutes recorded by Mary R. Weesner

Minutes approved:

Mark Bardsley

Gordon Gough

Richard Cox

Kenny Cates

Pat Pinkerton