

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

The Grant County Drainage Board meeting was held July 12, 2016, in the Grant County Council Chambers. Vice-Chairman Gordon Gough called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m. Other members present were Richard Cox, Kenny Cates, Pat Pinkerton and Jim Todd, Grant County Surveyor; absent was Mark Bardsley

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Pat Pinkerton made the motion to approve the minutes from the June 28, 2016 meeting as presented; Seconded by Kenny Cates. Motion carried with support 3-0, Richard Cox abstained since he was not in attendance for the June 28th meeting.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Jim Todd reviewed the claims as follows;

Christopher Burke - \$660.00 Weasel Creek; \$244,853.43 in the fund

Mick Roush - \$149.97 Lugar Creek; \$36,270.25 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

Kenny Cates Abstain

Chronicle Tribune - \$14.87 Leisure Drain; \$860.36 in the fund

Pat Pinkerton made the motion to approve the above claims as presented; seconded by Richard Cox. Motion carried, with support 3-0, with Kenny Cates abstaining due to land in the above water shed.

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.

Lugar Creek

Nathan Titus 2054 East Monroe Pike, Marion, IN is present before the Board. Jim Todd stated that the Drainage Board gave permission a few years ago to Mr. Titus to take a lot of the trees out of Lugar Creek. Jim passed around some photos to the Board regarding this; he stated that the pictures do not do this justice, adding that he would like the Board to go see the site. Jim stated that since there is \$36,270.00 in the Lugar Creek maintenance fund, Mr. Titus is in attendance to make the following request: Mr. Titus has an island within Lugar Creek where the trees are washing down and "clumping", there are twenty trees in Lugar Creek that need to be removed; Mr. Titus has his own excavator. Mr. Titus stated the rate would be \$110.00 per hour with the excavator, adding that he cannot say how long it would take to remove the large log jam. He added that this needs to be cleared out; it is causing the gravel to build up in the mouth of the creek. Kenny Cates asked he was planning on burning the logs after removal, Mr. Titus stated he would after they dried out. Mr. Titus said that he could do this for less than \$2,700.00. Richard Cox made the motion to allow Nathan Titus to work in the easement of Lugar Creek to remove log jams, not to exceed \$2,700.00. Seconded by Pat Pinkerton, motion carried with support 4-0.

Big Deer Creek

Don Wright 1531 W 650 S, Jonesboro, IN is present before the Board. Jim Todd stated that he has talked to Don Wright and Brian Cates regarding the spoil on Big Deer Creek. Jim informed the Board that he does not feel that Brian Cates did anything wrong, he was in a hurry and put the spoil right at the edge of the woods. Mr. Cates did what he was paid to do. Traditionally, Jim stated, we go back and level the spoil. Mr. Wright keeps the area sprayed and mowed, which saves money. Jim stated that this could be pushed back into the woods with a small dozer and then level off. Jim added that the

maintenance fund is \$4,289.00 in the red, adding that we would have to borrow from the General Drain Improvement Fund to complete the requested work. Mr. Wright stated that on the curves, there is spoil out in the right of way. Jim Todd feels that this would take about 2-3 hours of dozer time. Kenny Cates stated that he went out and looked at it and that someone has mowed, but there is a "jungle" on the right hand side; Mr. Wright stated that he mowed it. Richard Cox stated that he would like to see an estimate to complete the leveling of the spoil. Mr. Wright stated that he wants it left in the condition it was in before. He added that there are piles left. Richard again stated that Mr. Wright get an estimate and bring it to the next meeting. Jim Todd would like Mr. Wright to contact Eric Bragg regarding this matter.

NEW BUSINESS:

New Prairie

Jim Todd stated that years ago the Board approved a tile replacement for a group after raising their maintenance to \$8.00 per acre. They are now up to Joe Seward's property and then Bob Vektor's after that. This will finish the new tile all the way from the county line to the good tile. Mr. Seward wanted Jim to inform the Board that they had agreed to this in the past and he will be sending a bill.

Bennington/Unthank

Mick Roush 7824 N 200 W, Hartford City, IN is present before the Board regarding headwall replacements on the Unthank and the Bennington Drains. Mr. Roush has a bid from Eads Contracting. The Unthank headwall is eligible for CRP funding, but the Bennington is not. The estimate for the two headwalls is \$19,500.00, which is about \$9,500.00 each. This is for concrete headwalls that are designed per NRCS specifications. Mr. Roush would like, after the reconstruction is done since it is washed out behind the old structure, if the new headwall could be moved back to solid ground; Jim Todd agrees. Mr. Roush stated that this was recommended by a contractor. There is \$4,431.00 in the Bennington maintenance fund. Gordon Gough asked Mr. Roush why the Unthank is qualified for CRP assistance but the Bennington is not; Mr. Roush stated that due to USDA rules if the map shows it is an existing waterway, it is not eligible, if the map does not show it to be an existing

waterway, even though there is grass, it is not eligible. Therefore, the Unthank qualifies for CRP assistance, but the Bennington does not qualify. Kenny Cates asked how we are supposed to pay for this if it is about \$9,500.00 but there is only \$4,431.00 in the fund; Jim Todd explained that per Darren Bates, the Board can either decline the request or put the drain fund into the red until collections bring the balance back up. Richard Cox asked Mr. Roush how much he is looking to get, Mr. Roush replied anything he can get. Richard then asked him if \$4,000.00 would be enough, Mr. Roush stated that would help. Pat Pinkerton said that the alternative would be to have a public hearing to increase the rates. Gordon Gough stated that the Board should give permission for Mr. Roush to do the Unthank; since it qualifies for CRP assistance, then the next meeting, Mary Weesner can inform the Board how much the Bennington brings in per year and the Board can then decide what to do about the Bennington. Mr. Roush said that would be fine. Richard Cox made a motion to allow Mr. Roush to do the preliminary work on the Unthank, then to return to our next meeting when the Board will have more information regarding the rate and balance on the Bennington. Seconded by Pat Pinkerton, motion carried with support 4-0.

Mr. Roush asked the Board about a spray program for the ditch banks of Grant County. Richard Cox explained to Mr. Roush that is in the process, but they have to have the money first to begin the program.

OTHER BUSINESS:

New Prairie

Jim Todd informed the Board that he has talked to Brad Rayl regarding the brushing of New Prairie; Mr. Rayl has the spec books already completed from the last time we did a bid letting and then had to pull the bid. Mr. Rayl stated that the Board may take quotes. Jim will tell Mr. Rayl to proceed.

Hummel Creek

Jim Todd stated that he has talked to engineers from Hummel Creek and they have everything ready to have their on-site meeting. The booklet is very detailed as to how to enter and complete the entire process. Gordon Gough feels that Jim Todd and Mark Bardsley need to meet with Mr. Gary Ott regarding the removal of the obstruction.

ADJOURN:

Kenny Cates made a motion to adjourn at 11:42 a.m.; Seconded by Pat Pinkerton, motion carried with support 4-0.

The next scheduled meeting to be held July 26, 2016 at 11:00 a.m.

Minutes recorded by Mary R. Weesner

Minutes approved:

*****ABSENT*****

Mark Bardsley

Gordon Gough

Richard Cox

Kenny Cates

Pat Pinkerton