

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

The Grant County Drainage Board meeting was held February 27, 2018 in the Grant County Council Chambers. Mark Bardsley called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m. Other members present were Gordon Gough, Kenny Cates, Pat Pinkerton, Richard Cox and Grant County Surveyor Jim Todd.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Pat Pinkerton made a motion to approve the minutes as presented from the February 13, 2018 meeting; Seconded by Richard Cox. Motion carried with support 4-0 with Kenny Cates abstaining due to not being at the February 13th meeting.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Jim Todd presented the following claims:

Christopher Burke \$1,932.50 Hummel Creek; fund is in the red by \$83,802.12
Grant County Treasurer \$227.86; repayment of loans-Maintenance to GDIF
Drewry Simmons \$2,237.50 Hummel Creek; fund is in the red by \$83,802.12

Gordon Gough made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Seconded by Pat Pinkerton; motion carried with support 4-0 with Richard Cox abstaining due to owning land in the Hummel Creek watershed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Little Crane Pond -

Mark Bardsley stated that Little Crane Pond is currently in the hands of the attorney and there will be no action on this today. Mark added that our

attorney has made the overture to the attorney for the Marion Utilities and they are working on a final resolution that they will accept and that the Drainage Board will accept.

Hummel Creek –

Mark Bardsley stated that the Board will make one final overture to Mr. Ott asking for access to his road; if he declines, then the Board will be forced to go back to the court and ask for the court to rule for us, if not, we will have to go in and build a road with the engineering along our easement to get to the obstruction to remove it. Mark is hopeful that Mr. Ott will work with the Board and allow the usage to his right of way so that we may get the obstruction out and be done with this. Mark Bardsley added that Mr. Ott would not want to do this in the spring and summer months due to construction work that his people do. Mark Bardsley stated that we are asking to get this done within the next thirty days. Mark would allow letting Mr. Ott use his people, saving him money.

Big Deer Creek – Terril Fetz = Request maintenance

There is nothing new to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Elliott Tile – Jeremy Schmitt of Commonwealth Engineers, Inc.

Mr. Schmitt is present before the Board regarding connecting into the Elliott Tile, the project that his firm is working on is for the town of Fairmount. He has passed out an information packet to the Board (a copy is attached to these minutes in the Drainage Board office). Steve Beal from the Town of Fairmount is present today with Mr. Schmitt. They are referring to the Wesleyan Church Camp Ground situated on the north northwest portion of Fairmount. Mr. Schmitt reviewed his mapping that shows the existing drainage line/ tiling that Mr. Wendell Cates has installed and also the existing town's combined sewer interceptor that actually drains north first and then east through the church camp ground. He went into detail with the information that was given to the Board, explaining the parcels involved. He stated that he is here asking for permission to connect into the Elliott Tile. Mr. Schmitt

wants to load the storm water only through the field tile and is aware that there is an assessment fee associated with tying in. Jim Todd informed Mr. Schmitt that these three parcels have not been on the water shed dating back to the 1960's. Richard Cox asked Wendell Cates if he felt the tile would be able to handle the extra water; Mr. Cates replied that he feels it will be able to handle the extra load. Gordon Gough asked Mr. Schmitt if the camp grounds would be better off installing their own storm water into Back Creek rather than into the Elliott, it is a lot closer. Mr. Schmitt responded that while it is a lot shorter distance, it would cost three or four times the amount. Mr. Schmitt added that it would cost around \$300,000.00 to go into the Elliott and about \$1,000,000.00 to go into Back Creek. Richard Cox asked if there would be anyway to regulate the water that goes into this tile; Mr. Schmitt stated he could look into a retention pond or a weir, preferably a weir or an orifice that they can control the amount of flow. Kenny Cates told Mr. Schmitt that if he went into Back Creek there would be a onetime charge, but going into the Elliott there will be an "up front" fee plus a yearly maintenance cost. Mr. Schmitt stated that he is aware and that the \$700,000.00 savings would pay a lot of maintenance. Gordon Gough asked Mr. Cates if he know how the other farmers feel about this since they have also put a lot of their own money into this; Mr. Cates replied he has only spoken to the executive board. Mr. Cates stated that the maintenance rate may very well be \$8.00 per acre. Mark Bardsley stated that there are times that there is standing water and they do need a storm water system. Mark Bardsley asked Mr. Cates what the projected cost is per acre for this project; Mr. Cates stated that it is \$576.00 per acre and that is what everyone has put into it so far. Richard Cox asked if the camp grounds wanted to join in, they would have to pay \$576.00 per acre; Mr. Cates said yes and then someone would have to pay the maintenance. Mr. Schmitt said that he is not certain yet as to who would pay the maintenance, that is why he is at this meeting to obtain information. Mark Bardsley added that the connection fee will be somewhere around \$10,300.00, and once they are hooked in, they will pay an assessment like any other church does in the county. Mr. Cates will be turning over the Elliott to the county once phase 3 is completed. Mark Bardsley stated that if they have a meeting between the farmers, town of Fairmount and the camp ground; if they wanted to include a

Drainage Board member, they would be glad to have somebody be there. Mr. Cates agreed that he would like to have a Drainage Board member present.

County Property at Grant County Highway Dept. Location - Broken Tile
Jim Todd informed the Board that the Devore's are leasing county highway department property and there are a couple of broken tiles on it. Tony Smith of the Grant County Highway Department said that if the Board said that if the Drainage Board said that they need to fix their tile that they would. Richard Cox asked Jim if this was a county ditch; Jim stated that it is not but it is county property. Richard stated that it wouldn't be the Board's problem if it is not a county ditch. Mark Bardsley added that most likely it would be a commissioner issue instead of a Drainage Board issue. Jim Todd will call Tony Smith to get this started.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Fund Transfers

Darren Bates is before the Board regarding the recommended fund transfers. Mr. Bates has a spreadsheet that he prepared from June 24, 2016 (a copy of this spreadsheet is attached to these minutes in the Drainage Board office); the Board members have been given a copy. On this spreadsheet it shows that they tried to move \$409,962.00, but the problem is, per Mr. Bates, the Board's attorney did not like the fact that the Board shoved a lot of the drains into the red. He added that all we could do is to use the cash that was available and bring the ditch balance to zero and write off the remaining debt, therefore, it would not be a loan, it would be a gift. The total debt to be written off would be \$214,299.58. Mr. Bates reviewed the spreadsheet with the Board. He explained to the Board the funds that are in the red that need to be written off. If the Board agrees, Mr. Bates will work with Mary Weesner to get the claims to the Auditor Office. Pat Pinkerton made a motion to rescind any previous action on the reconstruction balances, taking it back to the June 24, 2016 balances; seconded by Richard Cox. Motion carried with support 5-0. Richard Cox made a motion to instruct the Drainage Board secretary to write off the appropriate amounts and process the claims necessary, seconded by Pat Pinkerton. Motion carried with support 5-0.

Maintenance Billing

Richard Cox made a motion to approve the ditch maintenance billing for 2018 as presented; seconded by Pat Pinkerton. Motion carried with support 5-0.

ADJOURN:

Richard Cox made a motion to adjourn at 12:03 p.m.; Seconded by Gordon Gough; motion carried with support 5-0.

The next scheduled meeting to be held will be March 13, 2018 at 11:00 am

Minutes recorded by Mary R. Weesner

MINUTES APPROVED:

MARK BARDSLEY

GORDON GOUGH

RICHARD COX

KENNY CATES

PAT PINKERTON