

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

The Grant County Drainage Board meeting was held June 26, 2018 in the Grant County Council Chambers. Mark Bardsley called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. Other members present were Kenny Cates, Pat Pinkerton, Richard Cox and Grant County Surveyor Jim Todd. Gordon Gough was not in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Kenny Cates made a motion to approve the minutes as presented from the June 12, 2018 meeting; Seconded by Richard Cox. Motion carried with support 4-0.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Jim Todd presented the claims as follows:

Chronicle Tribune \$30.55; Doty Tile; \$1,808.40 in the fund
Rogers Farm Drainage \$511.35; Nathan Hill Tile; \$5,462.87 in the fund
Ed Blinn \$300.00 Lugar Creek; \$115,195.13 in the fund
Ed Blinn \$3,578.00 Unthank Tile; \$11,667.69 in the fund

Richard Cox made a motion to approve the above claims as presented; seconded by Pat Pinkerton. Motion carried with support 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

Little Crane Pond – Approval of resolution
There is nothing new to report

Hummel Creek

Mark Bardsley stated that he has spoken to Mr. Ott's attorney and was informed that Mr. Ott is not complying with the court order to remove the obstruction (pipes) and will not allow access. Therefore, Mark will contact the Drainage Board attorney, Joseph Leone and inform him that we need to move forward regarding the removal of the obstruction.

NEW BUSINESS:

Massey Creek – Frank Hix – Dredging – \$24,489.59 in the fund

Jim Todd informed the Board that Frank Hix is present today with a request to clean out Massey Creek. Jim added that there is \$24,489.59 in the fund, with a little less since they are working on a tile repair. He stated that Kenny Cates has spoken with Mark Glessner and he is ok with the work that is being requested. Jim Todd stated that when the crops come off, the plan is to get measurements and tile probe to see how much sediment there is and prepare a letter for quotes for this fall. Jim added that Mr. Hix would like to tile some on the end of this creek and cover it up at his own expense. Mr. Hix informed the Board that he has put in a 15" smooth core tile down through there on one side and an 8" tile on the other. He is about 300' from the road and maybe someday take it on to the road. Mr. Hix added that he has talked to the Highway Department and he can go underneath the road on 300 N. He figures that the bottom is all rotted out since it has been there of forty years. He said they can just take it across the road and do away with the bridge. He would use an 18" or 24" there and bring a riser up before it goes to the road to keep any surface water from flooding. Mr. Hix is going to call the railroad and see if he can lower that pipe. Kenny Cates asked Mr. Hix if they are currently using the railroad, Mr. Hix responded that it has not been used in over 35 years and there are trees growing up in it. Richard Cox made a motion to allow the two gentlemen (Mr. Hix and Mr. Glessner) to proceed with investigating the dredging of Massey Creek. Seconded by Pat Pinkerton, motion carried with support 5-0.

Employee Evaluation

Jim Todd stated that he is very upset with employee evaluation performed by Muncie firm Waggoner, Irwin, Scheele & Associates. Jim said that he had a lot more to say, such as all of the duties. The woman that interviewed Jim asked him if he could go with part-time help, he explained to her that he cannot keep part-time employees, once he gets them trained; they leave for full-time positions with benefits elsewhere. Jim Todd added that he has given up two employees and 3% of his own salary years ago, all these years, he has not gotten any more employees and his salary is still 3% less. He would like to keep his two employees full-time so that they may have insurance; Jim added that he forgot to tell her that Raymond Bair has chosen to not receive the insurance available to him. Jim told the Board that he had mentioned to her that he and the Drainage Board secretary had heard rumors that they were going to do away with the Drainage Board secretary job. In the report, it said that they recommend that the Drainage Board secretary position be eliminated and have the Surveyors office secretary to perform the duties of the Drainage Board secretary; Jim stated that he doesn't even have a secretary. Jim Todd added that he spoke with the lady, in great detail, for over 45 minutes and all she put in her report was that Surveyors have full-time employees that need insurance. Mark Bardsley stated that he spoke with the firm stating that they never spoke to him regarding the duties of the Drainage Board. Mark added that there were other people that complained about the interview process and that department heads need to lodge a complaint. Mark Bardsley added that he has lodged his complaint because he was not interviewed, adding that Jim Todd needs to complain regarding his interview regarding what was said and what wasn't said. Mark Bardsley added that with all the work going on with the county drains and public hearing, they need a full-time secretary; they cannot make progress with a part-time secretary. Mark Bardsley advised that the Board needs to start explaining to the council what all we do as a Board.

Steelman Tile

Jim Todd informed the Board that Mary Weesner has received a request from Dave Bettegnies to hold a public hearing to put the Steelman Tile on maintenance. Jim added that it is 305 acres and at \$10.00 per acre, would bring in \$3,050.00 per year. Jim stated that there is no current maintenance

on the Steelman Tile. Jim Todd said that he and Raymond Bair went out and looked at the water shed and Mary has an assessment roll ready and she would like to know when we can set a hearing date. Mark Bardsley asked if the Board has any other public hearings scheduled for the second half of the year; Mary Weesner told Mark that we do not, but there are some we need to have this year. Mark asked Mary how many drains we need to hold a hearing for. Jim Todd and Mary Weesner told Mark the following drains need a hearing: South Marion Peterson, Fadley & Owl, Barren Creek and Taylor Creek all need hearings to set or raise the maintenance. Jim Todd informed the Board that the South Marion Peterson is ready for a hearing; the Board just needs to decide a rate. Richard Cox stated that he thought it was decided that all the hearings would be for \$10.00 per acre with a \$150.00 per home site for rates. Kenny Cates reminded the Board that the Fadley & Owl is in the hole for over \$30,000.00 and the acreage rate should be \$20.00 to \$25.00 per acre. Mark Bardsley asked Mary Weesner how soon they would be able to hold a hearing; Mary responded that in order for land owners to receive their notices of a hearing no sooner than 30 and no later than 40 days before a hearing, she recommended August 14, 2018. Richard Cox recommended that the Steelman Tile public hearing be held at the last meeting in August. While discussing the possible rate of \$10.00 per acre with a \$150.00 per home site rate, Mary Weesner stated that per Darren Bates, the home site rate cannot be over 3 times the acreage rate, meaning that they would need to advertise at \$30.00 per home site. Mark Bardsley told Mary that if that is a question, then they need to run that by the Drainage Board attorney; Mark asked Mary to contact Kyle Persinger regarding the home site rate. Pat Pinkerton added that if this rule is correct, then that messes up a lot of the rates that have been set, such as Crane Pond. Jim Todd recommended using a rate of \$10.00 for the minimum so that if someone has an empty lot next to their home site, they are not getting hit so badly for the empty lot. Pat Pinkerton stated that he is uncertain of a home site rate to make a motion to move forward with a public hearing. After a discussion, Mary Weesner stated that they could advertise at the higher rate of \$150.00 and she will contact the attorney in the meantime and if necessary, at the time of the hearing, the Board could lower the home site rate; Mark Bardsley agreed. Richard Cox questioned if the Stated Board of Accounts has ever said anything about over charging on the home sites; Mark

Bardsley stated that they have not. Pat Pinkerton made a motion to advertise the public hearing rate for the Steelman Tile at \$10.00 per acre, \$150.00 per home site and a minimum rate of \$10.00. The date for this hearing would be August 28, 2018. Seconded by Richard Cox, motion carried with support 4-0.

OTHER BUSINESS:

South Marion Peterson Tile

Mary Weesner asked if the Board was ready to set a date for the South Marion Peterson Tile yet; Jim Todd said that Mary is to bring the proposed rate on an assessment roll to the July 10th meeting and then the Board will set a date. Pat Pinkerton stated that hopefully we have an answer from our attorney about the home site rate; the Board may have to up the acreage rate in order to get the home site amount needed.

ADJOURN:

Pat Pinkerton made a motion to adjourn at 11:27 a.m.; Seconded by Kenny Cates; motion carried with support 4-0.

The next scheduled meeting to be held will be July 10, 2018 at 11:00 am

Minutes recorded by Mary R. Weesner

MINUTES APPROVED:

MARK BARDSLEY

ABSENT

GORDON GOUGH

RICHARD COX

KENNY CATES

PAT PINKERTON