

GRANT COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

401 South Adams Street
Marion, Indiana 46953

The Grant County Drainage Board meeting was held October 31, 2023 in the Grant County Council Chambers. Chairman Mark Bardsley called the meeting to order at 11:00 am. Other members present were Vice-Chairman Gordon Gough, Pat Pinkerton, Kenny Cates, and Grant County Surveyor Jim Todd. Richard Cox and Drainage Board secretary Mary Weesner were not in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Pat Pinkerton made a motion to approve the October 10, 2023 minutes as presented, seconded by Kenny Cates. Motion carried 4-0

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Connerstone \$924.96 Lugar Creek; \$82,447.09 in the fund
IMI Aggregates \$2,728.63 Lugar Creek; \$82,447.09 in the fund

Jim Todd informed the Board that Raymond Bair informed him that Mary Weesner had the wrong amount in the Lugar Creek maintenance fund, Raymond refigured the correct amount to be \$80,548.00.

Gordon Gough made a motion to approve the above claims as presented; seconded by Pat Pinkerton. Motion carried 4-0.

Kenny Cates

Bragg Excavating \$5,700.00 Pipe Creek; \$144,588.39 in the fund
Bragg Excavating \$8,040.00 Pipe Creek; \$144,588.39 in the fund

Pat Pinkerton made a motion to approve the above claims as presented, seconded by Gordon Gough. Motion carried, with support, 3-0 with Kenny Cates abstaining.

OLD BUSINESS:

Little Crane Pond

There is nothing new to discuss.

Potter Creek–David Morgan Jr–Maintenance request;
\$33,694.33 in the fund

Jim Todd stated that the headwall has already been cleaned and they are interested in the one going north to CR 500. Kenny Cates said that from his understanding, the one that goes north, through Middlesworth is full of dirt. Burl Worl approached the map, informing the Board where he did repair work on Potter Creek, he showed them where he put some laterals in and repaired a suck hole as well. Mr. Worl stated that he has talked with David Morgan and Mr. Worl showed the Board where Mr. Morgan wants to start to replace the 4,500 feet of 18" tile. Kenny Cates added that he is not sure how many people they have that agree to this because if you look at the watershed, this is a pretty good watershed. Jim Todd asked if they would like the landowners to be notified that they can come in for a discussion with the Drainage Board; Gordon Gough added that there really isn't enough money in the maintenance fund. Jim stated that there is a fall collection coming in yet. Raymond said that next year they could get it out of the red if Mr. Morgan pays for the laterals. Gordon Gough added that if they want to get it done, they need to get the money somewhere. Jim Todd said that there is some they would have to pay out of pocket. Mr. Worl passed around an estimate for the work needing done for \$75,600.00, it would cost an additional \$2.50 per foot to add stone, but he does not feel that the stone is necessary if it has a good profile. Pat Pinkerton asked Jim Todd about how often we get requests for Potter Creek; Jim responded that it has been holding up, maybe a few breaks every year. Kenny Cates stated that they may want to raise the ditch tax; Jim Todd responded that they could have a public hearing in the spring. Jim added that it is too late this year to hold a hearing so it would not collect new rate until the year 2025. Mr. Worl asked about where the Potter Ditch is, on the west side of State Road 13 where it travels back through the woods and goes to the headwall, that has already been updated, so to put it in perspective, you would be starting there and heading upstream. They have spent money downhill and are now going to work uphill. Gordon Gough stated that he doesn't want to pay the money out and then it takes a year to get collected and out of the red. Pat Pinkerton said that if someone comes in and needs done in the meantime, that will take money away from the fund. Gordon Gough added that the money is just not there, Kenny Cates agreed stating to come see them when they get enough money. Jim Todd

suggested that when the Mary Weesner returns, she could send out notices to the landowners to come and discuss the ditch tax. He added that the letter should also stated that if they are not able to attend, they could send a letter informing the Board what their opinions are. Pat Pinkerton asked that if we are not comfortable doing something with this now knowing it would be in the red until this time next year, does the Drainage Board just table this for now until the spring when we have more money in the fund? Mark Bardsley stated that the Board needs to table it or ask for another quote bring them back together and rediscuss this all over again. Jim Todd said that he would like to have the farmers and landowners come in and discuss this first before arbitrarily raising the ditch tax, he would like to hear their opinions. Mark Bardsley said that maybe we should table this with the caveat that we call a meeting of the landowners to discuss this; Jim Todd agreed. *Pat Pinkerton had to exit the meeting at this time, but there is still a quorum.

Mark Bardsley stated that we have a couple different scenarios, we hold off until the discussion and commitment until next year and have a bulk of it, there may be a way to draw some money from a different location to cover it. Gordon Gough made a motion that the Drainage Board table Potter Creek until somebody comes in and pursues how we are going to get this done. Seconded by Kenny Cates; motion carried 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

There is no new business to discuss

OTHER BUSINESS:

There is no other business to discuss

ADJOURN:

Kenny Cates made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Gordon Gough. Motion carried, with support, 3-0.

The next scheduled Drainage Board meeting to be held will be November 14, 2023 at 11:00 am and will be held in the Grant County Council Chambers.

Minutes recorded by:
Mary R. Weesner
Drainage Board Secretary

The Grant County Drainage Board has approved the minutes for October 31, 2023 as presented:

Mark Bardsley

Gordon Gough

*****ABSENT*****

Richard Cox

Kenny Cates

Pat Pinkerton