

GRANT COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

401 South Adams Street
Marion, Indiana 46953

The Grant County Drainage Board meeting was held September 24, 2024, in the Grant County Council Chambers. Chairman Mark Bardsley called the meeting to order at 11:00 am. Other members present were Vice-Chairman Richard Cox, Gordon Gough, Kenny Cates, Pat Pinkerton, Grant County Surveyor Jim Todd and Drainage Board Secretary Mary Weesner.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Kenny Cates made a motion to approve the minutes as presented from the September 10, 2024, meeting. His motion was seconded by Richard Cox and carried 4-0 with Gordon Gough abstaining due to not being present at the September 10th meeting.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Jim Todd read the claims as follows:

Amazon Capitol Services \$54.55 Offices Supplies; \$229.21 in the fund
Van De Water Farms \$634.38 Steelman; \$1,937.18 in the fund
Rogers Farm Drainage \$29,354.53 Ratliff Tile; \$29,592.40 in the fund

Gordon Gough made a motion to approve the above claims as presented; seconded by Pat Pinkerton and carried 5-0.

Kenny Cates to Abstain

L&W Cates Excavating \$458.25 Taylor Creek; \$248,664.62 in the fund

Richard Cox made a motion to approve the above claims as presented; seconded by Gordon Gough. Motion carried 4-0; Kenny Cates abstained due to having land on the Taylor Creek watershed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Little Crane Pond – Approval of resolution

Mark Bardsley asked Pat Pinkerton if he had any updates or comments from the utilities; Pat said that there is nothing new to report.

Middlefork – Waiving of Rights

Jim Todd informed the Board that he has heard back from Brian Bays, the Madison County Drainage Board president adding that Madison County has waived their rights. Jim said that they have sent an assessment roll for the two branches, but he stated that he has not received the Pollywalk assessment as of yet. Our Pollywalk is already on maintenance at \$10.00 per acre and the Waters is at \$10.00 too. Jim added that they think they should have a maintenance for the whole watershed at only \$1.00 per acre to keep it open, that would be 7,148 acres. He stated that he would like to have a public hearing at the first meeting in December, asking Mary Weesner if she could be ready. Jim Todd said that Madison County put their Pollywalk on maintenance on their own and we have ours on maintenance. We could have all the hearings on the same day for \$1.00 per acre. Richard Cox asked Jim what amount we will be charging Madison County on the Middlefork; Jim responded that it would be \$10.00. Mary Weesner asked Jim Todd about the charge for a homesite, Raymond Bair said “no homesite”, only acreage. Jim Todd said that he would like to get back with the Board, he would like to tie down the rate for a minimum on the other. Jim added that we have already accepted the petition, and we have just been waiting for Madison County to respond to our request to waive their rights, now that they have, we can now move forward with planning a public hearing.

NEW BUSINESS

County Ordinance

Jim Straws, Director of Area Plan is before the Board regarding the county ordinance. Mr. Straws stated that one of the first things that occurred when he first took over Area Plan recently was DNR

knocking on his door. DNR stated that the County has not updated their flood plain ordinance in quite a while; he is currently trying to tackle that project. Mr. Straws stated that he had talked to Randy Atkins who said that he thought the Drainage Board has made one. He passed out a copy of the ordinance that he has worked on to the Board members, adding that there are two flood plain maps, one is Indiana DNR and the other is FEMA. He said that they either need to adopt the old ordinance, which is outdated or adopt this one here. Kenny Cates asked him how much ground they have in the flood plain; Mr. Straws replied that he is not 100% sure and cannot answer that question. Mark Bardsley asked Mr. Straws if the Board is receiving this ordinance for informational purposes or does he want input from the Drainage Board; he responded that it was for informational purposes at this point, but if there is something there that you want to point out, he told them to feel free to give him a call or email and he will try to get them the answers that they need. He is not the one who wrote this, but he read through it, and he did not see anything that stands out. Mr. Straws stated that he had sent it out to legal counsel and there were no legal arguments with it. Richard Cox asked him how this is different from what they currently have; he responded that instead of going to one part of the ordinance to another, this puts it all in one place.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Big Deer Creek

Jim Todd stated that Don Wright has a little bit of spraying he needs done on some concrete and slurry, there are some small trees growing up on it, adding that it would only take a contractor about ½ hour or so to spray that. Richard Cox asked Jim if this was on the spray program; Jim responded that you couldn't reach this area, Richard then asked how they will reach it now. Kenny Cates told Jim Todd to call Redman Excavating and ask them.

Simmons Drain

Jim Todd stated that he has a call into the State Highway Department on the Simmons Drain and that we are going to end up with the water problem that is drained off of I-69 to ask for some help or assistance. If we get to SR 26, maybe we can talk them into

spending the money to put the crossing across so that the guys can tap into it on the south side. Jim Todd added that he left a detailed message and is going to give them a few days to digest this, he will call back in a few days.

ADJOURN:

Kenny Cates made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:33 am; seconded by Pat Pinkerton. Motion carried with support, 5-0.

The next scheduled Drainage Board meeting to be held will be October 8, 2024, 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 September 24, 2024, as presented:

Mark Bardsley

Richard Cox

Gordon Gough

Kenny Cates

Pat Pinkerton