

# GRANT COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

401 South Adams Street  
Marion, Indiana 46953

The Grant County Drainage Board meeting was held July 26, 2022 in the Grant County Council Chambers. Mark Bardsley, Chairman called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m. Other members present were Vice-Chairman Gordon Gough, Kenny Cates, Pat Pinkerton, Richard Cox, Grant County Surveyor Jim Todd and Drainage Board Secretary, Mary Weesner.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Since there was no quorum to vote on approval of the June 28, 2022 minutes at the July 12, 2022 meeting, it was voted on today. Kenny Cates made a motion to approve the June 28, 2022 minutes as presented; seconded by Pat Pinkerton. Motion was carried with support 3-0. Gordon Gough and Richard Cox abstained since they were not present at the June 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Kenny Cates made a motion to approve the July 12, 2022 minutes as presented; seconded by Richard Cox. Motion carried 4-0; Pat Pinkerton abstained as he was not present at the July 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:**

Jim Todd read the claims as follows:

Chronicle Tribune \$18.02 Aaron Newby; \$8,874.26 in the fund  
Tom's Excavating \$20,041.70 Unthank; \$19,217.87 in the fund  
J & M Farm Drainage \$16,557.37 Furman Tile; \$15,029.58 in the fund  
Cook Excavating \$2,475.40 Winger Ditch; \$25,449.02 in the fund  
Cook Excavating \$908.25 Sweetser Ditch; \$12,383.10 in the fund

Jim Todd explained that the ditches that are going into the red (Unthank & Furman Tile) will be collecting in the fall collection.

Richard Cox made a motion to approve the above claims as presented; seconded by Gordon Gough. Motion carried, with support, 5-0.

**\*\*\*Richard Cox to abstain\*\*\***

Drewry Simmons Vornehm \$385.00 Hummel; \$222,942.88 in the red

Gordon Gough made a motion to approve the above claim as presented; seconded by Pat Pinkerton. Motion carried, with support, 4-0; Richard Cox abstained due to owning land in the Hummel Creek water shed.

**\*\*\*Gordon Gough to abstain\*\*\***

Cates Brothers \$1,050.00 Big Deer Creek; \$43,410.27 in the fund  
Sullivan Excavating \$3,785.00 Back Creek; \$104,429.67 in the fund

Kenny Cates made a motion to approve the above claims as presented; seconded by Richard Cox. Motion carried, with support, 4-0; Gordon Gough abstained due to having land in the Big Deer Creek and Back Creek water sheds.

**\*\*\*Kenny Cates to abstain\*\*\***

Cates Brothers \$600.00 Pipe Creek; \$145,833.01 in the fund  
Bragg Excavating \$8,949.00 Pipe Creek; \$145,833.01 in the fund

Jim Todd added that the claim for Bragg Excavating is for work on Pipe Creek in Miami county removing very large log jams (there are pictures of the log jams in the Drainage Board office).

Gordon Gough made a motion to approve the above claims as presented; seconded by Pat Pinkerton. Motion carried, with support, 4-0; Kenny Cates abstained due to having land in the Pipe Creek water shed.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

Little Crane Pond – Approval of resolution

Mark Bardsley informed the Board that there is nothing new to report. Mark asked Pat Pinkerton if he had followed up about Ivanhoe and the sink holes; Pat stated that he hasn't gotten anywhere with it yet. He then asked Jim Todd if he has any records as to where it goes and what ties into it, they are trying to figure out if it can just be abandoned; Jim said that he thinks it dead ends somewhere down there, he feels that is the end of the tile down there. Pat Pinkerton said that if they could just seal it off and be done with it, then that is what they need to do. Pat is wanting it checked out to see if there is any kind of a swail. Jim Todd informed the Board that he has talked with

Eric Bragg about getting a mini-excavator and hauling that stuff out from behind the area of American Drive, Eric's estimate was \$51,000.00 to dip it out and haul off. Kenny Cates thinks that the Board needs to send this out for bids; Jim agreed.

### Hummel Creek

Gordon Gough asked how we are going to bill Mr. Ott and what is the process. Mark Bardsley explained to Gordon that is what our attorney is currently working on and we should be hearing from him soon. Mary Weesner explained that she has given the attorney all that he has asked for. Kenny Cates stated that he would like to add interest to the balance owed by Mr. Ott; Mark stated that the attorney is looking into that already.

### Solar Ordinance

There is nothing new to report.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

There is no new business to discuss.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### Doyle Ferguson –Harold Turner- Set public hearing date to lower rate

Jim Todd stated that a few years ago there was a public hearing that raised the rate to \$25.00 per acre and it has generated a lot of money and it has all been cleaned out recently. There is now \$31,838.00 in the maintenance fund. Jim added that he has a petition from Harold Turner requesting to have a public hearing to lower it to \$5.00 per acre, \$25.00 home site with a \$10.00 minimum. Mary Weesner stated that the earliest she could have the public hearing would be August 30, 2022. Mark Bardsley stated that when the Drainage Board started discussing the minimums on the homesteads, that the lowest threshold was \$50.00; Jim Todd added that the current rate is \$50.00 per home site. Mark added that there are so many others set at \$50.00, do we want to keep that as our threshold; Richard Cox asked Mary if she knew how many home sites there are, she told him that there are 13 home sites. Kenny Cates agrees with Mark Bardsley regarding leaving the home site at \$50.00. Raymond Bair added that Harold Turner would like to get the Doyle Ferguson on the spray program in the future. Kenny Cates made a motion to approve

the date of August 30, 2022 for a public hearing on the Doyle Ferguson with a rate of \$5.00 per acre, \$50.00 home site with a \$10.00 minimum for a four (4) year collection. Motion was seconded by Pat Pinkerton; motion carried 5-0.

### Trenching Ordinance

In regard to the trenching ordinance, Kenny Cates asked about if someone goes to the County Highway Department to get a permit to put fiber optic cable in, who do they see? Mark Bardsley responded that they would go to the office to get reviewed by either David or Tony. Mark added that they had a meeting yesterday with Spectrum and they are still asking to plow it in, and they said no, and it has to be chained in. Kenny Cates added that on 300, going into Roseburg, he ran across them putting in a fiber optic cable. The company doing it is from Ft. Lauderdale; they could not find anyone around here to do it. The side they are going on is Wendell Cates's property. Doug went through because he knew about where the tile was, they marked it where it goes across the road. When the company came in, they wanted to plow it and then they found out they could not plow it. They rented a couple of chaining machines that overheated because it was too hot. Now they're digging it with mini backhoes. Kenny added that they bumped the risers. He asked them if they got a county permit for this; they responded they did not know. Kenny Cates questioned about if they went out to the county highway department did a secretary just give them a permit. Mark Bardsley said that they had a phone conversation yesterday and Mark told them that it is not going to change. Commissioner Steve Wright added to the topic stating that there is no trigger for these groups, when they come in, to reach out to the utilities or Holy Moly; he also asked if the Drainage Board should be notified. Kenny Cates said that these companies will come in and locate the electric cables, but we do not have something on the ditches. He added that a lot of these tiles are 50 to 100 years old. Pat Pinkerton stated that if they contacted someone, then it would give Jim Todd notice that someone is going to be digging through and then it would be the matter of contacting the property owner to find out who the farmer is.

### **ADJOURN:**

Pat Pinkerton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:47 a.m.; seconded by Kenny Cates. Motion carried 5-0.

The next scheduled Drainage Board meeting to be held will be August 9, 2022 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  
July 26, 2022 as presented:*

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Mark Bardsley

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Gordon Gough

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Richard Cox

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Kenny Cates

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Pat Pinkerton