

GRANT COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

401 South Adams Street
Marion, Indiana 46953

The Grant County Drainage Board meeting was held June 11, 2024, in the Grant County Council Chambers. Chairman Mark Bardsley called the meeting to order at 11:02 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 from the May 14, 2024, meeting as presented; seconded by Richard Cox. Motion carried 4-0 with Pat Pinkerton abstaining since he was not in attendance on May 14, 2024.

Kenny Cates made a motion that there was no quorum on May 28, 2024, therefore there was no business, seconded by Pat Pinkerton. Motion carried 5-0.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Jim Todd read the claims as follows:

Enveart Construction \$437.00 Big Black Creek; \$174,829.50 in the fund
Enveart Construction \$12,542.50 Big Black Creek; \$174,829.50 in the fund
Blackford County Auditor \$12,492.95; Outbound drains
Wells County Auditor \$566.83; Outbound drains
Wabash County Auditor \$2,047.34; Outbound drains
Huntington County Auditor \$867.85; Outbound drains
Howard County Auditor \$9,064.39; Outbound drains
Grant County Treasurer \$8,671.77 Loans that can repay; Maintenance to GDIF
Cook Excavating \$570.00 South Prong of Dry Fork; \$4,708.26 in the fund

Pat Pinkerton made a motion to approve the claims listed above; seconded by Gordon Gough. Motion carried 3-0,

Kenny Cates to abstain

Cook Excavating \$1,650.00 Fadley Ditch of Pipe Creek; \$137,992.83 in the fund
Cook Excavating \$1,680.00 Pipe Creek; \$137,992.83 in the fund
Cook Excavating \$2,520.00 Pipe Creek; \$137,992.83 in the fund

Richard Cox made a motion to approve the claims listed above; seconded by Pat Pinkerton. Motion carried 4-0, with Kenny Cates abstaining due to having land in the Pipe Creek watershed.

*Pre-approval was given by Chairman – May 28, 2024

John's Repair Service \$2,577.50 Lugar Creek; \$93,601.61 in the fund

John's Repair Service \$1,235.00 Lugar Creek; \$93,601.61 in the fund

Mark Bardsley explained that the Chairman can do pre-approval and all the Board has to do is motion to ratify the pre-approval.

Pat Pinkerton made a motion to ratify the pre-approval of the claims listed above; seconded by Gordon Gough. Motion carried 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

Little Crane Pond – Approval of resolution

Mark Bardsley stated that he has the agreement from 2018 and it is going to go back to the attorney for review and put 2024 on it instead of 2018.

NEW BUSINESS

Aaron Newby – Drainage issues

Jim Todd passed a map to the Board members of the area in question; 275 E and Wheeling Pike. There is swampy land in the back of the property. There is an old tile that comes up to it. There are also private tiles that are full of mud. Randy Atkins had Joe Seward do work and it metered some of the mud line and that slowed some down. Joe went back and kind of fixed it some other way as they did not want to hook this mud tile into the new tile, but he bypassed the county tile that goes through the wet spot where the tile is really old. Jim Todd read the email that was sent to Mary Weesner from Adam Soultz regarding this problem and a copy is attached to these minutes in the Drainage Board office. Gordon Gough asked about the amount in the maintenance fund for the Aaron Newby; Mary Weesner told him \$ 2,435.00 in the fund and it will collect in the fall this year. Jim informed the Board that the rate has been raised to \$7.50 per acre, \$50.00 homesite with a \$50.00 minimum, which brings in about \$6,400.00 per year. Jim Todd said that he will look into this and return with a recommendation to the Board.

OTHER BUSINESS:

ARPA – Fund request

A copy of the request for the ARPA fund has been given to each Board member and a copy is attached to these minutes in the Drainage Board office. Mark Bardsley added that the request is for \$121,00.00 for ditch spraying, leaving \$79,000.00. Kenny Cates made a motion to affirm Jim Todd's letter to go to the commissioners asking for some of the ARPA fund that was designed to the Drainage Board. The motion was seconded by Gordon Gough and carried unanimously 5-0.

Taylor Creek

Kenny Cates brought up the topic of Nester's, Braggs Excavating is putting in some tile. Kenny added that Raymond Bair was there the previous day and saw a big gob of roots. He said he thought that we was doing good at putting copper sulfate in. Jim Todd had given the Board a copy of the Indiana Code 36-9-27-33 where it states that trees, shrubs and woody vegetation may not be planted in the right-of-way without the written consent of the Board, and trees and shrubs may be removed by the surveyor if necessary to the proper operation or maintenance of the drain. Kenny Cates stated that they planted small trees right over our tile. Jim Todd said that we cannot stop them from planting trees, but we have the right to remove them if there becomes a problem. Mark Bardsley added that either verbally or in written form, tell them that we have the right to remove them and not at our expense. Kenny Cates said that he will try to get with Moe Nester and talk this over, giving him a copy of the code, otherwise, he would like to bring up at the next meeting having our attorney send him a letter. Jim added that 20' or 30' feet of fence would block the implement store and the train tracks for the Nesters.

Gordon Gough stated that Adam Worl told him that somebody didn't trench, they plowed in. Gordon added that if David White gave them permission to. He does not know where it is at. Mark Bardsley said that the ordinance that we have states that you have to trench it in or bore. He added that he will reach out to David White and tell him he needs to call the company and tell them we will do a cease and desist order until they get it right.

ADJOURN:

Richard Cox made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:39 am; seconded by Pat Pinkerton. Motion carried with support, 5-0.

The next scheduled Drainage Board meeting to be held will be June 25, 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 June 11, 2024, as presented:

Mark Bardsley

Richard Cox

Gordon Gough

Kenny Cates

Pat Pinkerton