

GRANT COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

401 South Adams Street
Marion, Indiana 46953

The Grant County Drainage Board meeting was held July 30, 2024, in the Grant County Council Chambers. Chairman Mark Bardsley called the meeting to order at 11:13 am. Other members present were Vice-Chairman Richard Cox, Gordon Gough, Kenny Cates, Grant County Surveyor Jim Todd and Drainage Board Secretary Mary Weesner; Pat Pinkerton was not in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Kenny Cates made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 9, 2024, meeting as presented. Motion was seconded by Richard Cox, passing 4-0.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Jim Todd read the claims as follows:

Right of Way Management \$565.12 Big Black Creek; \$163,895.19 in the fund
Amazon Capital Services \$70.79 Office Supplies; \$300.00 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 to Abstain

Bragg Excavating \$21,302.00 Taylor Creek; \$266,875.92 in the fund

Richard Cox made a motion to approve the above claims as presented; seconded by Gordon Gough. Motion carried 3-0 with Kenny Cates abstaining due to having land in the Taylor Creek watershed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Little Crane Pond – Approval of resolution

There is nothing new to discuss.

Lomax Drain – Wendell Cates - \$51,043.10 in the fund

Doug Kingseed is present in place of Wendell Cates. Mr. Kingseed informed the Board that they would like to work on the north side of 38th Street and work their way south by cleaning those trees off and dredging it. He is estimating that it would take about another \$7,000.00 to finish all of that work. Richard Cox asked Mr. Kingseed if this included both of them; he responded that on the east side which is between Arbor Homes and Meijer, and that they have not yet received permission from Meijer, so they are still waiting on that. Jim Todd stated that he has read the minutes, and they had a hearing to relocate this drain, and Gene Johnson was there, and he was adamant that the Lomax Open Ditch was not to be vacated. Jim added that he talked to Pat Pinkerton last week and that Pat thinks the Lomax stops at the T right by the big pond and is the drain that goes all the way around the east. Nothing has been done and that pile of dirt was put there but it seems like, from reading the minutes, Gene Johnson said was to make sure that west tile kept drained. Jim feels that we are okay to keep maintaining both of them. Mr. Kingseed stated that the surface water that is in the Meijer parking lot has a surface drain that goes underneath the hill and is supposed to drain in the east side, and they have not found it. He wonders if it goes into the pond; Jim Todd said that he thinks it does. Kenny Cates made a motion to approve Doug Kingseed's request, not to exceed \$7,000.00; seconded by Gordon Gough. Motion carried, with support, 4-0. Kenny Cates added that in order to get in there because they can't get their excavator back there, they will need to rent a mini excavator with a long stick.

NEW BUSINESS

Brumfield Minnick –Dave Bettegnies-Maintenance request; \$72,512.27 in the fund

Dave Bettegnies is before the Board with a maintenance request for Brumfield Minnick. He stated that he is on the headwall of both the Brumfield Minnick and the Steelman. Jim Todd added that they had raised the rate a few years ago just for this purpose; Mr. Bettegnies agreed. He presented an estimate (attached to these minutes in the Drainage Board office) from Newhouse Excavating for \$68,898.00. Richard Cox made a motion to approve the estimate for work on the Brumfield Minnick Tile; seconded by Kenny Cates 4-0.

Steelman Ditch –Dave Bettegnies-Maintenance request; \$18,247.48 in the fund

Mr. Bettegnies presented an estimate (attached to these minutes in the Drainage Board office) from Newhouse Excavating for \$15,927.79. Kenny Cates made a motion to approve the estimate for work on the Steelman Tile; seconded by Gordon Gough. Motion carried with support 4-0.

Moriarity & McMahon –Mic Roush–Maintenance estimate; \$27,346.98 in the fund

Mic Roush has given the Board estimates from John's Repair Service (attached to these minutes in the Drainage Board office). Mr. Roush is asking that the Board approve estimates 1 & 2 (totaling \$37,535.00), stating that it would take it to State Road 5. Mr. Roush stated that he has a petition to raise the maintenance rate. Mark Bardsley added that this fund is about \$10,000.00 short if they agreed to do two of the estimates. Richard Cox asked Mr. Roush when they are wanting to do the work; Mr. Roush stated it would be this fall. Mary Weesner asked if they are wanting to hold a public hearing this year to raise the rate and if so, he will need to give her the petition so that she may proceed; Raymond Bair stated that he already had the signed petition. Mark Bardsley stated that the current rate is \$5.00 per acre, \$50.00 homesite with a minimum of \$10.00. Jim Todd stated that they have accepted the petition, but Mr. Roush needs to return with the desired rate and let them know if he wants the shut off at four or eight years. Mark Bardsley explained that you can always come down from the advertised rate, but you cannot go up. Richard Cox made a motion to approve the first two (2) quotes for the Moriarity & McMahon; seconded by Kenny Cates. Motion carried 4-0.

Big Deer Creek – Log jam; \$25,672.47 in the fund

Jim Todd informed the Board that they went out and looked at the log jam. He added that there are some power lines there and a fence, but he feels that they could get to it down the county road. Jim would like to talk to the landowner as he is not sure that there is room to burn there with the power lines so close, adding that they may need to take some trees down to get to it in order to stay in the easement. Gordon Gough asked whether they could just drag it out. Richard Cox recommended that they leave that up to the contractor. Jim stated that with the Board's permission, he can write the landowner a letter and explain the situation. Richard Cox made a motion to proceed with the removal of the log jam on Big Deer Creek. Motion was seconded by Kenny Cates and carried 3-0 with Gordon Gough abstaining due to owning land on the Big Deer Creek watershed.

Middlefork – Discussion

Jim Todd informed the Board that the one landowner in Grant County is also a Commissioner in Madison County, he had called Jim wanting to know where they were with the Middlefork. Jim stated that he has asked for an assessment roll twice from two different people and that he is waiting on that to figure the acreage. Per Indiana Drainage Code, we can ask them to waive their rights if we have at least 90% of the drain, we have 100% of the open ditch. Jim Todd is going to write him an official letter because Madison County does not want to waive their rights or have a joint board.

Sweetser Improvement & Enoch Lee – Estimate; \$82,477.83 in the fund

There is an estimate for the last 600 feet from John's Repair Service in the amount of \$6,337.00. This was approved at the previous meeting and John's Repair sent the estimate for the Board to know the amount to complete to the headwall.

Elliott Tile

Kenny Cates asked Doug Kingseed on State Road 9, what road is the Elliott Tile; Doug told Kenny that it is 600 S. Kenny added that Wendell Cates wants to put a tile across State Road 9 and that Wendell will take care of the State. Jim Todd stated that the Elliott Tile has a good natural fall and can handle the extra water. Kenny Cates made a motion to allow Wendell Cates to run a tile into Elliott Ditch. The motion was seconded by Gordon Gough; motion carried 4-0.

Little Newby (Tributary of Back Creek)

Raymond Bair stated that this is an open ditch that is west of Meridian Street and goes across SR 22. Jim Todd added that it goes across two yards and has a lot of trees; it needs dredged and some trees cut down. Jim asked Raymond if he had any pictures, he did not. Jim Todd told the Board that he would get some pictures and bring this back up to the Board later. Raymond informed the Board that it is Wendell Cates who wanted him to pursue this. Raymond added that a letter from the Drainage Board to get their attention or something. Jim said that if the Board gives him permission, he will start the letter. Jim asked Doug Kingseed to speak with Wendell and see which side the best is to work from. Jim said that he does not really want to clear cut, just cut the trees that are in the slope so that the landowners still have some trees. Jim Todd stated that he would like to meet with Wendell Cates first to get his opinion and then Jim could write a letter to the landowner to meet with them.

OTHER BUSINESS:

There is no Other Business to discuss

ADJOURN:

Kenny Cates made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:59 am; seconded by Richard Cox. Motion carried with support, 4-0.

The next scheduled Drainage Board meeting to be held will be August 13, 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 July 30, 2024, as presented:*

Mark Bardsley

Richard Cox

Gordon Gough

Kenny Cates

*****Not Present*****

Pat Pinkerton