

# GRANT COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

401 South Adams Street  
Marion, Indiana 46953

The Grant County Drainage Board meeting was held October 8, 2024, in the Grant County Council Chambers. Chairman Mark Bardsley called the meeting to order at 11:04 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:

Richard Cox made a motion to approve the minutes as presented from the September 24, 2024, meeting. His motion was seconded by Gordon Gough and carried 5-0.

## APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Jim Todd read the claims as follows:

Riddle Tree Service \$3,500.00 Isaiah Branch of Lugar Creek;  
\$138,140.78 in the fund

John's Repair Service \$6,927.00 Barren Creek; \$75,499.63 in the fund

John's Repair Service \$466.50 Barren Creek; \$75,499.63 in the fund

Chronicle Tribune \$32.51 Moriarty & McMahon; \$27,672.19 in the fund

Seward Excavating \$106,727.65 Simmons Tile; \$80,815.40 will be paid from ARPA Fund & the remaining \$25,912.25 will be paid from the General Drain Improvement Fund.

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

## OLD BUSINESS:

Little Crane Pond – Approval of resolution

There is nothing new to discuss.

Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance-  
Jim Straws, Director of Area Plan

Jim Todd stated that the Drainage Board needs to approve this so that Area Plan can move forward. Jim added that if we change it, then DNR will have to look it over again to approve or disapprove of our changes. He stated that he feels it is thorough enough, it is all about keeping people from putting something in the flood plain. Jim Straws, Director of Area Plan is present and is asking the Board for their input. He added that at the advice of their attorney, the way that it is written should be brought; Jim Todd states that he also agrees. Richard Cox made a motion to recommend that the Area Plan Commission follow the DNR plan for the flood damage prevention ordinance as written; seconded by Pat Pinkerton. Motion carried 5-0.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Moriarty & McMahon-Mic Roush, maintenance request for rip rap; \$27,672.19 in the fund

Mic Roush is present before the Board. Jim Todd informed the Board that Andy Rickner of John's Repair Service is working on a quote for rip rap. He added that they have found some erosion areas that need rip rap really bad. There is a public hearing on October 29, 2024, to raise the maintenance rate from \$5.00 per acre to \$10.00 per acre. Mic Roush stated that he took a look at them the day before and one of them is on the east side just before it enters Big Black Creek, a big tree has rotted and blown over and the root ball is inside of the ditch bank and on the west side there are a few places where water is coming in off of the field. He stated that there are three locations that need rip rap to prevent erosion. Mr. Roush added that Andy Rickner estimated that the cost would be about \$3,000.00. Jim Todd stated that the money for the rip rap would come from the General Drain Improvement Fund towards next year's draw. Pat Pinkerton made a motion to approve Mic Roush's request regarding rip rap not exceed \$3,000.00; seconded by Richard Cox. Motion carried, with support, 5-0.

## Big Black Creek

Mic Roush explained that Big Black needs a lot of attention. He added that there are a lot of downed trees either in it or along the sides and it needs to be dredged. Jim Todd told Mr. Roush that once the crops come off to tell them where they need to start. He said that they will send letters to the landowners letting them know that they will be on their property in the drainage easement, per the Indiana Code, they will be inspecting the ditch. Richard Cox asked if there is a good maintenance fund; Jim Todd said that it has a really good fund. Mary Weesner stated that there is \$165,937.77 in the Big Black Creek maintenance fund. Raymond Bair stated that the Moriarity & McMahan dumps into Big Black Creek and between there and State Road 5 there's a big wash right now that could be worked on. He added that Andy Rickner is right there, asking if the Board would be willing to allow Rickner to work on it while he is right there. Mr. Bair also asked how much in each location are they willing to preapprove without coming to the Board each time? Jim Todd added that if the Board is okay with it, allow them to handle it and fix it. Mic Roush stated that the crops are off on both sides now. Jim added that he will have Andy Rickner get ahold of the landowner to let them know we will be coming in to get rid of the logs and rip rap along their property.

## **OTHER BUSINESS:**

### Big Deer Creek

Gordon Gough asked about CR 800; Raymond Bair said that Mitch Cook is on it. Jim Todd stated that Mitch Cook will talk with the landowner (Dixie Conner)

### Solar Ordinance

Jim Todd informed the Board that at the last meeting for the APC (Area Plan Committee) there was a discussion of the 300' easement. He added that there was a farmer there that is in favor of solar. Jim said that where his tile is, is flat and will not need to be moved; adding that we do not need to have 300' at every water shed. Basically, that decision would be made for each instance. After a discussion, Mark Bardsley reminded the Board that there is a

checklist that they have to show where any mutual drains are and if they find them, to our satisfaction, they have to meet our criteria before they can even go back to Area Plan to move forward. Kenny Cates added that the bad part about this whole thing is that he doubts there is about 25% of the farmers that don't understand drainage, Gordon Gough agreed adding that they do not even know where their water goes.

**ADJOURN:**

Kenny Cates made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:41 am; seconded by Richard Cox. Motion carried with support, 5-0.

The next scheduled Drainage Board meeting to be held will be October 29, 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 October 8, 2024, as presented:*

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**Mark Bardsley**

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**Richard Cox**

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**Gordon Gough**

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**Kenny Cates**

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**Pat Pinkerton**