

# GRANT COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

401 SOUTH ADAMS STREET  
MARION, INDIANA 46953

The Grant County Drainage Board meeting was held January 28, 2020 in the Grant County Council Chambers. Mark Bardsley, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m. Other members present were Gordon Gough, Richard Cox and Grant County Surveyor Jim Todd. Kenny Cates and Pat Pinkerton were not present.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Richard Cox made a motion to approve the January 14, 2020 minutes as presented. Seconded by Gordon Gough; motion carried with support 3-0.

## **APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:**

Jim Todd presented the claims as follows:

Grant County Treasurer \$1,055.44; Loan; GDIF to Maintenance

Grant County Treasurer \$281.51; Repayment; Maintenance to GDIF

Chronicle Tribune \$33.23 Doyle Ferguson; \$17.47 in the red

Chronicle Tribune \$33.82 Sweetser Imprv/Enoch Lee; \$17.47 in the red

Wells County Auditor \$327.59 Joint Drain Collection; \$327.59 in the fund

Blackford County Auditor \$1,798.01 Joint Drain Collection; \$1,798.01 in the fund

Howard County Auditor \$1,547.70 Joint Drain Collection; \$1,547.70 in the fund

Huntington County Auditor \$463.09 Joint Drain Collection; \$463.09 in the fund

Wabash County Auditor \$1,260.85 Joint Drain Collection; \$1,260.85 in the fund

Gordon Gough made a motion to approve the above claims as presented; seconded by Richard Cox. Motion carried 3-0.

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

Drewry Simmons \$82.50 Hummel Creek; \$133,185.77 in the red

Gordon Gough made a motion to approve the claim as present; Seconded by Mark Bardsley. Motion carried with support 2-0; Richard Cox abstained since he has land in the Hummel Creek water shed.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

Little Crane Pond – Approval of resolution  
There is nothing new to report.

Hummel Creek

Gordon Gough asked if there are any updates on the litigation process regarding Hummel Creek. Mark Bardsley informed him that they will hold an executive session regarding litigation tactics. Mark would like to hold this meeting prior to the next Drainage Board meeting on February 11, 2020 at 10:30. He added that they would discuss options in the executive session, making no decisions until the regular meeting following the executive session. Mary Weesner will contact Kyle Persinger, attorney to assist in the notice preparation.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Spurgeon Tile – Josh Carey – Estimate, \$4,136 in the fund  
Fund is currently shut off – brings in \$918.90 per year

Jim Todd informed the Board that Josh Carey has an estimate for \$4,330.00 to put some new outlet pipe at the end of the drain. Jim added that there is \$4,136 in the Spurgeon Tile maintenance fund.

Jim said that the maintenance collects \$1.75 per acre and a minimum of \$5.00 for a four year shut-off collection. Jim Todd stated that they were putting some tiling in and discovered that it is rusted out at the head wall. They would like to put a 30" in for sixty feet; it would go beside the old worn out concrete head wall. This tile is over loaded and the landowners have talked about replacing it but they would have to raise the rate. Mark Bardsley stated that there is not enough in the fund to cover the estimate; Jim Todd agreed, adding that they could borrow from the General Drain Improvement Fund. Jim added that this fund is shut off and not collecting this year, Mark Bardsley added that it will be about \$500.00 short. Gordon Gough figured that someone would be present at the meeting, but there wasn't anyone. Gordon added that he has talked with Josh Carey. He feels that the land owners should have figured out what they need to put in and how far they can bring it lower in the ditch so that they may have more fall. He added that it is their money to spend. Gordon Gough added that he has mixed emotions about approving this; Jim Todd informed Gordon that they do need an outlet pipe. He added that they could pool their money together and extend the 30" pipe up to the road. Gordon stated that there are roughly 500 acres; he feels that it would only need a 24" tile to drain 500 acres, not a 30" tile. Jim Todd said that he does not want to come up with a new rate; this is something that the land owners need to come up with. Gordon Gough feels that they need to come to a meeting and approach the Board, not just send in the bill.

Richard Cox made a motion to allow Josh Carey to do this work on the Spurgeon tile, up to the amount in the Spurgeon Tile maintenance fund. Seconded by Gordon Gough, motion carried, with support, 3-0.

Farley Ditch –Blockage at head wall, \$1,655 in fund (Spring Collection 968.24)

Jim Todd stated that on the Farley Ditch, Josh Carey brushed and dredged it last season, and then Mitch Cook worked to get the water off of from a land owner and got the water from a man's

woods. Jim added that Enyeart Excavating is out there working right now. They had to stack trees across the creek because of the lane. Jim showed the Board on a map what areas still need dredged and brushed. Jim added that we have not received that invoice yet, stating that it is being charged by the hour. Brian Cates had gone out to fix the tile on the end for Steve Richey. Now, the water is to the top of the tile. Jim Todd said that with the Board's approval, he would like to send these land owners notice, along with a copy of the drainage easement, that his office needs to run some elevations. After this is done, the land owners can decide how they are going to come up with the money. Jim said that the only way to fix the farmer's problems would be to clear cut an access path. There is a concern with all the dead ash trees that need to come down, there is some kind of pole building in the easement that was put in there in the 1980's without the Drainage Board's approval; this becomes a concern when dropping trees. Jim Todd showed Gordon Gough on the map that there are several buildings in the drainage easement. The Board has consented to Jim's request.

## **OTHER BUSINESS:**

### Maintenance Billing-Board approval

Mary Weesner presented the Drainage Board with the list of drains that need to collect starting spring 2020.

Gordon Gough made a motion to accept the maintenance billing for 2020 as presented. Seconded by Richard Cox; motion carried with support, 3-0.

### Back Creek

Eric Wright is before the Board asking for approval to remove three beaver dams along Back Creek. Mr. Wright added that they have gotten rid of the beavers.

Richard Cox made a motion to allow Eric Wright to work in our right of way on Back Creek to clear the beaver dams. Seconded by Mark Bardsley, motion carried with support 2-0 with Gordon Gough abstaining due to owning land in the Back Creek water shed.

**ADJOURN:**

Gordon Gough made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:28 am; seconded by Richard Cox. Motion carried with support 3-0.

The next scheduled Drainage Board meeting to be held will be February 11, 2020 at 11:00 am

Minutes recorded by Mary R. Weesner

*Minutes approved:*

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MARK BARDSLEY

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GORDON GOUGH

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RICHARD COX

\*\*\*ABSENT\*\*\*

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KENNY CATES

\*\*\*ABSENT\*\*\*

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PAT PINKERTON