

GRANT COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

401 South Adams Street
Marion, Indiana 46953

The Grant County Drainage Board meeting was held June 13, 2023 in the Grant County Council Chambers. Chairman Mark Bardsley called the meeting to order at 11:02 am. 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:

Kenny Cates made a motion to approve the May 30, 2023 minutes as presented. Seconded by Richard Cox. Motion carried 3-0, Mark Bardsley and Pat Pinkerton abstained as they were not at the May 30, 2023 meeting.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Chronicle Tribune \$30.26 Aaron Newby (2022); \$6,774.54 in the red
Chronicle Tribune \$30.26 Doyle Ferguson (2022); \$43,943.19 in the fund
Newhouse Excavating \$349.20 N. Branch of Waters; \$8,314.04 in fund
Tom's Excavating \$705.00 Wm. Losure Drain; \$10,420.63 in the fund
Grant County Treasurer \$26,466.75; Loan from GDIF to Maintenance
Bragg Excavating \$2,456.00 Ashley Smith; \$4,060.47 in the fund
Cook Excavating \$805.00 So. Prong/Dry Fork; \$3,704.02 in the fund
Cook Excavating \$1,220.00 Cart Creek; \$17,913.14 in the fund
Brad Atkins \$400.00 Simmons Tile; \$85,964.17 in the fund

Richard Cox made a motion to approve the above claims as presented. Seconded by Pat Pinkerton; motion carried 5-0.

Kenny Cates to Abstain

Newhouse Excavating \$1,625.00 Pipe Creek; \$132,741.62 in the fund
Cook Excavating \$2,167.50 Pipe Creek; \$132,741.62 in the fund
Cook Excavating \$2,935.50 Pipe Creek; \$132,741.62 in the fund

Gordon Gough made a motion to approve the above claims as presented. Seconded by Pat Pinkerton; motion carried 4-0 with Kenny Cates abstaining due to owning land in the Pipe Creek watershed.

Gordon Gough to Abstain

Chronicle Tribune \$15.84 Milner Moon; \$27,497.57 in the fund

Kenny Cates made a motion to approve the above claim as presented. Seconded by Richard Cox; motion carried 4-0 with Gordon Gough abstaining due to owning land in the Milner Moon watershed.

Jim Todd informed the Board that there is another claim that was not on the agenda, therefore it was not voted on. The claim is as follows:

Enyeart Construction \$28,000.00 Monroe Ditch of Lugar Creek; \$183,000.00 in the maintenance fund.

Richard Cox made a motion to pay the Enyeart Construction claim as presented; Seconded by Gordon Gough. Motion carried 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

Little Crane Pond

There is nothing new to discuss

Hummel Creek

Mark Bardsley wanted to inform the Board that he received a communication from Gary Ott's attorney stated that Mr. Ott would like to meet with him in reference to some items that are going on; one being the parcel changes. Mark Bardsley stated to the Board that he respectively declined.

Jim Todd stated that the email states that he (Jim Todd) had put a lien on Gary Ott's property, he added that he has not put a lien on the property. Jim said that there is a ditch assessment added following the public hearing.

NEW BUSINESS:

Monroe Ditch – Matt Taylor, maintenance request; \$185,520.37 in the Lugar Creek fund

Jim Todd stated that this is to finish up, work would be done on the Waltz Jr Farm, the Taylor farm and the Lawhorn farm. They have a request to have Enyeart Construction to continue from CR 1000 E all the way to State Road 18. This is for brushing, dredging, and leveling the spoil for \$34,803.00, there is a break down listed on estimate for each property. Jim added that this was done as a reconstruction around 1981. Kenny Cates made a motion to have Enyeart Construction to finish up the project; seconded by Gordon Gough. Motion carried 5-0.

Nesbit Tile

Mary Weesner informed the Board that Doug Carey turned in a petition for a public hearing. Mary added that she would like to suggest August 8, 2023 for a hearing date. The petitioner would like to see the rate per acre at \$10.00 instead of the current \$1.50, homesite for \$25.00 with a minimum rate 10.00. Richard Cox made a motion to approve the request for a public hearing on August 8, 2023 with the proposed rates of \$10.00, homesite for \$25.00 with a minimum rate 10.00 with a four year collection cap. Seconded by Pat Pinkerton; motion carried 5-0.

Lugar Creek

Jim stated that he has talked to Nate Titus where Lugar Creek outlets into the river; Jim gave him the ok to pick out about 11 logs from down in there. Mark Bardsley asked if we will be receiving a bill for this work, Jim said that we will be billed.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Dry Fork Ditch – Wendell Cates

Jim Todd informed the Board there was a reconstruction in 1985. He added that his office has been updating the assessment roll and watershed map up to State Road 37. Jim said that when this is all done, Mary Weesner will apply the rates and bring this before the Board so that the Board may set up for a public hearing so that we may have a collection coming in on the Dry Fork next year. Jim Todd stated that the other petition, regarding legalizing the drain. To legalize it from State Road 37 to Glendale Lake would be a lengthy process and does not know about Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) and Army Corps process may be. Jim added that he has a petition he received that has a group of signatures to support immediate funds for removal of beavers from Glendale Lake. Jim Todd said that he talked to officer Neargardener and as long as you can prove that the beavers are creating damage, you can take them out of season or get a nuisance trapper. Wendell Cates is before the Board stating that the main thing, he would like to discuss is going through the process of legalizing the area from State Road 37 to Glendale Lake. He added that he has talked to the airport, they don't see any problem of giving them their right of way to go through there and the majority of this is on their right of way. Jim Todd stated that to make it a legal drain to the lake; Wendell added that he needed to come to their Board meeting on July 6, 2023 and they told him that they did not see any reason that they would not give him 75' of easement. Wendell said that their biggest issue at the time is the beavers in the open ditch before you get to Glendale. He is aware that Glendale has a very large beaver dam. Wendell has talked to the homeowner's association, he met with a couple of them the previous day, and it is all negotiable. Richard Cox asked if it is not our drains, we cannot take the beavers out; Jim Todd told him that we cannot remove them, but they can. Wendell informed the Board that he had put a call into IDEM the previous day to get permission to see what he could do with the beavers in the open ditch; he got a recording stating that either IDEM or Army Corp will call him back according to the message. Jim Todd said that he would be happy to join Wendell when they meet out there. He added that the concrete

dam, if it was to come out and let mother nature restore the channels through there, it would dry up. It is only a wetland because the dam busted. Wendell asked if the Board has authority to get someone to remove the beavers from the creek; Jim responded that the Board does not have the authority. Mark Bardsley stated that if the airport is giving him authority to act on their behalf, he would just need to clear it with IDEM and go from there; Jim Todd agreed. Gordon Gough inquired as to where the money will come from to trap the beavers; Wendell Cates stated that there are farmers that sign an agreement that they would help pay. Wendell asked if they could have a hearing on the rest of it before the creek is legalized. Jim responded yes that the other petition to put a maintenance on it could happen fairly quick. Jim added that he has talked to a lady and that he is going to have Mitch Cook of Cook Excavating show up because she has corn stubble in the ditch, and she is worried.

Tom (last name inaudible), the president of Glendale Lake is present before the Board. He stated that he has lived out there for thirty years or so. He added that 5 or 6 years ago it would have been \$250,000.00 to replace the dam. The 54 owners are not interested, at this point, to spend \$250,000.00 to build a dam. Tom does not feel that replacing the dam is the best thing to do. He added that what they are really concerned about is the drainage. They have declared it a wetland. Tom agreed with Jim Todd about removing the existing dam and allow it flow to its natural state. Tom had stated that they had a grant for about \$40,000.00 to turn it into a prairie land, but the problem is when you have a cement spillway and a fluxuation of water. Jim Todd asked him if there is any funding to take the concrete out; Tom said not really. Tom said that there is a lady that recently purchased her home and when there is a significant rain, her toilets do not work; she stated that 2 of the 3 toilets wont work. Jim Todd stated that he had an engineer, Jorge Camacho, out there years ago and that they found a line on the far western Scott Drive and he knew about the one that runs up the middle. Anywhere you know that tile is, and there's a tree, some people need to cut those trees down and there is going to be tree roots. Mark Bardsley stated that the county will be doing an overall average median income thing that may set them up for future OKRA grants. He added that he is not sure we can get this sub-division to apply for OKRA grant to help with this drainage situation or not. Mark recommended that Tom get the homeowners

together and tell them if we want to draw water off of their sub-division, then they are going to have to raise their association rate because all of their drainage there is private.

ADJOURN:

Kenny Cates made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:01 pm; seconded by Pat Pinkerton. Motion carried 5-0.

The next scheduled Drainage Board meeting to be held will be June 27, 2023 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 13, 2023 as presented:

Mark Bardsley

Gordon Gough

Richard Cox

Kenny Cates

Pat Pinkerton