

GRANT COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

401 South Adams Street
Marion, Indiana 46953

The Grant County Drainage Board meeting was held September 12, 2023 in the Grant County Council Chambers. Chairman Mark Bardsley called the meeting to order at 11:00 am. Other members present were Vice-Chairman Gordon Gough, Richard Cox, 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 August 29, 2023 minutes as presented; seconded by Mark Bardsley. Motion carried 3-0, Richard Cox abstained since he was not present at the August 29th meeting.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Jim Todd read the claims as follows;

John's Repair Service \$3,415.00 Massey Drain; \$1,452.06 in the red
IMI Aggregates \$1,218.73 Lugar Creek; \$125,306.56 in the fund
IMI Aggregates \$1,149.43 Lugar Creek; \$125,306.56 in the fund
IMI Aggregates \$760.63 Lugar Creek; \$125,306.56 in the fund
IMI Aggregates \$78.93 Solms Ditch; \$4,770.92 in the fund
Connerstone Enterprise \$1,329.18 Lugar Creek; \$125,306.56 in the fund

Jim Todd added that the Board had previously discussed Massey Drain fund and will be raising the maintenance assessment by 25% per the request of Frank Hix.

Gordon Gough made a motion to approve the above claims as presented. Seconded by Richard Cox, motion carried 4-0.

Gordon Gough to Abstain

Roger's Farm Drainage \$62,513.96 Powers Drain; \$54,739.67 in fund

Jim Todd informed the Board that there are still landowners that will be contributing. With the contributions and the fall collection,

the Powers Drain fund should bounce back. Richard Cox made a motion to approve the above claim as presented, seconded by Kenny Cates. Motion carried, with support, 3-0 with Gordon Gough abstaining due to having land on the Powers Drain.

OLD BUSINESS:

Little Crane Pond

There is nothing new to discuss. Mark Bardsley stated now that Hummel Creek issue is behind us, we can get to work on the Little Crane Pond issue.

NEW BUSINESS:

There is no new business to discuss.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Crane Pond–Mark Bardsley-Update on Keefe property on Chapel Pike

Mark Bardsley stated that they have been working hard on Ms. Keefe issue. He added that they agreed that the City was going to buy the pipe and that the Grant County Highway Department was going to install. Mark said that they found out that there are utilities there, we have worked around the concept of a fiber optic line, but then they found out that there is also a 6" gas pipe there and they are not allowing us to work around that. Mark Bardsley went on to explain that there is a small culvert at that hot spot, asking why we can't put a couple more beside it through some design that it would allow the water to stay off of the road and relieve some pressure.

Fiber Optics – Gordon Gough-Issue with boring

Gordon Gough stated that he had received a call regarding CR 600 S and 700, they were boring in right of way. Gordon added that he talked to David White of the Highway Department and they had applied but didn't follow the deal, the plan called for an open chain. Mark Bardsley stated that he would have to go through the Commissioner's ordinance, but asked if we have a fine associated

with this? Kenny Cates added that if you see them boring, you need to call David White. Mark Bardsley agreed with Kenny, adding that David has the authority and he can do the policing. Kenny stated that the person at the Highway Department that is giving the permits is not telling them. Mark asked Jim Todd if they are putting in fiber optics and they are coming through our right of way, aren't they supposed to ask us permission to work in our right of way? Jim responded that they are supposed to and also that David White has a copy of the drainage easements of the regulated county drains, we do not have the private drains. Mark Bardsley said he will talk to David White.

Kenny Cates brought up the topic of the solar issue. He said that he had a meeting with John Marden(?) from a solar place. Kenny said that he has contacted Kenny about four times in the last month. Kenny told him that he is not very happy with the way they are doing this. He added that he is 100% against solar and he is against them putting them in over the tile, it may be 100 years old. They will tell you that they will come back and repair a tile. Kenny Cates told him that if you are going to put solar over tile, they may have to come in and put in a new tile. He said that the 75' wont work. He said Gordon Gough told him that on the Powers Drain they were probably 150' off of the original tile, to get enough depth. Mark Bardsley added that if they come in, they will also have to mark all mutual drains that are on the property, which is part of our requirement. If they don't mark it and we don't check it off, it won't make it to the APC (Area Plan Commission). He added that we will not send them up to Area Plan if they do not meet our requirements. Kenny Cates said that concerned farmers are going to get a good drainage attorney to write up an appendix to put in the lease, adding that it has to be 150' from a county tile. Ryan Malott, attending via WebEx, stated that if they drainage laws are anything like his building laws are, and you are wanting to go to 150' instead of 75', for his building laws they are to be equal to the state code. They are allowed to be greater than the state code, but you have to go to the state for approval. Mark Bardsley stated that the agreement would not be with us, but between the landowners and the solar company, it is nothing that we are imposing.

ADJOURN:

Gordon Gough made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:48 am; seconded by Richard Cox. Motion carried 4-0.

The next scheduled Drainage Board meeting to be held will be September 26, 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 September 12, 2023 as presented:

Mark Bardsley

Gordon Gough

Richard Cox

Kenny Cates

*****ABSENT*****

Pat Pinkerton