

Wells County Drainage Board Minutes
Tuesday-January 18, 2022 8:30 A.M.

The Wells County Drainage Board met in a regular scheduled meeting at the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223W. Washington St., Multi-Purpose Room 105, (Lower Level), Bluffton, Indiana.

Drainage Board members present: Voting members Blake Gerber, Michael K. Vanover, Jeff Stringer; Attorney Colin Andrews, Engineer Nate Rumschlag, Surveyor Jarrod Hahn, Secretary Diana Collins.

Determination of Quorum:

A quorum was present for the meeting.

Minutes:

Mr. Gerber opened the Drainage Board meeting with the first item on the agenda to approve the Board's regular meeting minutes on January 3, 2022.

Mr. Vanover motioned to approve the Drainage Board regular meeting minutes on January 3, 2022 as submitted. Mr. Stringer 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber motion carried 3-0.

Fryback Tile Drain-Union Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that the Fryback tile drain in Union Township, section 12, range 11E south of 1100N on Meridian Road has been breaking down and is in bad shape. Hahn would like to replace about 1200 feet with 18-inch tile crossing Meridian Road where water over the road is an issue. Hahn noted he has a one quote from a contractor that is working about 2 miles from this location. Hahn asked the Drainage Board members if one quote is ok or would they prefer to have more. The Board members all agreed to ask for a couple more quotes.

Project Updates:

2021/2022 Drainage Projects Projection Cost Information:

Mr. Hahn presented a detail spreadsheet of last year's (2021) and 2022 drainage projects with their location, approval of watershed funds and landowner cost. Hahn mentioned these projects are possible due to the landowners helping with cost and watershed funds. Hahn also noted the county highway maybe involved with a share-cost of that project and road cut and/or pipe replacement. The Group project listing shows that landowners are very active in the cost as well as the maintenance fund contributing. Hahn noted that some of these projects may be up to more than 1 year before they happen due to negotiating on how much they want to replace and its financing, therefore boxes are left empty. Hahn mentioned that this sheet changes constantly with added projects during the year depending on funding. Hahn mentioned that there are a few projects that are about to be installed as soon as the tile is on site and contractor is available, and as always weather permitting.

Allen County Joint Drain 5th Member:

Mr. Hahn noted that he will be attending a Joint Board meeting with Allen County Surveyor's office to be the 5th on a joint drainage board between Allen and Dekalb County on January 27th. Hahn noted that there is a 3rd County, but they waived their rights to the hearing so the hearing will be set-up as between two counties.

INDOT Early Coordination Meeting-124 Resurfacing Project:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that he will be attending a meeting with INDOT officials in Fort Wayne tomorrow morning on the 124 State Road resurface project scheduled in 2024. Hahn noted he will be collecting data for the tiles and cornerstone maps along State Road 124 from State Road 116 through Wells County to State Road 3 in Huntington County.

Continued January 18, 2022

2022 Legislature Bills:

Mr. Hahn highlighted on a couple of legislative language from the House and Senate bills that may be important to the Board members as follows:

HB-1036 Authored by Rep. Mike Aylesworth -

Watershed Development Commissions. Watershed development commissions. Provides that the executives of one or more counties may adopt ordinances designating their counties as members of a proposed watershed development commission and that the watershed development commission is established as a legal entity with the counties as its members if it is recognized by the natural resources commission.

SB-85 Authored by Sen. Jean Leising, Sen. Susan Glick, Sen. Jeff Raatz-
Drainage task force. Establishes a drainage task force consisting of six members of the senate, six members of the house of representatives, and six other individuals.

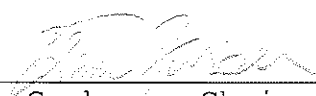
Wells County Engineer Nate Rumschlag Stormwater Report:

Mr. Rumschlag reported that the stormwater improvement project in the Town of Murray is moving along and not getting permits. Also, Rumschlag will be scheduling a hearing hopefully in March.


Adjournment:

Mr. Vanover motioned to adjourn the Drainage Board meeting at 8:56 a.m. Mr. Stringer 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber motion carried 3-0.


Next regular scheduled Drainage Board meeting is Monday-February 7, 2022.


Blake Gerber - Chairman


Michael K. Vanover - Vice Chairman


Jeff Stringer - Member
WELLS COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

ATTEST:



Diana L. Collins
WELLS DRAINAGE BOARD SECRETARY