

Wells County Drainage Board Minutes
Monday-October 18, 2021 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; Engineer Nate Rumschlag, Surveyor Jarrod Hahn, Secretary Diana Collins. Attorney Roy Johnson was absent.

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 October 4, 2021.

Mr. Vanover motioned to approve the Drainage Board regular meeting minutes on October 4, 2021 as submitted. Mr. Stringer 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

Drain Project Update:

Garrett Tile Drain-Jackson Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that the contractor has completed replacing about 1700 feet of the Garrett tile in Jackson Township, section 35, range 10E around 1200S and State Road 3 next week. Hahn noted he has contacted County Highway supervisor Shawn Bonar to put a pipe across 1200S. Hahn explained that our south and east county roads are Wells County to take care of, and the north and west county road are to be take care of by the adjoining county which are Allen and Huntington counties. Hahn also mentioned on joint drains are made up by the adjoining counties, and a county can waive their right to hearing is it has less than 90 percent of affected landowners. The joint board members are made up by the affected two or more counties and the county that hold the greatest length of the drain has jurisdiction, also all joint boards have a 5th member which is usually a jointing county Surveyor that the hearing does not affect his/her county. Mr. Rumschlag mentioned that he has a similar situation in today's meeting with the Adams County Drainage Board about replacing a pipe on the east county line road 800E which Adams County has jurisdiction on that road.

Mulligan Open Drain-Nottingham Township:

Hahn mention that he had a contractor do a bottom cleaned out on a portion of the Mulligan open drain in Nottingham Township, section 21, range 12E south of 900S between 200E and 250E. Hahn added that this is in preparation of a landowner systematically tiling his field and will be replacing a portion of the Lockwood tile regulated drain.

Liberty Tile and Tile Prongs-Liberty Township:

Hahn mentioned the Sewer Project that is going on in the Town of Liberty Center he has been working with the contractor on locating where the regulated tiles cross the road and its condition. Hahn mentioned they are working on county road 300W (old 303) on the north side of the railroad tracks in Town, and also noted that there are 3 other regulated tiles on the south side of the railroad tracks as well.

Fiscal Policy Tax Summer Study Committee Hearing:

Mr. Hahn mentioned he attended the Fiscal Policy Tax Summer Study Committee hearing at the State House last week. Hahn noted he had 15 minutes to do a presentation and testify on the River Basins Commissions, policies, requirements, and the new changes and development of the Commission Boards with watershed basin fees. Hahn mentioned that Senator Travis Holdman was the Chairman of the committee who is also from Wells County. Hahn and the Board had extended discussion on other river basin commissions, what they do, States that have joint commissions, their cost and if they have a director. Hahn mentioned in the Salamonie River has no commission, as the Wabash River does have a commission, but the County has a fund through his office to take out dead fall, leaners and logjams out of the rivers. Hahn also mentioned that the cost to take out one logjam almost depletes the whole fund. Hahn mentioned to see his presentation is on the General Assembly website in the video archives for the Interim Study Committee on Fiscal Policy on October 13th.

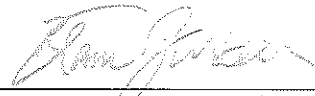
Wells County Engineer Nate Rumschlag Report:

Mr. Rumschlag reported that he and Mr. Bonar will be looking at two culvert pipes that appear to be damaged and need replaced. Mr. Rumschlag noted one is on 700S between Meridian Road and 100W., and the other is on 800N between 100W and 200W.


Adjournment:

Mr. Vanover motioned to adjourn the Drainage Board meeting at 8:55 a.m. Mr. Stringer 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

Next regular scheduled Drainage Board meeting is Monday-November 1, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.


Blake Gerber - Chairman


Michael K. Vanover - Vice Chairman


Jeff Stringer - Member
WELLS COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

ATTEST: 