

Wells County Drainage Board Minutes  
Monday-October 7, 2019 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, Kevin Woodward, Tamara Robbins; Attorney Roy Johnson; 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 September 3, 2019.

Dr. Robbins motioned to approve the Drainage Board regular meeting minutes on September 3, 2019 as submitted. Mr. Woodward 2<sup>nd</sup>. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

Norris, Helms, Babcock, Blair Joint Watershed-Liberty Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that Huntington County Surveyor's office had called and wants to hold a joint hearing on the Norris, Helms, Babcock and Blair maintenance assessment scheduled for Thursday-November 21, 2019 at 11:00 therefore will need two representatives from Wells County to serve on the joint board. Hahn mentioned the watershed located in Liberty Township, sections 7,8,17,18,19 and 30, Range 11E and affects 1,277 acres with 43 parcels. Mr. Woodward and Dr. Robbins volunteered to serve as joint board members. Hahn noted the board members will be notified in detail by Huntington County who holds jurisdiction over the funds. Hahn mentioned the affected landowner's names/addresses have been sent over to Huntington County to complete their data, also Huntington County will have to appoint a 5<sup>th</sup> member which is usually a neighboring county surveyor to serve on the joint board.

Mr. Woodward motioned to appoint himself and Dr. Robbins to serve as the Wells County joint board members on the Norris, Helms, Babcock, Blair on maintenance hearing tentatively scheduled for November 21<sup>st</sup> at 11:00 a.m. Dr. Robbins 2<sup>nd</sup>. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

A. Gordon Tile Drain-Proposal Cost of Design-Rockcreek Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that he received a written fee proposal from SJCA Engineers and Surveyors for the design and plan preparation of \$7,950.00 to open a portion of the Andrew Gordon tile ditch along SR 124 in Rockcreek Township, section 35, Range 11E north side of SR 124 just west of Meridian road on the Reinhard Family Farms property. The proposal will allow for an approximately 300 feet of the Andrew Gordon tile rain and several existing inlet structures on the north side of SR 124. Mr. Gerber questions the size of tiles coming into the head wall. Hahn noted at least 4 tiles, believes there are 2-24 inch and 1-18 inch, and 1-8 inch. Hahn noted this will out of INDOT's right-of-way therefore no INDOT permits are needed on this project but do have to send a letter of notification IDNR. Hahn he is not opposed to the fee design but mentioned that to cut the ditch will about the same money. Hahn suggested to the Board for him to call and talk to SJCA Engineers and Surveyors, Ben Deichmann P.E. who is the Project Manager on this design to possibly lowering the cost.

Hahn noted that the State Highway will work with us whether we use their engineering design or not. The Drainage Board members feel this is also too high and are in agreeance for Hahn to discuss the fee cost. Hahn noted that the fee proposal does not include surveying in which he will be collecting that data. County Engineer Nate Rumschlag offered his help if needed.

Project Update:

Inskeep Tile Drain-Rockcreek Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned he had a contractor replaced about 1,650 feet of existing 8-inch tile of the S. Inskeep tile with a 12-inch in Rockcreek Township, section 26, range 11E in the area of 100N between 100W and 200W.

Char. Boxell Tile Drain-Union Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned he had a contractor replace about 1,700 feet of the existing 10-inch tile of the Char. Boxell tile with a 12-inch in Union Township, section 14, range 11E in the area of 950N between 100W and 200W. Mr. Hahn noted that this project is a continuance of tile replacement.

Liberty Tile Drain-Liberty Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned he had a contractor replace about 700 feet of existing 12-inch tile of the Liberty tile with a 36-inch in Liberty Township, section 15, range 11E in the area of 300W and 300S in the Town of Liberty Center. Hahn mentioned the contractor had to go to another job and will be back in the next month to complete this continuance of the project.

Jacob Smith Tile Drain-Harrison Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned he had a contractor reroute approximately 890 feet of the new Jacob Smith tile with 12-inch around a home then emptying in the Risley open drain in Harrison Township, section 19, range 13E in the area of 350S between 600E and 700E.

Drum Open Drain-Lancaster Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned he and County Engineer Nate Rumschlag had a contractor to replace the culvert pipe on the Drum open drain in Lancaster Township, section

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Bee Creek Development LLP/Wells Co Drainage Board-  
Escrow Agreement:

Mr. Hahn mentioned he received a call from Larry Heckber owner of Bee Creek Development/The Bridges Subdivision wanting to release funds to pay the contractor. Hahn mentioned that a contractor Kaehr Exc. has been selected but no design of project, no materials have been purchased, and no work has not been completed. Hahn noted that he had called the design engineer but has not heard back yet. The Board members agreed to wait for details of the design, and a bill purchase of tile that has been delivered on site before any funds to be released.

Storm Water Task Force Committee:

Mr. Hahn mentioned he attended the Storm Water Management Task Force committee hearing at the State House this week. Hahn noted he testify at the September 18<sup>th</sup> on the creation of Drainage Board, their duties and responsibilities, and rural impacts. Hahn noted the Storm Water Management Task Force committee has sent out their potential recommendation of the 2019 report but is not final. Hahn hopes for grant opportunities on local projects involving storm water and drainage.

Adjournment:


Dr. Robbins motioned to adjourn the Drainage Board meeting at 8:56 a.m. Mr. Woodward 2<sup>nd</sup>. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

Next regular scheduled Drainage Board meeting is Monday-October 21, 2019 at 8:30 a.m.

  
Blake Gerber - Chairman

  
Kevin S. Woodward - Vice Chairman

  
Tamara Robbins - Member  
WELLS COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

ATTEST:   
Diana L. Collins  
WELLS DRAINAGE BOARD SECRETARY