

Wells County Drainage Board Minutes

Monday - December 18, 2023 4:30 P.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; Jarrod Hahn, Secretary Diana Collins. Attorney Ted Storer 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 December 4, 2023.

Mr. Vanover motioned to approve the Drainage Board regular meeting minutes on December 4, 2023. Mr. Stringer 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber motion carried 3-0

N.R. Chalfant Open, N.R. Chalfant Prong 3, H. Bunn Tile Drains

Utility Drainage Easement:

Mr. Hahn presented to the Board a "Consent for Utility for Construction Project in a Drainage Easement" form from James Breckler, PE of Engineering Resources Inc. representing the Town of Ossian wanting a drainage easement on the N.R. Chalfant Open, N.R. Chalfant Prong 3, H. Bunn tile Drains to install a collection system improvement & septic relief system. Hahn presented a detail map of the projects in Jefferson Township, sections 9 and 15, range 12E with the N.R. Chalfant open and N.R. Chalfant Prong 3 are to the north of Ossian and west of State Road 1, and the H. Bunn tile that is southeast of Ossian and at that location will install a left station. Hahn noted he has confirmed with Mr. Breckler that all the project installations will be 7 to 8 feet dip and with our tiles being 3 to 4 feet deep and the N.R. Chalfant open they will be boring under the open drain so anticipates no problems. Hahn mentioned that INDOT will be replacing the pipe/bridge deck on State Road 1 at the N.R. Chalfant open which both parties are aware of each other's projects, and both have taken precautions so that it will not matter which happens first. Hahn mentioned the recording fees has been paid therefore and with all concerns answered recommends approving easements on the N.R. Chalfant Open, N.R. Chalfant Prong 3, H. Bunn drains in the 8-Mile watershed for the Town of Ossian.

Mr. Stringer motioned to approve the Town of Ossian to be in the drainage easement on the N.R. Chalfant Open, N.R. Chalfant Prong 3, H. Bunn tile Drains in Jefferson Township, sections 9 and 15, range 12E to install a collection system improvement & septic relief as recommended. Mr. Vanover 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

Update Drainage Project:

2023/2024 Drainage Projects Projection Cost Information:

Mr. Hahn presented a detailed spreadsheet of the 2023 drainage tile projects that are completed with their location, approval of watershed funds, landowner cost and the final cost. Hahn mentioned these projects are possible due to the landowners helping with cost along with watershed funds and noted it may be up to more than a couple of years of planning before the projects happen. Hahn also mentioned all the 2023 tile projects combine with a total cost of \$218,227.73 from the watershed funds and the landowners contributing. Hahn noted that some of the 2024 projects are being finalized with other projects landowners are still making decisions on the cost and footage. Hahn noted that just before today's meeting a landowner came into the office wanting to replace a portion of a tile drain that is currently not on the list and anticipates 2024 being another productive year of replacing tile.

MRBC 2024 Meetings Dates and Time Schedule:

Mr. Hahn handed out the Maumee River Basin Commission 2024 meeting dates and times schedule as the commission will meet 4 times a year and on the 2nd Thursday at 6:30 pm. The dates are on February 8th, May 9th September 12th, December 12th in Fort Wayne just off Coldwater Road at the USDA Service Center conference room on 10347 Dawson's Creek Blvd Suite B. Wells County partners with Adams, Allen, DeKalb, Noble and Steuben counties as the MRBC board commission members. Wells County has approximately 13,300 acres along the north and east boundary in our county. Mr. Gerber noted that Surveyor Deputy Diana Collins is his proxy on the Commission's board, and Hahn noted yes and is also the secretary of MRBC board.

Continue December 18, 2023

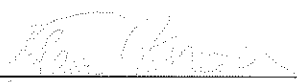
Detail Listing Sheet:


Mr. Hahn noted the Detail Listing Sheet has fall collections and interest added in the watershed amounts. Hahn mentioned that most of the watersheds are in good shape. Hahn mentioned that he is preparing the certification of collections of drains for 2024 to be presented at the January 2nd's meeting.


Adjournment:

Mr. Stringer motioned to adjourn the Drainage Board regular meeting at 4:45 pm.
Mr. Vanover 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber motion carried 3-0


Next regular scheduled Drainage Board meeting is Tuesday-January 2, 2024 at 4:30 p.m.



Blake Gerber Chairman

Michael K. Vanover - Vice Chairman

Jeff Stringer - Member
WELLS COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

ATTEST: 
Diana L. Collins
WELLS DRAINAGE BOARD SECRETARY