

Wells County Drainage Board Minutes

Monday-February 1, 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, Kevin S. Woodward, Michael K. Vanover; 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 January 19, 2021.

Mr. Woodward motioned to approve the Drainage Board regular meeting minutes on January 19, 2021 as submitted. Mr. Vanover 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

Mr. Gerber introduced and welcomed Mr. Michael Vanover as the new Drainage Board member. All board members welcomed Mr. Vanover as he was thankful to be in attendance.

Joint George McHenry Drain:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that Huntington County who holds the jurisdiction on the George McHenry joint watershed has increased the maintenance assessment by 25 percent which is allowed by law IC 36-9-27-42 without holding a hearing. Hahn mentioned the increase is from \$1.00 to \$1.25 per acre and \$5.00 to \$6.25 minimum that affects 6 landowners with about 75 acres in Wells County. Hahn mentioned that a landowner has called him wanting some tile work done and this may have prompt the increase to help his project.

Mr. Woodward motioned to approve the request from Huntington County on the Joint George McHenry watershed to increase by 25 percent from \$1.00 to \$1.25 per acre and \$5.00 to \$6.25 minimum. Mr. Vanover 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

Utility Easement-Citizen Telephone Corp.

Harrold and Jellison Drains 600W Project-Jackson Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned he has received Citizen Telephone Corp. utility consent easement form on the Harrold open and Jellison tile drains in Chester Township, section 7, range 10E project. Hahn provided a detailed drainage easement map crossing the Harrold open and parallel with the Jellison tile to run new fiber line on 600W between 700S and 800S to service homes. Hahn noted that the recording fee has been paid therefore recommends approving Citizen Telephone Corp. to put in a fiber line to service homes in the Harrold open and Jellison tile drainage easement. Wells County Attorney Roy Johnson has prepared the documents to be signed by the Drainage Board members then to be recorded in the Recorder's office.

Mr. Woodward motioned to approve Citizen Telephone Corp to install a new fiber line in the easement of the Harrold open and Jellison tile drains in Chester Township, section 7, range 10E as recommended. Mr. Vanover 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

Dan Miller Prong Tile Drain-Drainage Easement:

Mr. Hahn presented to the Board a "Petition of Approval to Locate Structures within a County Regulated Drain Right-Of-Way and Approval by County Drainage Board" form from owner Charles and Lisa Kelley for a full front porch with roof 40x12, south deck 26x12, back porch with roof 20x10, 24'x30' garage and mudroom 12x12 structures of the Dan Miller Prong tile drain and to be no closer than 25 feet from the center of the tile in Jefferson Township, section 36, range 12E north of U.S. 224 and on 600E in the Town of Tocsin. Hahn has provided a design drainage map and noted this is an 8-inch tile. Hahn recommends the approval of all mentioned structures within the Russel Somers Prong #6 tile drain and to be no closer than 25 feet from the center of the tile drainage easement.

Mr. Woodward motioned to approve owners Charles and Lisa Kelley for a full front porch with roof 40x12, south deck 26x12, back porch with roof 20x10, 24'x30' garage and mudroom 12x12 structures of the Dan Miller Prong tile drain and to be no closer than 25 feet from the center of the tile in Jefferson Township, section 36, range 12E as recommend. Mr. Vanover 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

Geo. Beach Tile Drain-Union Township:

Mr. Hahn mention that a contractor has replaced 800 feet of the Geo. Beach tile in Union Township, section 26, range 11E in the area 100W and 800N in the Flat Creek Tributary watershed. Hahn mentioned the landowners paid for the installation and the Flat Creek Tributary paid for the tile. Hahn noted that the landowners are talking about continuing to replace another portion of the tile this year.

Geo. Bennett Tile Drain-Harrison Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned the contractor had begun replacing the Geo. Bennett tile in Harrison Township, section 29, range 12E south of 450S and east of 100E. Hahn noted contractor had to stop to make equipment repair, and then started snowing so may be awhile before starting again. The contractor is to replace the existing 12-inch tile with 850 feet of 15-inch starting at the lower-end where it empties into the Neff open drain/watershed.

Owl Creek Open Drain- Jackson Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that a contractor has completed a bottom clean approximately 5,100 feet on the Owl Creek open drain in Jackson Township, sections 29 and 32, range 10E in 1100W and 1100S.


Wells County Engineer Nate Rumschlag:

Mr. Rumschlag mentioned that he will report on his small pipe structure today at the Commissioners meeting. Rumschlag noted that the Surveyor's office helped collect the data on several watersheds to complete his small pipe structure report.


Adjournment:

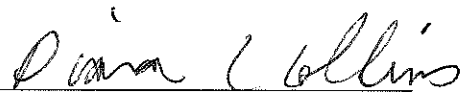
Mr. Woodward motioned to adjourn the Drainage Board meeting at 8:49 a.m. Mr. Vanover 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

Next regular scheduled Drainage Board meeting is Tuesday-February 16, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.


Blake Gerber - Chairman


Kevin S. Woodward - Vice Chairman


Michael K. Vanover - Member
WELLS COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

ATTEST: 
Diana L. Collins
WELLS DRAINAGE BOARD SECRETARY