

Wells County Drainage Board Minutes
Monday-March 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; Attorney Roy Johnson, Engineer Nate Rumschlag, Surveyor Jarrod Hahn, Secretary Diana Collins. Michael K. Vanover 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 February 1, 2021.

Mr. Woodward motioned to approve the Drainage Board regular meeting minutes on February 1, 2021 as submitted. Mr. Gerber 2nd, motion carried 2-0.

Bessie Porter Tile Drain-Harrison Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that he and Blake Gerber attended a meeting with the City of Bluffton leaders, developer, and project engineer on cost-sharing and details on replacing the Bessie Porter tile in Harrison Township, sections 8 and 9, range 12E. Hahn noted that he received two quotes one from Tri-County Exc. at \$102,485.30 and the other from Landis & Sons Drainage Corp for \$84,117.00. The group all have pledged their cost to Landis & Sons Drainage Corp for \$84,117.00 to install 2,072 feet of 24-inch, 1,030 feet of 18-inch, and 825 feet of 15-inch tile and miscellaneous fittings as soon as weather permits. Hahn noted the 200E road cut crossing is excluded from the bid for it is unknown who will be making the cut at this time. Hahn is asking for the Drainage Board to approve \$10,000.00 out of the Bills Creek maintenance fund contributing to the project. Hahn noted the Commissioner's cost-share will need approval in their meeting.

Mr. Woodward motioned to approve \$10,000.00 out of the Bills Creek watershed to contribute to the replacement of the Bessie Porter tile Drain project in Harrison Township, sections 8 and 9, range 12E. Mr. Gerber 2nd, motion carried 2-0.

Purdue Road School 2021:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that Purdue Road School will be virtual this year and divided into two weeks for technical sessions, week 1 being on March 8th through March 11th and then week 2 March 16th through March 18th.

SB 389-Repeals state regulated wetlands law:

Hahn noted that SB-389 passed in the senate and referred to the house but no hearing yet and are watching this bill very close of any changes.

SB-389 states: Repeals the law requiring a permit from the department of environmental management for wetland activity in a state regulated wetland. Makes corresponding changes to eliminate references to that law. States that the repeal of that law is not intended to affect: (1) the regulation in Indiana under the federal Clean Water Act of the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States; or (2) the authorization of the state of Indiana to administer the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit program.

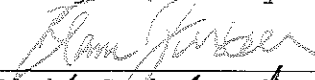
INDOT- Right-of-Way Agreement with Rush County:

Mr. Hahn made mention that he received a INDOT agreement form from Rush County Surveyor Steve Rust who shared his concerns on the terms and conditions. Hahn noted the agreement in the special provisions that INDOT will not be assessed for an annual maintenance assessment, also once the project is done the county is solely responsible for all future maintenance or reconstruction on the project which is contrary to the Indiana Drainage Law. Hahn noted that one county in the State has received and agreed to its terms and conditions, but Wells County has not received the agreement yet. Hahn mentioned that he will give this document to Attorney Roy Johnson for review.

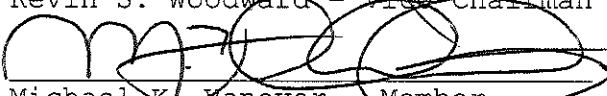
Adjournment:

Mr. Woodward motioned to adjourn the Drainage Board meeting at 8:52 a.m. Mr. Mr. Gerber 2nd, motion carried 2-0.

Next regular scheduled Drainage Board meeting is Monday-March 15, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.


Blake Gerber - Chairman


Kevin S. Woodward - Vice Chairman


Michael K. Vanover - Member
WELLS COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

ATTEST: 