

Wells County Drainage Board Minutes
Monday-March 15, 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 March 1, 2021.

Mr. Woodward motioned to approve the Drainage Board regular meeting minutes on March 1, 2021 as submitted. Mr. Vanover 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

Utility Easement-Citizens Telephone Corp.

Babcock Includes Other Drains Project-Liberty Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned he has received Citizens Telephone Corp. utility consent easement form on Babcock open and the tiles Day main, Prong #3, Prong #4, Liberty Township, Sections 5,6,7,8,17,18, Range 11E and Rockcreek Township, Section 31, Range 11E. Hahn provided a detailed drainage easement map of all crossings to run new fiber line on SR 124 to 200S between 550W to 500W to put in a fiber line to service homes. Hahn noted that the recording fee has been paid therefore recommends approving Citizens Telephone Corp. to put in a fiber line to service homes. 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 Citizens Telephone Corp to install a new fiber line in the easement of the Babcock open and the tiles Day main, Prong #3, Prong #4, Liberty Township, Sections 5,6,7,8,17,18, Range 11E and Rockcreek Township, Section 31, Range 11E. as recommended. Mr. Vanover 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

Utility Easement-Citizens Telephone Corp.

Mason-Lesh Includes Other Drains Project-Rockcreek and Liberty Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned he has received Citizens Telephone Corp. utility consent easement form on the Mason-Lesh open and tiles on the S. Houtz, P. McAfee, JC Raber, Gordan, Lamm and Lamm Prong in Rockcreek Township, Sections 15,21,22,28,27,33,34 Range 11E and Liberty Township, Sections 3 and 4, Range 11E. Hahn provided a detailed drainage easement map of all crossings to run new fiber line on SR 124 to 300N between 500W to 200W to service homes. Hahn noted that the recording fee has been paid therefore recommends approving Citizens Telephone Corp. to put in a fiber line to service homes. Wells County Engineer Nate Rumschlag also mentioned that he received road right-of-way in Rockford and Liberty Townships from Citizens Telephone to be approve in today's Commissioner's meeting.

Mr. Woodward motioned to approve Citizens Telephone Corp to install a new fiber line in the easement of the Mason-Lesh open and tiles on the S. Houtz, P. McAfee, JC Raber, Gordan, Lamm and Lamm Prong in Rockcreek Township, Sections 15,21,22,28,27,33,34 Range 11E and Liberty Township, Sections 3 and 4, Range 11E. as recommended. Mr. Vanover 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

AdamsWells Telecom-Utility Easement-Peter Craven Open Drain:

Mr. Hahn presented to the Board a utility consent easement form from AdamsWells Telecom on Drainage Easement on the Peter Craven Open Drain Harrison Township, Section 15, Range 12E to install fiber optic cable line along the county road on 350E between 200S and 300S. Hahn has provided a map of the area showing the drain's location.

Also Mr. Hahn presented another utility consent easement form from AdamsWells Telecom on Drainage Easement on the John Pierce Open and Plummer tile Drains Lancaster Township, Section 12, Range 12E and Section 7, Range 13E to install fiber optic cable line along the county road on 600E between 400N and 500N. Hahn has provided a map of the area showing the drain's location and noted that on the Plummer tile the utility will be running on the westside of 600E. Hahn mentioned AdamsWells Telecom has paid both fees, therefore recommends the approval of easement on the Peter Craven Open Drain project and John Pierce Open and Plummer tile Drain project.

Mr. Woodward motioned to approve AdamsWells Telecom to bury a Fiber Optic cable line in the Drainage easement on Peter Craven Open Drain in Harrison Township, Section 15, Range 12E project, and the John Pierce Open and Plummer tile drain project in Lancaster Township, Section 12, Range 12E and Section 7, Range 13E as recommend. Mr. Vanover 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

Continued March 15, 2021

Valentine Joint Drain and Simmerman Joint Drain

Jefferson Township-Allen County Jurisdiction:

Mr. Hahn made note the Allen County Surveyor's office who has scheduled the Valentine Joint and Simmerman joint hearings set for Thursday-April 22, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. in Allen County Citizens Square. Hahn mentioned that he was contacted by Allen County Surveyor's office Joe Magsam that a landowner has set up an Informal meeting for all affected landowners at the Poe fire station for any questions and/or concerns on Wednesday-April 7th at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Gerber and Mr. Woodward are Wells County two representatives for the joint drain hearings.

Geo. Bennett Tile Drain-Harrison Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned the contractor has completed replacing the Geo. Bennett tile in Harrison Township, section 29, range 12E south of 450S and east of 100E. The contractor replaced the existing 12-inch tile with 930 feet of 15-inch starting at the lower-end where it empties into the Neff open drain/watershed.

Geo. Beach Tile Drain-Union Township:

Mr. Hahn mention that a contractor has completed replacing an extra 160 feet of the Geo. Beach tile in Union Township, section 26, range 11E in the area 100W and 800N where landowners put in 850 feet of 15-inch in 2020. Hahn mentioned the landowners paid for the installation and the Flat Creek Tributary paid for the tile.

Bessie Porter Tile Drain-Harrison Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that contractor Landis & Sons Drainage Corp to replace the Bessie Porter tile in Harrison Township, sections 8 and 9, range 12E east of the Hoosier Highway and 200E and north of 200S will begin within the next two weeks. The Contractor will install 2,072 feet of 24-inch, 1,030 feet of 18-inch, and 825 feet of 15-inch tile and miscellaneous fittings for \$84,117.00. Hahn noted the Drainage Board approved \$10,000.00 out of the Bills Creek maintenance fund contributing to the project at the last Drainage Board meeting on March 1st. Mr. Gerber mentioned that he will bring it up in the Commissioner's meeting today on their cost-share for approval to the project.

Addington Tile Drain-Harrison Township:

Mr. Hahn made mention that landowner Ellenberger trust will systematically tile their 72-acre field where the Bessie Porter will be replaced then discharges into Bills Creek open drain. Hahn noted that there is another regulated tile drainage to the north of that field called the "Addington" a 16-inch tile that will be replaced as they tile their farm in Harrison Township, section 9, range 12E east of 200E/Ellingham and north of 200S.

2021 Flood Safety Awareness Week:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that he will go before the Commissioners today for them to sign a proclamation to declare this week March 15th-19th "Flood Safety Awareness Week".

Adjournment:

Mr. Vanover motioned to adjourn the Drainage Board meeting at 8:52 a.m. Mr. Woodward 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

Next regular scheduled Drainage Board meeting is Monday-April 5, 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