

Wells County Drainage Board Minutes  
Monday - April 18, 2022 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, Michael K. Vanover, Jeff Stringer; Attorney Colin Andrews, 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 April 4, 2022.

Mr. Stringer motioned to approve the Drainage Board regular meeting minutes on April 4, 2022 as submitted. Mr. Vanover 2<sup>nd</sup>. Concurred by Mr. Gerber motion carried 3-0.

Boyer Open Drain-Harrison Township:

Mr. Hahn reminded the Board members that landowners James and Rachel Isch filed "Petition and Approval to Locate Structures within County Drain Easement" that was put on hold until further information was provided on their property at 3860S on County Home Road, Bluffton in Harrison Township, section 23, range 12E.

Hahn mentioned that he had talked to the Flood Plain Manager Michael Lautzenheiser about the eFARA having no elevation on it and no LOMA from FEMA. Mr. Lautzenheiser sent a new eFARA with elevation and noted that Wells County is in the process of getting new "Map Revision" flood maps so FEMA will not produce any LOMAs until maps are finalized, and there is no date set when that may be. Hahn produced a map with the leach bed location and current flood zone in relation with the top of bank and is clearly out of the food zone and has an updated eFARA. Hahn noted with this information recommends approving James and Rachel Isch property at 3860S County Home Road to be in the easement of the Boyer open drain to put in a septic leach bed no closer than 35 feet from the top of bank.

Mr. Stringer motioned to approve James and Rachel Isch property at 3860S on County Home Road, Bluffton in Harrison Township, section 23, range 12E to be in the easement of the Boyer open drain to put in a septic leach bed no closer than 35 feet from the top of bank as recommended. Mr. Vanover 2<sup>nd</sup>. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

Paxson Tile Drain-NIPSCO Utility Easement-Harrison Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that he received a "Consent for Utility for Construction Project in Drainage Easement" form NIPSCO for installing a gas line for property 4392E SR124 of Bluffton in Harrison Township, section 02, range 12E and is requesting to be in the easement of the Paxson tile drain crossing the tile line twice according to NIPSCO's detailed drawing. Hahn also presented a detailed map of the area and recommends approving of the easement allowing the pipeline to be in the easement crossing the Paxson tile twice. The Drainage Board signed to be recorded in the Recorder's office.

Mr. Stringer motioned to approve NIPSCO to be in the easement of the Paxson tile drain to install a gas line for a landowner in Harrison Township, section 02, range 12E crossing the tile line twice as recommended. Mr. Vanover 2<sup>nd</sup>. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

Davids open Drain-Jackson Township

Mr. Hahn mentioned that he was informed by Citizens Telephone they need to relocate their new fiber line at the request of the Wells County Highway for a culvert project to increase its size to a bridge across the Davids open drain easement. Hahn noted that Citizens Telephone had previously filed a "Consent for Utility for Construction Project in a Drainage Easement" form last year(2021)to install that same new fiber line recorded permit #20212052. Hahn feels since Citizens Telephone is being asked to move that line by Wells County that they can go off the same permit issued in 2021, all Board members agreed.

Project Updates:

Fryback Tile Drain-Union Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that contractor Gruss Ag, LLC has started replacing the Fryback tile drain in Union Township, section 12, range 11E south of 1100N on Meridian Road. Hahn mentioned the existing 15-inch tile will be replaced with 1,200 feet of 18-inch tile. Hahn noted that the contractor should finish by the end of the week.


Wells County Engineer Nate Rumschlag Report:

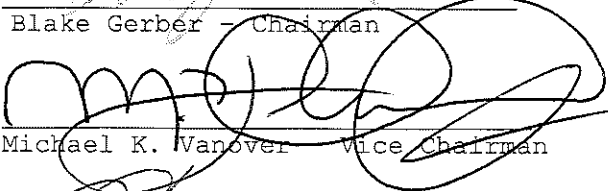
Wells County Engineer Nate Rumschlag mentioned that USI will meet with Huntington County Drainage Board to get permission to use the joint Redding open drain's easement on 500W just north of 200N to do work on a bridge project.

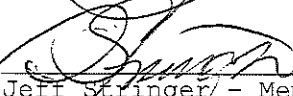
Adjournment:

Mr. Vanover motioned to adjourn the Drainage Board meeting at 8:46 a.m. Mr. Stringer 2<sup>nd</sup>. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

Next regular scheduled Drainage Board meeting is Monday-May 2, 2022.

  
Blake Gerber - Chairman

  
Michael K. Vanover - Vice Chairman

  
Jeff Stringer - Member  
WELLS COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

ATTEST:   
Diana L. Collins  
WELLS DRAINAGE BOARD SECRETARY