

Wells County Drainage Board Minutes  
Monday-April 19, 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, Michael K. Vanover; Attorney Roy Johnson, Engineer Nate Rumschlag, Surveyor Jarrod Hahn, Secretary Diana Collins. Kevin S. Woodward 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 April 5, 2021.

Mr. Vanover motioned to approve the Drainage Board regular meeting minutes on April 5, 2021 as submitted. Mr. Gerber 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried 2-0.

James McNeal Prong 1 Drain-Jefferson Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that landowners Marc and Deborah Fillers of 3679E 1050N Ossian in Jefferson Township, section 10, range 12E is requesting to be in the easement of the James McNeal Prong 1 tile drain to put in a two Lean-To's 20x48 on each side of existing barn and a 16x16 gazebo structures. Hahn presented a detailed map of the area and recommends approving of the easement allowing the structured to be in the easement no closer than 15 feet from the center of the tile. Mr. Gerber asked if the lean-to to the west encroaching on the adjoining property and if this tile was replaced a few years ago. Hahn said yes to both, if needed, permission will be obtained by the adjoining neighbor, and about 5 years ago 300 feet of tile was replaced on the adjoining neighbor to the east. Drainage Board 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. Vanover motioned to approve Marc and Deborah Fillers of Jefferson Township, section 10, range 12E to be in the easement of the James McNeal Prong 1 tile drain to put in two Lean-To's 20x48 on each side of existing barn and a 16x16 gazebo structures as recommended. Mr. Gerber 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried 2-0.

Michael Dailey Tile Drain- Liberty Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned Lyle Bollin a Drainage Specialist of Ag Drainage Inc. (ADI) had came in the office to discuss the final plans on replacing the Michael Dailey tile in Liberty Township, sections 34 and 35, range 11E in the area of 200W and 500S. Hahn noted the tile was put in 1887 with increasing the current size 10-inch to a 12-inch, 8-inch to a 10-inch. Hahn mentioned the group needs to talk to adjacent landowner that the 6-inch is on to possibly increase to an 8-inch for total of approximately 3,500 feet replacement.

Mr. Vanover motioned for the contractor to begin replacing the Michael Dailey tile in Liberty Township, section 34 and 35, range 11E increasing the current size. Mr. Gerber 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried 2-0.

Drain Update:

Valentine Joint Drain and Simmerman Joint Drain

Jefferson Township-Allen County Jurisdiction:

Mr. Hahn reminded the Board members of the Valentine Joint and Simmerman joint hearings set for Thursday-April 22, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. in Allen County Citizens Square. Hahn also noted of the Informal meeting that took place on April 7<sup>th</sup> at the Poe Fire Station was well attended with questions and/or concerns resolved. Mr. Gerber and Mr. Vanover will be our representatives in the Joint hearings.

Bessie Porter Tile Drain-Harrison Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that contractor Landis & Sons Drainage Corp has begun replacing portions Bessie Porter tile in Harrison Township, sections 8 and 9, range 12E east of the Hoosier Highway and north of 200S. The Contractor will install 2,072 feet of 24-inch, 1,030 feet of 18-inch, and 825 feet of 15-inch tile. Hahn noted that no road crossings have been done and the contractor is waiting for certain tile sizes because the shortage of material to make the plastic tile.

Moffett Tile Drain-Chester Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that the contractor has completed replacing the Moffett 12-inch tile with about 2,360 feet of new 12 inch in Chester Township, section 10, range 11E along county road 200W and 700S. Hahn noted the current tile was put in the early 1900s and flows north into the Markley open drain just north of 700S.

Continued April 19, 2021

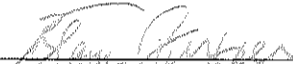
Six Mile and Pence Drain-Fertilizer Spill

Mr. Hahn mentioned that there was an emergency fertilizer spill in the Six Mile and Pence Drains in Harrison Township with 3 dams that were built, and several million gals of water was pumped out of the ditch to remove the fertilizer. Hahn noted all three dams have now been taken out with restoration where the Six Mile enters the Wabash River going on. Hahn mentioned that he attended a Local Emergency Planning Committee (L.E.P.C.) meeting last week to review the protocols and how to make it better on the next emergency. Attorney Roy Johnson noted that he had trouble finding the updated Multi-Mitigation Hazard Plan as he found 2015 on the Surveyor's page and then found the 2020 plan on the Area Plan's page and suggest the plan should be on the Emergency Management's page as well. Mr. Johnson questions are there protocols written in the Multi-Mitigation Hazard Plan to follow, and if so, was it followed as to plan.

Adjournment:

Mr. Vanover motioned to adjourn the Drainage Board meeting at 8:55 a.m. Mr. Gerber 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried 2-0.

Next regular scheduled Drainage Board meeting is Monday-May 3, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

  
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Blake Gerber - Chairman

  
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Kevin S. Woodward - Vice Chairman

  
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Michael K. Vanover - Member  
WELLS COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

ATTEST:   
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Diana L. Collins  
WELLS DRAINAGE BOARD SECRETARY