

Wells County Drainage Board Minutes  
Monday - June 20, 2023 4:30 P.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, Jeff Stringer; Attorney Ted Storer, Engineer Nate Rumschlag, Surveyor Jarrod Hahn, Secretary Diana Collins. Michael K. Vanover 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 June 5, 2023.

Mr. Stringer motioned to approve the Drainage Board regular meeting minutes on June 5, 2023 as submitted. Mr. Gerber 2nd, motion carried 2-0.

Soloman First Tile Drain-Liberty Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that landowners Trace C. & Christina M. Craig 2695S 200W Bluffton in Liberty Township, section 14, range 11E filed the new form "Request For Variance-Agreement and Covenant" to be in the easement of the Soloman First 10-inch tile drain to put in a 42'x43' pole barn. Hahn presented a detailed map of the area and asked the board for a standard easement being no closer than 15 feet from the center of the tile. Hahn recommends approving of the easement allowing the structure to be in the easement no closer than 15 feet from the center of the Soloman First tile drain.

Mr. Stringer motioned to approve Trace C. & Christina M. Craig in Liberty Township, section 14, range 11E to be in the easement of the Soloman First 10-inch tile drain no closer than 15 feet from the center of the tile for a 42'x43' garage structure as recommended. Mr. Gerber 2nd, motion carried 2-0.

B.F. Kain Tile Drain-Lancaster Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned the INDOT will be replacing a box culvert over the B.F. Kain tile drain in Lancaster Township, section 31, range 12E to begin construction in 2024. Hahn noted the B.F. Kain Tile is an old clay and needs to be replaced in preparation of the INDOT replacement construction take place. Hahn has two quotes for tile only from ADS for 720 feet of 18-inch for \$6192.00 and, from Baughman Tile for 720 feet 18-inch x 20-feet long for \$10.03 per foot/ and 722 feet 18-inch x 9.5-feet long for \$10.54 per foot. Hahn also mentioned that he received a quote from owner/farmer of the land Logan Reinhard of Parlor City Ag LLC to replace the tile and install 660 feet of 18-inch tile for a total cost of \$10,876.00. Hahn noted that the measurements are different and will be somewhere between 660 to 720 feet so the cost may be a little more. Hahn presented a detailed map of the area with the total of 253 acres that drain into B.F. Kain tile emptying into the Halls Creek drain/watershed.

Mr. Stringer motioned to approve Parlor City Ag LLC to replace the B.F. Kain tile drain in Lancaster Township, section 31, range 12E with approximately 660 to 720 feet of 18-inch tile with installation and material cost of \$10,876.00+ as recommended. Mr. Gerber 2nd, motion carried 2-0.

Stotts Prong #3 Tile Drain-Jackson Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned he met with INDOT construction crew on State Road 3 to replace a box culvert in Jackson Township, sections 34/35, range 10E between 1100S and 1200S where the Stotts Prong #3 tile crosses. The Stotts tile drain has been a continual replacement over the last decade, and since INDOT is replacing the box culvert it was corresponded to replace the 12-inch tile with a 15-inch tile. Hahn noted the replacement did not go as planned due to AT&T cable not being marked, so INDOT called 811 "call before you dig" to report this had not been marked, so the replacement construction is slated for this Wednesday. Hahn made note that as most of the crew had left the site to go to another job site, AT&T pulled up to mark their cable.

Project Update:

2023 Spray Program-North:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that Chad Baker of Right-a-Way Management pulled in the county last week and has two crews spraying, one is east of Bluffton on the Johnson watershed and the other crew is in the northwest part of the county in the Flat Creek area.

Continued June 20, 2023

Bills Creek Property Claim-Out of Watershed:

Mr. Stringer asked Mr. Hahn in the Bills Creek hearing if he had looked into Mr. Roehs claim that he had no water going into Bills Creek along with a couple other neighboring properties that received notices too. Mr. Hahn said he did talk to the City of Bluffton Stormwater Department head who said they had put in two catch basins both draining into Bills Creek therefore will stay in the Bills Creek Watershed. Hahn mentioned this property has water also going into the Wabash.

Additional Funding Balance for Attorney Budget:

Mr. Hahn made mention that he will ask for an additional appropriation fund from the council in their August meeting instead of in July as first thought. Mr. Gerber noted that he will be able to attend the August meeting as well.

Drainage Board Meeting Cancelled-July 10th:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that he will be attending the Stormwater Conference/Surveyor's meeting starting on Monday July 10<sup>th</sup>. Hahn noted since he will not be able to be at the July 10<sup>th</sup> Drainage Board meeting is asking the Board members to cancel the Drainage Board meeting on July 10th due to the Stormwater Conference /Surveyor's meeting, and no drainage board matters at this time. Hahn also mentioned the next regular Drainage Board meeting will be on July 24<sup>th</sup> he will be on vacation with the possibility of cancelling that meeting, unless there an easement or something urgent that requires a board's vote, then will be able to attend on zoom.

Mr. Stringer motioned to cancel the regularly scheduled Drainage Board meeting on July 10th due to Stormwater Conference/Surveyor's meeting, and with no Drainage Board matters at this time. Mr. Gerber 2nd, motion carried 2-0.

Adjournment:

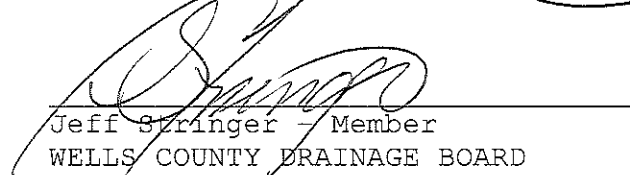
Mr. Stringer motioned to adjourn the Drainage Board meeting at 4:47 p.m. Mr. Gerber 2nd, motion carried 2-0.

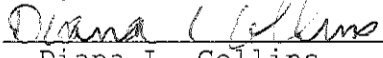
Cancelled: Regular scheduled Drainage Board meeting for Monday-July 10, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.

\*Next regular scheduled Drainage Board meeting is Monday-July 24, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.


  
 Blake Gerber Chairman


  
 Michael K. Vanover - Vice Chairman


  
 Jeff Stringer - Member  
 WELLS COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

ATTEST:   
 Diana L. Collins  
 WELLS DRAINAGE BOARD SECRETARY