

Wells County Drainage Board Minutes
Monday-June 21, 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 June 7, 2021.

Mr. Woodward motioned to approve the Drainage Board regular meeting minutes on June 7, 2021 as submitted. Mr. Vanover 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

Smeltzer Tile Drain-Rockcreek Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that landowners Jacob M. and Laura E. Oswalt 1797W 200N of Bluffton in Rockcreek Township, section 23, range 11E filed a "Petition and Approval to Locate Structures within County Drain Easement" requesting to be in the easement of the Smeltzer tile drain to put in a 60'x40' pole barn. Hahn presented a detailed map of the area and recommends approving of the easement allowing the structure to be in the easement no closer than 35 feet from the center of the Smeltzer tile drain. 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. Woodward motioned to approve Jacob M. and Laura E. Oswalt 1797W 200N of Bluffton in Rockcreek Township, section 23, range 11E to be in the easement of the Smeltzer tile drain no closer than 35 feet from the center of the tile for a 60'x40' pole barn structure as recommended. Mr. Vanover 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

Norwell Open Drain-Lancaster Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that landowner Brenda Arter 716E 550N of Uniondale in Lancaster Township, section 6, range 12E filed a "Petition and Approval to Locate Structures within County Drain Easement" requesting to be in the easement of the Norwell open drain to put in a ½ acre pond. Hahn presented a detailed map of the area and mentioned the pond may need to be moved towards the driveway some due to the transmission line easements, but no word has been received on that yet. Hahn recommends approving of the easement allowing the structure to be in the easement no closer than 25 feet from the top of the bank. 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. Woodward motioned to approve Brenda Arter 716E 550N of Uniondale in Lancaster Township, section 6, range 12E to be in the easement of the Norwell open drain no closer than 25 feet from the top of the bank to put in a ½ acre pond structure as recommended. Mr. Vanover 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

Prairie Creek Drain-Jackson Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that he had a contractor remove two logjams in the Prairie Creek drain in Jackson Township, section 23, range 10E north of 1000S between Ind. 3 and 700W. Hahn noted when the first large logjam was removed it was holding back at least 3-feet of water, but also exposed a second logjam which was removed as well.

Drain Project Updates:

Hutchens Tile Drain- Jefferson Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that a contractor has started replacing the Hutchens tile in Jefferson Township, section 33, range 12E north of US 224 and west of State Road 1. Hahn mentioned replacing the 10-inch with 1185 feet of 12-inch flex pipe and 20 feet of 15-inch flex pipe which is upperend of the Smith tile as a continued replacement project and in the 8-Mile watershed.

Garrett Tile Drain-Jackson Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that a contractor will begin replacing about 1700 feet of the Garrett tile in Jackson Township, section 35, range 10E around 1200S and State Road 3. Hahn noted the tile is on the upper end of the Stotts tile a continuance replacement project and is in the Stotts watershed. Hahn mentioned the contractor will begin as soon as the weather conditions improve.

Continued June 21, 2021

Bell, J.C. Tile Drain- Lancaster Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that contractor Landis and Sons Drainage Corp will begin replacing a portion of the J.C. Bell soon in Lancaster Township, section 19, range 13E west of Craigville area as soon as the weather conditions improve.

Kitchen Prong Tile Drain-Jefferson Township

Mr. Hahn mentioned that a contractor will begin replacing about 1800 feet of the Kitchen Prong tile in Jefferson Township, section 7, range 12E around 1000N and 100E which is the very upperend of the Robb Tile a continuance replacement project and is in the 8-Mile watershed.

INDOT Meeting

Mr. Hahn mentioned that he will be attending a meeting with INDOT in Indianapolis this morning for discussion on rights-of-way and drainage maintenance responsibility under IC 36-9-27-71.

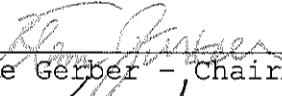
2021 Spray Program:

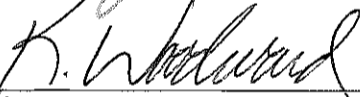
Mr. Hahn mentioned that Chad Baker of Right-a-Way Management reported that he has finished up spraying the northern portion of the county and has sent his inspection reports, production log reports and billing invoices. Hahn mentioned that there are a few ditches from 2020 spray in the southern part of the county he was to respray but not sure if that has been done yet.


Adjournment:

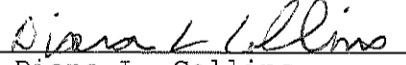
Mr. Woodward motioned to adjourn the Drainage Board meeting at 8:45 a.m. Mr. Vanover 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

Next regular scheduled Drainage Board meeting is Tuesday-July 6, 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