

Wells County Drainage Board Minutes
Monday - August 1, 2022 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, Michael K. Vanover Jeff Stringer; Attorney Colin Andrews, Surveyor Jarrod Hahn, Secretary Diana Collins. Engineer Nate Rumschlag 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 July 18, 2022.

Mr. Vanover motioned to approve the Drainage Board regular meeting minutes on July 18, 2022 as submitted. Mr. Stringer 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

Goodspeed Tile Drain Tentative Damage Agreement Proposal:

Mr. Hahn mentioned he and Attorney Colin Andrews have been working on a tentative agreement for crop damage compensation agreement on the Goodspeed tile drain replacement project for properties on the Pfister family of 2.35 acres and DMT of 0.68 acres damage. Hahn had sent out the tentative damage agreement document to all board members to view. Hahn noted the calculations for the damages are based on a 30' wide swath for the length of the project on each property and calculating the damage amount using an average yield of 78.27 bushels per acre (based on the yield reporting to Farm Service Agency) at a price of \$14.00 per bushel (market price for September delivery) with a \$500.00 per acre for compaction damage being an approximate total of \$1,500.00 per acre. Hahn mentioned on the compaction there will be several loads of stone hauled into the field to backfill where the tile will cross county road 300S. Attorney Colins Andrews mentioned he will take out #7. Compensation in the document and noted if there is more damage than anticipated landowners will be compensated. Hahn noted that he has talked to the landowner of the Pfister family and the DMT tenant who are agreeing with the number amounts and calculations, therefore feels there will be no problem on the two properties signing the agreement. Hahn mentioned the Goodspeed tile replacement project consist of 1,650 feet with 18-inch tile, 2200 feet of 15-inch, and 1240 feet of 12-inch in Harrison Township, sections 17,18,19, range 12E located south of the City of Bluffton between 250S and south of 300S, west of the Hoosier Highway. Hahn mentioned he has not heard back from Engineer Mathieu Doyle on INDOT's official approval on taking out the tile portion out of the contract with INDOT's project to being a county tile drainage project. Discussion was made on whether the Commissioners and Drainage Board both should signed the Damage Agreement, and should it just be the president of each board to sign the document. Attorney Colin Andrews noted to make all clear each board and all board members should sign the crop damage compensation agreement. Mr. Andrews will finalize the agreement to be signed at the next Drainage board and Commissioners meeting on August 15th. Hahn made note that he, the contractor, landowner, and a representative from Panhandle Eastern met to discuss and find the location of tile and pipeline depth which there is no room to deepen the tile because of the tile is on top of the pipeline leaving within a few inches of each other. Hahn also mentioned the contractor will be ordering the 18-inch tile and will be placing the tile on the Craig property along the Hoosier Highway until construction begins.

Mr. Stringer motioned to approve the crop damage compensation tentative agreement with proposed amounts on the Goodspeed tile replacement project. Mr. Vanover 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

Continued August 1, 2022

Project Update:Neuenschwander Tile Drain-Lancaster Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned the contractor has completed replacing a portion of the Neuenschwander tile in Lancaster Township, section 25, range 12E on 100N and west of 600E. Hahn noted the contractor replaced a 14-inch with 1000 feet of 18-inch and rerouted a portion of the tile due to one of the properties having several sells off to make room for driveway entries. Hahn also mentioned approximately 60 feet of 15-inch prong was installed to service landowners to the east for their tile connections. Hahn noted the landowners will pay for the installation of tile, and the Johnson watershed fund will pay to purchase the materials.

2022 Drainage School:

Mr. Hahn handed out a 2022 Drainage School brochure from the Indiana Farm Bureau for a one-day event on Wednesday-August 31st with registration now opened to include in person or virtual. Hahn mentioned this year's program is on wetland regulations, construction in the roadside and resulting in damage, rainfall intensity and drainage management, and legal consideration of solar farm drainage. Hahn encourages all to attend and will send out the link to register for either in person or virtual.

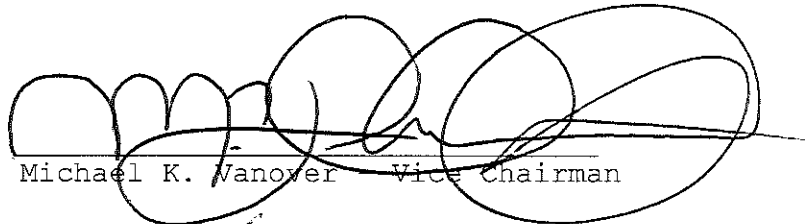
Adjournment:

Mr. Vanover motioned to adjourn the Drainage Board meeting at 4:52 p.m. Mr. Stringer 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried 3-0.

Next regular scheduled Drainage Board meeting is Monday-August 15, 2022 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