

**MINUTES OF THE DEKALB COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING OF AUGUST 20, 2020**

Chairman Randall J. Deetz called the regular meeting of the DeKalb County Drainage Board to order at 8:30 a.m., Thursday August 20, 2020. Answering roll call was Randall J. Deetz; Michael E. Krehl; Donald D. Grogg; Jacqueline R. Rowan and William L. Hartman.

ALSO PRESENT: Drainage Board Attorney Shannon E. Kruse; Administrative Assistant Brenda Myers; Surveyor Mike Kline and staff member Nate Frye.

IN ATTENDANCE: Daryl McConnell; Michael Ley; Joe Herendeen

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was made by Jacqueline Rowan to approve the Minutes of August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 as standard minutes taken by the DeKalb County Drainage Board, seconded by Mike Krehl, motion carried.

**SURVEYOR REPORT:** Surveyor Mike Kline presented the **Utility Permit Request for the City of Auburn Essential Services** that has been corrected. The project will consist of directional boring and setting utility poles to extend AES fiber, starting at 3660 County Road 34 on the north side of the road, going east and setting utility poles for 525'; from that point, directional bore 4,600' east to 4075 County Road 34; road bore at 3846 County Road 34, 3902 County Road 34 and at the intersection of County Road 34/County Road 39. Also a 360' bore on the south side of County Road 34 between 3820 and 3846 County Road 34.

The county regulated drain involved: *Cedar Creek Drain Number 470-00-0*

Don Grogg moved that the Board approve the Utility Permit for drain crossings in regard to the above drain and to authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board, seconded by Jacqueline Rowan, motion carried.

**WILLMINA RINGWALT DRAIN NUMBER 51-00-0:** On the Doug and Brenna Picco property (ref. August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 meeting) the surveyor met with LaOtto Excavating who ran their locator through and found the tile 10-12' from the tree line. The property has been staked to the forty-feet as requested and the landowner has approved where he will be able to build. Mike will prepare the variance for signatures/approvals.

**PLAN COMMISSION PETITION – SECONDARY PLAT OF STONE BRIDGE ESTATES:** Present is Joe Herendeen, Sauer Land Surveying on behalf of Henney Builders for the secondary plat of Stone Bridge Estates seeking final Drainage Board approval.

Mike Kline stated that the larger lots are that of Stone Bridge Estates Section I and the smaller lots are the Villas of Stone Bridge Estates. Mike asked that the Board approve the drainage plan for Stone Bridge Estates Section I and the Villas of Stone Bridge Estates as per the plans and specifications of the storm drainage report by Sauer Land Surveying Incorporated dated August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The county regulated drain in this watershed is the *James Ferguson Drain Number 86-00-0*.

A motion was made by Don Grogg to approve the Drainage Plan for the Secondary Plat of Stone Bridge Estates Section I and the Villas of Stone Bridge as per the plans, specifications and drainage report dated August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 as presented by Sauer Land Surveyor Incorporated, subject to any new evidence presented at the DeKalb County Plan Commission meeting and request the Administrative Assistant to pass this decision of the Drainage Board to the DeKalb County Plan Commission, seconded by Bill Hartman, motion carried.

**JOHN KETCHAM DRAIN NUMBER 334-00-0:** It was reported that this drain is not on maintenance and is deeply in the red. Being a County drain, to relinquish this drain to the City, it would allow them the ability to be on the property and assess the landowners in the watershed. That would not however include easements and road crossings of the State. The City of Auburn would like to work with the County towards an Inter-Local Agreement between the two entities to know who will be doing what, when and how.

It was determined that an investigation of this entire area is needed as to what is in place, what should be in place to handle the current and proposed development as being the first step. It was also stated that the County Surveyor with having hundreds of drains in the county to oversee, would not be able to be tied up with this large project. Chairman Deetz questioned if the City of Auburn was wanting to take jurisdiction of this drain if the County vacated it.

Mayor Ley stated that it was not his thought to do that, he came here today with the understanding that it would be more of a collaboration with working together on it and utilizing what opportunities the County could provide in terms of expertise and the abilities for easements and road crossings, etcetera. Mayor Ley stated that he would be available and would help Mike Kline as much as he can and it was his thought coming here that everyone agree to use outside engineering on this project for the scope of what it would be.

Mike Kline being the surveyor of the county would have to have some input on this in order to have benefits of the Drainage Code applied. It is the intention of both entities that the City of Auburn already has a firm in mind that could put together a project such as this with taking proposals from engineers, but he needs to put together a good outline of what it is that we want moving forward with everything on the east side of Interstate 69 going through this program. Money can be saved with using the Drainage Board Code but Mike said he has no intention of doing any design or inspection work on this, he intends to look at the Code with guidance of the Drainage Board attorney and then the City will control the overall project.

Mayor Ley stated that the City will pay for the study right now and if they can be cut loose, they will hire a firm and get the study done with teaming up with Mike Kline in getting the right information and format.

Drainage Board Attorney Shannon Kruse would need to work with Eric Weber, City of Auburn Attorney, in working up an agreement between the two entities, determining all aspects of the project with the end goal having the City of Auburn take over the drain upon completion. The agreement would be that there will be a joint study of the area that will tell us what needs to be done; the Mayor of Auburn has stated that they will pay the cost of the study.

The consensus to move forward is to have an agreement between the City and County; to have a study with the City of Auburn paying the cost of the study; a report from the engineering firm and then a hearing being held to move forward with a project.

Don Grogg moved that the DeKalb County Drainage Board, in conjunction with the City of Auburn move forward with a study of the area being conducted by an engineering firm to be paid by the City of Auburn, seconded by Bill Hartman, motion carried.

It was the consensus of the Board that the expertise of both the Mayor of the City of Auburn and the DeKalb County Surveyor be enough to determine the engineering firm

hired for this study; to be expedient and efficient there is no need to involve the Board in the decision of the firm chosen to be hired.

In questioning a timeframe for this study realistically, the Mayor said if having a firm onboard in sixty or forty-five days, as soon as is possible with the firm hired. Mike Kline said hiring the firm can be done in that timeframe however, the actual study will take much more time than that, and will most likely not be ready for presentation before spring.

**INFORMATIONAL:** Bill Hartman presented an invoice for the *William Bickel Drain Number 133-00-0* to the surveyor. This invoice is for the tile riser/structure/cover/grate.

There being no further business, this meeting adjourned.

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Randall J. Deetz, Chairman

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Brenda F. Myers, Administrative Assistant