

**DEKALB COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING**

March 11, 2021

Drainage Commissioners Present: Chairman, Randall J. Deetz  
 Vice Chairman Michael E. Krehl  
 William Hartman, Member  
 Michael V. Watson, Member  
 Bruce Bell II, Member

Others Present: Surveyor Michael C. Kline  
 First Deputy Surveyor Nathan Frye  
 Drainage Board Secretary Michelle Lassiter  
 Attorney Shannon Kruse

Guests: Tom Miller  
 James Deetz  
 Gerald E. Teders, Tri-County Land

Chairman Randall J. Deetz called the regular meeting of the DeKalb County Drainage Board to order at 8:30 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Bill Harman to approve the Minutes of March 4, 2021 as the standard minutes of the DeKalb County Drainage Board. The motion was seconded by Mike Watson. Chairman Deetz asked for a voice vote, with all members who attended the meeting voting in the affirmative. Mr. Deetz abstained due to his absence from the meeting.

**SURVEYOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Deetz asked for the Surveyor's Report and Nathan Frye presented the following:

- Copies to the Board of the job descriptions for the current Surveyor's Office Manager's position and the Drainage Board Administrative Assistant position. Mr. Frye stated that he and the Human Resource Director had been working on the job descriptions and would like to create a new job description since the positions had been merged. The Board decided to take the next week to review the information and discuss at the next meeting.
- *Guy Platter Drain 112-00-0* update: Stone being delivered this week and pipe and should be delivered next week. Mr. Frye further explained that the drain had been dipped last year, resulting in some erosion happening, depositing sand and silt into the bottom of the drain. Mr. Frye explained that the Indiana DNR recommends silt trap be used to prevent this type of erosion from happening. Mr. Frye went on to explain the first 50 to 75 feet of the drain needed to be re-dipped to increase the holding capacity, which would cost approximately \$1,000. This amount was not included in the bid for the reconstruction project. Mr. Frye was asking for permission for a change order to include the cost in the project. After some discussion it was decided the cost for the re-dipping of the drain would be taken out of the maintenance fund instead of being included in the reconstruction

project costs. The reconstruction timeline, dependent on weather conditions, would be 30 to 40 days. The drain lateral was not being replaced, but would need some maintenance.

- *William Bickel Drain 133-00-0*: Mike Kline wanted to have the upper section of the drain explored. Once that has been completed he would share the information with Randy Sexton, Noble County's Surveyor, and then set up a joint DeKalb County/Noble County Drainage Board meeting.

### **INFORMATION**

Mr. Deetz asked Ms. Kruse to clarify information from the March 4, 2021 meeting minutes regarding the State of Indiana Procurement process. Ms. Kruse stated that quotes are required to be in writing, sealed and opened at a public meeting. Quotes are sent out by invitation to three or four contractors. Bids are advertised and open to all contractor wishing to participate. Ms. Kruse recommends that the Drainage Board and Surveyor's Office follow the same procedure in the interest of transparency.

### **INFORMATION – TOM MILLER REGARDING THE PAUL FUNK DRAIN 3-00-0**

As Gerald Teders of Tri-County Land Surveying was not yet present, the Board moved forward with the agenda receiving information regarding the *Paul Funk Drain 3-00-0*. Pointes that came out of that discussion were:

- There were two potential designs created for the reconstruction of the drain. The first would be a route upstream to the *Adam Riche Drain 84-00-0* which would be the cheaper of the two designs with an approximate \$130,000 to \$150,000 cost. The second design would run under a TransCanada gas line, be a longer run, cross watersheds and cost approximately \$50,000 more than the first option.
- There was a muck pocket to the south that would cause issues due to frost heave should the drain be routed through it.
- If the drain crosses the watershed the landowners within the other watershed would need to be aware that an easement would need to be created for the connection. They would not be assessed for the drain.
- There are potential wetlands that need to be taken into consideration.
- Lateral 1 has issues and should be addressed as well.
- Surveyor will meet with Mr. Miller to put together an agreeable design, after finding the shots previously taken of the drain and surrounding land. Then an informational meeting will be held with the Drainage Board and all affected landowners to explain the design, costs, and timing for the reconstruction.

### **PLAN COMMISSION PETITION – LAWHEAD ADDITION**

Mr. Gerald Teders of Tri-County Land Surveying presented a plat for a one lot subdivision on behalf of Laura Lawhead. This subdivision is located in the watershed of the *Levi Ober Drain 187-00-0* at the northwest corner of County Road 7 and County Road 60. This is a subdivision by technicality due to primary structures being located on the parcel and it is being subdivided to

permit each structure to be on its own parcel. The subdivision will not affect any county regulated drains.

Mike Watson moved to approve the subdivision as presented and for a letter to be sent to the DeKalb County Plan Commission from the Drainage Board expressing said approval. Mike Krehl seconded the motion. Motion carried with an affirmative verbal vote by all members.

Mr. Krehl informed the Surveyor's Office that he wanted all unused tile from the Bickel Drain reconstruction removed from his property by April 1, 2021.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned.

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Randall J. Deetz, Chairman

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Michelle Lassiter, Administrative Assistant