

DEKALB COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING

January 20, 2022

Drainage Commissioners Present:

William L. Hartman, Chairman
 Michael V. Watson, Member
 Bruce Bell, II, Vice-Chair
 Sandra M. Harrison, Member
 James A. Miller, Member

Others Present:

Michael C. Kline, County Surveyor
 Michelle Lassiter, Secr. /Drainage Board Admin. Asst.
 Shannon Kruse, Attorney

Guests:

Mike Gensic
 Tara Thompson
 Angela Wallace

Absent:

None

Chairman Mike Watson 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 Jim Miller to approve the Minutes of January 6, 2022, as the standard minutes of the DeKalb County Drainage Board. The motion was seconded by Bill Hartman, the motion carried with Bruce Bell, II abstaining, as he did not attend the meeting, motion carried

APPROVAL OF ATTORNEY'S CONTRACT

Ms. Kruse presented her 2022 contract for \$1,295.00 monthly for attending Drainage Board meetings and \$125.00 per hour for additional work on the Board's behalf. Bill Hartman moved to approve Ms. Kruse's contract, Bruce Bell, II seconded the motion, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Mr. Watson asked for a motion for Ms. Kruse's January stipend of \$1,295.00. Bruce Bell, II moved to approve Ms. Kruse's January stipend of \$1,295.00, Jim Miller seconded the motion, motion carried.

LEVI O. DENNISON TILE DRAIN NO. 317-00-0

Mr. Mike Gensic of Gensic Engineering presented a route and plan for the reconstruction of the drain. Mr. Gensic explained the route was proposed to avoid a gas pipeline, and the tile size was due to the land contours. It was explained that a portion of the existing tile might not be working due to a landowner's field pattern tiling having destroyed a section of the tile.

Mr. Kline stated his office would determine the new watershed for the drain, as his office had most of the information needed already in the County GIS maps, and it would be easier for them to determine the watershed, than for Mr. Gensic's office.

The Board asked for the Surveyor's office to contact the major landowner Mr. Kummer so that he can review the plans and provide additional input. Once the plans, watershed, assessments, and estimated engineering costs are ready they were to be brought to the Drainage Board for acceptance, and a public hearing date set.

FRANK YARDE OPEN DRAIN NO. 27-00-0

Angela Wallace of Compass Land Surveying, on behalf of David and Kristin Houser, presented a plat for a one lot, 15.95-acre subdivision, located in the Northeast Quarter, Section 34, T33N, R12E, Butler Civil Township, and within the *Frank Yarde Regulated Open Drain No. 27-00-0* watershed.

Mr. Kline presented the Surveyor's report, "This plat does not appear to exceed the threshold set by the Drainage Board for additional drainage improvements. This development shall not block off-site drainage across the site. Stormwater from this lot shall be directed onto the parent tract and not onto adjoining tracts. This report is subject to any additional information submitted at the Plan Commission hearing."

Mr. Kline explained that the Board policies did not require drainage improvements for one or two lot subdivisions. He further explained that when reviewing a plat he looked at the land contours and where stormwater naturally flowed to ensure the water would not flood neighboring lands.

Mr. Kline and Ms. Wallace then explained the floodplain contained two parts, floodway, which was the area where the water flowed, and flood fringe, which was the retention section of the floodplain. They also explained that the Army Corps of Engineers and Indiana Department of Natural Resources oversaw the floodway, the local government oversaw the flood fringe.

Bill Hartman moved to approve the Drainage Plan dated 12.31.2021 for the Woodview Acres subdivision as presented by Angela Wallace, with the Surveyor's recommendations, the motion was seconded by Bruce Bell II, motion carried.

EVAN COLLINS OPEN DRAIN NO. 81-00-0; WILLIAM CREAGER TILE DRAIN NO. 142-00-0; MARY METCALF DRAIN NO. 261-00-0

Mr. Kline presented a utility permit request and agreement from Indiana Michigan Power Company (IMP) for the replacement of poles and wires along the west side of County Road 71 from County Road 24 to 450 feet north of County Road 20.

Bruce Bell, II moved to approve the utility permit request and agreement from IMP for the replacement of poles and wires along the west side of County Road 71 from County Road 24 to 450 feet north of County Road 20. Jim Miller seconded the motion, motion carried.

ALBERT HOVARTER TILE DRAIN NO. 104-00-0

Mr. Miller asked Mr. Kline for a status report for the *Albert Hovarter Tile Drain No. 104-00-0*. Mr. Kline stated staff had marked thirty feet on each side of the drain for clearing. Mr. Kline was hiring Kevin Casselman to clear and spray the area. Mr. Kline further stated there were eight to ten drains in need of clearing and spraying.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT

Mr. Watson asked for the Surveyor's Report and Mr. Kline provided the following information.

HARRY SHULL TILE DRAIN NO. 109-00-0: A contractor had been onsite. The contractor was confident he could hold the grade to bore under County Road 427. The City of Auburn was willing to pay the \$20,000 to \$25,000 for the boring. The remainder of the work would cost an additional \$20,000 to \$25,000 to be paid from the drain maintenance fund. There would be a standpipe installed and the City was willing to flush the drain in the spring with their jet truck.

Dr. Robert Hargarten's driveway would have a section cut and removed for the replacement of the twelve-inch pipe. This would have a cost of approximately \$3,000, normally the landowner would pay the driveway replacement cost, but in this case, the Surveyor was willing to pay for it out of the maintenance fund. The Board had given permission on December 16, 2021, for the drain maintenance fund to be put in the red for up to five years. The Board cenusus was to move forward with the drain repair.

GUY PLATTER DRAIN NO. 112-00-0: Mr. Kline reported this drain reconstruction was complete, other than the road crossing, which required a State Department of Transportation permit. Mr. Kline stated he was working on a plan where the State would repair the road.

FRITZ BARTELS DRAIN NO. 408-00-0: Mr. Kline stated the materials for this drain reconstruction project were on site, with a tentative start date of January 24, 2022, depending on the weather. The contractor was Tri-County Excavating.

C. B. KAGEY DRAIN NO. 225-00-0: Mr. Kline reported this reconstruction project was waiting for materials to be delivered. The contractor was Knott Excavating, the same contractor as the *George Matson Lateral 11 Drain NO. 73-11-0*. Mr. Kline stated the tile was ordered, the contractor was to deliver the stone. The *Kagey* went to a public hearing and was approved before the *Matson*. Mr. Kline stated the major landowner Rory Walker was pushing to have the *Matson* completed first.

Mr. Kline stated that a landowner in the *William Bickel Drain No. 133-00-0* watershed had been to a work site in Noble County to harass a contractor for his bid amount on that drain's reconstruction. Mr. Kline cautioned the Board regarding that type of conduct, as it was tipping on the legal/ethical line, and because it could cost the County contractors. Mr. Kline informed the Board that LaOtto Excavating had pulled away for several months after being angered.

FRED GROSCUP JR DRAIN NO. 335-00-0: Mr. Kline informed the Board the project had been delayed by the landowner refusing to sign the Consent and Waiver due to negotiating the sale of the land. It was believed the new landowner would sign the Consent and Waiver once possession of the land was completed. The cost of the project would increase due to the delay. The hope was the new landowner would pay for the cost increase.

WILLIAM BICKEL DRAIN NO. 133-00-0: Mr. Kline stated a request had been submitted for a 368 meeting with the Army Corps of Engineers, Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), and Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) to determine the wetland and what would be permitted for drain reconstructions.

PAUL FUNK DRAIN NO. 3-00-0; G. B. COLLINS DRAIN NO. 87-00-0: Mr. Kline stated requests had been submitted for 368 meetings for these drains as well regarding the wetlands and floodplain involved with the area.

JOHN KETCHAM DRAIN NO. 334-00-0: Mr. Kline stated this drain was not currently on maintenance and his office was waiting on the City of Auburn to decide how they would like to proceed based on the study done by an outside engineering firm.


ORA BOHLER DRAIN NO. 54-00-0: Mr. Kline stated he needed to review the design drawings, then prepare the other documents needed for a public hearing. Mr. Kline stated this project would probably cost approximately half a million dollars and may need to be bonded.

Mr. Kline explained to the new Board members that the County Surveyor is charged by State Statutes to be the technical advisor to the Drainage Board, reviewing all the development within the County, including development within the Cities.

E. P. GRIFFIN DRAIN NO. 224-00-0: Mr. Kline explained the preliminary design for this drains reconstruction was being created. Cedar Creek was presenting issues. The creek was depositing sand at the drain outlet, blocking it. Mr. Kline stated he would be requesting a 368 meeting with the State and would present two proposals to remedy the creek issue. The first proposal was to install a 56" – 60" drainage structure in the bank of the creek long enough to bypass the sand deposits. The second proposal was to work with Earth Source for the design of a concrete wall to be installed in the creek

to divert the creek to the west. A third possibility that was not preferred was a pump, which would be costly due to running electric service to the location, and the associated ongoing monthly electric bill.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:49 a.m.


Michael V. Watson, Chairman
Michelle Lassiter, Administrative Assistant