

## DEKALB COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING

August 25, 2022

### **Drainage Commissioners Present:**

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

### **Others Present:**

Michael C. Kline, County Surveyor  
Michelle Lassiter, Secr. /Drainage Board Admin. Asst.  
Shannon Kruse, Attorney  
Katie Rutan, Surveyor's Clerk

### **Guests:**

Colton Crager

### **Absent:** James A. Miller, Member

Chairman Michael 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 Bruce Bell, II to approve the Minutes of August 18, 2022, as presented as the standard minutes of the DeKalb County Drainage Board. The motion was seconded by Bill Hartman, and the motion carried.

### **DRAINAGE PLANS**

#### **CRAGER MEADOWS SUBDIVISION – 1765 COUNTY ROAD 18, WATERLOO:**

The Board reviewed the drainage plan for the Crager Meadows Subdivision, a one-lot, 10 acres subdivision, on 1765 County Road 18, Waterloo, IN 46793, in Section 26, Fairfield Township, as submitted by Joseph R. Herendeen, Sauer Land Surveying, Inc., on behalf of the owners, Colton and Melissa Crager, and within the watersheds of the Frank Albright Regulated Open Drain No. 14-00-0 and the John Potts Regulated Tile Drain No. 39-00-0.

The Board accepted the Surveyor's Drainage Report, which stated "The 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."

Bruce Bell, II, moved to approve the drainage plan dated 08.16.2022, sealed, and signed by Joseph R. Herendeen of Sauer Land Surveying, Inc., with the Surveyor's recommendations, the motion was seconded by Sandy Harrison, and the motion carried.

### **SURVEYOR'S REPORT**

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

#### **E. P. SHERWOOD REGULATED OPEN DRAIN NO. 162-00-0:**

Mr. Kline thanked Mr. Hartman for giving him new information on the E.P. Sherwood. Mr. Kline stated he had a new set of reconstruction plans for a portion of the *E.P. Sherwood Regulated Tile Drain No. 162-00-0*. After doing some research, the tile was dug up and a newer 24-inch tile was found. The tile was not bedded in stone and may not be able to be retained. Mr. Kline stated that stone bedding gave a tile support to retain its shape and to prevent it from collapsing when dirt was piled on top of it. He was not sure how long the tile would last without stone bedding. Mr. Kline stated the manufacturer would not guarantee the tile if it was not bedded in stone. There was a wet area with trees and bushes where someone had dug a trench. Mr. Kline was not sure if water was getting into the tile.

Mr. Kline stated the new tile would go around the wetland, and the discovered 24-inch tile was close in elevation to the new design elevation. Mr. Kline passed out the proposed assessment rolls for the proposed reconstruction. The estimated construction costs dropped from \$205,924.00 to \$135,103.00, an approximately 35% difference. The proposed assessment was \$432.55 an acre. Mr. Kline stated the project costs could be lower depending on oil prices at the time materials were bid. Mr. Kline asked the Board to accept the new plans and assessment rolls for the October 6, 2022, Public Hearing.

Mr. Hartman questioned what Mr. Kline proposed for the road dip on County Road 23. Mr. Kline responded that tile couldn't be installed in that location due to the wetlands at that location. Mr. Kline proposed to run to the south of the wetlands and install trash racks on 15-inch stubs. The inlet would be lower than the road by one foot. Mr. Kline suggested the commissioners talk to the County Highway Department regarding raising 200 feet of County Road 23's elevation by one foot to prevent road flooding. Mr. Kline stated care had to be taken not to drain the wetlands or the County would have issues with the Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. Kline had decided against using catch basins using trash racks instead as they were somewhat self-cleaning allowing more water to enter the drain.

Bill Hartman, made a motion to accept the revised reconstruction plans and assessment rolls for a portion of the *E.P. Sherwood Regulated Tile Drain No. 162-00-0*. Sandy Harrison seconded the motion, and the motion carried. A public hearing date had previously been set for October 6, 2022.

#### FRITZ BARTELS REGULATED TILE DRAIN NO. 408-00-0:

Mr. Kline informed the board his office was trying to clean up the drain reconstruction files to get the landowners assessed, which would include the board signing Completion Affidavits. The *Fritz Bartels Regulated Tile Drain No. 408-00-0* had been inspected and approved by the Surveyor's Office and the Completion Affidavit had been signed by Kevin Linnemeier of Tri-County Excavating. Mr. Kline stated the reconstructed drain was working well. However, there was a farmer who had pattern-tiled his field tying into the drain without an outlet permit and was discharging a large amount of water to the west.

Ms. Kruse reminded the board there was a 60-day waiting period for payment once the Completion Affidavit was completed. Mr. Kline responded that this project and several others had been completed more than 60 days ago. Mr. Kline then asked the Board to make a motion to accept the Completion Affidavit from Kevin Linnemeier so he could be paid the retention fee and Mr. Kline could finalize the assessment rolls sending them to the Auditor and Treasurers Office for collection.

Ms. Kruse stated that Mr. Kline was following the State Code for the process requirements.

Bruce Bell, II, made a motion that the County Surveyor had inspected and approved the reconstructed *Fritz Bartels Regulated Tile Drain No. 408-00-0* and for the Board to accept the Completion Affidavit signed by Kevin Linnemeier of Tri County Excavating. Bill Hartman seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

#### C. B. KAGEY REGULATED TILE DRAIN NO. 225-00-0

Mr. Kline informed The Board he also has a Completion Affidavit signed by Tim Knott of Knott Drainage and Excavating, Inc. for the *C B Kagey Regulated Tile Drain No. 225-00-0*. Mr. Kline asked the Board to accept the Completion Affidavit so Knotts could be paid their retainage and the assessment rolls could be processed for the drain reconstruction.

Bill Hartman, made a motion that the County Surveyor had inspected and approved the reconstructed *C. B. Kagey Regulated Drain No. 225-00-0* and for the Board to accept the

Completion Affidavit signed by Tim Knott of Knott Drainage and Excavating, Inc. Sandy Harrison seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Mr. Kline asked the board for clarification regarding the *C B Kagey Regulated Tile Drain No. 225-00-0*. The drain reconstruction had been moved in priority due to Mrs. Diehl pledging \$70,000.00 and Mr. Presley pledging \$5,000.00 towards the reconstruction cost. Mr. Kline stated in the past pledged reconstruction payments had been collected up front, which did not happen in this instance, with the remainder of the reconstruction costs to be divided between the remaining watershed landowners. Mr. Kline wanted to make sure that was the Board's intention. Mr. Kline stated that depending on the final cost analysis Mr. Presley might end up owing a little more than the pledged \$5,000. Mr. Kline would bring those figures to the Board for approval when completed. Mr. Kline stated the process was the same that was followed for the reconstruction of the *Eric Morris Regulated Tile Drain No. 416-00-0*. Mike Thomas, the developer of the Fawn Creek Subdivision had pledged \$73,000.00. The reconstruction of the *Eric Morris Regulated Drain No. 416-00-0* was not started until the money was placed in the reconstruction account. The board agreed with Mr. Kline.

#### FRED GROSCUP JR. REGULATED TILE DRAIN NO. 335-00-0

Mr. Kline stated he had met with Kevin Linnemeier from Tri-County Excavating. They walked the *Fred Groscup Jr. Drain* to determine where best to place the materials for the reconstruction project. They looked at the pond the water level was 2  $\frac{3}{4}$  feet above the outlet pipe that went under Interstate 69 for the *John Ketcham Regulated Tile Drain No. 334-00-0*. The water level would have to be lowered to install the drain structures, as well as the lowering of the pond, and brushing and clearing of the project area. The mound in front of the house will be removed for the project. Mr. Kline spoke with the house residents, they will be moving out in September. Mr. Kline told them the contractor would provide them access as the driveway entrance will be disturbed during the reconstruction.

#### WILLIAM BICKEL REGULATED TILE DRAIN NO. 133-00-0:

Mr. Kline and Kevin Linnemeier also inspected the *William Bickel Regulated Tile Drain No. 133-0-0* which included Jim Deetz's property. Mr. Deetz had water standing above the reconstructed drain on his property due to the soil types being poor and self-sealing. There was water in the tile, and water sitting around the 60-inch catch basin. Overall the drain was working. Mr. Linnemeier will bring in a dozer with a ripper to run over the area. Mr. Linnemeier will also raise a couple of low areas and install a "T" with tile going off in both directions.

Mr. Kline was going to speak with the LaGrange County Surveyor regarding funding dipping the open portion of the drain known as the Maumee Creek in LaGrange County. Mr. Linnemeier would be asked to do the dipping since the project would require a long-reach excavator.

#### Other Items:

Mr. Kline had several other projects involving open drains in need of being dipped with a long-reach excavator that he planned to ask Mr. Linnemeier to put on his schedule. Mr. Kline planned to move away from single scoop-dipping to laying the banks back and widening the drain bottoms to make them more safely accessible and hold more runoff.

Mr. Kline informed the Board his office had received several calls from citizens complaining that the drain sprayed had produced an inadequate die-off. He stated his office needed to begin educating citizens that we don't spray for total kill-off, only trees and shrubs, grass is needed to stabilize the banks to prevent slide-ins.

Mr. Kline shared that Mike Gustin, the new inspector was working out well. Mr. Gustin was very ambitious and was learning quickly.

Mr. Kline explained his staff was working to put together a list of drains with negative and low account balances for assessment next year, as well as an updated list of drains in need of reconstruction. Three drains Mr. Kline wanted to bring to the Board for fall public hearings, and spring reconstruction were the *Ora Bohler Regulated Tile Drain No. 54-00-0*, the *E.P. Griffin Regulated Tile Drain No. 224-00-0*, and the *Fred Groscup South Regulated Tile Drain No. 352-80-0*.

**GUY PLATTER REGULATED TILE DRAIN NO. 112-00-0:**

Bill Hartman asked about where we were on the Guy Platter. Mr. Kline informed the Board he was still working to get costs for the State Road 8 crossing of the *Guy Platter Regulated Tile Drain 112-00-0* to complete that reconstruction project. The State Department of Transportation (INDOT) wanted a comparison cost for the jack and bore vs open cut of the road. Mr. Kline stated the issue was getting quotes from INDOT-approved contractors. Mr. Kline stated he would like to do the jack and bore to complete the project. Mr. Kline further explained the jack and bore could be done at any time, an open cut of the road would have the project run out of time due to the asphalt <sup>plants</sup> closing for the winter. Mr. Kline stated he would bring the estimated costs to the Board soon. Mr. Kline stated another option was to work with the County Highway Department to set up a county road detour, which INDOT would permit if the County Commissioners signed to take responsibility for county road damages.

**LEVI DENNISON REGULATED TILE DRAIN NO. 317-00-0:**

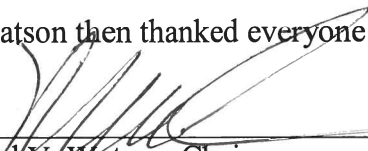
Mr. Bell questioned a section of a letter received from Mike Gensic of Gensic Engineering stating the reconstruction project for the *Levi Dennison Regulated Tile Drain No. 317-00-0* was terminated. Mr. Bell asked if this was true. Mr. Kline stated he believed Mr. Gensic misunderstood the discussion that took place at a previous Board meeting. Ms. Kruse explained the Board could proceed with the reconstruction project without a petition since it was on the long-range priority list. Mr. Kline stated he thought the Board should provide clarification on the project status to Mr. Gensic. Mr. Watson stated the Board had not made a decision regarding terminating the reconstruction of the *Levi Dennison Regulated Tile Drain No. 317-00-0*.

**DISCUSSION**

Mr. Watson asked the Board for additional discussion.

Ms. Kruse reminded the Board of the Indiana Farm Bureau sponsored Drainage School next Wednesday, August 31, 2022. She stated she would be attending virtually. Mr. Kline stated that he and Bill Rychener, the Field Inspector Supervisor would be attending in person. Mr. Kline also stated that he had a webinar on the latest rules and regulations of the Indiana Department of Environment (IDEM), the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR).

Mr. Watson then thanked everyone for attending the meeting and declared it adjourned at 9:23 a.m.

  
Michael V. Watson, Chairman

  
Michelle Lassiter, Administrative Assistant

## DEKALB COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

NO.	NAME	PHONE (HOME)	PHONE (CELL)	EMAIL ADDRESS	MAILING ADDRESS	PETITION OF INTEREST
1	Colton Cramer	260-573-6333		CramerColton2@gmail.com	6103 CP 34	Butte IN drainage resur.
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DATE

08/25/2022

