

DEKALB COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING

March 25, 2021

Drainage Commissioners Present:

Chairman, Randall J. Deetz
Vice Chairman Michael E. Krehl
William L. Hartman, Member
Michael V. Watson, Member
Bruce Bell II, Member

Others Present:

First Deputy Surveyor Nathan Frye
Drainage Board Admin. Asst. Michelle Lassiter
Attorney Shannon Kruse

Guests:

Brandon Porter
Andy Jagoda
Chuck Jordan
Sarah Wagner

Absent:

Surveyor Michael C. Kline

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 Hartman to approve the Minutes of March 18, 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, motion was approved with all members voting in the affirmative.

INFORMATION

Schedule of claims for March 22, 2021 were submitted to the Drainage Board.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT

Mr. Deetz asked for the Surveyor's Report and Nathan Frye stated that he had discussed project priorities with Mike Kline and presented the following:

- *Guy Platter Drain 112-00-0*: Mr. Frye stated the hole at the Krehl/Hartman property line was repaired and the 24-inch tile would be removed from Mike Krehl's property either yet today or tomorrow and delivered to the Guy Platter site. Mr. Frye further informed the Board that he had been mistaken when he reported the 18-inch tile was onsite. However, it should be delivered with the week. Mr. Frye had been in contact with Hixson Sand & Gravel regarding the disruption in tile supplies. They were hopeful that once the bottom portion of the project is completed the remainder of tile would be available for the completion of the project. Mr. Frye did call Bauman Tile in Ohio. Bauman's also was having trouble getting tile and had no 24-inch tile available.
- *Fred Groscup Jr. Drain 335-00-0*: Mr. Frye stated he had met with the City of Auburn Engineer, Daryl McConnell. The City is happy with the design, which has 24-inch tile running parallel to State Road 8 and up the property line, and 18-inch tile running from the property line to the County owned pond. The next steps are:

- A meeting with Auburn’s Mayor, Engineer, and the Leins to review the design, or for the Mayor to send the design to the Leins for approval.
 - A Consent & Waiver will need to be signed by the Leins and DeKalb County as property owners.
 - Then an inter-local agreement will need to be drawn up between DeKalb County and the City of Auburn that designates the County will pay for the original engineered costs for the project using 18-inch tile, and the City of Auburn will pay for the upsizing to 24-inch tile and the six requested manholes that will cost \$8,000 to \$10,000 each.
 - Requests for bids will be sent out as the project materials and labor will be less than \$75,000. The cost for the County for each item will be between \$40,000 to \$60,000.
- *C.B. Kagey Drain 225-00-0*: Mr. Frye informed the Board this project would be a reconstruction of one-mile of tile. The design is completed. The land involved is farmed by Phil Brechbill of Brechbill Farms. The land owner and Mr. Brechbill would like to pay for the project. After some discussion it was decided to have Mr. Frye Contact the landowner and Mr. Brechbill to confirm they still want to pay for the whole project and the Surveyor’s Office would bring the complete plan drawings, engineering estimates, and assessments to the April 8th meeting for the Board to review. The Board would like to set up an informational meeting with all of the landowners in the watershed to discuss the design and the options for the reconstruction to ensure all understand the project.
 - *Fritz Bartels Drain 408-00-0*: Mr. Frye informed the Board the reconstruction design is completed. After some discussion it was decided the Surveyor’s Office would provide the complete set of drawings, along with the engineering costs, and assessments to the Board for review at the April 1st meeting. The Board would set a date for a hearing at the April 1st meeting. Attorney Kruse cautioned that when landowners’ notices are sent out the envelope needs to be marked “Please return letter within 5 days to the Drainage Board” per Indiana State Code 36-9-27-52.
 - *William Bickel Drain 133-00-0*: Mr. Frye stated he had spoken with the Noble County Surveyor, Randy Sexton. Mr. Sexton will review the design and engineering costs. When Mr. Sexton has completed his review an inter-county meeting will be set for a public hearing. Mr. Frye will present the final assessments for the first phase of the reconstruction at that meeting.
 - *George Matson Lateral 11 Drain 73-11-0*: Mr. Frye informed the Board that Rory Walker of Walker Farms would like to sign a Consent & Waiver and pay for the lowering of the drain, along with the replacing the tile from the outlet. The field work is completed and the office is working on the design with will include either 24 or 30 inch tile. The drain currently is a 22-inch tile.
 - *Paul Funk Drain 3-00-0*: Mr. Frye informed the Board he would be meeting with Tom Miller onsite Monday, March 29, 2021. The culvert under County Road 4 will need to be replaced.

- *G.B. Collins 87-00-0*: Mr. Frye informed the Board this drain had been dipped and there was a connecting drain that would need to be dipped.

DRAIN VARIANCE REQUEST – PHILLIP GRUBE DRAIN 283-00-0:

Brandon Porter of 5856 County Road 427 took the podium to request a variance to allow him and his wife to install a fence over the *Phillip Grube Drain 283-00-0* using posts set in concrete. Points coming out of the discussion:

- Mr. Post was informed that should he damage the drain installing the fence, he would be responsible for the cost of repairs.
- In addition, Mr. Porter was informed that should he install the fence over the drain, he would be given advance notice of repairs to the drain so he could remove the fence himself. Should he not remove the fence in advance of repairs to the drain, he would be charged for the removal of the drain.
- Mike Watson moved to have the Surveyor’s Office draw up a Variance agreement for the Drainage Board to sign with the Porters at 5856 County Road 427 to permit them to install a fence over the *Phillip Grube Drain 283-00-0* using posts set in concrete. The motion was approved by a unanimous verbal vote of the Board.

DRAIN VARIANCE REQUEST – LEWIS DIBBLING DRAIN 74-00-0:

Andy Jagoda of 5101 State Road 101, Butler Indiana took the podium to request a variance to allow him to build a 1,352 square foot residence on property he owns at 2002 County Road 35. There currently is a mobile home located on the property that is approximately 60 feet into the *Lewis Dibbling Drain 74-00-0* easement. The proposed new residence would be built in the same location the mobile home occupies. Mr. Jagoda requested the variance allow him to locate the new structure no closer than 55 feet from the top-of-bank of the drain. Mr. Frye stated the field crew took GPS shots that corroborated the mobile home as being 60 feet from the top-of-bank of the drain. Bill Hartman moved to have the Surveyor’s Office draw up a variance for Mr. Jagoda to locate a 1,352 residence no closer than 55 feet from the top-of-bank from the *Lewis Dibbling Drain 74-00-0*. Mike Krehl seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a unanimous verbal vote of the Board.

PLAN COMMISSION PETITION – REPLAT OF LOT 1 CHRISTOPHER’S CORNERS ADDITION:

Chuck Jordan of 17431 Auburn Rd., Hometown Indiana took the podium presenting a one-lot subdivision of Lot 1 with the Christopher’s Corners Addition, explaining the landowner Steven Wagner was gifting the lot to his son and daughter-in-law, Lance and Sarah Wagner. During discussion of the subdivision, Mr. Jordan was informed the County Unified Development Ordinance requires that all lots be a net two acres. It was suggested that Mr. Jordan square off the back lot line to bring the lot into compliance. Mr. Frye presented the Surveyor’s Report regarding the drainage plan for this subdivision, stating the subdivision lies within the watershed of the Jerry Davis Open Drain 191-00-0, all runoff should be directed onto the parent track, not onto neighboring tracks. Mike Watson moved to have the Drainage Board Administrative Assistant send a letter of approval of the subdivision’s drainage plan to the County Plan Commission, with a note regarding the plat not meeting the net two acre rule. Bruce Bell II seconded the motion. The motion carried with a four to one verbal vote, Bill Hartman voting negatively.

INFORMATION

Mr. Frye stated the *Orzo Freeman Drain 175-00-0* reconstruction was completed. The yearly assessment scrolls were submitted when Randy Deetz was on vacation.

Bill Hartman stated he had been contacted by Craig Fordyce at 1896 County Road 20 who wanted to have a private drain declared a county regulated drain. Randy Deetz stated the drain must be constructed to code or brought up to code before being accepted by the Board. Mr. Frye will reach out to Mr. Fordyce to start the process.

Mr. Frye stated there were other similar requests, one being from Mr. Lonnie Lanning. 0897 County Road 56, Garrett, Indiana.

Mr. Frye stated the Surveyor's Office wanted to move some similar smaller projects along, including some drain disputes.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned.

Randall J. Deetz, Chairman

Michelle Lassiter, Administrative Assistant