

DEKALB COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING

May 19, 2022

Drainage Commissioners Present:

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

Joe Gabet, ForeSight Consulting
Mike Gensic, Gensic Engineering
Brent Weller
Tom Green, Green Engineering

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 Sandy Harrison to approve the Minutes of May 12, 2022, as presented, as the standard minutes of the DeKalb County Drainage Board. The motion was seconded by Bill Hartman, and the motion was carried, with Jim Miller abstaining due to his absence from that meeting.

BRENT WELL – ELIAS SCHOPF LATERAL 1 REGULATED TILE DRAIN NO. 242-01-0:

Mr. Weller of 1103 County Road 56 presented to discuss concerns with the sinking in the muck of a portion of the *Elias Schopf Later 1 Regulated Tile Drain No. 242-01-0* and concerns with the standpipe and drain along County Road 327 filling with field stubble.

Mr. Kline stated that the drain was reconstructed in 2010. The portion in the muck never worked before the construction. Mr. Kline knew it would sink eventually. The structure located by County Road 327 was a manhole with a ditch stool cap and was functioning as it was intended. There was nothing more to be installed. Other types of structures would clog more readily. Mr. Kline stated he had tried in the past asking farmers to keep the standpipes cleared, but had not received much cooperation. Mr. Kline explained that his office did not have the staff to keep all of the standpipes in the county clean. He further explained that the standpipes location was slatted as a future retention pond for a future planned housing development. The standpipe was connected to a 60-inch tile that was too large to plug with field stubble.

Mr. Kline stated the options for this portion of the tile were limited. It could either be replaced under maintenance in the same location with the same materials and would sink again in approximately ten years, or it could be reconstructed by pushing the tile further into the field, which would change the drain right-of-way, and require a consent and waiver. Mr. Kline further explained through the reconstruction process the drain could be converted to an open drain, which also would require it to be relocated further into the field away from the road.

Other options discussed by Mr. Kline and the Board were to utilize the older process of bedding the drain in straw or find someone familiar with bedding the drain in Styrofoam.

The Board consensus was to have the drain repaired through maintenance using a different bedding medium. Mr. Kline stated he would research the options and have the drain placed on the maintenance schedule.

DRAINAGE PLANS

CEDAR CREEK SAWMILL: Mr. Tom Green of Tom Green Engineering presented the drainage plans for Cedar Creek Saw Mill proposed for 5801 County Road 56. Mr. Green explained the facility would be assembling aluminum hunting blinds. The stormwater would drain across the land with the west side of the site flowing north and the east side flowing east both to depression areas that would then continue to the *Samuel Hindman Regulated Open Drain No. 185-00-0*. All stormwater would be contained to the site.

Mr. Kline informed the Board the structure and assembly site was proposed to be constructed on the highest point of the parcel and that all of the stormwater would remain on the site, and not impact neighboring properties. Mr. Kline recommended the Board approve the plans as presented by Mr. Green, dated 02.18.2022, and signed and sealed by Mr. Green.

Mr. Miller noted the drawings stated that there was no need for sanitary or water facilities for the site. Mr. Miller questioned whether this was accurate since the site would be a production facility. Mr. Miller asked that the County Plan Commission be made aware of this information and work with the County Health Department to ensure all items were addressed fully. Mr. Miller asked if the addition of those facilities would impact the drainage of the site and Mr. Kline's recommendation. Mr. Kline stated that if a septic system were added to the site it would only add a very small flow from the perimeter tile and would not affect the drainage plan.

Mr. Hartman made a motion to approve the drainage plan dated 02.18.2022, signed and sealed by Mr. Green with a favorable recommendation, and Mr. Watson to inform the County Plan Commission of the concerns regarding whether or not sanitary and water facilities were necessary for the site. Bruce Bell, II seconded the motion, motion carried.

RHINEHART DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION: Joe Gabet of ForeSight Consulting presented the drainage plans for a new building on the campus of Rhinehart Development Corporation located at 5345 County Road 68. Mr. Gabet explained all stormwater for the site went to the two ponds on site, which in turn drained to a depression area on the west side of the property. The current release rate was 1.5 cfs and the new release rate would be 1.52 cfs. All of the stormwater would be contained within the Rhinehart property.

Mr. Kline reported that the development was located within the watersheds of the James Goings Regulated Open Drain No. 113-00-0 and the Henry Beams Regulated Tile Drain No. 205-00-0. The drainage plan would keep the stormwater onsite with adequate release rates from the ponds. Mr. Kline recommended approval of the drainage plan drawings dated 03.08.2022 and the Stormwater Management Report dated 05.12.2022.

Jim Miller moved to approve the drainage plan dated 03.08.2022 and the Stormwater Management Report dated 05.12.2022 with the Surveyor's recommendations, sending a favorable recommendation to the DeKalb County Plan Commission, the motion was seconded by Sandy Harrison, motion carried.

LEVI DENNISON REGULATED TILE DRAIN NO. 317-00-0: Mr. Mike Gensic of Gensic Engineering was present to present three alternative options for the reconstruction of the drain. Mr. Gensic began with the plan labeled Alternate #2. This was the plan his company had originally presented to the Board that some landowners had not preferred. Mr. Kummer had been concerned with the drain running east along County Road 41 due to muck in the area. Mr. Gensic stated the muck did not seem to be a problem, as the road was stable. Mr. Gensic explained that he had looked at the drain and surrounding area in December of 2021. He observed that all of the issues appeared

to be north of County Road 34. Mr. Gensic stated that he now understood that the preference was for the drain to remain in its current general location. However, the gas pipeline was an issue. The gas pipeline was dead flat, and the gas company required any drains to be either three feet above or below the pipeline. The drain would not function with those two options. This option had an estimated cost of \$277,386.00.

Mr. Gensic then presented plans labeled Alternate #1. This plan was developed after speaking with Mr. Kline and would keep the drain in its current location with a bend to get past the gas pipeline. The estimated cost was \$325,803.00.

Mr. Gensic then presented plans labeled Alternate #3. Mr. Gensic explained this plan was developed after meeting onsite with Mr. Bell, Mr. Kummer, and Mr. Berryhill. This plan would take the drain around the north end of the wetland area so the landowner could tie in a private lateral. This option had an estimated cost of \$279,660.00 with an 18-inch pipe and \$298,980 with a 24-inch pipe.

Discussion of Alternate #3 disclosed that both Mr. Kummer and Mr. Berryhill liked this option. This option would have to meet IDEM and Army Corps of Engineering standards due to the wetland. If the land is currently farmed and the project stays on the farmed land it should be accepted by those entities. The main drain could not be run through the wetlands. It might be possible for laterals to go through a wetland as long as the pipe was solid with seals between the pipes. This option picks up road water to prevent it from dumping onto neighboring properties. The pipe could be bedded in #53 stone and the stone ran up to the road.

Mr. Gensic based his estimated costs based on information provided by Wilson Excavating for crew time, which was based on the cost of installing a sewer in Fort Wayne. There may be contractors who would charge less. The cost of the pipe was unstable and difficult to estimate. The difference between Alternate #1 and Alternate #3 with the 24-inch pipe was 400 feet of pipe. The cost estimates did not include the engineering contract costs.

A general discussion of the project produced the following information:

- There was an old concrete tile on the west side of County Road 41 that the outlet location was unknown.
- The current tile south of County Road 34 had been cut in several places and was not working.
- Alternate #2 might change the watershed to a lesser number of landowners resulting in an assessment increase for each.
- Watersheds were not supposed to be tiled into or out of, but individuals did it anyway without connection approvals. State drainage codes require connection approvals by the County Surveyor.
- Watersheds were based on overland flow paths per the State drainage code. Gensic Engineering was provided with catchments and overland flow paths and should be able to use those to determine the watershed.
- Assessments are based on a per-acre basis.
- An informational meeting would be held on June 16, 2022. Letters were to be mailed to the current landowners of record. At that meeting, Gensic Engineering would provide the three options along with estimated costs and assessment roles for each.

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: Mr. Kline reported the tile had been pulled under North Main Street on the north side of Auburn and was being buttoned up as the meeting was taking place. There was good water flow.

E. P. GRIFFIN TILE DRAIN NO. 224-00-0: Mr. Kline presented several pictures of the sand bar at the outlet of the drain after LaOtto Excavating had dipped a section out. There was still sand over the outlet and it was blowing water out of the sand. The water had been four feet above the drain and now was 1 ½ foot above the drain. The drain to the south was thirty feet above the outlet. Mr. Kline stated the drain was sucking dirt and debris from somewhere along the tile's path. County Road 19 was clear and looking decent. LaOtto Excavating was going to the drain in the County Road 19 area to remove a mulberry tree and to root the drain to get it working more efficiently. Mr. Kline stated this would buy some time for him to work with Earth Source consultants to create a reconstruction plan.

GUSTAVE MADER TILE DRAIN NO. 196-00-0: Mr. Kline explained that the Surveyor's Office had received a call from the City of Auburn. The Building Department had issued a building permit for a home on a lot in the Norland Park subdivision through which this drain passed. When the City of Auburn Street Superintendent received a driveway permit request he realized the issues with a home being constructed on the lot and brought it to the attention of the Auburn City Engineering Department, who called the Surveyor's Office. Mr. Kline found notes in which the Auburn Hills subdivision developers stated they would pay to replace the drain with a 24-inch pipe to Bradford Drive. The City of Auburn's previous Director of Engineering and the previous County Surveyor had agreed to an arrangement in which the City of Auburn would construct a 24-inch extension of the drain from Bradford Drive to the detention pond to the east of Norland Park and the County would own and maintain the line. This eliminated a 6-inch county-regulated line and swale. There were Drainage Board minutes found in which the Drainage Board had declared the drain an urban drain with a 15-foot right-of-way on each side. There were never the appropriate Drainage Board meetings and paperwork filed to officially make these improvements made by the Auburn Hills developers and the City of the county-regulated drain and Mr. Kline was asking the Drainage Board to clarify that the existing 24-inch line was the official county-regulated drain.

Mr. Hartman made a motion to clarify that the existing 24-inch line was the county-regulated Gustave Mader Tile Drain No. 196-00-0, an urban drain with a 15-foot right-of-way on each side. Jim Miller seconded the motion, motion carried.

E. P. SHERWOOD DRAIN NO. 50-00-0: Mr. Kline informed the Board he was waiting on cost estimates from Knott Excavating for clearing trees from the two acres of ground involved for this drain reconstruction. Knott Excavating was currently busy with the reconstruction of the *C. B. Kagey Drain No. 225-00-0*.

GUY PLATTER TILE DRAIN NO. 112-00-0: Mr. Kline explained that he was working to get the cost estimates together for the State Road 8 crossing. INDOT was quite busy and not responding quickly. Three Rivers Barricade needed the INDOT approved traffic plan before they could give an estimate. Mr. Kline was waiting on a quote for the jack and bore of the road. Mr. Kline was going to call ForeSight Consulting to see if they could provide a quote for a traffic plan, along with the basic costs for an open cut for comparison. Mr. Kline felt the job may end up being a jack and bore just to get the project completed.

DRAINAGE PLAN: ALLIANCE INDUSTRIES, 901 EAST QUINCY STREET, GARRETT: Mr. Kline informed the Board he had received a drainage plan for Alliance Industries, 901 East Quincy Street, for a 4,333 square foot building addition. The plans presented were dated May 17, 2021. They were signed and sealed by Jeremy Bowers of Service-Design Associates. This project is within the watersheds of the Fred Groscup North Drain No. 352-60-0 and the Garrett City Drain No. 44-00-0.

Mr. Kline stated he had reviewed the plans, specs, and drainage plan for the project and found that they met the requirements for a drainage plan. He had spoken with the City of Garrett's Water and Sewer Superintendent, who stated there was good drainage in the area, with most of the water going into the City of Garrett's stormwater line. Mr. Kline asked the Board to approve the plans, specs, and drainage report.

Bill Hartman moved to approve the Drainage Plan dated May 17, 2021, for Alliance Industries and to accept the Surveyor's recommendations for the building addition with the condition that should adjacent property landowners have water issues Alliance Industries will need to resolve the issues to the satisfaction of the DeKalb County Drainage Board, the motion was seconded by Bruce Bell, II, motion carried.

FRED GROSCUP JR. DRAIN NO. 335-00-0: Mr. Kline stated that the project was out for bid. It was sent to eight contractors, four material suppliers, and five stone suppliers, with a due date of June 1, 2022, a bid opening date of June 2, 2022, and a completion date at the end of October. The City of Auburn was being pushed to complete the project by Parkview Health as they wanted to begin pushing dirt yet this year.

JOHN KETCHAM DRAIN NO. 334-00-0: Mr. Kline stated that an Inter-Local agreement between the Drainage Board and the City of Auburn was needed quickly. The developers for the Hurrand property and the developers for the Sweitzer property were wanting to start moving earth next year. The city and the Sweitzer developers would like to hire ForeSight Consulting to draw up the plans. The City wanted to determine if a jack and bore under State Road 8 was possible. This would require hiring a private utility locating company. The City has the money for this phase of the work. Mr. Kline would like to have a meeting involving himself, Ms. Kruse, Mr. McConnell, and Mr. Weber from the City of Auburn to expedite the Interlocal Agreement.

The first project study listed the project cost as between 1.4 and 1.5 million dollars. The City's previous mayor had the money. The City Council had taken the money from the current mayor. The City's Redevelopment Commission was looking at providing the money for design and investigation and would need to budget for the reconstruction. The hope was to send the project out for bid in late fall, or early winter.

Mr. Kline stated he had informed Mr. McConnell that the project had to go through the Drainage Board process as per State Drainage Code. Mr. Kline was willing to work as a liaison between the Drainage Board and the City. Mr. McConnell would take the lead on the project with Mr. Kline giving him directions.

DISCUSSION

Mr. Bell stated he was glad the *E.P. Griffin* drain issues were seeing some resolution.

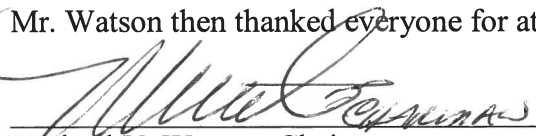
Mr. Hartman asked Mr. Kline about a drain located at 121 County Road 79. The owner had contacted Mr. Hartman regarding some wet ground. The drain showed on the maps as a vacated drain. Mr. Kline stated that if the landowner's neighbor would not repair the drain, or allow the

landowner to repair the drain, then the landowner could ask the Board to connect to the *Jacob Brunner Drain No. 237-00-0*.

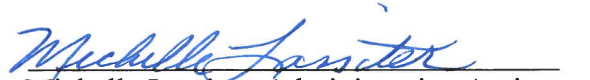
Mrs. Lassiter asked Mr. Bell if he would speak to Terry Durmot regarding submitting the variance application for the *Nancy Davis Open Drain No. 89-00-0*. Mr. Bell replied he would do so.

Mr. Watson informed the Board that originally he and Mr. Hartman had thought the engineering costs for the *Levi Dennis Drain No. 317-00-0* would be covered by the county's ARP funds. There was now some question as to that happening and the drain fund would have to pick up the costs. There was hope that the approval might still be given for the ARP funds to be used for the project. If so, the drain fund would be reimbursed by the ARP funds.

Mr. Watson then thanked everyone for attending the meeting and declared it adjourned at 10:35 a.m.



Michael V. Watson, Chairman



Michelle Lassiter, Administrative Assistant