

DEKALB COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING

June 9, 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, Sec. /Drainage Board Admin. Asst.
Shannon Kruse, Attorney
Katie Rutan, Office Clerk, Surveyor's Office

Guests:

Jennifer Bartscht
Charity Wisel

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 Bill Hartman to approve the Minutes of June 2, 2022, as presented, as the standard minutes of the DeKalb County Drainage Board. The motion was seconded by Bruce Bell, II, and the motion was carried.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Mr. Watson asked for a motion for Ms. Kruse's June stipend of \$1,295.00. Jim Miller moved to approve Ms. Kruse's May stipend of \$1,295.00, Bill Hartman seconded the motion, motion carried.

DRAINAGE PLAN

TIMOTHY LEE ESTATES:

Jennifer Bartscht, a member of Finkhousen Place, LLC presented the request for the Board to approve the drainage plan for the Timothy Lee Estates subdivision.

Mr. Kline explained the Timothy Lee Estates subdivision, a one-lot, 5.476-acre +/- subdivision, was located in the West Half of the Southeast Quarter, Section 17, T34N, R12E, Richland Township, and within the watersheds of the *C. B. Kagey Regulated Tile Drain No. 225-00-0* and the *Frank Yard Regulated Open Drain No. 27-00-0*. Mr. Kline further explained that the stormwater runoff was planned to flow overland with the north section of the lot going into the *Kagey* and the south section going into the *Yarde*.

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."

Jim Miller moved to approve the drainage plan dated 06.03.2022, sealed, and signed by Timothy C. Gouloff of Gouloff-Jordan Surveying and Design, Inc., with the Surveyor's recommendations, sending a favorable recommendation to the DeKalb County Plan Commission, the motion was seconded by Sandy Harrison, motion carried.

CHARITY WISEL – DANIEL WAGNER NORTH REGULATED TILE DRAIN NO. 119-60-0: Mrs. Wisel was present to ask for the status of the reconstruction of the drain. Mr. Kline stated

this drain reconstruction was not at the top of the priority list. The drain had been pushed down on the priority list due to other drain reconstructions being pushed up the priority because they were causing flooding across roads and to homes. Mr. Kline stated it would be done as soon as it was possible to do so. Mr. Bell stated the drain was currently number seventeen on the priority list and it was not possible to give a timeline. Mrs. Wisel thanked the Board and stated she would be checking in again in the future.

BID REVIEW

Mr. Kline presented a summary of the cost for the reconstruction of the *Fred Groscup Jr Tile Drain No. 335-00-0*. Tile would cost \$41,603.52, structures and castings \$8,891.50, stone \$26,900.00, labor \$50,404.00 for a total of \$127,799.02 with additional miscellaneous expenses. The engineer's estimate had been \$129,630.74. The projected costs for the City of Auburn were \$15,820.00 for the upsizing of the tile from 18-inches to 24-inches, additional stone \$6,620.00, structures and castings \$7,982.50, installation of structures \$7,500.00 for a total of \$37,922.50 with additional miscellaneous expenses.

Mr. Kline then went through the bid tab for materials with the Board. Hixson Sand and Gravel was the low bidder for tile with a total of \$41,603.52, Midwest Tile was the only bidder for the structures with a total of \$8,891.50, Pulver and Sons dba Wolf Lake Gravel was the low bidder for stone with a total of \$26,900.00. Mr. Kline explained that he would like to order supplies and have them delivered to the site as soon as possible to avoid any increase in the cost of materials.

Bill Hartman made a motion to award the materials bids to Hixson Sand and Gravel for tile, Midwest Tile for structures, and Pulver and Sons dba Wolf Lake Gravel for stone. Jim Miller seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

MATERIALS BID TAB BREAK DOWN:

Hixson Sand & Gravel

- Item A. 24" HDPE 2265.6 L.F \$17.96 per unit for a total of \$40,667.52
- Item B. 15" HDPE 117 L. F. \$8.00 per unit for a total of \$936.00
- Item C. 18" HDPE Alternate 2262 L. F. \$10.95 per unit for a total of \$24,768.90
- Total for Items A & B \$41,603.52
- #8 Gravel 1330 ton at \$22.00 per ton for a total of \$29,260.00
- #53 Stone 10 ton at \$19.50 per ton for a total of \$195.00
- Total for Stone \$29,455.00

Baughman Tile

- Item A. 24" HDPE 2260 L.F. \$20.09 per unit for a total of \$45,403.40
- Item B. 15" HDPE 109 L. F. \$7.96 per unit for a total of \$867.64
- Item C. 18" HDPE Alternate 2260 L.F. \$12.31 for a total of \$27,820.60
- Total for Items A & B \$46,271.04

Midwest Tile

- Item A. 24" HDPE 2260 L.F. \$21.77 per unit for a total of \$49,200.20
- Item B. 15" HDPE 109 L. F. \$9.12 per unit for a total of \$1,094.40

Item C. 18" HDPE Alternate 2260 L.F. \$14.07 for a total of \$31,798.20
 Total for Items A & B \$50,294.60
 Four (4) 48" Manholes & Castings \$1,476.50 per unit for a total of \$5,906.00
 One (1) 60" Manhole & Casting \$2,076.50.50 per unit for a total of \$2,076.50
 One (1) Pond Inlet Structure \$909.00 per unit for a total of \$909.00
 Total for structures \$8,891.50

Pulver and Sons dba Wolf Lake Gravel

#8 Gravel 1330 ton at \$20.00 per ton for a total of \$26,600.00
 #53 Stone 10 ton at \$30.00 per ton for a total of \$300.00
 Total for Stone \$26,900.00

Mr. Kline then went through the labor bid tab with the Board explaining there were only two bidding contractors Knott's Drainage & Excavating and Tri-County Excavating. Tri-County excavating had the low bid with a total of \$50,404.00 and Mr. Kline recommended the Board accept the bid. Mr. Kline stated that the owner of the company Kevin Linnemeier had never asked for more than he had bid on previous projects. The Board stated they were more than willing to pay for additional lateral connections and miscellaneous items.

Bill Hartman made a motion to accept the Tri-County Excavating bid. Bruce Bell, II seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Mr. Kline stated he would put the contract together for the labor, have Kevin Linnemeier sign it, then bring it to the Board for signatures.

Mr. Kline explained that he didn't have material suppliers sign a contract, since if the supplier didn't deliver there was no payment made. Mr. Kline further explained that with labor bids there was a greater risk factor and room for disagreements. Ms. Kruse agreed with Mr. Kline's assessment.

LABOR BID TAB BREAK DOWN:

Tri-County Excavating

Item A. 24" HDPE 2260 L.F @ \$16.00 per unit for a total of \$36,160.00
 Item B. 15" HDPE 109 L. F. @ \$16.00 per unit for a total of \$1,744.00
 Item C. Four (4) 48" Manhole Structures @ \$1,500.00 per unit for a total of \$6,000
 Item D. One (1) 60" Manhole Structure @ \$1,500.00 per unit for a total of \$1,500.00
 Item E. One (1) Pond Inlet Structure @ \$5,000.00 per unit for a total of \$5,000.00
 Total of \$50,404.00

Knott Drainage & Excavating

Item A. 24" HDPE 2260 L.F @ \$24.00 per unit for a total of \$54,240.00
 Item B. 15" HDPE 109 L. F. @ \$15.00 per unit for a total of \$1,635.00
 Item C. Four (4) 48" Manhole Structures @ \$3,000.00 per unit for a total of \$12,000
 Item D. One (1) 60" Manhole Structure @ \$3,500.00 per unit for a total of \$3,500.00

Item E. One (1) Pond Inlet Structure @ \$2,000.00 per unit for a total of \$2,000.00

Total of \$73,375.00

CHANGE ORDER – C. B. KAGEY REGULATED TILE DRAIN NO. 225-00-0

Mr. Kline explained that Knott Drainage & Excavating had to do clear brush and trees along the ditch and fence row for \$1,900. There was an unmarked gas line found and bumped during the reconstruction. There was no damage done. However, due to the pipeline's location, there was some considerable hand digging done with an additional \$975.00 in labor. In addition, the crossing of County Road 36 wasn't included in the bid package, as the staff was unaware the reconstruction would cross County Road 36. Mr. Kline stated he had told the landowner on the north side of County Road 36 that the drain would be brought across the road for a lateral tap. Knott's was asking for \$2,500 the same amount they were paid for the other road crossing. The change order total was \$5,075.00 which was still not close to the second-lowest bid for the project. Mr. Kline explained that by State Code the Surveyor could approve change orders up to 20%, but he wanted to keep the Board informed.

Bruce Bell, II made a motion to approve the \$5,075.00 change order. Jim Miller seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT

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

Mr. Kline informed the Board of a letter he had received from Mrs. Diehl and Mr. Presley in regards to the reconstruction of the *C. B. Kagey Regulated Tile Drain No. 225-00-0*. Mrs. Diehl had pledged \$75,000.00 towards the reconstruction and Mr. Presley \$5,000.00. Mr. Kline questioned whether the two should only pay the pledged amount, the pledge amount, and any assessed difference that would be due, or if they should only pay the normal assessments due. Ms. Kruse recommended the recording of the public hearing be checked for clues to Mrs. Diehl's and Mr. Presley's intent for payment. There was one clear intent of the letter and that was to bump the project up in the reconstruction priority list. Ms. Kruse advised that these types of pledges need to be better fleshed out before public hearings going forward to prevent any misunderstandings between the pledger and the Board.

Mr. Kline then informed the Board that due to his office still being short-staffed there would be a slowdown in new reconstructions so that the drains that had been reconstructed in the last couple of years could be reviewed, assessed, and all closing paperwork completed.

JOHN KETCHAM REGULATED TILE DRAIN NO. 334-00-0:

Mr. Kline presented a proposal letter to the Board from ForeSight Consultants regarding the prep work for the reconstruction of the drain. Mr. Kline stated he had been in talks with the City of Auburn regarding this project. He and the City representatives felt that ForeSight was the best firm for this prep work for the project. ForeSight had worked with the County on the reconstruction of the *Butler City Regulated Tile Drain No. 200-00-0*. The firm knows the State Drainage Code and would not need a learning curve. The Drainage Board would be the entity that would need to sign the proposal. However, before the signing of the proposal, the interlocal agreement between the City of Auburn, the Drainage Board, and the County Commissioners would need to be signed. Ms. Kruse and Mr. Erik Webber, City of Auburn's Attorney, were working on the agreement.

Mr. Kline explained the project needed to be put on an expedited timeline. There was a lot of development on the west side of Auburn dependent on the project. Pizza Hut was looking to rebuild

on their lot closer to Wendy's property line. The front building of the current Days Inn was slated to be demolished and a two-tenant building constructed. The developers for the property behind Starbucks and Parkview Health both wanted to begin moving dirt in the fall for 2023 construction. There were also plans to begin working the land north of, and where the old Ponderosa building was located. Mr. Kline explained that getting across State Road 8 would be challenging due to the number of utilities under the road. It would be best to hire an outside utility location firm. 811 services were limited in their abilities to locate older utility installations. The hope was to be able to jack and bore under the road and to have the preconstruction work done by the end of 2022 for an early 2023 reconstruction of the drain.

Mr. Kline felt the drain needed to be constructed to take a 10-year rain event, with all other amounts of runoff to be stored onsite, even if that meant underground storage.

A to Z Engineering had estimated the project at 1.6 million dollars. Form Auburn Mayor Norm Yoder had stated there was five million dollars in an account that could be used for the project. Current Mayor Ley was working on locating and securing the funding for the project. He would be meeting with the City's Redevelopment Commission in July to discuss the Commission funding the project. The monies would need to be placed in an account for the claims to be paid against. The claim process would need to be worked out.

Mr. Kline stated he and Daryl McConnell, Direct of the City Engineering Department, felt that their employees could do some of the fieldwork listed in the ForeSight proposal to help lower the project's cost. The City's engineering staff could teach the Surveyor's staff how to work with large construction projects. The only hold back would be the limited staff of each department.

E. P. GRIFFIN REGULATED TILE DRAIN NO. 224-00-0:

Mr. Kline informed the Board that he had spoken with Rod Renkenberger, Director of the Maumee River Basin Commission regarding this drain in relationship to the *Cedar Creek Regulated Open Drain No. 470-00-0*. Mr. Renkenberger had submitted a grant application to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) for a stream study grant that would allow him to hire a consulting firm to do a complete study of the Creek from the Saint Joe River to the top end of the Creek. The local match would come from the Maumee River Basin Commission funds. Mr. Renkenberger understood the log jam in Allen County needed to be cleared. The floor of the creek had risen over four feet since Mr. Kline took office due to the effects of the log jam. Once the stream study was done, Mr. Renkenberger would write a grant application to IDNR for the removal of the log jam in Allen County. Mr. Renkenberger was thinking the Maumee River Basin Commission funds could provide the local match for that grant as well. The log jam might not be removed until late next year. IDNR would not allow the removal of all the debris in Allen County but would allow opening up a small area for the water to move. The question was who would maintain the opening to keep it from becoming blocked again. Mr. Kline stated that either this Drainage Board or County Commissioners would need to work with Allen County Drainage Board or Commissioners to come to an understanding in regards to the maintenance of the opening.

Mr. Kline informed the Board that the Fort Wayne Engineering Department had offered at no charge to use a drone to video the log jam to see what was needed to open the log jam. Mr. Kline explained that Cedar Creek provided more runoff to the St. Joe River in Fort Wayne and the City of Fort Wayne was worried about this situation as well.

Mr. Kline explained there was a lot the Board didn't see that the Surveyor's office worked on to find solutions, such as this situation.

E. P. SHERWOOD REGULATED TILE DRAIN NO. 50-00-0:

Mr. Kline stated he was working on estimates for the reconstruction of the drain and presented a visual map showing the proposed new route using 24-inch and 18-inch tile. Mr. Kline explained he had oversized the system to get the water off County Road 23. Mr. Kline proposed the County Highway fund the oversizing cost as it was a benefit to the safety of the citizens traveling the road. The oversize costs were \$33,338.00 which would reduce the per acre assessment costs. Mr. Kline stated he would like the Board to consider this project and how to fund the project. Mr. Kline stated he would bring the items needed in a few weeks for consideration for a public hearing. Mr. Kline stated he would like to have the County Commissioners look at the project and consider how to fund the project as well as he understood the County Highway Department was having budget issues with the gas costs rising.

DISCUSSION

Mr. Kline stated he had looked at the drain Mrs. Harrison discussed last week located near the Tim Barker residence at 0791 State Road 1, Butler. The drain is not a county-regulated drain and he was not sure who was responsible for it, as it was not labeled.

Mr. Kline also stated he still needed to research the *Charles Kaellner Regulated Tile Drain No. 432-00-0*, which had a petition submitted asking for the drain to be placed on maintenance.

Mr. Watson stated he would not be at the June 23rd meeting. Mr. Bell would have to chair the meeting.

Mr. Watson then thanked everyone for attending the meeting and declared it adjourned at 9:42 a.m.


Michael V. Watson, Chairman
Michelle Lassiter, Administrative Assistant