

REGULAR DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING:

January 19, 2016

Member, Shannon Henry called the meeting to order. Present at the meeting were the following:

Shannon Henry, Member
William Whitehead, Member
Phillip Taylor, County Surveyor
Stan Willis, Deputy Surveyor
Brandon Murphy, Board Attorney
Cindy Harty, Recording Secretary

Mr. Henry opened the meeting by welcoming the audience and inviting them to participate in the pledge of allegiance.

Mr. Murphy stated that they do not have a quorum to have the Drainage Board Meeting today. Mr. Henry stated because some individuals are missing and they do not have a quorum to conduct official business today, he does understand there is an individual present with some business and they will hear what he has to present at this time. Mr. Henry asked that the individual state his name and address.

Jeff Ruddick, 3109 W. Woodbridge Drive, Muncie, IN 47304, approached to ask the Board for a waiver of the drainage easement for the concrete ditch, called Jake's Creek, so that he might add on to his home. Mr. Ruddick informed the Board that the home next to him is closer to the ditch than 25-feet, and he just wants to develop approximately 25 by 25 off the corner of his home, which would put him approximately 25-feet from the county's drainage ditch. Mr. Henry asked Mr. Ruddick if he was building a room addition. Mr. Ruddick stated yes and it would be a master suite with a full bath.

Mr. Taylor stated that he and Mr. Willis have gone to the location to inspect it, and stated they do not have a problem with the reduction. Mr. Taylor stated there are other homes closer than Mr. Ruddick's without his addition to his house, and recommended that Mr. Ruddick be allowed to do this. Mr. Taylor stated that in speaking with Mr. Ruddick, he believed that Mr. Ruddick would do as instructed. Furthermore, Mr. Taylor stated that after the Board's approval, Mr. Ruddick must go through the City Building Commissioner to do the addition.

Mr. Henry asked Mr. Ruddick when he would start his addition. Mr. Ruddick stated that he has spoken to several contractors and no one will even talk with him until he finds out whether he can build or not. Mr. Ruddick stated the contractors do not want to waste their time on something that has not been approved. Mr. Ruddick stated he would like to complete it as soon as possible. Mr. Henry stated unfortunately due to the Board not having a quorum today, the Board could not vote on this matter making the reduction official. Mr. Henry stated he does not foresee an issue; however, he will speak on his behalf so Mr. Ruddick does not have to attend the meeting next month, and present this matter and try to get it approved for him. Mr. Henry asked if a month would be too long for him. Mr. Ruddick stated that as soon as he can get it done would be good, but the weather may prevent him from getting started anyway. Mr. Henry apologized on behalf of the Board and stated that all members are usually here, but they would get this taken care of at the next meeting.

Mr. Henry asked Mr. Taylor if he had anything else to discuss with the Board.

Mr. Taylor stated that they discussed the request of Jay Smith at their pre-meeting. Mr. Taylor stated that Mr. Smith has asked for 2,800-feet of 15-inch and 400-feet of 12-inch pipe. Mr. Taylor stated that he had spoken with Mr. Smith this morning, but they have been unable to get out to inspect it because of the weather, and Mr. Smith being out-of-town. Mr. Taylor stated that they are planning to inspect it later in the week if the weather permits.

Mr. Taylor stated that he has spoken with a couple of the Board members concerning Adam Howell's request. Mr. Taylor stated that Mr. Howell has a project going on at Centennial and 700 East, and is asking for approximately 1,700-feet of 24-inch pipe to start out. Mr. Taylor stated the cost of that pipe would be approximately \$30,000.00. Furthermore, Mr. Taylor stated that this project is necessary and they would be upsizing the pipe from 18-inches to 24-inch pipe, which he believed would solve the problem in that area. Mr. Taylor stated that they have some things they need to study as far as pricing of the pipe and other matters, but stated that if this were approved Adam Howell would put the pipe in at his expense, and the county would buy the pipe and the fixtures.

Mr. Whitehead asked Mr. Taylor if he would have those itemized at the next meeting. Mr. Taylor stated he would. Mr. Whitehead stated that hopefully the weather would allow them to do that. Mr. Taylor stated that they have been out to look at it, it's just getting the county's end put together and we are not trying to hurt Adam on the price, but we are not trying to hurt the county either.

Cindy Harty, Board Secretary, asked about the Drainage Claims and the need for them to be paid. Ms. Harty asked if an Emergency Meeting could be scheduled for the approval of the claims. Mr. Murphy stated that he would look into it and believed the Board could do that.

Mr. Henry asked if they could do the Special Meeting by e-mail. Mr. Murphy stated that he does not believe they could do that, but he will look into it and let the Board know. Mr. Henry asked if the meeting could be done by conference call or something other than a meeting, and stated if a meeting is necessary that would be fine. Mr. Murphy stated that the public has a right to attend, and asked how quickly that would have to be done. Mr. Taylor stated that he would like to have that done this week, or as quickly as possible. Mr. Murphy stated that he believed they could set something up in the Commissioners' Courtroom to have a conference call, but the public would have to have the ability to be here, and stated that he would check into that. Mr. Murphy stated that is all the Board could accomplish today.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 2:41 p.m.

Shannon Henry, Member

William Whitehead, Member

Cindy Harty, Recording Secretary