

REGULAR DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING:

April 16, 2018

President, William Whitehead, called the meeting to order. Members present at the meeting were the following:

William Whitehead, President
Clarence Hensley, Vice President
Shannon Henry, Member
Dick McIntire, Member
John Landers, Member
Tom Borchers, Surveyor
Stan Willis, Inspector/Chief Deputy
Brandon Murphy, Attorney
Cindy Harty, Recording Secretary

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Whitehead entertained a motion for the approval of the March 19, 2018 Drainage Board Minutes.

Mr. Henry moved for approval. Motion seconded by Mr. McIntire. **Motion passed 5-0.**

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Whitehead addressed Mr. Borchers and asked if he had any old business to present to the Board today.

Mr. Borchers stated that there is no old business to present.

NEW BUSINESS

HOLT DITCH

Mr. Borchers informed the Board that they have the Muncie Sanitary District present and they are wanting to put in a detention/retention pond at the corner of Gavin and Centennial.

Mr. Whitehead asked if anyone is here representing this project. If so, please come forward state your name and address, and your intent.

Pete Wamsley of Beam, Longest and Neff approached and stated that Matt Schutte of United Consulting is also here, and they are on the design team for the Muncie Sanitary District. Mr. Wamsley stated that Tom (Borchers) is right, we are proposing to put a detention pond in at the corner of Gavin and Centennial, and described the project as follows:

It is the upstream end of the Muncie Sanitary District's storm system, and it collects a lot of runoff from an area just north of Centennial. What we are proposing is putting a pond in place that will accept that peak volume of runoff and hold it for a while, and then discharge it at a controlled rate into a new storm sewer that will flow to the Holt Ditch. Part of the project includes relocating an existing drainage tile. He explained they would put in a larger pipe with newer material, reroute it around the pond and make sure the flow that goes into that tile is less than what was the case before the project was started. Mr. Wamsley stated he does have plenty of hard copies if the Board would like to see the plans for reference, or if they might have any questions.

Mr. Henry asked how deep the pond is going to be.

Mr. Wamsley stated that the max storage level is only about 4 to 6-feet, 6-feet at max. Furthermore, he stated there would be a berm on top of that, and that will add another couple of feet of free board, so we make sure that we do not have any over-topping event.

Mr. Hensley asked, "How long do you expect that water to stand before it is drained out?"

Mr. Wamsley stated we are doing a good size pipe discharging out of that pond, so I would say 24 to 36 hours, and we could do some modeling if you want to know exactly what that time would be.

Mr. Hensley asked if it would completely drain at that time.

Mr. Wamsley stated, "It will. It has an under-drain also, so yes, the pond will drain and then with the under-drain it will make sure that it is completely drained, and it will be vegetated."

Mr. Hensley stated that it really bothers him that the pond is so close to the school with all the children. Mr. Wamsley stated, "Okay".

Mr. Borchers asked if there would be a fence around it.

Mr. Wamsley stated that they could certainly do that. He stated that he was also involved in the project where they put a pond near Elm and Myrtle and that has a 3-rail privacy fence that goes around the entire system. He stated if that is something the Board is interested in, and again, I am sure MSD would be willing to cooperate on that as well.

Mr. Hensley asked if that was strong enough to support a car that would possibly hit it.

Mr. Wamsley stated, "It is not." Mr. Wamsley stated this would be, if you are driving on Gavin, the top of the pond will actually be above the street, there will be a berm built up, and that is how we will get most of our storage, it is actually creating a fill-area around the perimeter of the pond.

Mr. Henry stated this is a Muncie Sanitary District project, correct. Mr. Wamsley stated, "Yes". Mr. Henry stated that one issue that he has with this, and believes this Board has also, the county did some work at one time because Muncie Sanitary District said it was not their problem to take care of, and this Board spent somewhere in the area of \$50,000.00 to fix a problem that ended up actually being the Muncie Sanitary District's problem. Mr. Henry stated that the county has never received any monies and the county has never been paid back for that work. Mr. Henry stated that he would like to see Muncie Sanitary District pay the county back before this Board approved the project. He stated, "That is my opinion, my opinion only."

Mr. Hensley stated that he remembers one meeting where a representative from the Sanitary District, (pointing) at that mike over there, but I cannot remember what they were requesting. He stated, "I told them at that time, that we would like to be paid."

Mr. Henry asked Mr. Murphy if that was in Carrington Woods. Mr. Murphy stated that he believes it was Carrington Woods and it was October or November in which he corresponded with the county attorney, John Brooke, regarding this matter after that meeting.

Mr. Hensley asked, "You said there is a pond now down by Myrtle". Mr. Wamsley stated, "Right, it is at Myrtle and Elm, and it is being constructed as we speak. Mr. Hensley stated he would like to see that before they do anything with this project.

Mr. Borchers stated the only thing he would like to say at this point is the only matter they talked about is where the county's main ditch separates. Mr. Borchers stated if they could put some sort of structure, clean out breathers, something easy, it would be a cheap and affective fix. Mr. Borchers stated the only thing he wanted to have on the record is that they are not working on the new structures being put in, but will have the ability to access the county's tile.

Mr. Henry stated this seems like a good project, but again, he would like to see our payment first. Mr. Henry made a motion that the Board table this request until the next Board meeting. Mr. Hensley seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**

Mr. Henry asked that someone from MSD contact the Board's attorney and they try to get this resolved before the next meeting. Mr. Wamsley stated, "Absolutely, and thank you for your time". Mr. Henry thanked Mr. Wamsley.

Mr. Whitehead asked if there was any other new business to come before the Board. If so, please step forward and state your name, address, and your intent.

Becky Dougherty, 301 N. County Road 700 East, Selma, IN, approached and stated that her intent today is to gain some knowledge. She stated that she is a co-owner of a property, located on the southeast corner of 800 East and 50 South. She explained that AEP expanded their substation on the northeast corner of those two roads a couple of years ago, and when they did, they filled in the side ditch that is on 50 South. Ms. Dougherty stated since the AEP work and in addition to the wonderful rains we have gotten recently, they feel their field backs up and holds water more than it used to. Ms. Dougherty stated she is looking for guidance, and asked if there is any way to get a tile put in that side ditch, or to get it cleaned out and back to where it was. She stated, "Maybe it's a lost cause entirely."

Mr. Borchers stated he is not certain where she is located because he has no map to look at, but stated if there is no county drain there and it is a ditch along the highway, it would be a county highway project. Ms. Dougherty stated it is a county road. Mr. Borchers stated it is a county road and that would fall on the county highway if there are no county regulated drains within so many feet of that location. Mr. Borchers suggested she call the county highway department and ask them. Mr. Borchers stated that he did not get her address, and asked if she could repeat it. Ms. Dougherty stated that she is at 301 North County Road 700 East, but the area that she is talking about is on 800 East and 50 South, on the east side.

Mr. Henry asked Ms. Dougherty if she would come forward and give him her information after the meeting, and he would make some phone calls for her. She stated, "Thank you very much".

Mr. Whitehead asked the audience if anyone else would like to address the Drainage Board on new business.

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Neil Gifford, 5800 W. Winterhawk Court, Muncie, IN, approached and stated he has approximately 12 to 13 acres along Highway 332 - McGalliard Road, adjacent to what was the Dellen Ford Dealership, which is now Hubler. Mr. Gifford stated that they started site prep on that location including digging a new pond. He stated since that work began, he has a lot more water backing up on his property and he just wants to get some clarification as to where he should try to get that water to go. Mr. Gifford stated that it has been an uphill battle and a little frustrating to be so close to so much drainage and not being able to drain. He stated that if you look at the map, there is a red circle, and that area has always been bone dry, but since they have dug the pond, it's been anywhere from 6 to 18-inches of water. He stated he just wants to get

some guidance and be aware of what action he can take to help that situation.

Mr. Borchers stated there is a Planning Commission meeting coming up on Thursday at 1:00 p.m. on this very topic. Mr. Borchers stated that he believes it is a sub-division meeting, which he has never attended, but thinks that meeting is at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday and the notification and information is in his office. Mr. Borchers stated, "I just opened a package an hour ago, pulled your information, but did not realize you were going to be here today." Mr. Borchers stated that he has not been out on site, but feels like they started the work on the original plans, but did not finish it, and nothing is flowing the way it should be.

Mr. Gifford asked what type of meeting would be held.

Mr. Borchers stated that he believes it is the Planning Commission Subdivision meeting. Mr. Borchers stated that he looked over the notification and he pulled the information that Mr. Gifford dropped off, and he planned on going to the site this week prior to the upcoming meeting.

Mr. Whitehead stated that Mr. Gifford could check with the Planning Commission Office to find out time wise, etc. Mr. Borchers stated that it is at 1:00 p.m., but cannot remember what room it will be held in, and stated that Mr. Gifford can go to the Plan Commission to get the information on the meeting. Mr. Gifford stated that he would.

Mr. Whitehead asked if there was anyone else, and if so, to please state your name, address and your intent.

SHAVETAIL DITCH

Jack Reese, 7405 South 875 East, approached and stated that he is located south of Parker about 5-miles just barely inside of Delaware County. Mr. Reese stated that he is here about a ditch, which starts on his property and that the county replaced last year. He explained as follows:

Mr. Reese stated that it was approximately 2,000-feet of good size pipe, either 12 or 15-inch pipe, which was expensive to replace. Mr. Reese stated the problem is the new ditch does not work. He stated that they are even getting water back flowing because of another farm that has come into the ditch. He stated that it is higher ground, it's closer to the outlet, and with it being higher ground, a day or two after they get a big rain, they are actually getting the ditch running backwards. Mr. Reese stated that he has some pictures with him for the Board to view. Mr. Reese stated that on County Road 800, which is about 200 yards from the outlet located on 500 South, and for some reason the new ditch was put in from 800 straight east up on him about 2,000-feet, but the last 200 yards were never touched. Mr. Reese stated that somewhere in the last 200 yards there is a problem. What those pictures show is the vent on 800 and then it shows the outlet over on 500 South. We have the pipe running full at 800 and half-full at 500 South, so there is

problem in there somewhere. Aggravating the condition, there is a farm where they went in and dug, what they called “strategic ditching”, and it drains so fast that it is causing the water to back up for a day or two after we get a big rain. Mr. Reese stated this is a problem that the current Surveyor inherited. They did a great job in the work they previously did, but they never finished the exhaust part of the job, so we have a blockage somewhere that needs to be fixed. He stated with the additional ground draining in there, they need to check the engineering on it to make sure they have enough ditch to get rid of that water.

Mr. Whitehead asked Mr. Borchers if he has looked at the current situation.

Mr. Borchers stated that yes he has been on site a couple of times. Mr. Borchers stated he does not know why, when the county put it in a couple of years ago, that they did not replace the old breather, and left approximately 2 to 300-feet from 800 to 500, not completed. Mr. Reese stated it was a little more than that, probably a couple hundred yards. Mr. Borchers stated that it probably needs to be replaced or at least probed to find out if something is wrong. Mr. Borchers informed the Board that it was on his list to do last year, and they just did not get to it, because of the backup of work, but it is something that needs to be done. Mr. Borchers stated that he actually told Jack that they would be out there, but just have not been able to make it out yet.

Mr. Whitehead asked if Mr. Borchers is still telling him that he will be out there.

Mr. Borchers stated yes, they would be out. Mr. Borchers stated what he would actually like to do is replace that last bit of pipe and go from there. He stated that at least they would know all of it works, and then from there on back, they might have to think of something else. He stated we do not have it in our budget to replace the entire pipe to make the ditch larger. Mr. Reese stated that he would not ask for that. Mr. Borchers stated the last little bit from 800 to 500 would not be too expensive to go ahead and replace.

Mr. Reese stated he would like to comment and put in the minutes, that Mr. Spence owns the ground west of 800 to 500 South. Mr. Borchers stated that he spoke with Mr. Spence last year. Mr. Reese stated that he needs that ground wet in that area, so he needs a solid pipe through there, and I want to make sure that that pipe is not the same as we have going east. Mr. Borchers asked, “Mr. Spence does not want perforated”. Mr. Reese stated, “No”. Mr. Borchers stated he would speak with Mr. Spence because he had spoken with him before and he was okay with them changing that. Mr. Reese informed the Board that Mr. Spence is in attendance today. Mr. Borchers stated that is fine and is something we can get to, and it will not cost anymore than perforated pipe. Mr. Borchers stated he would talk to him when they get closer to time to put it in. Mr. Reese stated that is our situation, we really have an unfinished project, and the worst part is on the exhaust end which is causing the backup. Mr. Reese stated that he lost over 10-acres last year; normally he would only be losing six or seven. He stated when the farm was purchased by his family, they plowed every acre of it, and now they are losing at least \$10,000.00 in gross sales a year because of the problem.

Mr. Whitehead stated that hopefully the Surveyor could get out there and take care of his issue.

Doug Spence, 10101 East County Road 500 South, approached and stated that he is the property owner of the location they are speaking of. Mr. Spence stated this is all fine, and asked for them to understand that the crop they grow in that corner is pretty unique in that it has to have a period of inundation to even set seed on it, it's a cut grass corner, and so whatever you need to do to get a solid pipe so it will still retain water in that low area, is fine with him. Mr. Spence stated he had prepared an analysis of what the costs would be for their loss revenue for the previous Surveyor and was prepared for that when he was there the first time. However, he stated it never happened. Mr. Spence asked Mr. Borchers if he has the same maps as him, because that ditch does not run a true diagonal from 600 to 500, because it is too wet to get in there. Mr. Spence stated they would have to travel more to the west and then across. He stated, "I am guessing this is all a legal drain that has a legal description to it." Mr. Borchers stated that it has a legal description. Mr. Spence asked if he had the latitude to change that, or does it have to flow that way. Mr. Borchers stated without changing it, we have a 75-foot easement. Mr. Spence stated that is fine and there is 75-foot area they can work in, which is an area that they do not have crops on. Mr. Spence stated that was his only point in making sure they did not go straight at it. In addition, Mr. Spence stated they would like the county to consider installing solid pipe, so they can continue to grow the crop that they have been since buying the land. Mr. Spence stated they could then augment it with other rows of material that would grow. He stated they would rather have a riser that comes in and the water that is being discharged an overflow of it, to come up on his property so that they would have water there consistently. Mr. Spence stated that Sheldon Dynes who worked with Pritchett, the company who put the pipe in, is quite accomplished and he suggested a way to be able to accommodate the farmers to the uphill side and then allow him to have the moisture level that is needed to maintain the crop that is in there.

Mr. Borchers stated that sounds perfectly fine. Mr. Borchers asked Mr. Spence if he could get his telephone number after the meeting. Mr. Spence stated that it is on the signup sheet, but he made a mistake on it, it says print, and he did not. Mr. Spence stated that he is available all the time out there.

MAINTENANCE CLAIMS:

Mr. Whitehead entertained a motion for the approval of the maintenance claims as presented.

Mr. Henry moved to approve the claims as submitted. Mr. Landers seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

William Whitehead, President

Clarence Hensley, Vice President

Shannon Henry, Member

Dick McIntire, Member

John Landers, Member

Cindy Harty, Recording Secretary