

REGULAR DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING:

January 22, 2019

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 William 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 December 17, 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 there is no old business to discuss this date.

NEW BUSINESS:

Election of Board Officials

Delaware County Drainage Board

Mr. Whitehead asked Mr. Borchers if there was any new business to introduce to the Board today.

Mr. Borchers suggested that the Board have their nomination and election of Board officers.

Mr. McIntire stated that he would like to make a motion that no nominations of officers be held until January, 2020, and that the current officers continue to serve.

Mr. Murphy stated that the way to phrase that motion would be to “Reappoint existing officers.”

Mr. Landers seconded the motion. **Motion passed 5-0.** Mr. Whitehead is reappointed as President and Clarence Hensley is reappointed as Vice President.

Delaware County Stormwater Board

Mr. Whitehead questioned the status of Mr. Henry’s appointment on the Stormwater Board and asked how to reappoint him.

Mr. Murphy stated that he believed Mr. Henry was appointed in October or November of last year, and he had indicated at that time, that he was not sure whether he wanted to continue serving in 2019. Mr. Murphy asked Mr. Henry if he would be interested in serving, and stated that they only have one (1) meeting coming up in April.

Mr. Whitehead stated that he knew Mr. Henry would serve until the end of last year and the start of this year, but if the Board was to have a meeting, they needed someone to call or to serve.

Mr. Henry asked if anyone else would be interested in serving on this Board because he is busy. No one replied, and Mr. Henry stated that it would be fine he would serve.

Mr. Murphy stated that it is not necessary to reappoint Mr. Henry since he has already been appointed.

Mr. Henry reiterated that he would serve.

James Ramsey Request/Bower Ditch

Mr. Borchers stated that Mr. Ramsey is going to install some systematic tile in his field, and stated, “I believe it is a 40-acre field, and we have a county main running through there that he

wants to tie-in to.” Mr. Borchers stated that he has found no problems with the county main after looking over information from previous years. Mr. Borchers informed the Board that Mr. Ramsey also indicated that when he is putting that in, if he sees any problems such as a small breakdown or something of that nature that we cannot see, he would go ahead and fix it. Mr. Borchers stated, “So with that, I would give it a favorable recommendation and Mr. Ramsey should be allowed to tie-in to the Bower Ditch.”

Mr. Whitehead asked Mr. Murphy if they need a motion for this matter.

Mr. Murphy stated, “Yes you do.”

Mr. Whitehead asked the Board, “What is your pleasure?”

Mr. Hensley moved to allow Mr. Ramsey to tie-in to the Bowers Ditch. Motion is seconded by Mr. McIntire. **Motion passed 5-0.**

Work Completed in 2018

Mr. Borchers informed the Board that Stan, Linda and Cindy work hard and sometimes they get out there and do many things that the Board does not really know about until it comes to claim time. Mr. Borchers stated, “So last year alone we installed 16,924-feet of new dual wall pipe over 46 different projects; we treated stumps or foliar sprayed over 38-miles of open ditches throughout the county; we debrushed or mowed 26-miles of ditch banks; removed over 32 log jams and/or beaver dams; and fixed over 229 sinkholes throughout the year throughout the entire county on the 800-miles of drainage we have. Mr. Borchers stated someone would occasionally call a member of the Drainage Board or one of the commissioners and want to know when their sinkhole is going to get fixed. Mr. Borchers stated, “Well we fixed 230 of them last year and that is a lot to get done and get through.” Mr. Borchers stated, therefore, I thought I would just throw those numbers out there for you.

Mr. Whitehead stated he appreciated it, and asked if there were any persons in the audience that wanted to address the Board, and stated if so, please state their name and address.

Bill Hamilton, 7221 S. County Road 800 East, Selma, IN, approached the Board, and stated that his concern today is, “I spoke to the Surveyor a year ago this month about cleaning an open ditch out, and he told me he would have it re-surveyed and get back with me, and I haven’t heard anything.” Mr. Hamilton stated that he has two laterals going into this open ditch that are under water, and they have been for three, four, or five years, and when they were put in at low water level of the creek, they were above the level. He stated that he does not know if its beaver dams below, but thinks the ditch needs to be cleaned. Mr. Hamilton stated, “That is my concern today.” He further stated that he believed the ditch is called the Clevenger Drain, which is located at 500 South and 800 East.

Mr. Borchers asked Mr. Hamilton if this is just south of where the county installed pipe across

the field. Mr. Hamilton replied that it is. Mr. Borchers stated that he has been out at the ditch a couple of times and the first priority was to get that pipe put in through there. Mr. Borchers stated, "I've been to the location and have gone over the notes from before, and the contractor that was out there previously did not know whether they could get enough fall in it if it was dipped without it having pockets that would just hold water instead of flowing." Furthermore, Mr. Borchers stated, "So it is just one of those things I did not put at the top of the list because it was flowing well, but stated that every ditch in the county needs to be dipped. Mr. Borchers stated, "It is just one I have not gotten to, with all the other things, so I feel like it may need to be dipped, but right now I feel like it is flowing pretty descent so I am not sure about it." Mr. Borchers stated that they would take the 4-wheeler south to see if there are issues there holding it up, but they would look at it.

Mr. Hamilton stated that he knows when he put the laterals in that they were above the water level, and they dropped into the creek and that is no longer so and they stand under water. Mr. Hamilton stated that he appreciated the Drainage Board and the Surveyor's services on getting the tile put in through Spence, Chad Oren, Mr. Reese, and his properties. Mr. Hamilton stated that it really has helped a lot, and he wanted to thank them for that.

Mr. Henry asked Mr. Borchers if he would check into that. Mr. Borchers stated that they would get the 4-wheeler and do some more exploration of it and see where we need to go on it.

Mr. Jack Reese, 7405 S. 875 East, Parker, approached and stated that he is reiterating what Bill said, and thanked everyone for getting the ditch in and putting the new extension in across Doug Spence's land. Mr. Reese stated that is all appreciated, and stated the first effort to getting that ditch replaced was when his father started many, many years ago, and his father has been dead for 20-years, so thank you. Mr. Reese stated that they do have one lateral on the farm where he lives that needs to be hooked up to the new ditch, and they have a wet spot south of the ditch that was dry, but now it stays wet all the time. Mr. Reese further stated, "We have one lateral that needs to be fixed up, and I think that is about it." He stated that part of that Clevenger Ditch might be helped by dipping it out. He stated that he heard from Doug Spence through Bill, that there are numerous beaver dams on that ditch, and believed the Board Chairman had some ground right there too. Mr. Whitehead stated, "Yes, I asked the Surveyor last month to look at it because we knew of three that we could see." Mr. Reese asked Mr. Whitehead if there were beaver dams on that ditch. Mr. Whitehead stated, "Yes." Mr. Reese stated that he just wanted to make them aware of that and thank them for getting the ditch installed.

Mr. Borchers stated that he thought they had a work order already written to clear the beaver from there. Mr. Borchers asked Stan Willis if he had written the Work Order for Smith to get out there. Mr. Willis stated, "Yes." Mr. Borchers stated that they do have a Work Order to take the beaver out and relocate them. Mr. Reese stated that he has access to a couple of people that have nuisance permits who can actually trap. Mr. Borchers stated that he has a person who can do that and that "He is my beaver guy."

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 2:51 p.m.

William Whitehead, President

Clarence Hensley, Vice President

Shannon Henry, Member

Dick McIntire, Member

John Landers, Member

Cindy Harty, Recording Secretary