

MORGAN COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

*May 5, 2023
8:30 A.M.*

Drainage Board members present were: Kenny Hale, Don Adams and Bryan Collier. Also present were Terry Brock, Surveyor, Bill Dials and Kerstin Woodard, Recording Secretary.

Pledge

Minutes

Mr. Adams made a motion to approve the 04/03/2023 minutes, Mr. Hale seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Old Business

-Hilldale Cemetery Ditch Update

Mr. Brock stated that the recent storm deposited a grain bin and other debris into Hilldale Cemetery Ditch, which we were able to remove. The Emergency Work on Hilldale is complete; the drive culvert has been removed and the new entrance has been placed on Artesian Avenue. We received our Readi Grant for the amount of 1.28 million dollars to complete the work on the two-stage ditch for Hilldale Cemetery Ditch. This will be deemed a reconstruction of the ditch. The Surveyor's office has hired Joe Miller, from Banning Engineering to design and guide us through the reconstruction hearings.

New Business

-Stormwater Debris Removal

Mr. Dials stated that several large trees have been removed from Sartor Ditch, along with the grain bin and other debris deposited in Hilldale Cemetery Ditch. While inspecting Nutter Ditch it was discovered that the culvert that allows access across our regulated drain is filled with debris and trash. A contractor is currently working on a quote to clean the culvert. INDOT has mitigation sites on both sides of our regulated drain. Mr. Dials stated that there is no benefit to the Drainage Board to maintain the culvert; it is not open to the public. Mr. Dials is in the process of reaching out to INDOT in order to see if they would like to have a contractor stabilize their banks. There is erosion on both sides of the culvert. Once Mr. Dials speaks to INDOT he will let them know that we will not spend money to bring it up to standards. As INDOT does have the two mitigation sites and the road is the only access, it is of benefit to them, but should not be at our cost. If INDOT can't be reached we will make sure the culvert is open and clean but we will leave the culvert.

Mr. Dials stated that the contractor on Lake Ditch has completed another ¾ of a mile. It is back to a good channel and the farmers seen happy. Most of the trees have been removed from the working side of Lake Ditch. Anything on the side slop or rotten on the none working side will be removed this year.

-Request to Look at Hodges Lateral

Mr. Brock presented the board with an aerial photo of Hodges Lateral west of Paragon. Jim Lankford, contacted Mr. Brock about debris in the ditch, which is causing the ditch to jump the bank into the river. Mr. Brock stated that the Surveyor's Office would take a look at it. Hodges Lateral is a regulated drain but at this time there is no assessment. None of the ditches in Paragon area have assessments currently. The Surveyor's office will investigate the blockage.

-Nutter Ditch

Gary Oakes from the City of Martinsville is overseeing the levee project and stated that Nutter Ditch will flow through the levee and that there will be a large pump house. Banning Engineering is doing the design of the levee. The Surveyor's office has hired Burke Engineering to do our review of the plans. Mr. Brock stated that the City of Martinsville will need to come before the Drainage Board for a full approval.

-Joint Drainage Board Update

A meeting was held April 25, 2023; the Joint Drainage Board approved the plans for the IMI Batching Plant on County Line Road. Originally the water ran into Lake Ditch, but it has been changed to run into McCracken Creek. Mr. Brock stated that the Joint Drainage Board has asked for both Surveyors to investigate Reitzel Ditch (Mud Creek) in the northwest corner of the county.

Mr. Collier asked if we had the funding for all the projects. Mr. Brock stated that we do not have funding to cover all the projects.

Mr. Collier asked for the status of Hanna Farms. The outlet approved a few months ago has not been recorded at this time and the farmer has been told to plant the fields this year. Mr. Collier asked who will clean the ditch that runs near the Ford Dealership. Mr. Dials stated there is no easement for it, a landowner dug the ditch a long time ago because he did not want to pay the assessments; it will be up to the landowners to decide who and how it gets cleaned. Mr. Dials stated that the ditch should be going to Hilldale Cemetery Ditch but instead runs to Sartor Ditch. If the ditch were cleaned it could help with the overflow during flooding.

Surveyor

Mr. Brock presented the board with drawings of the mobile home park in which the new owner shows where the new trailers will be replaced. The new owner is requesting to place the trailers to the east of the road and out of our right-of-way.


Adjournment

Mr. Hale made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

MORGAN COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD


Bryan Collier, Chairman


Don Adams, Vice Chairman


Kenny Hale, Member

ATTEST:


Terry Brock, Morgan County Surveyor