

MORGAN COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

January 02, 2024

8:30 A.M.

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

Pledge

Recognize Quorum

Re-organization

-Drainage Board

Mr. Hale made a motion to retain the officers: Bryan Collier as Chairman, Don Adams as Vice Chairman, and Kenny Hale as Member. Mr. Adams seconded the motion

-Joint Drainage Board

Mr. Hale made a motion to retain the Joint Drainage Board as is with Mr. Adams and himself as the members. Mr. Collier seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Minutes

Mr. Hale made a motion to accept the December 04, 2023 Drainage Board Minutes. Mr. Adams seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Old Business

-Hilldale Cemetery Ditch

The Surveyor's Office held a meeting with the Leonards to come to an agreement about where to put the excess dirt from the Reconstruction of Hilldale Cemetery Ditch. Mr. Brock presented the Board with an exhibit, from Banning Engineering, proposing that the dirt be moved to the hilltop farm to the west of Mahalassville Road. Mr. Brock stated that an agreement letter will be written.

The pre-bid meeting will be advertised this week and held on January 15th with the contractors, Banning Engineering and the Surveyor's Office.

-Sartor Ditch

The maintenance work on Sartor is complete; the trees have been removed, brush has been burned and the ash has been removed.

-Lake Ditch

Anderson Excavating has begun work on the Lake Ditch Tributaries having already completed one and moving on to the next.

Gary Oakes, City of Martinsville, addressed the Board stating that the City is working on cleaning up where Hilldale Cemetery Ditch begins moving West towards the interstate. The ditch does not flow well and is bottled up behind the car dealership. The ditch further to the East from where Hilldale Cemetery Ditch begins is compromised by a tree. Mr. Brock stated that he would take a look at it. Mr. Oakes went on to say that the City has not advertised for a contractor yet, but they plan to take the water west. Mr. Dials stated that would mean taking water from one watershed to another and it will need to be reviewed. Mr. Collier mentioned that the retention pond in the area is very full. Mr. Dials stated the area is not a designed system; a previous land owner borrowed dirt and created a low area. Once the last parcel has been purchased it will need to be remedied.

New Business

-Martinsville Levee/Nutter Ditch

Joe Miller, with Banning Engineering presented the Board with an exhibit showing the newly mapped floodplain area, along with the existing and proposed location for the new levee. Burke Engineering has completed their review of the proposed levee and the impact on Nutter Ditch. Approval is needed from FEMA for the drainage analysis; which Mr. Miller stated is currently being worked on and the City and County need to come up with a maintenance plan. Mr. Miller stated that it will need to be cleaned monthly and after every inch or larger rain event. Mr. Miller stated that the City needs the Boards conditional approval for the pump house, levee and its impact on the ditch. Over 600 residents and 50-65 businesses will be impacted by the new mapping; it is an estimated 400 million dollars in assessed value. The City will be ready to bid once the County, Centpoint Energy, FEMA, and the Railroad officially sign off. Mr. Miller will submit a copy of the draft operation manual to the Surveyor's Office to be considered at the next meeting for conditional approval. It is also required to be submitted to FEMA. Mr. Miller stated that each of the closures, Nutter Ditch, the Railroad, and the SR 39 are based on the Centerton gauge elevation.

Mr. Hale asked to go on record thanking the City as well as Legislatures for funding this project stating "I know this can has been kicked down the road for many years now."

The manual will show what the expectation is, from a maintenance standpoint, of the Nutter Ditch pump house. Mr. Miller stated the manual is not very detailed right now, but will explain roughly when the flap gate and slues gate will be enacted and when and how often the grate on the front will need to be cleaned. The manual will be a living document that can be updated as needed. From a FEMA timeline standpoint, Mr. Miller stated that receiving the conditional letter of map revision is essentially saying FEMA will approve the project if built. This allows a feeling of confidence in that the proposed is approvable and usable for the future. After being built, proof that it was built as intended will be presented to FEMA along with a complete maintenance and operation manual and an emergency preparedness plan signed by the City Council and Mayor.

Through the building process, in order to certify it, the certifying engineer has to have knowledge of how it was built, they will work with the City and some of the other engineering consultants. Full time inspectors will be on the job and the geotechnical engineer, who did the initial work, will perform testing throughout. The old levee on 39 to the North was found to have significant insufficiencies, greater than what was originally thought. The flap gates will be replaced and trees removed as part of the ongoing process.

Mr. Dials asked if it would be possible to put in a new gauge in addition to the Centertron gauge to allow for redundancy. Currently the shutoff elevation or height will be based only on Centertron, if the gauge is down the next one is all the way in Noblesville. By adding a new gauge no data will be lost if there is a failure at one bridge. Mr. Dials stated that the Martinsville bridge would be a good location for a new gauge. Mr. Miller stated there is a way for the community to partner with the USGS in order to get a gauge put in, there would be an initial fee and a perpetual maintenance fee, but it is something to consider. While it will not be encouraged to drive on top of the levee, it will be easily accessible for maintenance. A way to enforce others to keep from driving on top of the levee and keep it from being torn up may need to be looked into. Mr. Miller closed by stating that it is a small pump house but it is very important.

Stormwater Coordinator Update


Mr. Dials stated that the work on Sartor was complete and looks good. Anderson Excavating is now working on Lake Ditch Tributaries; he has completed one or two and may now be on the third. Good weather has allowed the work to run smoothly.

Mr. Collier asked which area had Mr. Oaks had earlier stated the City would be cleaning. Mr. Dials that the Surveyor's Office has not spoken with the City about the project. When Burke Engineering was hired in the past, there were some concerns about the system; the water is going to Sartor. Mr. Dials stated that Sartor's system is about as full as it can get. The County is getting ready to do a two-stage ditch and any water that is able to be put into or was designed to be put into the two-stage needs to go to Hilldale Cemetery Ditches' two-stage ditch rather than Sartor's system. The new maps show all of Artesian Acres streets being very floodable. At one point in the system there is a small crossing that neighbors may have put in for the kids; Mr. Dials stated that it is not considered up to Drainage Board standards along that conveyance system. On the paved road that goes to the Ford dealership there are a couple smaller pipes. Mr. Dials has not researched to see what exactly needs done, as it is not part of the regulated drain, but stated that overall if the water is supposed to be going to Hilldale and the County is putting all this money into the two-stage to help the problem, then the water needs to go to Hilldale. Mr. Brock stated that Artesian Acres, except the North corner, is designed to go to Hilldale. The ditch that Mr. Oaks spoke of was put in by the subdivision and may not be designed correctly. Mr. Dials stated that there is plenty of conveyance system over there, all of it getting to Sartor with no retention. The water needs to go to the two-stage a designed system which doesn't run through town, rather than Sartor where there is no storage.

Adjournment

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

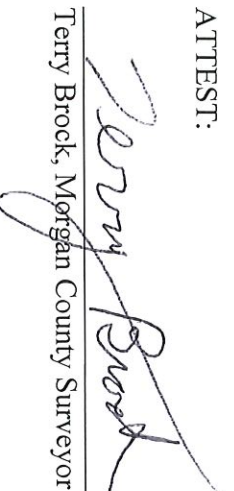
MORGAN COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD


Bryan Collier, Chairman


Don Adams, Vice Chairman


Kenny Hale, Member

ATTEST:


Terry Brock, Morgan County Surveyor