

MORGAN COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

December 6, 2021

8:30 A.M.

Drainage Board members present were: Kenny Hale, Don Adams, and Bryan Collier. Also present were Terry Brock (Surveyor), Bill Dials (Stormwater Coordinator), Jim Wisco (County Attorney) and Kerstin Woodard (Recording Secretary).

Pledge

Minutes

Mr. Adams made a motion to approve the 11/01/2021 minutes, Mr. Collier seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Old Business

Mr. Brock has been in contact with Dave Gaston, Hendricks County Surveyor, in regard to taking in the Westpoint Regulated Drain. A meeting will be set this month to look at it and decide how it will be established. It will be decided at the meeting whether it will go through the Drainage Board or through the Joint Drainage Board.

Burke Engineering is still working on the watershed studies for Hilldale Cemetery and Sartor ditches. We were given a few brief updates and hope to have it completed, with their recommendations, by the end of the year or first of next year.

Mr. Brock had a meeting with Mark Bailey, Director of Hydraulics at INDOT, to work out the issues on Hilldale Cemetery Ditch. Mr. Bailey, whom was present, has since sent a few survey crews out to shoot some shots on the ditch. The crew's findings show that there is enough potential elevation drop between the new structure on Artesian Avenue and the downstream structure. Mr. Bailey said that by putting a grade in on the downstream ditch it will drain all the roadside ditches along Artesian Avenue. There will still be a one foot sump on the structure under Artesian Avenue, but that is per design. The survey confirmed that the structure had been built per plans, just the downside ditch is significantly higher, roughly a foot and a half higher is some spots, then the upstream portion of the ditch. Obtaining a quote from a local contractor is currently being worked on. Mr. Brock said that a rock check dam had been built in front of the bridge, but it was agreed that it is of no benefit. Mr. Bailey said that a request, to the contractor, has been made to remove all except the North East quadrant as it is supposed to be there. After the study of the ditch is complete, Mr. Brock said we may have to remove the culvert in the middle to help our flow, to which Mr. Bailey said they would help do some of the work.

Mr. Dials asked Mr. Bailey if he meant that INDOT would be financially responsible. Mr. Bailey said that once a quote had been received from a local contractor, they would find a way to contribute the funds. Mr. Bailey also said that the culvert under the private drive is not included, any improvements to that drain will be on the County. A cost sharing agreement can help to lower the fee for the County. The culvert at the private drive will still be strictly on the County but the recreating of the ditch will also benefit the INDOT project. Mr. Brock said that once a quote has been received, it may be a few months before everything is completely figured out.

Last week, Mr. Brock and Mr. Dials visited the area near Hilldale Cemetery Ditch, north of Artesian Avenue, where a new subdivision is being constructed. A retention pond is being built into our easement, basically right at the top of the bank. Mr. Brock has been in contact with the City, the plan has not been approved and therefore the contractor has been stopped from moving anymore dirt. Mr. Brock said that we have already reduced our easement in order to help them out, but a retention pond cannot be built in our easement. Troy Swan with HWC is overseeing the project and is aware of the situation.

Stormwater Update

IDEM has had a couple virtual meetings over the new construction permit and the new MS4 permit. Around December 18th the state will sign the new permit which will no longer be referred to as a Rule 5 and Rule 13. Mr. Dials said we would then have 90 days to provide them a notice of intent saying we will apply for coverage under their new permits. There will then be more paper work to be completed by 2023. Mr. Dials said that nothing will change, until we get accepted, regarding our ordinances and our permitting. Once accepted there will be a date set that we will start following the new permits. The State has asked that all MS4s try to convert everyone from their old Rule 5 permit to the new general construction permit. More than likely the State will force us to do so, as well as sending the owners the documents so they are aware they're operating under something new. There will be no charge and it will not be required for them to go back to the newspaper to put a proof of publication in. It will likely be a change of one form over to another, but the details are not yet clear.

Surveyor Update

Our office has been working to gather information on how other counties take in a regulated drain, in a subdivision. We have found that no two counties handle it the same way. Some counties take the ponds in while some only take tiles in. Only a few counties have ordinances. We have spoken to several surveyors, have received copies of the forms they use and are compiling what works best for us. We are looking mainly at the donut counties such as Hancock, Hendricks, Boone, Hamilton, and Tippecanoe; the bigger counties with larger growth. We are hopeful to have it done by the end of the year.

Mr. Brock said the Regulated Drain Reassessment continues to be worked on, we are waiting for Burke Engineering on the two drains (Sartor and Hilldale Cemetery) and then we will work on reassessing them all. By waiting for Burke, we will know if any reconstruction will need to be done. As long as it is only maintenance that is needed we can do the reassessment without a hearing. If construction will be needed, we will have to have hearings.

Adjournment

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


MORGAN COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD


Kenny Hale, Chairman


Don Adams, Vice Chairman


Bryan Collier, Member

ATTEST:


Terry Brock, Morgan County Surveyor