MORGAN COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

February 4, 2019 8:30 A.M.

Drainage Board members present were: Ryan Goodwin, Kenny Hale and Norman Voyles. Also present were Terry Brock (Surveyor), Bill Dials (Stormwater Coordinator), Deb Verley (Executive Assistant), and Dale Coffey, (County Attorney).

Pledge

Minutes

Norman Voyles made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2019 meeting. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

White River Study Presentation

Siavash Beik, Christopher Burke Engineering, and Robert Barr, Center for Earth & Environmental Science, IUPUI, were present to review the White River Study. Mr. Siavash stated that there were two components to the study; one was to identify the roots causes and risk posed by the Blue Bluff Road bridge, (there is erosion along the bridge that is a concern) and to set priority for other infrastructure along the river. They performed a detailed field assessment, analysis, and recommendation. Mr. Barr stated that they wanted to understand how the White River was moving in Morgan County. The White River has a potential for movement and fluvial erosion. One of the things that makes a river move the most is having an abundant supply of sediment and White River has plenty of it. As the river comes in from Johnson County, the valley is 8,000 ft. wide or more in some places and just before it gets to Martinsville, it pinches down to less than half that size. Anytime the flow is restricted that much, there will be challenges. The Blue Bluff Road bridge has the most disturbance where the power transmission line is located. The vegetation along the bank was removed and when that happens, the bank becomes unstable. When the water comes up, it saturates the bank, as the water goes back down the water goes out of the banks. The grass has a shallow rooting depth and it tends to fall, resulting in bank failure. There are several areas where gravel pits are located. As the river moves into these areas, which is something the county does not want to happen, it will try to fill it by pulling more sediment out of its bed and banks. Each area deemed to be a concern is identified by location, rate of movement, how far the river is from the feature, and a comparison by date. For example, in 2010 one location was 130 ft. from the river and in 2017 it was 75 ft. away with a predicted meander belt of 1752 ft. The meander belt is the potential of the river to move across the flood plain. Mr. Beik stated that in addition to lack of vegetation, other things contributing to these concerns included changes in land use, increased rainfall, and increasing drainage. There are 42 stress points along the river - quarries, infrastructure, bridges, etc. and they were ranked according to risk level. There are 11 areas that are classified as either high or moderate. These areas should be monitored annually, semi-annually, or after a big flood. Mr. Beik recommended monitoring scour at the Blue Bluff Road bridge and if action needs to be taken, they can reinforce the toe, adjust the upper portion of the slope, and install erosion control blankets. Mr. Beik also recommended starting a dialogue with utility companies so they don't remove vegetation.

Mill Creek Update

Bill Dials, Morgan County Stormwater Coordinator, stated that at the last meeting, he presented specifications for removing a log jam in Mill Creek. He contacted the land owner to make sure a contractor could access the drain from the farm field and discovered that the family had hired someone to remove the log jam. There are two smaller log jams in the same section of stream that haven't been removed. Mr. Dials asked if the Drainage Board would pay for the time and material that was expended (\$6,900) to remove the log jam and since the heavy equipment is still in the area, also remove the smaller log jams. Mr. Dials stated that he has the name of the contractor that removed the log jam and they did an excellent job. Terry Brock recommended that they remove the smaller log jams and the sediment at the head of Lake Ditch as this will improve the drainage. The property owner also contributes to the drainage maintenance fund. Ryan Goodwin stated that he would be comfortable with this. Mr. Brock stated that it needed to be done and the Drainage Board had planned to do it, but when the landowner went on vacation, his son had it done. Mr. Dials stated that the property owner didn't know that the log jam had been removed when he called to ask permission to cross the property. Norman Voyles made a motion to reimburse the landowner and to remove the other two log jams. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0. Mr. Brock stated that he will investigate to see where the logs are coming from.

Enclave at Heartland Crossing

Bill Dials handed out copies of the performance bond for the erosion sediment control for Enclave Section 2. This is assurance to make sure they complete their erosion sediment control. Kenny Hale made a motion to accept the bond for Enclave at Heartland Crossing. Motion seconded by Norman Voyles. Motion carried 3-0.

Stormwater Coordinator Update

Bill Dials stated that the contractor was working on Sartor Drain and made significant progress, until the polar vortex hit.

Surveyor Update

Terry Brock stated that the ditch classifications should be ready for the next meeting.

Adjournment

Norman Voyles made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

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Ryan Goodwin, Commissioner

Kenny Hale, Commissioner

Norman Voyles, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Terry Brock, Morgan County Surveyor