

**DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING**

**MAY 14, 2018**

The Rush County Drainage Board met in the Commissioner’s Room of the Courthouse May 14, 2018 at 10 a.m. with the following present: Mark Bacon, Paul Wilkinson, Bruce W. Levi, members; Leigh Morning, Board Attorney; Marvin L. Rees, Surveyor; Shelle Hendrix, secretary. Warren Norris and several landowners were also present.

A motion was made by Wilkinson to approve the minutes from the previous meeting with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Levi. The minutes were approved and signed.

**RUSH COUNTY STORM DRAINAGE POLICY**

The Surveyor introduced landowner Schwering and presented a drainage plan of their **proposed CAFO**. The planned drain is required to be monitored monthly for 1 year with reports going to IDEM. Wilkinson made a motion to approve the drain plan with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Levi. Motion carried.

**STEWART/HOLLOWAY TILE**

The Surveyor presented job description for 12” non-perforated tile to be installed by 7/31/18 and asked to set a date for a meeting for open bids. Levi made a motion to open bids on June 11, 2018 at 8 a.m. with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wilkinson. Motion carried.

**DAVID CANADY TILE**

The Surveyor presented job description for 15” perforated tile. The Surveyor will talk to Elaine Surface about whether or not to destroy the old tile. A motion was made by Wilkinson with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Levi to open bids on June 11, 2018 at 8 a.m.

**WORKSHOP**

The Surveyor reminded everyone of the Workshop to be held on May 22, 2018 at 6 p.m.

**GEISE MUTUAL DRAIN HEARING, CONTINUED**

At 10:30 a.m. the Geise Mutual Drain Hearing was re-opened. Board Attorney Leigh Morning stated the Board can adopt either side’s findings and conclusions or adopt their own findings and conclusions. Mr. Geise’s attorney, George Lohmeir, addressed the Board with his findings and facts. He presented the Board with an aerial photo showing the mutual drains which were installed and repaired many years ago and once drained the crops farmed by both Mr. Geise and Mr. Stevens. In 2006 Mr. Stevens planted trees **over the tiles**. Mr. Geise now has had drainage problems and basement flooding. Mr. Geise is requesting the mutual drains be made into a regulated drain so repairs can be made.

Mr. Stevens’ attorney, Mr. Jones, stated he had walked the property and witnessed very little standing water. He stated the Board has a statutory obligation to review the reports previously presented.

Mark Bacon summed things up saying Mr. Geise’s property drains thru Mr. Stevens’ field and it seems as if there is a blockage somewhere. Wilkinson stated the two drains have been mutual drains in the past. Board Attorney Leigh Morning stated in order to make it a regulated drain, the Board needs to adopt findings stating that it is a mutual drain. Terri Nigh, Rush County Environmental Specialist was consulted concerning a possible e-coli contamination at the site. Nigh reported a water sample had been obtained from the culvert, not inside the tile. The e-coli was determined to be from a warm-blooded animal, but cannot be identified as being from animal or human at this time.

A motion was made by Wilkinson to make it a regulated drain and make repairs with the least amount of damage to Mr. Stevens’ tree farm with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bacon. Levi was undecided. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Wilkinson made a motion to adjourn with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Levi. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

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Mark Bacon

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Paul Wilkinson

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Bruce W. Levi

**Commented [Im1]:** This reads as if Mr. Geise started having trouble in 2006, and no one stated that the Geises started having problems back then.