

DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING

JUNE 24, 2019

The Rush County Drainage Board met in the Commissioner's Room of the Courthouse on June 24, 2019 at 10:45 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. Council member Warren Norris was also present. Rush County Health Officer Julia Apple was present for the Geise/Stevens portion of the meeting as was landowners Ruth Geise, Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Geise, Jerry Stevens and his son Desmond Stevens.

A motion was made by Levi with a 2nd by Wilkinson to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Motion carried and the minutes were approved and signed.

GEISE/STEVENS DRAIN

The Surveyor read his report, a copy of which can be found in the file and presented maps of possible remedies to the Board, explaining each one. Four of the possibilities would not work. Desmond Stevens and landowners Kevin Geise and Ruth Geise took turns speaking to the Board about their concerns with the proposed plan to fix the drainage issue. Bacon stated the Surveyor has researched every possible solution, several of which are not plausible. Health Officer Julia Apple spoke about the issue and asked Stevens about the trees on his property. Stevens maintains that it would cause damage and loss to his use of his property. Apple stressed the need to fix the problem before winter. She also spoke about the septic system on the Geise property. Geise would prefer to wait until the tile has been repaired before he installs a new septic system. The surveyor said the best solution would be to replace the existing tiles with non-perforated tile to which Desmond Stevens strongly objected to having two tiles cutting through their property because it could cause a problem should they want to build houses on their property. Wilkinson suggested investigating the depth of the tile and discovering what size the tile is with the possibility of putting the two tiles together and running only one tile through their property. Rees requested permission from Jerry Stevens and Kevin Geise to dig on their properties and was granted permission from both landowners. Bacon stated the need to know exactly what is causing the blockage and where the blockages are located. Rees stated that trying to find the blockages would cost more and be more destructive than installing a new tile. Levi stated that once the information has been received we would have more answers in order to determine the course of action and how to proceed with repairs.

JAMES S E HILLIGOSS

Rees presented an agreement **with Wessler Engineering to present our SR 44 crossing plans in proper order to INDOT** to the Board for approval. Wilkinson made a motion with a 2nd by Levi to approve. Motion carried and the agreement was approved and signed by all 3 Board members.

CARR/STANLEY TILE

Rees gave an update about the Railroad and stated according to deeds it appears the landowners own the Right-of-ways.

ANTHONY HOOD OPEN

Rees told the Board about a crossing pipe on Mitchell Bolen property begin too small and washing out. He suggested telling him we will fix it this time and send a letter requesting them to install a larger pipe. All future maintenance for this crossing is up to the landowner.

THOMAS STEWART OPEN

Rees reported cornstalks have washed up and are blocking the drain. Tom Hood won't allow Peggs Excavating to clean them out because he fears damage to his yard. The Surveyor will send Mr. Hood a letter requesting him to clean the cornstalks out or allow Peggs Excavating to do it.

2019 LONG RANGE PLAN

The Surveyor gave each Board member a copy of the Long Range Plan. Wilkinson made a motion to approve with a 2nd by Levi. Motion carried and the Long Range Plan was approved and signed.

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

Mark Bacon

Paul Wilkinson

Bruce W. Levi