

Randolph County Drainage Board

325 South Oak Street * Suite 206 * Winchester, IN 47394 * Phone: (765) 584-0609

Present:

Thomas E. Chalfant, Chairman
Gary L. Girton, Vice Chairman
Michael D. Wickersham, Member
Edwin L. Thornburg, Surveyor
Meeks Cockerill, Drainage Board Attorney
Casey Keener, Drainage Board Secretary
Mike Bruns, Mote & Associates
John Halko, Landowner
Scott Forrest, Landowner
Keith Hart, Landowner

Minutes from July 6, 2021

Tom Chalfant calls the Randolph County Drainage Board meeting to order. Minutes from the June 7, 2021 meeting were present and approved. Mike Wickersham made motion to approve, Gary Girton seconded, Minutes approved, motion carried.

Surveyor's Report:

Union City: Plat Plan Drainage approval

First up is Mike Bruns from Mote Engineering, with a picture of the Plat for the city of Union City. Mike Bruns Explains: Union City is trying to create some housing so we have a section inside the Corp. that they own, about 70-acre track and they want to develop phase one, which is a 20-acre track. So, we submitted to planning and zoning and also had laid out the subdivision as far as the storm detention that they have that butts up to an existing drainage ditch so our intent is to develop that tract, run it into a retention pond and out let into the drainage ditch alongside that property, that shows on this map. We worked with Ed to discuss who that would work. At this point we are asking approval for that phase from the drainage board. Tom ask if anyone has any questions, there is a discussion and Mike Bruns shows them on the map what they want to be happening. They ask Ed if he approves this plan and he does. Mike moves for approval, Gary Seconds. Motion carries.

Pond Request:

Ed report, we have a pond request from John Halko, in Farmland. A picture of the property to the board. This plot is located next to the ball diamond in Farmland, with the Angling Road behind it. John says that it is 3 acres there and what we are proposing is to put in a 1/2 acre that we are planning so that we are 50 feet in from the borders. We wanted an ornamental water feature to put into the 3 acres and when we are done it will all be fenced. We don't want to fence it beforehand because it's too hard for the guys digging the hole and moving the dirt. John briefly describes some of the possible features he may add to the pond. Mike ask if he has met with the town of Farmland and John states, yes that there are no ordinances and no issues. Tom says that this is a little unusual and ask Ed if there are other ponds in the towns. Ed said just a couple and then brings Scott Forrest, Johns neighbor up. Ed states that Scott has a concern about the pond that he need to talk to us about. Scott says his concerns are that his son being autistic it will create a risk factor. He doesn't have a problem with the pond, it's just the safety of his son and being next to the ball park and the other children in that area that come and go, they are at the ball park quite a bit, the park has been fixed up and the basketball goals are in shape now and some of those people have leaked over to the neighbor's property from time to time, and I have concerns about that, the drainage I talked to Ed and he seems to be comfortable with all that. If like John said and it's all fenced in and if it's completely fenced. John says that code required a minimum of 4ft. maximum of 6ft. and we are looking at 5ft. He is going to fence all three acres. There is a discussion on the fence and where it would be placed. Mike asked Scott if he is satisfied with this and he replied as long as it is fenced. More discussion on the fence and the type of fence. Ed states that there is no prevision or ordinance that will require this, it is something John has volunteered to do. Ed then discusses the drainage and then he recommends it to be approved. Gary motions to approve Mike seconds, Motion carries.

Shoemaker Watershed:

Next up is Keith Hart and the Shoemaker shed. Keith Hart passes pictures of the property to Board. Keith Hart then tells the board that he is actually here representing his mom Barbra Hart. And this goes back to the first appraisal of the cost that was sent out to everybody, and we do not believe our ground drains into it. Darrel Tillford came up and talked to Ed at that time on behalf of mom and Ed said we would look into it and we never heard anything. We kind of assumed it was taken care of and then she gets the bill. So, then I called Ed to get ahold of him as you can see the first picture shows the side that the county ditch is on and our side. Back when I was a kid they put a 6 inch concrete tile through this area and went all the way to the open ditch, because dad owned the ground and grandma owned the ground the ditch is on and runs all the way through there. You can see there is barely any water on the left side and ours is flooded.

Mike ask where the ditch runs that they are getting charged for and Ed states its 800 ft to the south. Keith starts to talk about the culvert that he said Ed says connects us to that tile. Keith said if there was a culvert there then maybe we would drain into it but there no culvert there. I called Ed and he said we could dig and show you that there is a ditch there that comes across to drain you, I said let me know what day and I'll come meet you out there. Well they dug, they dug probably 12 to 20 feet in from the road on our side they found a 6-inch clay tile that was full of mud and all broke down. I called Ed to talk to him about it and he looked at it and I said you haven't called me like you said you were going to. I said why didn't you dig over by the road and he said maybe we should have, I said you didn't even prove anything. He said yeah, we proved there was a tile there so I said that don't prove there's a county ditch across the road. Keith point out pictures the where taken the previous day. You can see that our corner is drowned out and they are still draining on the other side. I believe we owe the bill for the drainage assessment and probably the drainage last I met Ed a few weeks ago he said he would put me on the board for the meeting and he said you and your neighbor should get together and put a culvert in there so it would drain, the neighbor isn't going to pay for any of it he's getting drainage. He said the highway dept. would pay for it if there was an old one there, but he didn't come out and dig. If he would have dug there in the beginning he could have proved one way or another. And he has never called me to tell me he was going to go out there and do anything when I ask him to, because I can break away from work. Keith states a mistake is a mistake but we should have to pay for it, Ed told him he doesn't think it was a mistake. Mike ask questions about the pictures and Keith explains. Mike said if there was a culvert there you would think you would see it, Tom explains that sometimes it depends on how deep they are, Ed said that he dug down there and there were a bunch of rocks and you couldn't dig by hand to get to it. The talk about an old rift with the neighbor and there would be no way he would let the drain go on his property. Ed tells the board where the property drains and tells the has been poor communication between the two of them. Ed says he is correct his water doesn't get across the road, it does run that direction, the tile that was there is 6inch and not big enough and is not serviceable. They did track the tile to where it ties in to the main ditch. Ed explains what it would take to correct the problem. The board disuses the benefit and who would pay for it, Keith says it never been there even though Ed says it's always been there he doesn't think it is. They discuss the location and making the water problem go away. The real question is how do we want to proceed. His water sheds this direction and goes to the William Shockney ditch the question is does it go to the Shoemaker prong to the south or do just assume that it goes into that 6-inch tile that runs to the west. Mike ask how far does the water back up and Keith said you can pretty much see it. Ed point out the water shed map. Mike said it took like the water shift so the west according to the pictures. Keith said yes it runs west all the way to the Shockey ditch but we don't get into the county tile we are getting charged for. They continue to discuss where the water drains. Keith believes that they do not benefit from the Shoemaker prong but only the main Shockney ditch. Ed believes that the water does go

that way but the water is blocked by the road. More discussion of water flow and the tile under the road, plus the cost and the effects on the neighbor's land. They decide that the connection is just not working. Mike states that the property owner is satisfied with the way things are and the cost and how it may affect the neighbors. Keith is asking that they are just not charge for the county ditch. Mike asks if they forgive this bill who will pay for it. Ed said it will work, there is enough cushion in the project. Ed thinks that they may have farmed over the culvert. Keith still says there is no sign of a culvert. Meek asks about the process of the water shed and questions not paying on reconstruction. Ed said if the board has a right to decide which drain he is using. Mike they are using the William Shockey there not using the shoemaker prong or at least claiming they are not using it and think the evidence is pretty clear that they are not. I think we mistakenly charge them for the reconstruction of the Shoemaker Prong, we can either go back and charge the others extra or we can exorb the cost ourselves. Ed suggests the we just exorb the cost and not charge everyone else more. Ed says this is on the 2nd time this has happened in 16 years, and explains that situation to the board. He then agrees there are issues. Gary agrees with Mike on the Reconstruction part not pertaining to the Harts, and refers to the pictures again. Gary talks about having them pay for the culvert instead. Ed thinks it would help without a working tile. Mike thinks we should forgive this bill and makes a motion, Gary seconds, motion carries.

Agreements on William Hinshaw and Ed Bateman:

Last meeting agreed on the agreement with William Hinshaw and Ed Bateman. Ed presents them with the written agreements for signatures.

Ed has a proposal it is the next farm up from the Bateman farm and I have spent quite a bit of time trying to decide how good of an idea this was. It is on Little Miss Price. Ed gives out copies of his work sheets. Ed then read his proposal to the board. Ed shows the ditch financial projections and how the pay back would work out. Tom asks about any other property's this may affect. Ed thinks that all others are in good shape. Based on recommendation Mike motions and Gary seconds, motion carries.


Approval: Drainage Board Secretary:

Ed introduced Casey Keener to the board. Gray moves for approval the appoint of Casey as the Drainage Board Secretary, Mike seconds, motion carries.

Tom Chalfant makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike Wickersham seconds. Motion carried, meeting adjourned.

Signed this 2nd day of August, 2021 in the Randolph County Commissioners


'Room, Winchester Indiana.



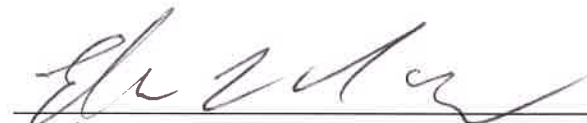
Thomas E. Chalfant, Chairman



Gary L. Girton, Vice Chairman



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Edwin L. Thornburg, County Surveyor