

# 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

## **Minutes for November 1, 2021**

Tom Chalfant calls the Randolph County Drainage Board meeting to order. First is the approval of minutes for October 4, 2021. Gary moves to approve, Mike seconds, Minutes approved with, motion carries. Then, we have the revised minutes for September 7, 2021. Gary moves to approve, Tom seconds, Minutes approved with edits, motion carries. Tom now turns the floor to Ed for the surveyor's report.

## **Surveyor's Report:**

- **Family Dollar, Losantville.**

Eds says first we have the Family Dollar store located in Losantville. Tom ask where is this one going to go? Ed said it's going to the west edge of the parking lot of the Dollar General, where the Blue Moon was. They are going to share a parking lot. The biggest, most exciting thing on their plan is they are going to use under the parking lot retention for their stormwater. The highlighted places are three runs of 36-inch tile. They're going to put in instead of building a pond. It's the same thing we've done at Casey's here in Winchester and Union Tube in Union City, only that one was a little more convoluted. We've got a half dozen of these systems in place now. There's a septic system, right here, at the other dollar store. Tom ask, so they're not waiting on us and get sewer and water down there? No, they're not waiting on the sewer line. They have been approved and they are putting a septic system in at the North the high corner of their property. They seem to have everything well in hand. And they were hoping to get to get our

approval. They're planning to start moving dirt, yet this fall. Ed says that he is endorsing this. Gary Moves to approve, Mike seconds. Motion carries.

- **Randolph Farms, Maintenance Building**

The other plan is for a new maintenance shed at the Randolph Farm Landfill. Ed shows the plans and points out: This is where the building is going to lie. This is the road out in front. That whole property is contoured and retained. I have told the engineer I want something to verify that it didn't exceed their plans. Let's see if the picture on the back shows it any better. It's in that field west of where you drive in. Gary ask, are there other maintenance entrances? No, it's out kind of by itself, they've got a new road entrance and over here is where you go to the landfill. I'd say this whole property has been shaped and contoured so all their water leaves in two points, one point out to the South for a small portion of it. The rest of it all leads into a portion of the Lamb ditch at the North End. Their engineer gave us a note back saying yes, this fits our plan. Now I'm going to recommend we go ahead with it. You could build a lot of buildings there before it makes any difference on the property. Well, we have heard the recommendations, Gary moves to approve, Mike seconds, Motion carries.

- **Other**

Well, we'll start out since we talked about a little bit about, the Stout and Jones property about 28. That's on the Fitzmaurice-Judy-Sipe-Fraze ditch. The ditch comes under 28, then makes a 90-degree turn comes across their property. Then the next property and their property is cut out of 40 acres of property Paul Horning owns. And just across 100 feet or so of Paul's property is the Ruth Fields farm. Ruth had her tenant reworked the waterway couple years ago. The water is getting there quicker. Tom asks, if that was with your approval? Ed says they didn't have to get to approval on those waterway projects. Tom replies, OK. Anyway, they redid the waterway. Gary asks, ours or theirs? Ed replies, theirs. The ditch runs under and beside it. It would be a soil water project according to what Amanda has researched, and it was done independently. She said that there was no soil and water project involved here. Anyway, water is getting there in a more organized, faster fashion. They had a gully before and now they have a waterway and she think there's more water. Mike asks, if Mrs. Jones think there's more water? Ed says, oh yeah, yeah, she's very much convinced there's more water. What I told her the last time I met with her, which the middle

of last week. That when it dries out, and we can get in there, we're going to open it up, probably on each side of this driveway. We will try to run a jetter through. That's good for about 400 feet. We're going to make sure that there's not root problems. If there is none, they will replace the tile and take out the trees. Then on the other side of the road, we know there's a couple suck holes down there. I'm going to verify and replace what we need to be where it turns to go under the highway. Not going to work in the highway unless we find out there's something going on because we can't afford to bore through there. She's going to end up with a catch basin receiver and the ditch repaired. We have been trying to get this done for the last year, or so. It hasn't happened like, say, about half the time I get closer to working on it. Her husband gets grumpy about it and then tells you not to come back until you have something he wants to hear. They're just aggravated with the water problem. Mike ask if the problem she's talking about is what the neighbors created. Ed says She believes the neighbor created it, but I'll be honest, I don't believe the neighbor created it. If I get the ditch fixed across from the Harney property, then it's all back to the neighbor. Mike ask if this is a maintenance expense or a reconstruction? I think, I've got about enough money in the dish to fix this. It's going in this ditch is going to end up in a whole year or so before this is done. The problem is I can't reconstruct and make a ditch and upsize. It's either 14 or 18 at on the map it's right where the ditch changes. If I find out it changes on that property, it'll be 18 to the to where it leaves their property. But with the highway there, I can't just up it. I'm hoping to get somebody in there before the weather gets bad this fall, but the weather's got to get good first. Do you have any questions on that? Gary ask, have you've been in contact with them. Ed says, yes. Gary says, OK. Mike states, well if she calls me again, I'll tell her you're taking care of it.

The other problem we've got is a little more interesting. Mr. Edwards called me this week, Rusty, they well they're living in the Griffis House now. Then there's a Mr. Mosier that owns the part of the pond where the structure is located. This pipe, this pond has a drop pipe structure. They had early years ago, someone reportedly added a foot of pipe to this thing because they didn't like they wanted more water in the lake. Well, I put the water up over the bottom edge of the county tile that inlets into it. At the South end. Actually, he thought we ought to raise the pipe of foot and his take a flat clear back into the field, on the water coming in. There are places that would be possible, this isn't one of them. right now, when you turn it on to boundary Pike, the water has been running across the road for about 2 weeks. This pipe there has always been a little iffy? The pipe has failed waters a

foot and a half over the top of the pipe. Now it's within 6 inches of the levee on the outlet part portion of it. It's probably 16 feet deep and run 75 or 100 feet out. It was a standard pond installation when the USDA was paying on ponds back in the 60s and 70s. Rusty is concerned that it's going to get up and flood the septic system out and cause him trouble. I understand his concern, I don't think it will. That house was built new about 25 years ago, I did some of the site work but I did not do the septic. I did install the connect his house drain to the pond. When we did that, we were 4 foot above the water, so I don't think his basement to flood. But he's concerned about this. Mosier, who owns the actual structure. I have not been able to get in contact with. I've left him messages. I don't have a phone number. Tom asks, He doesn't live around here? Actually, he lives in the house. I'm going to be out there today. The second thing that's going on water is running over the east side of the dam, over or through. I'm going to qualify that standing there looking at it from Rusty's Yard, it appears the levees tall enough the Water can't be running over the top of it over there. I'm going to walk that this afternoon. The brush will be dry this afternoon. Gary ask, where does rusty live? We have a big copy of this picture, just pass these down for them to look at. The outlet is right in here and He's right about there is the pipe inlet. The ditch has never been drawn through the pond. I have been reading drainage board minutes for the last couple days trying to find anything in connection to it. But Rusty's argument, and I can't really disagree with him too much. The outlet to the pond now right now is a foot over my county tile outlet. I had always thought that that pond, then the outlet, was the responsibility of those land owners. But truthfully, they're over outlet, so I'm saying if we have to fix this outlet, it's going to be close to compliance with our stormwater ordinance, which this pond is not now. The outlet is the problem, it is on the Mosher property. Then there's a second problem because water is running over the dam on the east side and part of my adventure this afternoon is finding where I can hear it. I can see it where it comes out, and currently it's running across boundary Pike. That's just not a temporary thing because of all the rain we've had. Little Mini Lake has been there for 10 years, but it just started running over the road here recently. The only reason the dam is any responsibility to us is because of what's backed up now. There's a foot of water over the county ditch at the top end. Rusty Edwards owns about a little over half the lake now. He wants us to fix his outlet. Tom states It's private. Ed says the problem is you have a county ditch dumping into a private lake. And he's claiming we're responsible for it now. The water is coming from the South to the north. We've got about. I'm going to say 250 to 300 acres upstream of the lake comes through Larry Thornburg and Mark Snyder. Larry has been concerned about this lake for years. Mike asks, "So to solve the problem, you would have to do what?" To solve the problem number one, I've got to get in touch with Mr. Mosier. The gentleman in the log house

because the structure is on his property. Then we got to do a new over fall structure for the ditch. I'm not going to try to drain 5 foot of water out of this thing and put a new pipe in. Mike ask, the 12-inch ditch is going in from the South, but what do you have to do there? Ed says I don't Have Nothing to do there. Mike says the dam is not our responsibility. Ed says the only reason the dam is our responsibility is because of the county drains. Ed says I need direction on what to do and what not to do. Tom ask how many acres are in the watershed. Ed say 200-300 acres. Tom ask if the ditch takes in much money. Ed says it takes in about 14,000 a year, it's a big watershed. Mike said if the water pipe to the ditch is creating the problem, I would say we are responsible, but if the pond is creating the problem we are not. Ed says it is the outlet pipe. It's either plugged or collapsed, I don't know witch but it has failed. Mike said, I think we need to fix that if that's the problem, but I don't think we need to fix the pond. Ed says, fixing the outlet fixes the pond. Mike states, I just don't think we should fix the dam, its their responsibility. Tom said lets table this till the next meeting.


The other thing that we've got going on that, and I've already don't bring these repairs to you guys, cause it's no big deal, but. The highway Superintendent and I are working on replacing a culvert at 300 N. Adjacent Dave Baldwin's farm. And so, the problem is been going on a while, we've got to relocate the ditch and get it out of the waterway and Anderson field there. We're going to replace it through the road. Ditches got problems right their culverts bad, so we're going to replace it all. It's 300 N about 100 E. The other place is that Eugene Clevenger's property. On 400 N. West of 600 E. And it's a similar situation. We've got a rotten culvert pipe. I was getting ready to do some work fixing the ditch outlet the county ditch comes in close to it. When I went to look at it, I was going to coordinate with Max on fixing the outlet pipe, and there was a hole in the road right over the ditch. We are coordinating on fixing that. Mike ask if they are fixing the road to? Ed says that on the ones he does he pours a concrete patch back. If pore cement because its not going to wash out if it rains. I've done about 8 to 10 of these. That's all I got.

Tom makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Gary Girton seconds, motion carried, meeting adjourned.

Signed this 6th day of December, 2021 in the Randolph County Commissioners Room, Winchester Indiana.

  
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Thomas E. Chalfant, Chairman

  
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