

**Drainage Board Meeting
December 5, 2017**

**Present: Al Logsdon, Jim Seiler, Tom Brown, Surveyor David Faulkenberg, Elaine Jones,
Auditor Autumn Winkler**

Meeting was called to order by President Al Logsdon at 1:00 P.M.

Minutes

No minutes were presented.

Surveyors Report

Hooppole Phase 2

Faulkenberg reported that the bids for Hooppole Phase 2 that were to be awarded today have been suspended. The property owner, Tony Broerman, has decided to harvest his own timber now which changes the bid specs. Broerman was in attendance and stated he hopes to have someone get started on that very soon. After the trees are harvested Faulkenberg will go look at it again and re-bid the project. Logsdon stated that the bid specs don't specify a certain number of feet on the bank to be cleared so how would contractors know what to bid. Faulkenberg stated that each project is different and that is discussed at each pre-bid meeting. It depends on the project and also farmer input as to how much is cleared, some want it as narrow as possible some want the full 75 feet cleared. Faulkenberg stated that it was discussed for this project at the pre-bid meeting with the contractors.

Hooppole Phase 1

Kevin Laswell was in attendance and stated that his issue with this project is that what was left as the finished project is not in any way what he bid on. Laswell presented pictures of the finished project. Laswell stated that the county has 75 feet right of way and that is what he bid on, he doesn't know how you can bid on wiggling around trees. Faulkenberg stated that he told Laswell as well as every other contractor that classified forest was involved here and they would not show up until the project was started, so there was no way of knowing what they would require. Faulkenberg is aware that makes it difficult to bid, but stated it was the same for everyone.

Faulkenberg stated that about 1-1/2 years ago on the west side of CR 850 the previous administration, Stanley Herron, went in and cut trees without permission. The landowners were very upset that trees were removed without permission and Faulkenberg worked out an agreement with the landowners and the timber cutter to split the money and settle this without a lawsuit. After it is settled one of the landowners contacted Faulkenberg and informed him the property is in classified forest. Faulkenberg is then contacted by the classified forest representative who requests to come down, but only when the project is started. Faulkenberg made several attempts to get them to come down prior to bidding out the project and they would not. They had very specific parameters the contractor was required to follow and informed Faulkenberg that there could've been legal issues had he not handled the situation the way he did. No trees that were removed from the classified forest were allowed to be burned. And, we must now plant shrubbery and native grasses in that area. The project was completed the way it was, due to the special circumstances. Faulkenberg stated that it is not as if we accomplished nothing with this project, the water table has been lowered 4 feet and the landowners are thrilled. Faulkenberg stated that we had to walk delicately with this project as to not upset the landowners or forestry service. Logsdon stated that it was a mistake made by Herron and that he had a verbal agreement and proceeded. Logsdon stated that when we have the next heavy rain the pile of debris left on the bank will end up back in the ditch, why can't we cable it down like was done on Pigeon Creek? Faulkenberg stated that the lady from forestry was there when the work was being done and has been back since and stated she wanted it left exactly like it was. She was very pleased with the work and how we handled the situation. Faulkenberg stated he explained the situation to all the contractors prior to bidding. Logsdon asked how the contractors could have comparable bids without knowing the specifics and Faulkenberg stated they were not comparable bids. Laswell bid \$15,000.00 more than the contractor that was awarded the bid. There were many variables that came into play and the contractor had to make the decision to gamble and bid low or bid high enough to cover the cost of the full 75 ft. if it was required, which is what Laswell did. Faulkenberg stated there will not be a project bid like this again, it was a unique situation. Broerman stated that Faulkenberg and the contractor met with him numerous times to explain the situation and ensure his satisfaction with the completed job and Broerman is very pleased with the finished project. He stated that

some of the trees that were left were per his request, he is satisfied and ready to move on to the next phase.

Drain Assessments

Faulkenberg was instructed to inquire with other counties how they handle drain assessments.

Perry County – No legal drains

Dubois County – Ten listed legal drains but they are treated as private drains, so there is no assessment.

Pike County – No legal drains

Warrick County – Cumulative Drain Assessment

Gibson County – Every regulated drain is assessed

Logsdon instructed Faulkenberg to contact Rex Jones with WTH and get a price to perform the study on what parcels are and are not being assessed.

Tower Drain

Faulkenberg presented photos of the completed project on Tower Drain.

Bid Opening

Daniel Kopp

Gruber Industries, LLC - \$25,837.50

Laswell Excavating - \$31,800.00

Erwin Excavating LLC - \$31,800.00

Herron - \$19,875.00

Brown made a motion to approve the bid from Herron for \$19,875.00. Seiler seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Hackelman/Caney Creek – 1,824 ft.

Laswell Excavating - \$10,960.00

Gruber Industries, LLC - \$13,680.00

Erwin Excavating LLC - \$5,928.00

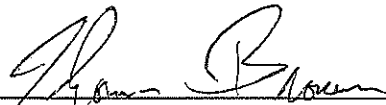
Brown made a motion to approve the bid from Erwin Excavating LLC for \$5,928.00. Seiler seconded the motion, motion was approved.

New Business

Faulkenberg stated that Cash Waggoner contacted him and they have not got very far on cornerstones, because none of them are marked by township lines they are all marked with individual landowners. They will have to research all the cornerstones and determine township lines, which will take longer than expected.

Seiler made a motion to adjourn. Brown seconded the motion, motion approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:03 P.M.



President

Attest:

