

**Drainage Board Meeting
July 2, 2018**

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

Meeting was called to order by President Tom Brown at 9:30 A.M.

Minutes

Seiler made a motion to approve the minutes from June 5th as presented. Logsdon seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Surveyors Report

Mapping Study

Faulkenberg reported that they have more final numbers on percentage of parcels paying for each ditch. There are 5,016 parcels and 1,666 parcels are not paying an assessment.

The following reflects percentage paying taxes and the rate for each ditch:

Huffman – 62% \$0.75/acre

Hooppole – 74% \$2.10/acre

Baker Creek – 89% \$0.72/acre

Faulkenberg reported there are a small number of parcels being taxed in the wrong watershed.

Faulkenberg stated that when we complete this project and determine all parcels that should be taxed and do all the cleanup work necessary on the ditches we should be able to collect enough tax dollars to maintain the ditches for years to come. The tax dollars collected are meant for maintenance not construction/re-construction. We will need to request funding to do the initial cleanup on the ditches like we have for Hooppole to get them to the maintenance stage.

Brown stated that the next step is sending out letters to all taxpayers that are not being taxed to begin the process of adding those assessments. Faulkenberg stated that we probably need to get an estimate on total cost to clean the ditches and discuss with the council if they will approve funding for that; then establish a rate that will be adequate to fund maintenance moving forward. Brown stated that is in the future, but we need to get all the parcels paying first. There was discussion about if it is best to get an estimate for maintenance and try to establish rates accordingly first or if we should proceed with notifying taxpayers now and get them paying then adjust the rate after. If we start the process now to get taxpayers paying it will not begin until 2020. Lindsey will outline the process and provide it for drainage board review at the next meeting.

Midwest Engineers

Faulkenberg reported that we received the invoice from Midwest Engineers and the total was \$7,500.00 not the \$5,000.00 estimate that was previously stated by WTH. WTH was merely stating a number it was not a firm quote and Faulkenberg is beyond pleased with the work completed and the data provided by Midwest Engineers. Faulkenberg is requesting board permission to request an additional appropriation of \$2,500.00 for the remainder owed on the invoice. Seiler made a motion for Faulkenberg to request a \$2,500.00 additional appropriation. Logsdon seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Tower Drain

Faulkenberg reported he sent bid specs out for the small project on Tower Drain in Hatfield to be opened at the next meeting. The contractors would like for the Hooppole phase 3 bids to be opened as well to aide them with scheduling. Faulkenberg recommends proceeding with opening the bids and will draft an addendum which states work will not begin on phase 3 until the crops are out of the fields. Seiler made a motion to approve opening the Hooppole phase 3 bids at the next meeting. Logsdon seconded the motion, motion was approved.

IUPUI Study

Faulkenberg reported he has been contacted numerous times by someone at IUPUI requesting we give permission to WTH to provide our information on regulated drains to them. Faulkenberg asked them if there is any benefit to the county if we provide this information to them and was informed there is not. They are doing research across the state on regulated drains and if pollutants are going into navigable waterways. Seiler made a motion to table it with no action on the study. Logsdon seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Drainage Advisory board meeting was scheduled for July 24th at 6:00 P.M.

Seiler made a motion to open the bids on Tower Drain at the next meeting. Logsdon seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Seiler made a motion to adjourn. Logsdon seconded the motion, motion approved.
Meeting was adjourned at 10:10 A.M.



President

Attest:



