

**Drainage Board Meeting
May 2, 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 1:30 P.M.

Minutes

Brown made a motion to approve the minutes from April 4th as presented. Seiler seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Surveyors Report

Faulkenberg reported that all log jams that were reported in the Advisory Board meeting have been cleared. The only one remaining is Little Pigeon Creek that Bob Reinke brought up in the last meeting. Faulkenberg presented pictures of the log jam north of Benton Day Bridge and stated he met with the Deputy Surveyor from Warrick County about Little Pigeon Creek. Warrick County has a few log jams they are going to investigate and report back to Faulkenberg to discuss the possibility of sharing cost on this cleanup. Jason Baxter, Warrick County Deputy Surveyor, attended the meeting and stated he has not had time to investigate the jams yet, but will contact Faulkenberg when he has their list of problems. Faulkenberg and Baxter will meet to put together a bid packet and try to determine how much each county should pay at that time. Bob Reinke was in attendance and asked if we were going to meet with Mr. Watkins, Faulkenberg stated he contacted Watkins yesterday to find out when he was available to meet. He is available on May 9th or May 16th, we set the time and place. After discussion it was decided to meet with Mr. Watkins at the Warrick County Surveyor's office on May 9th at 2:00 pm. Logsdon asked Baxter if he had spoke with Mr. Watkins and Baxter stated no has heard about him, but is a little confused as to what he is offering. Logsdon stated that Watkins writes grants for drainage projects and got a \$10,000,000.00 grant for Henderson County, Kentucky that went so far into government that Mitch McConnell got the funds for Henderson County. Logsdon stated that with the Republican leadership at the county, state, and national level right now, Donnelly working with both sides, and the connection with the Vice President if we can't get a grant right now, we never will. Watkins met with the board about 3 months ago to discuss trying to get a grant for Little Pigeon Creek. Logsdon stated that after the meeting with Watkins, Faulkenberg and Baxter may or may not be interested in proceeding. Baxter stated that if it requires any funds from his office he is not interested in moving forward, Logsdon stated that if a grant is received Watkins would be paid from grant funds.

Faulkenberg reported he received a call from Anne Richards expressing her gratitude for resolving the issue and stated that everyone is satisfied with the end result.

Faulkenberg presented an updated chemical allotment form that has a spot to include the specific location of where the chemical is being used.

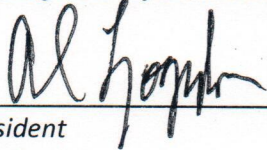
Faulkenberg stated he received the list of ditches to be sprayed and will begin work on that just as soon as an agreement is made with the Highway Dept. about use of the spray equipment. Logsdon stated that they will make a motion in the Commissioner's meeting to allow the Surveyor use of the new side-by-side for spraying. Faulkenberg will contact Kenney to work out a time when it's available.

Old Business - Mayor Harney and Clint Roos

Harney stated she has returned to discuss the issue at the park. The city feels that the watershed from a tributary of Huffman drain is flowing into the city park and that the city pays taxes on the drain, so the county is responsible for fixing the problem. The city is requesting that the county put a ditch in the city park to take the water away from the park. Roos presented maps of the park and explained that they have done a watershed study and determined what action should be taken to resolve the problem. A bid packet was put together and the project was bid out. Bids were opened at the City Council meeting and former Surveyor Bomber Herron was the low bid, but did not have all the necessary paperwork so the bid had to be rejected. The seconded lowest bid came in at \$50,000.00. Roos stated that between the bid and engineering fees the city has about \$70,000.00 in it so far. They just wanted to make the board aware of the bid opening last night. Most of the work needed is grading and deepening the channel around the park. The

excess dirt will then be placed in between the ball fields in the park. Roos stated they do not feel tiling would be necessary at this time, but would be a minimal expense if needed later. Faulkenberg ask how they determined the county water flowing into the park is the problem and Roos stated by checking the topography and doing the watershed study. Roos stated that the city property owners are paying taxes on Huffman drain except for one side of Eureka Rd and they should be. There is question about what is considered a legal drain, if a lateral and tributary are actually a part of that. This is a question that needs to be clarified. Mayor Harney stated that the city has done everything asked of them and has received bids on the cost of the job. The city is out the cost of the engineering firm and if the county does not pay for the job then nothing will be done. Faulkenberg ask Mayor Harney what would happen if the county were only to contribute what tax dollar have been collected since the last project was done on Huffman and Harney stated it would not be enough money to complete the project. If the county were to pay out \$50-60,000.00 on this project it would leave very little in the Huffman Drain fund. Harney asked if the county would be willing to do 50/50 and Faulkenberg stated that is a question for the board, but he would suggest paying what the residents have paid since 2007 when the last major project was done. Faulkenberg suggested that if we do this there also needs to be legal action taken to turn this over to the city, so this issue doesn't arise again, because in 6 months there could be the same problem. In his opinion this should be a onetime contribution to the project. Logsdon asked Harney to speak with her council at their next meeting and see if they are willing to contribute half to the project and the county contribute the tax dollars collected. We can then have a called Drainage Board meeting in 2 weeks to discuss what the city council is willing to do. Seiler stated he is in favor of the county contributing the tax dollars collected, Brown stated that he still wants clarification of what constitutes a legal drain before making a decision. A meeting was scheduled for May 16th at 1:30 pm and both parties will come back with answers to outstanding questions.

Seiler made a motion to adjourn. Brown seconded the motion, motion approved.
Meeting was adjourned at 2:11 P.M.



President
Attest:

