

**Drainage Board Meeting**  
**September 4, 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 1:00 P.M.

**Minutes**

Seiler made a motion to approve the minutes from August 7<sup>th</sup> as presented. Logsdon seconded the motion, motion was approved.

**Surveyors Report**

Faulkenberg reported that Hooppole Phase 3 has not started yet, they are waiting for the crops to be harvested. The Tower Drain project in Hatfield has not started yet either, but Laswell assured Faulkenberg they would be starting soon.

Huffman Drain

Faulkenberg has begun the process of getting Huffman drain to the maintenance stage like Hooppole. There are wetlands within Huffman and Faulkenberg is working with the Soil and Water Conservation District to determine where those wetlands lie.

Spraying

The highway dept has informed the surveyor they will be finished with the side by side in the next week which allows Faulkenberg to begin fall spraying.

**Assessed Drains**

Faulkenberg reported there has been a small increase to the numbers reported last month for Hooppole and the settlement amount including new parcels should be \$11,998.34. This reflects a 20% increase in revenue for maintenance of the drain. After investigating past maintenance history it appears that Hooppole was worked on an average of three times per year for jams, slides etc. An estimate per maintenance visit with inflation is approximately \$3,800.00 per visit, so no change would be needed in the rate. The increase in revenue being referenced is based on a \$5.00 minimum for parcels 5 acres or less.

Huffman watershed is comprised of 2,287 parcels with 859 not paying. The settlement amount for 2017 is \$12,154.44 and potential settlement amount adding the parcels currently not assessed is \$17,227.34 which is a 42% increase in revenue for maintenance. Huffman history shows approximately 4 maintenance visits per year with inflation costing around \$4,300.00 per visit. This too is based off of the \$5.00 minimum for 5 acres or less.

Faulkenberg asked for direction on if the board wishes to establish the minimum at 5 acres or leave it as is, because currently no one can figure out the exact acreage the minimum is based on. There was much discussion about what the process would be to establish the 5 acre minimum and how notice would be given. All taxpayers that are currently not being assessed that should be and all taxpayers paying the minimum would be notified and a public hearing held. Seiler made a motion to establish the minimum at 5 acres or less. Logsdon seconded the motion, motion was approved.

**Old Business**

Don Schroeder and Mr. Hurm are landowners affected by flooding and backwater across from AEP along the ditch that former Surveyor Herron had cleaned out a few years ago. The landowners contributed funds to have ditchwork done to eliminate the flooding that was costing them money in lost crops every year, but the work completed has done nothing to improve the flooding. Schroeder wants the board to instruct county attorney Lindsey to send a letter to AEP to get them to fix it. Faulkenberg stated he investigated that ditch when he came into office and has contacted AEP about the problem and they said they didn't have any money in the budget to fix it. Faulkenberg stated that the pitch of the ditch is uphill and the water has to reach a certain level to get high enough to push through the pipe, so in essence the ditch is running backwards. The board instructed Faulkenberg to contact AEP again and the railroad company to see what they will do.

Logsdon made a motion to adjourn. Seiler seconded the motion, motion approved.  
Meeting was adjourned at 1:32 P.M.

Autumn Winkler

President

Attest:

Jan Smith

Dawn Brown

Al Taylor