

REGULAR DRAINAGE MEETING
Wednesday, March 4, 2020 9:30 AM

3/4/2020 - Minutes

1. Open Meeting

Hardin County Drainage District Chairperson Lance Granzow opened the meeting. Also present were Trustee BJ Hoffman; Trustee Renee McClellan; Paul Williams, Contractor; Curt Groen, Landowner; and Denise Smith, Drainage Clerk.

2. Approve Agenda

Motion by Hoffman to approve the agenda. Second by McClellan. All ayes. Motion carried.

3. Approve Minutes

Motion by Hoffman to approve the minutes to Regular Drainage Meeting dated 2-26-20. Second by McClellan. All ayes. Motion carried.

4. DD H-S 4-112 - WO 2020-1 - Discuss W Possible Action, Drainage Utility Permit Application - Minerva Valley Tel. Co.

DD H-S 4-112 - WO 2020-1 - Smith noted that when Minerva Valley originally submitted this Drainage Utility Permit, they listed it as DD 45. Upon review of the maps it was determined the location lies in DD H-S 4-112. Minerva Valley is installing new fiber-optic line, and there is a district tile that runs right under the homeowner's driveway. Hardin County is the controlling county in this joint district.

Hoffman motioned to approve the Drainage Utility Permit, with the updated DD 4-112 location noted. Second by McClellan. All ayes. Motion carried.

5. DD 142 & Big Four - WO 2020-2 - Discuss W Possible Action - Midland Cooperative Drainage Utility Permit Application

DD 142 & Big Four - WO 2020-2 - Hoffman noted that this Permit was also discussed in the Board of Supervisors meeting today. Smith stated that this tile runs parallel to the road, with the main tile crossing under the road, along with three laterals joining in where the tile parallels the road. Smith noted that the work being done will all be for overhead lines. The map provided by Midland was pretty clear in denoting the location. It was discussed that Midland has been good to work with on the Utility Permits.

Motion by McClellan to approve both of the applications from Midland for DD 142/Big Four, WO 2020-2 Drainage Utility Permit and the DD 38, 46, Big Four, F-H 5-75 - WO 2020-3 Drainage Utility Permit. Second by Hoffman. All ayes. Motion carried.

6. DD 38, 46, Big Four, F-H -5-75 - WO 2020-3 Discuss W Possible Action - Midland Power Cooperative Drainage Utility Permit

DD 38, 46,, Big Four, F-H 5-75 - WO 2020-3 - Smith noted the only variance she saw in the permit application was the red pencil line, on the map provided by Midland, did cross from the east side of the road to the west and back again, but that was north of any district tile lines. Midland will be installing new overhead lines and setting new poles.

See above (5.) for motion.

7. Other Business

DD 25 - Smith noted that she had received an update from Lee Gallentine of CGA, who had spoken with contractor Steve McDowell. McDowell would like to attend the next regular drainage meeting on March 11,

20 to discuss his requested time extension as part of the proposed change order. The Trustees agreed they would like to have Contractor McDowell attend the March 11th meeting. Smith will add that to the agenda for the Wednesday, March 11, 20 meeting.

Wind Turbine Ordinance and Drainage Utility Permits - Hoffman stopped at Heart of Iowa utility in Union and visited with Bryan Amundson, the general manager, to visit with him and see if his utility had any concerns in moving forward with the CWEC stipulations in the Drainage Utility Permitting process. Amundson appreciated that the Trustees are looking out for everyone. Amundson stated Heart of Iowa has significant investment in the drainage districts, they take pride in their work and have done things by the book, and was grateful that the Trustees were looking out for the landowner's best interests and the utility's best interests. Hoffman discussed proposed changes with Amundson, and Amundson agreed with televising prior to CWEC's, but had concerns that if Heart of Iowa worked near where a CWEC was working, which utility would be blamed for a crushed tile. It would be far likelier to be the WEC's heavy equipment than Amundson's small trencher or excavator, and he did not want that liability. Amundson would rather have the means of showing it was or was not them, but he appreciated the consideration of everyone's interests and not just those of the wind companies. Hoffman noted that Amundson was concerned if televising is required that it would not apply to his utility, Hoffman stated he believed this requirement should be for CWEC only. Granzow stated that Heart of Iowa is currently required to expose any tile in the area they work. Granzow stated that televising should be part of the development agreement with the CWECs rather than the ordinance. Hoffman noted that Amundson was glad that their voice had been heard in the process. Granzow stated he was glad to have the information.

Smith stated she will have the wind turbine topic on next week's agenda and is waiting to hear back from attorney Mike Richards, to verify his ability to attend a tentatively scheduled work session regarding the wind turbines, following the two hearings scheduled for March 25, 2020. Hoffman stated the Smith has already posted hearing notices for these upcoming hearings on the bulletin board in the rotunda and the website. Hoffman stated he appreciated Smith's proactiveness in getting all the notices out, Hoffman states he is glad that all the notices are out for the public, and thanked Smith. Smith stated she is learning more about the website, and the drainage clerk position every day.

Televising Tile Lines - Drainage Contractor Paul Williams was in attendance, and wanted to let the Trustees know that he is looking at purchasing another camera system for use on drainage tiles. Williams has done a lot of work in Franklin County and has been demonstrating some new cameras this winter on projects there. Williams has worked closely with Lee Gallentine of CGA and Franklin County this past couple of years. Williams wanted to put it out to the Trustees, that he would be available for televising work. Williams had owned a camera system in the past, but found the very expensive unit he was running, was too expensive to justify the few repair jobs he had at the time. Williams stated he would charge a 3 hour minimum, with a base cost of \$1,000, with a base hourly rate of \$350 per hour for a tile repair crew with televising. Williams stated that seems like a lot but that rate includes one excavator with an operator and a laborer, sometimes that will be 2 excavators, 2 operators and a laborer, and it will be the same price either way. Williams rate would include \$2.00 mile one way for transportation, time starts from when they begin work till they end work. The only other charge beyond the hourly rate would be for materials and parts, rock and rock trucking would be a separate charge.

Williams stated he has done work and televising on 12 to 14 drainage repair jobs this winter in Franklin County, this allowed him to gain valuable information with the demo systems. The model he is looking at will allow him 1000' of televising cable extension, so that he could pothole a tile, televise upstream 1,000' and then televise downstream 1,000', giving you a 2,000' shot of a tile line. His previous unit was designed to extend 1,500' but with that system, you would seldom be able to extend all the way to 1,500' as the head was too heavy to push through the curves or sweeps in drainage tile, it could not pull that much cable. Williams stated that the 2,000' view with the new machine would give a good view on conditions in the tile lines.

Granzow asked if the new system could test for depth. Williams stated that capability would be in his locator, as the camera moves through the tile on the cable that it pulls, we can light that up and locate as it goes. Williams stated he felt it would be accurate within a foot on the depth of the tile. Hoffman stated he would like to see the system work in a field day demonstration.

Williams feels there is a need for televising in the surrounding areas. On a project in Franklin County, they televised a few hundred feet, on a job that had been previously repaired with a few hundred feet of RCP. Last fall there was a suckhole, they dug it up and with the images from televising, they determined that the next few hundred feet should have been replaced also. Granzow stated we still have a policy in place to give preference, when possible, to in-county contractors. Granzow stated we would always welcome another contractor that wanted to live in the county and do televising, and we would alternate between local contractors. Hoffman stated he would worry if we were in a larger county, he would be more concerned about price fixing, but he does not worry about that here, as our contractors have been open and honest with us. Williams stated he built his business on water and sewer work, but has expanded his work experience in jetting, hydro-excavating, directional boring, and he will not jeopardize his business for anyone, he would not gouge anyone, as his reputation is very important to him. Williams stated he would welcome any competition, as it is good for everyone.

Hoffman asked what capabilities this new system would have, Williams stated the new system will televise, and should give the same quality of video, and has the ability to tell pitch and if the pipe is going uphill or downhill, and some additional options his old system did not have. William also stated he has cutters available to cut tree roots, however what often happens in tiles, is that with any offset the root cutter head will stop at that point and destroy the tile, root cutters are best utilized in city sewers. Williams stated if you have roots in tile, that means you have trees to close to the tile and in the right of way, those trees in the right of way need to be removed. Williams noted you would be better off to remove the trees and lay a new tile line with non perforated pipe.

Granzow stated as we look at CWEC building turbines, we would like to televise before and after turbine construction, so you have a before and after snapshot of the condition of the tile. Granzow stated he was unsure if we can put in the County's ordinance that the televising be done by an in-county contractor, but he would prefer an in county contractor do the work. Hoffman stated he would like to have Mike Richards review that and see if it is possible. Williams stated you may not be able to get any other contractors to do the televising. Hoffman stated the CWEC could bring in a crew from Alabama, and we would much prefer someone local who has experience with drainage tile, and if we truly want to support the local economy - local jobs for local families with kids, then this needs to be some part of our policy. Part of the problem Hoffman has, is that Handsaker stated he had issues with CWEC damaging his private tile in the past, and things were not immediately addressed by the CWEC. Handsaker was able to communicate with the CWEC, and let them know they have the skills to fix this problem themselves, the CWEC said to fix it, and at least there was a remedy for Handsaker. Hoffman stated we need to ask Mike Richards if it would be possible to utilize our local drainage engineers and local drainage contractors.

8. Adjourn Meeting

Motion by McClellan to adjourn. Second by Hoffman. All ayes. Motion carried.