

Regular Drainage Meeting & DD 9 Public Hearing on Engineer's Report

6/19/2019 - Minutes

1. Open Meeting

Hardin County Board of Supervisors Chairperson, Renee McClellan, opened the meeting. Also present were Board of Supervisors, Lance Granzow and BJ Hoffman; Landowners, Roger Wood, Loraine Clark, Byron Clark, Kevin Johnson, George Ierger, Westhenry Ierger, and Tom and Sheryl Roberts; Lee Gallentine and Zeb Stanbrough with Clapsaddle-Garber Associates (CGA); Jeremey Maas with Gehrke Inc; Drainage Clerk Becca Junker; Former Drainage Clerk Tina Schlemme.

2. Approve Agenda

Granzow moved, Hoffman seconded to approve the agenda as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

3. Introductions/Attendance

Introductions were made and attendance verified.

4. Open Public Hearing

McClellan opened the hearing.

4.I. Verify Publication

Junker verified the notice of publication as being published in the Times Citizen on Wednesday, May 29, 2019.

4.II. Explanation Of Project

Gallentine explained the project as presented in the engineer's report dated April 30, 2019 and the supplement to engineer's report dated June 3, 2019. This project began with a work order request from October 26, 2018. During the investigation CGA found another sinkhole in or near the railroad right of way. From this sinkhole, the tile couldn't be located upstream due to the main tile being 1/2 full of debris. Downstream, the tile could not be located due to tree growth inside the railroad right of way. Out of 15 repairs since the district originated, 3 of those have been in or near the railroad right of way. Without repairs or improvement to the main tile, the land upstream of the railroad track will not properly drain due to its plugged or restricted state.

Gallentine then explained the three options he had come up with to repair or improve the main tile.

1.) Repair Method- This is the most straight forward way to repair the tile. Upstream in the railroad right of way he would recommend installing a new main tile at the location dictated by railroad standards and abandon the existing main tile at its current location. Further downstream it would be recommended to jet clean the existing main tile, CCTV inspect the existing main tile to verify its condition and remove the trees inside the railroad right of way. These plans are included on Appendix A of the main tile engineer's report. This method would cost the district roughly \$195,600.00.

2.) Improvement Method One- This option is the most straightforward way of improving the main tile. In this option the existing main tile upstream of the railroad crossing would be severed and downstream would be plugged on the northwest side of the railroad right of way, abandoning existing main tile at the upstream crossing. Then it would be suggested to install a new main tile from the location of severing southwest parallel with the railroad right of way to the downstream side of the downstream railroad crossing and connect the new main tile with the existing main tile at this location. Further downstream the same recommendations would be made as the repair method. This method would cost the district roughly \$154,200.00.

3.) Improvement Method Two- This option was an additional option that was submitted as a supplement to the engineer's report. It would be recommended to sever the existing main tile upstream of the

railroad crossing and plug the downstream end on the NW side of the railroad right of way. Abandon existing main tile at said upstream railroad crossing under the tracks. From there a new separate main tile from the location of severing W and SW to a new separate outlet in the existing water course. For the portion of the main tile in the railroad right of way downstream the same recommendation as in the last two reports remains. This map is included in the supplement engineer's report as Appendix H. This method would cost the district roughly \$187,800.00 with an added attorney expense of roughly \$10,000.00.

4.III. Written Or Verbal Comments/Discussion

George loerger asked about doing some investigating and work on Lateral 1 because right now the intake is barely moving water. He mentioned installing a new tile parallel on both sides of the railroad but outside of their right of way going to the intake, this would eliminate having to work with the railroad completely. Granzow then suggested ending the lateral tiles and making this new tile private tile installed by the landowners. Gallentine said that by installing private tile it will give them more options on how to install and cut prices because it won't have to be installed to districts code. Byron Clark then informed everyone that years ago there was private tile that was installed but he was not sure where that tile all goes. Westhenry loerger asked the Trustees if there could be an investigation done on the tile to get a clear picture of where the tile goes.

The current classification was discussed as being the original classification. Granzow reminded Gallentine that the reclassification had already been approved by the Trustee's at a previous meeting.

Hoffman read a written comment that was submitted by Kevin Johnson objecting the tile reroute choice of the engineer's report. Stating that the he feels rerouting through the Sailer land (improvement method two) would be more effective on maximum water flow to the existing open ditch.

4.IV. Close Public Hearing

Granzow moved, Hoffman seconded to close the hearing. All ayes. Motion carried.

4.V. Possible Action

Hoffman moved, Granzow seconded to adopt the Engineer's Report along with the Supplemental report as presented by CGA. All ayes. Motion carried.

Hoffman moved, Granzow seconded to direct CGA to investigate the tile on Lateral 1 to determine what tile if any is in place and report back to the Trustee's and then communicate the results to the landowners. All ayes. Motion carried.

Hoffman moved, Granzow seconded to have Junker send a courtesy letter by certified mail to Ronald Sailer explaining the project and the possibility of annexation and construction on his property. All ayes. Motion carried.

Hoffman moved, Granzow seconded to direct CGA to prepare plans and specifications for Improvement Method Two which is included in the engineer's supplement report on repairs to the main tile in DD 9. Hoffman explained he feels there has been enough production acres taken out this year so it is important to move forward. All ayes. Motion carried.

Hoffman moved, Granzow seconded to enlist the reclassification committee including Denny Friest, Chuck Walters and Lee Gallentine to start the reclassification process for DD 9 and the new district. All ayes. Motion carried.

5. DD 55-3 - Discuss, With Possible Action, Railroad Approval Letter

Gallentine informed the trustees that the railroad approved the work to be done in the railroad right of way, but with the same terms and conditions that they give for replacing a tile. This means the district will have

to pay for railroad flaggers, monitors and insurance with the \$1000 permit fee. The terms they gave for this tree removal is no different than if the district was replacing a crossing. Gallentine said that they can do it but it will not be cheap. McClellan asked for clarification on what this project consists of, Gallentine said that all they are wanting to do is remove a few trees and jet clean the tile.

Schlemme mentioned that per Iowa Code since the project is under the threshold, the district does not have to tell the landowners what is being done. The only reason she made contact with the railroad was out of courtesy but they are a landowner just like all the others within this district. Gallentine reminded Schlemme that the contractor was the reason that she has reached out to the railroad, he did not want to do the work unless he had the approval. The Trustees then asked if there was anyone else who would do this project and Gallentine said he would contact Accujet.

Hoffman moved, Granzow seconded to instruct CGA to hire Accujet to clean the identified problem area. Gallentine will inform the current contractor. All ayes. Motion carried.

6. Discuss, With Possible Action, IRUA Update
Table until Monday, June 24, 2019 at 9:00 AM.

7. DD 22 - Discuss, With Possible Action, Work Order #176 Concerns

Granzow showed Maas text messages he received following the storm on Saturday, June 15, 2019 from a landowner. Granzow explained that landowners are concerned that Maas is trying to push for the extension while doing other jobs, Granzow clarified that he doesn't think that is the case but with landowners concerned he needed to bring it to Maas's attention. Granzow said a landowner is also concerned that the new tile is not working and is flooding into the old tile, but the old tile is hardly moving water. Granzow asked what can be done for the landowners to get a crop, because they are frustrated with today's market. It was brought to Granzow's attention that the area he is talking about got possibly four inches of rain over the weekend. Even with a brand new system to a half inch drainage coefficient, it's going to take eight days to drain out after that amount of rainfall. Granzow continued to read the text message that he received stating that the landowner is concerned about a disconnect of communication between the engineer, trustees and contractor.

The many blowouts were brought up and Maas said he was under the impression that the blowouts were added into the work order, but he was to do that while on site for the main repair. Maas went on to say that right now you can hardly walk out in the fields because of how wet it is, let alone bring big equipment out. He explained that he had full intentions on being on this project late last fall but since he couldn't get caught up on his projects he was already doing he wasn't able to. In late September he started a job in Humboldt that was supposed to be a 35 day job, due to the weather they didn't finish until January 11 and it took 110 days. He continued by saying that this spring they haven't gotten any work done. These last ten days are the first two weeks that any of his employees have worked over 50 hours in one week since January 1 and that's because of rain days. This week he has had to lay guys off because the only job site that is dry is in Iowa Falls and the only reason that it's dry is because they're removing pavement as they go and they're only digging five feet deep. He said there is no way he can get rock trucks or the concrete pipe into the field because he can't even drive a four wheeler in one right now.

When this project was bid, it was bid at laying 300 feet of pipe a day. Right now, and even in the next three weeks Maas said there is no way he will be able to lay that much because of the water flow. He continued to say that there are a lot of variables than just laying the pipe. He's not scared to pump water, but he does not have enough money or man power to work with the amount of water they are dealing with out in the field at this time. He is not waiting for it to be dry because this isn't a perfect world and he knows that's not feasible. He's just wanting to let the water go down to maybe 6 inches deep instead of 20 inches deep. He went on to say that for most farmers, after four days following a rain they are able to go out and spray/plant in their field but that is not the case for him and his crew.

His final comment was that this is a very important job for everyone involved due to the circumstance of this project. He hopes the weather straightens out, so he can go out and be productive because this is a high profile job. He said he has every microscope on every one of his guys and his tile connections might take

four times longer than a normal one due to the circumstances. He cannot afford to risk it to go out and bury three rock trucks and his 120,000 pound excavator just so it looks like he's putting in effort. He will be out on site with two crews and himself personally as soon as the weather permits for them to be there.

The trustees decided that they wanted to revisit this next week with Heather Thomas from CGA in attendance. Maas said that he will plan on coming to next week's meeting and will be able to answer any landowner questions during that meeting.

8. DD 22 - Discuss, With Possible Action, Repair Summary For Work Order #198
This work order has been completed at no expense to the district. No action required.

9. DD 38 Lat 4- Discuss, With Possible Action, Repair Summary For Work Order #231
Gallentine presented the repair summary, and if there is poor drainage in the future CGA can do more investigation. In the fall it was determined that the landowner can go out and dig to find out if it is drainage district tile. No action required.

10. DD 64 - Discuss, With Possible Action, Utility Crossing Summary For 2018-5
Gallentine presented that the closest Midland got to any of the tile was 35 feet. No action required.

11. DD 78 - Discuss, With Possible Action, Investigation Summary For Work Order #246

Gallentine explained the investigation summary and recommended putting this on hold until fall.

Hoffman moved, Granzow seconded to put this project on hold until fall. All ayes. Motion carried.

12. DD 86 - Discuss, With Possible Action, Investigation Summary For Work Order #252

Gallentine explained the investigation summary, saying his guys walked the lake up to the North to figure out what trees were all out along the tile. CGA surveyed all trees within 50 feet of the drainage tile and found over 200 trees that are impacting the drainage. The estimates cost to remove the trees is between \$25,000-\$40,000 which is low enough that a hearing would not be required. Some of the trees are in the railroad right of way which would be a good indicator as to why they have not been removed. Once the trees are removed it will be easier to figure out what is all wrong with the tile and what the next steps to fixing the tile will be.

Junker informed the trustees that in the notes, it was said that once CGA comes back with their findings on this work order there would be a landowners meeting held.

Hoffman moved, Granzow seconded to conduct a landowner's meeting for DD 86 on July 17 at 11:00 AM. All ayes. Motion carried.

13. DD 143 - Discuss, With Possible Action, Investigation Summary For Work Order #167

Gallentine explained that at the Landowner Meeting on DD 143, Calvin Hyland expressed concern about the hole N of 175 that had not been fixed yet. At the time Gallentine thought that this hole had been fixed but after going on site and investigating he found a 6X10 foot hole in the road ditch. Where the tile is there is an exposed telecommunication line running through the hole so CGA's opinion is that the utility line is what caused the hole. From the hole there is also an intake that is most likely DOT's and that is also collapsed. Since CGA's opinion is that the utility line is what caused the hole, the next step is deciding if the district is going to repair that or if more investigating needs done to have the utility pay for the repair. Gallentine reminded the Trustees that per Iowa Code any utility company is required to get an easement from the district trustee's before installing the utility line and that has been in the code for years.

Hoffman moved, Granzow seconded in instructing CGA to attempt to determine what utility is located in the problem area and report back to the Trustees. Once the utility is determined CGA is to inform Junker so that she can request they come before the board. All ayes. Motion moved.

14. DD 167 - Approve Work Order #260

Junker presented the email along with the pictures that she received from David Bernard requesting a work order on the main that is in Donna Bernard's property. Junker informed the Trustees that further East on this main there is an open work order, but these sinkholes are to the West of that work order. Gallentine updated the Trustees that McDowell was awarded the bid to spot repair following a hearing with the landowners. When McDowell went to work on this earlier this year, Neil Martin, the tenant, said that the land was too wet and that he would reach out once it was dry. When the land finally dried up and Martin called McDowell to come out they were already started with other projects so now it's just a matter of when they have time to come out and do the spot repairs.

Hoffman moved, Granzow seconded to have CGA put this work order in the lottery and get it repaired when mother nature cooperates. All ayes. Motion carried.

15. Other Business

None.

15.I. DD 148 - Canvass Election

Set canvass for 9:00 AM on June 24, 2019.

15.II. June 24, 2019 Meeting

No meeting unless something comes up.

16. Adjourn Meeting

Hoffman moved, Granzow seconded to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.