

REGULAR DRAINAGE MEETING
Wednesday, October 14, 2020 9:30 AM

This meeting was held electronically and in-person due to Covid-19 concerns.

10/14/2020 - Minutes

1. Open Meeting

Hardin County Drainage Chairperson Lance Granzow opened the meeting. Also in attendance were Trustee BJ Hoffman; Trustee Renee McClellan; Lee Gallentine of Clapsaddle-Garber Associates; Michael Pearce, Network Specialist; Casey Huff, Director of Engineering, Midland Power Cooperative, and Denise Smith, Drainage Clerk.

2. Approve Agenda

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

3. Approve Minutes

Motion by McClellan to approve the minutes of Drainage Meeting dated 10-07-20. Second by Hoffman. All ayes. Motion carried.

4. Approve Claims For Payment

Motion by Hoffman to approve the claims for payment with pay date of Friday, October 16, 2020. Second by McClellan. All ayes. Motion carried.

DD 25 WO 1 - Pay Estimate #6 McDowell & Sons Contractors \$3,840.57

5. Discuss W Possible Action - Drainage Utility Permit Process

Smith stated we have invited Midland Power Cooperative to the meeting and Casey Huff from Midland is here to discuss Midland's open Drainage Utility Permit. Smith stated Midland has 10 open permits and a new one on the agenda today following this discussion. Smith wanted to invite Huff to discuss the fact that we have had trouble getting 24 hour notice of construction and tile locates done on some of these projects. Smith stated on permit #2020-2 Gallentine had received some communication from Hiline Construction for work done along County Hwy D20 and B Ave., Smith stated this is the only permit we have had any outreach on from Midland. Gallentine stated we really have not received any communication at all from Midland or their contractors on any of the other permits other than permit #2020-2, and that was with Aaron with Hiline Construction. Gallentine explained to Aaron you are crossing this tile and we need you to know where it is at so you don't put a pole through it, but he also mentioned that was not in his contract with Midland, and he wasn't too receptive, it wasn't that he didn't want to do it was that it wasn't part of his contract. Gallentine has not heard anything back from him since the initial conversation with him and that has been only a couple of weeks ago. Granzow stated so we issue a permit to Midland and they contract it out and don't relay the permit requirements as part of their contract. Hoffman stated they don't write it into their contract with their subcontractor will communicate with the County's Drainage Engineer. Gallentine stated on their previous permits last year that Midland went out and located the tile for us as part of the permitting and those were all smaller projects that they did in house.

Smith asked Huff to un-mute herself and if she had any comments, Huff stated that with Hiline, they have had a couple of foremen this year so there has been some communication issues this year, Huff has relayed this to Aaron a couple of times and at least a couple of time he has contacted Gallentine. Huff stated they will actually get Barry, their foreman from Iowa Falls involved, and he will probably be potholing around those tiles that need to be located, and make sure we don't hit those that way. Huff stated it has been a communication issue between the three of us. Gallentine stated Barry was who Gallentine worked with last year and Barry was very receptive and good at communicating. Huff stated Barry is good at that and we will keep him in the loop from now and he will be the one doing most of the tile locating for Midland. Granzow asked if we still need to go out and locate for the tile that they put the pole in in that district.

Gallentine stated there are 10 open permits that Midland has pretty much completed their work that still need the tiles located on. Hoffman greeted Huff and stated that he appreciates her taking the time to talk with us today and apologized that scheduling did not work out in previous weeks, one of the things that Hoffman suggested to the other utility permit holders was that if you have issues or concerns about the drainage tile locating services, we do have very good local contractors that do this work in Hardin County day in and day out, that would love to earn their business and make your life a whole lot easier. Hoffman stated Gallentine would tell you the same thing, if you want this done and done right our local contractors do this work every day, not saying that your contractors don't do a good job, it is just a matter of this drainage tile is a monster in its own right, that is one of Hoffman's suggestions, to get these knocked out really quick, Hoffman would suggest getting a hold of the Drainage Clerk following the meeting today and she can provide you with a list of the contractors that can bid it and are insured and that do this work on a daily and weekly basis. Hoffman stated this is he not hear to beat anyone down or run anyone down, Midland Power and all of our other utility permit holders provide a great service to the public. Granzow stated they also have the option to do it themselves.

Huff stated they can take that into consideration and will probably do the locate work in house. Hoffman asked what kind of a time frame can we expect these open permits to be completed in, as we have asked this of every other utility provider, can you guarantee that you will work with our drainage engineers to get this completed in a timely manner. Huff stated she thought we could get the 10 open permits done by mid-November, definitely before Thanksgiving, Gallentine stated we are totally willing to accommodate that schedule in order to get these closed out, but as always, 24 hour notice of construction is required and very much appreciated. Hoffman stated he has nothing else for Huff. Smith asked once you are ready to get those tile locates done, do you have the contact information for the drainage engineer, and if not Smith will email it to Huff. Huff stated she has that information. The Trustees thanked Huff for her attendance and participation.

6. DD Big 4 & DD 46 - Discuss W Possible Action - Drainage Utility Permit Application 2020-14 Midland Power Cooperative

Smith stated this is a new Drainage Utility Permit Application for DD Big 4 & DD 46 submitted by Midland Power Cooperative, for setting new poles along B Ave. starting at Hwy D20, Alden Twp., Section 16 for 1 mile, heading east along 120th for 1 mile. Smith stated this is a short run and they do cross over a district tile.

Motion by Hoffman to approve Drainage Utility Permit #2020-14. Second by McClellan.

In additional discussion on the motion, Hoffman asked Gallentine if this will be the litmus test going forward to see how this relationship is going to work. Gallentine stated this may be the one he spoke with Aaron about. Smith stated this was a new application, and was not sure if Gallentine spoke with Aaron on Permit #2020-2, this would be #2020-14, Gallentine stated this was the route he discussed with Aaron.

All Ayes. Motion carried.

7. DD 26 - Discuss W Possible Action - Drainage Utility Permit Application 2020-15

Smith stated this is a new Drainage Utility Permit application from IRUA for Vern Schwartz, this does follow the route Vern presented to us with his personal request a few meetings ago. Smith does not anticipate there being any issues with this permit, this does not cross any district tile but does lie within the boundaries of a drainage district, so we asked IRUA to file this new Drainage Utility Permit application so we are all following this procedure correctly.

Motion by Hoffman to approve Drainage Utility Permit application 2020-15 as submitted by the IRUA. Second by McClellan.

In additional discussion on the motion, Hoffman stated again this is one I think we need to keep our eye so that it gets done in a timely and by the book fashion.

All ayes. Motion carried.

8. DD 143 - Discuss W Possible Action - Drainage Utility Permit Application 2020-13 - UPN

Smith stated this Drainage Utility Permit application is really a formality, this is a new application filled out by UPN for their work done under their original regular Utility Permit dated 12-30-2014, which we had discussed two meetings ago. Smith stated this is to make sure we have this new form filled out and have a new Certificate of Insurance on file from UPN as well.

Motion by Hoffman to approve the Drainage Utility Permit 2020-13 as submitted by UPN. Second by McClellan. All ayes. Motion carried.

9. DD 25 - WO 1 Discuss W Possible Action - Pay Estimate #6

Motion by Hoffman to acknowledge Pay Estimate #6 approved for payment in the earlier motion on claims for pay date Friday, October 16, 2020. Second by McClellan. All ayes. Motion carried.

10. DD 9 WO 229 - Discuss W Possible Action - Contractor Update

Gallentine provided an update from contractor Gehrke, this is for the project over by Tom Roberts place where we are taking the route in another direction and abandoning the railroad crossing, we had a pre-construction meeting with Gehrke last week, and this is a concrete pipe project. Gehrke inquired if using a spoon rather than rock bedding was an available option, Gallentine stated he told Gehrke they would have to provide how much of a cost savings that would be, Gehrke indicated it would save \$2.00 a foot so overall you would save \$5,000 on the project if we could get by with using the spoon if the soil conditions allow it. Gallentine stated instead of writing up a formal change order he just wanted to get a feeling from the Trustees whether you were interested in that or not, if you are, Gallentine will right up a formal change order, but if you are not then he would not waste the time. McClellan stated we have not had a problem with using the spoon as long as we are talking about the proper soil conditions. Gallentine stated it is concrete pipe so it is a lot more forgiving. McClellan does not have a problem with it. Gallentine stated he does not have a change order for formal action today, and just wanted to get the Trustee's thoughts on the option. Granzow stated he is fine with saving the money, as in this district one person owns 60% of the district so any chance we can save them some money, he is all for it, it is concrete so he does not have an issue with it unless the soil types are junk. Gallentine stated in DD102's wetland project it went very well. Granzow has no problem with it. Gallentine will get a change order drafted up.

11. DD 11 WO 294 - Discuss W Possible Action - Investigation Summary

Gallentine stated this is an older work order that has been out there for a little while, this was turned in by Robert Smuck earlier this year, and Smuck reported a blowout on the main tile of DD 11. Gallentine stated when we went out there to fix it, we kept chasing and chasing what was going on trying to find something decent to hook a tile up to, the main tile is cracked at the top and on the sides, but there is also a void beside the tile so every time you try to dig something out the tile would collapse because there wasn't any side support on it. Gallentine stated we televised about 1,000' upstream and 600' downstream, we found 13 locations that are on both sides are in partial or imminent collapse, we did temporary repairs to get things all buttoned together because the contractor out thought it was going to be really expensive to replace it and we agree. Moving forward we recommend repair of those 26 collapsed areas. Gallentine stated you can either do it through spot repairs, some of them are close enough that you could do one spot repair for the two, so you would have 11 areas of spot repair. Overall about 475' of tile need replaced, and CGA's opinion is that costs would be \$40,000 to \$49,000, if you wanted to replace everything for the entire length you would be well over \$50,000 and you would require an Engineer's Report and a hearing. Gallentine added the landowners in this district are Smuck, Vierkandt and Runge, so they were highly interested in seeing the void beside the tile, we sent copies of the video to those gentleman and when Gallentine talked with Vierkandt, Vierkandt stated there is no way we can afford to do anything else on this other than keep patching it, Gallentine knows financially times are tough and yields this year aren't helping that any, Gallentine understands that financially this may not be feasible, we are just recommending this purely from an engineering standpoint.

Granzow asked if we have a landowners meeting scheduled for this district coming up, Smith stated that meeting is for DD 14. Gallentine stated he was not sure if the Trustees want to have a landowners meeting or how they would like to proceed. Gallentine stated we did incur 1.25 acres of crop damage and we always recommend payment of that if they bring forth their claim. Granzow stated we have a landowners meeting for DD 14 and asked how far apart these two districts are and if they share landowners, and wondered if we could hold the meetings back to back. Gallentine stated Smuck and Runge would be in both districts. Smith read the list of landowners for this district and noted that landowner Merle Strothcamp had called on DD 14 and can review those comments at the landowners meeting. Smith stated we have plenty of time to get meeting notices out if they would like to hold a back to back landowner meeting with DD 11 & DD 14, DD 14 is scheduled for noon. Hoffman stated maybe we can go at 12:30, it is easier if we run long on the second one that delay the first meeting.

Motion by Hoffman to give notice to DD 11 for a Landowner Meeting regarding work order 294, November 18, 2020 at 12:30 pm in the large conference room of the Hardin County Courthouse. Second by McClellan.

In additional discussion on the motion, Granzow asked if the DD 14 meeting would only take a half hour, Smith stated you have a lot of video images to cover on that on and we have DD 14 WO 291 on the agenda today that may be added to the discussion at the noon meeting and look at both of those work orders at the same time. Smith stated originally the DD 14 Landowner Meeting was just on WO 290 and now we have WO 291 Investigation Summary back for WO 291. Smith stated the DD 14 Meeting may run a little bit longer. Granzow asked if we wanted to change our time from 12:30 and do the DD 11 meeting before or after the DD 14 meeting. Hoffman stated he would be fine with 11:30 and asked what Gallentine's schedule looked like. Gallentine stated that he did not think DD 11 would take long based on his conversation with the DD 11 landowners, that the landowners just don't have the money to do much, so Gallentine thinks it will be a quick meeting. Granzow stated he would like the landowners input.

Hoffman amended the motion to hold the DD 11 Landowner Meeting on November 18, 2020 at 11:30 am. Second by McClellan. All ayes. Motion carried.

12. DD 14 WO 291 - Discuss W Possible Action - Investigation Summary

Gallentine reviewed this work order that was reported near Ron Vierkandt's property, Vierkandt had slow drainage northeast of his house at the intersection of S-47 and D-21. Gallentine stated there was not a clear cut issue of a sinkhole or blowout, so there was some time spent potholing on Lateral 2 and the Main tile, to find the problem locations. Gallentine stated it was finally determined that Vierkandt had some private tiling done, and they tied in two private tiles on either side of the main, across from each other, when the two private tiles were inserted into the main, they were inserted too far, and that was catching debris and trash, and so it was causing the back ups and issues. Gallentine stated that was corrected while they were out there, Vierkandt was very sorry and had no idea that the tilers had done that. Gallentine does have some additional recommendations, we need to verify that the contractor did fine grading and seeding where they dug up in the road ditches, there is an intake on the north side of D-41 that may need repaired, it has dirt and debris in it, it was not on any district tile directly, so Secondary Roads need to be made aware of it. Gallentine stated there was a sinkhole over an 18" road culvert that needs to be addressed. Gallentine stated this was where IRUA installed a water main without any review or oversight in the filed by CGA or anyone other than themselves. Gallentine stated we did excavate right there and it appears that they only cleared the district tile by 1/4 of a foot, and the permit requires a couple feet of clearance. McClellan asked if CGA had photos of the IRUA crossing. Gallentine stated he would have to look back through the report and if there aren't pictures there are calculations to verify it. Granzow asked if the IRUA crossed above or below the district tile. Gallentine stated he was not sure if they just probed the water main if it was under the tile, Gallentine will do some investigating and get back to the Trustees on this. Granzow asked if the IRUA turned in anything to us on this crossing. Gallentine stated this is the one they turned in their self report on this.

Gallentine referenced the Summary photos showing the tile right across from each other showing the amount of the blockage. Gallentine stated that IRUA's self report did not have any depths shown, they just stated we crossed this tile and it is this size and this material. Granzow asked if IRUA stated that was the size and material of our district tile. Gallentine stated yes, that is correct, but the IRUA did not provide any depths on their self report. Granzow asked if the IRUA was correct on their statement of tile size and

material. Gallentine did not bother checking, Granzow stated he was just curious as they fudged some other ones. Gallentine stated we can sure look at that and bring back some more information next week if the Trustees would like, but did not want to be accused of stirring the pot. The Trustees agreed that was not the case, Granzow stated he would like to go back and make sure there is some accuracy if the IRUA claims they are doing it accurately, this would verify their statement. Gallentine stated he could review the information and give them an update next week. The Trustees agreed they would like to see this information next week. Granzow stated the two private tiles that met like that, did Vierkandt tell you who put those tiles in. Gallentine stated he believes he did but would not like to get that information wrong. Granzow stated he would like that information next week as well as that needs to be addressed as we have had issues with that before. Granzow stated it sounds to him like we just spent a lot of money out here for a private tile issue. Hoffman stated this sounds like Brent Perry's concerns that people are doing things that are costing the whole district money, why is the whole district footing the bill. Gallentine stated Vierkandt was very apologetic, Granzow stated we understand that but who is paying the bill for this, Granzow asked is this where the private tile hooks in that was just fixed. Gallentine stated that is where the private tile was fixed. Granzow stated we are fixing private tiles on district time and Vierkandt is apologetic for it. McClellan asked if any bills had been paid on this work order yet. Smith would have to look and see if any expenses have been paid and can provide that next week. Gallentine stated he did not know if Vierkandt had told the contractor to bill him for the repair or not. Granzow stated the investigations were the district's expense but the repair itself was not a district repair. McClellan stated Franklin County has a waiver that if they send someone to do an investigation and it is discovered to be private tile the landowner of the private tile, the landowner owning the private tile has to pay for the investigation. Granzow stated this was on district tile, it was private tile connected to the district. Granzow stated he still believes that we just spent a lot of money on a project due to a bad tile repair that needs to be addressed to the tiling company, Granzow stated he does not think this should be paid by Vierkandt, it should be paid by the tile company. Hoffman stated there should be some liability on the part of the tile company. Gallentine stated if he remembered correctly it was a large tile company that largely works in the northern part of the county. Granzow stated he would like to have someone contact Vierkandt to give some resolution, it more than likely should be the contractors that did it, this is a tough one to charge everyone on especially looking at the picture, the repair that we did should be at the landowner's expense. Smith can bring back a list of invoices that have been paid with the amounts next week for review. Granzow stated that at the landowners meeting maybe the landowners will say they will take care of it and Granzow is fine with that and will leave it up to them, but let's give Vierkandt the courtesy of trying to come up with a resolution on this as well. Smith asked if the Trustees would like her to add a copy of this work order and investigation summary to the website tab for DD 14 as we already have work order #290 on the website. Granzow stated yes.

Gallentine stated that reviewing the investigation summary while the Trustees were talking, it appears that the IRUA did not expose water main, the water main did go under the tile, but they just probed the water main. Granzow stated and they told us what type of material our tile was, Gallentine stated he will have to double check if the IRUA got it right as to what material our tile was. Granzow stated it is tough to help them out when they give misinformation, Hoffman stated or when they don't know what they are actually looking it.

Motion by Hoffman to add DD 14 WO 291 to the agenda for the DD 14 Landowner Meeting to be held November 18, 2020 at 12:00 pm and to add WO 291 to the DD 14 tab on the website. Second by McClellan. All ayes. Motion carried.

13. Other Business

DD 9 - Gallentine stated Gehrke will start on the DD 9 project in a week or two.

14. Adjourn Meeting

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