

REGULAR DRAINAGE MEETING

Monday, February 8, 2021 9:30 AM

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

2/8/2021 - Minutes

1. Open Meeting

Hardin County drainage Chairperson BJ Hoffman opened the meeting. Also present were Trustee Lance Granzow; Lee Gallentine, Clapsaddle-Garber Associates (CGA); Landowner Landon Aldinger; Landowner representative Mike Nissly; Michael Pearce, Network Specialist; Denise Smith, Drainage Clerk. This was a joint meeting with the FRanklin County Board of Supervisors as Drainage Trustees for DD H-F 4-53, also present were: Trustee Michael Nolte; Trustee Gary McVicker; Trustee Chris Vanness; Colette Bruns, Franklin County Drainage Clerk.

2. Approve Agenda

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

3. Introductions/Attendance

Introductions were made and attendance verified.

4. DD H-F 4-53 - WO's 143 & 296/303 Discuss W Possible Action - Investigation Summaries

Gallentine stated this is on Drainage District H-F 4-53, most of the district lies up in Franklin and extends into Hardin County, we had three work orders turned in on this district within the last year, McDowells went out this last fall and got them fixed, two of them were actually duplicates of one that was recorded twice. Gallentine stated he highlighted the Hardin County report in orange and the Franklin County report in green. Gallentine started with Hardin County, as that is a little more straightforward, the sinkhole reported on Lateral 4A, we went out there and found it was actually a Y where two tiles joined together, and then outlet. We assume it is Lateral 4A tile, but the size doesn't match up, there is no plans to show that it is supposed to be a 14" tile, what we found out there were actually 10" tile, so we didn't investigate any further, we went ahead and did the repair, we didn't know how much you wanted to spend. Gallentine stated there was that the other thing is the west tile did have sediment, we just didn't know where to go with it for sure, if it was district tile or private, Gallentine asked if there were any questions on that if the Trustees wanted him to keep going. Franklin County asked if Hardin had any questions on that part. Granzow asked Gallentine which work order he was talking about, Gallentine stated he was talking about the one on the Hardin County side with two tile that come together, they are 10" and supposed to be 14" tile, and weren't sure if it was private or what was going on, Granzow stated ok, Granzow asked if they are entitled to a 14" tile, why don't they have a 14" tile coming in, Granzow asked if it were two 10" that went into that. Gallentine stated there are two 10" tile that combine and the tile flows out of a 10", two 10" come in and one 10" goes out. Granzow asked if it flowed out to the Main. Gallentine stated that is our assumption that they end up down on Lateral 4 or the main.

5. Comments/Discussion

Granzow asked if they were supposed to have a 14" tile, so it doesn't make sense to Granzow why it is set up this way. Franklin County asked how long it has been this way, has it been that way since they dug it in by hand whenever this was done. Granzow stated it is possible. Gallentine stated there are two possibilities in his mind, either the size is wrong on the original plan and this was the district tile or there is another tile out there that is district, and this is private, it could be, Gallentine does not know how much time the Trustees want to spend investigating this, we can do whatever the Trustees want. Franklin asked what Hardin County thought as this was on the Hardin side. Hoffman stated he thinks we need to look more at it. Granzow asked if it was closed up now and flowing. Gallentine stated yes, it is repaired and flowing. Granzow asked according to the records it is a private tile and not a district tile unless we look farther into it to find out whether it is district or not. Gallentine stated not according to the record it is located where the district tile should be, but it doesn't match the size of the record's district tile. Granzow asked if this was on a Lateral 4A, you are correct. Granzow stated he does not have a good answer, Hoffman says we should probably look into it if it is district tile, and Granzow does not disagree with that, but is not ready to spend

their money if it is flowing, unless he is being requested to look into it by a landowner. Nolte stated he would be inclined to say let's wait and see if we have another issue, it is functioning, maybe another 100' down the line it may be 14" tile, we don't know how much you want to spend looking at something that is functioning. Gallentine stated you may spend more time investigating than you actually did on the repair. Granzow stated he is ok with that answer at this point, just make sure it is in the minutes as to why. Nolte stated if we get called back out there then we can investigate it if there is another tile in the area. Gallentine stated so we are doing nothing unless there is something more reported on the part that is in Hardin County, is that correct. Granzow stated that was correct.

Gallentine stated if we can move up to the Franklin County side, which is the page highlighted in green and we have Nissly and Aldinger here who can talk more about the issues. Gallentine stated when we tried to hash in some of the wet areas (referencing map) that we have seen based on when we have been out there, it was a little bit longer than a year ago, it would have been last spring, those were hashed in blue, and then this fall when access became available we went out there and dug up this up at various intervals starting at the County line and working upstream into the property at issue, east of Juniper, trying to see if we could figure out something going on with the tile going that way. Gallentine stated so starting at the highway it is a 22" tile with no debris in it, but this fall it did have 3" of water in it but it moved very slowly, which was unusual for this fall because most tile were pretty dry, as you go upstream to where 4B branches off it is a 20", up in there it is about 1/4 to 1/3 full of debris and it does have 3" of flowing water again, if you go up to the 4B branch it is 18" tile with no debris and 3" of flowing water. If we cross over to east of Juniper, north of the old railroad tracks that is a 15" tile with 1" to 2" of debris and has a 1" to 2" of slow moving water, so the slow water in there is a little bit concerning, the other thing Gallentine would say is on Lateral 4 itself, once you get from the County line highway north about the first 1/4 to first 1/2 mile there is very little fall and in spots it looks like there is backfall, it was not laid consistently or it has gotten out of grade, one of the two. Gallentine stated at this point, he can't tell you where the restriction is or what could be causing the restriction, obviously you have got silt in the flowline and we did have slow moving water, but at this time Gallentine thought we wouldn't have had any water, so Gallentine is not sure what the issue is, moving forward if the Trustees want to move forward, we could have it televised at different intervals to try and determine the overall condition of the tile, maybe find causes, the silt in the tile won't help that, that is for sure, depending on how we can get through it. Gallentine stated we can go and dig up every 100' to 200' to try to find differentials in the flow but that gets to be a little tough right now too, maybe in the spring it will be a little bit better, if it is better flow that means the fields are wet and it is tougher to get the work done, or we could wait and see if the issue becomes more pronounced, but who knows how long that will take if ever, those are just what we found and Gallentine would answer any questions you might have.

Granzow asked when Gallentine brought this to us, we had a question on this when it came to laterals, at one point should we start assessing Laterals separate from the Main. Gallentine stated he does not know if there is a separate classification for laterals, or one for the entire district, and asked if Smith had any comment on that. Smith stated there is just one for the entire district in Smith's records. Gallentine stated he agrees with that, that there is just one classification schedule for the entire district, so anything that gets done, gets paid for by the entire district right now. Granzow stated that is right and asked Franklin County Trustees if this is something that should be addressed. Gallentine stated he thinks Granzow is asking if Franklin Trustees want to reclassify and separate out the laterals, and asked Granzow if that was what he was asking. Granzow stated yes, because Granzow thinks we should probably decide that before we go farther into anything else. McVicker asked if it was all still part of the drainage district, the laterals and the main. Granzow stated that was correct. McVicker asked if they are all considered as one. Gallentine stated yes, right now they are, if you reclassify you could separate them out, if you did an improvement you would be forced to reclassify because Code requires that, this would probably be similar to what we did on 4-118 where we separated out all those laterals. Nolte stated that is what we considered as one of those problems. Granzow stated if we start doing investigating and this is one of those where we find out our outlet is not big enough, then it would be an improvement which would then target that Lateral to be separated anyway, Granzow knows we don't have to. Nolte stated it is not that big of a drainage district, 3 or 4 sections total the way it looks. Gallentine stated 3,285 acres. Nolte stated it doesn't look that big on the map, Gallentine stated he is just going by the map. Granzow stated that is his question, it doesn't matter to him what the answer is he just wants it to be brought up.

Nolte asked if Gallentine was saying basically, we need to wait until there is more water in the ground to check this stuff out. Gallentine stated that is one option, you can wait for more flow or you can go out and

televising it, one option is you can start digging at closer intervals than we did 1/8th to 1/2 mile intervals, you could start digging up every couple hundred feet. Franklin County asked if they did grade shots where they did dig it up. Gallentine stated yes, that is how we realized that once you get north of the County Road, on that 22' to 20" there is hardly any fall, it has a dip in it. Franklin County asked so it goes up and down hill. Gallentine stated yes, it is not feet, but it is enough that it is not going to help flow. Nolte stated Aldinger and Nissly have land that is affected by this and asked for their thoughts. Nissly stated he would let Aldinger talk as he has farmed it for the last number of years and went through the wet periods, there were areas out there in our north 40, in the NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 that didn't get planted, Aldinger can refer to that better than Nissly can, but we have had issues with wetness up there for a number of years, up until this fall, everything was dry. Aldinger stated piggybacking on what Nissly said, we have been trying in that area to get parts of it planted or harvested, in and amongst those wet areas, and the thing that was most disconcerting this year was we were heading into a dry year, and was telling Nissly, that we were pretty wet in there, that was what Gallentine was pointing out that the tile had water into it, but with the last half of the year, we were pretty darn dry, but does not know what the solution is, you guys have all been through a lot more of these scenarios than Aldinger has, Aldinger is just learning. Nissly stated he thinks the concerning thing is the County tile goes right up throw that NW 1/4, that was where we had the problem, it was wet and it goes where that old railroad line went down to the south, west of that we have put that into CRP because there is a big pond that sits there that is not drained, it seems like in that corner, there is a lot of ponding, SW of the highway junction there, some issues still remain. Nissly stated we had walked that looking for any issues, where Lateral 4B2 goes down to 4B4, there was standing water there again this fall, Nissly does not know how wet anyone else was on their end but we were pretty dry the last half of the season.

Nolte stated he thought the best thing to do was to go out and camera it, Vanness is more experienced at this than we are. Gallentine stated he does not know which is best the most data or the cheapest, or if it is a balance of the two. Vanness asked how far apart you have to place the camera holes. Gallentine stated assuming that there isn't something that stops you in the pipe, he thinks 12" can go with Paul Williams 600' to 1,000' each way, you typically don't get out that far, because you typically get into something that stops you, or the slime is too much, and you can't get traction. McVicker asked what the cost difference is between digging it up every 100' and televising it, best case scenario, that you could run 500' between. Gallentine stated if he could run lengths, it would be more economical to televising it, the problem gets to be if you get up it and only get 100' and then you have to dig it up again. McVicker stated if we have soil moving over it, we probably have sediment in the bottom, so you are not going to get through it. Gallentine stated the only problem with compiling it is you won't have continuous data, they both have their advantages and disadvantages, Gallentine will not tell you televising is 100% way to go, guys were finding problems with tiles, long before we had televising. Nolte stated televising is just another tool in your toolbox. Gallentine stated we had just hit the point with McDowell's out there that we were kind of working the whole length of the thing and we weren't finding a smoking gun so Gallentine didn't see any point in continuing to spend money until he had reported back. Nolte asked if the tile was in decent shape when they dug down to it then. Gallentine stated it was cracked but it was not collapsing, the top wasn't vee-ing down, but it is cracked.

Nolte asked what the Hardin Trustees thought, Granzow stated a lot. Nolte asked if the Hardin Trustees would like to have it televised. Granzow stated he thought televising would be a great tool, it is going to tell you a lot, obviously if you have to pothole a lot it means you have a lot of blockage and how far do you want to go, at some point Granzow stated looking at this map it may be a new tile being put in is the route to go, Granzow still hoes back to that classification question, it has the original classification, Granzow keeps going on and on with the classification but maybe you do want to look at doing an improvement, this looks like a lot of potholes that they are talking about, Gallentine asked Aldinger if that was right. Aldinger stated yes, it just seems like it, again in a year like 2020 Aldinger did not think we would have seen it as much with the lack of rainfall we had but when we were seeding it was still sticky out there, it is not just Aldinger's, but looking across the fence you can see it in the neighboring fields as well. Granzow stated he thinks that televising is a great tool, if that is what Aldinger is asking him, Granzow asked what size tile that is. Gallentine stated starting at the highway you are 22" then we go down to 18", by the time you get east of Juniper by the old railroad tracks you are looking at 15". Granzow stated we have plenty of space in the tile, for the camera, we can go down to a 10". Gallentine stated they can go down to an 8" really if there is no silt. Granzow stated he thinks televising is a great tool if everybody is willing to spend the money for it, our other option would be wait for it to rain and then search then. Hoffman stated that reduces productivity, Hoffman asked Aldinger if he had crop loss claims on the tract, Aldinger asked on insurance claims, Hoffman asked if Aldinger had filed a crop loss claim to the Drainage District, Aldinger stated no he

had not. Granzow said that was a great question.

Hoffman stated he would like to see the land put back into full production so he would like to see some kind of relief or remedy given. Nolte stated it might be if we go out and televise it, it will tell you whether we need to go and replace it with an improved tile, you know it is old and you know at some point not too far in the future there is going to be a lot more expense, maintaining what is there, so maybe the thing to talk about is replacement. Granzow stated he would not know that without televising it. Nolte asked if there was a lot of personal or pattern tile hooked up to the county tile. Aldinger stated no there is not, not in his farm. Nissly stated he is curious what part are you looking to televise, the part that is in the marked farm there east of Juniper, north of the County line. Gallentine stated that was going to be his question too. Hoffman asked Gallentine what seems to be the trouble area, in his opinion, where would you start or where would you instruct a contractor to start. Gallentine stated based off the wet areas we are seeing, Gallentine thinks it is everything on Lateral 4 upstream of the county line, so our 22" tile with no debris and 3" of flowing water that Gallentine has green highlighted on the map, start there and go upstream, Gallentine knows that is a decent length but that seems to be where the wet spots are, once you get south of the County line on that route there aren't many wet spots. Aldinger stated you would probably want to start there and go downstream at least until you get through the road. Gallentine stated we would probably dig a pothole on the north side of the road and go both directions, Gallentine stated we could start there go a little bit downstream and also go upstream, Gallentine knows that is a decent length and there is some expense to that too.

Nolte asked if it is 3" and running slow, if there is a plug down below, it wouldn't flow. Gallentine stated that is correct, it wouldn't be flowing, and actually total plugs are easier to find than partial, Gallentine does not think there is any one area that is totally plugged, it is just something along there. Vanness stated he thought it looked more like a grade issue, and kind of thinks it is flat out there, how far do we go, do you go to that Y or go up to B2. Gallentine stated he doesn't know, where there isn't anything surcharged and there isn't a total plug, it is really tough, it may not be one smoking gun, it may be a bunch of little things along the way. Nolte stated there is some place there is a restriction that is holding that water up or else it would have been totally dry, not this slow draining, and it could be totally a grade issue. Gallentine stated it could be if your tile does this snaking up and down, now the low spots are filled in, each of your effective tile size in those low spots that are full of silt is just reduced, plus it was probably undersized when it was originally designed compared to what people want today. Aldinger asked if you see the acreage where you are parallel where those Lateral 4B is at and you have those trees to the north side, could those be causing us issues. Gallentine stated they could possibly be if you are talking about the acreage right on the north side of side of the county line, Aldinger stated that was correct, Gallentine stated that could be possibly causing issues but Gallentine does not think they are a total blockage because we had slow flowing water both upstream and downstream.

Nolte asked where the tracks were at one time. Gallentine stated we were concerned about that, that is why we excavated on the upstream side of those, and we still had 1" to 2" of slow flowing water, we thought maybe it had collapsed underneath the tracks or rusted away or something, but it wasn't any different than it was downstream versus upstream. Nolte asked what field does not have private tile in here. Nissly was talking about there was one farm that he had there that didn't have private tile. Aldinger stated that 15" , basically before the last Y on the east side of Juniper, that portion, those are the fields that Aldinger and Nissly worked on together, and those don't have any private tile. Gallentine asked so you are talking east of Juniper, and north of the county line. Aldinger stated that was correct, Aldinger actually farms the one north of that where the last pond mark is too and that one does not have any private tile in any of those laterals that he knows of either. It was asked if the County tile goes through both of the wet spots. Gallentine stated if they run right through wet spots they will take some, it is a little bit more concerning and obviously these people are complaining, once you get east of Juniper there are all those additional wet spots, Gallentine stated if you have a wet spot that is off the main, there is no way the main is going to drain that unless it is tiled out, even if it goes right through it, it will drain it some, it won't be perfect, but it will drain it some, Gallentine stated as dry as it was this fall it is concerning to have slow slowing water still in the tile, but we don't ever get called in when they are good tile. Nolte asked how much will going in with the camera cost. Gallentine stated he thinks Paul Williams is so much per hour, \$300 per hour, Gallentine would have to check his current rates, if you are televising you can get a lot done in an hour, if you are sitting there spinning in the mud, not so much. Gallentine stated he thinks by the time you dig the holes and do the televising, we used to figure \$2 to \$5 per foot as a rough average, depending on how productive it is. Nolte

stated we have to investigate, to see what we need to do, to see what the problem is, it could be it is just flat, and it isn't going to drain, but we don't know. McVicker asked if it was too frozen to do it now anyway. Gallentine stated no, we have actually been out there doing tile repairs, nobody is doing anything this week because it is too cold, but last week there was someone out there, the snow cover is actually starting comeback out a little, but not much. Nolte stated he thinks we should go with running a camera up it. Vanness stated we need to start down there and see if there is a problem down there with the road number one and work up and see where the trees are, and would suspect that to be the issue, plus you cross a road two more times in Lat 4B, three actually, there is a lot of potential places to cause issues. Gallentine stated you do have the old tracks in there too.

McVicker asked if there is stuff in the bottom of the tile, that is usually a good indication that the tile is not moving flowing very fast. Gallentine stated yes, if there is debris in the tile, it is an indication that the tile is not flowing fast, that could either mean that it is off grade, there is something else there downstream that has slowed the flow of the tile, or there is nothing hooked up to the tile to get it to flush, this has enough stuff hooked up to it Gallentine stated he would think that it would flush. Granzow asked if we were to look into doing the televising, and we were to run into issues right away, Granzow thinks we don't need to continue to televise the whole thing, so start there at the highway and if we come into a lot of major problems, Granzow would rather they bring it back to us than continue onward and asked what the other Trustees feel. Hoffman stated we could take it piece by piece. Nolte stated he would go with that. Granzow stated he knows it is not cheap to get them out there, but if this thing looks like total crap to start with then Granzow thinks then we know what we are dealing with. Gallentine stated that makes sense. Hoffman stated he thinks we need to take it just baby steps along the way, Hoffman would rather have two more of these meetings than run up a huge bill. Nolte stated let's look at doing Granzow's recommendation, and asked if we need that in an official motion. Granzow stated he would prefer Gallentine contact the Chair to determine how far to go as you are out there, Granzow is okay if it is just a little bit here or there while he is out there, but let's at least let the chair decide, so you don't have to keep coming back to the entire Board, if it is one little thing, but if it is a major thing, bring it back to the Board. Gallentine stated he sure hoped we find a major thing, but he does not know, Gallentine asked when Granzow says Chair, he assumes Granzow means Chair of the control County, is that correct. Granzow stated yes.

6. Possible Action

Motion by Granzow to televise the tile lines starting at the highway and move upward. Gary McVicker from Franklin County seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

Gallentine stated we will go out and televise starting at the highway and go a little bit downstream and upstream, if we find something, we will talk to the Chair, if we find something major, we will bring it back to the Boards. Nissly stated it would be great if you found a smoking gun in the first few feet. Gallentine stated he would love it. Nolte stated the reality of this is it is all so flat it may take a major project. It was asked if these cameras can get elevation while they shoot it. Gallentine stated no but they can get gauge on that based on water and silt levels, because all of a sudden if you were riding fine above the water and then you go underwater, you know you will have major elevation changes. Nolte stated that was good enough. The Trustees shared their thanks to all who participated.

7. Other Business

No Other Business.

8. Adjourn Meeting

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