

REGULAR DRAINAGE MEETING

8/3/2022 - Minutes

1. Open Meeting

Hardin County Drainage Vice Chairperson Lance Granzow opened the meeting. Also present were Trustee Renee McClellan; Lee Gallentine of Clapsaddle Garber Associates; Shirley Carolus; Morgan Vierkandt; Michael Pearce, Network Specialist; and Michelle Kuechenberg, Drainage Clerk.

2. Approve Agenda

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

3. Introductions/Attendance

Introductions were made and attendance was verified.

4. DD 11 WO 331 - Discuss W Possible Action - Investigation Summary

Gallentine stated we had a work order turned in on Drainage District 11. Gallentine stated there is an intake that was not functioning correctly, when they got out there the first thing, they noticed was the number of trees downstream on the main tile. Gallentine stated there is a 2 ½ foot diameter tree, a 5-foot diameter tree, 3 ½ foot diameter tree, triple prong tree, and a 5-foot diameter tree. Granzow asked what the easement was? Gallentine stated easement wise, the district does have one, they have the right to go in and maintain the tile. Gallentine stated he has not gone through the records to figure out if there is an established width. Gallentine stated there probably is not an established width. Gallentine stated typically we like to have an established width of 50 feet on either side of the district tile to be able to maintain. Gallentine stated as far as finding the document that states a width, those are few and far between. Gallentine we were thinking there was a root problem right away because several of these are maple trees. Gallentine stated the Trustees authorized us to go out there and start replacing pipe and we will worry about that later. Gallentine stated we went out there and did some exploratory instead. Gallentine stated as we start on the south end, it is about a 15inch tile and has fine roots in it. Gallentine stated that one is not too bad, it is pretty far from the trees and has about an inch of silt in it. Gallentine stated as we get into the north side of Berlin St., the tile is cracked again, but now we have 4inches of silt starting to reduce the drainage capacity. Gallentine stated there are large root balls further downstream that the crew pulled out the best they could and now they have 5 inches of silt. Granzow stated, but they were pulled out. Gallentine stated the ones they could get to. Gallentine stated they dug it up on the other side of the tree and are now back to one inch of silt. Gallentine stated part of the silt is caused by the tree roots and the other part is caused by the tile. Gallentine stated at one point the tile is V'ing down. Granzow stated so it is flowing. Gallentine stated flowing is a relative term, flowing correctly, not with 5inches of silt in it. Gallentine stated it's not so much the silt as it is ready to collapse. Gallentine stated they went ahead and located further up by Shirley Carolus's property and the tile is located under the building. Gallentine stated all told there is about 350feet in there that is flowing, flowing correctly, not even close. Gallentine stated after their investigation he wanted to update the Trustees and call a landowner meeting to discuss what our next steps are before we replace 350 feet of tile, and the bill comes out later. Carolus asked where the trees are located in the town. Gallentine pointed to the map and stated the trees are around Maple St., Ellsworth St., Berlin St., and the co-op. Granzow asked who owned all of the properties. Granzow asked if they were vacant? Gallentine stated he knew Carolus owned some of the properties but was not sure about the rest. Granzow stated he received a suggestion from a landowner that we should remove the trees and repair as it goes as long as the water is flowing. Granzow stated we cannot do that unless we know what the easement is, we would need permission from the landowners before we move forward with tree removal. Gallentine asked Pierce to hop on GIS and see who the landowners are. Gallentine stated the district has the authority per code to remove trees. Granzow stated within the easement. Gallentine stated the code states to remove trees, it does not say that you are liable for damage if you're outside of the easement. Gallentine stated you will want it resolved ahead of time no doubt. Gallentine stated he just wanted the Trustees to know they have the authority. Gallentine looked at GIS and confirmed that it was just Shirley Carolus and Mid-State Milling we need approval to remove the trees from. Granzow asked Carolus if she was ok with us removing the trees, so the roots stop spreading in the tile. Carolus stated she did not know exactly which trees we are talking about. Carolus stated she has tried to find out for years who owned the trees that are west of her property. Carolus stated she's tried to check with the City Clerk before and the gal told her to go out and measure to find her property line. Carolus stated she cannot do that kind of stuff anymore. Granzow asked Carolus if she is ok with our Drainage Engineer going out and measuring for the property line then? Carolus stated she does not know if the trees are on her property or not. Gallentine asked if they are on your property can we take them? Carolus stated she has been trying to get one out of there for several years, it is even hollowed out. Carolus stated they checked on getting it taken down and they wanted to charge a ridiculous amount for it. Granzow stated the district is going to pay for it now if you're ok with it. Carolus stated as far as getting that one down, definitely. Carolus stated she is not sure if the rest of them are on her property. Pearce zoomed in on Carolus's property on Beacon. Gallentine stated he sees a couple that are near her south property line. Gallentine asked Carolus if she cares if we remove the trees. Carolus asked if he is speaking about her property. Granzow stated, yes, on your property. Carolus asked the Trustees to find out if the other line of trees is on her property. Carolus asked the Trustees if she could get her son Jeff on the phone if they would talk to him. Granzow stated they would. Granzow stated one of those trees are not a question for them as far as drainage goes. McClellan stated clear to the west. Granzow stated that was the one he was talking about. Granzow stated she has at least 3-4 trees that

we want down. Granzow stated he thinks we want the two right off of the building. McClellan asked how far the roots went? Gallentine stated they try to take anything within 50 feet. Gallentine stated it depends on the species. Gallentine stated if you have an oak tree, it probably will never plug a tile. Gallentine stated a Maple and Aus trees are the worst. Granzow stated he sees 5 trees on Carolus's property alone. Carolus stated she is having a terrible time with her phone. Granzow stated he would give her son a call. Granzow introduced himself to Jeff Carolus and stated we were in a drainage district meeting with his mother Shirley. Granzow stated we would like to remove some trees on your property in Buckeye that are impeding the drainage district facilities. Granzow asked Jeff if he has a problem if the drainage district removes those trees. Granzow stated there is about 5 trees we are looking to remove. Jeff Carolus asked about the tree that was set on fire. Granzow stated we can only spend district money on the easement side of it. Gallentine stated if it is already dead, there will not be any roots affecting the tile. Granzow stated there are some that are right next to the shop on the north side of it and as you go west there are two bigger ones. Granzow stated there are quite a few on the neighbor's property too. Granzow asked Jeff if he wanted to stump removed as well. Jeff Carolus asked what that would cost him. Granzow stated everyone pays in the district, it will not cost full price. Granzow stated Jeff likes his trees, take the minimal amount, but the ones that are taken he wants the stumps removed. Granzow stated Jeff left it up to his mother Shirley Carolus to make the final decision. Granzow asked Shirley what she wanted to do. Carolus stated she doesn't have to deal with it. Carolus stated she guesses they were surprised when something was going on there because they did not know. Carolus stated people were asking them what they were doing down at the shop. Granzow stated they pulled a bunch of roots out of the tile already and we're trying to keep that from getting worse. Vierkandt pulled up the map on Beacon and showed the Trustees the dead tree on Carolus's property. Granzow asked Vierkandt if he was opposed to taking the dead tree out while the contractors are on site removing the other trees. Vierkandt asked if he could just remove it. Vierkandt stated it would be cheaper if he removed it and would not cost the district. Granzow stated he would be fine with that. Gallentine stated the stump would still have to be removed. Gallentine stated the dead one would not affect the drainage flow because it does not have active roots. Granzow stated Jeff was addiment about wanting that one gone if we are taking the other ones. Gallentine stated he understands. Carolus asked if that tree they are looking at was dead? Vierkandt stated the one he is looking at is, he is not sure if that is the one, they are talking about. Carolus stated there is a whole line of trees to the west of the shop that run north and south and this one is to the south of that line of trees. Carolus stated that particular tree had rotted out and the neighbor set it on fire. Carolus stated the last she knew it still had leaves and everything on it. Gallentine stated it is probably a maple. Carolus stated the neighbor was going to take it down at one point. Carolus stated she does not know if those trees are on her property or not, she has tried for years to find out. Granzow stated if it is in the easement, he can argue that fact for her. Gallentine stated it would not be a bad idea to remove the one further west because lateral D does run along the road there. Granzow stated it would make sense to him. Gallentine stated he does not think this district has separate classifications for the laterals. Kuechenberg stated this district does not, it is the original classification. Granzow asked if we just removed all of the trees in that area. Gallentine stated it was further to the west. Gallentine stated we have not worked in this exact spot.

Granzow stated he has approval from Shirley that we can take trees within the easement. Carolus stated that was correct. Granzow stated we should probably get something in writing stating that. Carolus stated she wants the stumps removed too. Granzow stated that is what her son Jeff said too because he does not want to mow around them. Carolus stated she does not know what was all done out there until she got phone calls from other people asking what they were doing. Carolus stated they did not know. Gallentine stated everyone received an investigation report when they came in and he explained what was done out there in the beginning of the meeting. Carolus stated that's right. Gallentine stated so now you know what was done. Carolus stated it is kind of late. Gallentine stated that the way investigations are handled we go out to the site investigate and report back. Carolus stated she wishes she would have been called. Gallentine stated he does not have her phone number. Granzow stated we cannot remove one of the stumps on Carolus's property, it is right up against the building. Granzow stated it is growing out of the building and the drainage district does not want that liability if something happened to the foundation. Vierkandt showed Carolus the tree on the north side of the shop. Carolus stated that might be the dead one. Granzow stated he does not mind knocking it down but does not want to remove it. Gallentine stated most contractors will not send their blade in where it will hit concrete. Granzow stated he would like to look at what our easements are. Gallentine stated he is 95% sure there will not be a width in the record because they are very few and far between, but he would recommend 50 feet on either side. Granzow stated he is ok with that. Granzow asked if the contractor had any questions who should they contact? Carolus stated she would prefer for them to contact her son Jeff Carolus. Granzow stated we need to get a hold of the other landowner for the other trees. Gallentine stated that would be Mid-States, they turned in the work order. Granzow stated he thinks if they get rid of the trees, they can slow down the process of the tile.

Granzow stated he had a phone call this morning and the landowner voted remove the trees and fix the tile as it fails. Gallentine stated that has always been the general attitude in Buckeye and that is why they stopped to have a landowner meeting when they saw the condition of the tile. Granzow asked Vierkandt if that was the message he got too. Vierkandt stated that was correct. Vierkandt stated they just don't want a huge project. Gallentine stated the trees will be expensive enough. Granzow stated the trees will not be cheap. Carolus requested that someone get a hold of her son Jeff to show him what they will be removing. Gallentine stated they sure can. Gallentine stated they can also tie a pink ribbon on the trees they are going to cut down and then it is visible. Gallentine stated we can let him know once we do that. Granzow stated he heard a conversation where tree removal was getting impossible because the DNR does not want you to move them off site. Vierkandt stated you cannot move them offsite where they were cut down to burn them. Vierkandt stated they got in trouble with the DNR for moving a tree offsite. Vierkandt stated they just moved it to another location in town to burn it and they got in trouble. Gallentine stated that is the tree removal persons issue to deal with. Gallentine stated he has been in City Council meetings and tree removal ranges depending on the size from \$500 to \$5000 a tree. Gallentine stated the first step is to see if we can find the easement width and then we need to get something in writing with both landowners. Granzow stated which he thinks we could do right here with Sirley Carolus. Granzow asked Kuechenberg if she could write something up really quick. Kuechenberg stated she could head up to the office and get something written up really quick. Gallentine stated it would need to state something along the lines of the easement width or 100 feet, whichever is less. Gallentine stated we should also include in there that stumps are removed where feasible. Gallentine asked if the Trustees wanted CGA to contact Mid-States or Kuechenberg to. Granzow asked Kuechenberg if she wanted to. Kuechenberg stated she would reach out to them. Gallentine stated they would gladly meet anyone on site. Granzow stated he would have Kuechenberg contact them and if they wanted a location, they could reach out to CGA. Kuechenberg stated she was good with that. Granzow asked Gallentine if he was going to contact Jeff Carolus. Gallentine stated he would. Carolus asked Gallentine to wait until after 3 p.m. Granzow asked the landowners if they were ok with everything at the meeting. Gallentine stated we will not touch the tile. Gallentine stated it is flowing, not at capacity, but it is flowing. Gallentine stated if we get rid of the trees there will be less roots in there. Gallentine stated he does not know how is upstream of the tile but believes it might be Jack Runge. Granzow stated he spoke with Jack Runge early this morning. Gallentine stated he is the one who will be impacted the most. Granzow thanked the landowners for coming. Gallentine asked the Trustees what they wanted to do once we had everything in place whether they just wanted it to be assigned to the lottery. Granzow stated it is a small enough job, that is what he would do. Granzow stated if the landowners want to cut some trees before hand that is ok with him too. Carolus stated the neighbor to the west claims that he contacted the electric company about a tree that was next to the lines, and they would not take it down. Granzow stated if that tree is alive and has roots, do you want CGA to look at that tree? Granzow asked Gallentine if they would look at the tree if it is alive. Gallentine stated that Jeff knows which one it is so he can show him. Granzow stated it is a different lateral, but still one that we have to maintain. Gallentine stated that is right, and you don't want the tile to be totally plugged either. Gallentine stated he will call Jeff and wait to hear back from Kuechenberg about Mid-States. Kuechenberg stated that sounds good to her.

Motion by McClellan to instruct Gallentine to send this work order to the lottery and contact Jeff Carolus regarding tree removal on his property. Second by Granzow. All ayes. Motion carried.

5. Comments/Discussion
6. Possible Action
7. Other Business
8. Adjourn Meeting

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