

## REGULAR DRAINAGE MEETING

7/27/2022 - Minutes

1. Open Meeting

Hardin County Drainage Vice Chairperson Lance Granzow opened the meeting. Also present were Trustee Renee McClellan; 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. Approve Minutes

Motion by McClellan to approve the minutes of the regular drainage meeting dated 6/29/2022. Second by Granzow. All ayes. Motion carried.

4. Discuss W Possible Action - Drainage Utility Permit Application

Kuechenberg stated received a questioner form from Navigator and one of the questions was if we had an expiration on our Utility Permit Application. Kuechenberg stated if add an expiration date to our utility permit she would assume we would probably need an extension renewal policy as well. Kuechenberg stated she did want to be clear, Summit or Navigator have not filed any permits with us as of right now, so it would be a good time to make these updates. McClellan asked if we charge for utility permits. Kuechenberg stated we do not charge a filing fee, but we do charge a crossing fee of \$2,000 per crossing. Granzow stated he would not want it to extend more than 6 months. Granzow stated they can file for a 6 month extension, but it will keep them up to date. Granzow stated we have utility permits out there that have been out there for a while. Granzow stated we have discussed that and are trying to rope those in right now. Kuechenberg stated she believes some of them go back to 2019. Casey Huff is trying to get someone from his team to locate the ones out there from Midland. Granzow and McClellan stated they like the idea of having a permit expire in 6 months with a renewal option. Granzow stated they would not have to pay the crossing fee twice. McClellan asked what we were basing the crossing fee on. Granzow stated it was based on the cost of sending Gallentine out to observe, sending a crew out re-dig it back up if they chose not to do anything, they can do it themselves and expose it and show it to CGA. Granzow stated they would receive more of a refund if they decided to do it themselves. Granzow stated we are charging them what it costs us. Granzow stated 6 months is good enough and then they would have to refresh again. Kuechenberg stated she is ok with that. McClellan stated she agrees. Hopefully it takes care of the problem we have now so we do not have that many out there right now. McClellan stated she does not know if the verbiage has to be changed to where it states that if the work is not completed by the expiration date, the permit has to be renewed. Granzow stated he thinks it should. Granzow asked if Kuechenberg wanted to bring it back next week to discuss. Kuechenberg stated she would. Granzow stated Hoffman will be here next week so he can give his input. Granzow stated he knows they have discussed it and talked about it, but he prefers that it is a group decision. Granzow stated to him it is long and short. It might be a short time for the pipeline companies, but for everyone else it is long. Granzow stated he does not have a problem with them reapplying for the permit. Granzow stated he thinks we might have to reimburse the fees or somehow roll them into the next permit. Granzow stated they would not be forfeiting their money. McClellan stated it might be easier to track these too. McClellan stated if the pipelines come in and apply for these all at once and there is no expiration date, we might not know where they have all been. If they have to re-up some but not the others we have the process of elimination on our side. Granzow asked if Kuechenberg would like 6 months or an actual date. Granzow stated it might be easier for the books if we pick an actual date, if we have to refund June 30<sup>th</sup> might be the better option. Kuechenberg stated that might be a better question for the Treasurer's office because they would be the one's refunding the money. Kuechenberg stated she would assume the Treasurer would like to keep everything in the same fiscal year so we are not making the process more complicated. June first would be ideal because the 30<sup>th</sup> is the end of the fiscal year. Granzow suggested doing June 1<sup>st</sup> with a 30-day run out. Granzow stated 6 months might be hard to track, especially if permits are coming in at all different times. Kuechenberg stated she agrees, they would have to keep track of each permit individually. Granzow asked Kuechenberg to ask Treasurer Eichmeier on that. Kuechenberg stated she is ok with that. McClellan stated she is wondering if we could adjust our fees for the pipelines due to

the magnitude of the projects, the drainage districts they will cross, and the extra work it will be. Granzow stated there could be an entirely different board in 3 years, if we set an expiration date for 6 months, we wouldn't lock a new board into the same ordinance. Granzow stated maybe they just get a bond. McClellan stated she doesn't know how a bond really works. Granzow stated it would mean they pay a bond company and the bond company will pay us regardless. Kuechenberg stated that was one of Navigator's questions if they would have to do a bond or not. Granzow stated a bond would make more sense to him because it is not deposited, it is just held. McClellan stated Gallentine would have to come up with an amount on that. Granzow stated that is correct. Granzow stated he doesn't know if each district would have to do separate bonds or just a single bond to the drainage clerk. Granzow stated this would be a better conversation for Gallentine, he would know how to better explain a bond. Kuechenberg stated Gallentine is on vacation this week. Kuechenberg stated she will bring it back to the agenda next week for discussion.

5. Discuss W Possible Action - New Work Order Requests

6. Other Business

7. Adjourn Meeting

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