

## REGULAR DRAINAGE MEETING

Wednesday March 16, 2022, 9:30 A.M.

**This meeting was held electronically and in-person**

3/16/2022 - 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 Regular Drainage Meeting dated 3/02/22. Second by Granzow. All ayes. Motion carried.

4. DD 52 - Discuss W Possible Action - Resolution

Kuechenberg stated she pulled the minutes of DD 52. Kuechenberg stated the last time this was brought up during a Regular Drainage Meeting on June 30, 2021, it was determined that Adam Seward with Honey Creek Land Improvement would talk to Al Meister about the debris left on site after haying season and return an estimate with split costs. Al Meister stated he would pay a portion of the costs, it was never discussed how much or what percentage because there was some debris left behind from Piels Tree Service, this was to be worked out between Adam and Al. Granzow stated so Adam needs to initiate this contact with Al. Granzow stated that is what we talked about last week. Kuechenberg stated yes, this was discussed at our meeting last week, but we did not know what the agreement was on splitting the costs. Kuechenberg stated Adam will get back to us with a report, but she has not heard anything from him yet. Granzow stated we should send a reminder to Adam with a copy of the minutes from 2021. Kuechenberg stated she could do that. Kuechenberg stated the last time she did speak with Adam everyone was under the assumption that this upcoming meeting would be cancelled because our Chair BJ and Drainage Engineer could not be at this meeting. Kuechenberg stated that idea was thrown around at our last Drainage Meeting, but she did not think there was a definitive answer on that. Granzow stated he wanted Adam to get the answer to us for this meeting and then we would determine if we needed to have a landowner meeting to discuss purchasing additional easement on Meister's property. Granzow stated he thinks we are going to get stonewalled in this, he truly feels if we do absolutely nothing, we will get absolutely no help whatsoever or we would get a large bill to get back in. Granzow stated he would like to talk about expanding the easement along with doing the partial cleanup. McClellan asked who we are buying that from. Granzow stated we would buy that from Al. McClellan asked if Granzow thought he would agree to it. Granzow stated the only way we'll do something here is by expanding our easement, we would be saving our money. Granzow stated Sean allowed us to cut trees outside of the easement, but we do not have permission to go back in when they grow back up. Granzow stated nor do we have permission to keep them sprayed and down. McClellan asked how we would permanently get rid of the Austrees, is this the only way? Granzow stated Al could take care of them too, but if we can't come to an agreement with him regarding the debris, it is unlikely he will do it. McClellan asked if he got the drainage benefit. Granzow stated he does, but he has us under a barrel, we have to get the water to flow. McClellan stated she knew that but was thinking it was his benefit to get the water to flow too. Granzow stated it is, but financially it will benefit him if we have to pay to get that water to flow. Granzow thinks we may be in a lose-lose situation on this one. Granzow stated, unless he is a nice guy and lets us come in. Granzow stated he is putting himself in Meister's shoes on how to do this, he would not think twice. McClellan stated she would just want her drainage to flow, if it was up to her, she would just let someone in to do the necessary repairs

and upkeep. Granzow stated, we have to on this easement, outside of the easement is a whole different story. McClellan stated, if that is the case, she thinks the landowner should get the trees out of there so the district does not have to do it. Granzow stated we are in a unique position. Granzow stated when it comes to negotiating a price he does not know if that is part of the easement or the cleanup. Granzow stated we could inform him the district will pay for the cleanup of the trees this time, from there on, we would like an easement. Granzow stated we agreed we would pay partial of it already, right? Kuechenberg stated yes, it was agreed in the minutes from June 30, 2021. Kuechenberg stated if Adam could do it for \$7,000 or X amount of money then AI could pay for a portion of that, whether it be \$500 or a percentage of that bill. Granzow stated he would like to avoid future problems. Granzow stated by paying anything, he thinks our easement should expand. McClellan stated it is up to us to contact AI about the easement, we would not need to go through Adam for that. Granzow stated those two need to come to an agreement so it can be approved by us, when we approve the agreement, we should talk to AI about the possibility of getting additional easement. McClellan stated Adam might decide to do something different. Granzow stated as far as getting it cleaned up now, that is between him and Adam. Granzow stated that is what he feels. Granzow stated he does not want to be out there every 10 years in this district with the same problem.

5. Discuss W Possible Action - New Work Order Requests

Kuechenberg stated she did not have any new work orders.

6. Other Business

Kuechenberg stated she did not have anything for other business, it is a short meeting today.

Granzow asked Kuechenberg to add DD 52 back on the agenda for next week. Kuechenberg stated she would have that item on the agenda for next week with an update from Adam.

7. Adjourn Meeting

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