

DEKALB COUNTY CEDAR CREEK DRAINAGE BOARD

July 25, 2024

Drainage Commissioners Present:

Dennis Taylor, Chairman
James Deetz, Vice Chairman

Bruce Laub, Member

Others Present:

Tyler Lanning, Lead Survey Technician
Rebecca Wright, Sec./Drainage Board Admin.
Asst.
Katie Rutan, Drainage Board Office Clerk
Shannon Kruse, Attorney
Troy Bungard, Survey Technician

Guests:

Dave Clark
Natalie DeWitt
Clare Fater
Joe Felber
Ann Finchum
Russ Goodman
Tamara Goodman
Travis McDaniel
Samantha Saylor
Will Teague

Dennis Taylor, Chairman of the Cedar Creek Drainage Board, called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Bruce Laub moved to approve the minutes from the March 21, 2024, of the Cedar Creek Drainage Board meeting. Dennis Taylor seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Mr. Taylor introduced the first item of business: the July Attorney Claim of \$125.00. Mr. Laub moved to approve it, and Mr. Taylor seconded it and the motion passed.

Glen Crawford introduced Rebecca Wright as Surveyor Office Manager and asked if The Board would like to appoint her as The Board secretary. Mr. Taylor made the motion, Mr. Laub seconded it, and the motion carried.

DeKalb County Veteran Memorial Cedar Creek Variance Discussion:

Ann Finchum, Executive Director Auburn Main Street: American Legion post 97 explained that she had not filed for a variance yet but will apply for one to build the DeKalb County Veteran's Memorial. She introduced the location where the memorial could go and explained that they were in the early planning stages and waiting for final renderings. She said she received an initial response that the selected location was too close to "a line, the red line, I think," referencing a map that was displayed on a screen.

Troy Bungard explained that the red line represented the top of the bank of Cedar Creek. The Surveyor's Office needed a 75-foot right-of-way from the top of the bank on either side of the

line. The map also showed a blue line which represented the 75-foot right-of-way Mr. Bungard referenced.

Ms. Finchum explained that she was originally told the monument needed to be placed 40 feet away from the line. She had a second rendering made which showed the monument placed at the far side of an existing parking lot, but many felt the location was not ideal due to low visibility and aesthetics. Because there are so many options, the group wanted advice from the board as to what would be best. Ms. Finchum explained that building the memorial was part of a continuing effort to meet the desire of the community to develop the riverfront area of downtown. She emphasized that her group was there seeking input from the board so when they filed for the variance, the board would approve it.

Mr. Taylor asked about putting the memorial close to 9th Street due to the higher elevation. He explained the need to access the creek for maintenance. He posed the question of how much space was really needed for maintenance.

Mr. Crawford explained that the county had made special exceptions and wondered about shifting the monument 10-15 feet to give an erosion control buffer and gain the necessary maintenance space. He wanted to make sure that wherever the monument was placed, future maintenance would not compromise the integrity of the structure.

Mr. Laub added the problem would be gaining access to the monument with equipment. However, he felt that if the Surveyor Office felt 15-20 feet was enough space to move equipment and perform maintenance, he also thought that would be fine.

Ms. Kruse expounded that if findings of fact were made as to why the board deviated from the previous standard practice of a 40-foot buffer, that would be fine as this was a unique type of project.

Mr. Lanning felt that 20 feet would be better than 15 feet for the persons performing future maintenance and would be more visually appealing if the group was happy with it.

Mr. Taylor asked about cutting in to the bank and future parking.

Mr. Travis McDaniel of MSS Engineering explained that they desired to preserve as much sidewalk as possible. He asked if in shifting the structure north and recessing the monument, to meet the requirements of the variance, they could bring fill in. They could create a buffer with trees if necessary. Adjacent to the bank would be a floating slab which was an erosion concern. Getting away from the bank allowed for a more solid foundation.

Mr. Lanning told Ms. Finchum that she could come in and get the variance application. She responded that she was not ready to do anything today. She wanted to know how to design the monument so it could be approved. There was no final design plan.

Mr. Travis asked if they needed to include future parking.

Mr. Lanning answered they just needed to include what they were ready to put in now. They could file a separate variance later.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Lanning referenced the discussion from March about raising the assessment rate for Cedar Creek because a postage bill was projected at \$12,000. The Cedar Creek account was still in the red, but the Surveyor's Office was trying to take care of minor repairs and log jams, so nothing built up to become a \$100,000 project; however, he made some progress on the postage bill. Sandy with the treasurer's office said that if the mailing was a half sheet, we could send the information with the tax statements in April. Mr. Lanning was working on getting that information together so we could get it to her. Cedar Creek was the only watershed that was collected on a per parcel basis rather than a per acre basis. Currently, the rate is \$6.24 per parcel. He would like to double it to allow for appropriate upkeep of Cedar Creek.

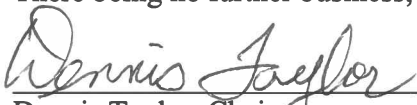
Mr. Taylor commented that postage had increased since the last meeting.

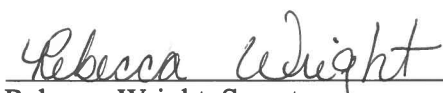
Mr. Lanning agreed and said this would be a solution to having to pay the high postage bill. We would probably need a hearing in May to approve the increase.

Ms. Kruse asked if The Surveyor's Office could fit all the information on a half sheet mailing.

Mr. Lanning answered that he was confident that the office could as the code language was shorter than previous inclusions.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:03 AM


Dennis Taylor, Chairman


Rebecca Wright, Secretary

DEKALB COUNTY CEDAR CREEK DRAINAGE BOARD

NO.	NAME	PHONE (HOME)	PHONE (CELL)	EMAIL ADDRESS	MAILING ADDRESS	PETITION OF INTEREST
1	Ann Hutchinson	260 920 4109		executive@cedar@auburnmainstreet.org		AUSCOP MEMORIAL AUS Cedar Creek
2	Clare Fisher	925 6192		clareanne.fisher@yahoo.com		
3	Joe Felber	775-8480	210-3571	fishersj@yaho.com	904 Duosunbury Dr. Auburn, IN 48706	
4	Russ Goodwin	260 573 5895		regoodwin2k@gmail.com	100 BLUESWITH KING WATERLOO, IOWA 50673	
5	Tamara Goodman	260-610-0389		tamaragb4@gmail.com	100 Blueswith King waterloo	AUSCOP MEMORIAL
6	Will Tergave	260 414 5186		wteague981@gmail.com	2127 BRUCE CT AUBURN	AUS CEDAR CREEK
7	Dave Clark	260 570 8076		dclark@ci.auburn.in.us	711 Greenhaven Ter Auburn	Veteran Memorial
8	Natalie DeWalt	260 908 2647		nataliedewalt@cs.cornell.edu	600 Hawthornes Auburn	Veteran Service Office
9	Samantha Saylor	260 553 0040		ssaylor@co.dekalb.in.us		
10	Travis McDaniel	260 267 7414		tamcdaniel@mississippi.com	414 W 5th St, Auburn, TN	Veteran Memorial
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DATE
07/25/2024