

DEKALB COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING

December 12, 2024

Drainage Commissioners Present:

Bruce Bell, II, Chair
James A. Miller, Vice-Chair
William L. Hartman, Member
Michael V. Watson, Member
Sandra M. Harrison, Member

Others Present:

Troy Bungard, Survey Tech
Glenn Crawford, County Surveyor
Shannon Kruse, Attorney
Tyler Lanning, Lead Survey Tech
Katie Rutan, Office Clerk
Rebecca Wright, Office Manager

Guests:

Steve Bartkus
Joe Herendeen

Mr. Bruce Bell called the December 12, 2024, Dekalb County Drainage Board meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

Approval of Minutes

The first item of business, the approval of the minutes from the November 21, 2024, Drainage Board meeting was introduced. Bruce Bell asked for a motion to approve the minutes, and Sandy Harrison made the motion. Mike Watson seconded the motion. Mr. Bell asked if there was any discussion, The Drainage Board moved to accept minutes as presented, and the motion carried.

Secondary Plats

Mr. Bell continued the meeting moving to secondary plats.

The first secondary plat on the agenda was Cottonwood Fields located at 2442 County Road 38. Steve Bartkus with Bartkus Auctioneers stepped to the podium to explain the project. He mentioned that he did an auction for the landowners of the existing plat that was over 30 acres. It would be divided into two, the first being 5 acres, and the remaining over 29 acres. He had already met with the planning department to make sure the lots met their speculations.

Mr. Crawford said the plats were up to drainage code and he had no issue with the plat. Some questions arose about the map that was displayed, but Mr. Bartkus answered them and directed attention toward the specific two plats involved in Cottonwood Fields

Bruce Bell asked if there was any more discussion and then called for a motion to approve the Cottonwood Fields plat located at 2442 County Road 38 in the SW ¼ of Section 19 of Union Township on the William Peckhart Drain Number 22-00-0, Auburn Industrial Park Drain Number 256-00-0. Dayspring Church Drain Number 228-00-0, and the Cedar Creek Regulated Drain Number and Watershed 470-00-0 as approved by Mr. Glenn Crawford. Mr. Bill Hartman made the motion and Mr. Jim Miller seconded the motion.

There being no more discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bell then moved on to the last secondary plat on the agenda, Bear Creek Estates Section X in Jackson Township. Mr. Joe Herendeen with Sauer Land Surveying was present to discuss the plat. He stated that it was the last section of Bear Creek and probably close to forty lots. He continued

that the drainage would be channeled south, go through a system of ponds, outlet into the east end of a legal drain and that drain was planned for reconstruction.

Mr. Glenn Crawford stated that part of the plan was to reconstruct one of the drains along the east side of the development all the way up to CR. 56. To do so would require either a consent and waiver or a hearing, which the developer understood. Mr. Tyler Lanning also explained that all the drainage from the development would flow into the Nowlin Rafine Yoder Lateral 2 Dr. No. 262-02-0. Joe Herendeen remarked that any private tiles that tied into the reconstructed drain would be picked up and directed east.

The Surveyor's Office stated they agreed with the plat with the condition of the reconstruction. Ms. Kruse advised the motion include that the developer understood that there would be a special assessment or a consent and waiver to reconstruct the drain.

Bruce Bell asked if there was a motion to approve the secondary plat of Bear Creek Section X located in the Southwest ¼ of Section 9 of Jackson Township on the Daniel Hursey South Drain Number 48-80-0, The Daniel Hursey Drain Number 48-00-0, the Ellen Reed Drain Number 151-00-0, The Nowlin Rafine Yoder Drain Number 262-00-0, The Hiram Buchanan Drain Number 302-00-0, the Alex Provines Drain Number 71-00-0, the Frank W. Stoops Drain Number 115-00-0, and the Cedar Creek Drain Number 470-00-0 in the Cedar Creek Watershed as approved by Surveyor Glenn Crawford based on the contingency of a special assessment to the landowner or a consent and waiver with the landowner paying for the reconstruction of the Nowlin Rafine Yoder Lateral 2 Drain No. 262-02-0 . The motion was made by Mr. Mike Watson and seconded by Mrs. Sandy Harrison. The motion carried.

Maintenance Collections

Mr. Bruce Bell moved the meeting to maintenance collections. Mr. Troy Bungard explained that the Office was allowed to keep 4 years of maintenance collections on the books. He projected a list of drains and noted that anything highlighted in green was to be collected and anything highlighted in red carried a negative balance. He added that the list included the list of drains to be sprayed.

Ms. Shannon Kruse asked if The Board usually approved the list at the start of the year. Mr. Tyler Lanning answered that collections began at the start of the year. Troy Bungard continued that he turned numbers into the treasurer on January 2, 2025.

Mr. Bell asked how Mr. Bungard generated the list for maintenance collections, and Troy Bungard explained the process stating it included any drain that would be sprayed, carried a negative balance, or carried a balance 50% below a threshold of 4 years' worth of collections. He said he was trying to build up the accounts so necessary maintenance could continue. The Board asked several questions about examples of maintenance projects and various balances in accounts. There was also discussion about changing the 50% threshold.

The Board decided to approve the list of drains during the first or second meeting in January.

Surveyor's Report

Mr. Bell then asked for the Surveyor's Report and Mr. Glenn Crawford said the Joint Board planned to certify the Bickle Reconstruction later in the day. Tyler Lanning stated that the Melissa Kelly Reconstruction would begin in January. The Levi Dennison Drain Reconstruction was also finished. Some landowners wanted to pay their reconstruction assessments before the end of the

year, but final assessments had not been sent, so there was a risk of overpayment. This concluded the Surveyor's Report.

Discussion

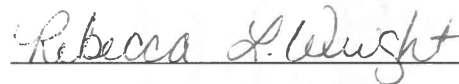
Bruce Bell then asked if there was any discussion, and Jim Miller said one landowner was very happy the Levi Dennison had been reconstructed, and he impressed with the contractor. The Office reported that some utility companies had not returned utility agreements. Ms. Kruse advised that the commissioners could draft an ordinance to the effect that The Office could issue a fine or a stop work order.

Bruce Bell asked Glenn Crawford about the structures left on the Levi Dennison reconstruction site.

There being no further discussion, Bruce Bell adjourned the meeting at 9:16 AM.

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Bruce Bell, II, Chair

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Rebecca L. Wright
Drainage Board Secretary

DEKALB COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

PETITION OF INTEREST

MAILING ADDRESS

EMAIL ADDRESS

PHONE (HOME) PHONE (CELL)

NO. NAME

1 STEVE BARTKUS 200-437-6555 STEVE@STEVEBARTKUS.COM

2 JOE HERENDEEN 260-469-3300 JOE.SAUERSURVEYING.COM BC10

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