

# RANDOLPH COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

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Minutes from April 5, 2021

Present:

Board Members: Tom Chalfant, Mike Wickersham, Gary Girton, Surveyor Ed Thornburg, Board Attorney Meeks Cockerill, Rex Clements, Max Jennings from Proficient Drainage, Eric Fogle, Gary Anderson, and Claudia Thornburg, acting secretary.

The meeting was called to order by President Tom Chalfant. Mike moved to approve the minutes of the March 1 meeting, Gary seconded, and the motion passed.

Tom asked Eric Fogle what his concerns are. Eric explained Ed thinks this is a highway issue, the box culvert at 400W between 150 S and 200S. I (Eric) talked to Tom about this last year and nothing has been done. There is a County main under the culvert and the culvert has shifted. Ed said the policy is to separate the culvert from the tile when the Highway works on them. I (Eric) notified Mike Haffner last June, that a lot of surface water goes through there, and I use cover crops for erosion control. Tom asked Ed how deep is the tile, Ed replied 3-5' Mike asked Ed why not go ahead and do it? Ed explained that it would take 2 road closures instead of one closure if it coordinated between our departments. Gary asked how big is the box? Ed answered probably 3'x3'. Eric agreed. Ed looked it up on the G.I.S. map and it is a 3x5 culvert. Eric asked about 2 side by side culverts. Ed said the biggest problem would be crop residue. Gary Anderson said not why I am here, but I agree on the residue issue. Mike stated we need to talk to Mike Haffner and find out his intentions and coordinate with him. Tom will talk to Mike Haffner and find out when he can get it done. Gary agreed with the plan, and Mike said take to Commissioner's meeting.

Eric stated that Ed and I disagree on another problem at 200W and 300S, four years ago this main on the Elizabeth Goodrich drain was reconstructed and two years ago Ned Sickles systematically drained their farm and created a problem on me. I (Eric) believe Sickles knew that they cut my tile at the road (200W), that drains 40 acres because they ran a submain on either side of my outlet and left me hooked to the original tile. I am concerned that the Surveyor is not overseeing hook ups on these projects. Ed wants me to have Culy Contracting camera the tile on Sickles and me pay the bill. Mike asked, no problems before. Eric, no Proficient was to come in and check and Ryan Chalfant (Sickle's contractor) came in and repaired. I (Eric) had a riser installed on my side and I can see water moving with a 2" rain. Ed stated I was told it was cut and was assured it was fixed. I can understand Ed doesn't want to spend money, but it is a private tile. Eric did not have a problem until Sickles tiled. Eric thinks it should have been made County during reconstruction. Mike said "If I understand, Eric didn't have a problem until Sickles tiled. Sounds like a neighbor issue. "Meeks stated "to get your water to the

County ditch is your responsibility. "Eric said "I pay to drain to the County. "Mike said I think Drainage Board or Ed should go to bat for him. As Surveyor you should mitigate this thing. Eric said my problem is I Pay, and the Surveyor should have marked the drains and made sure they were all hooked up, I pay property taxes and reconstruction. My frustration is taking a while to identify the problem. Mike, could you connect to one of the new ones? Ed thought that Sickles upsized one of the submains for this purpose. Ed to talk to Gabe Sickles and/or Ryan Chalfant to find out what happened out there. Eric said I don't know what condition it is in but I should not have ponding. If sizing is issue, that's not my issue, did not have a problem before. Ed is to talk to Gabe.

Eric said they have been doing exploratory digging on my property on the Elizabeth Goodrich ditch, there is a 10" in front of the house and haven't been able to identify the house drain. The blue line on the map is supposed to be the county main. The next thing I have to do is dig next to the house and find the house drain and locate the field drain. We discovered every tile is clean, with no blockages. We found the 10" changes to 15". Where the county main crosses 300W we found a 4" full of dirt on the east side. We need to know if it's county before we start ditching. Ed stated a line on a map doesn't get you a new ditch. Eric said there is a backlog of water, and it get's worse with 2 to 3 inches of rain. Jason Miller also systematically drained his farm, and Ed didn't upgrade the main enough to handle this amount of flow. Mike Crow had to put in a new driveway pipe, since then, because there is not enough relief too much water. My County ditch in front of my house is not a problem, when Jason replaced the county on him a couple of lazy bends were put in to slow the flow. There is a tile sticking above the ground, I do have a problem with a 3" rain and takes 5-7 days to get my water a mile away. Jason Miller has 60-80 acres on the bottom and my water can't get there. Ed said "your farm was likely ditched in the 60's like Hinshaws, and my father and others ditched then. They follow the draws, not doing systems like today". Tom "all of the County tiles need reconstructed and enlarged, but that would require petitions to reconstruct. Eric stated that I need to know what is going on at 300W, I need to know where the county stops. Ed will check the paperwork. The red line on the map is the county main and looks to be about 350' long. If you and Barga want to get together and replace it, we will work with you. Eric wanted to know why we can't make it 400' long, it just makes sense. Meeks said because we have to follow legal procedures.


Eric asked if Sickles says NO, what am I into? Mike answered I don't have a problem sending Ed in as ambassador.


Rex Clements was present. Ed reported he had sat down with Rex and Tom Delk and they went over every component of the project and presented a proposal of the cost breakdown. We did change the scope of the project to clean the ditch to Dale's dad's driveway entrance. The estimate is \$100,619.78 with The Commissioners, Highway Department, and Ditch maintenance sharing the cost. Mike asked if the pipe total is split between the Highway and ditch maintenance and trucking probably Commissioners. Ed believes this is an honest accounting, reusing everything possible except for the spoils in the actual roadway. Mike "So if we come up with \$50,000.00, the Highway still has to come up with \$34,000.00. Rex said my issues are the same as Eric's, need to up tile sizes.

Ed said Eric is not the only problem I have to deal with. We are talking about doing this after crops, it's not fair to Dale to have a 100+ foot wide area covered with trees at planting time near the open ditch. Mike asked if we went back to the original plan where would we start? Rex said 500E. Highway Department would consider reusing 500S pipe since it is only 4 years old. Mike asked Tom "What do you think, we did this on 500s near State Line and that cost \$55,000.00 total. Tom asked where would the money come from? Mike said EDIT money, I am inclined to go either way, try original plan, like to see if Delk can get it done. Gary said this problem exists because it was done wrong to begin with. Rex said, yes we can't fix the second problem because the first one is wrong. Mike moved to replace the pipe on 500E with a flat bottom pipe, Highway to pay for pipe, and rest of the project split between Commissioners and Ditch maintenance. Removing the old pipe at 500S to lower open ditch as needed. Ditch maintenance To clean open ditch and prepare for new pipes. Gary seconded; motion passed.

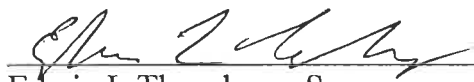
Gary Anderson was present to discuss Bridge 305 over Salt Creek in Winchester. Ed presented the proposal to the Engineering firm, and they approved the concept. They expressed concern about anchoring the headwall to the old seawall. Culy Contracting gave an estimate to fix the surface water problem, the issue is during rain events, water backs up into residential yards and floods the street. The estimate is for tree removal, a concrete pad, with an 18" tile, and 2x6' catch basin in the street. The city ordered a new manhole cover (odd size). Came in an even odder size and had to be reordered again. Mike states this is another project that created problems during construction and the County has to pay for. Estimated cost is \$14,000.00. Mike moved to do project on South Street Bridge #305 and Commissioners decide at their next meeting how to pay for it. Gary seconded, Motion passed. Ed to get quote for final restoration, seeding and finishing.

Signed this third day of May 2021.

  
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Thomas E. Chalfant, chairman

  
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Gary L. Girton, Vice Chairman

  
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Michael D. Wickersham

  
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Edwin L. Thornburg, Surveyor

