

Big Cicero Creek Joint Drainage Board
September 25, 2019
Tipton County Courthouse

Members Present: President Brad Bagwell, Mark Heirbrandt, Donnie Lawson, Jim Mullins, Scott Shoemaker

Surveyors Present: Jason Henderson, Ken Hedge, Kenton Ward, Daniel Sheets

Secretary: Kristi Hinkle

Others Present: Scott Vanhorn, Jim Leffler, Siavash Beik, Hunter Robinson, Brode Sampler, Bob Edinger, Vicky Boyd, Brent Snow, George Tebbe, Don Havens

Call Meeting to Order: Brad Bagwell called the meeting to order.

Roll Call for the Establishment of Quorum: Quorum established.

Modifications to the Agenda: None

Approval of the minutes: Donnie Lawson motioned to approve August minutes and August executive minutes. Jim Mullins 2nd the motion. Motion approved.

Board to Consider Claims: Kristi Hinkle presented claims in the amount of \$1,500. Scott Shoemaker made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Mark 2nd the motion. Motion approved.

Surveyors Report: Insurance Update: Jason stated that there is a letter from Pillar in which that they need a little more information from Steve. They are actively searching for other providers. Jason said that we were just following up on what the board wanted. President Bagwell asked if it is an annual renewal. Jason replied yes.

Consideration of Clearing/Access along entire creek: Surveyor Kenton Ward stated that they (4 surveyors) met yesterday and discussed about the clearing down through the Hamilton County portion of the creek. Surveyors also talked about the pros and cons. They decided that a few steps of the steps needed to create a scope was to talk with Burke and Barr on the stability of the banks. The need to float the creek so the board can get a “first hand” view of what is there; if floating is not achievable perhaps flying it would be as satisfactory. Identify the property owners’ thoughts along their property. Additionally, we should work to identify the spoil piles from the 1930’s dredging that should be taken out in order to allow access to the natural flood plain. Consultation with Scott Vanhorn was also noted as he might have the most intimate knowledge of the creek. Kenton also stated that they had to cancel the float trip, due to low flow and was hoping to reschedule in October.

Board Engineers Report: Nothing to report currently. Siavash supports Kenton on the spoils. He said that those spoils can make things worse. Surveyor Jason stated that there are some spoils in Tipton County as well. Barr did define some in their study a couple years back.

Board Business/Comments (Old or New):

Attorney Report (Holt): No report.

US 31 over CR 100 S @ Norfolk & Western: Brad stated that there is a report from United. Overpass is just something that goes vertical (will have cross pipes for transfer of water). They will update the legal drains on Tipton county side. This project is over the railroad. They will take the road over the railroad. Jason asked Jim when it will start. Jim responded it will start fourth quarter of 2020 and most of it done in the fiscal year of 2021. Brad stated that United was requesting an exemption. Jason replied that they will be coming in for an approval. They will be submitting a report. Jason also said that once they get the drainage report and have Siavash look at it then they will give the recommendation. Brad asked if they should decide on the exemption now? Kenton replied that he thinks that they should wait.

Public Comment:

Vicky Boyd (Tipton Tribune): She stated that she had talked to a Kerry Smith (Soil & Water Conservation). She had asked his thoughts on the drainage. She stated that Kerry replied with some of the same comments that Kenton had brought up. Also, the usage of cover crops. Vicky brought up that interceptors could be helpful as well. Vicky stated that the farmers are receptive of the interceptors. She said cost could be an issue for interceptors.

Mayor Havens asked Vicky if there was a question. She replied that she was just informing the board of this information and thought it would be helpful. She said that Kerry would be more than willing to come down and talk with the board again.

Mayor Havens asked Vicky if Kerry mentioned the shelving project. Vicky replied that he did not. Mayor asked if he knows there's a shelving project on the table. She replied that he did, and he mentioned of a reservoir or ponds on the west side.

George Tebbe: (4380S SR 19 Tipton) George mentioned that they might want to use a drone if the float trip does not work out. Brad replied that the float trip would give a better view. George asked about the elevation level of the borrow pit at the landfill compared to the creek. Jason replied that Phil did some topography and has some data on what the depth is. Kenton asked if it was on the west side. George replied that it's on the east side.

Brent Snow: (Tipton) Brent stated that he doesn't see any place in the code that allows the board to purchase property. He requested an opinion from Steve Holt on what code he's using to justify buying/leasing property. President Bagwell replied that that is one of their questions and unfortunately Holt is not here today. Brent stated that he got an email from Lori Rogers stating that she said absolutely that the Big Cicero board cannot buy property. Brent would like to see some ruling on this.

Don Havens: (Mayor) He wants to point out that people try to delay the progress of the project. Mayor Havens stated that the City of Tipton wants to see the board move forward on this project. He also said that he thinks the board is doing the right thing, they had the study, you made your choices, and the public was fully informed. Mayor stated that the obstruction is not helpful at all to the drainage in Tipton County on the part of anybody: farmer, non-farmer, city dweller and country dweller. He said that it is important to complete the project.

Brad stated that the next meeting is October 23, 2019 at 9:30 am. Brad also said that they will have an executive session meeting at 9:15 am with the regular meeting following.

Jim Mullins motioned to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned.

BIG CICERO CREEK BOARD:

Brad Bagwell, President

Mark Heirbrandt

Donnie Lawson

Jim Mullins

Scott Shoemaker

ATTEST: _____
Kristi Hinkle, Secretary