

Big Cicero Creek Joint Drainage Board
July 28, 2021
Tipton County Courthouse

Members Present: President Brad Bagwell, Mark Heirbrandt, Austin Henderson, Donnie Lawson, Jordan Brewer

Surveyors Present: Jason Henderson, Dan Sheets, Kenton Ward

Secretary: Kristi Hinkle Attorney: Steve Holt

Others Present: Vicky Boyd, Jeff Fox, Michael Waldron, Mark Chemlisky

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: President, Brad Bagwell, called the meeting to order.

ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM: Quorum established.

MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Austin motioned to approve the minutes from June 23, 2021, meeting as presented. Mark 2nd the motion. The motion was approved.

BOARD TO CONSIDER CLAIMS: Kristi presented the claims. Kristi stated that Ken Hedge was absent and would add in the \$150 to the balance. Donnie made a motion to approve the claims. Mark 2nd the motion. The motion was approved.

SURVEYOR REPORT: Jason stated that Vanhorn has been working on the work orders but, has not turned in an invoice yet for them. Jason also stated that they continue to monitor the creek and take care of any issues that come up with work orders. Dan had nothing to report.

- A. Upper White Cover Crop Program:** Kenton stated that they are upping the number of farms from last year. Kenton also stated that last year a letter signed by Brad (approved by the board) was sent out with the application. Kenton said that he would encourage the board to do the same thing this year. Kenton stated that he handed out the Corn & Soybean Alliances handout. Kenton had asked that the board would authorize Brad to sign a letter and send it out again. Mark made a motion. Austin 2nd the motion. Brad stated that a motion has been made to authorize to generate a letter on BCC letterhead for Upper White River Crop program and send it out to invite farmers to participate in the Upper White River Crop Program. The motion was approved. Kenton had asked if Kristi had a copy of the letter from last year. Jason Henderson and Kristi responded yes that they did. Kenton had asked for it to be sent to him. Kristi and Jason replied that they would.

SHELVING PROJECT UPDATE/REPORT:

- A. Shelving project:** Jeff Fox stated that they are currently working to finalize the issue for bids plans. Jeff stated that one of the revisions that was made was incorporating the downstream at the bend to prevent disturbance downstream. Jeff said that bid documents should be ready by August 6th. Jeff stated that they have all permits in hand. Jeff also stated that the SWIF grant recipients were scheduled to be notified in August. Jeff had asked permission from the board to advertise the project bid. Jeff stated the Pre-bid meeting would take place on August 10th and bids would be due on August 25th. Jeff stated that the notice of award would be around the end of September. Mark made a motion to advertise for bids. Jordan 2nd the motion. Jason stated that there is a lot of history regarding the board and the upcoming project. Jason thanked the board, as well as the previous members who had served since its inception in 1992. The motion was approved.

BOARD ENGINEER REPORT: None.

BOARD BUSINESS/COMMENTS (OLD or NEW): Jason stated that Christopher Burke has worked hard on the SWIF grant. Jason also stated that they were approached by a gentleman that had something to do with stream restoration in which it required some easements. Jason said that it would not fit in to this project but could possibly be used in the watershed elsewhere.

A. Discussion of Finance: Jason stated that Holt has been in discussion with Encompass and the language has been updated in the documents. Jason also stated that the documents should be ready by sometime this month. Vicky Boyd had asked if the board was aware of the code IC 36-9-27-97.5. Vicky stated that it pertains to a fiscal body approval in order to get a loan through a drainage board. Vicky had asked if any of the board was aware of that code. Brad responded that Holt would probably know. Holt stated that he reviewed that statute for how the project could be financed. Holt stated that any financing that would be done would occur under five years and be done by directly dealing with a financial institution. Vicky stated that according to Indiana State Board of Accounts that at least one of the board members should approach their fiscal body to get approval for the financing. Holt had asked why are they (State Board of Accounts) negotiating with the newspaper instead of with the board on how they feel or opinion. Vicky responded that they were asked about it and that was their opinion. Holt also had asked if they were going to say anything to the board or just to the newspaper. Vicky responded that the board has not gone to them apparently. Vicky stated that it (the code) says payment and installments of a loan in excess of a five-year period, must ask the fiscal body to obtain a loan from a bank. Holt responded that this one would be paid back in less than five years. Vicky had asked what the loan period was for the project. Holt replied that it is less than five years. Vicky had asked about how much the loan was. Holt replied that it is approximately two million.

- B. Cicero Streamgauge (US Geological) agreement:** Jason stated that Big Cicero Creek Joint Drainage Board has had a stream gage for about eight years now. Jason also stated

that it is helpful for various things, such as notifications on flooding. Jason presented the agreement. Mark motioned to approve the Stream-gage US Geological agreement. Jordan 2nd the motion. The motion was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

Next Meeting August 25 at 9:30 am.

ADJOURNMENT: Jordan motioned to adjourn meeting. Mark 2nd the motion. Meeting adjourned.

BIG CICERO CREEK BOARD:

Brad Bagwell, President

Mark Heirbrandt

Donnie Lawson

Jordan Brewer

Austin Henderson

ATTEST: _____
Kristi Hinkle, Secretary