

LOOKING GLASS RIVER INTERCOUNTY DRAIN

DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

Clinton County Courthouse
St. Johns, Michigan 48879

PRESENT: Michael Gregg, Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development
Phil Hanses, Clinton County Drain Commissioner
Carla Clos, Ingham County Deputy Drain Commissioner
Ken Recker, Livingston County Deputy Drain Commissioner
Tony Newman, Shiawassee County Drain Commissioner

ALSO PRESENT: Jenna Jullie, Shiawassee County Deputy Drain Commissioner
John Bush, Ionia County Drain Commissioner
Jon Morrison, Clinton County Deputy Drain Commissioner
Pamela Slee, Woodhull Township Supervisor
Leonard Ash, Bennington Township Supervisor
Jerry Gutting, Antrim Township Supervisor
Phillip Matthews, Sciota Township Supervisor
Floyd Koerner, Sciota Township

Chairman Gregg called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

MOTION by Clos to have Clinton County serve as secretary. **SECOND** by Newman. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Newman to approve the agenda. **SECOND** by Clos. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The minutes from the last meeting on May 18, 1998 were accepted. John Bush attested to the validity of the minutes since he was the only one present today who attended the last meeting.

- Tony Newman indicated that portions of the Looking Glass River are designated as Shiawassee County Drain.
- Chair Gregg provided an explanation of available funds for maintenance, \$5,000 per mile per year. A township responsible for 20% or more of the assessment could pass a resolution allowing the drainage board to exceed that limitation or a township could petition the drainage board. After discussion, it was noted that no one township in the district would likely be responsible for 20% or more of the costs so the maintenance resolution would not be available in this instance.

- One of the supervisors in attendance asked what the townships assessment liability would be should they offer a resolution or petition. That question could not be answered however it was noted that petitioning would not increase the apportionment.
- Carla Clos noted that the notice for the March 29, 1995 meeting included the Genesee County Drain Commissioner. Discussion followed that was an error since none of watershed is within Genesee County. Further discussion that Ionia County does not appear to be in the district based on available records.
- Clos also mentioned the recent amendment to the Drain Code, Section 196a allowing removal of logjams. Newman offered additional explanation.
- There was a question about potential grant funding. Chair Gregg answered that this would not be typical or likely. Newman stated that a Shiawassee Conservation District received a SAW grant for the Looking Glass and work to update to the 319 Watershed Plan was underway.
- There was a question of who was concerned with drainage on the Looking Glass. Newman responded that a variety of individuals in Shiawassee County are having problems with poor drainage.
- Chair Gregg asked Newman if some action would be taken on the county drain portion in Shiawassee County given that procedurally it will take a while to take any action through the intercounty process.
- There was discussion about the existence of the drain in Ingham and Livingston Counties. Clos indicated that it does not exist in Ingham County. Recker indicated the Conway No. 17 Drain may serve as the main stem headwaters and there has been concern by farmers but the profile suggests there is little fall in the drain.
- Clos stated that Ingham County files indicate 28 miles of drain but there are no records of any systematic work on this entire reach. Hanses stated that files in Clinton County indicate that a district was established; however they were lacking easements or assessment rolls. Clos then asked what other counties may have that documents any work on the intercounty drain. It was also mentioned that efforts in the 1940s were repeatedly stymied presumably due to the war. Clos summarized that she feels sufficient records are in existence to suggest the legal establishment of the drain but we need to cumulatively collect records.
- Newman questioned if it was worth pursuing the issue further. Pam Slee responded that there is interest in getting drainage taken care of for their (Woodhull) township. Clos replied that it is important at this point to at least clarify what the standing of the intercounty drain is. Is it established or is it not?
- Discussion then continued that there is some landowner recollection of work in the 1940s and the drain profile references a “cutoff” location consistent with recollection. If the work was done then who was assessed?
- Jenna Jullie read correspondence from her files from April of 1944 discussing the river from Wacousta to Woodbury Road for work on 10 bridges, four counties involved, 26.5 miles, and 169,000 acres in Clinton, Shiawassee, Ingham, and Livingston counties.
- Chair Gregg located in his file a court order that all work on the petition was to end. This might explain why the district was established and few records beyond that can be located.
- Clos proposed retaining legal counsel to review available file information from each county for the intercounty drain.

MOTION by Newman to have Woodworth and Associates provide estimate to review available information from each county and provide an opinion. SECOND by Clos. MOTION CARRIED.

Chair Gregg was directed to draft letter to Woodworth requesting services and authorizing LSG Engineers & Surveyors for assistance as deemed necessary.

Financial status of district – Clinton, Shiawassee, and Livingston do not have an open account for the Looking Glass River. Ingham does have an account but it has a \$0 balance.

Old/New business – It was suggested that the Friends of the Looking Glass be included in discussions.

Next meeting is set for Tuesday, July 7, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in the Clinton County Courthouse.

MOTION to adjourn by Hanses. SECOND by Newman. Meeting adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Phil Hanses, Secretary

AGENDA

Looking Glass River Intercounty Drain Drainage Board Clinton, Ingham, Ionia, Livingston, and Shiawassee Counties

1:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 10, 2015

Clinton County Courthouse
1st Floor Conference Room
100 East State Street
St. Johns, Michigan

1. Call the meeting to order and introduce Board Members

Board Members

Michael Gregg, Chair, Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development

Phil Hanses, Clinton County Drain Commissioner

Patrick Lindemann, Ingham County Drain Commissioner

John Bush, Ionia County Drain Commissioner

Brian Jonckheere, Livingston County Drain Commissioner

Anthony Newman, Shiawassee County Drain Commissioner

2. Motion to elect a secretary
3. Review and approve the agenda
4. Review and approve the May 18, 1998 meeting minutes
5. Receive reports from each county on the condition of the drain and the need to perform maintenance
6. Discuss and take the necessary steps to determine the established route and course and drainage district that the board has jurisdiction for
7. Receive a report from each county on the funds held in their respective accounts
8. Authorize the payment of all properly presented invoices, drain orders, and vouchers
9. Discuss old/new business
10. Receive public comment
11. Set the date, time, and location of the next meeting
12. Adjourn

LOOKING GLASS RIVER IC
 Drainage Board Meeting
 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2015

	NAME	TITLE/ADDRESS
1	Pamela Sleg	Supervisor Woodlull ¹²¹²⁵ Warner Livingburg
2	Leonard Ash	Supervisor Bennington Township
3	JERRY GUTTING	" ANTRIM TWP
4	Floyd Koenig	Sciota Twp
5	Philip Matthews	" "
6	Phil Hanses	Clinton County D.C.
7	MIKE GREGG	MIDARD
8	Jon Morrison	Clinton County
9	Zony Newman	Shia Co. Dr. Com
10	Mark Lee	Deputy Drain Commissioner Ingham County
11	John Bush	Toua County Drain Commissioner
12	KEN RECKER	Deputy Drain Commissioner - LIVINGSTON CO
13	Jenna Jullie	Deputy Drain Comm

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