

Montgomery County
Special
Drainage Board Meeting
February 21, 2024

The Montgomery County Drainage Board met on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. at the Montgomery County Government Center at 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, Indiana.

Chairman Dave Rhoads, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, called the meeting to order. Vicki Emmert gave the prayer.

Board members in attendance were Chairman Dave Rhoads, Vice Chairman John Frey, Secretary Matt Mitted, members Doug Mills & Lance Sennett. Present were Tom Cummins, Surveyor, Vicki Emmert, Secretary and Attorney Dan Taylor.

Also, present was Dan Crowe, Bill Crowe, Steve Hudson, CK Wilkins, Garrett Luse and Dale Crum.

Minutes

None

Hearings

Needham-Booher #640

Tom Cummins – reported the Needham-Booher #640 is n T19N, R3W, in Sections 13-15, 21-29, 33 & 34 in Franklin Township. The current assessment rate is \$1.23 an acre with a \$5.00 minimum with 3,978.97 acres in the watershed. The proposed assessment is 44.55 an acre with a \$5.00 minimum. The overhead projected was used to display the information and map.

Current Maintenance Assessment = \$1.23/acre w/\$5.00 minimum assessment

Total Watershed Acres = 3,978.97 acres

Current Total Annual Assessments = \$4,986.28

Current Maintenance Fund Balance = \$2,232.97

Current Improvement Fund Balance = (\$1,405.41)

Current Reconstruction Fund Balance = N/A

Current Debt to Improvement fund = \$0.00

Current Projected Payoff (in years) = N/A

Additional Expected Expenditures = (\$30,000.00)

Total Debt to Improvement fund = (\$30,000.00)

Projected Payoff (in years) = 6.02

Proposed Assessment = \$4.55/acre w/\$5.99 min.

Proposed Watershed Acres = 3,978.97 acres

Proposed Total Annual Assessments = \$18,116.43

Proposed Projected Payoff (in years) = 1.66

The surveyor recommends raising the current maintenance assessment to the proposed assessment of \$4.55/acre w/\$5.00 minimum assessment, this increase will collect the funds necessary for needed maintenance.

The Maintenance Fund is the primary transaction fund for the Needham=Booher drain. All collections are deposited in the maintenance fund, and this fund is used to pay invoices for work, hearing notices, etc. If an invoice total exceeds the balance in the maintenance fund, the remainder is paid out of the improvement fund, under the Needham=Booher line item. This debt, carried by the improvement fund, must be paid back as assessments are collected. In some cases, assessments must be raised to ensure the improvement fund is reimbursed in a timely manner, to minimize the impact to the General Drain Improvement fund.

Proposed calculated maintenance assessment is \$4.55 per acre.

Dave Rhoads – inquired in one and half years it will be back in the black.

Tom Cummins – reported yes, after the work may be able to lower it back down. Regular to extreme maintenance to be done. Does not feel a reconstruction is necessary. Have about a mile of tree removal and de-brushing and bank work is needed.

John Frey moved, seconded by Lance Sennett to raise the Needham-Booher #640 assessment rate to \$4.55 an acre with a \$5.00 minimum with a yearly collection of \$18,116.43. Motion carried, 5-0.

Shumaker White #713

Tom Cummins – reported the Shumaker-White #713 is in T20N, R4W, Sections 4-9, and 16, 17, & 18 in Madison Township. The current assessment is \$2.15/acres with a \$5.00 minimum. The total acres is 1,739.19 with a total annual assessment of 45,198.93. The proposed assessment is \$4.30 an acre with a \$10.00 minimum. The overhead projector was used to display the information and the map.

Current Maintenance Assessment = \$2.15/acre w/\$5.00 minimum assessment

Total Watershed Acres = 1,739.19 acres

Current Total Annual Assessments = \$5,198.93

Current Maintenance Fund Balance = \$1,075.26

Current Improvement Fund Balance = (\$2,821.53)

Current Reconstruction Fund Balance = N/A

Current Debt to Improvement Fund = (\$1,746.27)

Current Projected Payoff (in years) = 0.34

Additional Expected Expenditures = (\$20,000.00)

Total Debt to Improvement Fund = (\$21,746.27)

Projected Payoff (in years) = 4.18

Proposed Assessment = \$4.30/acre w/\$10.00 min

Proposed Watershed Acres = 1,739.19 acres

Proposed Total Annual Assessments = \$10,397.85

Proposed Projected Payoff (in years) = 2.09

The Surveyor recommends raising the current maintenance assessment to the proposed assessment of \$4.30/acre w/\$10.00 minimum assessment. This increase will pay back the existing deficit that the drain is currently carrying within the improvement fund, and collect the funds necessary for needed maintenance.

Proposed calculated maintenance assessment is \$4.31 an acre.

Tom Cummins – reported several drains, drain into the **Shumaker White #713**. The **James Hose #572**, **George Nichols #546**, **Rebecca Miller #571** and **Brent White #577** all do. The minimum was bumped to \$10.00, as the parcels are small. There were no comments from the landowners.

Doug Mills, moved, seconded by John Frey, to raise the Shumaker-White #713 drain assessment rate to \$4.30 an acre with a \$10.00 minimum. Motion carried, 5-0.

Tom Cummins – reported the **Prince Croy #724** is in T17N, R4W, Sections 6 & 7; T19N, R5W, Section 1; T20N, R4W, Section 31; T20N, R5W, Sections 25 & 36 in Union, Madison and Coal Creek Townships. The current maintenance assessment rate is \$3.31 an acre, with a \$5.00 minimum. The proposed rate is \$10.14 an acre with a \$5.00 minimum. The overhead projector displayed the area and information.

Current Maintenance Assessment = \$3.31/acre w/\$5.00 minimum assessment

Total Watershed Acres = 882.37 acres

Current Total Annual Assessments = \$3,051.45

Current Maintenance Fund Balance = \$7,885.89

Current Improvement Fund Balance = \$0.00

Current Reconstruction Fund Balance = N/A

Current Debt to Improvement Fund = \$0.00

Current Projected Payoff (in years) = N/A

Additional Expected Expenditures = (\$35,000.00)

Total Debt to Improvement Fund = (\$27,114.11)

Projected Payoff (in years) = 8.89

Proposed Assessment = \$10.14/acre w/\$5.00 min.

Proposed Watershed Acres = 882.37 acres

Proposed Total Annual Assessments = \$8,996.78

Proposed Projected Payoff (in years) = 3.01

(4)

The Surveyor recommends raising the current maintenance assessment to the proposed assessment of \$10.14/acre w/\$5.00 minimum assessment. This increase will collect the funds necessary for needed maintenance.

Tom Cummins – reported that de-brushing has already be done. It needs tree removal and work on bank. Downstream needs a lot of work on open ditch. Temporary increase of three to four years to lower it down.

Doug Mills – inquired about trees.

Tom Cummins- reported only allowed to remove trees on one side of bank. Cheaper to clean all at once, than go in and clear trees for every obstruction.

John Frey- inquired about a reconstruction.

Tom Cummins – reported just raise maintenance to perform work.

Dave Rhoads – inquired this is one that was taken off assessment forty to fifty years ago.

Tom Cummins – reported yes, had one landowner who actually kept his area clean over the years.

Dale Crum – inquired this work all open ditch, correct.

Tom Cummins – reported also Mr. Crum is on the **William B McClamroch # 543**, which drains into the **Prince Croy #724** and will pay that assessment too.

Lance Sennett moved, seconded by John Frey, to raise the Prince Croy #724 maintenance assessment rate to \$10.14 an acre, with a \$5.00 minimum. Motion carried, 5-0.

Doug Mills – inquired about only clearing on one side, what about the large trees.

Tom Cummins – reported yes, if they fall into ditch. Lots of Ash trees have died, etc. DNR has a permit process. Some landowners will clear their side on their own.

Dave Rhoads – reported the next meeting would be March 13, 2024 at 9:30 at the Montgomery County Government Center.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Lance Sennett, to adjourn the meeting at 9:56 a.m. Motion carried, 5-0.

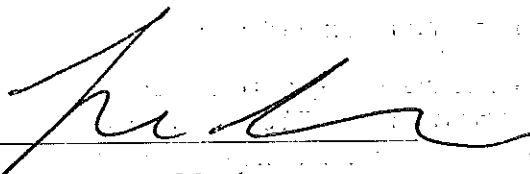
Vicki Emmert,
Recording Secretary


David Rhoads, Chairman

John Frey, Vice Chairman



Matt Mitchell, Secretary



Lance Sennett, Member

Doug Mills, Member

(Blank)
20