

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY
DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

PRESENT

CARY GRONINGER - CHAIRMAN
JIM SCOTT
DENNIS DARR
STEVE METZGER

ABSENT

TODD SMITH

ALSO PRESENT

JIM MOYER – SURVEYOR
SANDY ANGEL – DRAINAGE BOARD SECRETARY
ERIC SORENSON– IT DEPARTMENT

CARY GRONINGER – CHAIRMAN CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER.

LOGAN KIMES HEARING

JIM MOYER SAID THE LOGAN KIMES HEARING WAS INITIATED IN 2021. THE DRAINAGE BOARD ASKED THE SURVEYOR TO CREATE A NEW WATERSHED, AND THAT HAS BEEN DONE. IN 1967, THE ASSESSMENT WAS SET AT A VARIABLE PERCENTAGE RATE PER ACRE WITH A \$5 MINIMUM AND 4-YEAR COLLECTION. THE RATE WAS RAISED TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT IN 1980. IT CURRENTLY COLLECTS \$834.93 PER YEAR. THE CURRENT BALANCE OF THE DRAIN IS JUST UNDER \$2,000. THE PROPOSED RATE WAS ADVERTISED AT \$5 PER ACRE WITH A \$50.00 MINIMUM AND 4-YEAR COLLECTION. THAT WOULD BRING THE TOTAL ANNUAL COLLECTION TO JUST OVER \$3,000. THE PRIMARY CONCERN AT THIS TIME ON THE SYSTEM IS TO CLEAN THE OPEN DITCH STRETCH FROM FOX FARM ROAD TO THE RIVER, WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY 600 FEET. IN THE PAST, THAT HAS ALWAYS REQUIRED A PERMIT. MOYER SAID ONCE THERE ARE SUFFICIENT FUNDS, HE WILL APPLY FOR THE PERMIT. THE MIDDLE PORTION OF THE TILE IS IN A WETLAND RESTORATION PROJECT, AND THE NORTHERN PORTION AFFECT QUITE A BIT OF COMMERCIAL PROPERTY AND US 30. CARY GRONINGER STATED HE WILL RUN THE MEETING, BUT WILL ABSTAIN FROM VOTING, AS HE OWNS PROPERTY IN THE WATERSHED. HE OPENED THE DISCUSSION TO THE PUBLIC. NO PUBLIC INPUT WAS PROVIDED. PUBLIC DISCUSSION WAS CLOSED. MOYER STATED THERE HAS BEEN NO COMMUNICATION WITH THE SURVEYOR'S OFFICE EITHER FOR OR AGAINST THE ASSESSMENT INCREASE. JIM SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO SET THE RATE AT \$5 PER ACRE WITH A \$50 MINIMUM AND 4-YEAR COLLECTION. DENNIS DARR SECONDED THE MOTION, AND ALL WERE IN FAVOR, WITH CARY GRONINGER ABSTAINING.

AUGUST MINUTES/CLAIMS

DENNIS DARR MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CLAIMS AND MINUTES FROM AUGUST AS PRESENTED SUBJECT TO ANY AND ALL AUDITS. STEVE METZGER SECONDED THE MOTION, AND ALL WERE IN FAVOR.

WORK ORDER LIST/CLAIMS

JIM MOYER NOTED THAT HARVEST HAS JUST BEGUN, WHICH HAS SLOWED MAINTENANCE. AS CROPS COME OFF, HE ANTICIPATES MAINTENANCE INCREASING.

BRUSH CONTROL SPRAYING IS DONE FOR THE MOST PART. IT'S BEEN A DRY SEASON SO SOME OF OUR PROBLEMS ARE NOT AS PREVALENT AS THEY HAVE BEEN IN THE PAST. MOYER IS GAINING MORE KNOWLEDGE ON DRONE SPRAYING. TEN-FOOT-TALL BRUSH IS THE CUT OFF LINE FOR DRONE SPRAYING.

OLD BUSINESS

WALNUT CREEK/PARTIAL ABANDONMENT/HOOSIER LANDFILL/TABLED LAST MONTH

JIM MOYER SAID LAST MONTH WE TABLED THE DISCUSSION OF A REQUEST BY HOOSIER LANDFILL TO ABANDON A PORTION OF WALNUT CREEK THAT FLOWS THROUGH THEIR PROPERTY. THEY WOULD LIKE TO EXPAND THEIR FACILITY. MOYER ASKED CARY GRONINGER IF THERE WERE CONCERNS ABOUT THIS. GRONINGER SAID HE DID MEET WITH THE SOLID WASTE DISTRICT, AND HE ALSO SPOKE WITH LEGAL REGARDING NEGOTIATING A CONTRACT WITH GFL ENVIRONMENTAL. (HOOSIER LANDFILL IS AFFILIATED WITH GLF ENVIRONMENTAL) HE WOULD LIKE TO TABLE THIS DISCUSSION ONE MORE MONTH TO MAKE SURE WE ARE ALL ON THE SAME PAGE REGARDING THE FUTURE DIRECTION. MOYER SAID HE WILL GET IN CONTACT WITH THE SITE MANAGER OF HOOSIER LANDFILL TO EXAMINE THE SITE FUTHER IN PREPARATION FOR FUTURE DISCUSSIONS. DAVID BUSSARD, THE GENERAL MANAGER OF HOOSIER LANDFILL, WAS PRESENT AND ASKED IF HE NEEDED TO BE PRESENT AT THE NEXT MEETING. JIM MOYER TOLD HIM HE DID NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT AND THAT HE WOULD BE IN CONTACT WITH HIM.

DEEDS CREEK/WATERSHED FOUNDATION/FUNDS REQUEST

JIM MOYER SAID IN DECEMBER OF 2023, THE DRAINAGE BOARD WAS APPROACHED BY THE WATERSHED FOUNDATION TO CONTRIBUTE TO A DEEDS CREEK EROSION CONTROL PROJECT. A MOTION WAS MADE AND APPROVED BY THE DRAINAGE BOARD TO CONTRIBUTE UP TO \$40,000 TO THE PROJECT. THE WATERSHED FOUNDATION HAS COMPLETED THE PROJECT AND PRESENTED A BILL TO US FOR \$28,620. DURING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THIS PROJECT, AN EXISTING TILE THAT WAS SHOWN ON THEIR PLANS AND IS A WHITLEY COUNTY RESPONSIBILITY, REMAINED UNDER WATER BENEATH THE SILT. BECAUSE THE TILE CAME INTO DEEDS CREEK, IT BECAME OUR RESPONSIBILITY. WE HAD TO REMOVE TWO TO THREE FEET OF SILT GOING DOWNSTREAM FROM THIS EROSION CONTROL PROJECT TO ALLEVIATE THE DRAINAGE PROBLEM FOR WHITLEY COUNTY. WE SPENT A LITTLE OVER \$14,000 TO GET ALL OF THAT DONE. THIS BRINGS THE TOTAL TO AROUND \$43,000. JIM SCOTT ASKED IF WE HAD ALREADY PAID THEM \$40,000. MOYER CLAIRIFIED THAT THIS IS THE ONLY BILL WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM THE WATERSHED FOUNDATION. THEY SPENT A TOTAL OF ABOUT \$128,000 ON THE PROJECT, AND THE DNR PAID \$100,000. CARY GRONINGER ASKED IF MOYER HAD LOOKED AT ANY OF THE STABILIZATION. MOYER SAID IT LOOKED GOOD, BUT IT WILL NEED TO BE TOUCHED UP NEXT SPRING AND MONITORED. HE SAID THE WATERSHED FOUNDATION IS LOOKING INTO TWO OTHER PROJECTS ON DEEDS CREEK DOWNSTREAM FROM THIS ONE. HE SAID WE ARE WORKING WITH THEM ON PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THAT. CARY GRONINGER FELT THESE TYPES OF PROJECTS ARE GOOD WHEN THERE ARE DOLLARS COMING IN FROM OTHER SOURCES LIKE THE STATE. WE CAN GAIN MORE BENEFIT FOR THE DOLLARS WE CONTRIBUTE.

NEVIN MCCONNEL/SYRACUSE/UPDATE

JIM MOYER EXPLAINED THAT THE LOWER END OF THIS DRAIN FLOWS THROUGH THE TOWN OF SYRACUSE. HE HAS CONTACTED THE OWNERS OF THE OLD SYRACUSE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, WHICH IS NOW APARTMENTS. HE HAS PLANS TO MEET WITH THEM ON SITE. MOYER PLANS TO START WORK WHERE THE NEVIN MCCONNELL ENTERS

THE TURKEY CREEK DITCH. HE IS GOING TO REMOVE A FENCE, DEBRUSH, AND START TO CLEAN UP DEBRIS IN THE DRAIN. THE TOWN OF SYRACUSE IS WILLING TO WORK WITH HIM ON DISPOSAL. THERE WILL BE A STRETCH WHERE HE WILL HAVE TO USE A VACUMN TRUCK TO CLEAN A PORTION OF THE DITCH. THERE ARE BEAVER DAMS THAT NEED TO BE REMOVED. ALL OF THAT WORK CAN BE DONE WITHOUT A PERMIT, WHILE HE APPLIES FOR A PERMIT TO DIP THE ENTIRE SECTION. A PERMIT IS REQUIRED BECAUSE IT IS WITHIN A HALF MILE OF A BODY OF WATER. CARY GRONINGER ASKED IF THIS WAS WHERE THE NEW SYRACUSE LIBRARY IS BEING BUILT. MOYER SAID THE FUTURE LIBRARY SITE IS ON TURKEY CREEK, BUT IT IS JUST DOWNSTREAM OF WHERE THE MCCONNELL COMES IN. THAT PART OF TURKEY CREEK ALSO NEEDS TO BE CLEANED AND MOYER PLANS TO WORK ON THAT TOO. DENNIS DARR ASKED IF TURKEY CREEK WOULD REQUIRE A PERMIT. MOYER SAID HE WAS GOING TO TRY TO APPLY FOR ONE PERMIT FOR BOTH. HE WANTS TO TRY TO WORK ON TURKEY CREEK BEFORE THE LIBRARY IS BUILT WHEN ACCESS IS BETTER. DENNIS DARR ASKED IF THEY CLEANED DOWNSTREAM ON TURKEY CREEK. MOYER SAID THEY TOOK THE DEADFALLS OUT AND DEBRUSHED UP TO THE CITY LIMITS. THERE IS A LOT OF SEDIMENT AROUND THE CITY'S TREATMENT PLANT. DENNIS DARR ASKED IF CEMENT HAD BEEN REMOVED THAT WAS CLOGGING UP THE DITCH. MOYER SAID THE CITY POURED CEMENT THERE BECAUSE THEY HAVE A LIGHT WEIGHT PIPE THEY ARE TRYING TO PROTECT. THERE ARE CONCERNS ABOUT DOING ANYTHING WITH THE CONCRETE. MOYER IS WORKING WITH THE TOWN ON THE ISSUE. CARY GRONINGER ASKED IF THERE WAS A BODY OF WATER AS WE GO SOUTH. DENNIS DARR SAID THERE IS A SMALL LAKE THERE. MOYER SAID THE ELEVATION IS LOW AND IT DOESN'T FLOW WELL. HE HAS TO START DOWNSTREAM AND WILL CONTINUE TO WORK UPSTREAM. GRONINGER SAID THERE WAS A CONCERN THAT THE STATE MIGHT REQUIRE AN OUTFALL STRUCTURE ONCE WE REACH THE WETLAND AREA.

NEW BUSINESS

OCTOBER MEETING CONFLICT

JIM MOYER SAID HE HAS BEEN SUBPOENAED TO APPEAR IN COURT REGARDING A DRAINAGE ISSUE FROM A FEW YEARS AGO ON THE OCTOBER MEETING DATE. WE DON'T HAVE ANY HEARINGS SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER, AND HE WOULD LIKE TO CANCEL THAT MEETING. IF SOMETHING CRITICAL COMES UP, A SPECIAL MEETING COULD BE CALLED. AFTER FURTHER DISCUSSION, JIM SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO CANCEL THE OCTOBER 23, 2025 MEETING. DENNIS DARR SECONDED THE MOTION, AND ALL WERE IN FAVOR.

ADJOURN

BEING OF NO FURTHER BUSINESS, DENNIS DARR MADE A MOTION TO ADJOUN. JIM SCOTT SECONDED THE MOTION, AND ALL WERE IN FAVOR.

CLAIMS

9/9/25

ACHOR	GARY DANT	\$660.00	2700
ARMEY	DALTONS	\$2,616.00	2700
CAUFFMAN	TIMBER VALLEY	\$480.00	1158
CAUFFMAN	WARSAW WHOLESALE	\$130.49	1158
DANNER	DALTONS	\$4,756.80	2700
DAVISSON WM	DALTONS	\$2,712.00	2700
DEEDS CREEK	TIMBER VALLEY	\$6,000.00	2700
DOKE	RIGHT OF WAY MGMT	\$440.00	1158

ELDER	GARY DANT	\$600.00	2700
ELDER	RIGHT OF WAY MGMT	\$1,669.50	2700
FAULKNER	DALTONS	\$1,068.00	1158
GRAHAM WT	DALTONS	\$3,634.80	1158
HAMMOND STUTZMAN	DALTONS	\$636.00	2700
HELPLER SAMUEL	DALTONS	\$3,393.00	2700
HOOPENGARNER	DALTONS	\$1,497.60	2700
KEEFER EVANS	STEVE BARTELS	\$60.00	2700
KEEFER EVANS	WARSAW WHOLESALE	\$12.60	2700
KINNEY	DALTONS	\$2,270.40	2700
KOONTZ MARY	SHANKSTER BROS	\$6,389.01	2700
MCCLEARY GOCHENOUR	STEVE BARTELS	\$300.00	2700
NEVIN MCCONNELL	DALTONS	\$900.00	2700
NEVIN MCCONNELL	STEVE BARTELS	\$360.00	2700
NICKLER	DALTONS	\$576.00	2700
POLK GEORGE	WARSAW WHOLESALE	\$79.25	1158
PYLE JOHN	GARY DANT	\$60.00	2700
ROBINSON GA	GARY DANT	\$540.00	2700
RUPLE ALLEN	DALTONS	\$734.34	2700
		\$1,202.46	1158
SHANTON	WARSAW WHOLESALE	\$175.70	2700
SHANTON	RIGHT OF WAY MGMT	\$2,089.55	2700
SOLOMON SECHRIST	DALTONS	\$3,201.60	2700
STONEBURNER PUTNEY	DALTONS	\$2,880.00	2700
TURKEY CREEK	DALTONS	\$4,452.00	2700
TURKEY CREEK	DALTONS	\$5,059.20	2700
VANCUREN	RIGHT OF WAY MGMT	\$5,021.94	2700
WALNUT CREEK	BLUESKY APPLICATORS	\$1,305.70	2700
WALNUT CREEK	KLINE TRUCKING & EXC	\$542.50	2700
WESTLAKE FETTERS	DALTONS	\$2,376.00	2700

MAINTENANCE: \$ 63,847.44

GENERAL DRAIN: \$ 7,035.00

9/23/25

BEYER BRADY	R&R VISUAL	\$1,200.00	2700
DEEDS CREEK	KLINE TRUCKING & EXC	\$3,095.00	2700
DEEDS CREEK	WATERSHED FOUNDATION	\$28,620.00	2700
KIMES LOGAN	TIMBER VALLEY	\$780.00	2700
MCCONNELL NEVIN	HUFFMAN LAND SURVEYING	\$100.00	2700
WALNUT CREEK	WERTENBERGER	\$27,720.00	2700
WALNUT CREEK	KLINE TRUCKING & EXC	\$2,500.00	2700
WALNUT CREEK	SHANKSTER BROS	\$13,864.50	2700
WILLIAMSON SARAH	TIMBER VALLEY	\$1,750.00	2700
WYLAND	HUFFMAN LAND SURVEYING	\$300.00	2700

MAINTENANCE: \$ 79,929.50

GENERAL DRAIN: \$ 0

SEPTEMBER TOTALS

MAINTENANCE: \$ 143,776.94

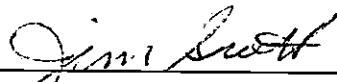
GENERAL DRAIN: \$ 7,035.00

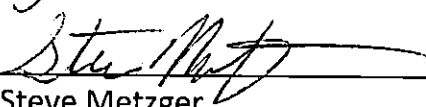
KOSCIUSKO COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD


Cary Groninger – Chairman


Dennis Darr

Absent
Todd Smith


Jim Scott – Vice Chairman


Steve Metzger