

**KOSCIUSKO/ELKHART COUNTY
JOINT DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING
JULY 27, 2023
10 A.M.**

PRESENT:

RANDY SEXTON – CHAIRMAN – NOBLE COUNTY SURVEYOR
CARY GRONINGER – VICE CHAIRMAN – KOSCIUSKO COUNTY COMMISSIONER
LYNN LOUCKS – ELKHART COUNTY PRESIDENT
BOB BARNES – ELKHART COUNTY COMMISSIONER
JOE IRWIN – KOSCIUSKO COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD MEMBER

ALSO, PRESENT:

MIKE KISSINGER – KOSCIUSKO COUNTY SURVEYOR
MARK MONTEL – KOSCIUSKO COUNTY DRAINAGE SUPERVISOR
KRISTA BAKER – DRAINAGE BOARD SECRETARY

STEVE SCHWEISBERGER – ELKHART COUNTY SURVEYOR'S OFFICE
TODD NUNEMAKER – NAPPANEE CITY PLANNER
CARL GILBERT – ELKHART COUNTY DRAINAGE SUPERVISOR

BURKHOLDER RECONSTRUCTION:

KISSINGER INTRODUCED THE MEMBERS FROM ELKHART AND KOSCIUSKO COUNTIES AND INFORMED THEM THEY WOULD NEED TO CHOOSE A 5TH BOARD MEMBER FROM ANOTHER COUNTY THAT HAS NO INTEREST IN THIS PROJECT. KISSINGER INTRODUCED RANDY SEXTON – NOBLE COUNTY SURVEYOR AS A POTENTIAL CANDIDATE FOR THE 5TH BOARD MEMBER. LYNN LOUCKS – ELKHART COUNTY MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT RANDY SEXTON AS THE 5TH BOARD MEMBER. CARY GRONINGER SECONDED THE MOTION AND ALL WERE IN FAVOR.

SEXTON THANKED THE BOARD FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE THE 5TH BOARD MEMBER. HE REQUESTED THAT THE BOARD APPOINT A VICE CHAIRMAN. JOE IRWIN NOMINATED CARY GRONINGER AS THE VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT BOARD. LYNN LOUCKS SECONDED THE MOTION AND ALL WERE IN FAVOR.

SEXTON TURNED THE MEETING OVER TO KISSINGER. KISSINGER MADE A PRESENTATION FOR THE BURKHOLDER RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT. HE PRESENTED THE BOARD AND THE GENTLEMEN IN THE AUDIENCE WITH MAPS OF THE PROJECT. THE MAPS SHOWED THE TILE SIZES FROM WHEN THE DRAIN WAS INSTALLED. KOSCIUSKO COUNTY CONTRIBUTES 406 ACRES AND ELKHART COUNTY CONTRIBUTES 315 ACRES INTO THE BURKHOLDER DRAIN. KISSINGERS ASKED FOR THE BOARD TO ASSIGN HIM TO SURVEY AND CREATE A REPORT FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT.

ELKHART COUNTY HAS A CUMULATIVE DRAIN FUND WHICH WOULD BE BILLED DIFFERENTLY THAN KOSCIUSKO COUNTY AS THE LATTER WOULD BILL THE LANDOWNERS PER ACRE FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION AND ELKHART COUNTY WOULD RECEIVE ONE TAX STATEMENT FOR THEIR PORTION OF THE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT.

KISSINGER TOLD THE BOARD THAT THE PURPOSE OF TODAY'S MEETING IS TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE BOARD FEELS THAT THIS JUSTIFIES A RECONSTRUCTION DUE TO LAND USE CHANGE AND INADEQUATE DRAINAGE TO THE SOUTH AND IF POTENTIALLY THE BENEFIT OUTWEIGHS THE COST.

THERE WAS SOME DISCUSSION ABOUT THE 12 INCH TILE ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE RAILROAD AND A RETENTION/DETENTION POND IN THE AREA AND WHETHER THE RECONSTRUCTION NEEDS TO BE CHANGED IN THIS AREA. KISSINGER TOLD THE BOARD AND GALLERY THAT HE WOULD TAKE THE INFORMATION INTO CONSIDERATION OF THE DESIGN FOR THIS PROJECT.

CARY GRONINGER MADE A MOTION FOR KISSINGER TO PREPARE A RECONSTRUCTION REPORT FOR THE BURKHOLDER DRAIN AND SCHEDULE THE NEXT JOINT DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING. LYNN LOUCKS SECONDED THE MOTION AND ALL WERE IN FAVOR.

KISSINGER INFORMED THE BOARD THAT THE GOAL IS FOR THIS TO BE A SUMMER OF 2024 PROJECT.

ADJOURN:
BEING OF NO FURTHER BUSINESS, LYNN LOUCKS MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN. CARY GRONINGER SECONDED THE MOTION AND ALL WERE IN FAVOR.

KOSCIUSKO/ELKHART JOINT COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

Randy Sexton – Chairman – Noble County

Cary Groninger – Vice Chairman
Kosciusko County

Lynn Loucks – Elkhart County

Bob Barnes – Elkhart County

Joe Irwin – Kosciusko County