

Motion to approve minutes from 3/25/2024 made by Don Parker, 2<sup>nd</sup> Kevin Nigh, approved 3/0.

**Seifert Legal Drain, (Freeport Rd. / 850 N, west of 150 E):** Jeff Powell, county surveyor, is proposing to give a flooded area a place to contain it in a specified area that with a tile that slowly releases. James O’Neal, adjacent property owner, comes forward and states he has concern that the tile Mr. Powell is wanting to place will backflow onto his property as the area is a natural hole. Mr. Powell states he feels this plan will benefit the area, not fix it. There will be a breather but no outlet, nowhere is he trying to take surface water into the tile. Kevin Nigh asks Mr. Powell if he wants this tile to be an extension of the Seifert drain or have it remain privately owned. Mr. Powell states his clients will be paying for the initial work and it might be something to think about adding it to the Seifert Drain as it should benefit multiple property owners. Mr. Powell does feel he should look into Mr. O’Neal’s concerns. Mr. O’Neal’s drainage is not great currently, but he is afraid it will get worse. Ben Kuhn Comes forward and wants to note he doesn’t believe the map displayed is completely correct. James Ramsey, on Zoom, states a tile in in the area is almost on top of the ground and has not been maintained. He also states he has replaced part of the outlet on it, he was not aware it was part of a county tile. They discuss putting in a breather on the south side of Freeport Rd. (which is believed to help everyone) everything else is just brainstorming toward creating a plan for the other issues.

Before the next meeting the Drainage Board plans to: address the Siefert Drain maintenance fund and if there are no funds they need to find out how to deal with the issues and create a comprehensive plan for the watershed to the southwest. Jason Abel plans to drive onsite and follow the Siefert Drain to become more familiar with it. Mr. Abel would encourage the detention area to be as beneficial as possible, such as planting certain vegetation there to help promote water usage, ensuring the grade doesn’t change disproportionately affects the neighbors.

Motion to approve a breather replacement on the southside of Freeport Rd. and an additional breather on the northside of the road 2<sup>nd</sup> Kevin Nigh, approved 3/0.

Terry Knudson, nearby property owner, clarifies that the vote was for landowner (Lengacher) to spend money on a breather? The Drainage Borad confirmed that is correct. Mr. Knudson has concerns about the plans, he has placed a swell on his property that got the drainage under control but there is a drain in the area that isn’t working. Mr. Knudson feels the area is a bowl and should not be somewhere people build. Mr. Knudson also speaks about the lots that he believes shouldn’t have been subdivided in the past. Jason Abel states they will take his concerns into consideration.

An adjacent property owner wants to know if there will be a written plan, and will it come back to the drainage board? Jeff Powell states the drainage board would just be involved in approving or not a connection into the legal county drain. The approval of building would go through the tech committee and Plan Commission. Another nearby property owner wants to know if the water backs up into her backyard, what will be done about it? Mr. Powell states they could install a shut off valve or make the hole/ lake deeper. Jeff Powell states he does not want this to have an adverse effect on anyone. Desiree Calderella, Plan Director, clarifies there was a survey done pre 2008 that split the 5 acres into 2 parcels, it didn’t meet the rules at the time for subdivision but the current code grandfathers in anything pre-2008.

Denis Ratekin received a voicemail from a citizen regarding water not draining at 700 N/ 700 W after heavy rain.

Adjourn.

**DRAINAGE BOARD**

**SHELBY COUNTY, INDIANA**

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Jason Abel, President

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Kevin Nigh, Vice President

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Don Parker, Member