

REGULAR DRAINAGE MEETING

7/6/2022 - Minutes

1. Open Meeting

Hardin County Drainage Vice Chairperson Lance Granzow opened the meeting. Also present were Trustee Renee McClellan; Lee Gallentine of Clapsaddle Garber Associates; Michael Pearce, Network Specialist; and Michelle Kuechenberg, Drainage Clerk.

2. Approve Agenda

Motion by McClellan to approve the agenda. Second by Granzow. All ayes. Motion carried.

3. Approve Claims For Payment

Kuechenberg stated Pay Estimate #4 is included with the claims for payment and also an item on the agenda, item #4. Granzow stated we will come back to the claims for payment and move onto item #4 on the agenda.

Description	Vendor	Amount
DD 123 Open Ditch Brush Spraying	Honey Creek Land Improvement, LLC	\$ 715.00
DD 26 Open Ditch Brush Spraying	Honey Creek Land Improvement, LLC	\$ 9,295.00
DD 56 WO3 Pay Estimate # 4	Gehrke Inc.	\$207,997.90
DD 82 Open Ditch Brush Spraying	Honey Creek Land Improvement, LLC	\$ 1,430.00

Motion by McClellan to approve the claims for payment. Second by Granzow. All ayes. Motion carried

4. DD 56 WO 03 - Discuss W Possible Action - Gehrke Inc. Pay Estimate # 4

Gallentine stated they were all pretty much wrapped up with construction, but this Pay Estimate. Gallentine stated it's pretty much all done and paid for except for the retainage which we will do at the completion hearing. Granzow stated water is flowing fine, they're getting it tested. Gallentine stated he was going to say, he doesn't know how much rain we got last night, but it should be tested today.

Motion by McClellan to approve Pay Estimate #4 for Gehrke's Inc. Second by Granzow. All ayes. Motion carried.

5. DD Big 4 Lat 3 - Discuss W Possible Action - Tree Removal

Kuechenberg stated she informed the Trustee's at last week's meeting there is a problem with Mulberry Tree's on Big 4 Lat 3. Kuechenberg stated Adam is already spraying that area, but we discussed the idea of him cut and spraying. Kuechenberg stated she added this item to the agenda for an official motion.

Granzow asked Gallentine if there was a specific height for cutting Mulberry Tree's. Gallentine stated he would say if it is over 4ft you might as well cut the tree.

Motion by McClellan to direct Honey Creek Land Improvement to cut and spray the Mulberry Tree's over 4ft in DD Big 4 Lat 3. Second by Granzow. All ayes. Motion carried.

6. Discuss W Possible Action - New Work Order Requests

7. Other Business

Big 4 -

Kuechenberg stated the same landowners, she did not get this on the agenda because of the time the call came in, reported more Mulberry Tree's in Big 4, this time they said it was in the waterway. Kuechenberg stated the landowners would like to have us take a look at those as well. Kuechenberg stated the landowners told her Weidemann Inc. was there in 2014 to remove these trees. Kuechenberg stated she could not locate that work order on Tyler or the other database they use for older work orders. Granzow asked her where this was. Kuechenberg stated this was also Big 4 in Alden. Kuechenberg asked Pearce to search Phil Montandon in Big 4. Gallentine asked the Trustees if they remember when Wright County had a tree project and it kind of went into Hardin. Gallentine stated Weidemann did that one. Kuechenberg stated we are talking about the Main now in Big 4. Kuechenberg stated in 2017 BNW had a spraying contract for that area, as a separate work order, but that was all she could find. Gallentine stated as long as Adam is in the area, he would recommend he drives by and takes a look. McClellan asked if these would be a cut and treat type thing too. Kuechenberg stated the landowner did not say. Kuechenberg stated the landowner told her there were quite a few trees. Granzow stated he would like Kuechenberg to have Adam take a look at it and get back to us. Granzow stated if she could have it on next week's agenda that would be great. Kuechenberg stated we do not have a drainage meeting for next week, but she will get it on the following week's agenda.

Granzow asked Kuechenberg what the dollar amount she could approve was. Kuechenberg stated it was \$5,000. Granzow stated he does not think Adam's quote will stay under \$5,000 we will approach this at the following meeting. Kuechenberg asked for clarification if that was just for the Main. Granzow stated that was correct because it is not an action item today. Granzow asked if that was a waterway and not an open ditch. Kuechenberg stated the landowner referred to it as a waterway. Gallentine stated it looks like it is an open ditch. Granzow asked if that area was on the spraying list? Kuechenberg stated it she brought the list with her today. Kuechenberg stated it does not look like that section was on the list for spraying. Granzow stated it needed to be. Gallentine stated that is Big 4 Main. Kuechenberg stated she will get that added to our list of sections. Granzow stated he would entertain a motion to add this. Granzow stated this isn't anything out of the ordinary, this is Open Ditch that should have been on the list. Gallentine stated we should have section numbers all of the way down into the single digits. Kuechenberg stated we have all of the different laterals on there, but we're missing a lot of the main. Granzow stated we need to get those on there, we cannot have that. Granzow asked if that was on Big 4, he would just tell Adam to start on it. McClellan asked Granzow what he meant by starting on it? Granzow stated if we have not done anything on Big 4, we need to get to it right away. Kuechenberg stated he has not done anything on Big 4 yet. Kuechenberg stated he's done DD's 120, H-F 1, 48, 70 94, and 72. Granzow asked if he has Big 4 on his list of things to do? Kuechenberg stated he does not have Big 4 on there currently. Kuechenberg stated she has been talking with him and did inform him there are quite a few trees in that need to be looked at in Big 4. Kuechenberg stated Adam is standing by until she receives an official motion. Granzow asked if this was a 4-county district? Gallentine stated it is a 4-county district, he believes we are the controlling district. Gallentine stated if he remembers right back in 2014 everyone agreed spray their own districts. Granzow stated that is what he thought. Granzow stated if he had to guess, when the spraying came out in 14, Big 4 was not on there because the Weideman's were working on it, and it just never got added back. Granzow stated he needs Big 4 on the list. McClellan stated we already made a motion for Adam to clean it out anyways. Granzow and Kuechenberg stated that was for Lat 3. Granzow stated he can do the Lateral and then check Big 4, maybe start unofficially. Granzow stated he would like all of Big 4 on there for Hardin County.

Kuechenberg stated if he needs to cut and spray in other areas, Big 4 or otherwise, how should we do that? Kuechenberg stated the areas he has already hit, there were some big trees, he did not think a single application for spray will work on those. Kuechenberg stated is this something he can just call me, and I will add it to the agenda when that comes up? Granzow called Adam and told him we are in the meeting talking about Big 4 unofficially because we can not have it on the agenda for an action item until the next meeting in 2 weeks. Adam stated, ok. Granzow stated it will be on the agenda, he can tell him right now that he has no problem with Adam doing that. Granzow stated I do have some authorization up to certain dollar amounts that I can approve. Granzow stated apparently, we did not put anything on Big 4, that should have been done back in 2014. Kuechenberg stated there is, just not that much of the main is included. Granzow stated we have to get ahead of that before we have a one-million-dollar cleanout again. Adam stated that has probably been his fear he expressed to her this morning. Adam stated we probably need to get some verbiage in his contract if he would need to get some equipment or a chainsaw in there. Adam stated some of these trees, unless you get under the bark with expensive chemical, you will not kill them with a single application. Granzow stated we talked about that, chop anything above 4 ft. Adam stated some things that took him about 5-10 mins to cut, he just went ahead and cut. Adam stated he did not see that as a problem because it was dead. Adam stated some of the trees are going to get way out of hand otherwise we will have some issues. Adam stated he can start doing a little better documentation, so everyone has a little better of an idea of what he is dealing with. Granzow stated he just wanted to discuss Big 4 with him, although it is unapproved it will be. Adam asked if he needed to wait for the agenda. Granzow stated if it is above \$5,000. Granzow stated he does not see an issue with it being approved because it should have been on the normal spraying list. Adam stated we already have some what of a budget set for a spraying in particular. Adam asked if we needed to revisit that. Granzow stated that would be in addition to the spraying. Granzow stated that would include cutting now too. Adam stated maybe he will put that off for a couple of weeks and take a look out there to see what we are looking at. Adam stated that will give me an idea of a little bit of a budget for you guys, will that work? Granzow and McClellan stated that works for them. Gallentine stated he agrees, it is a lot easier, even if we have to do some cutting, to get rid of them now then let them grow. Adam stated he will make sure everything is treated too. Adam stated once we get it handled, this is certainly going to be a cheaper alternative to bringing in 60,000-pound excavators. Granzow asked Gallentine how much it was last time. Gallentine stated it was over one million, but Adam is right, you brought in these huge excavators, destabilized the bank, had to dispose of the trees, and had to reseed. Adam stated he might just come in with some pictures of the area and we can have a little presentation on how to save a drainage district.

Kuechenberg stated she was able to get a hold of Casey Huff. Kuechenberg stated, according to Casey, he will have an update for her shortly as soon as he can line up scheduling. Kuechenberg stated she will forward that onto Gallentine because she forgot to CC him in the email. Granzow asked what we were lining up scheduling on. Kuechenberg stated Midland Power Cooperative has quite a few outstanding permit applications. Gallentine thanked Kuechenberg for reaching out to him and getting some contact from him, he appreciates it.

8. Adjourn Meeting

Motion by McClellan to adjourn. Second by Granzow. All ayes. Motion carried.