Those present were:
Tippecanoe County Drainage Board President Tracy A. Brown, Vice President Thomas P. Murtaugh, member David S. Byers, County Surveyor Zachariah Beasley, Drainage Board Attorney Doug Masson, Surveyor Office Project Manager James Butcher and Drainage Board Executive Administrator Brenda Garrison. Tim Walters, Surveyor’s office GIS Technician was also in attendance.

Obstruction Stingley/Barker
President Tracy Brown opened the hearing and referred to the Surveyor for his report. The Surveyor stated a Petition for the Removal of an Obstruction was filed in his office in July 2019 by Keith and Debra Stingley of 12505 South 500 East Lafayette Indiana 47909. The alleged obstruction was located on a tract owned by Bonnie Barker located at 5232 E 1300 South Clarks Hill Indiana 47930. A letter regarding the obstruction addressed to Bonnie Barker from the petitioners was attached to the petition. The Surveyor noted the obstruction location was just east of the intersection of Co. Rd. 1300 South and Co. Rd. 500 East. The Barker’s tract was located to the east of the Stingley tract. Using GIS, he reviewed the area in question. He noted there was a depressional area which traversed in an east-northeast direction. The said depressional area was located across both landowner’s property line, as such both landowners were affected. A topographical and contour survey was performed by his office staff of the area which indicated a three tenths of a foot difference. He suggested regrading the depressional area to correct the natural flow of the runoff prior to the fill dirt being placed. He stated the photographs, which accompanied the petition, indicated four maybe five loads of fill dirt located near the depressional area.

Mr. Dean Barker provided photographs (dated June 23, 2003) taken after the fill dirt was placed in the depressional area and presented them to the Board. The photographs were reviewed in detail for the Board. The Surveyor noted, the “slightly” lower end of the depressional area was located on the Barker tract. Mr. Barker stated the purpose of the fill dirt was to push the water to a side ditch only, as drainage was poor for both tracts. He stated he would do whatever the Board directed him to do. He thanked the Board for their time.

Mr. Keith Stingley approached the board. He noted with additional drainage issues on their property, the only way to eliminate some of the standing water on their tract was the natural flow to the depressional area- prior to the fill dirt placement. Since the fill was placed in the depressional area, the water stands on the Stingley tract. This was the reason he submitted the petition.

Discussion was then held regarding what action would be the best option for both the landowners. It was noted the Perry Davis drain tile was located in the area but was vacated years ago when the Kirkpatrick One open ditch was constructed.

Mr. Barker stated he agreed to work with the Surveyor’s office to correct the issue at hand. Attorney Masson recommended continuing the Surveyor’s report to a later date in order to allow the Mr. Barker to address the issue while working with the plan from the Surveyor’s office. Landowners Stingley and Mr. Barker were in agreement with the Attorney Masson’s recommendation. Dave Byers made a motion to continue the Surveyor’s report to the regular meeting scheduled on January 8th, 2020. At which time the Surveyor would report outcome of work performed by Mr. Barker to remove the obstruction. Tom Murtaugh seconded the motion. Motion carried.

As there was no additional public comment, Tom Murtaugh made a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned.

Tracy A. Brown, President

Thomas P. Murtaugh, Vice President

David S. Byers, Member

Brenda Garrison, Executive Administrator

November 27, 2019