

Runoff and Drainage Issues – Chapter #41

It was noted that Shearman Road residents went to the town regarding drainage problems on their road. They went to the Watershed Commission about this issue the year before to no Avail. Dick Swanson allowed Larry Bauer to discuss the runoff/drainage issue on Shearman Rd. Larry said the runoff water went through his shed and took everything in shed down the road. There was major damage and loss of personal property that was stored in his shed. The SLA believed it was a Town of Castile issue. The runoff came from the Marquart property.

At the August 2000 meeting a Watershed Commission report was given. Runoff problems existed on the Fairview Tract where the families of Emens, Mueller, and Lauciello were affected. The cause was said to be an undersized corrugated drainpipe put in by the Mueller's diverting water to the neighbor's property. The Watershed Commission advised to contact a lawyer and/or an arbitrator offered through the county Streambank Maintenance program. The parties were looking for government help. Rich Eliaz inspected the site and would revisit the location accompanied by Bill Soules. The SLA wanted to assist with this issue by acting as a facilitator. County water technician Dave Reckahn checked with the DEC to see if the Mueller's violated state drainage laws. Lorraine drafted a letter to the county water quality committee stating that the SLA would like to facilitate this issue and bring the parties to the table. It would likely take the DEC to force a resolution.

Rich Eliaz obtained a summary of the NYS Drainage Law from the county. The Watershed Commission suggested that the SDLA should get the Mueller, Emens, and Lauciello parties together. Rich and Bill reviewed recent work there and found it unacceptable. They believed that the DEC needed to be involved. It appeared to be a deliberate spillway that dumped onto adjacent properties and the work was done in violation of the drainage law. Bill referred to a Perry Herald article from the town of Castile board meeting where highway foreman Frank Bean proposed a digging project to dump water into a non-existent/too shallow ditch on Smith Road, which would hurt other properties. Lorraine discussed the Shearman Road drainage work to be done by the town. The project was on hold until spring if it would ever be done at all. Lorraine received a copy of Doug Klein's response to the town's letter on the hold off as well as the project itself. The SLA board consensus was to lobby by letter and in person at the spring town board meeting for the tract.

The board approved the SLA to donate \$900 toward the completed Fairview drainage project. The 18 families involved covered \$7,000 of the costs.

The Watershed Commission was also approached about the Pingrey farm on Abbott Road which was doing another drainage project. The project would be a go, with or without the Commission's help. The drainage water would go away from the road and back into the farm's field. Lorraine proposed the SLA to someday establish a grant project for joint improvements of private ditches and roads.

Rich reported that a drainage concern on Traber Road was due to a new county culvert on West Lake Road that was diverting water onto private property. The Drainage overwhelms the cottager's smaller culvert. This would impact water quality. The board discussed getting Watershed Commission funding to rectify this issue. It was asked to have Lorraine write a letter to the Watershed Commission listing the concerns of the SLA. Roy noted that the Watershed Commission supported erosion and runoff prevention practices.

Roy Schneggerburger noted that the DPW in Castile had cut an 8 foot path through the woods near Camp Asbury down to the lake to get to sewer a line that was causing runoff into the lake. This was part of a joint effort between Warsaw Soil and Water Conservation District and the SLA which was meant to help stabilize the lake.