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2/11/2019

To:

All landowners within the shed area of the County Regulated Drain known as the Silveus

Re:

A public hearing scheduled for March 28, 2019.

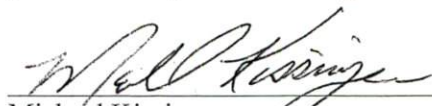
Landowners,

On January 24, 2019, a Joint Drainage Board meeting was held at the request of my office. This 5-person board consisted of Drainage Board members from Fulton & Kosciusko counties and a 5th member from a county not affected by this drain (a small portion of this drainage area is also in Wabash County but their drainage board waived their rights to be represented on the Joint Board per I.C. 36-9-27-14).

My office presented a report to the Joint Drainage Board indicating that the current annual rate of assessment was not adequate to properly maintain the Silveus drain. The drain system currently collects \$11,249.96/year and it is currently in debt **\$51,474.32**. The Joint Board agreed that the annual assessment rate was not adequate and moved forward with a proposed rate of \$9.00/acre with a \$50.00 minimum to be advertised and considered during a public hearing on March 28, 2019. Prior to agreeing on the proposed rate for advertising, the board discussed in length the possibility of collecting at the advertised rate for a short period of time and then lowering the rate of assessment after the debt was eliminated. The general consensus of the board members was that they would likely consider this at the March 28th public hearing after receiving input from the landowners within the Silveus watershed area.

The board was also made aware of an upcoming reconstruction project that is proposed within the Silveus watershed for 2019. That particular project will not affect the entire watershed area but will be an additional financial burden for a number of landowners in the northwest portion of the Silveus watershed. More information on that proposed reconstruction project is available in the Kosciusko County Surveyor's Office.

If you have any further questions, please contact me in the Kosciusko County Surveyor's Office. If you can not attend the public hearing at 10:00am on Thursday March 28 and would like to send a letter or email of remonstrance or support of the proposed schedule of annual assessment, please make sure it arrives in my office a minimum of 5 days before the public hearing. I will deliver your letter or email to all board members prior to the day of the hearing.



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