

Randolph County Drainage Board

325 South Oak Street * Suite 206 * Winchester, IN 47394 * Phone: (765) 584-0609

Present:

Gary Friend - Chairman	Term: January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2026
Tom Kerns - Vice Chairman	Term: January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2028
Missy Williams - Member	Term: January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2028
Ed Thornburg, Surveyor	
Meeks Cockerill, Drainage Board Attorney	
Casey Keener, Secretary	

Minutes for Monday, June 2, 2025

Gary Friend starts, all right, let's call the Randolph County Drainage board meeting to order. First order of business, Minutes for May 19, 2025. Tom Kerns makes motion to accept the minutes for May 19, 2025, Missy Williams seconds. All those in favor signify by saying aye, aye. Opposed same sign. Motion passes 3-0.

Gary says next, Welburn farms. Ed says, Welburn farms obviously doesn't have any representatives here this morning. Gary asks, what is that all about? Ed replies, OK we have Mr. Welburn owns a farm that over on base road off 27. A landowner Mr. Dowler owns the property there is the old Moore property, lost his house in the tornado, build his house back. I would say some genius told him putting a full basement in that neighborhood was a good idea. So, the Dowler is pumping water from under his house across the yard to Welburn's Farm. I was by there yesterday, I'm going to say they drowned out an acre to an acre and a half of the Welburn farm. Well, Mr. Welburn came to see me as he's someone I've dealt with for years I bulldozed for him back in the day. He and his guys came in and he said Well we're going to be ditching we we'll run a drain up and you'll pay for it. Well, Mr. Dowler is hard for me to find. We have a mutual guy that we both know, Jerry Wasson. I had been running intermediary for me. And he liked the plan like that idea. Supposedly Mr. Dowler shouts at Mr. Welburn and Mr. Welburn shouts that Mr. Dowler. at this point Mister Wilburn had actually approached asking about being on the Drainage board agenda, so we put him on. We talked about having the highway department dip side ditch along the front of this property down through culvert if he would pipe his water to the side Ditch this whole problem goes away. there is a drain up to that property because the old house had a drain. Can't get anybody convinced to go out and dig up and hook to it. That's all we got to do. It's not a county drain. I just want you to be aware of what's going on so when you get the phone calls you have an idea what its about.

Gary says next Riverstart V stormwater approval. re you ready? Brad Dilger replies, I'm ready. Ed has the updated plans and drainage calculations as requested. that's the support the substation for the project. this would just be for the Additional Layout for the substation. Gary asks Ed, do you recommend these plans. Ed replies yes. Missy Williams makes a motion approve, Tom Kerns seconds the motion, second. All in favor signify by saying aye. Aye, opposed. Same sign. Motion passes 3-0. Ed asks Now I understand did you tell me the lay down lay down yards are also going on this property. Brad replies that's the current plan and it'll be outside of this perimeter. It would be the 35-acre remainder but that's still being developed. Once that finalized and will be able to take that bring that back to the drainage board. It's still being moved around a little bit.

Ed says I had some challenge getting the plan to fit site but once we got that last little bit information in there all it all laid out and we're fine.

Gary announces, Domino's Pizza stormwater approval. So where is Domino's going. Ed replies across the road from Reid. They brought a drainage plan and Winchester actually kicked back on the drainage plan until they got some more information. They supplied the information. They were little light on the sizes of surface inlets. That whole lot ties into the 6-inch storm line that we helped put in and it was put in with the idea of servicing everything out there. We actually got that verified. They have a nice plan to put a restaurant there. Gary asks Ed, do you recommend these plans. Ed says yes. Missy Williams makes a motion approve, Tom Kerns seconds the motion, second. All in favor signify by saying aye. Aye, opposed. Same sign. Motion passes 3-0.

Meeks ask, can I add something before you get into it. They reply, yes so, we we're meeting here and so as of July first these need to also be recorded and televised live are we doing that now? Casey replies, we are recording it. We will be putting it on the website starting July 1st. Meeks replies, OK so we're going to start that July first. OK July first we will be recording live. OK so we're not televised now but we are posting them, and I just want to make sure everybody is Clear since we're meeting here it needs this also needs to be Recorded and televised.

Ed anything for surveys report? Ed replies, I think we are good. I took Gary on a tour of a couple of our drainage issues we're dealing with and there's they're all still in progress. Gary says, Yeah, I have the one the gentleman come in and showed all those pictures of the logs. That's not our responsibility. After looking at with Ed that was a free-flowing ditch through there years ago. They put a Truss bridge so they could build A house. The homeowner took the truss bridge out and put in an undersized culvert in, they own that. Missy asks if they had permission to take the bridge out? Ed replies, well they probably did. The reason I say that is the 7-foot pipe which is one of the 2 pipes that contributes to the water there was put in in 2010. And I think the pipe in that driveway is about that age the lady that owns it now. She did not own it then. she has no idea when it was put in. I'd say I made several trips down through there and studied everything upstream and downstream and have come to the opinion it's not ours to the point I don't think we need to upgrade the culvert. At the same time. Do we have a responsibility to help her fix the culvert? Or do I just tell her how to do it. The thing that's going on there she has lost \$1300.00 worth of stone in her driveway after a storm 2 weeks later she puts \$1300.00 worth in again after the second storm this spring. And this has happened neighbors say 3 to 5 times in the last several years. I have a I have a homeowner South of Winchester. There are 3 houses in a row there. The center and then 3 houses had the same problem they washed out they were literally stranded back their driveway 3 different times in about 2 years. I got support, 4 walls on their around their culvert so they didn't wash out put a deck on top of it and they quit having trouble. And I think that's your answer. The question is do we help her or do we advise her or tell her to have a nice day and I'm totally open on this. Gary says some of our problems caused effect downstream we help he, we go down to the church down there to help them and we go into the next and help them because point in time it's not ours it's not ours. Ed says, the Reason I was in the Bridge report before the meeting is there's down there by the church there's another county bridge. Its dimension is in comparable to the County Road bridge Adjacent to it. where I think we could do some good there I'm thinking we might want to take some blockage money take the blockages out there's about 1000 foot a ditch along the road there if we would clean the debris out of that. That doesn't change its capacity I think she needs to armor whether we help her or she does it herself but. Gary asks armor, what do you mean. Ed says, pour concrete on it. Tom says, but if we advise her to pour concrete in 10 years from now because of the excess water her coverts to small and it starts washing out around that concrete, are we responsible because we advise you to go that direction, because really what she needs is a larger culvert. Meeks says, what you need is a contractor to tell her what she needs Instead of us telling her. Ed says, I've got a contractor actually looking at the whole situation today. I think cleaning her ditch would be money we'd be well advised to spend and we we've done a little bit of that now. not a whole lot

different than the taking the blockages out of white River. We're not cleaning out the whole mile and a half we are cleaning along the road that helps prevent road damage if the 500 feet downstream of this culvert had been clear the day of that flood. It might have just barely overtopped instead of washing your driveway. I'll bring that to the next commissioners meeting we have to get money through there.

Tom Kerns makes a motion adjourn, Missy Williams seconds the motion, second. All in favor signify by saying aye. Aye, opposed. Same sign. Motion passes 3-0.

Signed this 7th day of July, 2025 in the Randolph County Commissioners Room, Winchester Indiana.



Gary Friend

Missy Williams

Tom Kerns

Edwin L. Thornburg, County Surveyor