

DRAINAGE BOARD MINUTES

June 23, 2025

DAVID LAWSON PRESENT
NATHAN RUNNEBOHM PRESENT
JASON ABEL ABSENT
JEFF POWELL PRESENT

Please note: These meeting minutes were drafted with the assistance of an AI tool.

Motion to approve minutes from 6/9/25 made by Nathan Runnebohm, 2nd David Lawson, approved 2/0.

Ditch Spraying: Jeff Powell, County Surveyor, has been in contact with the crew doing our spraying but they were delayed last week with the rain and bad weather. For the most part the ditches down the center from Shelbyville and south are done. They are now moving to the Fischer Tucker Shipp ditch moving east and north. He plans to meet with them today to check in. Mr. Powell has information on the chemicals used for spraying if anyone in the public would like that, as some people had some concerns/ questions about the materials being used.

Solar Farm: Jeff Powell was unable to get a meeting set up with Dan Hill from DESRI, Mr. Powell did not get a response before he went on vacation last week but will still pursue trying to set up the meeting. Property owner, Mike Gosnell, who is present today, states to his knowledge the Solar Farm's drainage contractor from Illinois has not been back on site to his knowledge. David Lawson points out the importance of getting the non-participating landowners' drainage issues taken care of as well, particularly since they do not have the same protection of the contract with the solar company that the participating landowners do.

Zell Patterson (S of 850 N): Jeff Powell did contact the gas company about meeting up to locate the gas lines, but he has not gotten a time they are available yet, he will follow up.

Edinburgh Rd.: There have been some concerns from residents about a pond being constructed on Edinburgh Rd. Jeff Powell thought there was going to be someone present at today's meeting to discuss it, but no one is here. Jeff Powell, David Lawson and Nathan Runnebohm have been on site. Drainage contractor, Corey Gregory, and property owner, Scott Jones, of 9290 S Edinburgh Rd. who is building the pond enter the meeting. The pond is going to be placed on Mr. Jones' mother's property, Bonnie Jones, at 9196 S. Edinburgh Rd. the 2 properties do adjoin. Jeff Powell states he was contacted by Eric Williams (not present) who is a land tenant across the road regarding concerns of pumping water out of the pond. Mr. Powell feels pumping out the pond will follow the natural flow of water but notes there are 2 points which he questioned and asks to clarify the plan for the flow of the water. The contractor, Mr. Gregory, states the ravine would be on the right side of the driveway going to the south whenever the spillway pipe is in and they were pumping more to the northernly end of it, and it was running down the northernly side of the road, which is a more direct route to the culvert. Mr. Powell confirms with Plan Director, Desiree Calderella, that Shelby County does not have any regulations preventing the construction of ponds. Mr. Powell states there can be erosion control put in place and would like to know the intent for the finished product. Mr. Gregory states they would like to be able to pump water out of the pond to complete the project. Nathan Runnebohm also received a complaint from another resident about the project and would like to know how long they would need to have dry weather to complete the project. Mr. Gregory states a couple of weeks if it is dry, he says they are trying to get the pond completely emptied to grade the interior banks. Mr. Powell states he believes the complaints and concerns come from the gathering of and storing and then releasing at a greater rate and according to his knowledge this would be a civil matter. He does not feel the Drainage Board has any legal jurisdiction over this if there are no zoning ordinances that are being violated. He states he can only recommend using their best practices for erosion control. John DePrez IV County Attorney is not present to advise. David Lawson states the ditch should be dipped out once they are completed and feels that it should be on the property owner to restore the ditch and feels it's just unfortunate timing, them trying to pump with rainy weather we have been having. Jeff Powell states they can only make suggestions to mitigate damages to adjacent landowners such as possibly reducing the amount of pumping they're doing at one time; he offers to meet on site to provide any other possible suggestions. Mr. Gregory and Mr. Jones state the water goes down within the same day once they stop pumping. Mr. Powell states unless the Drainage Board was petitioned by a landowner or if a complaint was filed by a landowner through the common enemy law (which does not sound like this situation) they would not have any jurisdiction other than trying to give suggestions to benefit the situation for the adjacent landowner. Mr. Gregory states that a Sheriff Deputy had called the landowner a few days ago and stated they needed a written document from the Drainage Board stating they are not in violation. David Lawson states they only can give their opinion that they are not in violation. This would be reflected in the minutes which they could obtain a copy of once

they are approved. Mr. Powell feels anything further in writing, the Drainage Board needs to consult with the County Attorney. Mr. Powell will meet with Mr. Gregory on site.

GW Smith Tile (River Rd./ 750 S): Jeff Powell states there is a regulated drain here with a hole from a problem with a drainage tile that is off the pavement and needs to be closed as it is a hazard. The last time it was repaired was in 1954, it is not on maintenance, so there are no available funds at this time. Mr. Powell spoke to the contractor who worked on the tile.

Smithland Tile: David Lawson has looked at this tile and suggests only putting in a breather tile rather than another structure to save money. Mr. Powell is going to contact the landowner he is working with to see if they would be willing to pay for the installation as they would need approval to connect their perimeter drain into it. Mr. Lawson feels the breather tile would be a good start that would provide an access point.

400 S: Nathan Runnebohm received an email regarding the property located at 1155 W 400 S. The Highway Department cleaned out about 100' of ditch but a property owner states there's water overflowing on the roadway and they feel there are several issues with the ditch and the culvert pipe is too small and packed full of debris. The property owner states fellow neighbors are requesting these issues be addressed. Highway Superintendent, Ben Taylor, states he looked at the area on 400 S, west of Columbus Rd., he believes a farmer to the north installed a pipe right in the S curve causing some of the issues. Mr. Taylor states the Highway Department did do some ditching there recently but will be going back today to try and remedy the issue as the pipe that was installed was not by the County and notes this is a flat area.

Solar Farm: James Ramsey, present on Zoom, would like to note the Solar Company has repeatedly told him they do not know what the lease/ contract between their company and the landowner says, even though their company is one of the parties involved. He just wanted the Drainage Board to be aware of this response.

Edinburgh Pond: Blake Newkirk suggests the property owner using today's video recording for their documentation of today's discussion if they need to provide it to someone.

Adjourn.

DRAINAGE BOARD

SHELBY COUNTY, INDIANA

David Lawson, President

Jason Abel, Vice President

Nathan Runnebohm, Member