

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

Member, Nathan Runnebohm, made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 22, 2026 meeting, Vice President, Jason Abel, provided a second, and the motion passed with a 3/0 vote.

Clendenning Tile - County Surveyor, Jeff Powell, gave an update on the Clendenning Tile project, reporting that tile materials arrived on site this past Thursday. Jeff Powell and Contractor, James Ramsey, did spot digging on the north side of 250 South to verify depth, confirming the pipe sits at approximately 6 feet deep with plenty of fall. Jeff Powell noted they staked corners near a property owner who filed a written objection stating work could not take place on his property. Jeff Powell and Deputy Surveyor, Harley Ayers, tried contacting the owner without success. To avoid conflict, Jeff Powell and James Ramsey plan to keep the new installation on the east side of the parcel away from his property, though Jeff Powell noted concern that the owner might miss out on a tile connection if they had water draining there. President, David Lawson, clarified that the property owner remains in the watershed and will still pay their assessment regardless. Jeff Powell stated he will also speak with Landowner, David Brown, regarding work pushing onto his ground where an open ditch was previously dug. The tile will end at a structure set right at the south right-of-way line of State Road 44, positioning the system for future boring across State Road 44. Work is scheduled to start in about two weeks.

Zell Patterson Tile - County Surveyor, Jeff Powell, presented an invoice from Contractor, Brian Mohr, of Mohr Drainage and Excavating for tile repair work on the Zell Patterson tile along 850 North in the Willow Tree area and additional spots to the north and south. Jeff Powell noted that the shallow tile is old and getting crushed by heavy farm machinery, calling this repair a temporary band-aid until a full reconstruction is done. President, David Lawson, noted for the record that the Drainage Board did not pay for tree clearing, as that work was completed by the landowner and tenant at their own expense. Vice President, Jason Abel, made a motion to approve the invoice from Mohr Drainage and Excavating for \$8,970.00, Member, Nathan Runnebohm, provided a second, and the motion passed with a 3/0 vote.

Chester Gordon Tile - President, David Lawson, and County Surveyor, Jeff Powell, discussed repair needs on the Chester Gordon Tile near 500 North, west of State Road 9 near the airport. Landowner, Ron Kissell, reported tile issues on their property. Jeff Powell noted the drain is a regulated drain last repaired in the 1960s, but it is not currently on active maintenance. Running the legal description showed the tile discharges east of County Road 100 West, the tile previously believed to be the Chester Gordon is then heading west across airport ground before tying into Hankins Ditch. Inspection showed deep tire ruts and crushed sections where sprayers ran over soft spots where previous repairs had been made. Local Contractor, Ben Coon, previously did field work for the Kissells, but could not cross existing gas lines. Jeff Powell

reported that no official watershed map was found in county records. The Surveyor's Office will use current GIS mapping to set up a preliminary watershed, draft an assessment role, and work with landowners so they can petition the board to put the Chester Gordon Tile on active maintenance.

Fairview Drive - County Surveyor, Jeff Powell, reported that he spoke with residents regarding drainage issues on Fair View Drive and plans to follow up with Highway Superintendent, Ben Taylor.

Long Acres Regulated Drain - County Surveyor, Jeff Powell, and President, David Lawson, gave an update on the Long Acres Regulated Drain. Tax assessments have been posted, and field checks showed standing water in surface risers has receded somewhat. Jeff Powell reported that damage from a fiber optic line bored into the tile under the south cul-de-sac remains the primary issue. Auditor records show the maintenance fund balance is currently \$10,358.00, with previous repair invoices to Contractor, James Ramsey, already paid. Further field investigations will take place later in the summer when conditions dry out.

Flat Rock River Watershed - County Surveyor, Jeff Powell, discussed a multi-county proposal involving Rush County, Decatur County, Henry County, and DNR to establish a Flat Rock River Watershed Drainage Commission spanning five counties. Deputy Surveyor, Harley Ayers, attended an informational meeting hosted by DNR. The proposed commission would collect assessments across the watershed to fund river projects like log jam removal, bridge work, and recreational access. Jeff Powell expressed doubt about the benefit to Shelby County, stating Flat Rock River has a limestone bottom and fewer log jams compared to Big Blue River or Little Blue River. Contractor, James Ramsey, spoke in favor of regional watershed commissions, explaining that funds are governed by a joint county board, majority rules, and the structure simplifies DNR permitting for clearing river blockages. President, David Lawson, and Jeff Powell discussed concerns about local funds going upstream, but Jeff Powell agreed to invite DNR representatives to make a formal presentation of the river commission project.

Adjourn

DRAINAGE BOARD


David Lawson, President


Jason Abel, Vice President

SHELBY COUNTY, INDIANA


Nathan Runnebohm, Member