

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

Approval of Minutes- Vice President Jason Abel moved to approve the minutes from the 2/23/26 meeting, 2nd Member Nathan Runnebohm, passed with a 3/0 vote.

Long Acres Subdivision- County Surveyor, Jeff Powell, reported on a known issue in the Long Acres subdivision legal drain, where a fiber optic line appears to have been bored into an existing subsurface drain tile. Jeff said that utility locates were called in last Tuesday and confirmed this past Friday. The Surveyor's Office intends to perform spot digging at a known problem location to investigate blockages. Jeff noted that multiple areas are not flowing, and last week water was witnessed coming up out of risers and flowing into the ditch due to head pressure. Jeff stated that conversations with AT&T indicated the burden of proof is on the county to show damage before the utility covers repair expenses. Jeff Powell proposed installing additional access points, including a T-junction and a riser with a cap, to allow for future monitoring of the tile at locations where access is currently limited.

Ditch Spraying Program- County Surveyor, Jeff Powell, reported that he and Harley Ayers from the Surveyor's Office have been developing a comprehensive list for drain assessments. While rain delayed inspections last week, they have already completed assessments for four drains in the northeast. Jeff Powell will assess conditions firsthand starting in the southern part of the county today, with plans to continue throughout the week. Jeff stated that the current spraying program should not continue in its current magnitude, as some areas are in good condition while others have not been sprayed effectively. He suggested that funds would be better utilized for brush clearing to get the drains under control rather than continuing the spraying program as currently structured. A full report is expected at the next meeting.

Hankins Drain- County Surveyor, Jeff Powell, provided an update on the Hankins open drain located behind the Kroger warehouse. Jeff noted that he has coordinated with the fire department to have a controlled burn of the dried brush piles this week, weather permitting. Jeff stated that Brandon Everhart, local drainage contractor, will be on-site with equipment to log out material to minimize the amount of burning required. Jeff also mentioned that additional brush clearing may be carried out in the area while equipment is mobilized.

Van Pelt Drain- County Surveyor, Jeff Powell, informed the Board of a washed-out culvert on a property that is on the Van Pelt drain causing significant damage to the surrounding area. He said he planned on going out to see it today to determine the best course of action.

Solar Farm Drainage- President, David Lawson, and County Surveyor, Jeff Powell, discussed flooding issues at the solar farm site following recent heavy rainfall. Jeff stated he has coordinated with Solar Farm Manager Danny Norris and Plan Director, Desiree Calderella, to

have the area flown with a drone to identify specific problem areas and develop solutions. Jeff noted that Danny Norris acknowledges the ongoing drainage issues and is willing to work with the county on solutions, provided the problems were created by the site's development and were not pre-existing

Clendenning Drain- County Surveyor, Jeff Powell, reported that assessment rolls and mailing addresses are prepared for the Clendenning project. Jeff noted difficulty in receiving a response from the state regarding the road crossing at State Road 44, but stated that Phase 2, which extends the project to the south edge State Road 44, will proceed regardless. Exploratory digging is still planned to confirm the size and elevation of the existing pipe. The Board discussed scheduling a public hearing to accommodate landowners, no hearing was set at this meeting.

Subsurface boring permit- Highway Superintendent, Ben Taylor, clarified utility depth requirements regarding BSM permits on 100 South. Ben stated that they are required to be a minimum of 60 inches, or 5 feet, below any open ditch. Ben clarified that the crossing discussed during the previous meeting was an open ditch and not a regulated legal drain.

Public Comment- John Jones of 7097 West Carrie Dr, New Palestine, Indiana, addressed the board regarding recurrent flooding in the Quail Creek subdivision, where his son lives at 11301 North Pheasant Run, Fairland, Indiana. John noted that residents are often trapped 2-3 times a year unless they have a truck or boat. County Surveyor, Jeff Powell, recalled that the Army Corps of Engineers studied this in the 1990s and suggested the only real solution was for the county to buy out and condemn the homes, as the area sits in a flood plain where Sweet Creek and Little Sugar Creek converge. Member, Nathan Runnebohm, explained that Sweet Creek or Little Sugar Creek is not a county legal drain. To make it one, 100% of property owners would need to agree to the designation and accept the subsequent tax assessments, which would likely be "extremely high" to cover construction costs. President, David Lawson, added that there would need to be a solution of some form before the Board can facilitate such a project. Jeff Powell invited John to his office after the meeting to review the historical engineering files.

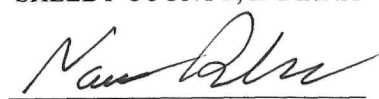
Meeting Adjourned

DRAINAGE BOARD


David Lawson, President


Jason Abel, Vice President

SHELBY COUNTY, INDIANA


Nathan Runnebohm, Member