

Drainage Board Meeting
July 1, 2025

Present: Jim Seiler, Mac Webb, Heather Gries, Auditor Melissa Bunner, Attorney Joshua Claybourn and Surveyor Tyler Darning

Location: Commissioners Meeting Room, 2nd Floor, Courthouse

The meeting was called to order by President Webb at 2:45 P.M.

Minutes

Seiler made a motion to approve the minutes for June 3, 2025. Gries seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Surveyors Report

Cornerstone Ties – Chasity took training with GIS to upload the ties to GIS. It is a very long process as each one gets scanned first before uploading. These get done one at a time and there are five (5) years to get current. They are also being uploaded to a flash drive so they will be available for our land surveyors.

Garrett Creek – The Surveyors Office has received several complaints about Garrett Creek. The ditch is completely overgrown, has beaver activity, and is causing major flooding. Garrett Creek is not regulated nor in a watershed. They are in the process of looking into the process of making it a regulated drain and have spoken to Midwest Engineers about creating another watershed in that part of the county. They plan on meeting with them later this month to review the area and get an idea of income and maintenance that a new watershed could generate and support.

2600 Fund – This is our general maintenance fund used for any regulated drain that doesn't within a watershed. After investigating and reviewing the IC code with Claybourn, all landowners in the county should be taxed even if they are not in the watershed. They are asking the Drainage Board to establish a drainage tax rate for those areas. These tax assessments would replenish the 2600 fund each year.

Gries motioned to set a meeting to discuss further on July 15, 2025, at 2:00 P.M. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ditch Assessment Audits – Audits are done on the ditch assessments twice a year – before Fall and Spring tax bills are dispersed. There is a question about properties that had 1/10 of an acre or less in a watershed. These parcels typically fall on the very edge of the watershed and receive very little or no benefit from any maintenance that is completed. Several surrounding counties do not implement a tax on these smaller parcels so that is what we have done in the past few years. The Commissioners agreed to keep it the same.

Old Business

Nothing to Report

New Business

Nothing to Report

Seiler made a motion to adjourn. Gries seconded the motion. Motion carried.
The meeting was adjourned at 2:57 P.M.

President
Attest:



Auditor, Melissa L. Bunner

