

April 20, 2026

The Wabash County Drainage Board convened at 10:00 a.m. for a regularly scheduled meeting. Board Chairman Jeff Dawes; Board Member Cheryl Ross was in attendance and Tyler Niccum was absent. Others in attendance included: Surveyor, Cheri Slee; Assistant Surveyor, Braden See; Highway Superintendent Ryan Smith and Deputy Surveyor Tonya Blair.

Drainage Board Minutes

Chairman Jeff Dawes initiated the review of the minutes from the April 6, 2026 Drainage Board meeting. Mr. Niccum moved to approve the minutes as written, and Mrs. Ross seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 Board vote.

John Maiden Drain

The Surveyor presented the Engineer's report and plans along with her report on the John Maiden reconstruction project. Time frame for the project was discussed. It was noted that the 12" (569 feet) and 15" tile (951 feet) as recommended in the plans should be sufficient in size. The watershed determined by the Engineer is larger because they have included acreage from a neighboring drain watershed. It was discussed that if the landowners request to upsize the 15" tile to an 18", they will be responsible for the cost of the upsizing. Total cost of the project is \$111,584.25 which includes engineering, advertising and bank loan interest. Current maintenance is set at \$3.00 /acre and \$5.00 minimum. Board Members agreed to increase the maintenance from \$3.00 to \$8.00 an acre. Mrs. Ross motioned to accept the Surveyor's report, Engineering's report and design plans for the John Maiden reconstruction project and set the hearing date for June 1, 2026. Mr. Dawes second. Motion passed.

Mary Wertenberger Drain

Mrs. Slee stated that she received a call last week that Frontier Communications was installing cable through the tile of the Mary Wertenberger Drain. Work on installing the cable was stopped until Mr. See was able to get to the jobsite and oversee the repair of the drain. Pictures of the repair were presented for review. An application permit for buried cable was sent to Frontier to complete and return to the office.

Revere Speicher

The Surveyor reported that she and Mr. See investigated several holes along the drain and there are also issues at the outlet. Within a day or so, Mr. Smith (Highway Superintendent) called to inform us that there was a hole in the road on 390 E and one on the other side of the road which was most likely caused by pressure from a blockage in the tile upstream. Trees along the drain are also causing issues. A contractor will need to do some exploratory digging to locate the area of concerns. Total costs could possibly exceed \$15,000.00 which is the limit placed by the Board for a maintenance project without obtaining quotes. She asked the Board for approval to complete the project without obtaining quotes if the project were to exceed \$15,000.00 since it's unsure at this point the scope of the project and the contractor is already there. Board Members agreed that quotes were not required for this maintenance project on the Revere Speicher if it were to exceed \$15,000.00.

Miscellaneous Drainage business

Plan Commission- permit addition

Mr. Campbell (Plan Commission Director) and Mrs. Hicks (Plan Commission administrative assistant) joined the meeting to explain a change to their Verification of Drainage Plan permit. After review, Board Members approved the changes to the drainage plan verification form.

Building Permits

The Drainage Board agreed at the January 17, 2023 meeting to allow the county surveyor approval to allow for minor impact construction permits meeting the requirements established. The varied requests were for the following; Scott & Madison Kaselonis, 85-10-03-200-030.000-010, new home; Amos & Barbara Graber, 85-15-01-200-031.000-003, new home & porch; Dan & Debra Bordner, 85-01-35-303-024.000-012, shipping container, pergola, storage shed & deck; Brian & Deborah Keffaber, 85-10-23-200-005.000-007, pole barn w/ lean to; Jarrod Colvin & Julie Lavache, 85-15-54-200-004.000-003, pole barn; Larry & Shannon Schlotter, 85-12-30-100-029.000-003, new home; White's, 85-15-31-300-001.000-007, multiple greenhouses & pavilion; Gary Monroe, -85-07-21-100-003.000-001, 85-07-21-100-003.000-001, lean-to; Marsha Baumgartner, 85-10-28-301-006.000-007, fence; Mr. Niccum motioned to approve the building permits as presented. Mrs. Ross second. Roll call vote, motion carried 3-0.

Claims

The Board reviewed drainage invoices: Reconstruction; John Maiden #600, \$10,891.25 to Banning Engineering; Mr. Niccum motioned to accept the claims as presented. Mrs. Ross seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

There being no further business Mr. Niccum made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Ross seconded the motion. Roll call vote, motion carried 3-0.

Jeff Dawes, Chairman

Cheryl Ross, Vice-Chairman

Tyler Niccum, Member