

July 6, 2026

The Wabash County Drainage Board convened at 10:00 a.m. for a regularly scheduled meeting. Board Chairman Jeff Dawes; Board Members Cheryl Ross and Tyler Niccum were present. Others in attendance included: Deputy Surveyor Tonya Blair and County Highway Supervisor Ryan Smith. Surveyor Cheri Slee and Assistant Surveyor Braden See were absent (Indiana Surveyor’s Conference)

Drainage Board Minutes

Chairman Jeff Dawes initiated the review of the minutes from the June 15, 2026 Drainage Board meeting. Mrs. Ross moved to approve the minutes as written, and Mr. Niccum seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 Board vote.

Homer Miller Drain

Board Members were presented the Surveyor’s maintenance report and schedule of assessments for the Homer Miller Drain for review. Estimated cost of the reconstruction project is \$56,005.00. One year higher Maintenance is estimated at \$96.45 acre/ \$50.00 minimum. Annual maintenance is estimated at \$10.00 acre/ \$20.00 minimum. Notices to landowners were sent out on July, 2 and the hearing date is set for August 3, 2026. Board Members accepted the Surveyor’s Maintenance Report and schedule of assessments as presented.

Bowman Obstruction Removal

A hearing date of August 3, 2026 for the Bowman vs Army Corps Obstruction Removal was confirmed by Board Members.

Miscellaneous Drainage business

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; Denny & Beverly Elshire, 85-18-23-100-008.000-013, pole barn w porch; Zachary & Emily Freel, 85-05-24-300-012.000-012, new single family home, porches & deck; Terry & Kathie Sites, 85-07-14-300-005.000-001, pole barn; John & Melissa Conner,85-13-11-400-019.000-007, home addition; Jacob Peden; 85-07-03-400-010.000-001, pole barn; Steven & Melinda Kinsey, 85-11-27-300-003.000-003, deck; Perry & Garna Weitzel, 85-05-23-300-016.000-012, pole barn; John & Margaret Pontius, 85-01-25-100-023.000-012, 3 sheds; CoCo Jo’s RV Campground, 85-16-29-100-002.000-003, steel carport; Daniel & Amanda Zumbrun, 85-14-07-200-020.000-007, home addition; Adam & Danielle Shaw, 85-19-24-200-006.000-005, pole barn; Tyer & Jessica Shepherd, 85-02-33-100-016.000-012, pool and concrete patio; Lalon & Tamara Allen, 85-15-09-300-005.000-003, cold storage barn; Marsha Baumgartner, 85-10-28-301-006.000-007, barn; Jay & Audrey Lynn, 85-19-05-200-014.000-005, pole barn; Christine Roth, 85-03-26-100-001.000-001, concrete patio & gazebo; CFC Distributers LLC, 85-06-20-100-013.000-012, fire damage replacement/ bldg. addition; Mrs. Ross motioned to approve the building permits as presented. Mr. Dawes second. Roll call vote, motion carried 3-0.

Claims

The Board reviewed drainage invoices: Maintenance; 2026 spray program, \$55,095.26 to Dalton’s, Inc.; Revere Speicher #640B, \$25,184.73 to Earth Works; Garber Bechtold #558, \$910.45 to Troy Eads Excavating; Staver Eckman #641A, \$12,421.74, to Brainard Excavating; Kendall Owen, \$1,351.38 to KIOG Excavating; Lower Squirrel Creek #597, \$1,625.00 to James Deck. Reconstruction: Henry Keaffaber #584, \$12,000.00 &13,345.81 to Smith’s Excavating; Revere Speicher #596, \$18.88 & Leffel #596, \$52,546.87 to Crossroads Bank.

Mrs. Ross motioned to accept the claims as presented. Mr. Niccum second. Motion passed 3-0.

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

Jeff Dawes, Chairman

Cheryl Ross, Vice-Chairman

Tyler Niccum, Member