

July 7, 2025

The Wabash County Drainage Board convened at 10:00 a.m. for a regularly scheduled meeting. Board members Jeff Dawes, Cheryl Ross and Tyler Niccum were present. Others in attendance included: Cole Wyatt, Wabash County Highway and Assistant Tonya Blair. Cheri Slee, Surveyor and Braden See, Assistant Surveyor were attending the Annual Surveyor's Conference and not in attendance for the meeting.

Drainage Board Minutes

Chairman Tyler Niccum initiated the review of the minutes from the June 16, 2025 Drainage Board meeting. Mr. Dawes moved to approve the minutes as written, and Mrs. Ross seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a 3-0 Board vote.

Frank Truss Drain Reconstruction

Board Members were presented the bid tab for the said drain reconstruction and after review and discussion, Mr. Dawes motioned to accept the bid from Smith Excavating LLC in the amount of \$67,550.00 for the Frank Truss Reconstruction. Mrs. Ross second the motion. Motion passed 3-0. Board members signed the bid acceptance contract.

Heeter-Blickenstaff-Creager Open Drain

The counter offer from Shawn Davidson for clearing of trees which was tabled from the June 16, 2025 meeting was addressed. After discussion, Board Members agreed to stay with the original offer of \$5075.00, 25% of the \$20,315.00 (L.I. Excavating) estimate provided by Mr. Davidson. It was noted that since presently there are no obstructions along the ditch restricting flow there was no need for increased funding for the proposed clearing.

W.W. Jones Drain

The Board reviewed a Regulated Drain Self-Maintenance permit application from Craig Hoppes who would like to have the portion of the drain through his property removed from the maintenance spray program and has agreed to spray that entire portion of the said open drain at his expense. After review, Mrs. Ross motioned to approve the Self maintenance permit for Mr. Hoppes to spray the W.W. Jones open drain per the signed permit. Mr. Dawes second the motion. Motion passed, 3-0.

Ray Bechtold Drain & Kennedy Hamilton Drain

Revised plans were received from Nipsco reflecting a change in the pipe depth from three to five feet below the regulated drain. After review of the plans, Board Members agreed that all County requirements were met and signed the regulated drain encroachment permit allowing Nipsco to place pipe under the Ray Bechtold and Kennedy Hamilton Drains per the revised plans provided.

Leffel Drain

An encroachment permit application was submitted by Lindzy Shepherd who would like to install a driveway within the 75 -foot drain easement of the said regulated drain. The drain is located across the road from the proposed driveway. Mr. Dawes motioned to approve the driveway encroachment permit Lindzy Shepherd on the Leffel Drain. Mrs. Ross second. Motion passed 3-0.

Revere Speicher

Board Members were presented maps showing the deteriorated condition of the side ditch located on the Jim Brewer property on 390 E. The drain was reconstructed in 2021. Mr. Wyatt explained that he has not been out to inspect the site but the issue is most likely due to the culvert needing to be upsized or water runoff from the road. Mr. Niccum suggested that the County wait until fall and remove two inches of soil then fill with top soil and seed. Board Members agreed to Mr. Niccum's suggestion.

Drainage Board Business

GDI – fund transfers

The following fund transfer claims from the Auditor's Office for repayment of loans to/from GDI and drain maintenance funds were presented to Board Members to review;

Funds transfer/loan from #1158 General Drain Improvement -	\$8,652.66, Reconstruction fund
	\$14,550.94, Maintenance fund
Funds transfer/loan to #1158 General Drain Improvement-	\$21,455.35 Maintenance fund

2026 Drainage Board Budget

Board Members reviewed the proposed 2026 Drainage Board budget. After discussion and no changes, Mr. Dawes motioned to approve the 2026 Drainage Board Budget as presented. Mrs. Ross second. Motion passed, 3-0.

(Building Permits)

Building permits meeting the requirements established by the County Drainage Board at the January 17, 2023 meeting to allow the County Surveyor’s approval for minor impact construction were presented to the Board for their acknowledgement. The varied requests were for the following; David & Fatima Hofer, 85-02-28-100-005.000-012, patio; James Thomson, 85-08-05-100-001.000-001, above ground pool; Kevin & Brenda Prosser, 85-19-04-300-034.000-005, barn; Anthohy & Kathryn Lisinicchia, 85-15-12-300-004.000-003, above ground pool; Kenneth & Chasity Combs, 85-06-10-104-031.000-012, Gazebo & fence; 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: D.C, Lavengood #594, \$ 1080.37 to Troy Eads Excavating; Charles Schoby #630, \$4,500.00 to Earthworks; Heeter-Blickenstaff-Heeter #571, \$615.00 & Mary Wertenberger #666, \$1,600.00 & Chinworth-Hoover-Heagy, \$1,200.00 & \$1,125.00 to Hunter Excavating. Reconstruction: Revere Speicher #640B, \$15,994.09 & Heeter-Blickenstaff-Creager #571, \$4,8030.00 Loan payment to Crossroads Bank. Mrs. Ross motioned to approve payment of the invoices as submitted. Mr. Dawes seconded the motion which passed 3-0.

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

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Tyler Niccum, Chairman	Jeff Dawes, Vice-Chairman	Cheryl Ross, Member