

December 15, 2025

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

Drainage Board Minutes

Chairman Tyler Niccum initiated the review of the minutes from the December 1, 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.

Henry Keaffaber Reconstruction

Mrs. Slee updated the Board on the above said drain. There was an issue while working through the road (Co Rd 100 E), it was thought that the tile ran straight through the road but it made a 90 degree turn and then angled so the south under the road with private laterals connected. Pictures of the original tile and the tile installed new tile were presented for Board Members to review. She thought that years ago the 90 degree turn was made because of a section corner. The new tile was installed straight across the road with private lateral connections being made on the east side. A portion of the old tile is still under the road and the contractor did try to plug it but did not dig it completely out. Mr. Niccum stated that leaving the old tile might create voids and sink holes in the future and we might want to consider having it removed at some point. Mrs. Slee stated there is good documentation on the location of the old tile so if there are any issues, we will know it is caused by the old tile. The County was to fund the pipe under the road but there are additional expenses because of the extra connections and pipe and it was questioned where the funding would come from since this is for private laterals. Rex Grossman had questioned the riser located on the branch coming through his property and said he would like to keep it if possible. Taylor Smith (contractor) took the riser out and did not think the riser would be beneficial due to the grading to the manhole. He would re-install it however if we requested. Mr. See said that Mr. Grossman was adamant that the riser needed to stay. Board Members agreed to have the riser put back in or near the original location. Once we get the final billing, funding for the additional expenses through the road can be decided at that time.

The Surveyor presented Smith's invoice for the tree clearing which included the area to be root raked and ready to farm. She stated that once all the invoices are received, final cost of reconstruction calculated with change orders will be determined at that time if there is funding available for the tree clearing. Discussion was held and no decision was made regarding the repairs on 100 E and tree clearing.

Washington Ridgeway Drain

Mrs. Slee stated that she received a request from Darianna Bryant (85-18-13-100-021.000-013) who is building a new home and would like to tap the perimeter drain for the septic into the regulated county drain. After discussion, Mrs. Ross motioned to give Darianna Bryant permission to outlet her perimeter drain for the septic drain into the Washington Ridgeway County Regulated Drain. Mr. Dawes second. Motion passed 3-0. Board Members signed the drain encroachment permit.

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: Joseph Haecker, 85-05-35-300-038.000-010, barn; Peter & Marie Sink, 85-02-28-200-004.000-012, mini barn; Darianna Bryant, 85-18-13-100-021.000.013, new home (referenced above); Mr. Dawes motioned to approve the building permits as presented. Mrs. Ross second. Roll call vote, motion carried 3-0.

(Claims)

Leffel Drian reconstruction bank loan payment was presented for Board Members to review and Mr. Niccum signed the claim in the amount of \$27,546.87.

The Board reviewed drainage invoices: Reconstruction: Henry Keaffaber #584, \$3877.50 to Banning Engineering; Henry Keaffaber, \$151,252.52 to Smith's Contracting; Staver Eckman, \$11,255.24, retainage due to Ingram Excavating.

There being no further business Mrs. Ross made a motion to adjourn. 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