

Wells County Drainage Board Minutes
Monday - June 3 2024 4:30 P.M.

The Wells County Drainage Board met in a regular scheduled meeting at the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223W. Washington St., Multi-Purpose Room 105, (Lower Level) Bluffton, Indiana.

Drainage Board members present: Voting members Blake Gerber, Jeff Stringer; Attorney Ted Storer; Engineer Nate Whitacre; Surveyor Jarrod Hahn; Secretary Diana Collins. Michael K. Vanover was absent.

Determination of Quorum:

A quorum was present for the meeting.

Minutes:

Mr. Gerber opened the Drainage Board meeting with the first item to approve the Board's regular meeting minutes on May 20, 2024.

Mr. Stringer motioned to approve the Drainage Board regular meeting minutes on May 20, 2024. Mr. Gerber 2nd, motion carried 2-0.

Projects and Updates:

Johnson Prong 2 tile drain- Harrison Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that he staked out the Johnson Prong 2 replacement tile project in Harrison Township, section 7, range 12E is south of 100S and east of Meridian Road. Hahn noted he is ready for the contractor Brickley Excavating to begin in the next couple of weeks.

J.A. Miller Tile Drain:

Mr. Hahn mentioned at the last meeting he had bought 27 sticks of 24-inch tile from Fratco Tile Company and has decided to put it on J.A. Miller tile continuance project in Harrison Township, section 11, range 12E. Hahn mentioned this portion replacement of the Miller tile is through a waterway that has had several repairs each year. Hahn noted 375 feet at the lower end of the Miller tile was replaced in 2010, and in 2017 700 feet was replaced upstream of a woods. Hahn mentioned replacing this portion of tile is on one property owner and is in the 6-Mile watershed that has a positive fund balance.

2024 Spray Program-South:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that notices went out last week anticipating the contractor Chad Baker of Right-a-Way Management to begin spraying within the next couple of weeks. Hahn noted approximately 200 miles of drain will be sprayed in the southern half of the county, with the dividing line primarily along the old Wabash Central railway that runs east to west across the county.

Welcome County Engineer Nate Whitacre, P.E.:

Mr. Hahn welcomed County Engineer Nate Whitacre, P.E., and noted that as the commissioners hired Mr. Whitacre for the county's engineer, the Drainage Board typically will appoint Mr. Nate Whitacre, P.E., as the drainage consultant on projects and general questions.


Mr. Stringer motioned to appoint Mr. Nate Whitacre, P.E., as the Drainage Board's engineer on drainage projects and general questions. Mr. Gerber 2nd, motion carried 2-0.


Wells County Attorney Ted Storer wanted Mr. Nate Whitacre, P.E., to be aware of the interim position if he wants to further his education, as Mr. Whitacre will represent the Drainage Board on drainage projects and general questions. Mr. Storer also mentioned that there is nothing that would prohibit us from retaining Cory McKinney P.S. if needed. Hahn noted that he would like to keep Cory McKinney, P.S. a land surveyor to stay on just in case a land property that surrounds a ditch project would require a survey for clarification. Hahn mentioned that Mr. McKinney is not getting paid unless his services are needed. The Drainage Board members agreed with Hahn to keep Cory McKinney P.E. on as needed basis.

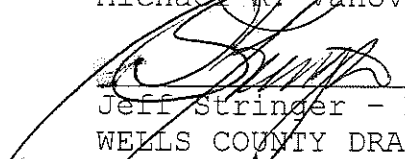
Adjournment:

Mr. Stringer motioned to adjourn the Drainage Board regular meeting at 4:44 pm. Mr. Gerber 2nd, motion carried 2-0.

Next regular scheduled Drainage Board meeting is Monday-June 17, 2024 at 4:30 p.m.


Blake Gerber Chairman


Michael K. Vanover Vice Chairman


Jeff Stringer - Member
WELLS COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

ATTEST: 
Diana L. Collins
WELLS DRAINAGE BOARD SECRETARY