

Wells County Drainage Board Minutes  
Tuesday - September 5, 2023 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, Michael K. Vanover, Jeff Stringer; Attorney Ted Storer, Engineer Nate Rumschlag, Surveyor Jarrod Hahn, Secretary Diana Collins.

Determination of Quorum:

A quorum was present for the meeting.

Minutes:

Mr. Gerber opened the Drainage Board meeting with the first item on the agenda to approve the Board's regular meeting minutes on August 7, 2023.

Mr. Stringer motioned to approve the Drainage Board regular meeting minutes on August 7, 2023 as submitted. Mr. Vanover 2<sup>nd</sup>. Concurred by Mr. Gerber motion carried 3-0.

Project Update:

Kloppenstine Tile Drain Continued Group Project-Harrison Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that the contractor has completed replacing the Kloppenstine tile in Harrison Township, section 36, range 12E east of 500E north of 550S. Hahn noted the contractor replaced 2,700 feet of 18-inch and 300 feet of 15-inch.

Drainage Board Meeting Cancelled-September 18<sup>th</sup>:

Mr. Hahn reminded the Board members that the September 18<sup>th</sup> meeting has been canceled due to Street Fair, with the next regular Drainage Board meeting will be on October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Contract Between Drainage Board and the Beers, Mallers Backs & Salin, LLP for Legal Services:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that he and Attorney Ted Storer had discussed that there should be a contract between the Drainage Board and the Beers, Mallers Backs & Salin, LLP attorneys-at-law firm providing legal services and fees. Hahn is asking the Drainage Board to give him permission to sign the contract on behalf of the Drainage Board.

Mr. Stringer motioned to approve the contract for Mr. Hahn to sign on behalf of the Drainage Board. Mr. Vanover 2<sup>nd</sup>. Concurred by Mr. Gerber motion carried 3-0.

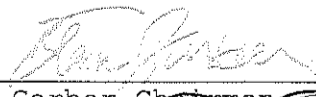
Wabash River-Trees Down:

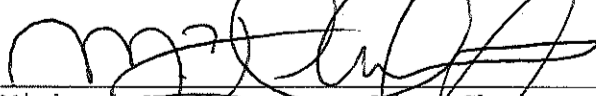
Mr. Gerber mentioned he was contacted by a landowner about 2 large trees down in the Wabash River near Vera Cruz. Hahn noted that he will take a look at it but mentioned of the past trees down along the Riverbank was hard getting equipment in without taking down trees and the landowners do not want that. Hahn noted that the last trees taken out along that area were done by a truck with a winch which was a difficult and a long process but saved a lot of trees from being cut down. The question was raised about any grants available and the possibility of an insurance claim. Hahn noted that the grants he is aware of are for large logjams, and the insurance claim would most likely be denied.

Adjournment:


Mr. Stringer motioned to adjourn the Drainage Board regular meeting at 4:40 pm. Mr. Vanover 2<sup>nd</sup>. Concurred by Mr. Gerber motion carried 3-0.

Next regular scheduled Drainage Board meeting is Monday-October 2, 2023 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