

Wells County Drainage Board Minutes  
Monday - April 21, 2025 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 was absent, Jeff Stringer; Attorney Ted Storer; Engineer Nate Whitacre; Surveyor Jarrod Hahn; Secretary Diana Collins.

Determination of Quorum:

A quorum was present for the meeting.

Minutes:

Mr. Gerber mentioned the first item to approve the Board's regular meeting minutes on April 7, 2025.

Mr. Stringer motioned to approve the Drainage Board regular meeting minutes on April 7, 2025. Mr. Gerber 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried 2-0.

Old Business

Nannie Fox Tile Drain Union Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned contractor Landis Drainage and Sons Corp are finishing putting in a private tile nearby, then will move to start replacing the Nannie Fox tile in Union Township, section 22, range 11E north of 800N between 200W and 300W.

2025 Legislature Bills:

Mr. Hahn updated on the 3 House bills as follows.

HB 1037 Storm Water Management. Hahn noted that this bill has passed out of the House and Senate committees, now on the Governor's desk for his signature.

HB 1126-Watershed Development Hahn noted that this bill has passed out of the House and Senate committees, on to the Governor's desk, which Hahn just received word the Governor has signed the bill.

HB 1460 Drainage System Hahn noted the House has approved the Senate amendments and added a few words, and the Senate approves those added words as well, now on the Governor's desk for his signature.

New Business

Quotes for On-Call Emergency Drain Repair and Maintenance Contracts:

Mr. Hahn mentioned he received 10 contractors signed contracts for the On-Call Emergency Drain Repair and Maintenance out of 22 total that were either e-mailed or mailed out. Hahn noted that all contractors have worked for us before and trust them for hire. The Board members reviewed the contractor's list of costs on equipment and labor on all contracts received.

Hahn mentioned the average cost range between contractors on the skid loader is from \$65.00 to \$130.00, the average cost for a mini excavator is \$85.00 to \$160.00, and the larger excavator range is from \$85.00 to \$255.00. Mr. Stringer commented on a contractor's cost list being much higher than the rest and suggested avoiding the highest cost contractor. Hahn mentioned that when sending out reports out for repairs we do send to those who are most cost effective, along with equipment capability, availability, the closest, and fastest to make the repair. Hahn recommended approving all the quotes submitted for On-Call Emergency Drain Repair and Maintenance contracts.

Mr. Stringer motioned to approve all quotes submitted for On-Call Emergency Drain Repair and Maintenance contracts as recommended. Mr. Gerber 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried 2-0.

Hahn questions if a contractor comes in the office asking to be put on the contractors listing for maintenance repairs, how do you want me to handle this? Mr. Stringer suggested having them fill out the On-Call Drain Repair and Maintenance contract then submitting it to the Drainage Board at the following meeting for review and approval. Mr. Gerber also agreed with Mr. Stringer.

Hahn also asked the Board what they would like for him to do when a landowner/farmer/tenant who will make their own tile repairs or pull out a log out of the ditch, and maybe hire their contractor then they will turn in a bill for reimbursement, do we write up a separate contract for that. Attorney Ted Storer replied for Hahn to write up some language that he would want to have in a standard policy to bring to the Drainage Board at the next meeting.


Adjournment:

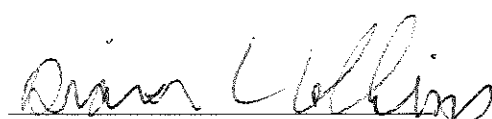
Mr. Stringer motioned to adjourn the Drainage Board regular meeting at 4:55 p.m. Mr. Gerber 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried 2-0.

Next regular scheduled Drainage Board meeting will be on Monday-May 5, 2025 at 4:30 p.m.

  
Blake Gerber Chairman

  
Michael K. Vanover - Vice Chairman

  
Jeff Stringer - Member  
WELLS COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

ATTEST:   
Diana L. Collins