

Wells County Drainage Board Minutes
Monday - March 16, 2026 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; Surveyor Jarrod Hahn; Secretary Diana Collins. Jeff Stringer participated in the meeting by electronic means of communication, Zoom, which allowed Mr. Stringer to simultaneously attend and observe the meeting. Mr. Stringer was on zoom and all votes taken during this meeting were taken by roll call vote.

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 March 2, 2026.

Mr. Vanover motioned to approve the Drainage Board regular meeting minutes on March 2, 2026. Mr. Stringer 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried by roll call vote 3-0.

Old Business:

Carl Helms Prong 1-Lancaster Township:

Hahn mentioned that he has not received any updates from Habig Construction on the replacement of the Carl Helms Prong 1 in Lancaster Township, section 33, Range 12E.

Carnes Open Drain-Chester Township:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that contractor Enyart has completed dipping the Carnes open drain in Chester Township, section 5 and 8, range 11E and will level the spoil soon.

Craven Tile Drain-Harrison Township-NIPSCO Utility Permit:

Mr. Hahn mentioned that he received an updated "Consent for Utility for Construction Project in Drainage Easement" form NIPSCO on the Craven tile drain Harrison Township, section 16, range 12E. Hahn noted on the 1st page, section D. the language was agreed upon by our Attorney Ted Storer and NIPSCO's Attorney. Hahn recommends approving NIPSCO Utility to be in the Craven tile drainage easement.

Mr. Vanover motioned to approve NIPSCO Utility a drainage easement on the Craven tile drain Harrison Township, section 16, range 12E. as recommended. Mr. Gerber 2nd, motion carried by roll call vote 3-0.

Jacob Johnson Joint Drain-Jurisdiction Allen County

Union and Jefferson Townships:

Mr. Hahn mentioned the Jacob Johnson joint drain in Union Township, Sections 1 and 2, Range 11E, and Jefferson Township, Section 6, Range 12E with Allen County is set for April 16th at 9:00 a.m. to increase the maintenance assessment. Hahn noted the hearing is in Allen County at the Citizens Square.

New Business:

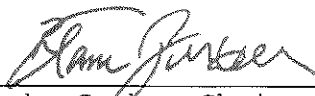
Additional Quotes for On-Call and Emergency Drain Repair Maintenance Contracts:

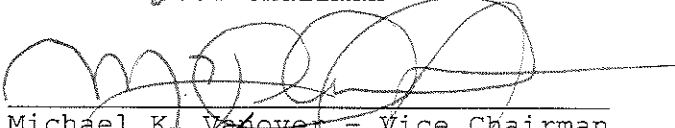
Mr. Hahn mentioned he received 2 more contractors signed contracts for the On-Call Emergency Drain Repair and Maintenance. Hahn mentioned that these two contractors are Phenix Farms, Inc and Beck Excavating, which have not worked for us but is willing to give them a chance. The Board members reviewed the 2 contractor's list of costs on equipment and labor. Hahn recommends approving both contractors.

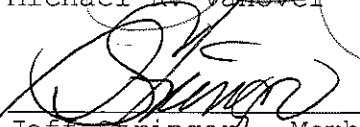
Mr. Vanover motioned to approve the additional 2 quotes submitted from Phenix Farms, Inc and Beck Excavating for On-Call Emergency and Maintenance Drain Repair as recommended. Mr. Stringer 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried by roll call vote 3-0.

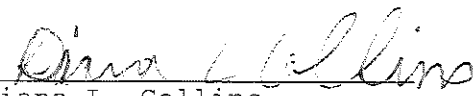
Mr. Vanover motioned to adjourn the Drainage Board regular meeting at 4:46 p.m. Mr. Stringer 2nd. Concurred by Mr. Gerber, motion carried by roll call vote 3-0.

*Next regular scheduled Drainage Board meeting will be on Monday-April 6, 2026 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