

WHITLEY COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD – MINUTES REGULAR MEETING – FEBRUARY 18, 2025, 9:00AM
Whitley County Government Center - County Commissioner/County Council Meeting Room – 1st Floor

Pursuant to law, the Whitley County Drainage Board met with those members present as follows:

Chairman Seth Schrader, Vice Chairman Dave Johnson, Member Michael Schrader, Member Brad Cormany, Commissioner Rob Schuman

Staff present: County Engineer Brad Allen, County Surveyor Dane Drew, Drainage Supervisor Max Utterback, Drainage Board Attorney Matt Shipman, Drainage Board Secretary Jennifer Stephenson

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Seth Schrader called the meeting to order at 9:00AM.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC ATTENDANCE: There were two (2) visitors in attendance at the February 18, 2025, Whitley County Drainage Board meeting. A guest list is included with the minutes of this meeting.

WELCOME NEW DRAINAGE BOARD MEMBER BRAD CORMANY: S. Schrader welcomed new Drainage Board member, Brad Cormany.

IN THE MATTER OF THE 2025 JOINT BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

Allen/Whitley County Joint Drains: Seth Schrader & Brad Cormany
Huntington/Whitley County Joint Drains: David Johnson & Rob Schuman
Kosciusko County Representative: David Johnson & Michael Schrader
Noble/Whitley County Joint Drains: Michael Schrader & Brad Cormany
Wabash/Whitley County Joint Drains: Seth Schrader & Rob Schuman

IN THE MATTER OF CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE JANUARY 21, 2025, WHITLEY COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD MINUTES:

A motion was made by M. Schrader to approve and adopt the January 21, 2025, Whitley County Drainage Board Minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Johnson. Motion passed 5-0.

IN THE MATTER OF LET/BID JOBS:

149-000AB EMERICK S AB – Bids were recently accepted to replace 1800' of 48" on the south side of Anderson Road. M. Schrader motioned to award the labor to Tri County Excavating for \$29,950. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Johnson motioned to award the pipe to FRATCO for \$75,382.31. Schuman seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0. Schuman motioned to award the backfill to Bailey Trucking for pea gravel at \$19.50/ton with the condition that if Bailey Trucking cannot fulfil the amount needed then the next lowest bidder would be contacted, which would be Spaw Services, LLC. M. Schrader seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

IN THE MATTER OF OTHER BUSINESS:

There was no other business to discuss at this time.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ENGINEER REPORT:

400-000A LEE J - Allen reported that the LEE J drain has historically been handled as a joint drain, however the Huntington County Surveyor contacted staff stating that they did not have any record of this being a joint drain. Allen researched the drain and did find that in 1970 a letter was written by Huntington County waiving their rights to a joint drain meeting. It could be interpreted that since they waived their rights, they were choosing not to approve the LEE J to be a joint drain. With the Boards general consensus, this drain will be removed from the joint drain list with Huntington County.

IN THE MATTER OF THE FIELD WORK REPORT:

279-000B HIVELY D - Utterback reported that Steve Linvill has filed a repair application stating that the HIVELY D drain is in need of replacement. The estimated cost will be \$51,000 to replace the first section consisting of 1350 feet of 30" beginning at the bottom end. The current balance on hand is \$29,129.47 and collects \$5,709.22. The first phase could

begin in roughly one (1) year if the increase is approved. Johnson motioned to approve moving forward with holding a Public Hearing to increase the assessment rate to \$40 per acre / \$200 minimum, collecting \$32,246.84. Cormany seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

278-000A HINEN P – Utterback provided information on the HINEN P open drain which has enough funds on hand for a dipping project consisting of 4500 feet. The estimated cost of the project will be \$8,000 and the current balance on hand is \$29,129. Bids will be sent in the next few weeks for this project.

Utterback noted that he is working on researching information and will be surveying tiles once the weather cooperates for upcoming bids that will be sent out within the next few months. Those tile projects include the GLICK E 215-000B, HOWENSTINE W 289-000B, GOBLE E #15 216-015B and KOONTZ C #18 372-018B.


ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman S. Schrader adjourned the meeting at 9:20am.

Submitted by: Jennifer Stephenson, Drainage Board Secretary

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE LIST - WHITLEY COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD, FEBRUARY 18, 2025:

1. Jon Gotz, SWCD
2. Spencer Teague, Instate Excavating

Members signing do hereby concur that the foregoing is a true copy of the proceedings of the Whitley County Drainage Board meeting held on February 18, 2025:




SETH SCHRADER, Chairman


DAVID JOHNSON, Vice Chairman



MICHAEL SCHRADER



BRAD CORMANY



ROB SCHUMAN, Commissioner Member



ATTEST: BRAD ALLEN, Whitley County Engineer