

Montgomery County
Drainage Board Meeting
January 8, 2025

The Montgomery County Drainage Board met on Wednesday, January 8th, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at the Montgomery County Government Center at 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, Indiana.

Chairman Dave Rhoads called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members in attendance were, Dave Rhoads Chairman, Doug Mills, Jake Bohlander, and Secretary Matt Mitchell. Present were Surveyor Tom Cummins and Attorney Dan Taylor.

Also present were Breanne Deaver, Preston Evans, Jake Peterson, and Tom Klein.

Reorganization & Election of Officers

Jake Bohlander nominated Dave Rhoads to serve as Chairman, seconded by Doug Mills. Motion carried 3-0.

Matt Mitchell nominated Doug Mills to serve as Vice Chairman, seconded by Jake Bohlander. Motion carried 3-0.

Matt Mitchell nominated Lance Sennett to serve as Secretary, seconded by Doug Mills. Motion carried 4-0.

Chairman Rhoads welcomed the new County Commissioner, Jake Bohlander to the Board.

Attorney Contract

Dave Rhoads moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to accept the contract from Dan Taylor, of Taylor, Minnette, Schneider & Clutter, P.C., to serve as the Drainage Board attorney, in 2025. Motion carried 4-0.

Approval of Minutes

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to approve the December 11th, 2024 Drainage Board minutes. Motion carried, 4-0.

Petitions

Tom Cummins – reported receiving a petition for variance from Vault Alliance CCS, LP, for the William Hawker #522 drain to install a new sub-surface carbon dioxide pipeline, as part of a carbon capture project located north of Linden. Surveyor reported that the same project will encroach the easements on three (3) different regulated drains, and petitions have been received for all encroachments. Petitioner(s) have also requested variance for the Arthur Fraley 2 #709 and the Shumaker-White #713. Chairman Rhoads inquired if all the petitions could be approved in one motion, as they are all part of the same project. Attorney confirmed. Surveyor recommended approving the requests.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to approve the petitions for variance, from Vault Alliance CCS, LP, for the William Hawker #522, Arthur Fraley 2 #709, and Shumaker-White #713. Motion carried 4-0.

New Business

Tom Cummins requested the Board schedule assessment hearings for the Samuel Humphrey #526, Fred White #609, and James Servies #703. These drains are currently carrying significant deficits in the Improvement fund. Mr. Cummins recommends setting the assessment hearings for the February meeting.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Dave Rhoads, to schedule assessment hearings for the Samuel Humphrey #526, Fred White #609, and James Servies #703 drains at the February 12, 2025 meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

Other Business

Attorney Dan Taylor presented the Board members a handout for training and reviewed it with the Board.

Dave Rhoads inquired about the joint board on the John McLaughlin #097. Former Board member John Frey sat on the joint board, with Tippecanoe and Clinton Counties, and will need to be replaced. Attorney recommends putting this item on the agenda for the February meeting.

Public Comment

County Administrator Tom Klein reminded the Board that starting in July, Board meetings are required to be live streamed, online.

Tom Cummins introduced Breanne Deaver, the new Drainage Tech in the Surveyor's office.

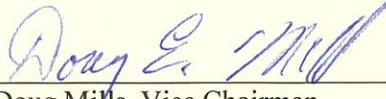
Dave Rhoads – reported the next Drainage Board meeting will be on February 12th, 2025.

Jake Bohlander moved, seconded by Doug Mills, to adjourn the meeting at 10:22 a.m. Motion carried, 4-0.

Tom Cummins,
Surveyor



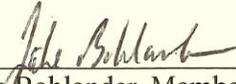
Dave Rhoads, Chairman



Doug Mills, Vice Chairman

Lance Sennett, Secretary

Matt Mitchell, Member



Jake Bohlander, Member

Montgomery County
Drainage Board Meeting
February 12, 2025

The Montgomery County Drainage Board met on Wednesday, February 12th, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at the Montgomery County Government Center at 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, Indiana.

Chairman Dave Rhoads called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members in attendance were, Dave Rhoads Chairman, Doug Mills, Jake Bohlander, and Secretary Lance Sennett. Present were Surveyor Tom Cummins and Attorney Dan Taylor.

Also present were Breanne Deaver, Brian Smith, Marc Bonwell, and Meredith Manges.

Approval of Minutes

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to approve the January 8th, 2025 Drainage Board minutes. Motion carried, 4-0.

Hearings

Samuel Humphrey #526 Assessment Hearing

Tom Cummins – gave a report describing the drain and current fund balances. The drain is currently assessed \$4.75 per acre with a \$5.00 minimum assessment. The watershed consists of 291.35 affected acres, which collects \$1,397.78 annually. The proposed assessment is \$8.05 per acre with a \$5.00 minimum assessment. The proposed watershed consists of 302.53 affected acres, which will collect \$2,448.28 annually. The watershed was recently revised during reconstruction design. Currently, the drain is carrying a deficit in the General Drain Improvement Fund of -\$17,207.05. Based on the current assessment, the drain would be in debt for more than twelve years. The proposed assessment reduces that payoff period to seven years. Board policy limits indebtedness for regulated drains and requires assessment increase hearings to ensure that no one drain is unnecessarily burdening the Improvement Fund. Based on that policy and the fact that the Samuel Humphrey #526 is scheduled for reconstruction in 2025, the recommendation is to approve the proposed schedule of maintenance assessments and watershed, as submitted.

Dave Rhoads inquired if there were any landowners present that wished to speak.

Brian Smith, landowner, inquired about the upcoming reconstruction, but said that he has no objection to the proposed assessment. Tom Cummins advised that information would be sent out once the hearing is set, and Mr. Smith should call the office and set up an appointment to discuss at that time.

Dave Rhoads inquired about the debt in the Improvement Fund, if the Board has the right to increase a drains assessment without a hearing. Tom Cummins explained that the Drainage Code allows for a one-time increase of no more than 25%, without a hearing.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to increase the assessment rate to the proposed \$8.05 per acre with a \$5.00 minimum, with a watershed of 302.53 affected acres, for the Samuel Humphrey #526. Motion carried 3-0, with Lance Sennett abstaining.

Fred White #609 Assessment Hearing

Tom Cummins – gave a report describing the drain and current fund balances. The drain is currently assessed \$5.98 per acre with a \$5.00 minimum assessment. The watershed consists of 683.95 affected acres, which collects \$4,177.63 annually. The proposed assessment is \$11.96 per acre with a \$5.00 minimum assessment, which will collect \$8,228.85 annually. Currently, the drain is carrying a deficit in the General Drain Improvement Fund of -\$22,264.09. There is ongoing maintenance with a significant project scheduled for 2025. Based on the current assessment, the drain would be in debt for more than six years. The proposed assessment reduces that payoff period to three years. Board policy limits indebtedness for regulated drains and requires assessment increase hearings to ensure that no one drain is unnecessarily burdening the Improvement Fund. Based on that policy and the fact that the Fred White #609 requires further maintenance, the recommendation is to approve the proposed schedule of maintenance assessments, for 2025, 2026, and 2027, as submitted. The proposal is to lower the rate in 2028.

Dave Rhoads inquired if there were any landowners present that wished to speak. No landowners present.

Doug Mills inquired if this drain is one that was taken off assessment in the 1960's? Tom Cummins confirmed.

Lance Sennett moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to increase the assessment rate to the proposed \$11.96 per acre with a \$5.00 minimum, with a watershed of 683.95 affected acres, for 2025, 2026, and 2027, for the Fred White #609. Motion carried 4-0.

James Servies #703 Assessment Hearing

Tom Cummins – gave a report describing the drain and current fund balances. The drain is currently assessed \$5.00 per acre with a \$5.00 minimum assessment. The watershed consists of 1,023.43 affected acres, which collects \$5,145.40 annually. The proposed assessment is \$10.00 per acre with a \$5.00 minimum assessment, which will collect \$10,251.60 annually. Currently, the drain is carrying a deficit in the General Drain Improvement Fund of -\$41,006.19. There is ongoing maintenance with a significant project scheduled for 2025. Based on the current assessment, the drain would be in debt for more than eight years. The proposed assessment reduces that payoff period to four and a half years. Board policy limits indebtedness for regulated drains and requires assessment increase hearings to ensure that no one drain is unnecessarily burdening the Improvement Fund. Based on that policy and the fact that the James Servies #703 requires further maintenance, the recommendation is to approve the proposed schedule of maintenance assessments, for 2025, 2026, 2027, and 2028, as submitted. The proposal is to lower the rate to \$5.59 per acre with a \$5.00 minimum in 2029.

Dave Rhoads inquired if there were any landowners present that wished to speak.

Marc Bonwell, landowner, stated that his family owns most of the watershed acres; doesn't have issue with the assessment on the drain, but the timeframe of repayment. Mr. Bonwell gave history on the drain, and stated that it always has water in it, because of the outlet. Asked if the rate would be lowered after repayment.

Tom Cummins reported on the maintenance that has been completed and described the work that is scheduled in the coming months. Mr. Cummins agrees that the outlet is an issue, and we should be looking at options for extending the regulated drain further downstream.

Dave Rhoads inquired where the regulated drain ends, and the private ditch starts. Tom Cummins showed on the map and showed the large private drain watershed that outlets at the same point as the regulated drain.

Doug Mills stated that maybe we should investigate the possibility of addressing the large watershed that includes multiple private drains. A landowner information meeting might be appropriate. Mr. Cummins clarified that the Board does not have the authority to assume jurisdiction of a private drain, without a landowner request.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Lance Sennett, to increase the assessment rate to the proposed \$10.00 per acre with a \$5.00 minimum, with a watershed of 1,023.43 affected acres, for 2025, 2026, 2027, and 2028, and lowered to \$5.59 per acre with a \$5.00 minimum in 2029, for the James Servies #703. Motion carried 4-0.

Petitions

Tom Cummins – reported receiving a petition to vacate the Thomas Clark #619. The Drainage Code requires that the Board set a hearing on the petition to vacate at their next meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, March 12, 2025.

Dave Rhoads moved, seconded by Lance Sennett, to set a hearing on the petition to vacate the Thomas Clark #619 on Wednesday, March 12, 2025. Motion passed 4-0

Tom Cummins – reported receiving a petition to attach to the Claude Moody #583 from Mr. Jeff Messer, 5597 E. US 136. This request is for a perimeter tile for a new septic system. Mr. Cummins showed on the map where the proposed outlet will attach to the regulated drain.

Lance Sennett moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to approve the attachment to the Claude Moody #583. Motion passed 4-0.

Old Business

Tom Cummins – reported that the Board discussed the John McLaughlin #097 joint board at their last meeting and asked that this item be added to today's agenda. John Frey sat on the joint board, and as he no longer serves on the Board, we should appoint another member to take his place, should the need arise for a joint board meeting.

Dave Rhoads moved, seconded by Doug Mills, to appoint Jake Bohlander to serve on the joint board for the John McLaughlin #097. Motion carried 3-0.

New Business

Tom Cummins – submitted the OFF list for 2025, reported that 94 drains will not be assessed in 2025. Clarified that four drains will be kept on assessment, even though they have reached their four year cap, based on work that is scheduled; Rankin Walkup #579, Moses Maxwell #603, Charles Warren #605, and Servies-Carter#647.

Doug Mills inquired how many drains will be assessed in 2025, about half? Mr. Cummins reported 91 will be assessed.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to approve the 2025 OFF List as submitted. Motion passed 4-0.

Tom Cummins – submitted a report detailing a proposed assessment rate reduction. Recommends reducing the Phillip Dewey #584 maintenance assessment from \$15.63 per acre to \$5.39 per acre with a \$5.00 minimum.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Dave Rhoads, to reduce the maintenance assessment from \$15.63 per acre to \$5.39 per acre with a \$5.00 minimum, on the Phillip Dewey #584. Motion passed 4-0.

Dave Rhoads – reported that we haven't given a Drainage Board report to the County Council in a few years, and with new Council members, it might be a good idea to prepare a presentation. Mr. Cummins advised that this summer would be a good time to give the Council an updated report. Attorney Dan Taylor agreed. Mr. Cummins will make sure that we are on the Council's June meeting agenda.

Dave Rhoads – reported the next Drainage Board meeting will be on March 12th, 2025.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to adjourn the meeting at 10:51 a.m. Motion carried, 4-0.

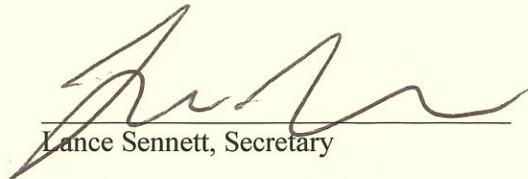
Tom Cummins,

Surveyor

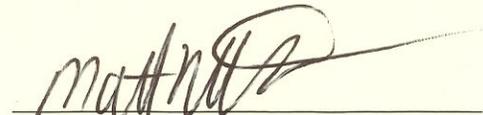


Dave Rhoads, Chairman

Doug Mills, Vice Chairman



Lance Sennett, Secretary



Matt Mitchell, Member



Jake Bohlander, Member

Montgomery County
Drainage Board Meeting

March 12, 2025

The Montgomery County Drainage Board met on Wednesday, March 12th, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at the Montgomery County Government Center at 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, Indiana.

Chairman Dave Rhoads called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members in attendance were, Dave Rhoads Chairman, Jake Bohlander, and Secretary Lance Sennett. Present were Surveyor Tom Cummins and Attorney Dan Taylor.

Also present were Breanne Deaver and Heather Laffoon.

Approval of Minutes

Lance Sennett moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to approve the February 12th, 2025 Drainage Board minutes. Motion carried, 4-0.

Hearings

Thomas Clark #619 Vacate Hearing

Tom Cummins – gave a report describing the drain and the request to vacate. The drain is currently assessed \$2.50 per acre with a \$5.00 minimum assessment. The watershed consists of 164.33 affected acres, which collects \$419.70 annually. Mr. Cummins explained how the Drainage Code defines a drain that needs to be vacated. Based on these criteria, Mr. Cummins recommends vacating the **Thomas Clark #619**.

Dave Rhoads inquired if there were any landowners present that wished to speak. No landowners were present.

Dave Rhoads moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to vacate the Thomas Clark #619. Motion carried 4-0.

Petitions

Tom Cummins – reported receiving a petition to attach to the **John Galey #518** from Mr. Marcus Smith, CR 150 S. This request is for a perimeter tile for a new septic system. Mr. Cummins requested that the request be tabled, until the next Board meeting. Mr. Cummins is still waiting for a site plan for the request, and the regulated drain is currently obstructed in the area. Mr. Cummins will investigate and repair. Petition request tabled to the April meeting.

Old Business

Tom Cummins – reported a revision to the **James Servies #703** schedule of assessments, approved at the February meeting. The revision consists of an error of 0.12 affected acres. The revision is necessary due to a change in the watershed boundary.

Lance Sennett moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to approve the technical error in the previous schedule of assessments for the James Servies #703. Motion carried 4-0.

Tom Cummins – submitted a preliminary reconstruction report for the Samuel Humphrey #526. The report describes the drain, history, and Drainage Code cites regarding a drain in need of reconstruction. Based on these criteria, Mr. Cummins recommends scheduling a reconstruction hearing. Mr. Cummins presented a reconstruction estimate based on engineer's design.

Dave Rhoads inquired if the drain is located near Elmdale, and Mr. Cummins confirmed.

Mr. Cummins explained that the proposed plan includes extending the new drain further upstream which will include discussions with the landowner on north side of Old SR 55. Mr. Cummins will attempt to begin discussions with landowner.

Tom Cummins explained that the April meeting will need to be moved to satisfy the mail notice requirements for the reconstruction hearing. Mr. Cummins recommends moving the April meeting, scheduled for April 9th, 2025, to April 16th, 2025.

Dave Rhoads moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to move the April 9th, 2025 meeting to April 16th, 2025. Motion carried 4-0.

Dave Rhoads moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to set a reconstruction hearing on the Samuel Humphrey #526 for April 16th, 2025. Motion carried 3-0, with Lance Sennett abstaining.

Tom Cummins – submitted a preliminary reconstruction report for the Roy Harper #592. The report describes the drain, history, and Drainage Code cites regarding a drain in need of reconstruction. Based on these criteria, Mr. Cummins recommends scheduling a reconstruction hearing. Mr. Cummins presented a reconstruction estimate based on engineer's design.

Dave Rhoads inquired if this drain was partially reconstructed previously. Mr. Cummins confirmed that the downstream end was reconstructed in 2016.

Lance Sennett moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to set a reconstruction hearing on the Roy Harper #592 for April 16th, 2025. Motion carried 4-0.

Tom Cummins – submitted a preliminary reconstruction report for the Edward Berry #593. The report describes the drain, history, and Drainage Code cites regarding a drain in need of reconstruction. Based on these criteria, Mr. Cummins recommends scheduling a reconstruction hearing. Mr. Cummins presented a reconstruction estimate based on engineer's design.

Dave Rhoads moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to set a reconstruction hearing on the Edward Berry #593 for April 16th, 2025. Motion carried 3-0, with Lance Sennett abstaining.

New Business

Tom Cummins – informed the Board that he will begin working on watershed and landowner assessment revisions. After multiple reconstructions completed over the years, many watersheds need to be revised

based on newer, more accurate watersheds. When a reconstruction project design includes an updated watershed, it also affects any surrounding regulated drain watershed boundary. Revising these watersheds are mainly administrative. Mr. Cummins advised the Board that some revisions could require a hearing, if any landowner is newly assessed for a drain.

Dave Rhoads commended the minutes submitted today. Mr. Cummins explained the process that he uses for creating the Board meeting minutes.

Lance Sennett informed the Board that his family is affected by three of the five reconstructions scheduled for 2025, and the cost is going to be tough, based on crop prices. Mr. Cummins explained that the Board has policies to help reduce the issue of landowners being assessed for multiple reconstructions at the same time, but for larger farmers, this will continue to be an issue.

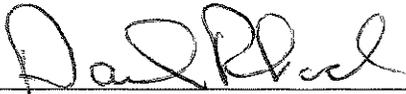
Dave Rhoads explained the process of reconstructions over the years, and the work it took to reestablish trust with the landowners in the county. Mr. Cummins explained that lack of maintenance has led to most of these drains failing at the same time.

Heather Laffoon stated that the special assessment notices will be mailed out soon, to the landowners affected by the reconstructions completed in 2024.

Dave Rhoads – reported the next Drainage Board meeting will be on April 16th, 2025.

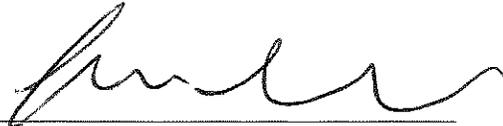
Matt Mitchell moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 a.m. Motion carried, 4-0.

Tom Cummins,
Surveyor



Dave Rhoads, Chairman

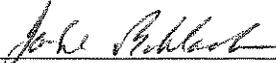
Doug Mills, Vice Chairman



Lance Sennett, Secretary



Matt Mitchell, Member



Jake Bohlander, Member

Montgomery County
Drainage Board Meeting
April 16, 2025

The Montgomery County Drainage Board met on Wednesday, April 16th, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at the Montgomery County Government Center at 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, Indiana.

Chairman Dave Rhoads called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members in attendance were, Dave Rhoads Chairman, Doug Mills, Matt Mitchell, Jake Bohlander, and Secretary Lance Sennett. Present were Surveyor Tom Cummins, Breanne Deaver, and Attorney Dan Taylor.

Also present were Kenny Cain, Greg Wilcox, Hobe Mennen, Bart Maxwell, Randy Perigo, Matt Martin, Brian (last name unknown), Rita Kirkpatrick, Nolan Kirkpatrick, April Fouty, Todd Fouty, Morgan LeMond, and Brian Smith.

Approval of Minutes

Jake Bohlander moved, seconded by Lance Sennett, to approve the March 12th, 2025 Drainage Board minutes. Motion carried, 5-0.

Hearings

Samuel Humphrey #526; Reconstruction hearing

Tom Cummins – gave a report describing the drain and the proposed reconstruction. The drain is generally inadequate due to undersized and collapsed pipes; sedimentation and years of back pressure have accelerated the drain’s decline. The watershed consists of 302.53 affected acres. Mr. Cummins explained how the Drainage Code defines a drain in need of reconstruction. Based on these criteria, Mr. Cummins recommends reconstructing the Samuel Humphrey #526. Project estimated at \$229,542.08; which is an estimated per acre reconstruction cost of \$758.74.

Dave Rhoads inquired if there were any landowners present that wished to speak. No landowners were present. Asked what the timeline would be for the project. Tom Cummins advised that he would recommend letting the bids in May, and the project has a completion date of September 1, 2025.

Jake Bohlander stated that we have neighboring drains both on the agenda for reconstructions today. Asked if one should be prioritized and postponing the other, as landowners are assessed for both. Tom Cummins explained that unfortunately, both are in very poor shape; the Board policy to avoid landowners paying on multiple reconstructions, only applies to multiple reconstructions on the same drain. Mr. Cummins showed a map of the area explaining the watersheds and sub-watersheds, regulated drains and private drains, and how they are assessed.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to reconstruct the Samuel Humphrey #526, per the design and schedule of assessments submitted by the Surveyor. Motion carried 4-0. Lance Sennett abstained. Dave Rhoads advised that the bids will be let at the May meeting.

Roy Harper #592; Reconstruction hearing

Tom Cummins – gave a report describing the drain and the proposed reconstruction. The drain is generally inadequate due to undersized and collapsed pipes. The watershed consists of 238.96 affected acres. Mr. Cummins explained how the Drainage Code defines a drain in need of reconstruction. Based on these criteria, Mr. Cummins recommends reconstructing the **Roy Harper #592**. Project estimated at \$73,490,23; which is an estimated per acre reconstruction cost of \$307.54.

Kenny Cain, landowner, gave a history on the drain, and the first phase of reconstruction, which was completed in 2016. Asked how long the maintenance assessment lasts. Tom Cummins explained the maintenance assessment and clarified that the maintenance assessment is only removed if the drain has collected more than four (4) years of assessment without any spending. Mr. Cummins also indicated that the Board has the ability to lower the maintenance assessment after a drain is reconstructed, if they don't anticipate any maintenance will be needed. After discussion, Kenny Cain recommended moving forward with the reconstruction, but asked if a different specification for plowing flex-corr pipe instead of open trench installation of smooth-corr pipe, could be bid for this project.

Dave Rhoads asked if the request applies to the total project or just certain portions. Kenny Cain clarified that his request is for the total project. Tom Cummins advised that the Board could allow for different options on the bid. Doug Mills inquired about plowing in smooth-corr pipe. Tom Cummins explained that smooth-corr pipe cannot be plowed in, however, there is a flex-corr pipe with a smooth interior that can be plowed. Max Kolb, Banning Engineering, explained that there would be a change in capacity in flex-corr, as compared to smooth-corr pipe. Mr. Cummins advised that there would be additional engineering costs, to re-design based on flex-corr installation. Doug Mills cautioned that the Board has an approved specification, requiring a stone bedding of pipes for reconstructions. Any deviation from the specifications sets a precedent, which could create problems for future reconstructions. Kenny Cain explained that his purpose is to save the landowners money, by reducing the cost of reconstruction.

Lance Sennett moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to reconstruct the Roy Harper #592, per the design and schedule of assessments submitted by the Surveyor, with options for bidding a plow installation of flex-corr pipe. Motion carried 5-0.

Edward Berry #593; Reconstruction hearing

Tom Cummins – gave a report describing the drain and the proposed reconstruction. The drain is generally inadequate due to undersized and collapsed pipes. The watershed consists of 739.1 affected acres. Mr. Cummins explained how the Drainage Code defines a drain in need of reconstruction. Based on these criteria, Mr. Cummins recommends reconstructing the **Edward Berry #593**. Project estimated at \$151,827.96; which is an estimated per acre reconstruction cost of \$205.42.

Dave Rhoads inquired if there were any landowners present that wished to speak. Nolan Kirkpatrick asked if this was phase two and why it was so long between phase one and phase two. Mr. Cummins showed the map, explaining the first phase of reconstruction and the proposed second phase. Mr. Cummins showed the large pond on the upstream end of the first reconstruction, and explained that the pond was caused by the failure of the drain. Rita Kirkpatrick asked about the soils in the watershed. Mr. Cummins advised that the soils are not the problem, but the lack of adequate drainage has limited farming in portions of the watershed. Doug Mills advised that reconstruction of the regulated drain is the first step, but landowners need to consider lateral tiling to adequately drain the farm fields. This reconstruction will provide the necessary outlet for any private tiling.

Matt Martin explained the pond area and steps that have been taken to address the area; also committed to installing pattern tiling to help drain the areas that are contributing to the pond. Mr. Martin requested amending the proposed plan to install the tributary that was omitted from the design. The tributary in question, was removed to lower costs and the drainage area is served by redesigning the tributary to the west. Max Kolb, Banning Engineering, explained that the revision being requested would, most likely, increase costs, not reduce them.

Dave Rhoads inquired if the landowners would still have access to the tile, based on the requested revision. Tom Cummins clarified that the requested revision would still provide an outlet to the affected landowner.

Rita Kirkpatrick stated that there is a problem with drainage across Division Rd. The culverts that were installed to allow stormwater runoff, are not installed at the correct elevation to allow runoff to flow. Advised that the road is deteriorating and it is dangerous for school busses, grain trucks, etc.

April Fouty asked how it is decided which landowners are assessed for the drain. Tom Cummins explained that the drain serves the entire watershed. Any landowner in the watershed is affected by the drain and is assessed. Dan Taylor explained how the Drainage Code determines who is assessed for a regulated drain. Discussion on the timeline; Mr. Cummins advised that the project will have a completion date of September 1, 2025, and should be bid in May.

Dave Rhoads moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to reconstruct the Edward Berry #593, per the design and schedule of assessments submitted by the Surveyor. The Surveyor inquired as to how to address the requested revision. Consensus was to review the requested revision and move forward with the cheaper option. Motion carried 4-0. Lance Sennett abstained.

Tom Cummins advised the Board that the May meeting will need to be rescheduled to satisfy the mailing notice requirements for hearings, and recommends setting the meeting for May 21st, 2025.

Dave Rhoads moved, seconded by Doug Mills, to reschedule next month's Board meeting for Wednesday, May 21st, 2025 at 9:30 am. Motion carried 5-0.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Dave Rhoads, to hold the bid letting for the Samuel Humphrey #526, Roy Harper #592, and Edward Berry #593 reconstructions at the May 21st, 2025 meeting. Motion carried 5-0.

Petitions

Tom Cummins – reported receiving a petition for variance to the right-of-way of the Fred White #609 from CenterPoint Energy. The request is to directional bore a new 6" gas main under the regulated open ditch. Site plan shows the location of the new gas main and minimum distance from the regulated drain has been satisfied. Mr. Cummins recommends approving the petition.

Dave Rhoads moved, seconded by Lance Sennett to approve the petition as submitted. Motion carried 5-0.

Tom Cummins – reported receiving a petition to attach to the John Gale #518 from Mr. Marcus Smith, CR 150 S. This request is for a perimeter tile for a new septic system. Mr. Cummins requested that the

request be tabled, until the next Board meeting. Mr. Cummins is still waiting for a site plan for the request, and the regulated drain is currently obstructed in the area. Mr. Cummins will investigate and repair.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to table the requested attachment petition on the John Galey #518, to the May 21st, 2025 meeting. Motion carried 5-0.

Old Business

Tom Cummins – submitted a preliminary reconstruction report for the Joseph Conway #700. The report describes the drain, history, and Drainage Code cites regarding a drain in need of reconstruction. Based on these criteria, Mr. Cummins recommends scheduling a reconstruction hearing. Mr. Cummins presented a reconstruction estimate based on engineer’s design.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to set a reconstruction hearing on the Joseph Conway #700 for May 21st, 2025. Motion carried 5-0, with Lance Sennett abstaining.

Tom Cummins reported that the Board held a hearing and vacated the Thomas Clark #619 at the April meeting. Dan Taylor has provided the findings of fact and conclusion for the hearing. Mr. Cummins requested the Board sign the findings of fact and conclusion, to be mailed out to all affected landowners.

New Business

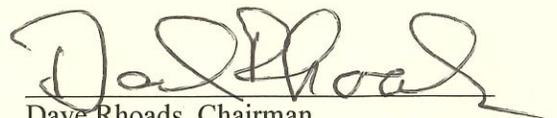
None

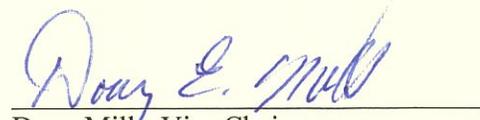
Public Comment

None

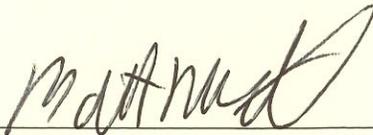
Jake Bohlander moved, seconded by Doug Mills, to adjourn the meeting at 10:54 a.m. Motion carried, 4-0.

Tom Cummins,
Surveyor


Dave Rhoads, Chairman


Doug Mills, Vice Chairman


Lance Sennett, Secretary


Matt Mitchell, Member


Jake Bohlander, Member

Montgomery County
Drainage Board Meeting
May 21, 2025

The Montgomery County Drainage Board met on Wednesday, May 21st, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at the Montgomery County Government Center at 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, Indiana.

Chairman Dave Rhoads called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members in attendance were, Dave Rhoads, Doug Mills, Matt Mitchell, Jake Bohlander, and Lance Sennett. Present were Surveyor Tom Cummins, Breanne Deaver, and Attorney Tyler Nichols.

Also present were Steve Hudson, Darrell Birge, Noah Moore-Benge, Larry Rooze, Jacob Arthur, Chloe Maxwell, Bart Maxwell, Richard Inskeep, David Vanhook, Hugh Vanhook, Brian Smith, and Kenny Cain.

Approval of Minutes

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to approve the April 16th, 2025 Drainage Board minutes. Motion carried, 5-0.

Bid Opening

Samuel Humphrey #526; Reconstruction

Tom Cummins reported the first bid is from Arthur's Excavating, in the amount of \$179,322.00; the second bid is from Maxwell Farm Drainage, in the amount of \$182,265.00. No other bids were received.

Edward Berry #593; Reconstruction

Tom Cummins reported the first bid is from Arthur's Excavating, in the amount of \$107,250.99; the second bid is from Maxwell Farm Drainage, in the amount of \$103,784.00. No other bids were received.

Roy Harper #592; Reconstruction

Tom Cummins reminded the Board that this bid included the option of bidding for a plow install of flex-corr pipe. Bid Option A - for open trench install and Option B – for plow install. Mr. Cummins reported the first bid is from Arthur's Excavating, in the amount of \$53,420.50 – Option A; the second bid is from Maxwell Farm Drainage, in the amount of \$103,784.00 – Option A; the third bid is from Cain's Homelike Farms, in the amounts of \$44,772.90 – Option A, and \$33,103.45 – Option B. No other bids were received.

Tom Cummins – requested the Board allow him 5-10 minutes to review the received bids to ensure compliance and determine a recommendation on all three bids. The Board agreed.

Recessed at 9:37, to allow the Surveyor to review the bids and confirm that all are responsive to the bid packet.

Resumed at 9:47

After reviewing the bids, Mr. Cummins made the following recommendations.

Samuel Humphrey #526; Reconstruction

Tom Cummins recommends approving the Arthur's Excavating bid in the amount of \$179,322.00. Dave Rhoads requested clarification between the construction estimate, bid amounts, and approved reconstruction amounts. Mr. Cummins explained that the approved reconstruction amount, approved at the reconstruction hearing, included the costs of construction, engineering, and notices. The construction estimate should be comparable to the bids received, but the approved reconstruction amount will be higher.

Matt Mitchell moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to award the contract for reconstruction of the Samuel Humphrey #526, to Arthur's Excavating in the amount of \$179,332.00. Motion carried 4-0. Lance Sennett abstained.

Edward Berry #593; Reconstruction

Tom Cummins recommends approving the Maxwell Farm Drainage bid in the amount of \$103,784.00.

Jake Bohlander moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to award the contract for reconstruction of the Edward Berry #593, to Maxwell Farm Drainage in the amount of \$103,784.00. Motion carried 4-0. Lance Sennett abstained.

Roy Harper #592; Reconstruction

Tom Cummins recommended that both bids from Cain's Homelike Farms be rejected, as they are not responsive to the bid packet. All bids are required to submit a Form 96, required by the State of Indiana. Neither bid from Cain's Homelike Farms included the required form. Tom Cummins recommends approving the Maxwell Farm Drainage bid in the amount of \$49,465.00.

Kenny Cain, Cain's Homelike Farms, requested clarification on the recommendations of the Surveyor. Mr. Cummins explained the Form 96 requirement and why the bids were rejected.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to award the contract for reconstruction of the Roy Harper #592, to Maxwell Farm Drainage in the amount of \$49,465.00. Motion carried 5-0.

Dave Rhoads thanked all of the bidders.

Tom Cummins requested that Dave Rhoads sign the awarded bids, and stated that all three projects have a September 1st, 2025 deadline.

Hearing

Joseph Conway #700; Reconstruction hearing

Tom Cummins – gave a report describing the drain and the proposed reconstruction. The drain is generally inadequate due to undersized and collapsed pipes; sedimentation and years of back pressure have accelerated the drain's decline. The watershed consists of 3,012.99 affected acres. Mr. Cummins explained how the Drainage Code defines a drain in need of reconstruction. Based on these criteria, Mr. Cummins recommends reconstructing the **Joseph Conway #700**. Project estimated at \$658,163.50; which is an estimated per acre reconstruction cost of \$218.44.

Dave Rhoads inquired if there were any landowners present that wished to speak. Doug Mills asked about other regulated drains that outlet into the open ditch portion of the **Joseph Conway #700**. Mr. Cummins stated that there are no other regulated drains that outlet into the regulated open ditch, with the exception of the **James McMullen #659**, which outlets just downstream of the Conway tile. Dave Rhoads requested that Mr. Cummins explain the first phase of reconstruction. Mr. Cummins showed on the map which portions of the drain were reconstructed in 2018. Richard Inskeep asked if any open ditch work is proposed as part of this reconstruction. Mr. Cummins stated that work is scheduled for the open ditch portion, but that work will be completed thru maintenance. Mr. Inskeep asked what area will be debrushed, and Mr. Cummins stated that any brush within 30 feet of the top of the ditch bank will be cleared. Mr. Inskeep stated that he wished they knew about it sooner. Mr. Cummins explained the right-of-way and why it is necessary to avoid planting any closer than 30 feet from the bank. David Vanhook asked why homeowners have to pay for this. Mr. Cummins explained the Drainage Code and how it requires that all affected landowners are assessed for maintenance and reconstruction. Mr. Cummins referenced the watershed line, on the map, and clarified that all acreage within that boundary is assessed; but the farmland pays for the majority of the costs of maintenance and reconstruction.

Dave Rhoads inquired about the timeline for the bids and construction. Mr. Cummins recommends that the bid be let at the June 11th, 2025 meeting, and clarified that the project has a September 1st, 2025 deadline.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to reconstruct the Joseph Conway #700, per the design and schedule of assessments submitted by the Surveyor. Motion carried 4-0. Lance Sennett abstained.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to hold the bid letting for the Joseph Conway #700 reconstruction at the June 11th, 2025 meeting. Motion carried 4-0. Lance Sennett abstained.

Petitions

Tom Cummins – reported receiving a petition to attach to the **Richard Virts #560** from Mr. Rex Ballard. This request is for lateral tiles to outlet into the regulated drain. Mr. Cummins recommends approving the petition.

Dave Rhoads moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell to approve the petition as submitted. Motion carried 5-0.

Tom Cummins – reported receiving a petition to attach to the **Fred Maxwell #585** from Mr. Alan Dusek. This request is for pattern tiles to outlet into the regulated drain. Mr. Cummins recommends approving the petition.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Dave Rhoads to approve the petition as submitted. Motion carried 5-0.

Tom Cummins – reported receiving a petition to attach to the **John Galey #518** from Mr. Marcus Smith, CR 150 S. This request is for a perimeter tile for a new septic system. Mr. Cummins recommends approving the petition.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander to approve the petition as submitted. Motion carried 5-0.

Tom Cummins – reported receiving a petition for variance to the right-of-way of the Albert Hysong #618 from Mr. Noah Moore-Benge. The request is to install a 60” steel pipe in the ditch-line, to construct a crossing on the drain. Mr. Cummins asked Mr. Moore-Benge if he is aware what standard was used by the contractor, to size the pipe. Mr. Cummins explained that he has concerns about the proposed pipe size, based on structures downstream on the regulated open ditch. Mr. Cummins requested that the petition be tabled, until the June meeting, to investigate the open ditch and determine appropriate size, for a crossing pipe. Dave Rhoads inquired about the Hysong tile portion that outlets into the open ditch. Mr. Cummins described the tile portion for the Board.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander to table the request to the June 11, 2025 meeting. Motion carried 5-0.

Old Business

Darrell Birge inquired about the issue with Curt Hudson, and the private tile that they share. Mr. Birge stated that Mr. Hudson will only put in a 12” tile and that isn’t enough. Mr. Cummins asked the status of the pending litigation, and Mr. Birge stated that the litigation is still active. Dave Rhoads explained that until the litigation is settled, no action can be taken by the Board.

Mr. Birge asked about the project on the Shumaker-White #713, and stated that he has concerns about the size of the structures that are planned. Mr. Cummins thanked Mr. Birge for his input.

New Business

None

Public Comment

None

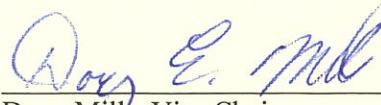
Dave Rhoads stated that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 11th, 2025 at 9:30 am.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to adjourn the meeting at 10:24 a.m. Motion carried, 5-0.

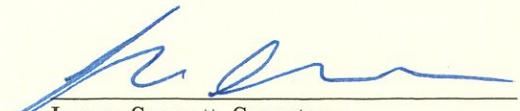
Tom Cummins,

Surveyor

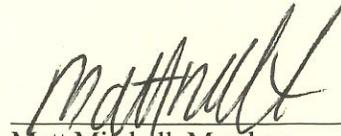
Dave Rhoads, Chairman



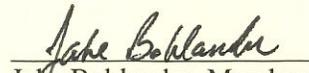
Doug Mills, Vice Chairman



Lance Sennett, Secretary



Matt Mitchell, Member



Jake Bohlander, Member

**Montgomery County
Drainage Board Meeting**

June 11, 2025

The Montgomery County Drainage Board met on Wednesday, June 9th, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at the Montgomery County Government Center at 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, Indiana.

Vice Chairman, Doug Mills called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Dave Rhoads was absent.

Board members in attendance were, Doug Mills, Matt Mitchell, Jake Bohlander, and Lance Sennett. Present were Surveyor Tom Cummins, Breanne Deaver, and Attorney Dan Taylor.

Also present were Bart Maxwell, Jacob Arthur, Richard Inskip, Heather Laffoon, and Stephanie Campbell.

Approval of Minutes

Lance Sennett moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to approve the May 21st, 2025 Drainage Board minutes. Motion carried, 4-0.

Tom Cummins informed the Board that today's meeting is being live streamed on YouTube, followed by the introduction of Board members.

Bid Opening

Joseph Conway #700; Reconstruction

Tom Cummins reported the first bid is from Arthur's Excavating, in the amount of \$508,011.20; the second bid is from Maxwell Farm Drainage, in the amount of \$505,063.00. No other bids were received.

Tom Cummins – requested the Board allow him 5 minutes to review the received bids to ensure compliance and determine a recommendation on the bid. The Board agreed.

Recessed at 9:34, to allow the Surveyor to review the bids and confirm that all are responsive to the bid packet.

Resumed at 9:35.

After reviewing the bids, Mr. Cummins recommended approving the Maxwell Farm Drainage bid in the amount of \$505,063.00. Doug Mills asked about the cost of engineering for this project. Tom Cummins reported the engineering fees total \$26,300.00.

Jake Bohlander moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to award the contract for reconstruction of the Joseph Conway #700, to Maxwell Farm Drainage in the amount of \$505,063.00. Motion carried 3-0. Lance Sennett abstained.

Petitions

Tom Cummins stated that this is a continuance of a petition for variance to the right-of-way of the Albert Hysong #618 from Mr. Noah Moore-Benge. The request is to install a 60-inch steel pipe in the ditch-line, to construct a crossing on the drain. Mr. Cummins requested the continuance to allow for engineering

review of the proposed pipe size. After engineering review, it was determined that the proposed pipe doesn't meet the 100-year storm event, or even the 10-year storm. Mr. Cummins explained that approving this request is difficult, mainly because there is no policy or standard in place. Mr. Cummins explained the different standards applied by different agencies. Mr. Cummins asked what standard the Board would propose. Matt Mitchell asked what other counties are doing, and Mr. Cummins stated that it doesn't appear that any other counties have addressed this issue. Mr. Cummins explained that if this structure was being installed by the Board, as part of the drain maintenance, we would design for the 100-year storm. This standard is appropriate, as the cost is spread across the entire watershed, instead of one specific landowner.

Doug Mills stated that in order to be fair to everyone, we need a standard in place.

Lance Sennett asked if the engineers made recommendations based on different storm events. Mr. Cummins described the engineers report. The engineering report states that after the 100-year storm event, the ditch flow is 534.87 cubic feet per second. The proposed 60-inch pipe is only capable of allowing 110.58 cubic feet per second. To meet the 100-year storm event, the proposed structure would need to be a 7-foot by 5-foot concrete structure.

Jake Bohlander asked if the Board could give approval for a smaller structure, with a recommendation that the structure should meet the 100-year storm. Mr. Cummins explained that if the drain were not regulated, that could be an option, but that we have to protect the upstream landowners on regulated drains.

Dan Taylor explained there is a case that clarifies the 100-year storm as the standard. Mr. Taylor stated that if the Board allows a structure in a regulated drain, and causes damage to landowners, the Board is liable. Mr. Taylor advised that another option would be to allow the proposed structure, which doesn't meet the 100-year storm, with an indemnification, absolving the Board of responsibility.

Doug Mills asked if the approved pipe causes damage, who is responsible for repair. Mr. Mills agreed that we need a standard in place.

Lance Sennett agreed but stated that we can't expect a landowner to do more than the County Highway Dept. does.

Tom Cummins described previous issues with private crossings on regulated open ditches, where landowners have installed pipes that were undersized, and then blamed the regulated drain when those structures were damaged.

Dan Taylor explained that the Board can impose conditions of approval of variance, indemnifying the Board of responsibility.

Matt Mitchell stated that the standard should also address length of pipe, as well as diameter. Tom Cummins agreed, comparable to the County driveway pipe ordinance. Mr. Mitchell asked if the standard could allow for "wet bridges" if the recommended pipe size is too large. Mr. Cummins stated that those structures can be effective, provided they are installed correctly and maintained.

Matt Mitchell moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander to continue the request to the July 9th, 2025 meeting, and for Tom Cummins and Dan Taylor to work on options for this issue. Motion carried 4-0.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Other Business

Tom Cummins presented the 2025 Drain Classification and Long-Range plan for reconstruction, and requested approval by the Board.

Doug Mills commented that landowners should be aware that this information is available, for landowners that would like to know about future reconstructions. Mr. Cummins added that the report will be available on the County's website.

Lance Sennett moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to approve the 2025 Drain Classification and Long Range plan, as submitted. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Comment

None

Doug Mills stated that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 9th, 2025 at 9:30 am.

Matt Mitchell moved, seconded by Lance Sennett, to adjourn the meeting at 10:09 a.m. Motion carried, 4-0.

Tom Cummins,
Surveyor



Dave Rhoads, Chairman



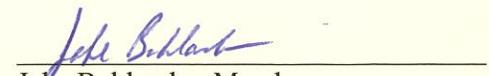
Doug Mills, Vice Chairman



Lance Sennett, Secretary



Matt Mitchell, Member



Jake Bohlander, Member

Montgomery County
Drainage Board Meeting
July 9, 2025

The Montgomery County Drainage Board met on Wednesday, July 9th, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at the Montgomery County Government Center at 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, Indiana.

Chairman Dave Rhoads called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members in attendance were Doug Mills, Matt Mitchell, Jake Bohlander, and Lance Sennett. Present were Surveyor Tom Cummins, Breanne Deaver, and Attorney Dan Taylor.

Also present was Roger Azar, DES Engineering.

Approval of Minutes

Jake Bohlander moved, seconded by Doug Mills, to approve the June 11th, 2025, Drainage Board minutes. Motion carried, 5-0.

Petitions

Tom Cummins stated that this is a continuation of a petition for variance to the right-of-way of the Albert Hysong #618 from Mr. Noah Moore-Benge. The request is to install a 60-inch steel pipe in the ditch-line, to construct a crossing on the drain. After engineering review, it was determined that the proposed pipe doesn't meet the 100-year storm event, or even the 10-year storm. Mr. Cummins explained that he is working on a policy for these types of petitions. After speaking with other County Surveyors, it appears that they all address these requests on a case per case basis. The most important factor is to ensure that the open ditch flows as good or better, after installation of any crossing structures.

Doug Mills inquired about the size of the existing structures, downstream of the proposed crossing. Mr. Cummins explained the size of structures and showed them on the map.

Mr. Cummins explained that previous methods included a slide-rule that determines pipe size based on the 10-year storm.

Doug Mills expressed that landowners should not have to meet a higher standard than the County Highway Dept., as most county structures are not designed to meet the 100-year storm.

Dave Rhoads inquired as to whether the petitioner owned the property when the regulated drain was reconstructed. Mr. Cummins confirmed that the property was recently sold to the petitioner.

Mr. Cummins advised the Board that he will continue to work on a policy for these requests, and any fee schedule that might be necessary for future petitions.

Dave Rhoads inquired about the possibility of wet-bridge crossings, instead of pipe structures. Mr. Cummins explained that the issue with wet-bridges, in his opinion, is the installation and maintenance. Mr. Cummins warned that maintenance needs could potentially fall on the drain's maintenance fund, which is not appropriate for private crossings.

New Business

Surveyor submitted a drain fund transfer request, to transfer funds from Maintenance to the Improvement fund. Mr. Cummins explained that the transfers are appropriate for the listed drains, to pay back deficits. The requested transfers total \$65,327.37. Mr. Cummins stated that seven of these transfers resolve the remaining deficits for these drains.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Lance Sennett, to approve the requested transfers. Motion carried 5-0.

Dave Rhoads asked if the Surveyor requested an appropriation from the County Council, in next year's budget, for the Improvement fund. Mr. Cummins explained that no appropriation was requested. Mr. Cummins explained that with the new money market interest that is collected, no appropriation is necessary.

Jake Bohlander requested the balance of the Improvement fund. Mr. Cummins stated the current balance of the fund is \$643,565.25; and explained how the different funds work and how the balances can be misleading.

Public Comment

Roger Azar, 605 S. St. Louis Dr., Crawfordsville, stated that the Big Four Subdivision is having drainage problems including siltation of road ditches, and pipes half full of sediment. After large storms, water floods yards along CR 50 S. and along Big Four Dr. Mr. Azar stated that the subdivision wishes to improve their issues, but cannot solve the problem without addressing the issues along CR 50 S. Mr. Azar wanted to approach Board to determine how this problem can be solved.

Dave Rhoads asked where the watershed breaks and the problem starts. Mr. Azar described where the problem begins, and the issues of driveway culvert sizing downstream.

Attorney Dan Taylor explained that the County Commissioners have jurisdiction of the roads and affiliated right-of-way. Mr. Taylor directed the issue to the County Commissioners and the County Highway Department.

Doug Mills stated that this issue is common around the county. Mr. Azar stated that he has done an elevation survey, which proved that the subdivision has sufficient grade to solve their problem.

Dave Rhoads asked about a homeowner's association and which houses are included. Mr. Azar described which properties are included.

Lance Sennett confirmed that this issue needs to be addressed to the County Commissioners.

Dave Rhoads reported the meeting will be on August 13th, 2025.

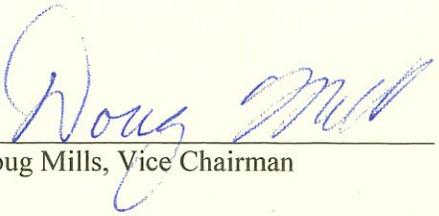
Mr. Cummins gave an update on the progress of reconstructions.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 a.m. Motion carried, 5-0.

Tom Cummins,

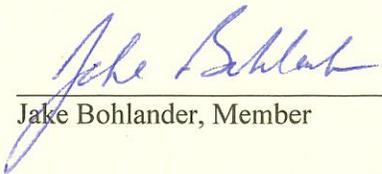
Surveyor


Dave Rhoads, Chairman


Doug Mills, Vice Chairman

Lance Sennett, Secretary


Matt Mitchell, Member


Jake Bohlander, Member

Montgomery County
Drainage Board Meeting
August 13, 2025

The Montgomery County Drainage Board met on Wednesday, August 13th, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at the Montgomery County Government Center at 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, Indiana.

Chairman Dave Rhoads called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members in attendance were Dave Rhoads, Doug Mills, Matt Mitchell, and Jake Bohlander. Present were Surveyor Tom Cummins, Breanne Deaver, and Attorney Dan Taylor.

Also present was Stephanie Campbell and Jeff Bane.

Approval of Minutes

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to approve the July 9th, 2025, Drainage Board minutes. Motion carried, 4-0.

Petitions

Tom Cummins stated that this is a continuation of a petition for variance to the right-of-way of the Albert Hysong #618 from Mr. Noah Moore-Benge. The Surveyor recommends denying the petition request to install a private crossing on the regulated open ditch. The affected area is within a floodplain, which requires DNR approval and possible permitting. The Surveyor stated that federal approval would be required before the Board's consideration. The Surveyor showed, on the map, the floodplain that is located on the parcel.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to deny the petition for variance on the Albert Hysong #618 from Mr. Noah Moore-Benge. Motion carried 4-0.

Tom Cummins – reported receiving petitions from TDS Telecom, for variance to the right-of-way on four regulated drains. Petitions have been submitted on the Sarah Kincaid #530, Phillip Dewey #584, Thomas Wilkins #589, and Henry Lee 1 #646. The project includes installation of a new fiber optic cable along CR 1000 N and along New Richmond Rd., into New Richmond. Mr. Cummins recommends approving the four petitions.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to approve the petitions for variance on the Sarah Kincaid #530, Phillip Dewey #584, Thomas Wilkins #589, and Henry Lee 1 #646. Motion carried 4-0

Old Business

Roy Harper #592 Reconstruction

Tom Cummins – reported the reconstruction is complete and final invoices have been submitted. The Board was provided a copy of the change order, and final schedule of maintenance and reconstruction assessments. Mr. Cummins requests approval of the change order, in the amount of \$6,562.00.

Jake Bohlander moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to approve the change order for the Roy Harper #592 reconstruction. Motion carried 4-0.

Tom Cummins- recommends approving final payment to the contractor, and the final schedule of maintenance and reconstruction assessments.

Jake Bohlander moved, seconded by Dave Rhoads, to approve final payment to the contractor and the final schedule of assessments for the Roy Harper #592 reconstruction. Motion carried 4-0.

Edward Berry #593 Reconstruction

Tom Cummins – reported the reconstruction is complete and final invoices have been submitted. The Board was provided a copy of the change order, in the amount of \$20,571.00, and the final schedule of maintenance and reconstruction assessments. Mr. Cummins requests approval of the change order, final payment to the contractor, and final schedule of maintenance and reconstruction assessments.

Matt Mitchell moved, seconded by Doug Mills, to approve the change order, final payment to the contractor, and the final schedule of assessments for the Edward Berry #593 reconstruction. Motion carried 4-0.

Otis Thompson #708, Tributary #3

Tom Cummins- provided a reconstruction report for the Otis Thompson #708, Tributary #3. Mr. Cummins reminded the Board that design work for this project started in 2023. Engineering and permitting has been completed. Mr. Cummins showed, on the map, the remaining portion of the drain to be reconstructed. The report includes watershed boundary, estimated costs, and proposed schedule of assessments. Mr. Cummins recommends setting a reconstruction hearing for the Otis Thompson #708, at their next meeting. This will require rescheduling the next meeting for Wednesday, September 17, 2025.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Dave Rhoads, to reschedule the next meeting to Wednesday, September 17th, 2025. Motion carried 4-0.

Matt Mitchell moved, seconded by Dave Rhoads, to set a reconstruction hearing for the Otis Thompson #708 at the September meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

New Business

Jeff Bane inquired about the regulated drain right-of-way. Mr. Cummins explained the right-of-way on regulated drain. Mr. Bane complained about machinery being left on his property for too long. Mr. Cummins explained that the project is ongoing. Mr. Bane also inquired about how reconstructions are assessed. Mr. Cummins explained that benefit is assessed equally, based on affected acreage, across the watershed. Dan Taylor confirmed that this method of assessments is consistently upheld in the Courts.

Dave Rhoads reminded the members of the Drainage 101 conference registration, that was sent out by the Surveyor.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to adjourn the meeting at 10:28 a.m. Motion carried, 4-0.

Tom Cummins,

Surveyor


Dave Rhoads, Chairman


Doug Mills, Vice Chairman

Lance Sennett, Secretary


Matt Mitchell, Member


Jake Bohlander, Member

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to adjourn the meeting at 10:28 a.m. Motion carried, 4-0.

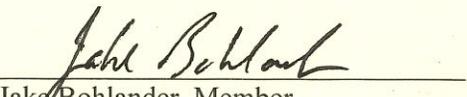
Tom Cummins,
Surveyor


Dave Rhoads, Chairman


Doug Mills, Vice Chairman

Lance Sennett, Secretary


Matt Mitchell, Member


Jake Bohlander, Member

Montgomery County
Drainage Board Meeting
September 17, 2025

The Montgomery County Drainage Board met on Wednesday, September 17th, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at the Montgomery County Government Center at 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, Indiana.

Chairman Dave Rhoads called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members in attendance were Dave Rhoads, Doug Mills, Lance Sennett, Matt Mitchell, and Jake Bohlander. Present were Surveyor Tom Cummins, Breanne Deaver, and Attorney Dan Taylor.

Also present was Ron and Ginger Winger, Jason Randall, Joe Miller, Carl Binford, Linda Binford, Mike Devore, Frank James, Mike Patton, Mark Chenowith, Stephanie Campbell, and Mark McClamroch.

Approval of Minutes

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to approve the August 13th, 2025, Drainage Board minutes. Motion carried, 5-0.

Petitions

Tom Cummins – reported receiving petitions from Matt Clendenen, for variance to the right-of-way and attachment to the Asbury Linn #656. The project includes installation of a new residential septic system, which will encroach on the regulated drain right-of-way, and Mr. Clendenen is requesting permission to connect the perimeter drain to the regulated drain. Surveyor recommends approving both requests.

Jake Bohlander moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to approve the petitions for variance and attachment on the Asbury Linn #656. Motion carried 5-0

Hearing

Otis Thompson #708; Trib. 3 Reconstruction

Tom Cummins – gave the Surveyors reconstruction report. Mr. Cummins explained the need for reconstruction and provided the estimated costs and proposed schedule of assessments. Mr. Cummins explained the cost share that is expected from INDOT and CSX. Surveyor recommends approving the reconstruction of the Otis Thompson #708; Trib. 3.

Dave Rhoads inquired about previous phases of reconstruction on the drain, and discussions from landowners about the issues on this tributary. Mr. Cummins confirmed that landowner discussion started this process.

Mike Devore, representing Dixie Wolcott, explained that his farm is not directly affected by this tributary. Mr. Cummins explained that because the watershed for this tributary is only 42 acres, the Board recommended that any reconstruction of this tributary should be assessed across the whole watershed. Mr. Devore stated that he is not in favor of reconstruction.

Carl Binford explained that after all phases of reconstruction on this drain, they are being over-assessed. Mr. Binford stated that this reconstruction will increase the total that they have paid to almost \$500 per acre. Mr. Binford stated that he is not in favor of reconstruction.

Mark McClamroch stated that he doesn't think the problem is worth the estimated costs. Mr. McClamroch inquired about the recent INDOT work and drainage problems associated with that project. Mr. Cummins explained that the INDOT issues are stormwater issues not subsurface drainage, which is meant to be accomplished by the regulated drain. Mr. McClamroch stated that he is not in favor of reconstruction.

Dave Rhoads stated that permits are in process with INDOT and CSX, which has required payment of application fees and costs for surveying and engineering. Mr. Rhoads stated that if we wait to do the project, those permits may not be approved in the future. Mr. Cummins stated that the tributary is regulated for a reason, most likely because of the highway and railroad crossing.

Doug Mills explained that the purpose of regulated drains is to ensure that all landowners have access to drainage. Mr. Mills explained the payback period for reconstructions.

Lance Sennett inquired about the drainage area for the tributary. Mr. Cummins stated that objection letters were received from Heather Gaylor and Shirley and Frederick Crum.

Heather Gaylor stated that she disagrees with this reconstruction because of the cost. Ms. Gaylor asked about previous phases and stated that she is not in favor of the reconstruction.

Dave Rhoads stated that this phase of reconstruction was initiated by landowners. Mr. Rhoads added that the estimated cost of this reconstruction is relatively low, in comparison to recent reconstructions. Mr. Rhoads inquired about the timeline for this reconstruction project. Mr. Cummins explained that the plan is to complete the project before December 1st, 2025.

Lance Sennett stated that he understands the landowners concerns about the estimated cost of reconstruction. He is paying for several reconstruction projects.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to approve reconstruction of the Otis Thompson #708; Trib.3 reconstruction. Motion carried 4-0, with Lance Sennett opposed.

Tom Cummins recommended the Board set the bid letting for the Otis Thompson #708; Trib.3 reconstruction at the October 8th, 2025, meeting.

Dave Rhoads moved, seconded by Doug Mills, to schedule the bid letting for the Otis Thompson #708; Trib.3 reconstruction, at the October 8th, 2025, meeting. Motion carried 5-0.

Old Business

Samuel Humphrey #526 Reconstruction

Tom Cummins – reported the reconstruction is complete and final invoices have been submitted. The Board was provided with a copy of the change order, and final schedule of maintenance and reconstruction assessments. Mr. Cummins requests approval of the change order, in the amount of \$14,046.00.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to approve the change order for the Samuel Humphrey #526 reconstruction. Motion carried 5-0.

Tom Cummins- recommends approving final payment to the contractor, and the final schedule of maintenance and reconstruction assessments.

Jake Bohlander moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to approve final payment to the contractor and the final schedule of assessments for the Samuel Humphrey #526 reconstruction. Motion carried 5-0.

Joseph Conway #700 Reconstruction

Tom Cummins – reported the reconstruction is complete and final invoices have been submitted. The Board was provided with a copy of two change orders. Banning Engineering change order in the amount of \$1,150.00, and the Maxwell Farm Drainage change order in the amount of \$72,202.00. Mr. Cummins requests approval of the change orders, final payment to the contractor, and final schedule of maintenance and reconstruction assessments.

Doug Mills inquired about the number of lateral connections associated with this reconstruction. Mr. Cummins explained that this project included replacing multiple tributaries which explained the large number of connections.

Matt Mitchell moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to approve the change orders, final payment to the contractor, and the final schedule of assessments for the Joseph Conway #700 reconstruction. Motion carried 5-0.

New Business

Dave Rhoads inquired about the new GPS unit that was recently purchased. Mr. Cummins explained that we were able to trade in the Trimble GPS that was purchased by the County in 2019, towards the purchase of a new Topcon GPS collector. The older Trimble unit was out of date, and not accurate or reliable. Mr. Cummins expressed his appreciation to the County Commissioners, who paid for the new unit.

Public Comment

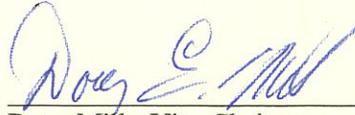
None

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Lance Sennett, to adjourn the meeting at 10:36 a.m. Motion carried, 5-0.

Tom Cummins,

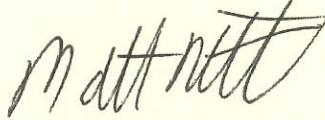
Surveyor


Dave Rhoads, Chairman



Doug Mills, Vice Chairman

Lance Sennett, Secretary



Matt Mitchell, Member

Jake Bohlander, Member

Montgomery County
Drainage Board Meeting
October 8, 2025

The Montgomery County Drainage Board met on Wednesday, October 8th, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at the Montgomery County Government Center at 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, Indiana.

Chairman Dave Rhoads called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members in attendance were Dave Rhoads, Doug Mills, and Matt Mitchell. Present were Surveyor Tom Cummins, Breanne Deaver, and Attorney Dan Taylor.

Also present were Heather Laffoon, Stephanie Campbell, and Jacob Arthur.

Approval of Minutes

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to approve the October 8th, 2025, Drainage Board minutes. Motion carried, 3-0.

Bid Opening

Otis Thompson #708; Trib. 3 Reconstruction

Tom Cummins – reported the first bid is from Arthur’s Excavating, for Phase One, in the amount of \$256,500.00. The second bid is from Arthur’s Excavating, for Phase Two, in the amount of \$22,979.00.

Tom Cummins – requested the Board allow him five minutes to review the received bids to ensure compliance and determine a recommendation on the bid. The Board agreed.

Recessed at 9:35, to allow the Surveyor to review the bids and confirm that all are responsive to the bid packet.

Resumed at 9:38.

After reviewing the bids, Mr. Cummins recommended approving both Arthur’s Excavating bids in the amount of \$256,500.00 for Phase One and \$22,979.00 for Phase Two.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to award the contract for reconstruction of the Otis Thompson #708; Trib. 3, to Arthur’s Excavating in the amount of \$256,500.00 for Phase One and \$22,979.00 for Phase Two. Motion carried 3-0

New Business

Regulated drain reassessment hearings schedule

Tom Cummins – reported that assessment hearings are necessary for approximately thirty-five regulated drains, due to incorrect watershed boundaries and schedules of assessment. Mr. Cummins explained that the issues were caused by parcel transactions that were not updated correctly, as well as watersheds that were revised during reconstructions, without correcting the surrounding watersheds. Mr. Cummins

provided a list of seven drains and recommends setting assessment hearings for those drains at the November meeting.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Dave Rhoads, to schedule assessment hearings for the George McClain #541, Foster Fletcher #573, Joel Tobin #576, Clarence Widener #582, William Davis #600, Margaret Remley #615, and Asbury Linn #656 at the November 12th, 2025, meeting. Motion carried 3-0.

Other Business

Dave Rhoads inquired about the reconstructions scheduled for next year and landowner engagement. Mr. Cummins explained that landowner informational meetings are beneficial in many cases. Mr. Cummins presented the list of drains that are scheduled for reconstruction in 2026 and described each case. Mr. Cummins stated that the Board can revisit at the next meeting.

Public Comment

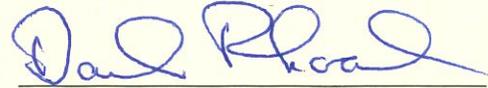
None

Dave Rhoads stated that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday November 12th, 2025, at 9:30 am.

Matt Mitchell moved, seconded by Doug Mills, to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 a.m. Motion carried, 3-0.

Tom Cummins,

Surveyor

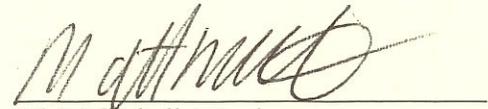


Dave Rhoads, Chairman



Doug Mills, Vice Chairman

Lance Sennett, Secretary



Matt Mitchell, Member



Jake Bohlander, Member

Montgomery County
Drainage Board Meeting
November 12, 2025

The Montgomery County Drainage Board met on Wednesday, November 12th, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at the Montgomery County Government Center at 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, Indiana.

Board members in attendance were Dave Rhoads, Doug Mills, Lance Sennett, Jake Bohlander, and Matt Mitchell. Present were Surveyor Tom Cummins, Breanne Deaver, and Attorney Dan Taylor.

Also present was Keith Saylor.

Chairman Dave Rhoads called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to approve the October 8th, 2025, Drainage Board minutes. Motion carried, 5-0.

PETITIONS

Edward Patton #548 – Petition to assume jurisdiction of drain

Tom Cummins – reported receiving a petition from Garrie Patton, requesting the Board assume jurisdiction of a private open ditch, approximately 2,040 feet in length. This private open ditch serves as the outlet for the Edward Patton regulated drain. Mr. Cummins displayed the area on the map and explained the request. Surveyor recommends approval of the request.

Matt Mitchell moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to approve the request to assume jurisdiction of the private open ditch, to become part of the Edward Patton #548 drain. Motion carried 5-0.

Thomas & Alfred Taylor #542 – Petition to assume jurisdiction of drain

Tom Cummins – reported receiving a petition from Garrie Patton, requesting the Board assume jurisdiction of a private open ditch, approximately 875 feet in length. This private open ditch serves as the outlet for the Thomas & Alfred Taylor regulated drain. Mr. Cummins displayed the area on the map and explained the request. Surveyor recommends approval of the request.

Lance Sennett moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to approve the request to assume jurisdiction of the private open ditch, to become part of the Thomas & Alfred Taylor #542 drain. Motion carried 5-0.

Timothy Lane #602 – Petition to assume jurisdiction of drain

Tom Cummins – reported receiving a petition from Dave Rhoads and Brett Cating, requesting the Board assume jurisdiction of a private open ditch, approximately 4,992 feet in length. This private open ditch serves as the outlet for the Timothy Lane regulated drain. Mr. Cummins displayed the area on the map and explained the request. Surveyor recommends approval of the request.

Matt Mitchell moved, seconded by Lance Sennett, to approve the request to assume jurisdiction of the private open ditch, to become part of the Timothy Lane #602 drain. Motion carried 4-0, Dave Rhoads abstained.

HEARINGS

George McClain #541 – Assessment hearing

Tom Cummins – reported that today's reassessment hearing is necessary to ensure that all affected parcels are assessed correctly. Mr. Cummins provided the Board with a report and map showing the proposed watershed area, and updated schedule of assessments. Mr. Cummins explained that there will be no change to the per acre rate that is currently assessed. Surveyor recommends approving the watershed and schedule of assessments, as provided.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to approve the watershed boundary and schedule of assessments for the George McClain #541 drain, as provided by the Surveyor. Motion carried 5-0.

Foster Fletcher #573 – Assessment hearing

Tom Cummins – reported that today's reassessment hearing is necessary to ensure that all affected parcels are assessed correctly. Mr. Cummins provided the Board with a report and map showing the proposed watershed area, and updated schedule of assessments. Mr. Cummins explained that there will be no change to the per acre rate that is currently assessed. Surveyor recommends approving the watershed and schedule of assessments, as provided.

Lance Sennett moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to approve the watershed boundary and schedule of assessments for the Foster Fletcher #573 drain, as provided by the Surveyor. Motion carried 5-0.

Joel Tobin #576 – Assessment hearing

Tom Cummins – reported that today's reassessment hearing is necessary to ensure that all affected parcels are assessed correctly. Mr. Cummins provided the Board with a report and map showing the proposed watershed area, and updated schedule of assessments. Mr. Cummins explained that there will be no change to the per acre rate that is currently assessed. Surveyor recommends approving the watershed and schedule of assessments, as provided.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to approve the watershed boundary and schedule of assessments for the Joel Tobin #576 drain, as provided by the Surveyor. Motion carried 5-0.

Clarence Widener #582 – Assessment hearing

Tom Cummins – reported that today's reassessment hearing is necessary to ensure that all affected parcels are assessed correctly. Mr. Cummins provided the Board with a report and map showing the proposed watershed area, and updated schedule of assessments. Mr. Cummins explained that there will be no change to the per acre rate that is currently assessed. Surveyor recommends approving the watershed and schedule of assessments, as provided.

Matt Mitchell moved, seconded by Lance Sennett, to approve the watershed boundary and schedule of assessments for the Clarence Widener #582 drain, as provided by the Surveyor. Motion carried 5-0.

William Davis #600 – Assessment hearing

Tom Cummins – reported that today's reassessment hearing is necessary to ensure that all affected parcels are assessed correctly. Mr. Cummins provided the Board with a report and map showing the proposed watershed area, and updated schedule of assessments. Mr. Cummins explained that there will be no

change to the per acre rate that is currently assessed. Surveyor recommends approving the watershed and schedule of assessments, as provided.

Lance Sennett moved, seconded by Dave Rhoads, to approve the watershed boundary and schedule of assessments for the William Davis #600 drain, as provided by the Surveyor. Motion carried 4-0, Doug Mills abstained.

Margaret Remley #615 – Assessment hearing

Tom Cummins – reported that today’s reassessment hearing is necessary to ensure that all affected parcels are assessed correctly. Mr. Cummins provided the Board with a report and map showing the proposed watershed area, and updated schedule of assessments. Mr. Cummins explained the drain is currently assessed at \$3.48 per acre, with a \$5.00 minimum assessment. The proposed rate is \$4.61 per acre, with a \$5.00 minimum assessment. Surveyor recommends approving the watershed and schedule of assessments, as provided.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Lance Sennett, to increase the maintenance assessment rate to \$4.61 per acre with a \$5.00 minimum, and to approve the watershed boundary and schedule of assessments for the Margaret Remley #615 drain, as provided by the Surveyor. Motion carried 4-0, Matt Mitchell abstained.

Asbury Linn #656 – Assessment hearing

Tom Cummins – reported that today’s reassessment hearing is necessary to ensure that all affected parcels are assessed correctly. Mr. Cummins provided the Board with a report and map showing the proposed watershed area, and updated schedule of assessments. Mr. Cummins explained that there will be no change to the per acre rate that is currently assessed. Surveyor recommends approving the watershed and schedule of assessments, as provided.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Dave Rhoads, to approve the watershed boundary and schedule of assessments for the Asbury Linn #656 drain, as provided by the Surveyor. Motion carried 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Tom Cummins mentioned previous discussions with the Board, concerning landowner informational meetings for drains scheduled for reconstruction in 2026. The Board responded favorably and Mr. Cummins will send letters to affected landowners and hold informational meetings at the December Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Regulated drain reassessment hearings schedule

Tom Cummins – requested that the Board reschedule the December meeting, to allow for the required mailing notice for the hearings proposed for December. Mr. Cummins recommends rescheduling the December meeting to December 17th, 2025, at 9:30 am.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Dave Rhoads, to reschedule the December Drainage Board meeting on Wednesday, December 17th, 2025, at 9:30 am. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Cummins requested that the Board set assessment hearings for the Jesse Evans #514, Glennard Miller #538, Alvin Sparks #554, William Linn #580, Timothy Lane #602, and Isaac Linn #626 drains on December 17th, 2025.

moved, seconded by Dave Rhoads, to schedule assessment hearings for the Jesse Evans #514, Glennard Miller #538, Alvin Sparks #554, William Linn #580, Timothy Lane #602, and Isaac Linn #626 drains at the December 17th, 2025, meeting. Motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

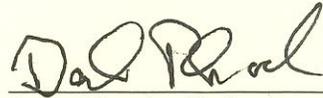
None

Dave Rhoads stated that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 17th, 2025, at 9:30 am.

Jake Bohlander moved, seconded by Lance Sennett, to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 a.m. Motion carried, 5-0.

Tom Cummins,

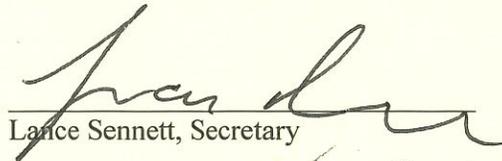
Surveyor



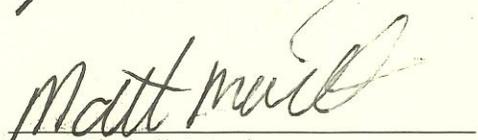
Dave Rhoads, Chairman



Doug Mills, Vice Chairman



Lance Sennett, Secretary



Matt Mitchell, Member

Jake Bohlander, Member

Montgomery County
Drainage Board Meeting
December 17, 2025

The Montgomery County Drainage Board met on Wednesday, December 17th, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at the Montgomery County Government Center at 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, Indiana.

Board members in attendance were Dave Rhoads, Doug Mills, Lance Sennett, Jake Bohlander, and Matt Mitchell. Present were Surveyor Tom Cummins, Breanne Deaver, and Attorney Dan Taylor.

Also present were Michael Cline, Dan Crowe, Bart Maxwell, Britney McCloud, Gale Lough, Chuck Anderson, Carolyn Cox, Adrian McClain, Kenny Cain,

Chairman Dave Rhoads called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to approve the November 12th, 2025, Drainage Board minutes. Motion carried, 5-0.

LANDOWNER INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS

John Coyner #599

Tom Cummins provided the Board with a report and map showing said drain. Mr. Cummins reported the drain has been classified as in need of reconstruction due to previous maintenance work and landowners reporting poor drainage. Mr. Cummins reported the open ditch portion currently is in good shape, while the tile is quartered and shallow. Mr. Cummins reported the map being shown is not accurate regarding the tile size, showing 15" in totality. Previous maintenance work confirmed that the tile reduces to 12" in the eastern portion of the Horney farm.

Dave Rhoads inquired Mr. Cummins to explain the process of these reconstructions.

Tom Cummins reported this drain is scheduled to be reconstructed in the summer of 2026. Mr. Cummins reported the final bill potentially not being due until the spring of 2028. Mr. Cummins reported once all the bills are paid and paperwork turned in, a notice of special assessment will be sent to all affected landowners, via the treasurer. Mr. Cummins reported the landowners have the option to pay the lump sum or pay installments over a 5 year period, with a 10% interest on any unpaid balance.

Doug Mills clarified that nothing will be due in the fall of 2026.

Mr. Cummins reported that is correct and the bill is due a year after the notice of special assessment.

Dave Rhoads reported to the landowners that this meeting is to help notify the farmers for their planning in the fields.

Mr. Cummins clarified that today's meeting is only an informational meeting, and the next step will be for the Board to request the Surveyor's report on reconstruction of the drain. If the Board determines that

the drain is in need of reconstruction, they will then set a reconstruction hearing and notify all affected landowners.

Dave Rhoads opened the floor for comments, with no landowner comments.

Richard Graham #623

Tom Cummins reported the drain location, tile sizes along with its open ditch. Mr. Cummins reported that the drain is in need of reconstruction based on evidence collected this past spring. Neal Barclay, on the upstream end of the drain, reported slow moving water. Mr. Cummins investigated and found multiple issues at the crossing under the abandoned county road. Mr. Cummins described the watershed.

Dave Rhoads opened the floor for comments.

Michael Cline inquired if current 18" tile attaching to the open ditch will be reconstructed larger.

Tom Cummins reported that he believes that all tile sizes will be increased, but engineering still needs to be completed.

Needham-Booher #640

Tom Cummins reported the drain location, tile sizes, and length of its open ditch. Mr. Cummins reported that the drain is in need of reconstruction based on the failing tile upstream, as well as the work needed on the open ditch. Mr. Cummins described the watershed.

Dave Rhoads opened the floor for comments.

Dan Crowe reported he owns a lot of the affected acres, and he is all for the reconstruction.

Doug Mills inquired if the other drains attached to this drain are included in this reconstruction.

Tom Cummins reported the George Jewell #657, Joseph Gray #606, and Lough-Miller #536 will be included in the assessment for this reconstruction, as it serves as the outlet.

Dave Rhoads inquired if this drain is currently on assessment. Mr. Cummins confirmed that it is currently assessed.

Mr. Cummins reported that a lot of preliminary work has already been completed, including tree and brush removal and a significant amount of surveying of the open ditch.

Walter Schoen #644

Tom Cummins reported the downstream portion of this drain was reconstructed in 2018. Mr. Cummins provided the Board with map of what was reconstructed in 2018 and what is expected to be done in the next phase. Mr. Cummins reported when maintenance work was done on Tributary 3, it was found two 6" tile running parallel instead of one 12" and explained this meeting is to see if the Board should move forward in the next phase of reconstruction.

Dave Rhoads opened the floor for comments.

Tom Cummins reported there are federal grants available but aren't typically used for regulated drains.

Dan Taylor reported for the Mace project there was a COVID fund to help with that and the storm water drains in that town was affecting sewage fields.

Henry Lee 2 #658

Tom Cummins provided the Board with the drain location and tile sizes. Mr. Cummins reported that the map shown is not accurate based on maintenance work done years ago. Mr. Cummins reported when doing maintenance work on a tile hole for a 15", it was found to be a 12", immediately reclassifying this drain as in need of reconstruction because of obstruction. Mr. Cummins also reported where the regulated drain ends just south of the road, the watershed continues south to encompass land that does not have direct access to the regulated drain. Mr. Cummins reported to the Board it may be wise to extend this drain when reconstructing.

Dave Rhoads opened the floor for comments, with no landowner comment.

Dave Rhoads inquired if we extended the tile further south, what is the process to do that.

Tom Cummins reported that the Board can do that in the framework of the reconstruction.

Dave Rhoads inquired as these landowner informational meetings are wrapped up, what is the next step in the process of reconstructing these drains.

Tom Cummins reported the next step is to complete surveying and engineering for each drain. Once the design is completed, the Surveyor will prepare his report to present to the Board. Once the Surveyor's report is received, the Board will then need to determine if it is appropriate to set a reconstruction hearing.

PETITIONS

Bluford Clough #655 – Petition to assume jurisdiction of drain

Tom Cummins provided the Board with copies of the exhibit. Mr. Cummins reported that he received a call from Jeremy Shadle about large tile holes along the eastern portion of tributary two. In discussing this issue with Bart Maxwell, it was found he and the landowner put in new 10" and 12" because of all the holes. This petition is to assume jurisdiction of that newer tile, name it Tributary 2 and destroy the abandoned tile.

Dan Taylor inquired if this petition is a single landowner request.

Tom Cummins reported there are three landowners who signed this petition; Jeremy Shadle, Jim Fulwider, and Nancy Austin. They are the only landowners directly affected by this newer tile.

Dan Taylor explained this is a section 18 hearing when all the owners request this, the surveyor will report to the Board whether the private or mutual drain meets the standard design established by the Board, if so, the Board shall grant the request. If less than all the owners request it that is a different process and requires a legal hearing.

Britney McCloud reported it still floods on the downstream end over the road even after the first reconstruction.

Tom Cummins reported that what she may be seeing is storm water runoff, which is different than subsurface drainage. With the second phase of reconstruction replacing the upstream, it may aid in flooding over the road but not completely fix the problem, as the drain is not designed for stormwater runoff.

Gale Lough reported he hasn't seen any flooding in the upstream end or damage to crops thus believes the benefit of the phase two reconstruction will not be worth the cost. Mr. Lough also inquired what the cost has been to maintain the drain and if any landowners have reported not getting drainage. Mr. Lough also reported if this phase of reconstruction goes through, they will also be assessed for the Carper Crowder #513 and Charles Schoen #552 ditch.

Tom Cummins reported both those drains are on the agenda, not to be reconstructed but to have a hearing for their respective watershed changes.

Gale Lough inquired if there has been any landowners reporting insufficient drainage.

Tom Cummins reported there has not been any push from landowners. Originally for the first phase of reconstruction there were landowners complaining of poor drainage. Mr. Cummins reported the Board approved of first phase and concluded once that was done and paid off they will reconvene to discuss if the next phase would be appropriate.

Gale Lough reported he still believes this reconstruction is unnecessary.

Chuck Anderson reported his land is located on the open ditch portion and looking east off county road 575, the open ditch needs some clean up and inquired if that was going to happen.

Tom Cummins reported the open ditch was cleaned up to that point with the money that was available. Once the account had some time to recuperate funds, it is planned to continue that work. Mr. Cummins inquired if the Board wants to move forward with survey and engineering.

Dave Rhoads reported he would like to start with the surveying and engineering to estimate costs. Mr. Rhoads inquired with the two 10" tiles running side by side, would they be replaced with a single running tile.

Tom Cummins reported that it is the plan but it would depend on the engineering work whether that will be possible. Mr. Cummins also reported the original tile was put in over a hundred years ago and by hand as deep as they had to go. Now with machines it is easier to install drains deeper and allowing better grades. Mr. Cummins reported the Charles Schoen 2 #587 that runs northward of this drain was originally established to aid in the drainage of the upstream portion of the drain. Though once the reconstruction was done in 2018, the Walter Schoen #644 now serves as the outlet for this upstream portion of tile. Mr. Cummins reported the Charles Schoen 2 #587 is currently only serving one landowner and thinks this drain needs to be revisited at a later date to potentially be vacated.

Dave Rhoads inquired who owns the affected parcel.

Tom Cummins reported it is Jim Dykes land.

Carolyn Cox inquired if there is any federal funding to help with this.

Matt Mitchell moved, seconded by Doug Mills, to approve the request to assume jurisdiction of the private drain, to become part of the Bluford Clough #655 drain. Motion carried 5-0.

HEARINGS

Jesse Evans #514 – Assessment hearing

Tom Cummins reported that today's reassessment hearing is necessary to ensure that all affected parcels are assessed correctly. Mr. Cummins provided the Board with a report and map showing the proposed watershed area, and updated schedule of assessments. Mr. Cummins explained that there will be no change to the per acre rate that is currently assessed. Surveyor recommends approving the watershed and schedule of assessments, as provided.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to approve the watershed boundary and schedule of assessments for the Jesse Evans #517 drain, as provided by the Surveyor. Motion carried 5-0.

Glennard Miller #538 – Assessment hearing

Tom Cummins reported that today's reassessment hearing is necessary to ensure that all affected parcels are assessed correctly. Mr. Cummins provided the Board with a report and map showing the proposed watershed area, and updated schedule of assessments. Mr. Cummins explained that there will be no change to the per acre rate that is currently assessed. Surveyor recommends approving the watershed and schedule of assessments, as provided.

Matt Mitchell moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to approve the watershed boundary and schedule of assessments for the Glennard Miller #538 drain, as provided by the Surveyor. Motion carried 5-0.

Alvin Sparks #554 – Assessment hearing

Tom Cummins reported that today's reassessment hearing is necessary to ensure that all affected parcels are assessed correctly. Mr. Cummins provided the Board with a report and map showing the proposed watershed area, and updated schedule of assessments. Mr. Cummins explained that there will be no change to the per acre rate that is currently assessed. Surveyor recommends approving the watershed and schedule of assessments, as provided.

Dave Rhoads moved, seconded by Lance Sennett, to approve the watershed boundary and schedule of assessments for the Alvin Sparks #554 drain, as provided by the Surveyor. Motion carried 5-0.

William Linn #580 – Assessment hearing

Tom Cummins reported that today's reassessment hearing is necessary to ensure that all affected parcels are assessed correctly. Mr. Cummins provided the Board with a report and map showing the proposed watershed area, and updated schedule of assessments. Mr. Cummins explained that there will be no change to the per acre rate that is currently assessed. Surveyor recommends approving the watershed and schedule of assessments, as provided.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to approve the watershed boundary and schedule of assessments for the William Linn #580 drain, as provided by the Surveyor. Motion carried 5-0.

Timothy Lane #602 – Assessment hearing

Tom Cummins reported that today's reassessment hearing is necessary to ensure that all affected parcels are assessed correctly. Mr. Cummins provided the Board with a report and map showing the proposed watershed area, and updated schedule of assessments and explained last meeting the Board took jurisdiction of more open ditch and this new watershed covers that area. Mr. Cummins explained that there will be no change to the per acre rate that is currently assessed. Surveyor recommends approving the watershed and schedule of assessments, as provided.

Jake Bohlander moved, seconded by Lance Sennett, to approve the watershed boundary and schedule of assessments for the Timothy Lane #602 drain, as provided by the Surveyor. Motion carried 4-0. Dave Rhoads abstained.

Isaac Linn #626 – Assessment hearing

Tom Cummins reported that today's reassessment hearing is necessary to ensure that all affected parcels are assessed correctly. Mr. Cummins provided the Board with a report and map showing the proposed watershed area, and updated schedule of assessments. Mr. Cummins explained that there will be no change to the per acre rate that is currently assessed. Surveyor recommends approving the watershed and schedule of assessments, as provided.

Dave Rhoads inquired if the southern end that connects to the open ditch was replaced by the Cains.

Kenny Cain reported they did replace that portion.

Tom Cummins reported having landowner interest in vacating this drain and a petition was sent to Seth Cain, but never returned.

Doug Mills moved, seconded by Matt Mitchell, to approve the watershed boundary and schedule of assessments for the Isaac Linn #626 drain, as provided by the Surveyor. Motion carried 4-0. Dave Rhoads abstained.

Dave Rhoads left at 11:00 am.

NEW BUSINESS

Regulated drain reassessment hearings schedule

Tom Cummins requested that the Board reschedule the January meeting, to allow for the required mailing notice for the hearings proposed for January. Mr. Cummins recommends rescheduling the January meeting to January 21st, 2026, at 9:30 am.

Lance Sennett moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to reschedule the January Drainage Board meeting on Wednesday, January 21st, 2026, at 9:30 am. Motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Cummins requested that the Board set assessment hearings for the John Coyner #599, Carper Crowder #513, Charles Schoen 1 #552, Thomas & Alfred Taylor #590, Edward Patton #548, Urshull Cross #512, Lough-Miller #536, Allen Lewis #578, Boswell Clough #595, and Wiley Bastion #502, at the January 21st, 2026, meeting.

Lance Sennett moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to schedule assessment hearings for the John Coyner #599, Carper Crowder #513, Charles Schoen 1 #552, Thomas & Alfred Taylor #590, Edward

Patton #548, Urshull Cross #512, Lough-Miller #536, Allen Lewis #578, Boswell Clough #595, and Wiley Bastion #502 drains at the January 21st, 2026, meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Cummins requested that the Board set assessment hearings for the Lye Creek #535, Alfred Stingley #664, Arthur Fraley 2 #709, William McBee #610, George Nichols #546, John Gobin 2 #520, Charles Newkirk #594, David Thewlies #638, James Hose #572, Rebecca Miller #718, and Shumaker-White #713, at the February 11th, 2026, meeting.

Lance Sennett moved, seconded by Jake Bohlander, to schedule assessment hearings for Lye Creek #535, Alfred Stingley #664, Arthur Fraley 2 #709, William McBee #610, George Nichols #546, John Gobin 2 #520, Charles Newkirk #594, David Thewlies #638, James Hose #572, Rebecca Miller #718, and Shumaker-White #713 drains at the February 11th, 2026, meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

OTHER BUSINESS

Drain fund transfer request

Tom Cummins provided the Board a report with all the transfers between each of the accounts. Surveyor recommends approving the transfer reports, as provided.

Jake Bohlander moved, seconded by Lance Sennett, to approve the transfer reports provided by the Surveyor. Motion carried 4-0.

Jake Bohlander inquired if the accounts incur interest.

Tom Cummins reported the improvement fund does collect interest from the money market account.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

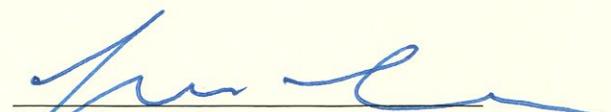
Jake Bohlander moved, seconded by Lance Sennett, to adjourn the meeting at 11:09 a.m. Motion carried 4-0.

Tom Cummins,

Surveyor


Dave Rhoads, Chairman

Doug Mills, Vice Chairman


Lance Sennett, Secretary

Matt Mitchell

Matt Mitchell, Member

Jake Bohlander, Member