

**KOSCIUSKO COUNTY  
DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING  
NOVEMBER 20, 2025**

**PRESENT**

CARY GRONINGER - CHAIRMAN  
JIM SCOTT  
DENNIS DARR  
STEVE METZGER

**ABSENT**

TODD SMITH

**ALSO PRESENT**

JIM MOYER – SURVEYOR  
SANDY ANGEL – DRAINAGE BOARD SECRETARY  
AMY MOORE– GIS TECHNICIAN

CARY GRONINGER – CHAIRMAN CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER.

**SEPTEMBER MINUTES/CLAIMS AND OCTOBER CLAIMS**

JIM SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CLAIMS AND MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER AND CLAIMS FROM OCTOBER AS PRESENTED SUBJECT TO ANY AND ALL AUDITS. STEVE METZGER SECONDED THE MOTION, AND ALL WERE IN FAVOR.

**WORK ORDER LIST/CLAIMS**

JIM MOYER BROUGHT THE BOARDS ATTENTION TO THE OUTSTANDING BRUSH CONTROL WORK ORDERS. THERE WAS AN ISSUE WITH ONE OF THE CONTRACTOR'S BILLING AND INSURANCE THAT DELAYED THE CLOSURE OF THESE WORK ORDERS. THAT HAS BEEN RESOLVED AND THESE SHOULD BE COMPLETED SOON. THINGS ARE PROGRESSING WELL WITH THE REMAINDER OF THE WORK ORDERS. THE DRY WEATHER HAS MADE IT A QUIETER FALL THAN USUAL.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ELIZA YEAGER/MAINTENANCE HEARING**

JIM MOYER EXPLAINED THAT THE ELIZA YEAGER DRAIN IS IN COMBINATION WITH THE WESLEY STACKHOUSE DRAIN. IN 1880, THE STACKHOUSE DRAIN WAS ESTABLISHED AS A REGULATED DRAIN, BUT IT DID NOT GO ALL THE WAY TO THE DAUSMAN DRAIN. IT DRAINED INTO A WETLAND AREA. IN 1894, IT WAS DECIDED THEY WANTED TO DRAIN THE ADDITIONAL WETLAND AREA, SO THEY ESTABLISHED THE YEAGER AS A REGULATED DRAIN. THESE TWO DRAINS ARE CURRENTLY MAINTENANCE NON-REPAYABLE DRAINS. MOYER PROPOSED TAKING BOTH ARMS INTO ONE SYSTEM CALLED THE YEAGER AND ESTABLISHING A MAINTENANCE FUND. MOYER SAID THAT \$3,000 WAS PAID OUT OF THE MAINTENANCE NON-REPAYABLE FUND ON THE YEAGER, AND SINCE 2007 WE HAVE SPENT A LITTLE OVER \$3,000 TO WORK ON THE STACKHOUSE OUT OF MAINTENANCE NON-REPAYABLE. THERE NEEDS TO BE MAINTENANCE DONE ON A REGULAR BASIS AND THAT IS WHY MOYER IS PROPOSING A MAINTENANCE FUND. THERE IS A CULVERT REPLACEMENT AND BANK REPAIR THAT ARE THE MOST PRESSING NEEDS, AND HE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE CARE OF THAT RIGHT AWAY. AFTER THAT, MAINTENANCE COSTS WOULD BE MOSTLY RISER INSPECTIONS, CATCH BASINS AND MINOR TILE REPAIR. MOYER ESTIMATED \$3,000 TO \$4,000 PER YEAR WOULD BE NEEDED TO MAINTAIN THIS SYSTEM. THE WATERSHED IS ABOUT 544 ACRES AND 43 PARCELS. AFTER FURTHER



DISCUSSION, JIM SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO ADVERTISE THE RATE OF \$5.00 PER ACRE WITH A \$50.00 MINIMUM AND A FOUR-YEAR MAXIMUM BALANCE. DENNIS DARR SECONDED THE MOTION, AND ALL WERE IN FAVOR. JIM MOYER SAID THE HEARING WILL BE ON JANUARY 22, 2026. ADVERTISEMENTS WILL BE PLACED AND NOTICES MAILED.

#### **DEEDS CREEK PROJECT/WITH SOIL & WATER AND TWF/JANUARY 13, 2026 MEETING**

JIM MOYER HAS SPOKEN WITH THE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND THE TIPPECANOE WATER FOUNDATION REGARDING DEEDS CREEK. THE PORTION OF THIS DRAIN FROM US 30 TO HUSKY TRAIL IS IN SERIOUS NEED OF MAINTENANCE WORK. THERE IS CURRENTLY A REPORT BY CARDNO, WHO WAS HIRED BY PIKE LAKE OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, THAT HAS IDENTIFIED THIS STRETCH IS IN NEED OF MAJOR MAINTENANCE AND EROSION CONTROL. IN THIS AREA, THE DRAIN IS DEEP AND HAS GRAVELLY, SANDY SOIL CONDITIONS. IT WAS LAST WORKED ON IN THE 1920S. THE SEDIMENT REALLY AFFECTS PIKE LAKE AND CHAPMAN LAKE. SOIL AND WATER, TWF AND THE SURVEYOR'S OFFICE ARE CALLING A MEETING JANUARY 13, 2026 TO DISCUSS THE NEED TO WORK ON THIS STRETCH OF DEEDS CREEK. IT WOULD INITIALLY USE OUR MAINTENANCE FUND. MOYER IS INTERESTED IN KNOWING WHAT PROPERTY OWNERS HAVE PLANNED IN THIS AREA. PARKVIEW HOSPITAL AND THE YMCA ARE TWO OF THE BIGGEST LANDOWNERS IN THIS AREA. HE FEELS NOW IS THE TIME TO TAKE CARE OF THIS BEFORE THERE IS ANY MORE DEVELOPMENT. CARY GRONINGER MENTIONED HE IS AWARE OF A LOT OF DEVELOPMENT PLANNED IN THIS AREA. HE ALSO SAID AT SOME POINT THE PARK AND REC BOARD MAY ALSO BE LOOKING AT A BIKE PATH IN THE AREA TOO.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### **BURKHOLDER/PRESENTATION OF ENGINEERS REPORT**

JIM MOYER ASKED AN ENGINEERING COMPANY TO LOOK AT TWO SECTIONS OF THE BURKHOLDER DRAIN. THE LOWER SECTION IS FROM CR 1350 N DOWNSTREAM TO WHERE IT OUTLETS INTO THE ARMEY DRAIN. THE OTHER SECTION IS THE FAR UPPER REACH, WHICH IS ALL IN ELKHART COUNTY. THOSE TWO ARE THE WORST AREAS OF THE DRAIN. HE ASKED FOR AN ESTIMATE OF WHAT ENGINEERING AND PLANNING WOULD COST, AND IT EXCEEDS \$100,000. MOYER WOULD NOW LIKE TO CALL A JOINT BOARD MEETING AND PRESENT THE ENGINEERING COSTS AND ESTIMATES FOR COST OF CONSTRUCTION. HE WOULD LIKE TO GET DIRECTION FROM THE BOARD ON HOW THEY WOULD LIKE TO PROCEED. THE DRAIN DOES NOT COLLECT MUCH MONEY, AND IT IS A SMALL WATERSHED. JIM SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO PROCEED WITH SETTING UP A JOINT BOARD MEETING WITH ELKHART COUNTY. DENNIS DARR SECONDED THE MOTION, AND ALL WERE IN FAVOR. MOYER WILL WORK ON COORDINATING A DATE FOR THE MEETING.

##### **HOOSIER LANDFILL.WALNUT CREEK TILE ABANDONMENT**

SEVERAL MONTHS AGO, HOOSIER LANDFILL APPROCHED JIM MOYER ABOUT ABANDONING A PORTION OF THE WALNUT CREEK DRAIN ON THEIR PROPERTY. THEY WOULD LIKE TO EXPAND THEIR FACILITY, AND IT WOULD AFFECT THIS TILE. THIS TILE IS A HUNDRED PLUS YEARS OLD. PART OF IT FLOWS NEXT TO THE PETERSON DRAIN, WHICH FLOWS IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION. THE TILE CANNOT OPERATE IN ITS CURRENT CONDITION AND LOCATION. AMY MOORE EXPLAINED THAT THIS WOULD TAKE ABOUT 78 ACRES OUT OF THE WALNUT CREEK WATERSHED AND PUT IT IN THE PETERSON WATERSHED. JIM SCOTT ASKED IF MOYER SAW ANYTHING IN THE FUTURE THAT ABANDONING THIS WOULD CREATE A PROBLEM FOR. MOYER DID NOT FORSEE



ANY ISSUES. STEVE METZGER MADE A MOTION TO ABANDON THE IDENTIFIED SECTION OF WALNUT CREEK ON THE HOOSIER LANDFILL PROPERTY. DENNIS DARR SECONDED THE MOTION, AND ALL WERE IN FAVOR. JIM MOYER WILL NOTIFY HOOSIER LANDFILL AND TAKE CARE OF ANY NEEDED PAPERWORK.

#### **CLAYPOOL REDEVELOPMENT**

JIM MOYER INTRODUCED CHRIS HARRISON FROM COMMONWEALTH ENGINEERS TO DISCUSS A CURRENT CLAYPOOL PROJECT. HARRISON SAID A PORTION OF THE CAUFFMAN DRAIN RUNS INTO THE MUNICIPAL BOUNDARIES WITHIN CLAYPOOL. THERE IS A LOT OF STORMWATER INFILTRATION COMING INTO THE SYSTEM IN THIS AREA. AFTER DISCUSSIONS WITH MOYER, IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT THE COUNTY TAKE CARE OF UPATING THE SECTION OF THE CAUFFMAN IN THIS AREA. THIS WOULD ALLOW CLAYPOOL TO USE RESOURCES FOR OTHER PROJECT AREAS. HARRISON SAID THAT CLAYPOOL IS WORKING WITH THE STATE REVOLVING FUND AND OCRA FUNDING AGENCIES. THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEPARATE THIS PORTION OF THE CAUFFMAN OUT SO THAT THE COUNTY COULD TAKE CARE OF IT IN THE FUTURE. HARRISON WOULD LIKE TO COME BACK TO THE BOARD WHEN THEY GET MORE INFORMATION FROM FUNDING AGENCIES AND COST OF THE PROJECT TO ALLOW BETTER DECISION MAKING. MOYER ADDED THAT THE COUNTY HAS WORKED ON THIS PORTION OF TILE OVER THE YEARS AND IT IS IN POOR CONDITION. IT NEEDS SOME MAJOR MAINTENANCE, AND IT IS A DIFFICULT SPOT TO WORK IN. OUR FUNDS ARE LIMITED, AS WE ONLY COLLECT ABOUT \$22,000 A YEAR ON THE CAUFFMAN. IF CLAYPOOL CAN IMPROVE THEIR SEWER TREATMENT PLANT ON THE NORTH SIDE OF TOWN, IT HELPS WITH DRAINAGE INTO THE CAUFFMAN ON THE SOUTH SIDE. CARY GRONINGER SAID HE WAS GOING TO ABSTAIN FROM THE CONVERSATION BECAUSE HE IS INVOLVED IN SOME OF THE WORK ON THE PROJECT. HARRISON SAID THAT IF THIS DOES MOVE FORWARD, THEY WOULD LIKE A TIMELINE FROM THE COUNTY ON WHEN WORK WOULD BE DONE. JIM SCOTT ASKED WHAT KIND OF WORK WE ARE LOOKING AT. MOYER SAID THERE IS ABOUT 400 FEET OF 8" TILE THAT NEEDS REPLACED. HE DOES NOT HAVE A COMPLETE ESTIMATE READY, BUT FEELS IT IS SOMETHING WE CAN HANDLE. HE FEELS THAT IT IS A PROJECT WORTH PURSUING. JIM SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO TABLE THE DISCUSSION UNTIL DECEMBER. DENNIS DARR SECONDED THE MOTION, AND ALL WERE IN FAVOR. CARY GRONINGER ABSTAINED.

#### **NEVIN MCCONNELL/WORK ORDERS**

JIM MOYER SAID THAT WE HAVE HAD A MAJOR OUTBREAK IN BEAVER ACTIVITY SOUTH OF TOWN AROUND MUD LAKE. HE HAS A TRAPPER WORKING ON THAT. HE HAS HIRED A CONTRACTOR TO WORK ON CLEANING OUT THE NEVIN MCCONNELL IN TOWN WHERE IT CONNECTS WITH TURKEY CREAK. THERE ARE DEAD TREES BACKED UP AGAINST THE CULVERT, AND THERE IS SOME STONE FROM OTHER PROJECTS IN THE BOTTOM OF THE DRAIN CLOGGING IT. HE WILL FOLLOW UP WITH THAT CONTRACTOR TO PUSH THE WORK FORWARD. HE IS ALSO WORKING WITH LANDOWNERS OF THE OLD SYRACUSE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, WHICH IS NOW APARTMENTS. HE IS WORKING WITH THEM TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS ON TURKEY CREEK AND THE NEVEN MCCONNELL. MOYER PLANS TO CONTINUE WORKING ON THESE SMALLER PROJECTS AS HE WAITS ON DNR PERMITTING.

#### **LEVI EATON/COST**

JIM MOYER REMINDED THE BOARD THAT THE LEVI EATON IS NEAR THE OLD KRALISS BROTHERS POULTRY PROCESSING PLANT. A TILE WAS REROUTED AROUND SOME TREATMENT LAGOONS MANY YEARS AGO. THE TILE HAS COLLAPSED AND IS IN POOR CONDITION. AN OPEN DITCH WAS SOMEWHAT CONSTRUCTED AROUND THE LAGOONS.



IT BACKS UP WATER TO THE SOUTHWEST, MOSTLY ACROSS ONE PROPERTY OWNER. THE COST OF REPLACING THE TILE IS SIGNIFICANT AND WOULD HAVE TO BE BORE BY ONE PROPERTY OWNER. THE COSTS OUTWEIGH THE BENEFIT IN THIS SITUATION. MOYER IS WORKING ON A COST TO JUST IMPROVE THE OPEN DRAINAGE DITCH AND NOT REPLACE ANY TILE TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION AS BEST AS POSSIBLE. IF THIS IS DONE OUT OF MAINTENANCE, IT WILL BE EXPENSIVE AND PUT THE DRAIN IN DEBT. WE HAVE LOOKED AT RECONSTRUCTION. MOYER PLANS TO GET HARD COST NUMBERS AND BRING THAT INFORMATION BACK TO THE BOARD TO DETERMINE HOW TO PROCEED.

**DENNIS DARR/REAPPOINTMENT**

DENNIS DARR IS UP FOR REAPPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD. DARR SAID HE IS WILLING TO CONTINUE SERVING. JIM SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO REAPPOINT DENNIS DARR. STEVE METZGER SECONDED THE MOTION, AND ALL WERE IN FAVOR.

**DRAINAGE ANALYTICS PRESENTATION IN DECEMBER**

AMY MOORE WILL MAKE A PRESENTATION OF DRAINAGE ANALYTICS AT THE DECEMBER MEETING. SHE WILL DISCUSS HOW WE COMPILE INFORMATION REGARDING OUR DRAINS THAT ALLOWS US TO RANK OUR DRAINS AND THEN DETERMINE WHAT ONES SHOULD BE WORKED ON.

**ADJOURN**

BEING OF NO FURTHER BUSINESS, DENNIS DARR MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN. STEVE METZGER SECONDED THE MOTION, AND ALL WERE IN FAVOR.

**CLAIMS**

**11/4/25**

BLUE AUSTIN	TIMBER VALLEY	\$955.00	2700
GAY EASTERDAY	M KOLESIAK CONST	\$15,335.00	2700
KEEFER EVANS	STEVE BARTELS	\$60.00	2700
KELLY HC	WARSAW WHOLESale	\$175.70	2700
KELLY ZIMMER	TIMBER VALLEY	\$5,350.00	2700
MCCLEARY GOCHENOUR	STEVE BARTELS	\$60.00	2700
NEFF OMAR JEFF	TIMBER VALLEY	\$480.00	2700
NEVIN MCCONNELL	STEVE BARTELS	\$765.00	2700
PETERSON MARTIN	TIMBER VALLEY	\$3,305.00	1158
SHATTO CATTELL	SHANKSTER BROS	\$204.10	1158
SHOEMAKER ISAAC	SHANKSTER BROS	\$187.20	1158
SHOEMAKER ISAAC	TIMBER VALLEY	\$3,010.00	1158
SHOEMAKER ISAAC	WARSAW WHOLESale	\$1,267.20	1158
SMITH GEORGE	TIMBER VALLEY	\$3,480.00	2700
SWICK MEREDITH	TIMBER VALLEY	\$160.00	2700
SWICK MEREDITH	TIMBER VALLEY	\$480.00	2700
SWICK MEREDITH	TIMBER VALLEY	\$420.00	2700
SWICK MEREDITH	TIMBER VALLEY	\$210.00	2700
WALNUT CREEK	STEVE BARTELS	\$60.00	2700
WALNUT CREEK	TIMBER VALLEY	\$800.00	2700
WYLAND	TIMBER VALLEY	\$1,050.00	2700
WYLAND	TIMBER VALLEY	\$1,925.00	2700

**MAINTENANCE: \$ 31,765.70**  
**GENERAL DRAIN: \$ 7,973.50**

11/18/25

ARMEY	M KOLESIAK CONST	\$6,850.00	2700
COPPESS	DRAINAGE SOLUTIONS	\$895.72	2700
COPPESS	TIMBER VALLEY	\$1,870.00	2700
ELDER	GARY DANT	\$870.00	2700
GAY EASTERDAY	M KOLESIAK CONST	\$810.00	2700
GAY EASTERDAY	TIMBER VALLEY	\$957.00	2700
GAY EASTERDAY	M KOLESIAK CONST	\$390.00	2700
GAY EASTERDAY	TIMBER VALLEY	\$1,090.00	2700
GAY EASTERDAY	STEVE BARTELS	\$330.00	2700
GAY EASTERDAY	DRAINAGE SOLUTIONS	\$225.79	2700
GAY EASTERDAY	DRAINAGE SOLUTIONS	\$534.89	2700
HALL ISAAC	M KOLESIAK CONST	\$2,600.00	2700
HAMMOND STUTZMAN	M KOLESIAK CONST	\$2,700.00	2700
MCCLEARY GOCHENOUR	STEVE BARTELS	\$300.00	2700
METZGER JOSEPH	DRAINAGE SOLUTIONS	\$3,458.50	2700
NEFF OMAR PLAIN	WAUGH FARM DRAINAGE	\$1,734.65	1158
ROBINSON GA	GARY DANT	\$180.00	2700
SHANTON	GARY DANT	\$1,080.00	2700
WALNUT CREEK	KLINE TRUCKING & EXC	\$1,445.00	2700
WALNUT CREEK	TIMBER VALLEY	\$6,430.00	2700
WALNUT CREEK	STEVE BARTELS	\$180.00	2700

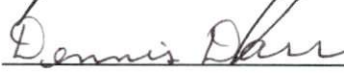
MAINTENANCE: \$ 33,196.90  
GENERAL DRAIN: \$ 1,734.65

NOVEMBER TOTALS  
MAINTENANCE: \$ 64,962.60  
GENERAL DRAIN: \$ 9,708.15

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

  
Cary Groninger – Chairman

  
Jim Scott – Vice Chairman

  
Dennis Darr

  
Steve Metzger

  
Todd Smith