

**WHITLEY COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD – MINUTES REGULAR MEETING – DECEMBER 15, 2025, 9:00AM**  
**Whitley County Government Center - County Commissioner/County Council Meeting Room – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor**

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

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

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

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

**IN THE MATTER OF CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE NOVEMBER 17, 2025, WHITLEY COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD MINUTES:**

A motion was made by Johnson to approve and adopt the November 17, 2025, Whitley County Drainage Board Minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Schuman. Motion passed 5-0.

**IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC ATTENDANCE:** There were five (5) visitors in attendance for the December 15, 2025, Whitley County Drainage Board meeting. A guest list is included with the minutes of this meeting.

**IN THE MATTER OF CONSENT FOR PERMANENT STRUCTURE PETITIONS:**

**DRAIN: 543-000A PHILLIPS C A**

Brooks Boles requested to construct commercial storage units at his property located on W. Business 30. The commercial climate-controlled storage buildings will be located a minimum distance of five (5) feet from the top of bank of the 543-000A PHILLIPS C A county regulated drain. Utterback explained the condition of the open ditch and that clearing is needed as there is not currently a working side. The existing fence located at the top of bank would need to come down if work would be done on the north side. Concerns were noted regarding the close distance of the structures and potential erosion with extra run-off, as well as access being limited on this side of the open ditch. With there being no motion from the Board, the Consent for Permanent Structure Petition was not approved at this time, which allows the petitioner the chance to bring forth an updated site plan during a future meeting for the Board to review at that time.

**DRAIN: 459-001B MOSSMAN J #1 (non-taxed)**

Thrills RV requested to place an RV gravel parking lot crossing the MOSSMAN J #1 459-001B non-taxed county regulated drain. The current location of the tile may be off a bit on the map, however, it will be confirmed prior to the parking lot installation. This tile has historically not been in good shape with suck holes existing but would need to be established as a taxed drain if funds were to be used to replace the tile. Johnson motioned to table the Consent for Permanent Structure Petition to Thrills RV until more information is obtained on the MOSSMAN J #1 non-taxed tile. M. Schrader seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

**DRAIN: 664-031A STANGLAND #31**

Terry & Judy Huffman requested to add an attached deck located between the existing home and the recently approved semi-inground pool located a minimum distance of fifty (50) feet from the top of bank of the STANGLAND #31 664-031A county regulated drain. M. Schrader motioned to approve the Consent for Permanent Structure to Terry & Judi Huffman for the attached deck to be located a minimum distance of fifty (50) feet from the top of bank of the STANDLAND #31 county regulated drain. Cormany seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**DRAIN: 026-000A BLUE RIVER**

Helix Engineering, for WCCS, requested to install fiber optic on the north side of Radio Road by directional boring, a minimum depth of six (6) feet under the natural bottom of the BLUE RIVER 026-000A county regulated drain. M. Schrader motioned to approve the Consent for Permanent Structure Petition to Helix Engineering for the installation of fiber optic to be installed crossing the BLUE RIVER 026-000A county regulated drain. Cormany seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

**IN THE MATTER OF LET/BID JOBS:**

216-034AB GOBLE E #34AB – Bids were recently accepted to replace 2500 ft of 30", 24" & 18" tile beginning on the north side of 900 South, crossing 900 South thru Ottinger's property to the east side of 250 West.

Cormany motioned to award the labor to L. I. Excavating for \$29,588.50. Schuman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Schuman motioned to award the pipe to Baughman Tile for \$25,923.35. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Johnson motioned to award the backfill to Bailey Trucking for \$20.50/ton. Cormany seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**IN THE MATTER OF OTHER BUSINESS:**

There was no business to discuss at this time.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ENGINEER REPORT:**

614-000B SCHNEIDER J (non-taxed) – Allen reported that a property owner had preliminarily requested that this tile be established as a taxed drain. This drain does outlet in Allen County, so this would be a joint drain under Allen County's jurisdiction. Allen County does not collect on their portion of drain, however they would like to in the future. The Allen County Surveyor wanted to possibly bring in all of the branches as well. Allen will update the property owner on these findings and work with Allen County.

**IN THE MATTER OF FIELD WORK REPORT:**

Utterback updated the Board that numerous bid jobs that were recently bid are being worked on including: 026-000A BLUE RIVER – L.I. Excavating has been dipping the Blue River and will be finished prior to the end of the month. Tri County Excavating has started the EMERICK S AB 149-000AB, Instate Excavating is starting the MISHLER A 455-000AB, Warner Excavating will be starting the GOBLE E #15 216-015B and Pankop has been working on the GLICK E 215-000B/HOWENSTINE W 289-000B.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman S. Schrader adjourned the meeting at 9:53am.

Submitted by: Jennifer Stephenson, Drainage Board Secretary

**PUBLIC ATTENDANCE LIST - WHITLEY COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD, DECEMBER 15, 2025:**

- 1. Nina Hartz
- 2. Jon Gotz
- 3. Rachael Hochstedler
- 4. Jared Hochstedler
- 5. Holly Miller

Members signing do hereby concur that the foregoing is a true copy of the proceedings of the Whitley County Drainage Board meeting held on December 15, 2025:




---

SETH SCHRADER, Chairman

---

DAVID JOHNSON, Vice Chairman

---

MICHAEL SCHRADER



---

BRAD CORMANY



---

ROB SCHUMAN, Commissioner Member



---

ATTEST: BRAD ALLEN, Whitley County Engineer