

# GRANT COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

401 South Adams Street  
Marion, Indiana 46953

The Grant County Drainage Board met on January 27, 2026, in the Grant County Council Chambers. Chairman Chuck Poling called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. Board members present were Vice-Chairman Richard Cox, Gordon Gough, Doug Kingseed, Drainage Board Secretary Mary Weesner, Grant County Chief Deputy Surveyor Cindy Fowler and First Deputy Surveyor Nathan Sherrill. Kenny Cates attended the meeting via WebEx.

Chuck Poling opened the meeting with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Doug Kingseed made a motion to approve January 13, 2026, minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Richard Cox and passed 5-0. Kenny Cates voted via WebEx.

## **APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:**

Chuck Poling read the claims as follows:

Grant County Treasurer \$111.30 Loan from GDIF to Maintenance  
Montpelier Weekly \$94.48 Farr & Ira Hodson; \$3,329.04 in the fund

Richard Cox made a motion to approve the above claims as presented. The motion was seconded by Gordon Gough and passed 5-0. Kenny Cates voted via WebEx.

## **\*\*\*Kenny Cates to Abstain\*\*\***

Cook Excavating \$2,990.00 Pipe Creek; \$143,085.87 in the fund  
Cook Excavating \$1,840.00 Pipe Creek; \$143,085.87 in the fund.

Gordon Gough made a motion to approve the above claims as presented; the motion was seconded by Richard Cox and passed 4-0. Kenny Cates abstained via WebEx due to having land on the Pipe Creek watershed.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

There is no old business to discuss

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Harper Legal Drain – David Devore – Maintenance request; \$190,761.32 in the fund

David Devore is present before the Board stating that they would like to get the Harper Legal Drain cleaned from County Road 600 clear to the Grant/Howard County line, it is about 3.6 miles. It was last cleaned in the mid 1990's. They (the landowners) have worked on the Harper several times, including beaver dams and the banks that have slid in over time, but it has been thirty years since it has been cleaned the whole way. Mr. Devore stated that there is plenty of money in the fund and that they had Jeff Redman look at it last week. He presented to Mr. Devore with a quote (attached to these minutes in the Drainage Board office) in the amount of \$44,650.00. He is requesting that the Drainage Board allow Redman Excavating to clean the ditch as presented in his quote (each Board member has been given a copy, along with a map of the area). Kenny Cates stated, via WebEx, that Redman's does a very good job, Mr. Devore agreed. Gordon Gough asked if there is much brush; Mr. Devore responded with virtually none, adding that there may be three or four trees in the 3½ miles and Jeff Redman said that he would take care of those. Richard Cox asked how it is over in Howard County; Mr. Devore said that it is not good. Kenny Cates made a motion, via WebEx, to award the job to Redman Excavating. The motion was seconded by Gordon Gough and carried 5-0.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

2026 Joint Drainage Board Maintenance Billing – Board Approval

Richard Cox made a motion to approve the 2026 Joint Drainage maintenance billing. The motion was seconded by Gordon Gough and carried 5-0 with Kenny Cates voting via WebEx.

2026 Local Drainage Board Maintenance Billing – Board Approval

Doug Kinseed made a motion to approve the 2026 Local Drainage maintenance billing. The motion was seconded by Richard Cox and carried 5-0 with Kenny Cates voting via WebEx.

Burge Tile – Select public hearing date (petitioner Ron Cates)

Richard Cox asked if the Burge Tile assessment roll was ready; Nathan Sherrill informed him that Raymond Bair had talked to Patrick Kendell and Mr. Kendell informed him that they are still mapping out the drainage, so Raymond is not sure if the watershed is accurate at this point. Doug Kingseed told the Board the location of the Burge Tile and stated that they have been discussing a water project. Doug asked if there would be a problem

adjusting the assessment roll later? Mary Weesner stated that she could do a C of E to remove any parcels that will no longer drain into the Burge Tile; Cindy Fowler agreed adding that it will not bill until 2027. Chuck Poling stated that Ron Cates has been waiting two years since he turned in the petition for a hearing. He added that he doesn't see why we can't just have the hearing and if the project gets completed, we can adjust the assessment roll then. Doug Kingseed read off the current assessment of \$3.00 per acre, \$3.00 per homesite, \$3.00 per parcel, \$3.00 per commercial structure with a minimum of \$5.00 for a four (4) year collection. The current rate brings in about \$638.83 per year. The proposed rate would be \$20.00 per acre, \$50.00.00 per homesite, \$50.00 per parcel, \$150.00 per commercial structure with a minimum of \$50.00.00 for an eight (8) year collection. This rate would bring in about \$7,722.60 per year. When asking Mary Weesner what dates would work for the hearing, she informed the Board that any meeting date from March 31, 2026, being the earliest possible. Doug Kingseed made a motion to hold a public hearing for the Burge Tile on March 31, 2026; the motion was seconded by Gordon Gough and carried 5-0 with Kenny Cates voting via WebEx. Richard Cox made a motion for the proposed rates of \$20.00 per acre, \$50.00.00 per homesite, \$50.00 per parcel, \$150.00 per commercial structure with a minimum of \$50.00.00 for an eight (8) year collection. The motion was seconded by Gordon Gough and carried 5-0 with Kenny Cates voting via WebEx.

### Crane Pond Phase 1 & Phase 2 - Discussion

First Deputy Surveyor Nathan Sherrill gave the Board members a map of the area where Crane Pond Phase 1 and Phase 2 are situated. A copy of the map is attached to these minutes in the Drainage Board office. Nathan informed the Board that Phase 2 is the blue portion on the map. Gordon Gough asked if anyone knew why it is "Phase 1" and "Phase 2", Mary Weesner explained that she was told that when this was put in, it was done in two phases. Cindy Fowler stated that they replaced Phase 2 and lowered the rate. Mary Weesner stated that the Drainage Board attorney, Kyle Persinger, informed her that at the public hearing there would be a vote to join the two watersheds and then it could just be called Crane Pond. In the hearing, if it is voted through to join the two watersheds, then the Board can discuss and vote on a rate. Gordon Gough stated that Phase 2 is mostly farm ground. Doug Kingseed gave Cindy Fowler several dates that would give her office sufficient time to go over the watershed and she selected April 28, 2026, for the public hearing. Doug Kingseed made a motion to hold a public hearing to combine Crane Pond Phase 1 and Crane Pond Phase 2 on April 28, 2026. This hearing would also be to advertise the rates as \$25.00 per acre, \$100.00 per homesite, \$25.00 per parcel, \$250.00 for commercial structures with a \$50.00 minimum rate for and eight years shut off collection. The motion was seconded by Richard Cox and passed unanimously 5-0 with Kenny Cates voting via WebEx.

### Stoney Creek

Cindy Fowler informed the Board that there are still right of way and forest charges on the assessment for Stoney Creek. She added that most of the forests aren't even there. She has all the deeds for the ones that have right of way charges and they are not in the deed. There are about 25 parcels with a forest rate but there might really be only seven. Mary Weesner explained that over the past several years when the Board held public hearings, if there was a right of way or forest assessment, they have been replacing that charge with an acreage rate. Mary Weesner will talk to the attorney to find the proper way to eliminate the assessments for right of ways and forests and she will report to the Board her findings at the February 10, 2026, meeting. This is tabled.

### Harper Legal Drain

Andrew Schwinn of McCain Excavating stated that he is here to piggyback off Mr. Devore regarding the Harper Legal Drain. He stated that they have been asked by a landowner north of the Harper to pattern tile for him and he has been told that the Harper Tile is in bad condition. Mr. Schwinn added that he has been in contact with Raymond Bair about the details of the Harper Tile, but he has not been able to pinpoint anything. He stated that he then spoke with Bob Clark of Clark Farm Drainage who had bid on a job for the Harper Tile in the past. Mr. Clark had given him a map on which he would pass a copy on to the surveyor. Richard Cox asked if he was replacing part of the Harper; he responded that he was going to hook into the tile, not replace it. He added that he has talked to Raymond about how to go about it. Chuck Poling said that he would need to get a petition from the landowners. Mr. Schwinn informed the Board that Scott Rogers had done some work on the Harper in the past and said it was one of the worst tiles that he has seen in a while. And now, they don't feel that it is a very good option to tie into the Harper after hearing that. Chuck Poling told him to get with Mary Weesner, and she would get him a petition and a list of the landowners and steer him in the right direction.

### Back Creek

Doug Kingseed said that he has a question regarding the brushing and dredging of Back Creek that was discussed at the previous meeting. He said that it was stated that Back Creek will be collecting this year, but he has now found out that it is not. Since there is not enough to take care of Little Newby, what happens from here; do we have a hearing and raise the rate? Chuck Poling explained that until money is used, it will be shut off since it has reached the shut off balance. Doug asked if we should have a hearing to change it to an eight year collection. Mary Weesner explained that we need to hold a public hearing to raise the rate, at that time, it can be voted on to be on an eight year collection. Richard Cox said that he hates to spend a bunch of money on a tributary when there is still a lot of work that needs to be done on Back Creek. Gordon Gough feels that Little Newby was an afterthought, it is way north. Richard Cox made motion to have the surveyor office look

into raising the rates on Back Creek and get back to the Board later. Doug Kingseed seconded the motion, the motion carried 5-0. Gordon Gough stated that he feels that Little Newby should not be on Back Creek. After a discussion regarding whether Little Newby is part of Back Creek, Richard Cox told Cindy Fowler and Nathan Sherrill that he would like to see if they split Little Newby off, what it would do.

**ADJOURN:**

Doug Kingseed made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:46 a.m. The motion was seconded by Richard Cox and carried by a vote of 5-0. Kenny Cates voted via WebEx.

The next scheduled Drainage Board meeting will be held on February 10, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. in the Grant County Council Chambers.

Minutes recorded by:  
Mary R. Weesner  
Drainage Board Secretary

The Grant County Drainage Board has approved the minutes as presented for January 27, 2026:

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Chuck Poling  
Chairman

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Richard Cox  
Vice-Chairman

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Gordon Gough

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Kenny Cates

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Doug Kingseed