

GRANT COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

401 South Adams Street
Marion, Indiana 46953

The Grant County Drainage Board met on February 10, 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 27, 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:

Chronicle Tribune \$32.23 Bellview Tile; \$843.32 in the red
Grant County Treasurer \$1,742.10; Loan from GDIF to Maintenance fund
Tom's Excavating \$1,285.00 Burkhart Swagger; \$9,354.00 in the fund
Amazon Capital Services \$94.27 Office Supplies; \$300.00 in the fund
Chronicle Tribune \$ 32.23 Burge Tile; \$3,079.35 in the fund

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

OLD BUSINESS

Stoney Creek & Tributaries – Follow up discussion

Mary Weesner followed up with the Board regarding the forest rate and the right of way rate that is being used. She explained that she spoke with the Drainage Board attorney, Kyle Persinger, and he explained to her that if the acre rate is lower than the rates in question, we can lower it and remove the forest and/or right of way rate, but if the acreage rate is higher, we cannot just change it. Mary stated that Cindy Fowler replaced the right of way rates with the acreage rate because it was lower. The forest rate is lower than the acreage rate so it cannot be replaced without public hearing. Richard Cox asked we were having a public hearing, Mary Weesner gave him potential dates, the earliest being March

31, 2026, the same date as the Burge Tile, which would be fine as Burge is not very big and we have done more than one hearing at a time before. Chuck Poling asked Cindy Fowler about what date would work for them; Cindy responded that it was ready. Doug Kingseed made a motion to hold the public hearing for Stoney Creek and Tributaries on March 31, 2021. The advertised rate would be for \$10.00 per acre, \$150.00 per homesite, \$10.00 per parcel for an eight (8) year shut off collection. Doug asked Cindy if there are many trees on Stoney Creek; Cindy responded that there used to be twenty five (25) or so but now there is only about seven (7). The motion was seconded by Gordon Gough and passed 5-0 with Kenny Cates voting via WebEx.

Middlefork – Discussion

Doug Kingseed wanted to inform the Board that he had a discussion with Dave Devore regarding the Middlefork watershed. He stated that the rates were raised last year. They discussed what needed to be done out there and whether it can be put on the agenda in August before they all got in the fields and whether any money can be spent from this year's money and possibly next year's money to start clearing on it just to get something started. There are trees that need to come down and log jams to be removed. Doug just wanted to let the Board know that that conversation happened.

NEW BUSINESS

Please note Doug Morrow is unable to attend the meeting; Andrew Schwinn will attend on his behalf. A letter from Mr. Morrow is attached to the estimate.

Sims Franklin – Andrew Schwinn representing Doug Morrow-Maintenance request

Andrew Schwinn of McCain Brothers Excavating is present before the Board. He told the Board that he is currently doing a project for Doug Morrow on CR 125 S and CR 500 W, adding that they are tiling 330 acres for Mr. Morrow. He wants to outlet in the Sims Franklin open ditch. Andrew is present today asking permission from the Drainage Board to empty into the Sims Franklin open ditch. Doug Kingseed made a motion for the Board to approve Doug Morrow and McCain Brothers to outlet into the Sims Franklin. The motion was seconded by Richard Cox and passed 5-0, with Kenny Cates voting via WebEx.

Harper Legal Tile – Andrew Schwinn representing Doug Morrow-permission to outlet

He was asked to tile an 80 acre farm that does drain down to the Harper Legal Tile. After a brief discussion, Richard Cox made a motion to allow Andrew Schwinn of McCain Brothers Excavating to outlet into the Harper Legal Drain. The motion was seconded by Doug Kingseed and carried 5-0 with Kenny Cates voting via WebEx.

Harper Legal Tile – Andrew Schwinn representing Doug Morrow-present quote

Andrew Schwinn stated that the Harper Legal Tile is in very poor condition. He added that from recent minutes, Scott Roger has commented about the condition of the tile. He stated that they would like to replace the current Harper Legal. There is not a lot of information on this, but he did measure the headwall, and it is roughly 18” where it comes into the headwall at CR 600 S. There is also a 12” that comes in there as well. Andrew stated that he has given a quote to the Drainage Board secretary (each member has been given a copy, there is also a copy attached to the minutes in the Drainage Board office) in the amount of \$39,985.00. He added that Doug Kingseed and he conversed about upsizing the tile and he has some information about that.

Rick Gunning is now before the Board. He told the Board that years ago he had to retile the back half there was a spot along Whybrew and himself that they have fixed numerous times. Doug Kingseed told the Board that the reason Andrew and him discussed upgrading to a 24” is because if you take an 18” and talk about co-efficient which is how much water per acre, per hour. He added that on this tile, there is a headwall right there with a 12” going into it. Chuck Poling agrees about a 24” and going up to the next size to prepare for the future. Andrew Schwinn wanted to add that they do not know what they have out there coming into this. Chuck asked Andrew to take pictures as they went. After further discussion, Richard Cox made a motion to go with option B updating the Harper Legal Tile to a 24” for 1,200 feet. Doug Kingseed seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0 with Kenny Cates voting via WebEx.

Doug asked Andrew what he was planning on doing with the old tile; Andrew said they would cap it off. Doug stated that if they don’t destroy the old tile and the old tile continues breaking down, the county still must pay maintenance on it. But by destroying the old clay tile, that gets rid of that old clay tile, and then you are done with it. Kenny Cates agreed that the old tile needs crushed.

OTHER BUSINESS

Doug Kingseed asked the Board their opinion regarding a private tile. If development comes up and builds on top of it and wants to change direction; what is the Board’s stance on those tiles? Richard Cox stated that we do not have authority over private tile. Doug said that he is asking regarding the data center. Chuck Poling stated that he heard that they could put their own in but cannot mess with any of ours and ours aren’t designed to handle that amount of water that they will put out.

ADJOURN:

Richard Cox made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:44 a.m. The motion was seconded by Doug Kingseed and carried by a vote of 5-0. Kenny Cates voted via WebEx.

The next scheduled Drainage Board meeting will be held on February 24, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. in the Grant County Council Chambers.

The Grant County Drainage Board has approved the minutes as presented for February 10, 2026:

Chuck Poling
Chairman

Richard Cox
Vice-Chairman

Gordon Gough

Kenny Cates

Doug Kingseed

Minutes recorded by:
Mary R. Weesner
Drainage Board Secretary