MINUTES
WARRICK COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD
&
DEPARTMENT OF STORM WATER
February 23rd, 2026
2:30 pm.
Regular Session
Old Historic Courthouse
107 W. Locust St. Suite 303
Boonville, In 47601
812-897-6170

The Warrick County Drainage Board and Department of Storm Water met in regular session with Terry Phillippe, President; Sarah Seaton, Vice President; Stacey Franz, Secretary; Morrie Doll; Attorney, Steve Sherwood, Storm Water; Steve Spinks Surveyor; and Ashley Knight, Recording Secretary.

Present in the audience: Sherrie Sievers, Mike Bell.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

President Terry Phillippe: I'd like to call the Warrick County Drainage Board regular session February 23rd, 2026 to order. Please stand and recite the pledge with us.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

President Terry Phillippe: next order of business is approval of minutes from the February 9th, 2026 meeting.

Commissioner Stacey Franz: I'll make a motion to approve. You'll have to second because she was gone.

President Terry Phillippe: I'll second that and Sarah will abstain. All in favor? 2-0.

CLAIMS:

President Terry Phillippe: next order of business is approval of claims for $286.87

Commissioner Stacey Franz: I'll approve the 286.87.

Vice President Sarah Seaton: I'll second that.

President Terry Phillippe: all in favor? 3-0

RUSTIC HILLS SOLAR:

President Terry Phillippe: Next order of business is Rustic Hills Solar tabled from February 9th right along Taylor Ditch easement.

Morrie Doll: I understand that's been withdrawn.

Steve Spinks: Well, I can make a comment to you all about that, you know they wanted to put a road on us that 75ft and we asked for it to be tabled because Ms. Seaton wasn't here. She was out at the time and you all did table for respect of her, I appreciate that as your surveyor. I called him and he did tell me that they decided to put it on their own property. They're going to stay on their own property. We did have a conversation about he was wanting to know about the line the 75ft easement that we have. He's wanting to know if it's a straight line or if it indentured. I explained to him that its an indentured line, meaning that anything along that bank that would increase maybe go in towards their property two or three feet, they had to move that line. He agreed to that, he understood that. So, that's kind of where it is right now. I have been reading up and I've been studying the manual, the ordinance. When they do that, they want to put their line, their road on their own property. I'm going to request them to shoot a bunch of stakes. Put some stakes in there so we know exactly where they're going to be at. He said they'd stay off you know, five feet or more than the 75, you know. But my concern is that I'm going to ask them and I'm studying to see if I can actually in the ordinance have them do it is run some kind of tile down the side of that road that they're going to put in because its going have rainwater standing on it. It's probably going to be gravel. They're going to have rainwater standing on it and then that's going to roll off towards the legal drain and that's going to make it soft right in there. So, that's kind of where I'm at on that. I'll let you know the next meeting what I find out from him and what I can find out by the ordinance book.

President Terry Phillippe: Sherrie are you doing the bid packet opening?

Morrie Doll: The first one I've got is Westfield Excavating. When did you receive this one, Mr. Surveyor? It's not filed.

Steve Spinks: about 5 after 8 this morning. In that area in that time right there.

Morrie Doll: consists of two pages. Howard Williams Ditch and Weinsheimer Ditch silt and debris removal. Westfield excavating quote for the upcoming project, originally hydraulic capacity design drain sediment by removal of accumulated silt and debris. A bid price of $10,450. With a certificate of insurance of a million dollars. But does the bid proposal that went out, does it specify the distance? Because this doesn't, this doesn't state the distance. It just says original invert grade to restore drains, cross-section and slope. Is there an original; is there a drawing of this ditch?

Steve Spinks: well, yeah there's pictures. I wanted to explain them to ya'll. The commissioners have pictures there of what that bid is included in to remove that silk right there. you can see there's only about six or eight inches of the water flowing through there. So, we're going to go in there and take it back. Now, the footage I can't say without looking at that bis. Matthew made it out.

Morrie Doll: does it specify a distance on the bid?

Steve Spinks: no.

Morrie Doll: I don't know how we would enforce this then. Contracts have to be specific as you know…

Vice President Sarah Seaton: from this point to this point.

Morrie Doll: yea, from point A to point B and we need to what A to B is.

Sherrie Sievers: Sherrie Sievers Warrick County acquisition. So, I drew the RFP up for the surveyor's office. Then part of that was an onsite inspection bid meeting. They did meet out there. Were you at that meeting Steve?

Steve Spinks: Matt Miley met out there.

Sherrie Sievers: so, did they discuss that at the meeting?

Steve Spinks: I'm pretty sure they did.

Sherrie Sievers: okay, because I didn't have any information to the length or anything of that.

Morrie Doll: verbal discussion, if we get into a dispute with whoever the successful bidder is and they go out and perform certain parts of the work and we contend. Hey you didn't finish the project because you should have went further. We need to know how far, was it 1,000 feet or 500 feet or 250. Whatever the distance really is. Or its to landmarks from point A to point B. Some sort of determination, an ability for a court to look at the document and say well you didn't perform or you did perform. And that's what I'm looking for. Do we have anything like that Sherrie?

Sherrie Sievers: I was not provided any of that, so I do not. Steve, can you provide me that?

Steve Spinks: I'm gonna; I was going to do I'll get with Matt right after this meeting and I was going to text him, but I don't want to break in without Matt's down there in the office.

Sherrie Sievers: well, we need to put the RFP out again.

Morrie Doll: well…

Sherrie Sievers: I'm happy to do that.

Morrie Doll: its like their bidding in the dark, I mean.

Sherrie Sievers: I understand.

Morrie Doll: I would feel more comfortable legally. If we put the RFP out again that has…

Sherrie Sievers: yeah, because this is all that I provided. But it doesn't have distance feet or any of that.

Morrie Doll: does it have landmarks?

Sherrie Sievers: no.

Morrie Doll: I either need landmarks or I need footage.

Sherrie Sievers: got it.

Morrie Doll: so that we can hold the contractor to a performance of their bid. And with that Sherrie, if I may the second bid is from Bieber Services. And when did this one come in? It came in last Friday, is that accurate?

Steve Spinks: yes. That's right.

Morrie Doll: so, both of these are timely, is that true?

Sherrie Sievers: yes, they were supposed to be here before the meeting today until noon today. They were accepting bids.

Morrie Doll: this one is from Bieber lawn care excavation dated February the 20th. And its for Howard Williams Weinsheimer Ditch and its for $8,120. But again, I'm quickly reading it, it does not describe the distance. It consists of the proposal, the certificate of insurance, which again is $1million. Well, no each current is $4million dollars. I don't know, Sherrie was this your form?

Sherrie Sievers: yeah, those are our forms.

Morrie Doll: all right, this is a form for a proposal. Non- collision affidavit affirmation equal employment a standard document and then a form for the acceptance…

Sherrie Sievers: was there an e-verification in there?

Morrie Doll: something stuck to this, yes there's an e-verification in here. Alright, so again its up to the board but I have concerns because I don't know how I enforce this its not defined. If its defined, these are fine but if they're not defined then that's a problem for us.

Steve Spinks: let me say something as surveyor before we before ya'll make a decision. I told my staff anything ever happens; the buck stops with me. All right? Don't blame Sherrie, don't blame Ashley…

Morrie Doll: I'm not blaming anybody.

Steve Spinks: no, I know you're not. But the buck stops with me. This is my responsibility. I should have had that in there foot wise or what you requested…

Morrie Doll: either monument, a descriptive monument like from the bridge to this or foot wise.

Steve Spinks: and from now on it will be, okay?

Morrie Doll: yea.

Steve Spinks: and if this board wants that done this time, then we'll put a stop to that. They'll have to rebid it and there'll be a footage determination out there. So, whatever they want.

Morrie Doll: I'm going to return these proposals to Sherrie during the meeting. Thank you, Sherrie.

President Terry Phillippe: so, council were those the only two? Naas did not bid?

Morrie Doll: they were the only two bids I was provided. I don't know if the third contract…

Steve Spinks: third never come back. They never made a response and they never come back.

Vice President Sarah Seaton: how would you recommend we proceed?

Morrie Doll: table the proposals today subject to the surveyor defining the length of the project and let's see where we are. And Sherrie, you're going to reach back out the to the two contractors or to all three contractors would be my recommendation and see if they want to submit a new bid.

Sherrie Sievers: my next question is did Harley Westerfield get a hard copy or email copy?

Ashley Knight: email.

Sherrie Sievers: he did not submit any of his forms.

Morrie Doll: no, he didn't. he did not.

Sherrie Sievers: so, his would be considered non-responsive.

Morrie Doll: non-responsive, yes.

Sherrie Sievers: none of his forms were submitted.

President Terry Phillippe: since we're opening the door to Naas, who did not submit at all, is it fair to open the door back to…

Morrie Doll: well, those were the only three, commissioner. Those were the only three I think that were invited to submit proposals were those three. I think at the very least you've got to go back to all three. If you want to broaden that out to more contractors, that's the surveyor's prerogative.

President Terry Phillippe: I'm just, you know I just think its if we're going to redo, which we are, and were bringing Naas back in.

Morrie Doll: I don't know if there's any other contractors interested in doing the work other than those three. Are there?

Steve Spinks: we've got a list down there. we got a list.

Morrie Doll: you can't go wrong resubmitting it to everybody on the list. Nobody can complain anyway.

Steve Spinks: well, that's what I want. I want to that's why you're here. I want to do everything has to be done legally.

Morrie Doll: I recommend saying…

Steve Spinks: you want this done this way its going to be Morrie.

Morrie Doll: I would recommend you define the duration, the length of the drainage ditch that you expect to be cleaned by the contractor and you submit the request for proposals to everybody and you specify that the proposals have to complete with all documentation.

Sherrie Sievers: it specifies all that, I would like to have the opportunity to get the length, send the bid out, but I personally prefer that I email the bids myself. I ask for return receipts and then I'll also specify in my email, as I do with the ones that I send out, to please make sure all documentation is in there because if…

Morrie Doll: we reject their proposal if its incomplete.

Sherrie Sievers: exactly, its nonresponsive. So, as soon as someone gives me the link, then I'm under the understanding to submit the bids out, invitation to bids and maybe come before you at the next meeting. Would that be acceptable?

Morrie Doll: that would be a proper motion.

Commissioner Stacey Franz: So, I'll make a motion to table for Sherrie to do the RFP resubmit to all bidders.

Steve Sherwood: one question if I may. Was it specified for a mandatory pre-bid attendance in the spectrum?

Steve Spinks: no, no not that I know of, Steve.

Sherrie Sievers: it just stated on-site inspection pre bid meeting. A pre-bid meeting on-site inspection meeting will be held at the job site on Friday, February 6th, 2026 at 10am central standard time, but it was not.

Steve Sherwood: doesn't have to be mandatory but it would state whether it is or is not.

Sherrie Sievers: do you prefer?

Steve Sherwood: you don't want to disqualify somebody.

Steve Spinks: well, some of these people, you know, some of they're working on a job you know and they might not be able to be here when its when its lead, you know so I don't think they have to be…

Steve Sherwood: and that's fine. You just need to state it that way on the bid.

Steve Spinks: alright, I appreciate all ya'll's help, okay? Because, you know, this is my first time out on this. So, I appreciate it. Thank you.

Sherrie Sievers: thank you board.

President Terry Phillippe: so, I have a first and second. All in favor? 3-0. Any other business for the drainage board?

OTHER BUSINESS:

Steve Sherwood: one more item, if I may Mr. President.

President Terry Phillippe: yes, sir.

Steve Sherwood: we asked Morrie at the last meeting to contact the landowners, buyers of the Stahl Road Business Park and Morrie put out a letter to that effect. I sent it to all of you or emailed it to all of you. I just want it in the record that he did do that and I believe in the letter it says they'll contact me if they have any questions.

Morrie Doll: I did that because I figured they may probably consult with an engineer about the drain. And so, engineer to engineer I don't need to be in the conversations.

Steve Sherwood: I'm more than willing to convey whatever we need to the owners. That's all the questions I had at drainage board.

President Terry Phillippe: next we have storm water. Mr. Sherwood.

STORM WATER DEPARTMENT:

Steve Sherwood: Thank you Mr. President. I confirm with Debbie Bennet- Stearsman that you all will get the proposed storm water rate fee increase will be forwarded to your board meeting tonight. So, look for that under your businesses that should come up.

Morrie Doll: board of commissioners.

Steve Sherwood: board of commissioners. I believe Morrie did the resolution.

Morrie Doll: I think it's been sent in writing to Debbie or…

Steve Sherwood: in the minutes.

Commissioner Stacey Franz: its on the agenda. Steve, remind me when was the last ordinance? When was the last fee?

Morrie Doll: was that 16?

Steve Sherwood: the last one was in 2014 where it was reduced from $5 to $4.50 per month for…

Commissioner Stacey Franz: in 2015.

Steve Sherwood: in 2014. The original was established in 2006. Those are the only two ordinances related to the fee.

Commissioner Stacey Franz: how much was is in 2006? Was it $5…?

Steve Sherwood: 5 dollars per month even in 2006.

Commissioner Stacey Franz: okay, just incase we get asked. I want to have it in my head.

Morrie Doll: I understand.

Steve Sherwood: so, I want to let the board know that's supposed to happen at the commissioners meeting tonight. The only other item I have is our next storm water drainage project. Storm water drainage improvement project is currently been solicited out to the land owners in Westwood subdivision section A and B. There are 12 property owners involved at border. We're going to be replacing about 800 lineal feet of existing storm drain. We're going to remove and replace six inlets, street inlets and area drains. And we're going to add two more new area drains to help drain the common backyard., standing water issues that they've had complaining. The land's basically flat to begin with. So, we're going to create another drainage swale over the top of the pipe once its replaced. So, I haven't put it out for construction yet. I just need to get all 12 temporary right of entries in. Once I have secured those, I'll move forward with the bid process. But I wanted to bring the board up to speed on we were moving ahead with the next project. That's all I have unless you have any questions for me.

Steve Spinks: are we on storm water?

President Terry Phillippe: yes sir. Questions?

Steve Spinks: so, you guys you all going to yeah, before you do what you're going to do, you've got to vote on that utility rate tonight right? Your four o'clock meeting? So, then I'll just hold my questions for Mr. Sherwood until you all vote on it. Because if it don't get passed, then there aint no sense in me even asking my questions. But if it does, I got some for him I'd like to know.

Steve Sherwood: you can forward me the questions anytime if you have some.

Steve Spinks: I appreciate that Steve thank you. It's just a little bit of understanding. So, the surveyor has some understanding of that money that's going in there.

Steve Sherwood: yeah, the money that was cited, if you recall, was the amounts recited by Dennis Wilzbacher. Steve's office or mine have never been able to get answers from Mr. Wilzbacher what those amounts were for. But as part of the storm water rate fee increase when obviously it wasn't the 8.50, we asked for 7.50 that was approved. Those amounts will be somewhat a little lesser. We have to go through all the numerical calculations to arrive at that when all this becomes a reality. As you aware, it takes almost two years before it goes into effect. But still the money that will go to the county surveyor funds will still have to be approved through this board and allocated accordingly.

Morrie Doll: through the storm water board.

Steve Sherwood: through the storm water board.

Steve Spinks: alright, okay since you brought that up, I'm going to go ahead and ask you them questions while we're on this topic. That's allocated, that'll be brought into the surveyor's office. How can I use them? If they pass that this evening, how can I use that?

Steve Sherwood: well, it will be brought into the storm water board, but you could come and ask for the money through storm water for various legal drain projects.

Steve Spinks: does it have to be a legal drain?

Morrie Doll: yes.

Steve Spinks: it can't be like a county ditch?

Morrie Doll: there is no difference, legal drains, regulated drains by state statue are what this board has jurisdiction over. All other drains are private drains. There either individual drain or mutual drains that are privately owned by the land owners. We're not allowed to use public funds on private drains. We're only allowed to use public funds on regulated drains.

Steve Sherwood: And traditionally in the past when we have helped the surveyor's office, they have been on legal drains.

Morrie Doll: they have been legal drains, regulated drains.

Steve Sherwood: nothing else.

Morrie Doll: no, never.

Steve Spinks: well, the reason why I was bringing that up is because, you know, there's a couple of really dangerous ditches out there that run right along, you know a county road. They're not a legal drain. You know, they're not in my jurisdiction, but you know since all this had been whirling around you know, I've had people ask me, hey this is a dangerous ditch right next to a county road. So, that's why I'm asking. What if that gets passed? Can I use that fund to get that fixed?

Morrie Doll: no, you can't. If its in the county road right away or a public road right away, then it would be the highway departments jurisdiction and perhaps Steve, storm water has worked hand and glove with the county highway department for drainage alongside county roads.

Steve Sherwood: correct, alongside and within.

Morrie Doll: So, that may there may be two ways to skin that cat.

Steve Spinks: were going to have to figure that out.

Morrie Doll: and Steve's office through the storm water department may be the correct way to do it, but the drainage board is the incorrect way to dot it. Unless Mr. Surveyor, you're going to ask

that we make that a public drain, a regulated drain out of those ditches. And that is an; state statue has a lot of hoops we have to jump through to create a new regulated drain to add it to the list of regulated drains in Warrick County. Then your office could spend public money on that ditch if it was designated as a regulated drain. But we have to send notices. We have to hold a public hearing; we have to amend the map and add it to the map of regulated drains within the county. We've done that in reverse during my tenure where we have relinquished a drain. We did it once out by the gold course. Out by the fancy golf course.

Steve Sherwood: Victoria.

Morrie Doll: thank you. We've done it there, and we had to serve notice by registered mail and hold a public hearing and then decide we're going to drop it.

Steve Sherwood: but I would ask if he has a list of concerns from the public, just make that list. Describe them from A to B and get them to Bobby and I and we'd be glad to take a look in, and see how we can resolve the issue.

President Terry Phillippe: that's what I was going to suggest, if you get those calls in your office Steve, the public doesn't understand what's what. You know what? You know what's a legal drain and if its not a legal drain, just kick them to Steve and Steve and Bobby collaborate if they need to and then at that point obviously as a member of the storm water board you have a vote in the matter. So, that's kind of how I see your participation.

Steve Spinks: all right. I appreciate that because I would use them funds that I would be allocated. You know, you wouldn't to get into ya'll's funds. I could use those funds; you know if I can. Thank you.

MOTION TO ADJOURN/RECESS:

President Terry Phillippe: final motion.

Vice President Sarah Seaton: I'll make a motion.

Commissioner Stacey Franz: I'll second.

President Terry Phillippe: thank you. All in favor? 3-0