

**Montgomery County  
Drainage Board Meeting**

**January 10, 2024**

The Montgomery County Drainage Board met on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. at the Montgomery County Government Center at 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, Indiana.

Chairman Dave Rhoads, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, called the meeting to order. Vicki Emmert gave the prayer.

Board members in attendance were Chairman Dave Rhoads, Vice Chairman John Frey, and members Doug Mills & Lance Sennett. Matt Mitchel, secretary, was not present. Present were Tom Cummins, Surveyor, Vicki Emmert, Secretary and Attorney Dan Taylor.

Also, present was Tom Klein and Heather Laffoon, Treasurer.

**Reorganization & Swearing in of Members.**

**John Frey moved, seconded by Doug Mills, to maintain the same officers as in 2023. Motion carried, 4-0.**

**Attorney Contract**

**John Frey moved, seconded by Lance Sennett, to retain Dan Taylor of Taylor, Minnette, Schneider & Clutter, P. C. as the Drainage Board attorney for 2024. Motion carried, 4-0.**

**Approval of Minutes**

**Doug Mills moved, seconded by Lance Sennett, to approve the December 13, 2023 minutes. Motion carried, 4-0.**

**Petitions**

**Joel Tobin #576**

Tom Cummins – reporting receiving a petition to attach to the Joel Tobin #576 drain from Larry Bullerdick. The area was displayed with the overhead protector.

**John Frey moved, seconded by Doug Mills, to approve the petition to attach to the Joel Tobin #576 from Larry Bullerdick as submitted. Motion carried, 4-0.**

**George McClain #541**

Tom Cummins – reported receiving a petition for a variance from Jordan Burkett for the George McClain #541 drain. Mr. Burkett plans to tear down the existing barn and build a new house. The easement for the drain is seventy-five feet and would like to build the house fifty-three feet from the drain. Mr. Cummins recommends approving the petition.

John Frey – inquired why Mr. Burkett could not just move the ditch.

Tom Cummins – reported it is a legal drain and would have to be done as a reconstruction, the fifty-three feet distance is enough to get in and work if needed.

Doug Mills- inquired if the County has to go in and work on the drain will we have to pay for restoring the landscaping.

Tom Cummins – reported restore as is.

**Lance Sennett moved, seconded by John Frey, to approve the petition for variance from Jordan Burkett as submitted for the George McClain #541 drain. Motion carried, 4-0.**

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

Tom Cummins- requested the Board schedule assessment hearings for the **William Hawker #522, Claude Moody #583, Needham-Booher #640, Shumaker-White #713 and the Prince Croy #724**. Mr. Cummins inquired if the Board like to hold them at our regular meeting or a special meeting.

Dave Rhoads – inquired will there be a lot of attendance.

Tom Cummins – reported yes, one would be the **Claude Moody #583** and expect a large crowd. The agenda would not be over loaded, two tiles and three open ditches.

John Frey – reported he would be at the State House on February 14, 2024.

Dave Rhoads – reported they should be split up and inquired about timeline for notices to be sent out.

Tom Cummins – reported should have plenty of time.

Dave Rhoads – reported should it be a week later.

Dave Rhoads – inquired about using February 21, 2024 for a special hearing day too.

**John Frey moved, seconded by Lance Sennett, to hold the William Hawker #522 and the Claude Moody #583 assessment hearings on Wednesday, February 14, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. at the Montgomery County Government Center. Motion carried, 4-0.**

**John Frey moved, seconded by Lance Sennett, to hold the Needham-Booher #640, Shumaker-White #713 and the Prince Croy #724 at a special meeting on Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. at the Montgomery County Government Center. Motion carried, 4-0.**

Heather Laffoon – inquired if assessments will be for this year or next.

Tom Cummins – reported this year as it still gives us plenty of time to give to the auditor.

**Other Business**

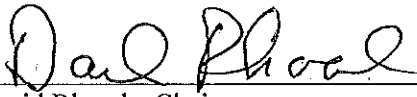
Attorney Day Taylor presented the Board members a handout for training and went over it with the Board.

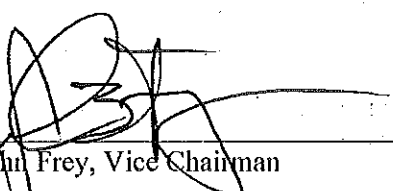
John Frey and Lance Sennett should go to the Clerk’s office at the Courthouse to be sworn in for their new terms on the Drainage Board.

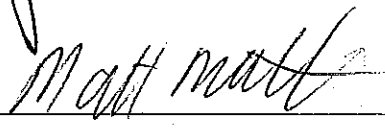
The next meeting will be January 17, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. at the Montgomery County Government Center.

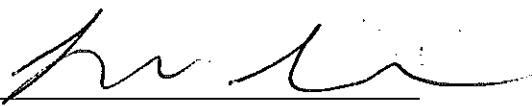
**Lance Sennett moved, seconded by John Frey, to adjourn the meeting at 10:12 a.m. Motion carried, 4-0.**

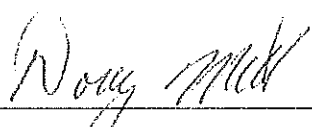
Vicki Emmert,  
Recording Secretary

  
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David Rhoads, Chairman

  
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John Frey, Vice Chairman

  
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Matt Mitchell, Secretary

  
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Lance Sennett, Member

  
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Doug Mills, Member

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