**LaGrange County Drainage Board Minutes**

**Commissioner’s Room – 1st Floor County Office Building**

A regular session of the LaGrange County Drainage Board was called to order by Ben Taylor at 8:30 A.M. on Wednesday, February 5th, 2025.

**Those Present Were:**

Ben Taylor, Chair; Todd Perkins, Vice Chair; Eric Knepp, Member; Zachary Young, Member; Zach Holsinger, County Surveyor; Cory Stewart, Deputy Surveyor; Kurt Bachman, County Attorney; Tharon Morgan, County Engineer; Robbie Miller, P & Z Administrator; Jonathon Bontrager, Landowner; Ronald Mishler, Landowner; Mitch Garlock, Brightspeed Representative

**Agenda:**

Perkins moved to accept the agenda with flexibility. Young seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Minutes:**

Young motioned to accept the minutes from the previous meeting. Perkins seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**New Business:**

Holsinger presented a bill from Owens for work done on the #156 Galloway in the amount of $31,465.00. Perkins made a motion to approve payment of the invoice. Young seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Holsinger presented bids for the #72 Baker: Mervin Yoder - $27,740.00, Greg Owens - $32,610.00 and Jeff Gilbert - $42,500.00. Perkins made a motion to award the bid to Mervin Yoder in the amount of $27,740.00. Knepp seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Holsinger presented four applications to encroach in the right-of-way for Brightspeed explaining that three are for aerial lines being placed on existing poles and one is for boring. Knepp made a motion to approve all four applications. Perkins seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Holsinger presented an application to encroach in the right-of-way for NIPSCO. No representative present so not heard.

Holsinger presented an application from 2023 that was for a driveway in the right-of-way. The landowner had submitted a building permit for another structure and in looking to sign off on that, it was observed that the house was not built in the exact location that was proposed and in now in our right-of-way. Holsinger believes that we could possibly vacate this tile as he believes it is no longer functioning. The Board requested that more investigation into the tile occurs before making a decision to vacate.

**Old Business:**

Holsinger brought the bids for the Yeager back up from the last meeting. There are two options: open cut SR 9 for $45,750.00 or jack and bore for $68,500.00. Zach asked the Board what they would prefer to do. Perkins made a motion to approve the jack and bore. Young seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed the jetting project on the #5 Sarah Davis and payment. Perkins made a motion to approve Shipshewana Auction to be responsible for the full amount. Young seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed the Hane Story/REMC bill. This was a tile that had to have repairs done because REMC put a guy wire through the tile and didn’t notify the Surveyor’s Office or get a permit to work in the right-of-way. Perkins made a motion to have REMC pay the full cost of the repair work. Young seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Other Business:**

Jonathan Bontrager and Scott Zeigler were present for applications to encroach in the right-of-way. Zach didn’t have the application due to the secretary being out sick. This application was tabled to the March meeting.

Next meeting date is Wednesday, March 5th at 8:45 AM for a regular meeting.

**Adjourn:**

Knepp motioned to close the drainage board meeting for Wednesday, February 5th, 2025, at 9:53 A.M. Perkins seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Benjamin Taylor, Chair

Todd Perkins, Vice Chair

Kevin Myers, Member

Eric Knepp, Member

Zachary Young, Member