**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 8:53 A.M. on Wednesday, March 5th, 2025.

**Those Present Were:**

Ben Taylor, Chair; Todd Perkins, Vice Chair; Kevin Myers, Member; Zachary Young, Member; Zach Holsinger, County Surveyor; Cory Stewart, Deputy Surveyor; Kurt Bachman, County Attorney; Tharon Morgan, County Engineer; Sebastian Skordos, NIPSCO Representative; Jonathan Bontrager, Landowner; Mitchell Garlock, Landowner Representative; Debra Hughes, Landowner Representative; Christine Dittmer, Brightspeed Representative; Tim Whetstone, Landowner; Scott Zeigler, Surveyor; Brian Lambright, Landowner; Ronald Mishler, Landowner

**Agenda:**

Myers moved to accept the agenda with flexibility. Perkins 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:**

Yoder presented the certificate of assessment for the Board’s approval. Young made a motion to approve and sign the certificate of assessment. Perkins seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Holsinger presented an application to encroach in the right-of-way for NIPSCO. Holsinger stated that they will be extending an existing line down SR 3. Myers made a motion to approve the application. Perkins seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Holsinger presented an application to encroach for Jonathan Bontrager. The Board discussed. Perkins made a motion to approve the application with the stipulation that the landowner would be financially responsible for the cleaning of the section of ditch that is on his property and the landowner signs an agreement to this and pays the legal fees that are associated with drawing up the agreement. Myers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Holsinger presented an application to encroach in the right-of-way for Brightspeed explaining that this is going to be a bored line. Perkins made a motion to approve all four applications. Young seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Holsinger presented 16 applications to encroach in the right-of-way for Brightspeed. Holsinger explained that all these applications are for new aerial lines that are being placed on existing poles. Perkins made a motion to approve all 16 applications. Myers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Holsinger presented another application to encroach in the right-of-way for Brightspeed explaining that this is going to be another bored line. Perkins made a motion to approve the application and asked that the Surveyor’s Office receives a call when the boring is going to be happening. Young seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Holsinger presented an application to encroach in the right-of-way for NIPSCO. Holsinger explained that they will be boring a new gas line down SR 9. Young made a motion to approve the application and asked that the Surveyor’s Office receive a call when the boring is going to start. Perkins seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Holsinger presented an application to encroach in the right-of-way for Erik Pearson. Holsinger explained that this would be for a new house. The Board discussed and checked the site plan and measurements on Beacon. Myers made a motion to table this until the April 9 meeting so that the landowner could stake out where the house is going to be and the Surveyor’s Office could measure that. Young seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Holsinger presented an application to encroach in the right-of-way for Jadwinder Singh. Holsinger stated that this is for a new convenience store and gas station at US 20 and SR 5. Holsinger stated that he would like to see what the condition is of the tile before anything is approved, so that if it needs to be replaced or repaired it can be done while construction is going on. Representative, Debra Hughes said that the landowner would be willing to pay to have the tile inspected with a camera so we could see how it looks. The Board tabled this discussion until the camera information comes in. Yoder to place back on agenda once that information is received.

Holsinger presented an application to encroach in the right-of-way for Tim Whetstone. Holsinger stated that Mr. Whetstone had a previous approval, but because of some changes to his site plan that were required from Plan Commission, he’s bringing us an updated site plan to re-approve. Perkins made a motion to approve the updated site plan with the stipulations that Mr. Whetstone used no bigger than a 6” outlet tile to our ditch, improves the drainage area to its previous capacity and provides the final updated site plan. Myers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Holsinger presented information to schedule a possible vacation of the #87 Fly Creek Lateral Tile. Perkins made a motion to schedule this for Wednesday, May 7 at 8:45 AM. Myers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Old Business:**

The Board discussed the jetting project on the #5 Sarah Davis and payment. Brian Lambright was present to discuss options with the Board for payment as he doesn’t feel he should be paying the whole bill. The Board discussed at length. Holsinger to check into the cost of screens to put into the catch basins. Will discuss at next meeting once Holsinger has pricing done.

**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, April 9th at 8:30 AM for a regular meeting.

**Adjourn:**

Young motioned to close the drainage board meeting for Wednesday, March 5th, 2025, at 10:45 A.M. Myers seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Benjamin Taylor, Chair

Todd Perkins, Vice Chair

Kevin Myers, Member

Eric Knepp, Member

Zachary Young, Member