

STARKE MARSHALL DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING
MARCH 5, 2025
@ 8:30 A.M.

Pursuant to adjournment the Starke County Drainage Board met in regular session in the Starke County Government Building meeting room this 5th day of March, 2025. The following members were present: Charlie Chesak, Stanley Klotz, Matt Lawrence, Jesse Bohannon, Gwen Rentz: Starke County Surveyor, Sara Dingman: Drainage Board Recording Secretary and Autumn Ferch: Drainage Board Attorney. The following proceedings were held to wit:

IN RE: REORGANIZATION

President: Charlie Chesak
Vice President: Matt Lawrence
Secretary: Jesse Bohannon
Attorney: Autumn Ferch
Recording Secretary: Sara Dingman
5th Member: Jenny Kniebal

Jesse Bohannon made a motion to retain Charlie Chesak as president. Stanley Klotz seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes. Jesse Bohannon made a motion for Matt Lawrence to serve as vice president. Stanley Klotz seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes. Matt Lawrence made a motion for Jesse Bohannon to serve as secretary. Stanley Klotz seconded and the motion passed with all ayes. Stanley Klotz made a motion to approve Autumn Ferch as the drainage board attorney. Matt Lawrence seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes. Stanley Klotz made a motion to approve Sara Dingman as the recording secretary. Matt Lawrence seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes.

IN RE: 2025 DRAINAGE BOARD ATTORNEY CONTRACT

Stanley Klotz made a motion to approve Autumn Ferch as the drainage board attorney. Matt Lawrence seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes

IN RE: 2025 EMERGENCY MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS

Stanley Klotz made a motion to approve the 2025 Emergency Maintenance Contracts as submitted. Jesse Bohannon seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes.

IN RE: 2025 DRAINAGE BOARD DATES

Jesse Bohannon made a motion to approve the 2025 Starke Marshall Drainage Board dates. Stanley Klotz seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes.

IN RE: NOVEMBER 13, 2024 MINUTES

Stanley Klotz made a motion to approve the minutes from November 13, 2024. Matt Lawrence seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes.

IN RE: CLAIMS

A claim was submitted for a job that had not been bid out by the previous surveyor. The board questioned what the ramifications on that could be. Jesse Bohannon suggested reaching out to State Board of Accounts to explain it was a previous surveyor who approved the job, since the work has already been completed. Jesse Bohannon motioned to approve the claim as presented. Stanley Klotz seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes.

IN RE: PETITION FOR VARIANCE – ZECHIEL ARM

A property owner came before the board to request to put a perimeter tile in the Zechiel Arm for a septic system. Stanley Klotz made a motion to approve the variance. Matt Lawrence seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes.

IN RE: JAMES & MARY DENZIL - TILE

Property owners were in front of the board in August and November of 2024. There is an issue with water draining with property owners as the drainage has been shut off by a property owner. The board discussed what action needed to be taken on this tile. The board decided to send Gwen out for an update on what the issue is and to report back to the board for the April meeting so that the board could decide on what action needs to be taken. Stanley Klotz made a motion to send Gwen out to make a determination on what is happening, discuss it with Craig and Autumn, and report back to the board at the April 2 meeting. Matt Lawrence seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes.

IN RE: HOUSE DITCH UPDATE

Gwen informed the board that no bids were received for the project. Matt & Charlie suggest updating the scope of work with where the spoils can be hauled off and re-bid the project. Matt Lawrence made a motion to re-bid the project once the scope of work has been updated. Jesse Bohannon seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes.

IN RE: MCGAFFEY BRANCH

Dowd came before the board to discuss closing in the McGaffey Branch. They are not requesting it right now, but they would like to eventually close the ditch to farm the two pieces of land together. The board asked Gwen to check with the FSA and Army Corp to make sure they wouldn't have a problem with closing an open ditch. Charlie asked Gwen to take a look at the area to see what would need to be done in order to do this before the board makes a decision.

IN RE: ZECHIEL BRANCH

Gwen presented the board a project on the Zechiel Branch. She informed the board that the area is low and filling up with sediment and weeds. Craig Cultice spoke regarding this project. Craig mentioned they probably needed to remove 2-3 feet of sediment to get it moving. Stanley Klotz made a motion to put the project up for bid. Jesse Bohannon seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes.

Craig Cultice made the board aware of a beaver dam on the Moore Lake Branch. Matt Lawrence made a motion to get the beaver dam removed. Jesse Bohannon seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes.

OLD BUSINESS

Zechiel Arm- Gwen informed the board that there were verbal changes made to a bid proposal on the scope of work. Some contractors were aware, others were not aware. There was roughly 1000 feet that would not get cleaned. It was suggested to add the 1000 feet to the bid and re-bid the project, since the project has not been started. That could leave the current contractor, Beaver Excavating, at a disadvantage due to their bid amount already being known. Jesse Bohannon suggested a medication to the current bid. There would also need to be an extension on the completion date of the project. Jesse Bohannon made a motion to accept a modification of an additional 1000 ft to the original scope of work, up to \$2000, and to extend the deadline of the project to April 30, 2025. Stanley Klotz seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes. The board also would like the Miller Arm bid out. Stanley Klotz made a motion to bid out the Miller Arm. Matt Lawrence seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes.

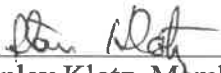
The next meeting will be April 2, 2025.

With no further business to come before this board at this time, Stanley Klotz made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Matt Lawrence seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes.

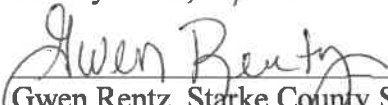

Charlie Chesak, President



Matt Lawrence, Vice President


Jesse Bohannon, Secretary


Stanley Klotz, Member


Jenny Kniebal, Member


Gwen Rentz, Starke County Surveyor


Sara Dingman, Drainage Board Recording Secretary