

STARKE COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 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 August, 2025. The following members were present: Greg Troike, Ed Jernas, Merlyn Lucas, Matt Lawrence, 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: MINUTES – JULY 1, 2025

Ed Jernas made a motion to approve the July 1, 2025 meeting minutes. Merlyn Lucas seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes.

IN RE: CLAIMS

Ed Jernas made a motion to approve the following claims:

- JD Exc/\$2,000.00/Debrush/Cannon
- Beaver Exc/\$2,000.00/Remove-Cut-Pile-Fallen Trees/Big Eastern
- Beaver Ex/\$1,500.00/Bury Large Stumps/Big Eastern
- Beaver Exc/\$2,000.00/Repair Ditch Bank-Dig out high spots-Remove Rip rap from culvert
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Merlyn Lucas seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes.

IN RE: COTTONWOOD DITCH

Gwen presented to the board a potential project with the Cottonwood Ditch. Property owners came to Gwen with concerns over the overgrowth on the ditch. Gwen shared with the board that the Cottonwood is approximately 31,885 feet long. The amount in the Cottonwood fund would not be enough to debrush the entire ditch. At this time, drainage issues were not a concern on the Cottonwood. The board suggested debrushing the ditch in sections, beginning with the most overgrown. Gwen will go back out to the Cottonwood to find the worst sections and report back to the board.

IN RE: TAYLOR DRAIN

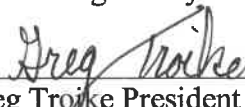
Gwen presented the board with a project on the Taylor Drain at Bass Lake. The drain travels under the road and then connects to an open ditch. If the board decided to replace the drain, the highway department would cover the repair to the road and the aggregate. Gwen received an estimate of around \$5,000. Matt Lawrence made a motion to bid out the project. Ed Jernas seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes.

IN RE: SPRAYING UPDATE


Gwen asked the board if they were wanting a spray done in the fall or wait until next spring to spray again. Gwen updated the board on the Heritage Drone spray. Heritage Drone needed to do touch ups on some areas that were sprayed. Heritage Drone has updated their chemical mixes in order to get a more successful kill. The board decide to wait until spring to spray again.

The next meeting for the Starke Drainage Board will be October 7, 2025 at 8:30 a.m.

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



Greg Troike President



Ed Jernas, Vice President

ABSENT

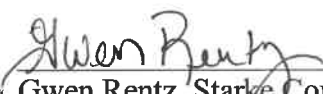
Charlie Chesak, Secretary



Matt Lawrence, Member



Merlyn Lucas, Member



Gwen Rentz, Starke County Surveyor



Sara Dingman, Drainage Board Recording Secretary