

Randolph County Drainage Board

325 South Oak Street * Suite 206 * Winchester, IN 47394 * Phone: (765) 584-0609

Present:

Gary Friend, Chairman
Tom Kerns, Vice Chairman
Missy Williams, Member
Edwin L. Thornburg, Surveyor
Meeks Cockerill, Drainage Board Attorney
Casey Keener, Secretary

Minutes for Monday, March 3, 2025

Gary Friend starts, all right, Minutes approval for Monday, February 3, 2025. I have looked at the Minutes. Wasn't a lot going on. Tom Kerns makes motion to approve the minute, Missy Williams seconds. All those in favor signify by saying aye, aye. Opposed same sign. Motion passes 3-0.

Gary says, next is the surveyors report. Ed says, we're getting people coming in starting to talk about some of the spring, the stuff we do in the spring, a lot of obstruction removal in this, that. Working on. A. So far so good. Nothing really exciting happening at this point. Gary says ok, does anyone have anything for the Surveyor? Tom Kerns says yes, I do. I think it was new Lisbon. Had asked for drainage maps. When they were putting in some fiber and supposedly we said we wanted to charge him fifteen hundred dollars. And so, Randolph County United just ask for maps and they said, well we'll trade them for the drainage maps, for their fiber. So, the question is why we were charging fifteen hundred dollars and what for? Ed replies,

The fifteen-hundred-dollars fee gives you the WTH map. Like we have in the office. Gary asks what WTH stands for? Ed replies, That's the company that that provides our GIS program. That's what you get it for fifteen hundred dollars, the GIS program. I believe it's four years with all the updates that go on during that time. Everybody that has asked for me, I told them the legal drain map is a layer on the public website, you can do that for free, but you can't download it as a TIF file. So, that's what the issue is on that. Tom says, So, you're paying for actual access to the software. Ed replies, yes. Casey adds, so we have a form in the Auditors Office for GIS access. They can fill out that form and go to the Commissioners and ask that fee to be waived. You, the Commissioners, are the only ones that can waive that fee. Meeks adds, that is by ordinance. We put that in the ordinance. Tim asks if that fifteen hundred Dollars is to gain access to our program. Meeks says, It's all the layers of it. Tom asks if we have to pay fifteen hundred? Ed replies, we are not paying. This was an arbitrary number we came up with. Meeks adds, we came up with it because we spent a bunch of money on the program. That had nothing to do with our ongoing costs. Casey adds, and actually, I don't think all of the offices even actually have the actual program they use the public version. Tom asks, So, to get access to those maps, do they have to have a separate program, or they can come into your office? Ed replies, I would print off

a map for anybody, but I will not download for anybody. I've had people come in wanting me to, I could do a TIF file for somebody, but if I do that then I, you know, violating that agreement. They can view any road they need to. But the problem is for them to put it on an engineered plan, they need it. There's a dozen different kind of files you can download, but you can't do that without paying that fee. Missy says, the problem comes from that can add lots of companies and when one finds out that you gave it to other, they all want it for free. Believe it or not there is no complete map of all the fiber in Randolph County. Although do you have? Ed says, I have believed for a long time of all this, of all the money that we pour out the window for one thing and another. Furnishing a map license to developer that's coming in to spend five hundred thousand dollars on infrastructure. I have always thought we ought to do all do that, but I don't know where you draw the line on it, and I say up suddenly you've got five hundred people wanting access. The engineering company that does our section corners needs it. You know, different times over the years we turn them down so, they don't get it. EDP paid for it, so they have. I think Blackner paid for when they came in up and up north. Tom says Is there any way to, and it might not be feasible. Have to go in there through RCU and supply it through RCU and they'd have to go in there and use a computer there. That's the same come to your office. Ed replies, if we were to give permission for people to download files. I can hand somebody a zip drive. We can download files from my office, and they could have one layer. But obviously we set a policy not to do that. Missy asks, Is Andy requesting that? Tom replies, RCU requested their fiber maps and then the response he sent me the E-mail both from both of them back and forth. Sam said something about the county says going to cost me fifteen hundred to get drainage now, is there any way to get, you know, we supply you if you know, it was pretty simple. Gary says, I think the only people we've ever not charged is a municipality. Ed says, Yeah, we do not charge city, Winchester we did not charge City Union City. Meeks says, I wouldn't say never there might be certain circumstances. Gary asks, Is Your question answered Tom. Tom replies Yeah, pretty much. Gary adds, it's like that we can't look at it and our fee might be too high. Meeks says, actually they can go fill out the form and ask for it to be waived. The form is in the auditor's office.

Missy Williams makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tom Kerns seconds, All those in favor signify by saying aye, aye. Opposed same sign. Motion passes 3-0.

Signed this 7th day of April, 2025 in the Randolph County Commissioners Room, Winchester Indiana.



Gary Friend



Missy Williams



Tom Kerns



Edwin L. Thornburg, County Surveyor