

PORTER STORMWATER BOARD MINUTES

APRIL 28, 2026

The Town of Porter Stormwater meeting was called to order at 5:03 pm with William Lopez, President leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

In attendance were William Lopez, Erik Hellmuth, Mitch Reynolds, Michael Barry Building Commissioner, and Tammie Sufana, Recording Secretary.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Hellmuth made a motion to approve the minutes of January 27, 2026 as written, second by Mr. Reynolds. Motion passed 3-0.

Approval of Claims

Mr. Hellmuth made a motion to approve the accounts payable voucher in the amount of \$14,365.04 as submitted, second by Mr. Reynolds. Motion passed 3-0.

Treasurers Report

Mr. Reynolds read the treasurer report and states the current balance is \$253,126.15.

MS4 Permit Update

Mr. Barry comments that tomorrow is the IDEM Audit @ 9:00 a.m. to audit for stormwater permit. Victor Berry, MS4 Inspector from Public Works, will come to meeting to answer questions, then they will go to Public Works and do an inspection. He also comments that we are way better off than in 2022.

Public Comments

Reports by Michael Barry

North Bailey- There is \$75,000 roughly left to be paid out after they go through the punch list of items still needing to be done. An inlet at Waverly & Markovich pond, restoration all the way around, North Bailey a lid is broken off, tree to plant, and a mailbox to put up. They should be done by end of May.

Small projects- Mr. Barry mentions he sent on email on some small projects that need to be done but he wants to spend carefully so we can build funds back up. 1st cul du sac similar to 20th St that cost about \$55 thousand. He would request it be done in phases. Phase 1 would be removing the restrictive 6" pipe in the NW corner of the project area

and reshaping the swale. That would immediately resolve standing water in the area. Second phase can wait a bit longer.

West Burwell- would consist of adding a pipe and inlet. He was notified last week that the existing culvert to the east had rusted through and created a sinkhole. It must be in the backyard because he could not see it from the road. He needs to investigate further. Hunters Glen-these two projects that should be done together, a rip-rap spillway at the northernmost pond and reshaping the ditch south of that pond. He comments this should not be very expensive.

He wants to get more projects together before he asks to go out for quotes. He mentions he would like to find away to get a mini excavator with a ditch bucket for public works. Public Works rented one last year and did a few small repairs. Public Works could do way more work with the mini excavator than the backhoe.

Mr. Lopez asks about ditch at Carlson Corners, Mr. Barry mentions we might need an easement or if we can just clean it up. Mr. Hellmuth asks do you want to get an easement or right of way. Mr. Barry mentions he will contact railroad. This is the kind of work the mini excavator could do.

Old Business

NONE

New Business

Schneider Geomatics Agreement 2026-Mr. Barry mentions this is the yearly agreement to do work with the town.

Mr. Hellmuth made a motion to approve Schneider Geomatics Agreement for 2026, Mr. Reynolds seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Schneider Task Order 26-1 Hunter Glen Overlay-This is for a drainage easement.

Mr. Hellmuth made a motion to approve Task Order 26-1 not to exceed \$850.00, Mr. Reynolds made second. Motion passed 3-0.

Bell Trucking-Mr. Barry mentions he sent Bell Trucking a letter about cleaning the dry wells. Mr. Bell responds with he had them done last summer and that he is going to do some regrading of the stone. Mr. Bell mentions he thinks a ditch is plugged flowing to south on Waverly just before railroad tracks. Mr. Barry thinks it might be the railroad right away. Mr. Barry mentions he is going to see about walking it with Chesterton to see what can be done.

Mr. Barry mentions he has received complaints on S Bailey when heading east water is backing up at the curve before 49 on heavy rain events. He is still trying to figure it out,

thinks there is a culvert buried or no culvert at all. He might try to have it jetted.

Mr. Barry comment on the Birch St complaint that he has given her some ideas and suggestions to see what she can do to stop the pooling in her yard being it is not a town issue.

Mr. Lopez mentions a friend of his that lives on Pearson Rd wanted to know if he could put a pipe in and fill in the ditch. Mr. Barry said no that it would cause more problems.

Mr. Hellmuth asked about the stormwater master plan. Mr. Barry mentions they should be emailing it shortly; they are having issues with sending it via email. Mr. Hellmuth asks when we will see the input?

Mr. Hellmuth asks about stormwater ordinance? Mr. Barry comments a few things need to be tweaked. He also mentions that right now we are at \$6 a month, and on the low end of surrounding areas. He would like to get the master plan done first so we can see what are projects will cost before we try and figure out how much to charge. He also mentions that the storm board recommends approval of the ordinance, then send it to council to approve .

Board Comments

Adjournment

Mr. Reynolds made a motion to adjourn meeting

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-2.9, this meeting was livestreamed to [youtube.com/@porterindiana](https://www.youtube.com/@porterindiana). A recording of the livestream will remain publicly available for a minimum of ninety (90) days following the date of the meeting. Meeting agendas, minutes, and any memoranda, may be viewed at townofporter.in.gov.

William Lopez, President

Erik Hellmuth, Vice-President

Mitch Reynolds, Treasurer

Tammie Sufana, Recording Secretary