

DEKALB COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING

February 5, 2026

Drainage Commissioners Present:

Kellen Dooley, Member
William L. Hartman, Member
James A. Miller, Vice-Chairman

Others Present:

Tyler Lanning, Lead Survey Tech
Troy Bungard, Survey Tech
Katie Rutan, Office Clerk
Rebecca Wright, Drainage Board Secretary
Shannon Kruse, Attorney

Appointed Members Serving

Jan 2025- Dec 2027

Steve Kelham, Member
Bruce Bell, II, Chairman

Absent:

Glenn Crawford, County Surveyor

Guests:

John Brandenberger, Brandenberger Estates

Chairman Bruce Bell, II welcomed everyone to the February 5, 2026, regular meeting of the DeKalb County Drainage Board and called it to order at 8:30 AM. The first order of business was the approval of the meeting minutes from January 15, 2026. Chairman Bell asked for a motion to approve the minutes, and Commissioner Bill Hartman motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Kellen Dooley seconded the motion. Since there was no further discussion, Mr. Bell called for a vote, and the motion carried.

Approval of February Attorney Payment

Mr. Bell introduced the approval of the February attorney payment in the amount of \$1295.00. Commissioner Kellen Dooley moved to approve the payment, and Mr. Steve Kelham seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, Mr. Bell called for a vote, and the motion was carried.

Minor Subdivision

Next, Chairman Bell introduced a minor subdivision called Brandenberger Estates located at 3975 State Road 8 in Auburn, IN, in Section 34 of Union Township. John Brandenberger stepped forward and introduced himself to the board. He stated that he intended to build a barn on the parcel as well as a homestead after the minor subdivision was approved. The barn might house a calf operation and horses.

Mr. Tyler Lanning added that currently, the board was approving the minor subdivision, and the cattle barn and homestead would come as its own item later. However, the minor subdivision was 45 acres and approved by the Surveyor's Office.

Chairman Bell asked for a motion to approve the Brandenberger Estates minor subdivision located at 3975 State Road 8 in Auburn, IN, in Section 34 of Union Township, Parcel # 14-06-34-20-005 on the Cliff Metcalf Reg. Dr. No. 83-00-0, Daniel Hursey Reg. Dr. No. 48-00-0, Sam Pomeroy Reg. Dr. No. 350-00-0, in the Cedar Creek Watershed 470-00-0.

Mr. Steve Kelham motioned to approve the item, and Commissioner Bill Hartman seconded. The motion carried without further discussion.

Surveyor’s Report

Mr. Tyler Lanning started the Surveyor’s Report with an update on the Ora Bohler reconstruction project. He reported that he had been in contact with Foresite Engineering about permit costs but had not heard back. He needed the costs before he could provide an update.

He also handed out a reconstruction list. He noted that the Ora Bohler and EP Griffin, which were uniquely challenging were at the top. After that there were some long requested but less difficult projects. He asked Ms. Shannon Kruse if the list required approval, and she answered no.

Chairman Bell asked how many reconstruction projects could be accomplished in 2026. Mr. Lanning replied, “a handful,” and articulated which projects would be easier for the Office to finish quickly. He emphasized the Ora Bohler was the first drain on the list and then the EP Griffin which often flooded CR 19. The reconstruction had to alleviate that problem through an improved outlet.

Bruce Bell asked about the John Wilderson Drain, and Mr. Lanning explained that all the subdivision developments have caused flooding on county roads. The Highway Department had communicated that a reconstruction would greatly help. He hoped that after the big projects the smaller ones would fall into place and be checked off the list.

Mr. Lanning also pointed the drainage board to the “Not On Maintenance” list and stated that office staff had worked diligently preparing it. The totals for maintenance were presented to the Board. In addition, the Board had a list of drains that would be removed from the “Not On Maintenance” list for different reasons that staff discovered during preparation for the meeting.

Mr. Lanning said the Office had maintenance projects keeping the field inspectors busy.

Finally, the Board could find the drains on the 2026 Assessment list in their packets. If the drain account was at 75% or below, the drain was put on the list for collection. Chairman Bruce Bell asked for a motion to approve the Certificate of Assessments as presented for 2026. Commissioner Kellen Dooley motioned to approve, and Commissioner Bill Hartman seconded the motion. Commissioner Kellen Dooley asked if the Frank Yarde Lung Lateral had been put on the Assessment List at a 50% rate. Mr. Bungard stated it had. The motion carried. The list presented was as follows:

Drain Name		
John Smith	George Matson Lateral 14	P. A. Walker
John Smith Wynkoop Lateral	George Matson Lateral 16	John Weimer
	George Matson Tile Lateral 4	A. C. Koeppel

John B Miller	Louis Dibbling	Frank Johnson
George Carper	Frank Sebert	W. A. Dannells
George H. Drew	Henry Emme	Jacob Hollinger
E. D. Creager	George T. Walters	Almira Teutsch
Lemuel Nelson	William Hollabaugh	Almira Teutsch Lateral 2
Frank Albright Lateral 2	Evan Collins	Marion Haverstock
Phillip Riggs East	Cliff Metcalf	Alva Coburn
Phillip Riggs West	Cliff Metcalf Lateral 1	Samuel Hindman
William Peckhart	Adam Richey	Burl Moughler
A. L. Ober Lateral 3	William C. Carmer	Levi Ober
A. L. Ober Lateral 8	James Ferguson	John Hamman Lateral 3
A. L. Ober Tile	James Ferguson Dove Lateral	John Hamman Lockhart
A. L. Ober Lateral 8 Tile	James Ferguson Miller Lateral	Lateral
Solomon Shank	James Ferguson Nugen	Billy Knox Tile
Solomon Shank Lateral 1	Lateral	William Sechler
Solomon Shank Lateral 2 Spur	James Ferguson Schmadel	Gustave Mader
1	Lateral	Baltzer Stahl
Martin Wagner	Manoah Miller	Butler City
George Wade	Nancy Davis Lateral 2	Daniel Baker
Samuel Hindman	Rufus Strong	Michael Haines
O. B. Diehl	William Tritch Lateral 3	John Wilderson Lateral 6
William Egbert Lateral 2	George Smith	James Provines
William Egbert Lateral 9	Albert Hovarter	John Carnahan
William Egbert Tile	A. B. Mccullough Lateral 2	David Link
John Potts	Melvin Herrick	David Link Lateral 4
John Potts Lateral 2	Harry Shull	David Bair
John Potts Lateral 2 Spur	Frank Laub	Harley Cobbs Tile
John Potts Lateral 2 Spur 2	James Goings Tile	Aaron Baker
Don Van Fliet Open	Brown Albright Lateral 3	Isaac Hague
Donald Van Fliet Tile	Frank Stoops	George Burtzner
C.O. Metcalf	Alvin Keesler	Don Van Filet
John Weicht Tile	Thomas George	Samuel Healy
Ralph Staley Lateral 1	Karl Pankop	Mary Metcalf
Garrett City Tile	Daniel Wagner South	Nowlin Rafine Yoder
John Diehl Lateral 7	W. M. & M. B. Smith	J. Harris Reed Open
John Diehl Lateral 7 Spur 1	Charles Newcomer	J. Harris Reed Lateral 1
Lucian Adkins	Lint-Stahl	J. Harris Reed Tile
Daniel Hursey Main	Sherman Meeks Tile	Albert Higbea Open
Daniel Hursey North	Frank Teutsch	George F. Delong
Ora E. Baker	Lemuel Nelson	Henry Frick
Ora Bohler	Lemuel Nelson Tile	Joseph Stahl
	Ambrose Heitz	

Charles O. Speer	Ernest J. Fifer	Daniel Magginnis
Filmore Shull	Horaito Squires	A. J. Custer
Ora Kuhlman	Geroge Harmes	Simon Smurr
Charles Miles West	W. C. Miller	Bertha Carpenter
Fred Culbertson	William Creager	Calvin E. Kutzner
Mathias Schiffli Main	King-Sattison	William Weicht
W. A. Mason	Rose & Souder Drain	William Rex
Alex Provines	John Hoffelder	George Reeever
Thomas Noel	John Hoffelder Lateral 1	James M. Friend
George Matson	John Hoffelder Lateral 2	Parley Palmerton
George Matson Lateral 4	John Hoffelder Lateral 3	William H. Brown
George Matson Lateral 7	John Hoffelder Lateral 4	Sam Pomeroy
George Matson Lateral 7 Spur 5	John Hoffelder Lateral 3 Tile	Francis Mergy
George Matson Lateral 8	E. L. Dilley Open	John Means
Krumlauf		
Daniel Metcalf		

Discussion

Mr. Bell asked if there was further discussion.

Ms. Shannon Kruse asked the Board to not set hearings on March 5, 2026, or May 7, 2026, as she'd be absent for family vacations. The Board said they could work around her schedule.

Bruce Bell asked if there was any further discussion, but hearing none, he adjourned the Drainage Board Meeting at 8:50 AM.



Bruce Bell, II, Chairman



Rebecca Wright, Drainage Board Secretary

DEKALB COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

DATE 2.05.2026

Name & Contact Information

Petition of Interest

Jon Brandenberger

