The Vanderburgh County Drainage Board met in session this 5th day of July, 2016 at 4:31 p.m. in Room 301 of the Civic Center Complex with President Stephen Melcher presiding.

Call to Order

President Melcher: We'll to call to order the Vanderburgh County Drainage Board. It's July 5, 2016, and it's 4:30.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Melcher: If we could all rise for the Pledge.

(The Pledge of Allegiance was given.)

Approval of the June 21, 2016 Drainage Board Meeting Minutes & June 29, 2016 Special Drainage Board Meeting Minutes

Madelyn Grayson: President Melcher, under the approval of minutes, we have both the June 21st regular meeting and the special meeting of June 29th, minutes from both.

Commissioner Ungethiem: I make a motion to approve both Drainage Board meeting minutes.

President Melcher: I'll second it.

Commissioner Ungethiem: Can we do them together?

President Melcher: You might do a roll call on this one.

Madelyn Grayson: Commissioner Ungethiem?

Commissioner Ungethiem: Yes.

Madelyn Grayson: President Melcher?

President Melcher: Yes.

(Motion approved 2-0)

President Melcher: Thank you.

Drainage Application for Commercial Properties

President Melcher: Okay.

Jeff Mueller: I've only got two items tonight. The first thing I'm not bringing forward for approval right now, but just as something to show you. I did e-mail this to you, and I think this is a little bit more up to date version. When we amended the drainage code that took effect January 1, 2016, one of the things in that was that we could develop an application that all drainage plans would have to be submitted on. What I've got before you is a proposed application. I'm not asking for approval of it right now, but what I'm going to do is put it out for the consultants to look at, and put it out on our website, because it can be used as a checklist, and to see what comments people have, with the idea that once we get some feedback and any necessary changes will come through, maybe it will be six months, maybe a little longer, I'll come back and ask that this be formally approved. What this does is a couple of things; one, it gives a uniformity to the applications that are
submitted to us. The second thing is, for example, when we get an out of town company, a lot of the bigger companies have their own consultants that they use on projects everywhere, and these guys will call and say, well, what do you need? We say, well, we’ve got a copy of our drainage code. By this, they’ll actually have a checklist, they’ll know what to supply us with. It will just make things a lot better. The City Engineer’s Office likes the idea of this too. The application that I have right now is just for a single lot commercial. If this works, then we can expand it out for subdivisions later on. I didn’t give you the other one, but I actually went through and put a comment to all of these sections, and everything that you see in here, you will see that this is actually a portion of the drainage code. So, like I said, it’s a checklist, it’s a method of how they need to follow through, and it will make things a lot simpler for us in the long term. Like I said, we will eventually have very standard drainage applications for us to look at in the future. So, I don’t know if you’ve got any questions about it, or if you do and want to look at it and give me a buzz or whatever. It’s there for you to look at. Okay?

Commissioner Ungethiem: I assume that this will, hopefully, make our applications more uniform when they submit them, so that we don’t have a lot of holes in the current applications, and so we don’t have to bounce back and forth, be more efficient.

Jeff Mueller: Right, and you’ve seen my comments that I give you guys, and, you know, they’re there in blue, and then they’re in red, because those are the comments that I say you missed giving me this, or missed giving me that, and then they give it to me. That way, if they follow this, we won’t have a lot of that, you know, you need to give us this, or you need to give us that. It’s all, if they follow this, they should have given us all of the information that we need. That’s not to say that we may not go back and say, you know, can you justify your number a little bit more, or how did you get this? It will make it, yeah, it will decrease the back and forth time between us and the consultants, as well as the City Engineer’s Office and the consultants, because the City Engineer, they have, they would love to use this application too. So, okay?

Commissioner Ungethiem: One other question that I would have about that, we’re going to send it out to the various developers, they’re going to read it, they’re going to make comments. When we get it into a completed form, is there any way we can run some sort of educational—

Jeff Mueller: Sure.

Commissioner Ungethiem: -- program to bring everybody up to speed so they—

Jeff Mueller: Not only that, but we might even be able to run a program and let engineers get some development hours. That’s usually something that’s allowed to be done.

Commissioner Ungethiem: Okay.

Jeff Mueller: Yeah, that’s something that we could definitely do.

President Melcher: You said you were going to put it on the website too?

Jeff Mueller: Yeah, I’m going to put it on the website now.

President Melcher: I think that’s the best idea.

Jeff Mueller: Right. It’s like I said, it’s there, you don’t have to use it, you can if you want to, you know, it’s certainly, I would love to see a few people use it. To use a computer programming people’s version, it’s a Beta trial, you know, where people would try it and maybe they’ll come back and say, man, this thing’s kind of cumbersome, or there’s something that doesn’t work in your, you know, your boxes or something like that. But, and the way it’s designed in there, it’s locked out, so all you can do is you can just check boxes, or you can fill in blanks, but you can’t actually change the application. Everything else is locked on it.

Commissioner Ungethiem: Okay.

Jeff Mueller: It’s something that I think it’s a long time coming. Some of the other counties in the State already have these. I know even Water and Sewer has looked at it, and they’re kind of like, we would like to take it and shoot it off into some of the stuff we’re
doing. So, you know, it would get things a lot more uniform, and, like I said, it would get to the questions that we have. I think we could cut down on the review times eventually.

Commissioner Ungethiem: Alright.

President Melcher: If you’ve ever tried to use the State forms, they’re all over the place.

Jeff Mueller: Yeah, they are, but some of them are pretty good.

President Melcher: No, they’re the worst.

Jeff Mueller: And some of them aren’t, yeah.

President Melcher: They’re the worst.

Jeff Mueller: Yeah, but, you know, in my past background in the mining industry, working in every state for our mining, we always had an application form in every state that we had to follow. So, you know, at least you knew what to fill out and what to put in. I will tell you, for example, DNR has a form, but yet the Corps of Engineers when you have to submit stuff to them, it’s really not in a set format. So, you know, it’s always nice to know that, you know, what do you want, what information do you want, so that we can give it to you so that we can, you know, answer the questions that will meet the code. That’s what we’re after. Okay?

President Melcher: Okay.

**Ditch Maintenance Claims**

Jeff Mueller: I have before you a small summary sheet, three claims on ditches. They’re all to Tru Green for a total of $719.16, that I ask for your approval.

Commissioner Ungethiem: I would make a motion to approve the ditch claims.

President Melcher: I’ll second it. All in favor say aye.

Commissioner Ungethiem: Aye.

President Melcher: Aye.

*(Motion approved 2-0)*

President Melcher: It passes.

**Public Comment**

Jeff Mueller: The only other thing is, I did, there was on the information that I think, I know Bruce got, I think everybody got, there is something in connection to Purdue. If you ever want to see about Lidar and how it works. It’s a neat system. The whole State was done in Lidar between 2011 and 2013. The information that’s available there is generations ahead of what used to be the USGS maps. I compliment you guys for approving that letter, and I think it will be money well spent.

President Melcher: Okay. Anything else? Anything else from anybody?

Commissioner Ungethiem: How did we do on the five inches of rain that we had a couple of days ago in our ditches? Did we have any issues?

Jeff Mueller: We have a couple of problems, Commissioner Ungethiem. As a matter of fact, you know, one of them is on Heinlein Road still that needs to be addressed. I’m going to get with Scot and take him out there and see his ideas on it. But, not really a whole lot, it doesn’t seem like, you know, sometimes when we get a lot of rain people anticipate having problems. So, we don’t get as many complaints as you would think. It’s kind of surprising. Sometimes it’s more the two inches that come in, you know, the two hour intensities are where, you know, we have a lot of the problems.
Commissioner Ungethiem: Yeah, I saw an article, and I don’t remember which station it was, there was a car stuck in Pond Flat bottoms on Princeton Road in about that much water.

Jeff Mueller: I didn’t see that. So, okay. Pond Flat, you live up that way, you know the water comes fast and furious through there, it goes up and it comes down really fast.

Commissioner Ungethiem: Okay.

Jeff Mueller: You know, Pond Flat, as you’re well aware of, and I’m not taking credit for this, is a very well maintained ditch. We have a lot of eyes on that ditch. People up there do a great job on it. You have to compliment the Big Creek Drainage Association for the eyes and ears that they have on all of those ditches up through there.

President Melcher: Okay. Anything else?

Commissioner Ungethiem: I make a motion to adjourn.

President Melcher: Okay, we don’t have any public comment?

Commissioner Ungethiem: Nope.

President Melcher: I’ll second it. All in favor say aye.

Commissioner Ungethiem: Aye.

President Melcher: Aye. We’re adjourned. Thank you.

(The meeting was adjourned at 4:41 p.m.)

Those in Attendance:
Stephen Melcher
Joe Harrison, Jr.
Members of Media
Bruce Ungethiem
Madelyn Grayson
Others Unidentified

VANDERBURGH COUNTY
DRAINAGE BOARD

______________________________
Stephen Melcher, President

______________________________
Bruce Ungethiem, Member

(Recorded and transcribed by Madelyn Grayson.)