

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT THE CLINTON COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD
MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON FEBRUARY 4, 2025
AT 10:15A.M.

PRESENT:

Clint Orr	Dan Smith
Brian Crenshaw	Tim Wyrick
Brian Ridenour	Blaine Barrett
Rick Campbell	Patty Smith
Gary Crum	Jay Davis
Rusty Schultz	

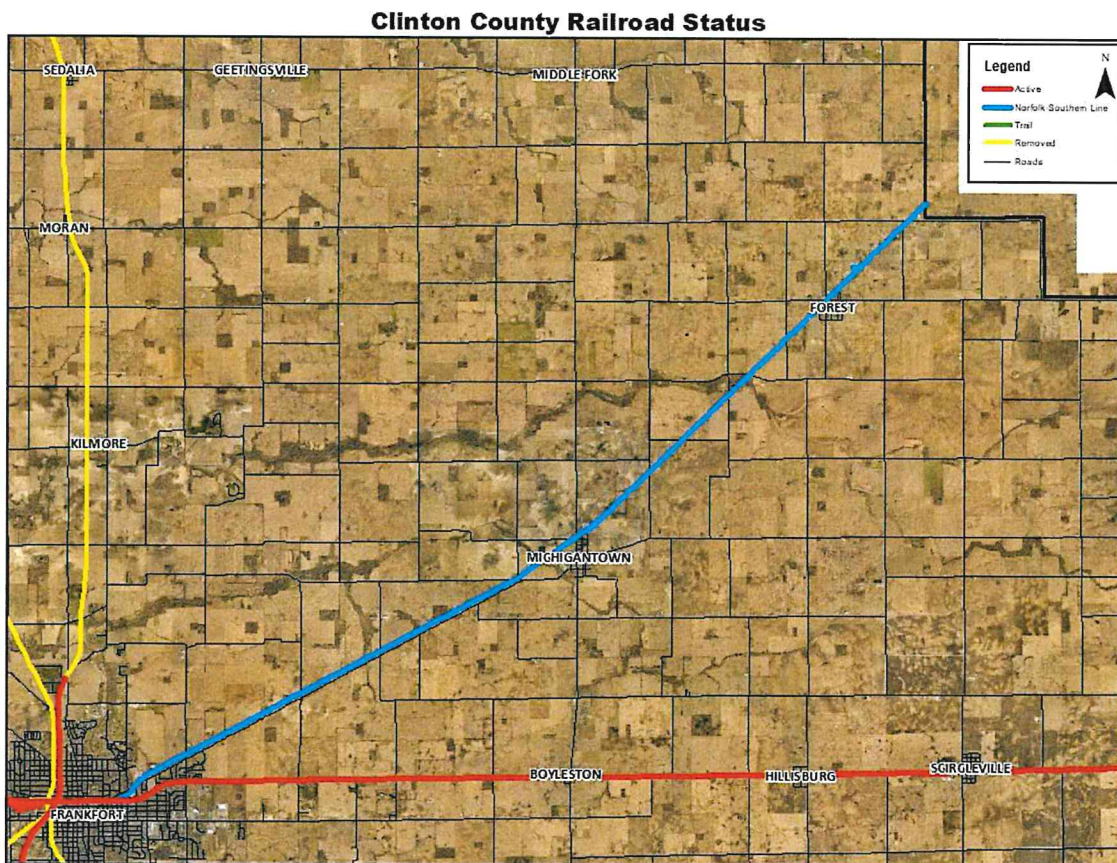
PRESENT:

Jordan Brewer, President
Bert Weaver, Vice President
Kevin Myers, Member
Daniel D. Sheets, Surveyor
Zachary J. Light, Secretary

Clinton County Drainage Board President Jordan Brewer called the meeting to order.

APPROVE MINUTES: Mr. Weaver made a motion approve the minutes from the January 21, 2025 Drainage Board meeting, seconded by Mr. Myers. Motion carried 3-0.

RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY DISCUSSION – CLINT ORR: Mr. Clint Orr came before the Board to discuss drainage issues caused by the Norfolk-Southern railroad line that starts in Frankfort and runs northeast through the county.

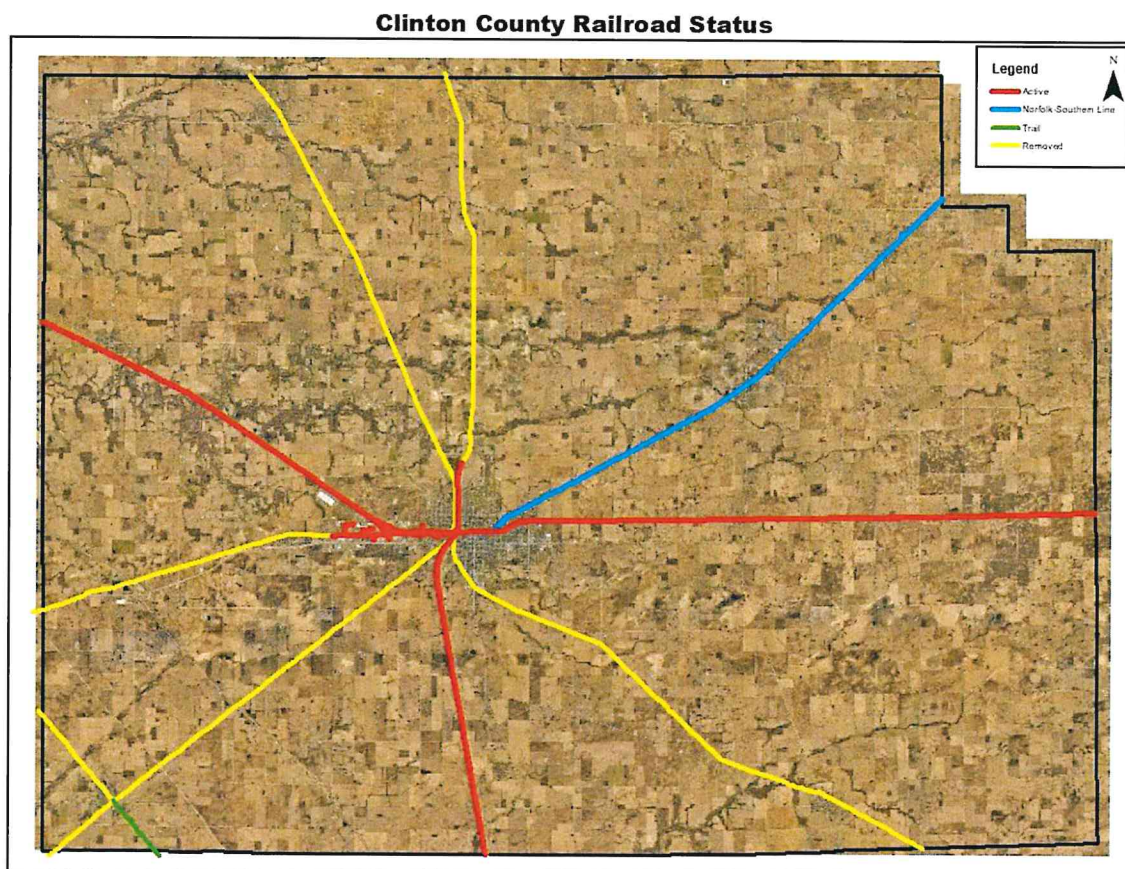


Mr. Orr stated that there are several locations along the railroad where bridges and other railroad structures are causing drainage issues. Mr. Orr then stated that two main areas of concern are the trestle bridge over Kilmore Creek, south of CR 500 N, east of CR 800 E, southwest of Forest, and the trestle

bridge over the South Fork of Wildcat Creek, directly west of Michigantown. He further stated that historically the railroad has been very difficult to contact, and it is even more difficult to get them to remove an obstruction caused by one of their structures. Mr. Orr further stated that in this case, the rail has been removed in several locations, with or without approval, and the right-of-way is no longer maintained. Mr. Orr then stated that he is concerned about the legal ramifications of removing track without getting approval from the railroad. Mr. Orr then informed the Board that the Soil and Water Conservation District will be kicking off a campaign against invasive plant species in the spring. He stated that these unmaintained railroad rights-of-way are becoming overgrown with invasive species. He then stated that according to Beacon there are many areas along the right-of-way that are not paying taxes. Mr. Orr then asked if there was a way the County could step in to help contact the railroad and begin the process of officially abandoning the railroad to return the right-of-way to landowners, which would in turn generate tax revenue.

Mr. Orr then informed the Board what when he met with Mr. Sheets prior to this meeting he was surprised to find out that several areas of the county, including the areas surrounding the trestle bridges, are not included in county regulated watersheds. Mr. Sheets confirmed that his office does not have a maintenance account for either of the drains that flow under the two trestle bridges, nor does he have statutory right-of-entry, or authority to work on the drains. Mr. Sheets stated that it would be much easier to address these concerns if the drains in question were in regulated watersheds.

Mr. Sheets then presented a map of the county showing current railroad statuses.



Mr. Sheets stated that for the most part, rail lines that have been abandoned have been conveyed back to the landowners through some process, and the rails have been removed. Mr. Sheets stated that in the early

80s he witnessed the rails being removed on the rail line that ran from Frankfort to Kirklin. He then stated that after the rails and ties were removed by the railroad the landowners removed the ballast. Mr. Sheets stated that he is not familiar with the process used to return the right-of-way to surrounding landowners, but he believes it needs to be done with the rail line in question. Mr. Light stated that in his experience when a railroad is abandoned it typically ends up in court, and eventually a judgement is ordered conveying the property to adjoining landowners. Mr. Sheets then stated that there have been a few situations where he has gotten approval to remove tracks to improve drainage within regulated watersheds. He stated that in order to get approval he contacts a government/railroad liaison. Mr. Sheets stated that he could reach out to the liaison to see what it might take to officially abandon the rail line, but that a lot of legal leg work would need to be done, and that would be the responsibility of the landowners. Mr. Sheets asked Mr. Orr if he had reached out to the liaison yet. Mr. Orr stated that he had called, but had not heard back yet. Mr. Sheets stated that it was not usual for it to take a while to hear back. He further stated that projects involving the railroad average around six months to one year to complete in his experience.

Mr. Brewer asked Mr. Sheets what the process would be to create regulated watersheds in these areas that are currently unregulated. Mr. Sheets stated that a petition would have to be filed with the Drainage Board. He further stated that those qualified to file the petition are the owners of 10% or more in acreage (of the affected area, or 25% or more of the assessed valuation), a county executive who wants to drain a public highway, a township executive or governing body of a school corporation, or a municipal legislative body (IC 36-9-27-54). Mr. Sheets then stated that the state code has many requirements for the petition, including the use of an attorney for the petitioner throughout the hearing process. Mr. Sheets informed the Board and the audience that in order for the Drainage Board to take an existing drain under maintenance it will have to be in good working order, meaning that the log jams will have to be removed before the drains could be adopted as regulated drains.

Mr. Tim Wyrick came before the Board and asked they could get approval to remove all of the railroad bridges and crossings. Mr. Sheets stated that he thinks that would be a good idea. Mr. Sheets then stated that his recommendation is for the landowners along the railroad to band together and find an attorney with experience in dealing with the railroad, that can help start the process of abandoning and reclaiming the railroad right-of-way. Mr. Sheets stated that he will send out an email to some other County Surveyors to see if they know of any attorneys that might be able to help.

Mr. Orr asked if the Surveyor's Office would be able to help calculate and determine what properties would be included in potential new watersheds. Mr. Sheets stated that using drainage catchments the Surveyor's Office can calculate the watershed boundaries. Mr. Orr then asked if the Surveyor's Office would send notice of the petition out to the landowners. Mr. Sheets stated that according to IC 36-9-27-54 his office will send legal notices to all affected landowners, but the petitioner must post a bond sufficient to pay the cost of notices and all legal costs if the petition is dismissed.

After some additional discussion Mr. Sheets stated that he will reach out to the government liaison as well as other County Surveyors.

2025 DRAINAGE BOARD CONTRACTOR RATES: Mr. Sheets informed the Board that the following excavating contractors have submitted rates and all of the other required documentation to be on our contractor list for the year 2025.

2025 Contractor Rates				Excavating Contractors																
Contractor ->	Alliance Ex	Bell Drains	David Ag Ex	Henry Ex	Johann's LL	KB Ditching	Lalister's B	M.C. Excav	MCK Ex	Orlender Farm	Pease Ag	Prole Truck	Rapid Drain	Redman Ex	Ridenour Ex	Russell Tree	Stephen Ba	Viola Corp	Yreka Ex	
Excavator																				
Small per hour	\$125.00		\$100.00	\$135.00	\$95.00			\$125.00		\$100.00	\$95.00	\$95.00	\$130.00	\$175.00	\$200.00	\$130.00	\$110.00	\$125.00	\$130.00	
Medium per hour	\$175.00	\$185.00	\$120.00		\$155.00		\$100.00	\$135.00	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$115.00	\$170.00	\$200.00	\$300.00	\$170.00	\$125.00			\$200.00	
Large per hour	\$300.00		\$140.00	\$355.00	\$195.00	\$140.00	\$150.00	\$185.00		\$150.00	\$150.00	\$210.00	\$230.00	\$400.00	\$210.00	\$200.00			\$250.00	
Backhoe per hour		\$125.00	\$130.00	\$65.00	\$90.00	\$110.00	\$100.00		\$125.00				\$140.00	\$125.00	\$175.00	\$140.00	\$135.00	\$100.00	\$150.00	
Skid Loader per hour	\$125.00		\$90.00	\$90.00	\$70.00	\$110.00	\$100.00	\$115.00	\$125.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$150.00	\$125.00	\$200.00	\$150.00	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$150.00	
Payloader per hour	\$165.00		\$110.00		\$150.00	\$110.00	\$125.00		\$150.00	\$150.00			\$220.00	\$250.00			\$175.00		\$175.00	
Digger per hour	\$160-\$110	\$125.00		\$120.00	\$110.00	\$140.00	\$125-\$110	\$165.00		\$100.00	\$165.00		\$150.00	\$185.00	\$275.00	\$150.00	\$200.00		\$175.00	
Dump Truck																				
Single Axle per hour	\$80.00			\$70.00	\$50.00		\$75.00	\$100.00	\$80.00	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$95.00	\$100.00	\$90.00		\$100.00			\$160.00	
Trailer per hour					\$100.00			\$110.00		\$100.00				\$95.00	\$120.00				\$170.00	
Tri-Axle per hour	\$130.00				\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$130.00		\$125.00		\$120.00	\$150.00	\$125.00	\$130.00	\$150.00	\$125.00		\$180.00	
Quad Axle per hour	\$140.00				\$135.00					\$150.00	\$110.00		\$175.00	\$140.00	\$140.00	\$175.00			\$200.00	
Trucking w/ Trailer																				
Pick Up and Trailer per hour	\$80.00	\$65.00		\$40.00	\$85.00		\$75.00	\$95.00	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$45.00	\$90.00	\$90.00	\$30.00	\$90.00	\$100.00		\$100.00	
Semi w/ Dump Trailer per hour				\$100.00	\$135.00	\$300.00		\$120.00		\$125.00	\$110.00		\$150.00	\$180.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$175.00		\$200.00	
Semi w/ Low Boy per hour	\$200.00	\$150.00		\$200.00	\$150.00		\$125.00	\$125.00		\$150.00	\$110.00		\$150.00	\$200.00	\$300.00	\$150.00	\$175.00		\$250.00	
Dump Trailer per hour				\$100.00	\$50.00				\$75.00					\$80.00	\$130.00				\$100.00	
Log Skidder per hour								\$50.00		\$10.00										
Hydraulic Ditch Grader per hour	\$115.00				\$50.00			\$60.00		\$150.00	\$200.00			\$100.00	\$400.00				\$35.00	
Labor per man per hour	\$65.00	\$25.00	\$30.00	\$28.00	\$35.00	\$40.00	\$60.00	\$60.00		\$35.00	\$60.00	\$35.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$50.00		\$35.00	
Brush Mower per hour							see attached													
Chain Saw per day	\$50.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	
Cut Off Saw per day	\$50.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	
Flare Compactor per day	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	
1" Trench Pump per day	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	
Jackhammer per day	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	
18" CFM Compressor per day	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	
Grades Laser per day	\$50.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	
ATV/UTV per day	\$50.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	
Welder/Generator per day	\$110.00				\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00		\$125.00	\$50.00			\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	
Tire Rigger with Loader per day	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	
Ditching Machine per foot	varies		see attached		\$1.50	\$3-\$6				\$6.00	\$7.50	\$10.00	\$6.50	\$15.00	\$12.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$12.00	\$15.00	
Concrete per bag	\$12.00	\$12.00							\$165.00	\$20.00	per job	\$150.00	\$75.00		\$150.00				\$100.00	
Brush Control Spray per gallon									\$1.00		\$2.50	\$0.50		\$0.45					\$0.10	

Equipment rates include operator (excludes handheld tools)

Red figures are max price per day.

Mr. Sheets then recommended granting approval. Mr. Weaver made a motion to approve the 2025 excavating contractors, seconded by Mr. Myers. Motion carried 3-0. Mr. Sheets then presented the rates for tree services and herbicide applicators and stated that they have also submitted all of the required documents.

2025 Contractor Rates

Tree Service

Herbicide Applicator

Contractor ->	Baber Tree Service	Lawn Tamer LLC
Skid Loader per hour	\$100.00	
Pick Up and Trailer per hour	\$55.00	
Dump Trailer per hour	\$55.00	
Bucket Truck per hour	\$100.00	
Woodchipper per hour	\$75.00	
Labor per man per hour	\$50.00	
Chain Saw per day	\$50.00	
Brush Control Spray per gallon		\$4.95
Brush Control Spray per foot		\$0.39

Equipment rates include operator (excludes handheld tools)

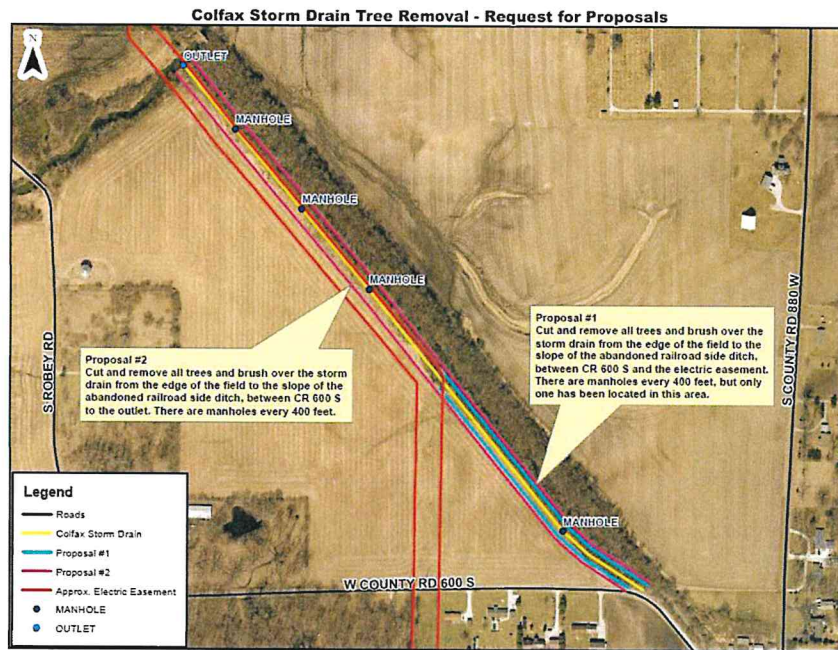
Red figures are max price per day.

Mr. Sheets recommended granting approval. Mr. Weaver made a motion to approve the 2025 tree service and herbicide applicator contractors, seconded by Mr. Myers. Motion carried 3-0.

COLFAX STORM DRAIN TREE REMOVAL – PROPOSAL REVIEW & SELECTION: Mr.

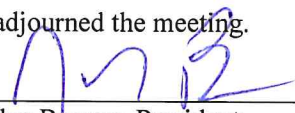
Sheets reminded the Board that at the last meeting they narrowed the selection down to two contractors, Ridenour Excavating, LLC and M.C. Excavation and Demolition LLC. Mr. Sheets stated that since the

last meeting he has reviewed the proposals and talked to the contractors. Mr. Sheets then stated that his recommendation is to proceed with the tree clearing project all the way from CR 600 South to the outlet of the storm drain. He further stated that proposal #2 from Ridenour Excavating is \$1,680 less than proposal #2 from M.C. Excavation. Mr. Sheets then recommended that the project be awarded to Ridenour. Mr. Weaver made a motion to award to the project to Ridenour Excavating, LLC, seconded by Mr. Myers. Motion carried 3-0.



MENDENHALL & ASSOCIATES GRANT WRITING: Mr. Sheets informed the Board that he recently met with Tina Henderson of Mendenhall & Associates about grants and loans for the I68/SR28 interchange. Mr. Sheets stated that Mrs. Henderson wanted to know if it is possible to capture any revenue from the TIFF District. Mr. Brewer stated that that would be a question for the Redevelopment Commission, but that it may be possible. Mr. Brewer stated that he will bring it before the RDC at the March meeting.

Clinton County Drainage Board President Jordan Brewer adjourned the meeting.


Jordan Brewer, President


Bert Weaver, Vice President


Kevin Myers, Member


Zachary J. Light, Secretary

Attest:


Daniel D. Sheets, Surveyor