

**INDIANA LAND IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes of Meeting of Board of Directors**  
**Monday, January 20, 2025**

The Fifth Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Indiana Land Improvement Contractors Association was held at Upland Brewery in Carmel, IN, on Monday, January 20, 2025. The meeting was called to order by President, Joe Stull at 5:20 p.m. EST.

James Ramsey moved to have an open agenda. Mike Koehne seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Minutes: The minutes from the December 2024 meeting had been emailed to board members. Tony Cain moved to accept the minutes as reported. Todd Gross seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Chris Smider was unable to attend the meeting so Nanci Gutwein read the written treasurer's report. Total assets = \$204,484.80. Nanci reported that the main account will need to be replenished after convention. Convention expenses are expected to be more or less \$25,000. Nanci also presented the new budget, discussing some line items that have significant changes. The only item not included was \$4,995 for drainage history books. Nanci requested that an audit of the books be done. James Ramsey moved to accept the treasurer's report. Keith Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Presidents's Report: Joe Stull reported he has been busy and trying to work around the cold weather.

National Report: Tony Cain reported that the Water Management Forum in Rensselaer was successful with a good turnout. The next Forum will take place in June 2026. Summer National convention was not well attended and suffered a loss so the profit from the Water Management Forum was used to pay the shortfall. National is needing someone to do Quickbooks for the organization. Eileen is now retired after over 40 years of service. She will continue to help part time until someone is hired for the books. The Winter National convention will be in Jacksonville, FL. Tony said he has been traveling lately to attend some of the state conventions.

Executive Director's Report: Nanci Gutwein presented a written report of her activities. She passed around a thank you note from the family of Gary Bullock.

Technical Advisor's Report: Mike Cox commented that as of today there is a new federal administration as well as a new governor, DNR head and other changes in personnel. Mike made available the new pricing survey which has a QR code and may be filled out online. The online version has more details and descriptions. A line for water control structures has been added.

Legislative Report: Mike Koehne reported with a new EPA director there will hopefully be clarification of WOTUS. The Farm Bill will probably be pushed back until July, 2025. In the Indiana legislature, there are several bills being presented having to do with water and property tax reform is also a major topic.

Education Advisor's Report: Jane Frankenburger reported that NACADE will include lots of drainage sessions. Jane's current interests include the Indiana Science Assessment, the water bills moving through the legislature and the Conservation Drainage Network. The Conservation Drainage Network will meet the first week of April, 2025 in Champaign, IL. They are seeing expanded interest from the

Eastern seaboard area. The Nature Conservancy has available demonstrations on drainage practices. Jane mentioned she will be speaking Tuesday at NACADE about new tools in drainage.

Old Business:

Nanci Gutwein talked about the convention and the LICA booth at NACADE. Currently there are 157 people signed up for the banquet on Wednesday night. She reminded members that the annual meeting will be Tuesday morning at 9 a.m. at the hotel. Proceeds from the auction will go to the Indiana Donor Network to help families of donors.

Joey Schlatter passed out the plan for a drainage project at the Purdue Acre Farm. The field has tile already which will be replaced. There was some discussion about how to include a field day in the project. It was suggested two field days might be involved; a one day field day in 2025 during installation of mains, and then another field day in 2026 during lateral installation. Joey will check with Purdue and see if that idea is acceptable.

Nanci has arranged to have an Area Meeting on February 24, 2025, at Keith Miller's shop near Kokomo, IN. Topics to be presented include: NRCS updates, 811 changes and online features, and DOT information.

New Business:

James Ramsey stated that Nanci Gutwein is due to receive a 4% pay increase.

The Drainage History Books are now available for distribution. There was some discussion about where the books need to go. Area directors will be asked to distribute the books.

Back to the Area Meeting, it was suggested to offer the meeting to everyone with no charge.

There being no further business, Todd Gross moved to adjourn the meeting. James Ramsey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Frieda Pickering, Recording Secretary

Attendees:

President -	Joe Stull
Vice-President -	Keith Miller
Executive Director -	Nanci Gutwein
Recording Sec -	Frieda Pickering
National Officer -	Tony Cain
Technical Advisor -	Mike Cox
Education Advisor -	Jane Frankenburger
NW Director -	Nate Miller
SE Director -	John Pickering
	James Ramsey
	Mike Koehne
NE Director -	Todd Gross
Associates -	Neal Hall
	Steve Holtzleiter
	Joey Schlatter

Members not attending:

NE Director -	Kevin Hohman
	Guil Wehr, Jr.
SW Director -	Dean Neiswinger
	William Harriman
	Rob Wood
NW Director -	Sam Baker
	John Hack II
Associates -	Brenden Noggle
At-Large -	Bryan Noggle
	Chris Smidler