

# Civics for Drainage

Local Governments Role in Drainage Projects

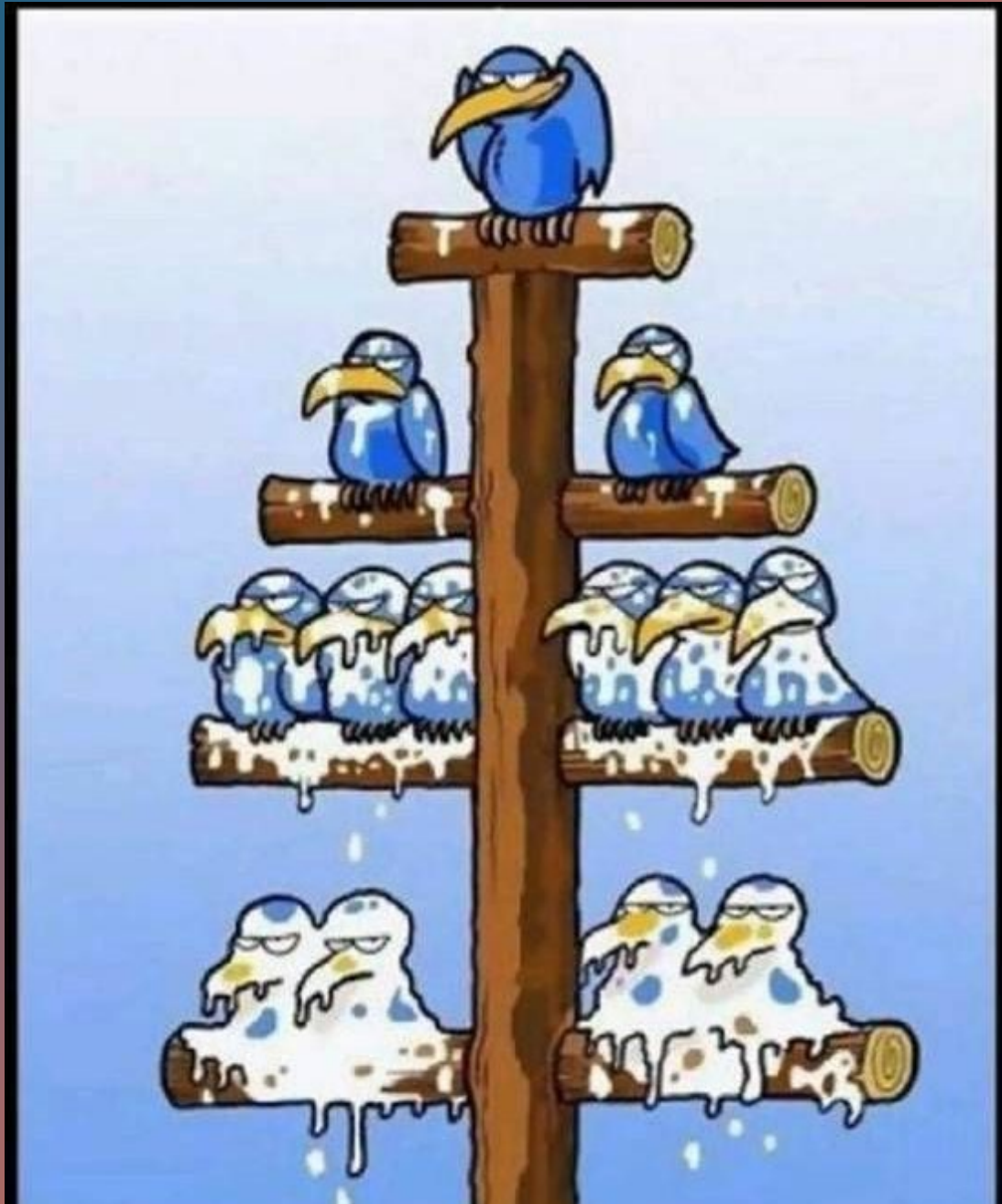
# BIO INFORMATION

- Elected Wells County Surveyor (2005-Current)
- President and Legislative Liaison for Indiana County Surveyors Association
- AAS Drafting and CAD (Lincoln Tech, 1994)
- Owned Hahn Farm Drainage (1994-2012)
- Land Surveying Certificate (Purdue NW, 2017)
- BA Construction Engineering Technology (Purdue FW, 20??)

# High School Civics

- 3 Branches of Government (executive, judicial, legislative)
- Executive orders, supreme court decisions
- Local government loosely based on “King’s law” from England, however locals are elected instead of appointed.
- Agencies are tasked with making rules to administer laws
- Some Federal laws are passed to state, and state laws are passed to local government

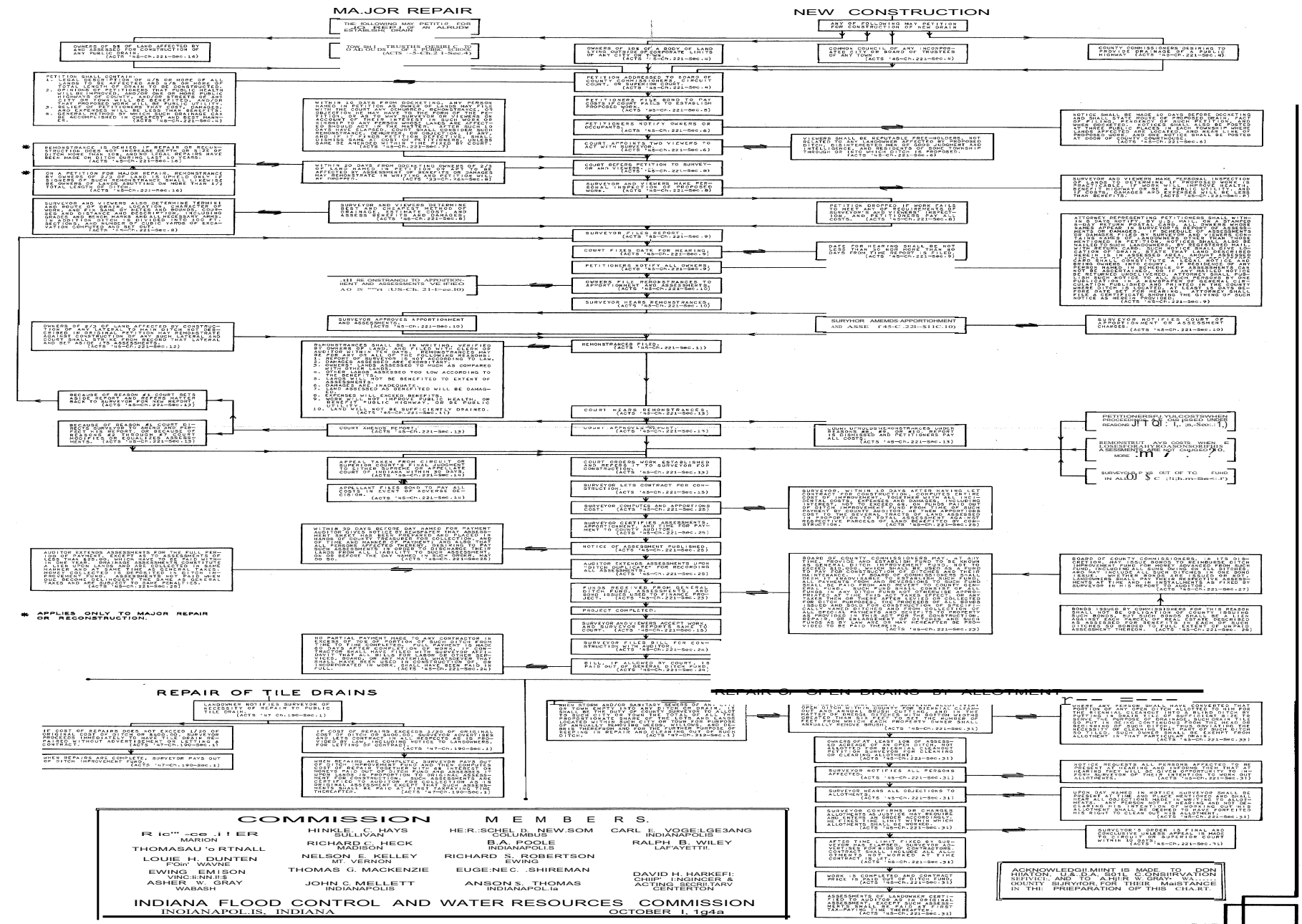




# A Visual Representation

- Top (federal government)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> (EPA and Corps)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> (State Agencies DNR, IDEM)
- Bottom (drainage board and surveyor)

SHOWING ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF LEGAL DRAINS



\* APPLIES ONLY TO MAJOR REPAIR OR RECONSTRUCTION.

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# What, Who, and Why does Drainage Board and Surveyor have Jurisdiction of

- County Regulated Drains (court ditches, legal drains, petition ditches.....)
  - In limited Circumstances, Private and Mutual Drains
  - County Surveyor is the “Technical Authority”
  - Drainage Board acts in both a “judicial” and “executive” capacity
  - “drain would be of a public utility”
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# County Surveyor

- Elected to a 4-year term (no term limits)
- Technical Authority (just the facts)
- May have Qualified deputy that is a PS, PE
- Is a project feasible, how much will it cost, who drains into the watershed, what are the design standards used?



# County Drainage Board

- 3 or 5 member board
- At least 1 member shall be a county commissioner
- Acts in a judicial fashion for hearings
- Acts in an executive fashion for bids, contracts, ect.





# What Local Government “Regulates”

- Maintenance
- Encroachments
- Finances
- Connections
- Obstructions
- Crossings
- (Getting approval from local agency does not eliminate need for higher level permitting)

