

**MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
MERRILLVILLE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BOARD
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2013**

President Barbara Ghoston called the March 13, 2013 Merrillville Stormwater Management Board (SWMB) special meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Members in attendance were Dorinda Gregor and Leonard White. Staff present was Executive Director Matt Lake, Attorney James Meyer and Secretary Liz Bushemi. Councilwoman Chrissy Barron, and Dion Katsouros and Scott Cherry from Skillman Corporation were also present.

Mrs. Ghoston said the sole purpose of the meeting is to decide on an architect for the Stormwater Resource Center, stating the Board could either continue with CDM Smith for a cost of \$52,000.00 or go with Stutler Architects for a cost of \$20,000.00. The members previously received copies of both companies' proposal for architectural design of the new building. Leonard White asked why there is a re-design for the building, and Matt Lake said the bids that came in last year were higher than expected and said the redesign will save Stormwater money, using wood and not steel for construction. He said that our construction manager, Skillman Corporation, has gone through all information for the project. Barbara said the previous bids were out of the ballpark, and Stormwater could not afford to build that type of building.

She said at the March 4, 2013 SWMB meeting, selection of an architect was tabled so they could tour a Stutler-designed building in Portage, and that Matt, Councilman Tom Goralczyk and Dion from Skillman were also present at the tour. Matt said all members received copies of pictures taken on the tour of the National Transmission building, and there is radiant heat in the garage, trench drains and everything necessary, all at a cost lower than expected. Leonard said if the Board feels comfortable with Stutler as the architect, it is fine with him to go with Stutler; Barbara said all Board members need to make the decision. Dorinda said whatever building is built, it must fall with commercial building guidelines and standards pursuant to town ordinance, and 50% of the building must be different material, like the front being brick and the back being metal.

Dorinda Gregor made a motion to retain Stutler Architects to proceed to design the Stormwater Resource Center at a cost of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00), and it was seconded by Leonard White. A roll call vote was taken, and all three members voted yes, and the motion was approved and unanimously carried.

Matt said Skillman Corporation will determine a construction schedule, and Dion will try to arrange for Stutler to begin immediately, advertise it for bids and then begin construction in June. Jim Meyer asked if Stormwater staff would be in the new building by the end of the year, and Dion said it would be close but hopefully could be done.

Mrs. Ghoston asked if there was any more business before the Board, and Leonard said he received a call from Paul Vogel from Calumet Park Cemetery. He told him the Taft Street project was 50% complete with the two ponds being built. He asked if the ponds will hold full capacity when done, and Matt said two box culverts are needed to complete the project, one near the south end of the project and one by Calumet Park Cemetery, where he and Christopher Burke Engineering are working to obtain the easement from Calumet Park Cemetery. Leonard said Mr. Vogel's concern is erosion, and Matt explained what the purpose of the box culverts and improvements were.

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Mrs. Ghoston said the purpose of the meeting was to select an architect and suggested that Leonard contact Matt at another time or address the issue at the next meeting.

Dorinda Gregor made a motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Leonard White. The meeting was adjourned at 5:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Bushemi
Secretary