

**MINUTES OF THE
MERRILLVILLE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2016**

Vice President Ralph Simek called the January 19, 2016 Merrillville Stormwater Management Board (SWMB) meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. The pledge of allegiance was said. The other members in attendance were Barbara Ghoston and Bud Crist. A roll call was taken, and a quorum was established. Staff present was Executive Director Matt Lake, financial advisor Karl Cender, Attorney James Meyer and secretary Liz Bushemi. Others present were Town Manager Bruce Spires, Dolores Flaska and Karen Caffarini from the *Post-Tribune*.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Ralph Simek nominated Bud Crist as president; Barbara Ghoston seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. A roll call vote was taken, and all three members voted yes, and Bud Crist was named president by a 3/0 vote.

Bud Crist nominated Ralph Simek as vice president. There were no other nominations. A roll call vote was taken, and all three members voted yes, and Ralph Simek was named vice president by a 3/0 vote.

Ralph Simek nominated Barbara Ghoston as secretary. There were no other nominations. A roll call vote was taken, and all three members voted yes, and Barbara Ghoston was named secretary by a 3/0 vote.

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Mr. Crist said since he is coming out of having had a stroke, if anyone can't understand him to please raise their hand. He said in starting out the new year, he would challenge Stormwater board members on the Ordinance 08-39 and work for implementation of the Stormwater master plan of 2014. He said the board will determine what projects to do this year after reviewing the master plan. He said the \$3.5 million bond will be paid in 2027.

MINUTES

Included in the agenda packet was a copy of the minutes from the December 1, 2015 SWMB meeting. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 1, 2015 SWMB meeting, and it was seconded by Ralph Simek. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and all members voted to approve the minutes from the December 1, 2015 meeting, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REGISTERS APPROVAL

Also included in the agenda packet were copies of the accounts payable registers from December 8, 2015, December 22, 2015 and January 12, 2016. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve the accounts payable registers from December 8, 2015, December 22, 2015 and January 12, 2016, and it was seconded by Barbara Ghoston. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and all members voted to approve the accounts payable registers from December 8, 2015, December 22, 2015 and January 12, 2016, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Crist asked Ralph Simek if he had anything to report on old business, and he said no.

Regarding the Ross Meadow Farms project, Matt Lake said he met with Marty Maupin from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), who wanted the project re-submitted for a regional general permit, and an individual permit was originally submitted. Matt said he is waiting on the permit from IDEM and then will have the contractor, Gough, Inc., sign a contract to begin the work as soon as possible.

Regarding the 53rd Court/Meadowdale project, Matt said they are waiting to finalize the as-builts from Gatlin Plumbing, and once everything is satisfactory, Gatlin will be paid for the project. They are taking measurements now and will camera the area. The grass and seed are down. There are now two routes of travel for the 53rd Court area residents, rather than relying on the previous lift station. Mr. Simek asked about the old parts from the lift station, and Matt said they are being stored at the north barn since he does not think that Metropolitan Builders would want any of the old parts.

Matt said end-of-year budget transfers were made to balance out Stormwater Fund 626. Karl Cender said this is what Stormwater and all departments do on an annual basis to balance out, and only three Stormwater line items were adjusted.

NEW BUSINESS

Included in the members' agenda packets was a copy of the Aquatic Weed Control 2016 Contract for services at Bon Aire Lake. The contract is for \$6,300 for six monthly chemical applications for the control of algae; the amount remains the same as it has in the past. If other applications are needed or labor is needed for installation, removal or labor to the fountains, Stormwater is notified; Matt said Aquatic Weed Control has indicated that the fountains need oil changes before installation in 2016. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve the 2016 contract with Aquatic Weed Control, and it was seconded by Barbara Ghoston. A voice vote was taken, and all members voted to approve the 2016 contract with Aquatic Weed Control, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

Matt said the fall Stormwater assessment was received on December 22, 2015 in the amount of \$515,949.14. He said he will be speaking at the LTAP Stormwater Conference on February 18, 2016 on low impact development as part of stormwater standards. Matt also said Stormwater will be sponsoring Andean High School, Merrillville High School and possibly some Merrillville middle or elementary schools for a 2016 Rain Barrel Design Competition on Earth Day, April 16th, at the Porter County Expo Center. The students will decorate and paint the rain barrels for the competition; he said it is a good way to keep students involved.

The MS4 Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2016. Members were given information in their packets and asked to let Liz know before April 1st in order for her to register them for the conference and make hotel reservations. Matt said he will probably be speaking on illicit discharge; as soon as the program is available, copies will be provided to members. Mr. Crist said that he and Councilwoman Barron, the council liaison to the Stormwater Management Board, will attend.

Matt is working on the annual report for IDEM, and he will obtain Town Council President Richard Hardaway's signature on the report upon the councilman's return from an Indiana Association of Cities and Towns (IACT) conference.

OTHER BUSINESS

Attorney Jim Meyer and Karl Cender were asked if they had any other business, and both said no.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Town Manager Bruce Spires welcomed Bud Crist back to the Stormwater Management Board.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Crist said the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 2, 2016, at 4:30 pm at the Stormwater Resource Center. He also stressed the importance of members attending the MS4 Annual Meeting.

Mrs. Ghoston asked if there are any lunch and learns planned for the future, and Matt said not at this time, but he will keep everyone advised.

Barbara Ghoston made a motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Ralph Simek. The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Bushemi
Staff Secretary