

**MINUTES OF THE  
MERRILLVILLE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2016**

President L.J. “Bud” Crist called the November 1, 2016 Merrillville Stormwater Management Board (SWMB) meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. The pledge of allegiance was said. The other member in attendance was Ralph Simek. A roll call was taken, and a quorum was established. Staff members present were Executive Director Matt Lake, Attorney James Meyer, Financial Advisor Karl Cender and secretary Liz Bushemi. Other individuals present were Dolly Flaska and Karen Caffarini from the *Post-Tribune*.

**MINUTES**

Included in the agenda packet was a copy of the minutes from the October 4, 2016 SWMB meeting. Ralph Simek made a motion to accept the minutes from the SWMB meeting of October 4, 2016, and it was seconded by Bud Crist. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and both members voted to approve the minutes from the SWMB meeting of October 4, 2016, and the motion unanimously passed with a 2/0 vote.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REGISTERS APPROVAL**

Also included in the agenda packet was a copy of the accounts payable registers from October 11, 2016 and October 25, 2016. Ralph Simek made a motion to accept the accounts payable registers from October 11, 2016 and October 25, 2016, and it was seconded by Bud Crist. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and both members voted to approve the accounts payable registers from October 11, 2016 and October 25, 2016, and the motion unanimously passed with a 2/0 vote.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Crist said he is still waiting to hear from Merrillville School Board president Mark Lucas on the signed easement with school corporation’s property for drainage work to be done on 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Once the document is received, it will be recorded and Matt will proceed on permitting.

Matt Lake said he met with Sedrick Green from Robinson Engineering on the Southmoor Park project, where Robinson’s plans were discussed and revised. As soon as they are officially revised, Robinson will solicit quotes. They will be in contact with Merrillville Conservancy District (MCD) about their project at the same location and try to work with MCD where all the work in the subdivision can be done at one time.

Matt met with Ron Wiedeman from Robinson Engineering on the Sunset Road/Forest Hills drainage matter, where they looked at the area that ponds a lot. They are looking at the feasibility of a conveyance to the east but also infrastructure along Broadway. Since there is a 10-foot easement there, it’s possible to install an 18” pipe behind the homes, but they need to determine what already lies in the easement area, like residents’ garages or other challenging structures. He said Ron Wiedeman is looking at elevation and off-line detention on the right-of-way at Plymouth Road. He said the worst part with a lot of flooding is at the end of Sunset Road, and for now, that segment only may be replaced before winter sets in.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Bud Crist said he and Matt met with Karl Cender from Cender and Company to discuss end-of-year adjustments that are needed for the Stormwater operating fund budget. Two minor adjustments were recommended, and a \$51,950 adjustment was recommended to be added to contractual services for small drainage projects that can still be done before winter sets in. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve the recommended increases and decreases in Fund 626 from

SWMB Meeting Minutes

November 1, 2016

Page Two

Cender and Company in the amount of \$53,200.00, and it was seconded by Bud Crist. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and both members voted to approve the recommended increases and decreases in Fund 626 from Cender and Company in the amount of \$53,200.00, and the motion unanimously passed with a 2/0 vote.

Mr. Crist said members received in their packets copies of three (3) quotes from companies for a drainage outlet for Independence Street ending up at the ditch at 75<sup>th</sup> & Taft Place: Delta III, Inc. for \$9,850.00, H&G Underground Utilities LLC for \$10,995.00 and Tonn and Blank for \$15,600. Mr. Simek asked about the difference in the Tonn and Blank quote, and Matt said all companies are aware of the moving of the gas line. Ralph Simek made a motion to accept the proposal of Delta III, Inc. for \$9,850.00, and it was seconded by Bud Crist. There were no questions. A roll call vote was taken, and both members voted to accept the proposal of Delta III, Inc. for \$9,850.00, and the motion unanimously passed with a 2/0 vote.

Matt said Merrillville has been recertified for 2017 for the FEMA Community Rating System (CRS).

He also said that small drainage jobs that had been done by the public works drainage crew have ceased since they are doing leaf pick-up for the town. If there is a mild winter and snow removal is not required by public works crew members, other small drainage projects may take place.

An easement from SS. Peter & Paul Church in Merrillville was signed and recorded, which will be a small stormwater project tied to a Gary Sanitary District court case.

Matt will meet with Councilman Richard Hardaway and residents of Ward 2 on November 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at town hall.

Merrillville will be hosting the Northwest Indiana Stormwater Advisory Group (NISWAG) November 17 meeting; Brian Bell from the US EPA Region 5 (Chicago) office will be present, along with Ron Hellmich from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, where mapping will be discussed.

Matt is attending a Great Lakes Chapter of the International Erosion Control Assn. workshop on Thursday and will speak on stormwater mapping and the future of stormwater programs.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Crist said the Stormwater Resource Center and all non-emergency departments will be closed on Friday, November 11, for Veterans Day, and on Thursday and Friday, November 24 & 25, for the Thanksgiving holiday. He said the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 6, 2016, at 4:30 pm at the Stormwater Resource Center.

Ralph Simek made a motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Bud Crist. The meeting was adjourned at 4:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Liz Bushemi, Staff Secretary