

**MINUTES OF THE
MERRILLVILLE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2018**

President L.J. “Bud” Crist called the September 4, 2018, Merrillville Stormwater Management Board (SWMB) meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. The pledge of allegiance was said. The other members in attendance were Barbara Ghoston and Ralph Simek. A roll call was taken, and a quorum was established. Staff members present were Executive Director Matt Lake and staff secretary Liz Bushemi. Also present were Merrillville Town Councilperson Chrissy Barron, Randy Strasser from VS Engineering, Bon Aire Lake residents Bob Cotton, Linda Neidlinger and Karen Billick.

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Mr. Crist reminded Board members about Shared Ethics Advisory Commission ethics training and dinner meeting on Thursday, September 27th, at 6:00 pm at the NISOURCE offices.

MINUTES

Included in the agenda packet was a copy of the minutes from the August 7, 2018 SWMB meeting. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve the minutes from the SWMB meeting held August 7, 2018, and it was seconded by Barbara Ghoston. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, 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 August 14, 2018 and August 28, 2018. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to accept the accounts payable registers from August 14, 2018 and August 28, 2018, and it was seconded by Ralph Simek. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

OLD BUSINESS

Included in the members’ packets was a copy of the Independence Street Pay Request #3 from Dyer Construction Company in the amount of \$23,359.61. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to approve Dyer Construction’s Pay Request #3 in the amount of \$23,359.61, and it was seconded by Ralph Simek. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

Also included in the members’ packets was a copy of the invoice from Delta II, Inc. in the amount of \$38,279.53 for repair and pipe replacement at the sinkhole at 61st and Harrison Street. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve Delta’s invoice in the amount of \$38,279.53, and it was seconded by Barbara Ghoston. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

There was an update memo in the members’ packets from Brian Martin from Butler, Fairman & Seufert engineers about the Bon Aire Lake culvert replacement. Matt said the Bon Aire Lake culvert will be replaced with a new 4’X4’ culvert and wing walls to lower the culvert eight (8) inches, which will create an estimated 8.5 acre feet of storage for flood events and restore the culvert to its previous elevation. In his memo, Mr. Martin said some permitting has already taken place with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), and permitting with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) for construction in a floodway permit may take up to five (5) months, so the project would likely be pushed to the spring of 2019.

Regarding the Sunset Road project, at the members' places were copies of Delta III, Inc. Pay Request #3 in the amount of \$13,883.58, Pay Request #4 in the amount of \$34,961.04, Pay Request #5 in the amount of \$14,905.71 and Final Pay Request #6 in the amount of \$23,619.43, with all four (4) pay requests totaling \$87,369.76. Since these pay requests were received after the agenda packets were delivered to members, they were emailed by Liz to the members on Thursday, August 30, 2018. Matt said they have the as-builts for the project, and Robinson Engineering is recommending that the four pay requests be paid. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve payment of Pay Requests #3, #4, #5 and #6 as described in the full amount of \$87,369.76, and it was seconded by Barbara Ghoston. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Included in the members' packets was a copy of the Notice of Intent published in *The Times* and *Post-Tribune* for the town's Rule 13 permit renewal. Matt said this is for the five-year permit term for Rule 13 compliance, and as soon as the application is completed, it will be submitted to IDEM.

Also included in the members' packets was a copy of the Hubinger Landscape Corporation invoice for the drainage swale adjacent to 6995 East 96th Court in the amount of \$4,951.00. Matt said there was ponding at this Ross Meadow Farms location, and the swale has been regraded, and drainage tile was installed. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve payment to Hubinger Landscape Corporation in the amount of \$4,951.00 and it was seconded by Barbara Ghoston. Mrs. Ghoston asked if this is the final work to be done at Ross Meadow Farms, and Matt said there will be additional re-seeding as needed, and that would be the final work. There were no further questions. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

Matt said he will be presenting at the Stormwater Solutions Conference on Low Impact Development Standards at their conference November 13-15, 2018, in Tinley Park, Illinois.

OTHER BUSINESS

Regarding Bon Aire Lake, Matt said he has sought a quote from Lake & Pond Biologists for algae chemical applications at Bon Aire Lake; he said the quotes are comparable to Aquatic Weed Control, so he feels comfortable in changing companies next year. He said Aquatic Weed Control has added non-toxic dye for its previous application, and it has helped deter algae regrowth significantly.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bon Aire Lake resident Bob Cotton said the lake is surface algae-free. He said Aquatic Weed Control has been out there every two (2) weeks recently, which has helped with the control of algae. He said he went out with Lake & Pond Biologists and used the oxygen level kit that Matt loaned him, and the level was between 8 and 10, with the shallow part being 6. He said the water temperature today was 87 degrees on the outlet channel. Matt said the non-toxic dye has worked, and Aquatic Weed Control first used blue dye and then blue/black dye. Since it has been hot recently, the dye seems to be working, and the lake is perfectly weed-free.

SWMB Meeting Minutes

September 4, 2018

Page Three

Mr. Cotton said he noticed while kayaking on the lake that there are fish there, maybe tilapia. He said in the past, the water temperature was 78.8 to 83 degrees. Matt said we will continue using the dye since it's inexpensive. Aquatic Weed is taking pictures so we know when they are there.

Mr. Cotton said he has pulled some branches and railroad ties from the culvert area, and Matt said if Mr. Cotton sees more, he will call Lake County to have them clear any blockage since Bon Aire Lake is their lateral.

Barbara Ghoston thanked Liz for calling her to tell her that although her name was misspelled on a document, Liz had changed the spelling and called to apologize.

Matt said he is working with students in the ETHICS program from Purdue University in West Lafayette for their Engineering and Computer Science classes. He said some students are working with Stormwater Utility forms to make phone apps, and another group of students is taking water quality testing database to make a phone app.

Bon Aire Lake resident Karen Billick said she is glad the weeds were cut by the culvert, and Matt said Public Works employees came out and cut them.

There being no further business, Ralph Simek made a motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Barbara Ghoston; the meeting was adjourned at 4:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Bushemi
Staff Secretary