

**MINUTES OF THE  
MERRILLVILLE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 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 Ralph Simek and Barbara Ghoston, who arrived at 4:31 pm. 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 staff secretary Liz Bushemi. Also present were Merrillville Town Manager Bruce Spires, Bob Csanyi from Robinson Engineering and Bon Aire Lake residents Linda Neidlinger and Bob Cotton.

**MINUTES**

Included in the agenda packet was a copy of the minutes from the September 4, 2018 SWMB meeting. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve the minutes from the SWMB meeting held September 4, 2018, and it was seconded by Bud Crist. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 2/0 vote.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REGISTERS APPROVAL**

Also included in the agenda packet were copies of the accounts payable registers from September 11, 2018 and September 25, 2018. Ralph Simek made a motion to accept the accounts payable registers from September 11, 2018 and September 25, 2018, and it was seconded by Bud Crist. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 2/0 vote.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Included in the members’ packets was a copy of the Delta III, Inc. invoice for repair and replacements to catch basins on 93<sup>rd</sup> Avenue in the amount of \$26,300.00. Matt Lake said that 85-90% of the most damaged catch basins on 93<sup>rd</sup> Avenue were addressed. There was also a change order request by Delta III, Inc. in the amount of \$1,800.00 for additional materials and labor. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve the change order in the amount of \$1,800.00, 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. Ralph Simek then made a motion to approve the Delta III, Inc. invoice in the full amount of \$26,300.00, which includes the \$1,800.00 change order, 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.

Matt said he received a letter from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) stating the preliminary application for Community Rating System (CRS) was approved September 11, 2018 by the Insurance Services Office, pending approval by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM). He said Merrillville ranked the highest in the State of Indiana with a Class 7 ranking and said that residents requiring flood insurance would receive a reduction in their premiums because of the CRS ranking.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Bud Crist said that the Town of Merrillville Stormwater Utility received a Governor’s Award for Environmental Excellence on September 19<sup>th</sup> in the Recycling and Reuse category for using 40% HDPE recycled pipes at the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Pollution Prevention Conference in Indianapolis. Mrs. Ghoston read a press release about the award. Matt was applauded for receiving the award. He said Merrillville is the only stormwater utility that has received a Governor’s Award for Environmental Excellence.

Included in the members' packets was a copy of a Drainage Easement for property at 8300 Windy Hill Court that had been signed by resident David Boyce. Matt said a small drainage project would be done at that location very soon to alleviate some flooding at that location. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve the drainage easement, and it was seconded by Barbara Ghoston. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and the motion to approve the drainage easement unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote. Also included in the members' packets was a copy of a quote tabulation form list and copies of two quotes submitted by contractors, with Delta III, Inc. being the lowest bidder of four (4) who submitted quotes at \$13,500.00 for this project. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to accept the quote of Delta III, Inc. for the Windy Hill Court project as the lowest bidder, 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.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Members had at their places a copy of a request for quotes, three (3) quotes received and a quote tabulation form for a drainage project to be done on Massachusetts Street from 67<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 66<sup>th</sup> Place. Liz had emailed members the documents since they were received and copied after agenda packets were delivered; although six companies were contacted to submit quotes, only three responded. Matt said this is just west of Merrillville High School, and he has been looking at ways to incorporate supplemental drainage to that area. He was approached by Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) about a cost-share, and NIRPC will pay 50% of the drainage improvements to the area with an IDEM 319 grant. Ralph Simek made a motion to accept the quote of Delta III, Inc. as the lowest bidder with their quote of \$93,500.00 with the condition that we receive the 50% cost-share from NIRPC, 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.

Matt said he has submitted documents for the recertification of Tree City USA status.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Bon Aire Lake resident Bob Cotton said the spraying of the lake every two (2) weeks has helped, but there is duckweed now. He said Aquatic Weed Control is to put some contact spray on it. Mr. Cotton said the dissolved oxygen levels are between eight (8) and ten (10), the temperature of the water is down in the 60's, and there are no fish in the gutters or on his line when he is kayaking.

Mr. Crist said the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 7, 2018, at 4:30 pm since Election Day is Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>.

There being no further business, Ralph Simek made a motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Barbara Ghoston; the meeting was adjourned at 4:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Liz Bushemi  
Staff Secretary