

**MINUTES OF THE
MERRILLVILLE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2019**

President L.J. “Bud” Crist called the Tuesday, March 12, 2019, 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, Financial Advisor Karl Cender, Attorney James Meyer and staff secretary Liz Bushemi. Also present were Town Manager Bruce Spires, resident Dolores Flaska and Karen Caffarini from the *Post-Tribune*.

MINUTES

Included in the agenda packet was a copy of the minutes from the February 5, 2019 SWMB meeting. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to approve the minutes from the SWMB meeting held February 5, 2019, 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.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REGISTERS APPROVAL

Also included in the agenda packet were copies of the accounts payable registers from February 12, February 26 and March 12, 2019. Ralph Simek made a motion to accept the claims on the accounts payable registers for February 12, February 26 and March 12, 2019, 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.

OLD BUSINESS

Matt had requested quotes for a small drainage project at 57th & Massachusetts Street for new HDPE pipe to replace old infrastructure, rip rap and grading to form swales within existing ditches on the north and south side of 57th Avenue. Members had a copy of a Quote Tabulation Form listing the four (4) quotes received and copies of the quotes:

- Dyer Construction Company, Inc. - \$23,698.06
- Austgen Equipment, Inc. - \$22,930.00
- Gough, Inc. - \$16,042.00
- Delta III, Inc. - \$13,250.00

Ralph Simek made a motion to accept the quote from Delta III, Inc. in the amount of \$13,250.00, 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.

Matt said he attended the LTAP Stormwater Drainage Conference where there was a unique session on off-site detention mitigation for new development in the Chicagoland area, and we will continue to learn how this is being implemented. He also attended the LTAP Annual Road School, where there were several interesting educational sessions.

NEW BUSINESS

Matt said since Stormwater does not continually use the Argo Avenger all-terrain vehicle, and the Merrillville Fire Department showed interest for use for their operations, we have had discussions regarding having them acquire it. Through conversations with the Town Manager and the Merrillville Fire Department, there was an offer to purchase the Argo vehicle and trailer

for \$9,000.00. Town Manager Bruce Spires said \$9,000.00 will be paid out of the Firefighter's Equipment Fund (that they receive for lease of a cell tower) and give the Argo to the Fire Department for their use. Attorney Jim Meyer recommends that the serial or equipment ID number for the Argo be listed on a Bill of Sale. Matt said the fire department will use the Argo for water rescue, brush fires and prescribed burns. Discussion was held that there is no title to the Argo since it's not a vehicle. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve the sale and transfer of the Argo Avenger to the Merrillville Fire Dept. Barbara Ghoston seconded the motion, with the conditions that Stormwater is keeping the outboard motor and it executes a bill of sale. There was no further discussion. A voice vote was taken, and the motion with the conditions unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

Members had in their packets two proposals for algae and duckweed control at Bon Aire Lake. Since there had been concerns from residents about looking at another company, Matt looked into Lake & Pond Biologists and received proposals from them and Aquatic Weed Control, the company that has treated Bon Aire Lake for many years. Matt said the monthly fee for Lake & Pond Biologists is about \$1,441.00 per month, and Aquatic Weed Control is about \$1,758.00 per month. He said Lake & Pond Biologists did an adjustment for duckweed spot treatments, and they are slightly lower than Aquatic Weed Control. Based on the need for specialized management and maintenance of the lake, Matt feels comfortable using Lake & Pond Biologists. Bon Aire Lake residents also previously expressed interested in utilizing this contractor. Mr. Simek recalled that last year, Lake & Pond Biologists came up with the dye solution idea, and Matt said residents appreciate the effectiveness of the non-toxic dye applications, and they will be continued. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to approve the proposal of Lake & Pond Biologists this year based on their prices and residential input for algae control at Bon Aire Lake, 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.

Matt said several engineering firms have on-call engineering services contracts with Stormwater Utility, and included in the members' packets was a copy of an Engineering Services Contract with Exhibit A-6 with Christopher Burke Engineering in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve the on-call engineering services agreement for 2019 with Christopher Burke Engineering in an amount not to exceed \$10,000, 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.

Members also had in their packets a copy of the Addendum to the DLZ Engineering contract for on-call engineering services. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to approve the Addendum for on-call engineering services in 2019 with DLZ Engineering, 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.

Matt said Cardno, Inc. used the Marsh Master at Crescent Lake last week, cutting about four acres of phragmites; the area had never been mowed before, and it only took them about three hours. Cardno will come back in the spring to spray to control emerging phragmites, then seed with native vegetation and mow again in the fall. He also said Cardno will be back this Friday with the Marsh Master for maintenance at the north and south Taft Street ponds, the 93rd Avenue pond west of the Diocese of Gary property, the Red Roof Inn pond owned by the town and the pond off of Mississippi Street by Enspect Engineering.

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Matt said they are finalizing the Taft Street box culvert project, and he had a conference call with the Indiana Dept. of Transportation (INDOT) to address permitting questions.

Matt also said the Meadowdale regional flood control facility design project is coming along. The funding for engineering up to \$169,000.00 will be fully reimbursed by the Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission. Attorney Jim Meyer asked about a completion date, and Matt said probably late summer or early fall, and that he may request additional funding for construction of the project from the Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission. Mr. Crist wants to keep the Merrillville Community School Corporation informed since they gave the town a drainage easement for the project.

Mr. Simek asked about attendance at the Indiana Annual MS4 meeting and said April 1st is the deadline for early registration. All members said they planned to attend. Liz will make arrangements to register them for the conference and book hotel rooms.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Crist said the next SWMB meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 2, 2019, at 4:30 pm at the Stormwater Resource Center.

There being no further business, Ralph Simek made a motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Barbara Ghoston. The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Bushemi
Staff Secretary