

**MINUTES OF THE
MERRILLVILLE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 2, 2019**

President L.J. “Bud” Crist called the July 2, 2019, Merrillville Stormwater Management Board (SWMB) meeting to order at 4:31 p.m. The pledge of allegiance was said. The other members in attendance were Ralph Simek and Barbara Ghoston. A roll call was taken, and a quorum was established. Staff members present were Executive Director Matt Lake, Attorney James Meyer and secretary Liz Bushemi. Others present who signed in were Keith Kegebein from Dyer Construction Company, Sandra Smith from LGS Plumbing, Kyle Weisman from Woodruff & Sons, Dan Grimmer from Grimmer Construction, Rich Muha from Gariup Construction, resident Bob Cotton and Jason Douthett from Robinson Engineering.

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Mr. Crist expressed condolences to the family of Financial Advisor Karl Cender on the passing of his wife, Wilma.

He also closed the acceptance of bids on the Taft Street drainage project.

MINUTES

Included in the agenda packet was a copy of the minutes from the June 4, 2019 SWMB meeting. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to approve the minutes from the SWMB meeting held June 4, 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 June 11 and June 25, 2019. Ralph Simek made a motion to accept the accounts payable registers from June 11 and June 25, 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

The opening of the sealed bids received on the Taft Street drainage project took place. Attorney James Meyer opened the sealed bids in the order that they were received:

(1) Gary Material Supply, LLC, Gary, IN	\$ 189,400.00
(2) Austgen Equipment, Inc., Crown Point, IN	\$ 212,711.00
(3) Grimmer Construction, Inc., Highland, IN	\$ 138,911.00
(4) G.E. Marshall, Inc., Valparaiso, IN	\$ 197,147.57
(5) Gough, Inc., Merrillville, IN	\$ 182,818.00
(6) Dyer Construction Co., Inc., Dyer, IN	\$ 113,789.18
(7) LGS Plumbing, Inc., Crown Point, IN	\$ 185,087.43
(8) Woodruff & Sons, Inc., Michigan City, IN	\$ 193,784.88
(9) Gariup Construction Co. Inc., Gary, IN	\$ 293,700.00

Attorney Meyer recommended that the board take the nine (9) bids under advisement and consideration, and that if the low bidder’s documentation is complete and meets all perimeters of the bid, that it be awarded to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder. Mrs. Ghoston made a motion to take the nine (9) bids under advisement and consideration, and if Dyer Construction Company, Inc.’s documentation is complete and meets and perimeters of the bid, that it be awarded to Dyer Construction Company, Inc. and it was seconded by Ralph Simek. There was no discussion. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

Matt said the 83rd Avenue & Indiana Street project has not yet started; he is waiting for the contractor, Ryan Construction, to begin the work.

Regarding the Meadowdale basin project, Mat said Christopher Burke Engineering is completing engineering on the project, and most of the permits have been received; a public notice was just published in the newspaper regarding the Dept. of Natural Resources (IDNR) permit. In addition to the engineering, this project will be submitted to the Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission for consideration of cost-share for the project.

Matt said they are still waiting on IDNR permits for the Bon Aire Lake culvert project, and public meetings will be held.

Matt participated in the Conference on the Environment and the Gary Green Infrastructure workshop. He will be following up with the Lake County Surveyor on their work on Lateral 6; he is hoping to get approval from the Hickory Ridge Apts. Board to get an easement for work to be done in that area. Matt met with a representative from Delta Institute about a \$300,000 non-matching grant from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative for projects on Marcella Road, Taft Place and Pennsylvania Street.

NEW BUSINESS

Bud Crist said that the spring, 2019, installment of stormwater fees in the amount of \$1,127,829.63 was received from Lake County. He said \$667,900.71 was put into the Stormwater Operating Fund 626, and \$459,928.92 was put into the Construction Fund 627 for the Meadowdale storage basin project.

At the recommendation of Attorney Jim Meyer, Barbara Ghoston made a motion to move forward on the grant application to the Great Lakes Restoration Institute (GLRI), to partner with the City of Hobart and Delta Institute to submit a grant application for the aforementioned projects, 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 he has requested quotes for a stormwater project at Lakewood Estates at 55th & Chase Street, and they are due by Friday, July 12th, at 4:30 pm.

At the members' places was a copy of Delta III, Inc.'s change order #1 for driveway aprons done at the 66th to 67th & Massachusetts Street project, along with their invoice in the amount of \$4,500.00. Attorney Meyer asked why they are submitting the invoice now if the work was done in November, 2018, and their final request for the project was approved last year. Matt said the work was done after the final pay request was approved. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve Delta III, Inc.'s change order in the amount of \$4,500.00, for the total project costing \$98,000.00, 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. Additionally, Ralph Simek made a motion to pay Delta III, Inc.'s invoice in the amount of \$4,500.00, 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 since the bid opening had concluded on the Taft Street project, as a point of reference, the engineer's estimate for the project was \$169,750.00, so Dyer Construction's bid came in under the engineer's estimate.

Matt briefly discussed House Enrolled Act 1266 passed by the Indiana General Assembly earlier this year which affects MS4 communities, their plan reviews and properties with five (5) acres or more. They will be accelerating the permitting process, but Matt says you cannot rush engineering. He thinks Merrillville will be fine with the new law. There are also some changes regarding enforcement, giving 72 hours' notice before submitting a stop work order. He said the Indiana Assn. for Floodplain & Stormwater Management (INAFSM) remonstrated against it, and Northwest Indiana legislators voted against it.

OTHER BUSINESS

Jason Douthett from Robinson Engineering said he will meet with Matt next week about the 77th & Marshall Street project. They are also working on Taft Place and Vermont Street.

Mrs. Ghoston asked about stop work orders, and Matt said typically it is done for corrective action for violations on new development that requires an IDEM Rule 5 permit.

Mrs. Ghoston also asked about Delta Institute, and Matt said they are a not-for-profit organization from Chicago who assist communities in obtaining grants to protect the environment and stormwater management.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob Cotton from Bon Aire Lake said there have been no dead fish at the lake, and on June 26th, Lake & Pond Biologists treated the lake. He said there is no change in the oxygen level. He said there is a massive amount of algae at the culvert area and asked if that could be taken care of; Matt said he will contact Public Works to go there to cut the weeds by the culvert. Bud Crist thanked Mr. Cotton for his time in checking matters at Bon Aire Lake.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Crist said the next SWRC meeting is set for Tuesday, August 6, 2019, at 3:00 pm at the Stormwater Resource Center. He said Stormwater will participate in the Independence Day parade: Matt will drive the pickup truck, Joe Fish will drive the camera truck, and laborer Mike Mahy will drive the jet vac truck; Bud will be out of town for the 4th of July.

Ralph Simek made a motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Barbara Ghoston. The meeting was adjourned at 5:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Bushemi
Staff Secretary