

**MINUTES OF THE
MERRILLVILLE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2020**

President L.J. “Bud” Crist called the March 3, 2020, Merrillville Stormwater Management Board (SWMB) meeting to order at 4:32 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, Financial Advisor Karl Cender, Attorney James Meyer and staff secretary Liz Bushemi. Also present were Karen Caffarini from the *Post-Tribune* and resident Bob Cotton.

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Mr. Crist welcomed Karen Caffarini and Bob Cotton.

MINUTES

Included in the agenda packet was a copy of the minutes from the February 4, 2020, SWMB meeting. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve the minutes from the SWMB meeting held on February 4, 2020. 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

Included in the agenda packet were copies of the accounts payable registers from February 11 and February 25, 2020. Ralph Simek made a motion to accept the accounts payable registers from February 11 and February 25, 2020, 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 Dyer Construction Company, Inc. Pay Request #2 in the amount of \$2,674.25 for the Taft Street project. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve payment to Dyer Construction in the amount of \$2,674.25, 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.

Discussion was held about Bon Aire Lake. Matt said Lake & Pond Biologists said use of tilapia as a biological control agent is a more natural way to control algae, and we will also continue the use of non-toxic dye. They will apply two (2) algae treatments in May before stocking the lake with tilapia. Last year, the cost for applications was \$8,650.00. This year with the tilapia, it will cost about \$9,676.00 (per 2020 contract proposed). Bob Cotton said a few residents are in favor of the tilapia, and Matt said we can try it this season to see how effective it is. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve Lake & Pond Biologists contract for \$9,676.00, 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.

Matt said he went to the Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission Advisory Board meeting last week, and the Merrillville storage basin and Bon Aire Lake projects were discussed; Matt said they were well received. He said Butler, Fairman & Seufert applied for its last permit from the Lake County Drainage Board, and then a public meeting will be held and Bon Aire project will be out for bid.

NEW BUSINESS

Included in the members' packets were copies of quotes for the 77th Avenue & Noble Street project. Matt said he's received calls over the years regarding ponding, and he noticed there were no structures there. DLZ did the design and engineering for the project. Eight (8) requests were sent out, and three (3) were received:

Dyer Construction Company, Inc. - \$31,970.36
Gough, Inc. - \$29,000.00
Ziese & Sons, Inc. - \$27,000.00

Ralph Simek made a motion to approve the proposal from Ziese & Sons in the amount of \$27,000.00, 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.

Matt said the MS4 annual meeting will be held on May 11 and 12, 2020, in Indianapolis; Ralph said he will let us know if he will attend, and Bud said he will attend.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob Cotton said there are plywood and tree trunks and other debris blocking the culvert on Roosevelt Place, and there are still logs sitting the road at Taft Place from before; Matt said someone will be sent out. Matt said he met with the Lake County Surveyor yesterday regarding regulated drains, including Bon Aire Lake - Lateral 7 - and Meadowdale. They are working on Lateral 6, and Delta III is the surveyor's contractor for this project, and they are cleaning woody vegetation and debris and dredging the lateral.

Matt said he also contacted Craig Zandstra from Lake County Parks about park properties in Merrillville to see if stormwater storage can be implemented on Lake County Park properties. He is also working with Robinson Engineering to redesign the drainage near at 58th & Vermont Street to control stormwater crossing under I-65 from the Isaak Walton property and will need an INDOT permit to redirect the flow southward within the state right-of-way, which will help alleviate flooding in the subdivision.

Ralph Simek asked if Matt ever heard from INDOT about the Taft Street guardrail, and he said INDOT has not responded and is now having Steve King (Engineering Administrator) coordinate with INDOT. Matt said INDOT will be paving Taft Street, and we will like to have a definitive answer and determination since it's INDOT's right-of-way.

Ralph Simek made a motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Bud Crist. The meeting was adjourned at 4:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Bushemi
Staff Secretary