



Minutes

MERRILLVILLE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BOARD

Tuesday, July 5, 2022 at 3:30 PM

Merrillville Stormwater Resource Center, 7404 Broadway, Merrillville, IN

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

President L.J. “Bud” Crist called the July 5th, 2022 Stormwater Management Board (SWMB) meeting to order at 3:33 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Crist led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Members in attendance were, President, Bud Crist, Vice President, Vice President Ralph Simek, and Secretary, Barbara Ghoston. A quorum was established. Staff members present were Executive Director Matt Lake, Attorney James Meyers, and Secretary Adra Breclaw-Csanyi.

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT:

None.

MINUTES

Stormwater Management Board Minutes (SWMB) from June 7th, 2022, approved. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve the minutes from the SWMB meeting held June 7th, 2022, motion seconded by Secretary Barbara Ghoston. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passes with a 3/0 vote.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REGISTERS APPROVAL

Included in the agenda packet were copies of the Accounts Payable Registers from June 14th, 2022 and June 28th, 2022. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to accept the Accounts Payable Registers from June 14th and June 28th, 2022 including corrections, seconded by Ralph Simek. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

Approval of claims for Accounts Payable Register for ARP from June 14th, 2022 and June 28th, 2022 with Stormwater Contractual Service appropriations/submissions. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable Register for ARP from June 14th, 2022 and June 28th, 2022, seconded by Secretary Ghoston. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

OLD BUSINESS

Bud Crist – None

Matt Lake – Lake and Pond Biologist treated Bon Aire on June 15th, 2022 for Pond Shade. Barbara Ghoston asked what *Blue Dye Light Filter* is, Matt Lake explain that it the treatment coloring so that it looks more natural instead of an unnatural color. Tilapia release was performed, which is biological algae control along with monthly Algae Control and Blue Dye light filtering which suppresses bacteria and is degradable over time.

Updates – Executive Director Matt Lake gave an update on the projects listed below:

- Pond ownership agreement for maintenance regarding Mesa Ridge Outlet A has been signed between the Town and Stormwater. The Town covers the cost and we manage all aspects of it.

In terms of actual mowing, it will be performed through a contractor, Creekside Outdoor Living where there is one mowing a month with cleanup. There are no objections to the agreement.

- Contracts for Meadowdale Tree Removal Phase 2 and 3 is underway by Homer Tree Service. The contractor has stump removal yet to perform, this will complete Meadowdale. Next will be Meadowland which will be a sealed bid process with opening at the August Stormwater meeting.
- Kaiser Ditch Lateral Project – we are waiting on one permit.
- 101st & Clay Street Drainage Project
Winfield is revising one part of the plan and still needs easement. Details are being worked out, that is their project in our corporate boundaries benefitting both of us.
- Hickory Ridge Lake Apartment Regional Basin Design survey work has been commenced by Christopher B. Burke Engineering. We are looking at options and are considering replacing pipe even if it's in good condition.
- Southmoor Park Drainage Project plans are over 75% complete by Robinson Engineering, Ltd., we are trying to time this with a project that Merrillville Conservancy District is doing so that there is less disturbance for residents regarding construction. This will not bid until the end of the year sometime.
- Independence Street Drainage Phase 2 is about 95% complete with engineering and will be ready for bidding soon by Robinson Engineering, Ltd. There will be a final questions and quality control check before going out to bid.
- Georgia Heights/Marcella ROW Drainage Replacement Project
Matt has met with DLZ, and they are close to finalizing, he would like to get this out as soon as possible. This needs to be done as soon as possible, the CDBG money has a deadline on it. Matt noted that we may need to ask for an extension. This will be half ARP money and half Community Block Grant money.
- Grassfield Subdivision/9401 Randolph St Drainage Coordination with NRCS
Matt did coordinate with Christopher Burke; they are doing all of the survey work in order to get the easement. The owner agreed to give the easement free of charge. He intends to pay with the LCRBDC for matching money.
- Delta III Project:
Randolph @ 101st St-72" Roadway Culvert – Work will be performed Wednesday July 6th, 2022. It will take a day or less to do the project. The road will be shut down and all proper authorities have been notified. Various news agencies have also been notified to inform the public.

In the members packet was an invoice from Microbac Laboratories Inc for sampling, collection, and report analysis in the amount of \$6,555.00. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to approve payment of the invoice to Microbac Laboratories Inc in the amount of \$6,555.00, 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.

In the members packet was an invoice from Robinson Engineering, Ltd. for Professional Engineering Services thru June 3, 2022 in the amount of \$4,540.50. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to approve payment of the invoice to Robinson Engineering, Ltd. in the amount of \$4,545.50, 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.

ARP Appropriations/Invoices – (VOICE VOTES) In the members packet was and invoice for the following:

Robinson Engineering, Ltd. invoice for Professional Engineering Services for MSU Independence St & 75th Av Drainage Improvements, Phase 2 in the amount of \$1,576.00. Barbara Ghoston made a

motion to approve payment of the invoice to Robinson Engineering, Ltd. in the amount of \$1,576.00, 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.

Robinson Engineering, Ltd. invoice for Professional Engineering Services for MSU Southmoor Subdivision Drainage, Ph 2 in the amount of \$7,011.50. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to approve payment of the invoice to Robinson Engineering, Ltd. in the amount of \$7,011.50, 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.

Arbor Metrics invoice for Turkey Creek Tree Inventory in the amount of \$2,377.44. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to approve final payment of the invoice to Arbor Metrics in the amount of \$2,377.44, 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.

NEW BUSINESS

Bud Crist –

Bud Crist stated the 2022 spring stormwater property tax fees installment were received in June in the amount of \$1,164,489.42. Pursuant to the instructions of Financial Advisor Karl Cender, \$689,610.63 was put into Stormwater's Operating Fund 6501, and \$474,878.79 was put into Construction Fund 6504 by the Clerk-Treasurer.

President Crist stated the 2021 Continuing disclosure Report has been completed for the Town through LWG CPA's & Advisors. The Stormwater bond will expire February 1st 2027.

Matt Lake –

Lake and Pond Biologist, LLC invoice for Tilapia Biological Algae Control, Algae Control, and Blue Dye Light Filtering in the amount of \$8,057.66. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve payment of the invoice to Lake and Pond Biologist, LLC in the amount of \$8,057.66, 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.

Indiana University Research, invoice for MCF Award Contribution and 2022 Resilience Cohort UGI & CAP module participation in the amount of \$4,300.00. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve payment of the invoice to Indiana University Research in the amount of \$4,300.00, 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.

Proposals – Up for discussion/approval (VOICE VOTE)

Delta III Inc – Proposal

7463 Lincoln Mill Road, Remove and Replace culvert pipe & concrete driveway in the total amount of \$9,700.00. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve proposal and payment of the invoice upon

completion to Delta III Inc in the amount of \$9,700.00, 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.

- Demolition-concrete driveway 17.5'x12.5', corrugated metal pipe removal
- Install-2, 6" PVC 18" pipe, concrete driveway @ 4" thickness, seed disturbed areas

Matt Lake commented that this was the lowest and only contractor that responded to the request for quotes.

Delta III Inc – Proposal

8955 Louisiana Street, 24" Culvert Replacement in the total amount of \$19,250.00. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve proposal and payment of the invoice upon completion to Delta III Inc in the amount of \$19,250.00, 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.

- Asphalt removal 5'x31'
- Install 24" HDPE w/#53 stone backfill and Asphalt patch in kind. Conc apron replacement as needed

There was a comment by Ralph Simek if Delta III is being used exclusively. Matt responded that they have been the lowest and only bidders. Matt Lake said that he and Bud will be meeting with Union Reps to discuss hiring as needed for alternative options.

Christopher B. Burke

Hayes Farm Drainage Improvement Project / Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission

- Application for funding the engineering design and planning of the Hayes Farm Drainage Improvements located within the Deep River Watershed on the east side of Town. Matt

Barbara Ghoston made a motion to approve a proposal from Christopher B. Burke to prepare and submit a LCRBDC grant application, 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.

A IDEM Recycling Grant was applied for and submitted, the grant was for 12" HDPE (high-density polyethylene) pipe that is 60% recycled material and 2,400 Ln Ft. This takes the material out of the equation and has a big benefit, equating to 800,470 discarded bottles. Matt wanted to take the opportunity and utilize for future projects. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to ratify the submission, 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

Matt Lake – Update: Stormwater Ordinance Update/New IDEM Permit Regulations

We have submitted our Notice of Intent (NOI) for our new MS4 permit to the state that was due July 5th, 2022. We have it posted on the Town Website. This will be a five-year permit.

We have scheduled a IDEM audit that will be coming up withing the next few weeks with Staci Goodwin.

Also, we are schedule to review our next year operating budget review with Karl on July 11th, 2022.

Brown Equipment came out to demo their new mower, it is made in Wisconsin and had a 60" deck, the cost is approximately \$75,000.00. Matt sent a video that members could see the equipment. We are

contemplating this or something like it for maintenance on the detention ponds, especially Taft St, Crescent Lake, and Mesa Ridge.

Matt mentioned that Stormwater vehicles were in the parade. Barbra Ghoston thought there was a good turnout.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob Cotton wanted to know if there was a status update on FEMA, Matt said he hasn't heard anything and that he can talk directly to VS Engineering. Mr. Cotton also wanted to know if they can drop the arm on the mower as it is four feet high, he thought maybe riprap can be placed there, Matt said that is Public Works. Mr. Cotton said there is very little algae. Matt said there was an article in the paper that Tilapia is bad and invasive, but that was in southern states and is invasive there, here they don't survive the winter. Tilapia is better maintenance; they work 27/7 keeping it balanced.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Crist said the next SWMB meeting is set for August 2nd, 2022, at 3:30 pm at the Stormwater Resource Center.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Adra Breclaw-Csanyi, Staff Secretary