

**MONROE COUNTY  
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
NAT HILL MEETING ROOM  
3:00 P.M., FEBRUARY 14, 2019**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Trohn Enright-Randolph, Lee Jones (Chair), Amanda Barge

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Julie Thomas

**STAFF:** Terry Quillman (MS4 Coordinator), Lisa Ridge (Public Works Director), Margie Rice (Legal), Allison Moore (Emergency Management), Shelle Ann Fletcher (Emergency Management), John Chambers (Highway)

**OTHERS:** CATS-TV, Tammy Cassidy, May Cassidy

**CALL TO ORDER:** Called to order at 3:04 P.M. by Lee Jones.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JANUARY 10, 2019**

**Amanda Barge motioned for approval; Trohn Enright-Randolph seconded. VOTE: AYE (unanimous). Motion carried and minutes approved.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Monthly Budget Reports for January 2019**

Terry Quillman said he had given SWMB members a new packet because he had to make an edits. He said he made an edit in the expenditure summary and he added a summary of the flooding that occurred over the last few days.

He said on the first page, we spent \$2500 on pipes and \$2300 on backfill. He said there were several days of flaggers; we have been using them on a contract basis to allow our crews to work more efficiently. He said under General Engineering Services -- that is with Christopher Burke; we are updating the stormwater ordinance and technical standards. He said under Public Education and Participation, the \$35,000 is the amount we forward to Soil & Water Conservation District each year for their budgets. He said on the second page the vehicle maintenance, workman's comp, utilities -- those are pretty straightforward. He said the Stipp Road/Moores Creek design will be submitted tomorrow and we can get it started for permitting.

Quillman said the error that I caught was in the Stipp Road billings, there was a bookkeeping error that I caught just today. He said they billed \$259,000 and that is 89% billed out. He said Cherry Lane is in pretty good shape; we are finalizing the design. He said Truesdell is pretty much finished up out there and he is making contacts with property owners about right-of-way for those improvements.

**b. Parks and Recreation Funding Request -- Limestone Greenway Project**

Margie Rice (Legal) spoke at the podium. She said I am here to ask for approval for some funding. We are getting ready to start the Limestone Greenway construction from Church Lane south to the mitigation property. She said the commissioners don't yet own the mitigation property; it is still owned by INDOT. She said I actually talked to someone yesterday and it is working its way through INDOT legal. She said that is a trail, if you remember, the City years ago was given the corridor from the Indiana Railroad

Corporation. She said they developed up to Clear Creek and then stopped and a few years ago they deeded it to you. She said so you own the rest of that corridor which runs all the way down to Limestone country, Indiana Limestone property. She said we are going to do this trail construction and as we have been researching we did some work looking into the culverts. She said there are four culverts between church Lane and Dillman that need to be worked on. She said we had Bledsoe Riggert Cooper James look at the culverts. She said Trohn, Lisa and Terry are part of the Internal Trails Group and we have been talking about this since last summer. She said we could go ahead and build the trail without the culvert work but it doesn't make sense because we know that the culverts are failing. She said so in your packet you have the reports. She said there is one that needs to be cleaned out and two that Lisa thinks the Public Works team can repair but the two larger ones are going to cost, combined, we think about \$274,000. She said we are not sure whether they will excavate or do jack-and-bore process. She said we have been talking with the City of Bloomington about accessing property that they own if we do need to do excavation and they would allow us to be on their property without any cost, just giving us right-of-entry. She said they would allow us to cut down trees as necessary to get the work done, as long as we replace them. She said if there were questions on the technical details she would defer to Terry but I am happy to answer any questions that I can.

Jones said she had a question for Terry about the estimated costs given for excavation versus jack-and-bore. She said I don't know what jack-and-bore means. Quillman said the two culverts are very deep so to excavate them would require a very large hole in the ground, cutting away the embankment. He said an alternative is to put a pit where you can have the culvert to go through and actually bore a hole through the embankment and then jack and push a pipe through instead of excavating. He said there are pros and cons to each method, especially if there are big boulders that might not permit boring. He said I think their engineer went through and priced both options and in each case looked at the best option and made a recommendation.

Rice said I think that Andy said there are more unknowns with jack-and-bore because sometimes you just don't know what you are going to get into.

Jones said but the excavation actually disturbs a lot more earth around it. Rice said the plan is that we will leave all the corridor material on the corridor and using as much material as we can to put back in. She said that will save cost. She said we have done some environmental testing; there are not high levels of contamination but it is a railroad corridor so we want to keep that material in the corridor.

Barge asked about safety issues with culverts. Quillman said I had a conversation with Lisa. He said I decided to contract out the work on one of the pipes to someone who has insurance and meets all the OSHA requirements. Quillman said laying the embankment back, there is always a chance that it could slump in. Barge asked about the depth. Rice said that a culvert that we were going to do in-house is about 8 feet deep, another one we were going to do in-house is 5 feet deep, and then there's one that just needs cleaned, approximately 15 feet deep. She said the two large ones, one is about 24 feet deep and 28 feet deep. She said these are old pipes under the corridor that have just collapsed so I think it will improve drainage once this is fixed.

Barge said we have some culverts in our area that are safety concerns because of kids. Quillman said for the most part this is pretty rural and I would say, given that, it's probably appropriate just to leave them as they are. Jones asked if the culverts now are implicated in the flooding. Quillman said we did not assess them but I am sure they have flooded just from my inspection of the openings, filled with debris, breaking down, so the water is getting through slowly but it's backing up.

Trohn said that was my question about the impact on the adjoining properties. He asked about site inspections. Quillman said I inspected all of them in a dry period; there was no ponding but I can just tell

you I know that they are backing up. Trohn said he had a follow up question. There was a brief discussion of the do-nothing approach.

Trohn said the cost is high but I have talked about how we should lead by example so if we build a trail that doesn't address drainage concerns it doesn't look great from the county's perspective. He said the fact that you are bringing this to us with support from Parks, I feel inclined to support this.

Quillman said Lisa made another comment that if we chose not to replace the culverts and a pipe failed, then dirt could wash away and the embankment could settle in and cause the trail to fail.

Rice said this trail connect to the City's trail and we have that sheriff substation at Dillman Road to provide extra public safety for those trail users so it will be nice to have one accessible trail all the way down to Dillman Road.

Ridge said if I remember correctly our stormwater long-range plan did address drainage issues for trails. Rice said I would like to thank Lisa, Trohn, and Terry for their work on this project because I know we have been talking about this for months. She said the coordinated effort of the county to be talking about parks and public works and stormwater issues all together is efficient and ultimately saves the taxpayer money. She said I know the ticket is a little high but I think it is an efficient and proactive way to do business.

Jones asked if there was any public comment on this item. There was none. **Trohn motioned approval for the Parks and Recreation fund request for the Limestone Greenway. VOTE: aye (unanimous).**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jones asked if there was any public comment.

Tammy Cassidy spoke. She said the reason that I am here is to speak about the Clear Creek area. She said there are concerns with the flow of water in our area and this is something that seems to be intensifying. She said I know last week was a rough week. She said things are changing and last fall we noticed some changes. She said this last flooding presented water in May's Greenhouse building which they have never had before. She said I hope to gain your support in helping us to come together and get some of these water issues resolved especially for the residents and businesses that have been there for quite a while.

Barge said thank you for being here.

May Cassidy spoke. She had a question about stormwater issues in Ellettsville. Ridge said to my knowledge, they have their own stormwater program. Trohn said there is a gentleman named Kevin Tolloty who should be able to help you. Jones said I know that Ellettsville has really been underwater. Ridge said that leads us into -- we have asked to bring in Allison and Shelley from Emergency Management and John Chambers, Highway Superintendent, to discuss how we coordinated efforts last week with the flood. She said the flooding wasn't specific to a certain area; we have an overall issue. Barge said I would love for Mr. Chambers to give an update on potholes while he is here because I think it is important to talk about the progress and where we are.

John Chambers spoke. He said for 45 years he has toiled at the county and he has never seen what we saw the other day when it rained (flooding). He said as far as potholes go, when was the last time when we had a flood in early February; with freezing and thawing you get potholes and we have them everywhere. He said we have been working with the stormwater crew; I think every pipe in Monroe County is

clogged. He said we have crews out constantly working on potholes. He said we have weeks and weeks and weeks of potholes to be repairing. He said it normally happens like this every year but not as drastic as this. Amanda Barge said thank you for all you are doing. Lee Jones said I did notice that some of them had been patched very quickly. Barge said I know I didn't understand before I became commissioner how hard you guys work and how you are up in the middle of the night during bad weather. Chambers said we don't really get much sleep in the wintertime. He said also if people see a pothole is repaired and then three days later it's gone, we are using a cold mix asphalt and it doesn't adhere like hot mix does, especially when there is water in the holes and the conditions we are working in. He said asphalt plants are not open during the winter time; this is the time that they usually tear down and do maintenance. He said we have a hot box that heats the cold mix. He said it will heat the cold mix and activate the liquid asphalt for better results.

Shelle Ann Fletcher, deputy director of Emergency Management, spoke. She said I just wanted to talk a little bit about the online forms and the voicemails that we have been receiving from residents about flood damage. She said we collaborated with the Health Department to set up a hotline; we've received between 50-60 different voicemails from different residents describing their flood damage. She said we have gotten probably close to 50 forms from the website. She said although in the eyes of residents the damage may seem major, in the eyes of FEMA, it is not that bad. She said the residents are reporting a couple inches of water in their basement, damage to carpets and drywall, etc. She said one of FEMA's requirements is 18 inches of standing water so there is quite a discrepancy. She said voicemails are still coming in; I think that has been a successful idea to hear from residents.

Allison Moore, director of Emergency Management, spoke. She said one of the things that I would like to talk about are the different kinds of assistance that FEMA offers and one of the things that we do qualify for is SBA loans, but we only qualify for that if we meet the threshold. She said so like Shelley said we are taking any residents that have had any kind of flood damage, if they will notify our office, we did try to push that out through local media and social media and we did a pretty good job of getting the word out and we are hearing back from many residents and businesses in the Ellettsville and City of Bloomington and Monroe County. She said unfortunately the threshold that we have to meet is high because the State did not declare a disaster. She said only some counties were affected in this particular storm and even though it was higher than people have seen it was in a short amount of time as opposed to a lengthy amount of time such as days so the State's resources and even our county's resources were not overwhelmed so because of that the State did not declare a disaster. She said we are working with residents to see if we can assist in any way; Red Cross does provide cleaning kits if that is something that the families need and they cannot purchase so you are welcome to contract our office and we can get you in touch with them to get proper cleaning supplies and various things like that and we're willing to help with any resources we can. She said our office did reach out to Highway in the very early stages of the flood and we offered sandbags to residents and they quickly went and get additional sand. She said we had about 100 bags already filled but they got real busy for us and collaborated with our office to get those available and we offered those to the public and we worked with the City Public Works and county public works. She said we tried to put out where the roads were flooded so that people would know not to be out in those areas. She said unfortunately natural disasters happen and it had a big impact on Monroe County this time around.

Jones said thank you and thank you for getting all those sand bags ready. Barge said I just want to say thanks to all; I know that when you put out the list of roads it was super helpful. She said I know you did way more than that. Moore said we worked with fire departments that were doing water rescues; there were so many departments that we worked with. She said I feel like as a community we worked very well together to try to make us safer and I am very proud of that. She said at certain times on that Thursday event but then the water was receding and we were not getting a lot of water rescues happening so we felt like the fire departments were handling everything.

Trohn said just a few different things. He said one thing I thought was fortunate since I worked with you on the mitigation and flood response plan that the city did was, after the tornado scare, I was able to send out a map that shows safe routes. He said that was a project that Christopher Burke did for the city at no charge. He said it's very good to know what roads are flooded but then I think it's good to promote the roads that are safe to pass. He said I would be curious of what a project would cost if we were able to collaborate with stormwater and emergency management to do a safe roads map for the entire county and so then we could provide something like that perhaps next time. He said I would ask you to get with Terry and sit down and see how we could maybe more forward with that.

Moore said in regards to the city flood response maps we are going to re-look at those now that we had this flood and in comparison with the data collected from 2008 so I think this is a good recommendation for another project that we could consider so one of the things that I would like to do is to look at roads affected in the county because we currently don't have it mapped out as we do for the city. Trohn said thank you.

Barge said it was kind of a mess but I feel like everyone did come together really well.

Ridge said she had a request that doesn't need to be voted on but I'd like to have your support. She said since the storm event the stormwater division has received an additional 81 new requests for work to be completed. She said that list just continues to grow. She said when I asked two years ago for another new crew member I stated at the time that I would be back. She said I only continue to see that that division of the department will grow, seeing the water issues so after discussing with Terry and our stormwater supervisor, we would like to add another full-time crew person, go through the PAC. She said when you get more on the crew then it entitles you to maybe split up the crew and maybe be at two different locations on smaller projects. She said the funding is there to support it and that is the direction that I would like to go.

Trohn said I definitely think that we need to support your direction and get you the staff you need. He said in the winter months they don't necessarily stay in the stormwater right. Ridge said no, they stay there all year. Ridge said we have our own separate crew. She said Highway doesn't have the manpower to give us all the time and we don't have the manpower all the time to give them. Quillman said there is some working between the groups when it snows; we go out and plow.

Quillman said I have two or three more things. He said he had a summary of the flooding and I thought I would give you a visual on what we experienced over those two days so if I just go down through and, before I forget it, our next meeting is on March 14 and in the packet there are three sheets that are historical locations of flooding that John Chambers has put together over the years and my goal with this presentation is to list these areas so that county residents knew we were out there and we are aware of these things but the list is too long. He referred to a map in the last page of the packet that shows area of flooding. He said he circled the areas of flooding. He said in the northern part of the county there is a lot of flooding around Bean Blossom Creek, Jack's Defeat Creek, terminal sinkholes by the airport, Bunker Road, Sinking Creek, Indian Creek and trouble areas in Clear Creek. He talked about trouble areas around the reservoir and around Baby Creek and Brock Creek. He talked about Cherry Lane, Smithville, and Moores Creek Road. He said it was a pretty big event; I think we had 2 ½ inches on Thursday and then Friday 3.1 inches and that's probably as much as I have seen since I have been here. He said just for scheduling our stormwater crews initially jumped in with the garage to do repairs on roads and I talked to a crew chief today and he said starting tomorrow that they would be back working on stormwater issues and I think they will pull a crew from the garage to help us out with those. He said so we are moving ahead; it's just going to take time.

Barge said I just wanted to say, make sure you just need one person. She said I feel like if there is a need for more, we need to know that. She said so maybe we need to look at what is really needed and then figure out how to get there. Ridge said you have to look at benefits and see what it actually costs to bring someone on board and then you have to think about equipment and trucks for them to drive. She said if we get one more crew person at this point, then before budget we will take a look at equipment for 2020.

Quillman said he wanted to add that as we implement Cartegraph that can give us a database to help make those decisions now. He said it is developing now. He said there is a definite need for that person now.

Trohn said to Quillman I am going to send you one more; some people contacted me from Ramp Creek Road.

Jones said to Quillman at the last meeting I was so new I hadn't had a chance to read that packet, which I did after the meeting. She said I would like to thank you for a very thorough packet that helped things make sense to me.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.**

*approved: March 19, 2019*

Signed:

Secretary:

  
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**Chair**

  
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**Donna Barbrick**