

**MONROE COUNTY  
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BOARD  
NAT HILL MEETING ROOM  
3 P.M., APRIL 13, 2017**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Patrick Stoffers, Julie Thomas, Trohn Enright-Randolph, Amanda Barge

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**STAFF:** Dana Wilkinson (Stormwater Inspector), Lisa Ridge (Highway), Terry Quillman (MS4 Coordinator), Donna Barbrick (Secretary), Dave Schilling (Legal)

**OTHERS:** CATS TV

**CALL TO ORDER:** Called to order at 3:00 P.M. by Amanda Barge.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MARCH 9, 2017**

Julie Thomas motioned approval of the minutes. Patrick Stoffers seconded the motion. Amanda Barge asked if there were any comments or edits. There were none. **VOTE: AYE (unanimous).** Minutes approved.

**AGENDA**

Thomas asked if it was okay to re-arrange the agenda to move public input to the end. Stoffers said so moved. **VOTE: AYE (unanimous).** Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**a. Public Hearing for Resolution 2017-01 Monroe County Fairground Bio-retention Area**

Dana Wilkinson spoke on this item. She said this is a resolution for the stormwater board utility to help fund the bio-retention area at the fairgrounds due to the new horse barn installation. She said we have started the resolution process and we have had public notice now so this is considered the public hearing for that where SWMB would receive any input on that and then confirm your previous approval of the funding. Barge asked if there were any question or comments from SWMB on this. Thomas said makes sense to me. Barge asked if there was any public comment. **Seeing none, Barge closed the public hearing and moved it back to the board.**

**Thomas said move approval of Resolution 2017-01. Stoffers said second.** Barge asked if there was any staff comment on the resolution. Lisa Ridge said we would like to get this going and completed well before the fair. She said the fair board has worked with us really well. She said we appreciate it. Barge asked if there was any public comment on this agenda item. **Seeing none, Thomas said call the question. VOTE: AYE (unanimous).**

**b. RESOLUTION 2017-2**

Barge said it appears that this resolution has been withdrawn by the City of Bloomington Utilities. Trohn asked if that was due to annexation and whether the project would still be getting done. Wilkinson said yes, the project is still getting done but that once the question of annexation entered the conversation, they said that's fine, they will just take care of it themselves. Trohn said I commend you guys for coordinating

having everything more efficient and less expensive. He said I just started that conversation today. He said I just want to get that out there because I am more than likely going to be back discussing it again. Thomas said I am looking forward to hearing more about that. She said if we save driving time and labor time, that makes sense.

**c. Sponsorship Request for Bugfest and Sustaining Nature and Your Land (SNAYL) DAY**

Wilkinson said these are two events that we have had tables at for the last three or four years and we've also sponsored them in the past. She said it hasn't come to SWMB before but I wanted to bring it here this year and if it's not something that you want brought each year that's fine but we usually give them \$500 each. She said BugFest has grown exponentially; over one thousand people come now. She said SNAYL Day is a great way to reach out to property owners to implement BMPs on their properties like rain gardens. She said so this is requesting assisting them and sponsoring \$500 to each event. Thomas asked what budget line it comes out of. Wilkinson said it comes out of public education and outreach. **Thomas said I will go ahead and make a motion to approve \$1000 from public education and outreach for BugFest and SNAYL Day, \$500 each. Stoffers said second.**

Barge asked if there was any discussion. There was none. She asked if there was any public comment on the item. She commented that BugFest was a great event that she hopes to get her kids to. **Thomas said call the question. VOTE: AYE (unanimous). Motion carried.**

**d. Presentation by Soil and Water Conservation District (Martha Miller)**

Martha Miller brought a slideshow presentation. She said that Dana had reached out and asked if she would come and highlight some things that SWCD has done in the recent past. She talked about how funds from the stormwater utility education and outreach fund were used. She talked about projects including cover crops, invasive species control, a water catchment, an access road, heavy use pads, wetland development, and rain gardens. She said SWCD's mission is to provide financial, technical and to all landowners in Monroe County. She said we want to fix the soil and make it so it will take care of the water. She said that the funds are distributed all different sorts of areas intentionally. She said that SWCD board wanted to make sure that the funds were not just going to agricultural issues. She said the board wants these funds to be used for local projects that are not fundable in another fashion. She talked about a rain garden program and using EcoLogic for a big raingarden that they did. She said applications are open to everybody. She said they have six applications to date. She said SWMB gave us \$35,000 and \$30,000 is going back on the ground. She said we're using \$5,000 for our summer intern.

Barge asked could you walk me through an example of how you've helped someone. Miller talked about the access road property owner who raises grass-fed cattle and takes the meat to the farmers market here. She talked about heavy use pads and farm animals standing in mud. She said the pads create an environment that allows water to still percolate but allows animals to get to their food. She talked about a large rain garden project. She talked about the county fair booth.

Trohn said thank you for coming, I really appreciate that. He said moving forward, I spoke with Dana and I hope we can meet together since I have more questions. Miller said I know that there was a report that came out with names on it and I will tell you that won't happen again because once the money actually enters the SWCD's funds and we are a state agency, we are regulated by PII (Personal Private Information) and by law we are not supposed to give that out.

Trohn said I started to dive into some of this and I really got over a learning curve. He said I heard of riparian buffer strips; are there any programs that you do that include that function? Miller said kind of; right now monarch butterfly habitats are a kind of riparian buffer. She said the riparian buffers that we

Trohn said he had a few comments and maybe a question. He said if you still have a PDF version of that billboard, send me a copy. He said I can hang it outside my office. He said I think what you are saying is that you are at the beginning stages and then maybe we'll look at how much of that cost we can cover. He said I worked with the Health Department with data collection. He said I've talked about the terminology and I think that's really where the focus is and after speaking with Legal, maybe we can figure out a good process where everything we have in place can continue and we won't have this confusion about what these expenses are being used for and that maybe will allow us to focus on really good education programs and then another budget line where we can keep the practices in place and maybe over time that could really increase the other portion and we can get a handle on it. He said I think it's a great time to start looking at it due to annexation because the fund may become smaller and if we need to pull in the reins we need to be clear on what is going on.

Miller said I might make one final comment. One thing that Dana maybe discovered just recently is that we tend to get a lot of education material and we get it through different resources. She said we have several items of an educational nature that I think that Dana and I are going to work on getting those materials to school kids. She said that is not coming out of stormwater. She said I just want everybody to understand that the SWCD board is being as fiscally responsible as we can be.

Faber spoke, thanking Martha for her presentation. He said I do think that the cost-share could come out of a different fund than education and I'd like to know if it is used for doing things, what the result is. He said I think we should know. He said I don't think cost sharing is education *per se*.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Barge asked if there was any general public comment. There was none.

**Meeting adjourned at 3:40 P.M.**

Minutes approved: 5-11-2017

Signed:

  
Amanda Barge

Secretary:

  
Donna Barbrick