

**MONROE COUNTY
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BOARD
NAT HILL MEETING ROOM
3 P.M., MAY 11, 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 APRIL 6, 2017

Julie Thomas motioned approval. Pat Stoffers seconded. Amanda Barge said motion carries.

NEW BUSINESS

Monthly budget Report

Terry Quillman said he would go through the "bigger ticket" items rather than beating it to death. He said \$2200 was for vehicle maintenance (\$1700 for a sweeper repair and \$500 for the Vac-truck). He said we had disposal fees (sweeper waste). He said general engineering studies was for the Cave Creek Study and Fieldstone permitting. He said gas and oil seemed high to me but that's for seven vehicles that we are maintaining and the \$5,500 is for the Stipp Road project for some preliminary drawings that I had made up so I could meet with the Corps of Engineers in an attempt to coordinate with them on the permitting process. He said if there are any questions feel free to ask.

Thomas said she wanted to verify and ask that indeed these expenses are what we anticipated when we did the budget. Quillman said yes. Thomas said I wanted to make sure that the public knew that these are not extraneous items or new items; these are all anticipated expenses. Trohn said he had a question about the disposal fee. Quillman said the fee for disposal is for hauling what we gather up to Terre Haute and does not include the little bin that we had made or extending the water line out. Trohn said I was just curious, thank you. Quillman said he was planning on doing this report monthly.

INSPECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dana Wilkinson said she had a couple of items to share with SWMB and the public. She said we have been working on our post-construction programs including assisting residents with installing rain gardens on their property and this coincides with SWCD's mini-grants program where they can receive assistance for installing these. She said we will be having two workshops about putting these in. She said we are partnering with SWCD and Eco-Logic. She said each workshop will be just an hour or so. She said it is a free event and hopefully folks will become more interested in putting these features on their property. Barge asked if this was a good time of year to put in a rain garden. Wilkinson said early spring and sometimes late fall are when it's the best time to disturb the soil and put these plants in.

Wilkinson spoke about summer interns who have been hired and the types of work that they would be doing starting later this month.

She said finally, one of our partners in the Monroe Lake cleanup put us up for an award regionally in the cultural diversity section. She said this last year's event actually had a lot of folks from IU and from the community. She said we won that award and then we went on to win the national award in the category from the U.S. Forest Service. She said this will be our fifth year hosting it and we are really excited to continue sponsoring it and we hope it keeps growing. Barge asked who partnered besides IU. Wilkinson said several public agencies are involved: Hoosier National Forest, Army Corps, a couple of marinas out there give us discounts on boats; we providing funding for boat rental and then JL Waters provides door prizes and incentives to sign up. Barge said congratulations. Trohn said I just wanted to echo the appreciation of the interns; they came to Drainage Board and gave us a nice presentation of what they have been working on.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF MOUNT TABOR ROAD/BEANBLOSSOM CREEK

Quillman said Mount Tabor Road is a major road providing access to the northwest part of the county. He said a few years back the bridge over Beanblossom Creek was rebuilt. He said on the south approach to the bridge the road still dips down pretty low and when the creek floods it still floods the road out. He said it can block one of the major access points to the northwest part of the county. He said we are seeking approval of this task order to do a preliminary study hydrology and hydraulics of Beanblossom to determine the extent of the flooding and what would be necessary to put under the road fill so that when we fill the road up we don't have any additional backwater upstream. He said this is the first phase of the work. He said once we have a game plan more firmed up we will go into design and construction. He said the fee is \$38,735.

Barge asked which firm. Quillman said Black & Beech. **Thomas said I will go ahead and make a motion to approve the Mount Tabor Road/Beanblossom Creek preliminary hydrologic and hydraulic study. Stoffers said second. Barge asked if there was public comment.**

Trohn asked about doing RFPs and getting a number of quotes back from firms who might have new ways of dealing with stormwater-related issues. He said I think this is a good project and we need to keep projects moving forward but I was just curious why we are not doing an RFP. Lisa Ridge said we have an on-call firm. She said we have different firms that we have engineering contracts with; we have them with multiple engineering services and contracts with different consultants so we can use them to get the project going and get their engineering services. She said we do have hourly contracts with many of the firms that we choose to work with. Trohn said I guess I am wondering why we chose to move this way or where the conversation was with the board here about moving forward with future projects and doing RFPs and I don't think we ever made a direct action but I thought that was what was more favored during the conversation. Ridge said I don't recall being directed that we have to do RFPs, but if you want to take that action, it just sometimes slows down the process. She said we have a good working relationship with a lot of the firms and we try to work with different ones. She said we think that this has worked well for us and we have chosen who we feel is good for that project. Ridge said we do RFPs for our federal aid projects so with this we just chose in-house who we wanted to work with. Barge asked if there were safety concerns for the public. Ridge said there always is when there is flooding and Mount Tabor has flooded for many years. She said RFPs are not a bad idea; it's just another step in the process.

Trohn, referring to his notes, said the conversation took place on July 14, 2016. He said I will just read from my general notes. He read "Requests for Proposals have the advantage over RFQs. Proposals can be evaluated based on quality as opposed to primarily on cost." He said sometimes we can get limited into

what a particular firm can do for us and we are putting ourselves in a box when there is technology advancing and if we allowed other people to look at it we could get more innovative ideas coming back to us. Trohn noted that there was no action; it was just talk. He said I would be curious what my fellow colleagues have to say or think about that.

Stoffers said I don't know what kind of menu there would be to do a hydrologic and hydraulic study; there's not ten ways to do it. He said utilizing a firm that we already have a contract relationship with just seems to make sense. Trohn asked but would that tie us into a further contract with that firm. Ridge said this is only for this study; we have to do a contract for each phase of the project.

Stoffers said I don't miss the RFP concept; I think it seems more like you are suggesting we request quotes. He said I am not sure someone can make a proposal to do a hydrologic study; they'd all be the same.

Thomas said but when you have something like a road redirection, then you could definitely use that RFP process for that because there are multiple ways, culvert, bridge, berm, how do we do it, then you can find some different ways of doing things and different prices. She said but because we have a study in hand that we have approved we have already laid the groundwork for what we are going to do in terms of projects. She said this is the first step; it's just a study.

Ridge said we do RFPs, we sit down and we look at every presentation that the firm issues to us and we look at the expertise of the firm and how many bridge inspection they have done in the county; we score them and we do that process. She said I guess when we do a project with design it's different than doing a hydrology study. She said I look at those as two different things totally; a study is a study and hiring a firm to do preliminary engineering or design of a project is more of a bigger scope to me.

Trohn said I would leave it open to you guys to move forward with things but I just wanted to bring it up. He said I would not limit you to doing it one way; thank you for entertaining me.

Quillman commented as I came in here last September I was giving a list of four or five jobs that I am supposed to be moving ahead and it's been my benefit to select a consultant based on their qualifications and start working with that consultant to define that scope and working with that consultant, it's a give and take. He said we are defining and refining that scope as we go along. He said it would be difficult for me alone to find that scope well without another consultant's input but it's unrealistic to think that I can go out there to develop a scope with four or half-dozen consultants that may be interested. He said it's a good way for me to get my feet on the ground and start getting some background.

Barge said maybe we could develop a list of criteria for RFPs. Ridge said that is something that we can sit down and talk about. Barge said I think we should go ahead and move forward. **Thomas said call the question. VOTE: AYE (unanimous).**

Ridge said I believe we will take it to the next commissioners meeting to have it signed at the next public meeting. Barge said I am excited that this project is getting done.

PUBLIC COMMENT

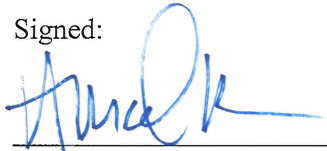
Barge asked if there was anyone to speak at public comment. No one came forward. Barge asked if there were any announcements from the board. Trohn said I wanted to mention SNAYL Day which is Saturday, June 10, starting at 9 a.m. and that one is at City Hall near the Farmer's Market and then we have

BugFest, Saturday, June 24, 10 a.m. at Hilltop Gardens and I encourage anyone who wants to go out there to take advantage of it.

Meeting adjourned at 3:19 P.M.

Minutes approved: 6-14-2017

Signed:



Amanda Barge

Secretary:



Donna Barbrick