Minutes

MERRILLVILLE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BOARD

TUESDAY, JUNE 2nd, 2026, at 3:30 PM

Merrillville Stormwater Resource Center, 7404 Broadway, Merrillville, IN

CALL MEETING TO ORDER
President L.J. "Bud" Crist called the June 2nd, 2026, Stormwater Management Board (SWMB) meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
President Crist led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL
Members in attendance were, President Bud Crist, Vice President Jim Kendig, and Secretary Barbara Ghoston three board members are present, a quorum was established. The staff member present were Executive Director Matt Lake and Secretary Adra Breclaw-Csanyi.

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT
Comments: President Crist announced that Matt was recognized at the Town Council meeting on Tuesday May 26th, 2026, for his participation in the Indiana MS4 Partnership. He received the 2026 Recognition of Excellence Award. Reggie Korthals, Project Specialist from OHM Advisors, presented the award. Reggie is the Executive Director for the Indiana MS4 Partnership and adjunct Professor at Indiana University who presented Matt with the award at the conference and Town Council meeting.

MINUTES
Stormwater Management Board Minutes (SWMB) from May 5th, 2026, approved. President Crist entertained a motion for approval, Vice President Kendig entered a motion to approve the minutes from the SWMB meeting on May 5th, 2026, and motion seconded by Secretary Ghoston. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REGISTERS APPROVAL
Included in the agenda packet were copies of the Accounts Payable Register from May 12th, 2026, and May 26th, 2026. President Crist entertained a motion for approval Vice President Kendig entered a motion to accept the Accounts Payable Registers May 12th, 2026, and May 26th, 2026, seconded by Secretary Ghoston. No questions asked. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

OLD BUSINESS - (Discussion and Roll Call Vote)
Bud Crist – None

Matt Lake – Executive Director Matt Lake read invoices for approval for the following projects/contracts listed below:

Matt Lake – Christopher B. Burke Engineering, LLC MSU Master Plan Update. Professional Services from March 29th, 2026, to April 25th, 2026, in the amount due for this invoice is $14,219.64 **(VOICE VOTE)**. President Crist entertained a motion for approval Vice President Kendig motioned and it was seconded by Secretary Ghoston. There was no discussion. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

Delta III Inc, for 6065 Harrison Street 8" HDPE pipe repair/replacement in the amount due this invoice for $22,500.00 **(VOICE VOTE).** Executive Director Lake mentioned that this project was one that Congressman Mrvan mentioned when he visited here. President Crist entertained a motion for approval Vice President Kendig motioned and it was seconded by Secretary Ghoston. There was no discussion. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

DLZ, Professional Servies for Grand Boulevard Ditch Relocation Project Professional Services April 11th, 2026, to May 8th, 2026, in the amount due this request for $3,347.44 **(VOICE VOTE).** . President Crist entertained a motion for approval Vice President Kendig motioned and it was seconded by Secretary Ghoston. There was no discussion. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

DLZ bid recommendation to M & J Underground, Inc. in the amount of $525,937.66. DLZ reviewed all of the submittal and M & J Underground was the lowest and most responsive bidder. It was contingent approval at the last meeting therefore we are letting you know it was reviewed and looked at. President Crist asked if they have done other business in our area, Frank Steward from DLZ responded that yes, he believes so.

STATUS /Updates: Matt Lake

- Hendricks Drainage Analysis – Matt talked to Jeff Haw and provided him with a few markups on the plans and a few markups on the engineers estimates. One of the markups was about utility relocation, that should be done by the utility within our right-of-way so that we do not incur those costs. Plans went out to utilities, and he received back about 60%, we are waiting to fill all that in so that they can get out of our way when we do the project. Matt thought that it was about $75,000 in relocation cost so that is something we don't have to bear, it will be by others. Some are poles along Hendricks Street that need to be moved or braced while working. Other than that, a couple of markups on the plans will be set to go other than the utilities.
- Hickory Ridge Flood Control Project – We are at the tail end, one pump and that's it.
- 97th and Grand Boulevard Drainage Improvements (DLZ) – Contracts are signed and we are looking at having a preconstruction meeting with M & J Underground. We have one thing to look at with NIPSCO that we are working on, it is going quickly. We are on the fast track to get this project going. This is a two-stage design, and we will probably highlight this because we don't have a two-stage ditch in Merrillville yet, the only other ones Matt is aware of are in Lowell and Dyer. Marshall Street was the last one that was done.
- Stormwater Master Plan – We are working with Christopher Burke on this and it will be finalized soon.

NEW BUSINESS - (Discussion and Roll Call Vote)
Bud Crist –

Matt Lake – We have a proposed reciprocal parking agreement, this is for the parking lot between us and Conduit, we had this before when we first built the center we thought we might need over flow parking, so we did it to our advantage in the event we have our own events. Now it's the opposite, they may need something, it's reciprocal. If there is an event after hours, and they need reciprocal parking, they can overflow into our lot and vice versa. Jim prepared this, once their lot is at full capacity, that's when they can overflow into our lot. This agreement can be terminated at any time with 15-days' notice **(VOICE VOTE).** President Crist entertained a motion for approval and Secretary Barbara Ghoston seconded. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

Generator update was tabled. We are waiting for information regarding the new addition to the office building.

There is a proposal from Pangere Corporation to prepare plans and all documentation put out for bid and advertisement for the new addition to the office building. They think it will be about 2,000 square feet. The amount proposed for construction management is $49,495, estimating about $6,240 of work per week which includes everything from architectural design to construction phase, bidding, everything. They would have the option to bid on it, but they would have to be impartial. If they are not the lowest bid, then they could be managed by another company (11:20-11:36). We want the lowest pricing. The cost will be forwarded to Karl to be incorporated into the fee study so that we get an eventual reimbursement on it. Pangere built the current building. Matt suggested a vote for approval to move forward with this as it will take some time for them to come up with architectural plans, permitting, and such, then get it out to bid and constructed. Attorney Jim Meyers pointed out that in addition to the $49,495 there is a four percent charge for the engineering construction. Another thing incorporated is that there will be a tornado shelter included in the new addition. President Crist asked about builders' risk insurance, Attorney Meyers said they should and noted the .1%. The existing wall will not be taken down. The next step will be to look for part-time individuals to run sweepers, Global Sweepers are under the gross weight threshold of 26,000 pounds that require a CDL license which weighs 24,700 pounds each. Attorney Jim Meyers pointed out that typically professional service are billed on a time and material basis and this proposal from Pangere only provided a lump sum, not an itemized list of costs. Attorney Meyers said this is a proposal and the T & M can be accomplished with the contract. President Crist entertained a motion to table vote for later discussion until clarification is provided from Pangere in regard to time, materials, and further cost information for next meeting. Matt said that we can have Pangere come, we have a representative.

Lake and Pond Biology did its first treatment of pond shade on 5/26/26 and dropped 580 pounds of tilapia in Bon Aire Lake on 5/28/26.

We will be applying to Little Cal. Dan Repay called to look at applications and Matt thought of the drainage improvement project in Southmoor Park. Matt sought approval from the board for submittal of an application to cover half the construction costs. There is no set date as of now but could be next year's spring project and bid it out this fall or winter for better rates **(VOICE VOTE)**. President Crist entertained a motion for approval and Vice President Jim Kendig seconded. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

Matt reached out to Lake County Surveyors Office in regard to Kaiser Ditch to Bill Emerson to get Phase I done from US 30 and eventually ending in Turkey Creek. They will start at thirty and work their way down.

The fee study is being worked on with Cender | Dalton. Building costs will take a percent over 10 years to get paid back and that number will be used for the fee increase.

We submitted an update from the IDEM Community Clean Program. An annual meeting will be held in the fall. It is a good program for environmental BMPs, it is growing. We were a pilot Clean Community.

NISWAG was today. The meeting was held at Long Beach and Matt zoomed; there was good conversation.

OTHER BUSINESS
Bud Crist –

Matt Lake –

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

Attorney Jim Meyer– None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bud Crist – Next SWMB meeting is set for Tuesday, **July 7th**, **2026**, at 3:30 pm at the Stormwater Resource Center. President Crist entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting Vice President Kendig made a motion to adjourn the meeting and President Crist seconded.

ADJOURNMENT TIME –
The meeting was adjourned at 3:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Adra Breclaw-Csanyi, Staff Secretary