

PORTER COUNTY STORMWATER ADVISORY BOARD

January 14, 2019

LOCATION: County Administrative Center, Ste 205 TIME: 5:00 p.m.
155 Indiana Avenue, Valparaiso IN

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Bob Gilliana, Paul Nelson, Jay Hunter, Jeremy Rivas and Scott Severson, were present. Jeff Good was absent. Also in attendance were Clay Patton-Attorney, Kevin Breitzke, Mike Novotney, Bob Thompson and staff.

All Recommendations will be voted on at the next Storm Water Management Board meeting

New Business:

Docket No.: SM-19-0001

Applicant: J & H Holdings LLC c/o Chester, Inc.

Location: 48 N 450 E

Request: To allow for the construction of a detention basin within the regulated drainage easement associated with Cain Ditch, including associated appurtenances, and the installation of a new detention basis outlet in Cain Ditch.

Steve DeBold and Rudy of Chesters presented on behalf of the applicant.

Staff Findings and Recommendations: The proposed site development plan is currently under review in preparation for presentation to the DRC.

Staff has performed an initial review. The applicant's site design professional has submitted a response to the comments generated during the review. Staff has not yet had an opportunity to review the response.

The case is presented to Storm Water Advisory Board to discuss the proposed storm water management plan and the location of the proposed detention basin, which is located within the regulated drainage easement associated with Cain Ditch.

The proposed detention basin is located outside of the first 25 feet of the top of bank. The Department uses this area as an access route to inspect, maintain, repair and reconstruct the County's open drains. The Department has been working to create and maintain such access routes and would like to see the first 25 feet of the overbank area, on both sides of the ditch, remain free and clear of permanent improvements, including structures, accessory structures, and private storm water infrastructure. The revised construction plans address this concern.

The outlet for the proposed detention basin is, by necessity, located within Cain Ditch. A flared end section and grate on the outfall and a rock apron below the outfall are proposed. Both of these are best practices typically recommended by the Department.

At this time, staff recommends approval of the improvements located within Cain Ditch and its associated regulated drainage easement. The standard terms and conditions associated with conducting work within a regulated drain/regulated drainage easement shall apply to the project, and staff recommends that approval of the proposed work be contingent upon the execution of a hold harmless agreement. Staff also recommends that a marker be put at the new outfall to aid in the identification of the outfall location in the field.

Steve DeBold added the reason to do this project is to construct an addition to the existing building.

Motion: Bob Gilliana moved to approve the applicant’s request with staff’s recommendations and the execution of a hold harmless agreement and a marker to be put at the new outfall. Jay Hunter seconded the motion and so approved.

Project Updates:

Mike Novotney gave an update on projects. He is still working with FEMA and is still hopeful to recover \$1.75 Million for flood damage. He will present the annual report at the next meeting. In regard to flood property buy back, two appraisals are obtained and the average is the price to pay.

Open for Discussion:

Donald Frame – 1033 N 400 E, Jackson Township. At 1500 N and County Line Road, a farmer has been spraying herbicide and is killing all the plants on the slope of the ditch. He is suggesting a 50’ buffer along all the County ditches where there is farmland and spraying adjacent to a ditch. He also suggested giving a credit to the farmer on the Storm Water Management fee.

Mike Novotney replied he is on the Soil Conservation Board. The challenge is that the program would have to be voluntary since the County does not own the land and cannot tell the farmer what to do with their land.

At the next scheduled meeting is February 11, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. There being no further business, the meeting recessed.



Scott Severson, President



Mike Novotney, Engineer/Program Director