

PORTER COUNTY STORMWATER ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes of Meeting Held
May 14, 2018

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

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

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

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

New Business:

Docket No.: SM-18-0021

Applicant: Bruce Aubrey/Total Development – Hannon Ditch

Location: 751 S 450 E

Request: To install a septic system perimeter/curtain drain outlet in Hannon Ditch.

Bruce Aubrey presented.

Staff findings and Recommendations: The applicant is proposing to install an outlet pipe for a septic system perimeter/curtain drain through the regulated drainage easement associated with Hannon Ditch. The outlet pipe will discharge in Hannon Ditch. The perimeter/curtain drain will be part of the septic system serving a proposed single family home.

The invert of the perimeter/curtain drain outfall will be located at the ordinary high water mark approximately 1.25 feet above the bottom of the ditch. The Porter Co. Health Dept. has approved the proposed septic system contingent upon Drainage Board approval of the improvements located within Hannon Ditch and its associated regulated drainage easement.

Staff recommends approval of the improvements located within Hannon Ditch and its associated regulated drainage easement. Approval of the proposed work should be contingent upon the execution of a Hold Harmless Agreement between the applicant and Porter County regarding any damages the improvements may incur during the maintenance of Hannon Ditch.

Discussion: An animal guard needs to be on the end of the drain. Sometimes plastic pipe catches on fire and usually it is recommended to put a steel guard on the end.

Motion: Jeremy Rivas moved to approve per staff recommendations and delineation. Matt Keiser seconded the motion and so approved.

Docket No.: SM-18-0026

Applicant: Steve and Michelle Michaels

Location: 2257 and 2259 Sweet Briar Lane

Request: To connect private drain to public (i.e., regulated) Emerald Ridge storm water management system.

Steve and Michelle Michaels presented.

Staff Findings and Recommendations: The applicant reported this rear yard drainage issue to the Department on April 20, 2017. This is one of a number of drainage problems that exist along the rear property lines on the south side of Sweet Briar Lane. No drainage easements exist along these rear or side property lines and there is no storm water management/drainage infrastructure currently in place to convey storm water runoff from these areas to the subdivision's storm water management system.

Staff conducted a site visit of the applicant's property. During the visit, staff asked the applicant to coordinate with neighbors and/or the HOA regarding the drainage issues so that discussion could begin with the Department about finding a comprehensive solution to the drainage issues and about the process of working with the Department to complete a program. The Department seeks to address such drainage issues comprehensively rather than on an individual, case-by-case basis.

The applicant has advised the Department that they are uncomfortable granting a drainage easement to the County and their preference would be to pursue an individual drainage improvement project to address their drainage issue. They have been advised that without a drainage easement and a comprehensive approach to addressing the drainage issues in the area, no public dollars can be spent on an individual drainage improvement project.

Staff recommends approval of the connection of the private drain to the public storm water management system within the public right-of-way. Staff also recommends that as a condition of approval, the applicant work with staff to further develop plans, specifications and construction requirements for the proposed connection and to make sure all meet the Porter Co. Design and Construction Standards/Specifications. Staff also recommends that applicant provide written evidence that the project has received the approval/consent of the neighboring lot 2259 Sweet Briar Lane. Applicant will need to obtain a permit from the Department for all work conducted within the public right-of-way.

Discussion: There is a 6' side and 10' rear utility easement. All the easements are regulated drainage easements. This would allow the County to cost share on the project.

Motion: Matt Keiser moved to approve allowance of private connection to regulated drain contingent on staff recommendations. Bob Gilliana seconded the motion and so approved.

Administrative Review and Approval of Connections of Private Drains to Public (i.e., regulated) Drainage Infrastructure

Mike Novotney presented this proposal. There are many applications that come to the Board that could be handled by staff. This would cut down on the wait time for the applicant to get approval. Most of these are straight forward requests. This request would allow staff to administratively review and approve these requests.

Discussion: There should not be an issue with items being missed in the review process. There was discussion regarding the procedure and difference between cases. A request was made to list on the agenda any of the applications that are administratively approved.

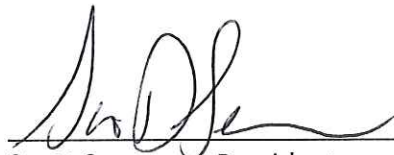
Motion: Jeremy Rivas moved to approve Administrative Review and Approval of Connections of Private Drains to Public Drainage Infrastructure. Matt Keiser seconded the motion and so approved.

Project Updates:

Mike Novotney gave an update on completed projects and future projects. June 7th there will be a Public Kickoff meeting for the residents of the South Haven area to ask questions about the projects.

Open for Discussion: Tony of 663 East Highway 6 - He is concerned about a drain that is not draining. It is not working any more. He would like to see if it could be cleaned out. Mike Novotney advised a drainage complaint has been filed. He will get with him and neighbors and discuss the situation.

The next scheduled meeting is June 11, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. There being no further business, the meeting recessed.



Scott Severson, President



Mike Novotney, Engineer/Program Director