

PORTER COUNTY STORMWATER ADVISORY BOARD
June 10, 2019

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

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Bob Gilliana, Fred Martin, Paul Nelson, Jeremy Rivas and Scott Severson, were present. Jeff Good, Jay Hunter were 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-19-0025

Applicant: Town of Kouts

Location: 301 Woodland Avenue (Good Acres Subdivision)

Request: To install additional storm sewer within the Good Acres Subdivision, including a new storm sewer outlet to Pleasant Twp. Ditch.

Joe Mandon, Town Engineer, presented on behalf of the applicant. He explained the proposed project by the Town of Kouts.

Staff Findings and Recommendations:

The project includes the addition of a storm sewer structure and small diameter (6" PVC, 8" PVC) to improve drainage in a low area located on Woodland Ave., at the intersection of Woodland Ave. and Eastview St. The new storm sewer will outlet to an existing 36" HDPE storm sewer.

The Department does not have a concern with the proposed connection to the existing storm sewer nor with the work within the regulated drainage easement associated with Pleasant Twp Ditch that is necessary in order to complete such connection. There does need to be discussion regarding how the new storm sewer will be connected to the existing storm sewer structure.

There will be at least one notable crossing of existing utilities. The proposed storm sewer will cross beneath the existing 12" CP sanitary sewer, and the top of the proposed storm sewer will be at least 18" below the invert of the existing sanitary sewer. There may be a need to cut and replace the existing sanitary sewer through the work area or use a concrete pipe saddle to protect the existing sanitary sewer and hold the invert elevation through the work area. At a minimum, there should be no pipe joint on the storm sewer within 5' of the sanitary sewer crossing.

Staff would recommend approval of the proposed connection to Pleasant Twp Ditch and the proposed work in the regulated drainage easement associated with Pleasant Twp Ditch.

Discussion: There will be 18" of separation. The contractor will be required to replace the sanitary sewer clay pipe. There will not be a joint across the storm sewer. Staff should be notified before work begins.

Motion: Fred Martin moved to approve per staff recommendations and execution of a Hold Harmless Agreement. Applicant is to notify staff in advance of the work starting. Bob Gilliana seconded the motion and so approved.

Docket No.: SM-19-0031

Applicant: NIPSCO

Location: 1196 S 500 E

Request: To install a new structural support system for an aerial pipeline crossing of Cook Ditch.

Lance Melinda, a field engineer for NIPSCO, presented on behalf of applicant. South East of Kouts there is an aerial pipeline crossing. This services the NIPSCO Shafer substation in Wheatfield. The pipe support has settled. They are proposing to install a structural steel support under the pipe. They are also going to recoat the pipe. They will replace the current guardrail system.

Staff Findings and Recommendations:

The proposed activity is necessary to address a substandard and insufficient structural support system for an aerial pipeline crossing of Cook Ditch. The existing structural support system has settled at mid-span and is no longer in contact with the pipeline. Under high wind conditions, the pipeline exhibits a small degree of horizontal displacement. The pipeline has been regularly monitored by the applicant and, to this point the pipeline has not shown any evidence of stress or leaks; however, the applicant is looking to resolve the issue as soon as possible by installing a new structural support system for the pipeline.

Staff recommends approval of the proposed work in the regulated drainage easement associated with Cook Ditch. The installation of the proposed guardrail along the north side of CR 1200 S involves work in the right-of-way associated with CR 1200 S and requires a permit from the Department. An application for such permit has been received, reviewed, and approved by the Department. The work also requires partial and complete road closures; a road closure plan and schedule has been submitted to the Department and the Highway Department for review.

Discussion: The pipe is 8' to 9' from the top of the ditch.

Motion: Jeremy Rivas moved to approve with staff recommendations and contingent on the execution of a Hold Harmless Agreement. Paul Nelson seconded the motion and so approved.

Docket No.: SM-19-0035

Applicant: NIPSCO c/o Campos EPC

Location: Various locations in eastern Porter Co., in Morgan and Washington Twp., near CR 200 S, CR 100 S, and CR 200N

Request: To excavate within the regulated drainage easements associated with Galbreath Ditch, South Koselke Ditch, Grieger Ditch, and Washington-Morgan Twp Ditch to inspect and verify pipeline fittings.

Myles Farnsworth of Campos EPC presented on behalf of the applicant.

Staff Findings and Recommendations:

The applicant is proposing to excavate on each side of the above-referenced regulated drains to expose a pipeline. The proposed activity is necessary to excavate and expose pipeline fittings so that they may be inspected to determine whether such fittings need to be replaced to accommodate in-line inspection. All fittings are to be measured and evaluated. The applicant has agreed to restore any disturbance to the regulated drainage easements to a condition as good or better than those found prior the commencement of the work.

Staff recommends approval of the proposed work in the regulated drainage easements associated with Galbreath Ditch, South Koselke Ditch, Grieger Ditch, and Washington-Morgan Twp Ditch. Staff wonders if the landowners have been informed of the proposed work and if similar work will need to be conducted in the regulated drainage easements associated with Crooked Creek and Cain Ditch, as the same pipeline also crosses these two regulated drains.

Discussion: At this time it is not anticipated to inspect Crooked Creek and Cain Ditch pipeline crossings. NIPSCO is working on notifying the landowners.

Motion: Jeremy Rivas moved to approve with staff recommendations and contingent on the execution of a Hold Harmless Agreement. Bob Gilliana seconded the motion and so approved.

Project Updates:


Mike Novotney gave an update on projects. Between April 27th and June 2nd there has been approximately 11" to 13" of rain across Porter County. The office has received 215 drainage complaints to date. Out of that number 125 were during the last month. The rain has limited or shutdown projects. They are anticipating a ribbon cutting when Governor Road reopens. They are at about 60 work orders for the year. If they continue on this pace, they will go past

120 for the year. Mike explained the relining process. He invited board members to watch when the project begins.

Open for Discussion: no one.

The next scheduled meeting is July 8, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting recessed.



Scott Severson, President



Mike Novotney, Engineer/Program Director