

STORMWATER PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
Minutes for January 31, 2022

Members Present:

Chairman, Robert Pollard
Jack Minner
Gussie Glasper
Barbara Overton
Marty Reynolds
Allen Adomite
Rick Faccin
Rick Fancher
Mick Madison

Members Absent:

Lori Daiber

Others Present:

Chris Doucleff
Steve Brendel
Debbie Norton
Jennifer Reiman

Call of Meeting to Order:

Chairman Robert Pollard called the meeting to order and conducted roll call.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Adomite made a motion to approve the minutes from June 28, 2021. Seconded by Mr. Minner. Voice vote. All ayes. Motion approved.

Citizens Wishing to Address the Commission:

No one requested to speak.

Presentation & Discussion:

Steve Brendel spoke about the proposed project for Lake Drive drainage. We have been working on this for about 5 years, the cost of the project it has been so exorbitant, and we could not see anything happening until the ARPA funds became available. With the ARPA funds becoming available, we had this one ready to move forward. We are still doing some updates and improvement. We have a couple different versions of this. The first one was a straight shot coming off Long Lake and going directly to Horseshoe Lake and it had it proposed silt basin that we would have to purchase ground. The second alternative comes off the same location and start but runs through two existing ponds that are already there and act as silt basins and it jumps into a basin that crosses under Horseshoe Lake Road and under the bike trail. This was the preferred option but we would have to get a right of way to use some property. Juneau Associates has supplied a preliminary on this. One of the first things that we have been involved with is that we have been doing watershed planning for the last 10 years. We have a finished water shed plan that takes in the American bottoms. The American bottoms area are critical areas. In that study, we found the critical areas where there is flooding. It hits hard right in the heart of the project area of Long Lake. With addressing the Mitchell and Pontoon Beach area and a few places further to the South, it would be worthwhile, but once again funding was a problem. After that, there was also information that we recently did that looks at a project that the assessor's office had taken in to see how many people it would affect in this area and it is very large going from North and South. It takes in approximately 2,187 residences and 445 businesses in the area. Therefore, it is a very sizeable area. The other project out there is the Bethalto interceptor plan being considered for the

ARPA funds. However, our concern for storm water deals strictly with this area. To add a little bit more information through a study that the Corp of Engineers did in 2019 they identified a bottleneck point that is at the bridge on the bike trail right where the water goes into Horseshoe Lake. A three-part culvert goes right through there. Part of this plan is removal of that and putting in a walking bridge across that will open that up. The good part of that is it is going to take on the extra water that will be coming in from Pontoon Beach and with water coming in from the opposite end. It will get rid of the water into Horseshoe Lake much quicker. Over the entire project with adding extra drainage from Long Lake and creating a walkway instead of the culverts, it is going to flush that water through the system and get it out of there eliminating some of the flooding aspects in Pontoon Beach and Mitchell.

Jack Minner asked about the Lake Drive project. Steve discussed the cost submitted by Juneau Associates to be six million dollars. This is offering the transportation of water from Long Lake and pick up some drainage aspects along Lake Drive with manholes and be able to take off some of the surface water run off that is there. That is a terrible area that floods, you cannot get the water out of that area. This is not a cheap fix but it has a lot of potential, with a lot of area that is it going to take in. It is the hope that the commission would give us your blessing to move forward and that is a worthwhile project. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity where there is money available. Robert Pollard asked if it has been to the board for approval. Steve indicated that the county board has approved it. Steve indicated that because it is so costly they are going to make sure that it completed correctly.

Mick Madison asked if there is a reason that it has to be bored. Steve indicated there are only a few places that it crisscrosses and goes into these silt ponds and would need to be. It would be a small portion where they would have to go underneath at approximately 400 feet. There was a discussion of the cost of the pipe needed and the availability.

The commission discussed and they agree to move forward on the project. Robert Pollard made a recommendation for approval and with roll call vote, all voted in favor.

Old Business:

Steve talked about the site development plan. We have worked with Oates and Associates to incorporate our old Storm water and Fill ordinances into our new Site Development Regulations Ordinance. Steve indicated that he had sent this out to the group for recommendations and sent a copy to Illinois Department and Natural Resources and the EPA. He indicated that he has not had any feedback from them yet. We have been working on it for the last two years.

Roll call vote to send this on to the Building and Zoning committee for approval. All members present voted in favor.

New Business:

Steve discussed executive summaries for Wood River and Piasa Creek Watersheds. The full watershed plan is about 485 pages for each one of these. These summaries are about 20 pages.

Rick Faccin inquired about assistance with the flooding from the river in downtown Alton. Steve indicated that we assist with the internal watersheds before it gets to the river, not the overall river, usually that assistance starts with Emergency Management.

Allen Adomite asked about which other watersheds had summaries completed. Steve indicated that he was not sure if it was three or four but the one that is on the agenda for this year is American Bottoms, that not been completed. Allen asked if a municipality can be a source of funding and Steve indicated that yes they can. Our goal is to put it out there and try to get 319-grant money and looking for 50 percent match and a lot of times that is going to be individuals or other groups. Steve indicated that he would like to notify the municipalities of what has been completed, and further indicated that COVID has caused delay on outreach meetings.

Spoke about tentative meeting schedule. Next scheduled meeting is February 28 or March 28.

Jennifer Reiman from Heartlands indicated that the most exciting news is that the Highland Silver Lake project is complete and turned over to the city for their review. If they do not have any comments, it will be submitted to the EPA for approval. The 319 application for that same watershed has been submitted to Illinois EPA, but have not heard back yet from EPA yet. The Canteen Cahokia has been completed and approved. There is a 319 for that which is underway and extended until 2023, so we are still accepting projects on that. COVID slowed down the signups for that so there is still money in that project to needs to be spent. Some projects have been completed under the 319 Grant Cahokia/Canteen Creek watershed plan. Jennifer spoke briefly about the Bushy Lake project. American Bottoms has been submitted to EPA for approval. Wood River and Piasa were approved. Indian Cahokia Creek was awarded but won't be starting until March with the EPA backlog. They are also working on a plan for Portage Des Sioux the remaining 50 percent is pending.

Steve indicated that there is 3 task orders approved by the county board, which includes Portage Des Sioux, 319 for Indian Cahokia Creek support and the executive summary for the American Bottoms.

Jennifer indicated that they have been working on the Storm water Master Plan proposal for the county, and using Oates as a sub.

Steve indicated they are moving forward with the MS4. Getting close to the end of another year and will be gathering annual reports within the next 3 months. May 31st is the deadline to get to Illinois EPA. The next meeting is in March to gather data from individuals and put together to submit. One thing that has been a hindrance with the MS4 is the general permit that we have not received from EPA to make final adjustments. Gonzalez keeps us up to date on any changes.

Chris Doucleff spoke briefly about the household hazard waste plant in Wood River. He also gave information on the electronic waste events coming up this year.

Adjournment:

Mr. Adomite made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Madison. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned.

