

**MINUTES OF THE KANKAKEE RIVER BASIN AND YELLOW RIVER
BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

**Thursday, April 27, 2023
1:00 p.m. CST/2:00 p.m. EST**

**Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District
2291 North Main Street
Crown Point, IN 46307**

FOR MEMBERS PARTICIPATING ELECTRONICALLY

Join meeting from computer, tablet or smartphone at

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John McNamara, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. CDT, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Bill Crase, Secretary, called the roll.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Members physically present: Bill Crase, Craig Cultice, Bill Emerson, John McNamara, Mike Novotney, James Walstra, Dick Welsh

Members present via videoconference: Ryan Mueller

Approved proxies present: Beau Watkins for Rob Churchill

Staff present: Scott Pelath, Executive Director

Mr. Crase declared the presence of a quorum.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JANUARY 27 MEETING

Mr. Emerson moved to adopt the January 27, 2023, minutes. Mr. Crase seconded.

Crase – Y

Cultice – Y

Emerson – Y

McNamara – Y

Mueller - Y

Novotney – Y

Walstra – Y

Watkins for Churchill - Y

Welsh - Y

MOTION ADOPTED.

FINANCE REPORT AND CLAIMS

Mr. Emerson moved to accept the finance report and approve the claims presented by Mr. Pelath [ATTACHMENT 1]. Crase seconded.

Crase – Y
Cultice – Y
Emerson – Y
McNamara – Y
Mueller - Y
Novotney – Y
Walstra – Y
Watkins for Churchill - Y
Welsh – Y

MOTION ADOPTED.

OLD BUSINESS

State Line Bridge update

The Director updated the Commission on the feasibility of moving State Line Bridge away from its current location.

Abandoned Norfolk Southern bridge at Schneider Logjam management report and plans

The Director reported on the possible modification on the Norfolk Southern Bridge at Schneider, and ongoing logjam management projects. He specifically thanked Tony Ferraro of U.S. Sen. Braun's office for his ongoing assistance with the railroad bridge [ATTACHMENT 2].

Yellow River Reconstruction, Phase II bid and contractor selection report

As directed by the Commission at its January meeting, the Executive Committee met and selected a contractor from among qualified bidders for the Phase II of the Yellow River Bank Reconstruction.

Crase moved to ratify the Executive Committee's award of the Yellow River Bank Reconstruction, Phase II, contracts to The Stanger Group. Welsh seconded.

Crase – Y
Cultice – Y
Emerson – Y
McNamara – Y
Mueller - Y
Novotney – Y
Walstra – Y
Watkins for Churchill - Y
Welsh – Y

MOTION ADOPTED.

Kankakee FWA hydraulic study update

The Director reported that a kickoff site visit including local Commission members, state and local officials, and Burke Engineering was scheduled for May 4.

Jasper County FEMA project augmentation

The Director and Mr. Walstra reported on plans to convene a meeting of regulators to consult on the FEMA project augmentation.

Aukiki FWA spillway update and contractor report

After soliciting bids from qualified contractors, the Director expressed his dissatisfaction with the number and quality of bids. He said he planned to consult with DNR about simplifying the concept and project design.

Mr. Novotney moved that the Commission reject all construction bids for the Aukiki WCA water control structure. Mr. Cultice seconded.

Cruse – Y

Cultice – Y

Emerson – Y

McNamara – Y

Mueller - Y

Novotney – Y

Walstra – Y

Watkins for Churchill - Y

Welsh – Y

MOTION ADOPTED.

Formal flood response plan development

The Director reported the success of the planning process' March kickoff meeting in Valparaiso and said regional workshops to garner plan input were being scheduled.

Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) update

Jennifer Thum from the Indiana Department of Agriculture reported that the Department was still awaiting NRCS's final signature on the program contract.

NEW BUSINESS

Yellow River Reconstruction, Phase III site selection

Mr. Emerson moved that the Commission adopt Recommendation 1-2023 [ATTACHMENT 4] pertaining to site selection of the Yellow River Bank Reconstruction, Phase III. Mr. Cultice seconded.

Cruse – Y
Cultice – Y
Emerson – Y
McNamara – Y
Mueller - Y
Novotney – Y
Walstra – Y
Watkins for Churchill - Y
Welsh – Y

MOTION ADOPTED.

Parcel consolidation at Grand Kankakee Marsh County Park

Mr. Cruse moved that the Commission allocate \$30,000 toward the Lake County Park Department's acquisition of approximately seven acres adjacent to Grand Kankakee Marsh County Park [ATTACHMENT 5]. Mr. Emerson seconded.

Cruse – Y
Cultice – Y
Emerson – Y
McNamara – Y
Mueller - Y
Novotney – Y
Walstra – Y
Watkins for Churchill - Y
Welsh – Y

MOTION ADOPTED.

Private river gage at Bremen

Mr. Cultice moved that the Commission allocate \$6000 toward the acquisition of a river gage to be installed in Bremen at First Road over the Yellow River. Mr. Emerson seconded.

Cruse – Y
Cultice – Y
Emerson – Y
McNamara – Y
Mueller - Y
Novotney – Y
Walstra – Y
Watkins for Churchill - Y
Welsh – Y

MOTION ADOPTED.

Water control structure at Dehaan Ditch

Mr. Walstra moved that the Commission allocate \$20,000 to replace the Dehaan Ditch water control structure immediately upstream of the ditch's confluence with the Kankakee River. Mr. Crase seconded.

Crase – Y
Cultice – Y
Emerson – Y
McNamara – Y
Mueller - Y
Novotney – Y
Walstra – Y
Watkins for Churchill - Y
Welsh – Y

MOTION ADOPTED.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

See ATTACHMENT 1

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

SELECTION OF NEXT MEETING DATE


To be determined.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:20 p.m. CDT.

APPROVED JULY 28, 2023

Bill Crase

DocuSigned by:

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Secretary

ATTACHMENT 1**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

To: KRB-YRBDC Members

From: Scott D. Pelath, Executive Director

Date: April 25, 2023

We have endured a lot of precipitation since our last meeting. Over the previous ninety days, rain throughout the watershed has been at least 25-percent higher than normal. In some areas, it was nearly double the usual expected amount. Conditions this year have realigned some of our typical work schedules.

Finance Report

Balances. As the of the date of this report, we have a cash balance of \$575,135 in our General Fund and \$1,154,119 in our assessment account. Since the last meeting, we have already paid some contracted claims and incurred others.

State Budget. The House and Senate both have passed an additional \$27,000 in annual administrative funds for the Commission. These dollars are intended to replace loss in revenue from the Thayer Farm, an upcoming loss of NIPSCO gage reimbursements, and future uncertainties about our Porter County farm lease. The problem is that both houses must agree on a budget and pass it one more time, and that is the hurdle it failed to clear last time. We will see. I have learned repeatedly that it is a fool's errand to predict the legislature.

Assessment Revenue. We are still at least two months away from 2023 distributions of assessment revenue.

Recent claims. The list on the following page shows claims for river work and administrative expenses requiring either advance or retroactive approval by the Commission:

PO #	DATE	TO	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	Check #	Bank Account
28-23	1/31/2023	IRS	Tax Payment for Period: 01/01/2022-12/31/2022	\$ 42.00	ACH	General
29-23	1/31/2023	Scott D. Pelath	Pay Period: 01/16/2023-01/31/2023	\$ 4,250.55	ACH	General
30-23	1/31/2023	INPRS	INPRS	\$ 272.92	ACH	General
31-23	2/1/2023	Ambetter from MHS	Ambetter	\$ 1,865.66	ACH	General
32-23	2/3/2023	IRS	Tax Payment for Period: 01/28/2023-01/31/2023	\$ 1,272.76	ACH	General
33-23	2/7/23	Dirt Works Excavating	Removal of tree south of Hwy 30 in Kankakee & removal of tree south of 1800 S bridge	\$ 3,000.00	ACH	Special
34-23	2/7/2023	Delta Dental	Delta Dental	\$ 103.56	ACH	General
35-23	2/9/23	Hill Excavating	Tree Removal 1/25/23-1/26/23	\$ 3,200.00	ACH	Special
36-23	2/9/23	Stantec	YELLOW RIVER PHASE II STREAM DESIGN	\$ 47,622.11	ACH	Special
37-23	2/9/23	Stantec	FINAL INVOICE YELLOW RIVER PHASE 1	\$ 10,572.86	ACH	Special
38-23	2/9/23	Christopher B Burke Engineering, LLC	Knight Moffit Ditch January 1st-Jan 28, 2023	\$ 6,565.75	ACH	Special
39-23	2/9/23	Christopher B Burke Engineering, LLC	Aukiki Professional Services- Oct 30-Nov 26, 2022	\$ 4,373.25	ACH	Special
40-23	2/13/2023	Amex	AMEX EPAYMENT ACH PMT A4728 K AMEX EPAYMENT ACH PMT A4728 Kankakee River	\$ 415.57	ACH	General
41-23	2/15/23	Duneland Accounting, LLC	Feb 2023 Accounting Services	\$ 875.00	ACH	General
42-23	2/15/2023	IN Department of Revenue	Tax Payment for Period: 01/01/2023-01/31/2023	\$ 459.89	ACH	General
43-23	2/15/2023	Scott D. Pelath	Pay Period: 02/01/2023-02/15/2023	\$ 4,073.89	ACH	General
44-23	2/16/23	Kevin Misch Excavating	Inv 99389 Railroad Bridge work	\$ 1,324.00	ACH	Special
45-23	2/16/23	Kevin Misch Excavating	Inv 99388 Excavator work Jan 21-22, 2023	\$ 10,212.00	ACH	Special
46-23	2/16/23	Kevin Misch Excavating	Work performed at Kankakee River @ Thayer IN	\$ 13,388.75	ACH	Special
47-23	2/21/23	Mint City	Inv 1678 River Clearing	\$ 1,905.76	ACH	Special
48-23	2/23/2023	IRS	Tax Payment for Period: 02/15/2023-02/17/2023	\$ 1,391.01	ACH	General
49-23	2/27/2023	INPRS	INPRS DIRECT DB AR202 INPRS DIRECT DB AR20203870 KANKAKEE RIVER BASIN A	\$ 327.50	ACH	General
50-23	02/28/2023	Hill Excavating	Forestry mulching	\$ 3,300.00	ACH	Special
51-23	2/28/2023	Scott D. Pelath	Pay Period: 02/16/2023-02/28/2023	\$ 4,073.91	ACH	General

52-23	3/1/2023	Ambetter from MHS	Ambetter HEALTH INS Kank Ambetter HEALTH INS Kankakee River Basin a	\$	1,865.66	ACH	General
53-23	3/2/23	Scott Pelath	Administrative Mileage Jan 25-Mar 1 2023 at \$0.49 a mile	\$	272.72	ACH	General
54-23	3/2/23	Scott Pelath	Operational Mileage Jan 25-Mar 1 2023 at \$0.49 a mile	\$	529.05	ACH	Special
55-23	3/2/23	Tandem Solutions	Invoice #542042 Printing & Mailing Services	\$	0.54	1674	General
56-23	3/2/23	Indiana Association of Floodplain and Stormwater Management	2023 INAFSM Annual Membership Dues	\$	50.00	1672	General
57-23	03/02/2023	Kevin Misch Excavating	Inv 084233 Excavator, 4 laborers Sumava Resorts	\$	4,225.50	ACH	Special
58-23	03/02/2023	Christopher B Burke Engineering, LLC	Jan 29-Feb 25, Misc support	\$	1,764.00	ACH	Special
59-23	3/3/2023	IRS	Tax Payment for Period: 02/25/2023-02/28/2023	\$	1,390.97	ACH	General
60-23	3/7/2023	Delta Dental	Delta Dental	\$	103.56	ACH	General
61-23	03/13/2023	Dirt Works Excavating	Push back 1500' of brush & silt fence	\$	9,250.00	ACH	Special
62-23	3/14/2023	INPRS	INPRS	\$	327.50	ACH	General
63-23	3/15/2023	Scott D. Pelath	Pay Period: 03/01/2023-03/15/2023	\$	4,073.89	ACH	General
64-23	3/16/23	Duneland Accounting, LLC	March Accounting Services	\$	875.00	ACH	General
65-23	3/20/2023	IN Department of Revenue	Tax Payment for Period: 02/01/2023-02/28/2023	\$	494.50	ACH	General
67-23	03/22/2023	Kevin Misch Excavating	Wed 3/22/23 DNR Property work	\$	4,800.00	ACH	Special
68-23	03/22/2023	Hill Excavating	Tree removal 3/27-3/30 & 3/3-3/6	\$	32,000.00	ACH	Special
69-23	3/22/2023	IRS	Tax Payment for Period: 03/15/2023-03/17/2023	\$	1,391.01	ACH	General
66-23	03/23/2023	Kevin Misch Excavating	Thursday 3/23/23 DNR Property work	\$	4,800.00	ACH	Special
70-23	03/24/2023	Kevin Misch Excavating	Friday 3/24/23 DNR Property work	\$	4,800.00	ACH	Special
71-23	3/24/2023	GIS	GENERALINSURANCE PAYMENTS 118225 GENERALINSURANCE PAYMENTS 11822572 HOI	\$	420.00	ACH	General
72-23	03/27/2023	Kevin Misch Excavating	Monday 3/27/23 DNR Property work	\$	4,800.00	ACH	Special
73-23	03/28/2023	Kevin Misch Excavating	Tuesday 3/28/23 DNR Property work	\$	4,800.00	ACH	Special
74-23	3/28/2023	INPRS	INPRS	\$	327.50	ACH	General
75-23	03/29/2023	Kevin Misch Excavating	Wed 3/29/23 Excavator work DNR Property	\$	4,800.00	ACH	Special
76-23	03/30/2023	Kevin Misch Excavating	Excavator work DNR Property Downstream of IN-55	\$	4,800.00	ACH	Special
77-23	3/31/2023	Scott D. Pelath	Pay Period: 03/16/2023-03/31/2023	\$	4,073.90	ACH	General
78-23	3/31/2023	INPRS	INPRS DIRECT DB AR202 INPRS DIRECT DB AR20259081 KANKAKEE RIVER BASIN A	\$	327.50	ACH	General
79-23	4/3/2023	Ambetter from MHS	Ambetter HEALTH INS Kank Ambetter HEALTH INS Kankakee River Basin a	\$	1,865.66	ACH	General
80-23	4/4/23	Scott Pelath	Administrative Mileage Mar 2- Apr 3 2023 at \$0.49 a mile	\$	197.90	ACH	General
81-23	4/4/23	Scott Pelath	Operational Mileage Jan Mar 2- Apr 3 2023 2023 at \$0.49 a mile	\$	667.30	ACH	Special
82-23	04/04/2023	U.S. Geological Survey	Streamgages Jan-Mar 2023	\$	32,925.00	ACH	Special
83-23	4/5/2023	IRS	Tax Payment for Period: 03/29/2023-03/31/2023	\$	1,390.99	ACH	General
84-23	04/06/2023	Christopher B Burke Engineering, LLC	Professional Svcs Feb 26-Mar 25, 2023	\$	1,237.25	ACH	Special
85-23	04/06/2023	Stantec	Yellow River Phase II	\$	2,931.65	ACH	Special
86-23	4/6/2023	Delta Dental	Delta Dental	\$	103.56	ACH	General
87-23	04/12/2023	Hill Excavating	tree removal	\$	2,500.00	ACH	Special
88-23	04/13/2023	Christopher B Burke Engineering, LLC	FWA Hydraulics Study	\$	3,149.00	ACH	Special
89-23	04/14/2023	Attorney General	Jan-March 2023 Billing	\$	150.00		General
90-23	4/14/2023	IN Department of Workforce Development	Tax Payment for Period: 01/01/2023-03/31/2023	\$	218.50	ACH	General
91-23	4/14/2023	Scott D. Pelath	Pay Period: 04/01/2023-04/15/2023	\$	4,073.90	ACH	General
92-23	4/14/2023	INPRS	INPRS	\$	327.50	ACH	General
93-23	04/15/2023	Duneland Accounting, LLC	April Accounting Services	\$	875.00	ACH	General
94-23	04/18/2023	Christopher B Burke Engineering, LLC	Professional Services Feb 26-Mar 25, 2023	\$	3,875.51	ACH	Special
95-23	4/19/2023	IN Department of Revenue	Tax Payment for Period: 03/01/2023-03/31/2023	\$	494.50	ACH	General
96-23	04/20/2023	Dirt Works Excavating	River Bank Repair	\$	23,250.00	ACH	Special
97-23	4/21/2023	IRS	Tax Payment for Period: 04/15/2023-04/18/2023	\$	1,390.99	ACH	General
98-23	04/24/2023	K and L Excavating, LLC	River Maintenance on HAP Haberin's Property	\$	21,690.00	ACH	Special
99-23	04/25/2023	Kevin Misch Excavating	Inv 084233 Excavator, 4 laborers Sumava Resorts bridge	\$	4,343.00	ACH	Special
100-23	04/25/2023	Hill Excavating	Hydroseeding 4/25/23	\$	7,410.00	ACH	Special
101-23	04/25/2023	Scott Pelath	Operational Mileage APR 4 - APR 24 2023 at \$0.49 a mile	\$	267.34	ACH	Special
102-23	04/25/2023	Scott Pelath	Administrative Mileage APR 4 - APR 24 2023 at \$0.49 a mile	\$	188.24	ACH	General
				\$	337,774.28		

Yellow River Project, Phase II

We received one construction bid from the Stanger Group for Phase II of the Yellow River bank reconstruction. Ross St. Clair at Stantec recommended that we accept the bid. As directed at the previous Commission meeting, the Executive Committee met, reviewed the engineer's recommendation, and awarded the contract to the Stanger Group. To further formalize the process, the Attorney General's office suggested that the Commission ratify the Executive Committee's action, so that it why the matter is on the agenda.

The Commission divided Phase II into two, non-contiguous project sites at 500 East and 1100 East in Starke County. The Stanger Group expects to begin work at 500 East during the first week of June.

Yellow River Project, Phase III

The Technical Advisory Committee deferred its recommendation of the Phase III sites to Marshall County Member Craig Cultice and Starke County Member Bill Crase. For Marshall County, the two urged the Vermillion property between 12th and 13th Roads and in Starke County, a section beginning immediately upstream of IN-23 and joining the Commission's Yellow River Pilot Project terminating. Territorial Engineering is already doing some survey work in anticipation of the phase moving forward.

Kankakee Logjam Management

Kevin Misch cleared logs and learners from two miles of Newton County banks downstream of IN-55. The Lake County side is mostly residential, so we have another open section. Kevin also cleaned out the Norfolk Southern bridge at Schneider for the third time since November, and it already needs to be done again. U.S. Sen. Braun's office has presented to Norfolk Southern our request to remove the bridge's wooden understructure.

Delta III is contracted to clear in the vicinity of US 421, but the river was just too high until recently. Access there is extremely problematic and soggy, so we agreed with the primary property owner that waiting was the right thing to do.

Mike Klemp of K&L Excavating has completed work downstream of US 231 in Porter County. We had similar problems with conditions there, but they were able to cut a few of the leaners before bat roosting season and can take care of the rest in safety. It looks great.

I have been in tentative discussions for the amphibious excavator to begin working downstream of US 41. Amphibious assets are the only feasible tool for most of that section.

I finally was able to access the Norfolk Southern Bridge upstream of the Dehaan Ditch, and it is hard to avoid calling it the worst bridge on the Kankakee. We spent close to \$20,000 clearing it last year, and it again is congested. Wilcher Excavating is making plans to clear the bridge, but this time in concert with the railroad. Fortunately, Brian Wunderink just burned last year's logs to make room for the new ones.

Yellow River Logjam Management

After finishing up between Range Road and Knox, Hill Excavating did eight days of log clearing upstream of IN-39. They also cleared some monster logjams up in Marshall County, where Mint City was able to do a weekend of logjam clearing there as well.

Thayer Farm

When Shelby hit minor flood stage late this winter, I told DNR that I prayed their modeling was right. It was. The property started taking water just below Minor Flood Stage and filled up with plenty of capacity to spare. The spillway worked as intended, and one could finally witness the flow between the Thayer Farm and the adjacent Blackberry Marsh, where the water falls as the river falls.

Kankakee FWA Hydrological Study

Immediately prior to the issuance of this report, a kickoff meeting with major stakeholders was scheduled for May 4 from 12:00-4:00 CDT. I know many are eager to suggest possible changes to the FWA's physical configuration.

Jasper County FEMA Project Augmentation

Vince and I met with the engineers to start moving the ball forward. Before anything else, we need to request an SEA 368 meeting with the relevant regulatory agencies. That will entail some very preliminary design work, so the regulators understand the scope and intent.

Sediment Traps

All permits are issued for the sediment trap immediately downstream of the Robbins Ditch on the Kankakee River and upstream of IN-39 on the Yellow River. We also experienced a productive and cooperative SEA 368 meeting regarding the trap upstream of the Little Kankakee.

Right now, the only limiting factors to permitted work are water conditions, contractor schedules, and property owner timeline requests. Right now, it looks like trap maintenance by the Robbins will begin mid-May.

Aukiki Wetland Conservation Area

We received one bid for spillway construction at the Aukiki WCA, and I am going to recommend that the Commission reject it and re-bid the work later. The quote is substantially too high for our budget, and the material costs are unreasonable.

I would like to complete the project this year, but it is no catastrophe if we cannot do it within our cost parameters. The engineer and I discussed some ways to further control material costs and simplify aspects of the design.

Hydroseeding

Hill Excavating just reseeded the 45-foot sand bank at the Phase I project area in Marshall County. Will all the investment we have made, we want to do everything we can to ensure an optimal result.

Invasive Species Control

We intended to begin spraying bush honeysuckle at select locations in May and June.

Formal Flood Response Plan

We had over sixty people at our flood response plan kickoff with the Corps of Engineers in Valparaiso. The more tedious sub-tasks have now commenced.

As always, should you have any questions or suggestions, please email me at sdpelath@gmail.com or (219) 861-7999. To maintain focus and brevity during our meeting in Lake County, I welcome any issues I can resolve in advance.

ATTACHMENT 2



February 3, 2023

U.S. Senator Mike Braun
ATTN: Tony Ferraro, Regional Director
5400 Federal Plaza
Suite 3200
Hammond, IN 46320

Dear Senator Braun:

On behalf of the Kankakee River Basin and Yellow River Basin Commission (“the Commission”), I respectfully request your assistance with Norfolk Southern’s bridge immediately upstream of U.S. 41 over the Kankakee River. The Commission unanimously voted on January 27 to seek your intercession in this matter.

Under Indiana Code 14-13-9, the Commission mitigates flooding for eight Northwest Indiana counties within the Kankakee River Basin. A key facet of the Commission’s forty-year work plan entails a reduction in unnecessary, manmade barriers to the natural flow of water.

The railroad bridge between Schneider and Sumava Resorts, Indiana, is one such barrier. Its antiquated structure continually spawns logjams, and it is a substantial expense for the Commission to regularly remove large, woody debris from its understructure. The bridge’s antiquated and closely spaced wooden supports are the primary culprit in this dynamic [*see ATTACHMENT 1*].

There is no offsetting value to the nation’s economy. The bridge performs absolutely no transportation function, and no reasonable person would assert that it could in the future. The rail line has deteriorated beyond the point of salvageability, with the local woods completely subsuming the tracks themselves [*see ATTACHMENT 2*].

While the eventual removal of the bridge is optimal, until then the Commission seeks Norfolk Southern’s permission to remove the archaic wooden supports at the northern and southern ends of the bridge. In return, the Commission offers to fully fund the supports’ removal and disposal.

Removal of the wooden understructure is in the interests of the hundreds of thousands of Hoosiers we serve. I further suggest that as a direct stakeholder in the same communities, it is in the interests of Norfolk Southern as well. The bridge serves no one, and we ought to reduce its impact on our shared customers, infrastructure, and economic assets.

If I can provide any clarifying information or insight, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time at sdpelath@gmail.com or (219) 861-7999. I also would be delighted to attend any meeting, be it physical or virtual, that might further the resolution of this matter.

The Commission and I remain genuinely grateful for the assistance of you and your expert staff. Thank you again for your service to the Kankakee River Basin and the people of Indiana.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Scott D. Pelath". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Scott" being more prominent and the last name "Pelath" following in a similar style.

Scott D. Pelath
Executive Director
Kankakee River Basin and Yellow River Basin
Development Commission

Cc: State Sen. Rick Niemeyer
State Rep. Mike Aylesworth

ATTACHMENT 3



Recommendation for Award

Date Monday, 27 February 2023
Project: Yellow River Phase II 500E – Starke County Construction
cc: Scott Pelath, KRBYSBDC Executive Director
From: Ross St.Clair, P.E., Stantec Inc.
RE: Yellow River Phase II 500E – Starke County Construction

Stantec Inc.

708 Roosevelt Road ,
Walkerton, IN, 46574
same as physical address

Phone +1 574 586 3400
Fax +1 574 586 3446

www.stantec.com

The KRBYSBDC received one bid on February 24, 2023 for the Yellow River Phase II 500E - Starke County Construction. The bidder was The Stanger Group, Inc. As project engineer for this project, I have reviewed the bids for the purposes of pricing and bidder responsiveness. Both bidders were determined to be responsive and qualified for this work. Attached to this recommendation is the bid summary prepared by Stantec.

Recommendation:

Stantec Inc. recommends that KRBYSBDC award The Stanger Group for the project contract based on their responsiveness, qualifications and overall low base bid. The Stanger Group did an excellent job on implementing the Yellow River, Marshall County work completed in 2022. Colby Stanger, stands out among directors/project managers with his personal construction and design experience, quality communication skills and overall determination to get the job done right.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ross St.Clair".

Ross St.Clair, P.E. #11900351
Stantec Inc.
Direct Line: 574-586-4256;
Mobile: 260-579-0337



Recommendation for Award

Date Monday, 27 February 2023

Project: Yellow River Phase II 1100E – Starke County Construction

cc: Scott Pelath, KRBYRBDC Executive Director

From: Ross St.Clair, P.E., Stantec Inc.

RE: Yellow River Phase II 1100E – Starke County Construction

Stantec Inc.

708 Roosevelt Road ,
Walkerton, IN, 46574
same as physical address

Phone +1 574 586 3400

Fax +1 574 586 3446

www.stantec.com

The KRBYRBDC received one bid on February 24, 2023 for the Yellow River Phase II 1100E - Starke County Construction. The bidder was The Stanger Group, Inc. As project engineer for this project, I have reviewed the bids for the purposes of pricing and bidder responsiveness. Both bidders were determined to be responsive and qualified for this work. Attached to this recommendation is the bid summary prepared by Stantec.

Recommendation:

Stantec Inc. recommends that KRBYRBDC award The Stanger Group for the project contract based on their responsiveness, qualifications and overall low base bid. The Stanger Group did an excellent job on implementing the Yellow River, Marshall County work completed in 2022. Colby Stanger, stands out among directors/project managers with his personal construction and design experience, quality communication skills and overall determination to get the job done right.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ross St. Clair'.

Ross St.Clair, P.E. #11900351
Stantec Inc.
Direct Line: 574-586-4256;
Mobile: 260-579-0337

ATTACHMENT 4

RECOMMENDATION 1-2023

To: Kankakee River Basin and Yellow River Basin Development Commission

From: Bill Crase, Starke County Member
Craig Cultice, Marshall County Member

Subject: Yellow River Bank Reconstruction, Phase III Site Selection

Date: April 20, 2023

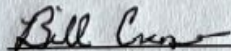
At its March 8, 2023, meeting, the Technical Advisory Committee deferred to us its recommendation of the Yellow River Bank Reconstruction, Phase III, sites.

In consultation with the Executive Director and our technical advisor, Ross St. Clair of Stantec, we recommend the following Phase III project locations:

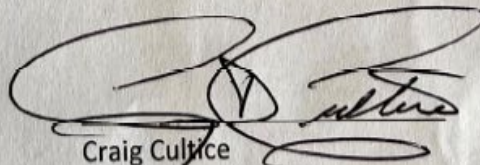
- 1) In Marshall County, the Vermillion property between 12th and 13th Roads (approximately 0.5 miles); and
- 2) In Starke County, a section beginning immediately upstream of IN-23 and joining the Commission's Yellow River Pilot Project terminating at IN-8 (approximately 1.5 miles including completed pilot project).

We also considered the "horseshoe bend" in Marshall County upstream of the completed Phase I project. While a project at that location would be of high value to the Commission, we believe the established property owner partnership at the Vermillion property is a determining factor.

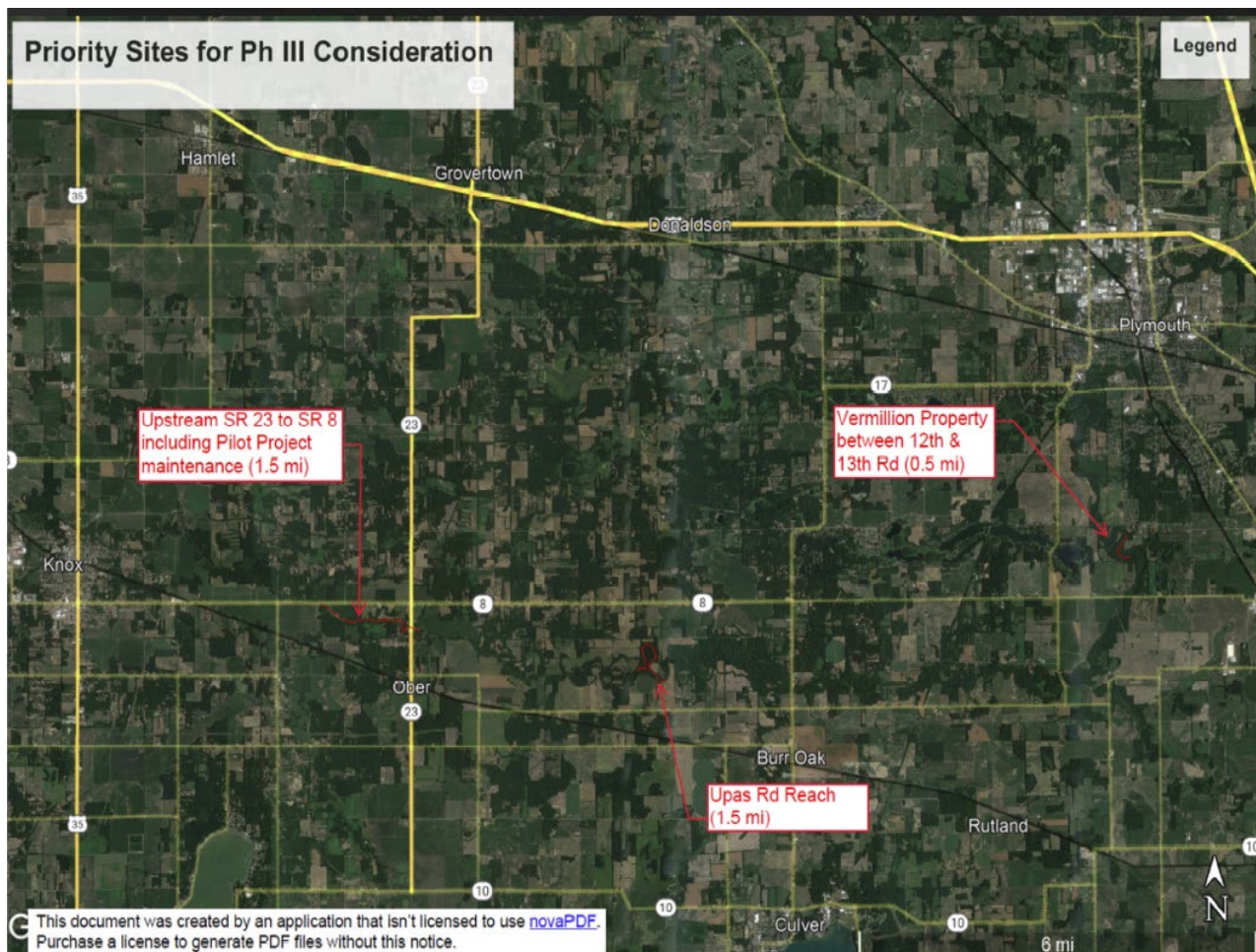
We thank the Commission for its thorough review of this recommendation and hope for its favorable consideration. With timely approval, we hope for project construction to begin in 2024.



Bill Crase
Starke County Member
Commission Secretary



Craig Cultice
Marshall County Member
Marshall County Surveyor



ATTACHMENT 5



Bellaboo's
(219) 963-2070

Buckley Homestead
(219) 696-0769

Cedar Creek Family Golf
Center
(219) 365-2902

Deep River
(219) 947-1958

Deep River Waterpark
(219) 947-7850

Gibson Woods
(219) 844-3188

Grand Kankakee Marsh
(219) 552-0033

Lake Etta
(219) 944-9601
Banquets:
(219) 949-6533

Lemon Lake
(219) 663-7627

Oak Ridge Prairie
(219) 884-7238

Stoney Run
(219) 996-6500

Three Rivers
(219) 962-7810

Turkey Creek Golf Course
Pro Shop:
(219) 980-5170
Banquets:
(219) 887-3550

Reservations & Tours
(219) 769-7275

8411 East Lincoln Highway • Crown Point, IN 46307
Phone: (219) 769-7275 • Fax: (219) 945-0452 • lakecountyparks.com

April 20, 2023

Scott D. Pelath
Executive Director
Kankakee River Basin and Yellow River Basin Development Commission
460 Lincolnway, Suite 322
Valparaiso, IN 46384

Dear Scott,

Lake County Parks & Recreation Department manages the approximate 2,000-acre Grand Kankakee Marsh County Park in Eagle Creek Township, Cedar Creek Township, Newton County, and adjacent southwest Porter County. This county park provides recreational and educational opportunities to the public including school groups, historical events, picnics, equestrian uses, hunting, fishing, and two boat launches on the Kankakee River. It also, stores large amounts of storm water and floodwaters for the Kankakee Watershed while providing habitat for much of the biodiversity found along the river.

Our department was approached by the Range Line Presbyterian Church and asked if we were interested in acquiring a 7.38-acre parcel owned by them and the site of the former Range Line Conservation Club. This parcel is surrounded on three sides by Grand Kankakee Marsh County Park and has been in our Open Space Vision Plan for over 30 years. The property is split between upland oak forest and forested wetland, and in the future will be protected to provide wildlife habitat, flood control, and public hunting opportunities.

The Lake Heritage Parks Foundation had this parcel appraised for \$75,000, and the church has approved the sale in this amount. We are submitting an application on May 1 to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources – President Benjamin Harrison Conservation Trust in the amount of \$30,000, and is being supported by the Fish & Wildlife Division within IDNR. The Lake Heritage Parks Foundation is supporting the acquisition in the amount of \$15,000. We respectfully request project support from the Kankakee River Basin and Yellow River Basin Development Commission for \$30,000.

Established June 1, 1968
Get Out. Go Play. Explore.

Please contact us anytime with questions or comments regarding this project request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Craig Zandstra', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Craig Zandstra

Superintendent of Planning and Natural Resource Division

219.688.1065 cell

craigz@lakecountyparks.com