

**JAY MARTIN**  
Chairman

**DANNY EARP**  
Vice-Chairman



**CHUCK ENGELKEN**  
Member

**JOHN ZEMANEK**  
Alternate Member

## **MINUTES OF DRAINAGE AND FLOODING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD APRIL 8, 2019**

The Drainage and Flooding Committee of the City of La Porte met on **Monday, April 8, 2019**, at the City Hall Council Chambers, 604 West Fairmont Parkway, La Porte, Texas, at **5:00 p.m.** to consider the following items of business:

**Committee Members present:** Danny Earp, Chuck Engelken, John Zemanek

**Committee Members absent:** Jay Martin

**Council-appointed officers present:** Corby Alexander, City Manager; Lee Woodward, City Secretary

1. **Call to Order** – Vice Chairman Earp called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
2. **Consent Agenda** (*Approval of Consent Agenda items authorizes each to be implemented in accordance with staff recommendations provided. An item may be removed from the consent agenda and added to the Statutory Agenda for full discussion upon request by a member of the Committee present at this meeting.*)

**(a) Approve the minutes of the meeting held on February 25, 2019. [Lee Woodward, City Secretary]**

Committee member Engelken moved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on February 25, 2019; the motion was unanimously adopted, 3-0.

Without objection, Billy Green was permitted to offer public comment, asking that drainage issues in the Lomax area be addressed.

**3. Staff Reports**

**(a) Receive report from Harris County Flood Control District regarding current and future plans relating to flooding in the City of La Porte. [Lorenzo Wingate, City Engineer and Don Pennell, Public Works Director]**

City Engineer Lorenzo Wingate informed the Committee that Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) was not able to attend but had emailed him updates, including that they had analyzed their review of the Brookglen area and that they would meet with staff on April 16. Mr. Wingate said HCFCD had had HDR review the B112/Lomax area and that they would consider it internally before the next phase. Mr. Alexander asked Mr. Wingate to forward the email correspondence to the committee on Tuesday. Committee member Engelken said he was very disappointed that HCFCD had not attended yet again and noted he would reach out to the Harris County Commissioner to address these issues, citing destruction at Brookglen, current construction projects, and the loss of a related revenue stream. Mr. Alexander agreed to reach out to the Harris County Judge's office on the issues as well.

**(b) Receive a report regarding the status of the Texas GLO CDBG-DR 2015 Floods and Storms (DR-4223 and DR-4245) Allocation. [Lorenzo Wingate, City Engineer and Don Pennell, Public Works Director]**

Mr. Wingate said the project had been placed under contract, with scope communicated in order to move ahead.

**(c) Discussion regarding Harris County's Method of Distribution (MOD) for the Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDGB-DR) Round 1 Funds for Hurricane Harvey. [Lorenzo Wingate, City Engineer and Don Pennell, Public Works Director]**

Mr. Wingate said the City has a grant administrator working on this item, noting that the City currently has an allocation of approximately \$325,000 for the initial phase of a proposed drainage improvement project and that the \$3.2 million is anticipated to be utilized for the continuation of planned subsequent phases. Although the timeline includes milestones to be completed by November 2018, the City has met these milestones, but is now awaiting Harris County review. Mr. Wingate shared has not received an updated timeline from Harris County yet for what was to be completed last November.

**(d) Discussion regarding Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM) Hurricane Harvey DR-4332 Section 404 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Funding. [Lorenzo Wingate, City Engineer and Don Pennell, Public Works Director]**

Mr. Wingate said the City had submitted three generator projects and five drainage projects and then TDEM was forwarding the generator items to FEMA. Mr. Alexander confirmed an additional project was not eligible and two additional projects did not fit the cost-benefit analysis.

**(e) Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding the status of current drainage projects. [Lorenzo Wingate, City Engineer and Don Pennell, Public Works Director]**

Mr. Wingate asked the committee's preference on funding allocations for projects versus waiting to hear about grant awards, following which reimbursement or use as a match might become possible. Without objection, the committee agreed to Mr. Alexander's suggestion that staff be allowed to clarify with TDEM and GrantWorks, Inc. as to whether upfront design and engineering costs will count as match. Vice Chairman Earp asked for a report on how the funds had been allocated for each project at this time.

**(f) Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding additional drainage concerns and providing staff with direction. [Lorenzo Wingate, City Engineer and Don Pennell, Public Works Director]**

Committee member Zemanek asked that someone check on the area Mr. Green had discussed in his public comment. Vice Chairman Earp inquired as to why Lomax water could not be drained into a dry pond at the airport and Mr. Wingate said he believed they were two separate watersheds and the current inlet didn't have capacity for additional runoff. Vice Chairman Earp asked if inline detention could be considered.

**4. Set date for next Drainage and Flooding Committee Meeting. [Lorenzo Wingate, City Engineer and Don Pennell, Public Works Director]**

The next meeting date was set for May 13 at 5:00 p.m.

**5. Committee Comments**

No comments were offered.

**6. ADJOURN – The meeting was adjourned without objection at 5:39 p.m.**

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Lee Woodward, City Secretary