

MEETING MINUTES

LAWRENCEBURG CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

SPECIAL MEETING - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

HELD AT 1:00 P.M. ON August 13, 2025

AT CITY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 230 WALNUT STREET, LAWRENCEBURG, IN 47025

THE FOLLOWING DIRECTORS WERE PRESENT:

Jim Kittle, Chairman	Greg McAdams
Dave Staab, Vice chairman	Tom Schneider
Randy Tyler	Mike Noel
Andy Lyons	

THE FOLLOWING PERSONS WERE ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

LCD: Paul Seymour, Superintendent
Jared Ewbank, Attorney

JMT: Andrew Birmingham
Jennifer Ray

Mundell: Luke Johnstone

The City of Lawrenceburg Council hosted a work session to discuss LCD's pursuit of a grant. LCD invited JMT to make a presentation to the Lawrenceburg City Council and to answer questions.

Kittle thanked the City officials for the opportunity to present to them and ask for their support in the pursuit of a grant. Ray presented a slideshow allowing for questions as they came up. Her key points she presented were the importance of keeping the community safe, the LCD's income is used for the day-to-day operations and maintenance of the levee system, highlighting JMTs services, expertise, and priorities, civil projects often require funding greater than the annual budgets allow, grants are a long lead item and the need to be ready instantly, FEMA LAMP project accreditation re-initiation and the impact to community development, the importance of letters of support, the cost breakdown of the Greendale Lawrenceburg project, grant aspects and requirements, aspects of match requirements and resolutions, competitiveness of grant applicants, the meeting with USACE in which they suggested funding be sought elsewhere, BRIC, JMT looking at various opportunities, need for a hazard mitigation plan, the urgency to be ready when a grant opportunity opens up because of traditionally short deadlines to apply, status of checklist items.

Mayor Mollaun asked if LCD has approached Dearborn County regarding a match, to which Ray and Kittle indicated they have not yet been approached, but there is full intention to meet with them.

Birmingham said the work on the Greendale levee includes replacing some riprap, freeboard correction and relocating a stormwater pump station.

Liddle asked what projects the funds would be for. Johnstone indicated for Lawrenceburg it would be replacing some of the relief wells and a slurry wall along the north slope. Liddle also asked if the City would hold the match funds until a grant was secured, which Ray confirmed.

Clerk Treasurer asked a Greendale official how they handled their budget for their match commitment to which he responded it is being budgeted in pieces and set aside in a designated account and using a portion of taxes. Ray said that is a common approach and the federal government recognizes these large projects are out of the ordinary and don't expect agencies to empty their accounts because the federal government wants the agencies to be able to continue to function with day-to-day operations.

Councilman Fryman asked if the funds were still committed to LCD if the grant isn't awarded, to which Greendale rep said indicated they were not. Ray indicated it is usually included in the resolution that the funds are a local match for a received grant.

Councilman Abbott asked about legality of using TIF for the project to which Ewbank explained how it is legal.

Mayor Mollaun asked what would happen if one of the four entities doesn't participate with a match to which Ray indicated the grant application would most likely not be competitive and other avenues would have to be evaluated. She said the improvements are needed for accreditation to avoid flood insurance, which would impact development and economics in the community. He next asked how the project costs were determined, with his concern being who would pay for overages. Ray said there is a contingency factor built in and inflation has been considered. Birmingham and Johnstone both indicated best available data was used to determine the cost estimates, as well, there are contingency factors of 25% included for their respective parts of the cost estimates. Johnstone said there is an additional 10% contingency factor included for the cost estimates by Mundell. Mayor Mollaun asked what happens if costs are determined to be lower? Birmingham clarified the resolutions state up to \$4.2M and local match commitments would be reduced accordingly so the match will be 25%.

Mayor Mollaun asked questions regarding timing for being ready for grant opportunities. Ray clarified the cost estimates are for engineering, permitting and construction of the project, to take the levee system from where it is today to the completion of the project, so no additional engineering needs to be completed before submitting a grant application. The pieces to be completed to be ready for submitting a grant application are the benefit cost analysis, which is close to complete, the resolutions for the local match, two of four are in place, and the hazard mitigation plan wrapped up, which is in process. Ray keeps a record of grant requirements year-to-year to be better prepared. Clerk Treasurer Fette asked if the costs for pursuing a grant would be added in or be born by LCD. Ray clarified the costs associated with pursuing the grant cannot be included in the grant request.

Greendale Councilman McLaughlin mentioned the possibility of the State of Indiana assisting due to US 50 being a major military corridor. Ray indicated that sort of thing will make the application more competitive, but those designations and opportunities are through federal highway administration, but the state is a part of the grant pursuit because it is within Indiana and the state will want more than one

major applicant for the nature of the grant we're looking at. Birmingham said the Indiana hazard mitigation officer and their office support LCD in a grant for hazard mitigation.

Councilman Fryman asked if the four match commitments were not received if the project would no longer be viable. Kittle said LCD hasn't yet approached the county, but is hopeful and expects their support. Tyler said he believes with Lawrenceburg's support, the county will also be inclined to support with a match commitment.

Seymour spoke of the LCD pushing to get everything ready and hopes the council will make a decision soon. He said with the City's support, he'll go to the county to begin getting their support. The council discussed timing of preparing a resolution and voting on it. It was determined it would be voted on in the council's first meeting in September, Tuesday 9/2/2025. Ray expressed the importance of the wording of the resolution be consistent. She clarified the requirement to show where the funds are coming from isn't required until the grant application is submitted. In response to Councilman Fryman's questions, Ray also clarified the timing of the grant application is as soon as possible and the completion of the project is a few years out. She explained that the LCD's available funds would not be a hinderance because they are for the day-to-day maintenance of the levee system and the grant suppliers don't want an agency to have a completed project that they can't maintain moving forward. Seymour asked if any of the councilmembers would be willing to go with LCD to talk to the county to support LCD, to which a few confirmed they would.

With no further business the council adjourned the meeting.

8/21, 2025

Jim Kittle, Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jim Kittle', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

