

Walnut Township Trustees - Special Meeting

June 23, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 1:00PM. Trustees Terry Horn and Bill Yates were present.

In attendance were Tim Morris and Mike – Walnut Township Road Dept. also 14 guests/residents.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and update all interested and effected parties in regards to the ongoing drainage concerns and options caused by the Buckeye Lake Dam project. Discussion will place emphasis on Shepard Ave.

The guests included primarily folks from West Bank Rd. and Shepard Ave.

Since we last met to discuss these issues on June 2., TansCanada Transmission formerly Columbia Gas has helped us locate their high-pressure gas main near Leibs Island Road. When considering the required clearances, there is no possibility of running a storm line to Liebs Island Road. This affects the West Bank Home Owners Association (WBHOA) and the Ballards Lane West Bank residents and the Ed Parrish Farm.

Due to the gas, main road block, a new plan was developed for the WBHOA and the Ed Parish Farm in cooperation with the County Engineer. This plan pumps storm water from the WBHOA pump and the Ed Parish Farm pump into a new gravity flow ditch that goes west towards and Millersport Road. Once under Millersport Road it will then turn north and tie into the Lateral A Ditch.

The Ballards Lane West Bank residents are proceeding with a Petition Ditch Agreement that was submitted to the County Commissioners on June 19th. Conceptually, their storm water flow will take a path west and then north and then tie into the Lateral A Ditch. The gas lines will need to be considered with the path of this pumped line.

Kreig Babbert of West Bank Road asked about the capacity of the Lateral A Ditch with additional water flow into it. Trustee Horn stated that Fairfield Soil & Water Conservation Office (FCSWD) believes there is capacity for the Lateral A Ditch with one exception at the culvert the goes under SR 360. That culvert is now a 60" and may need to be upsized to a 72". All of this needs to be verified as part of the design process.

Jim Ganter of West Bank Road asked about an old clay storm pipe that had collapsed and whether this could be repaired. 7:25 It was stated that there would not be an attempt to find that pipe and repair it. Current plans would be to provide new systems to carry storm water from the low-lying areas.

The County Engineer is working with the WBHOA and Ed Parish

There is a small piece of property at No Name Creek at the NE corner of the township at SR 360. ODOT has been looking into this area and how best to approach this to improve drainage along SR 360. More information will be forthcoming.

Trustee Horn stated he met with Jonathan Ferbrache of FSWCD on Monday the 19th and discussed Shepard Ave storm drainage. FSWCD has taken preliminary topographical elevations and believe that there is enough fall to install a new storm line along Shepard Ave that flows west and once at Clark Ave turn north along Clark, cross over Lakeside Road and then travel a short distance to the Lateral A Ditch.

Trustee Horn stated that he then met with Adam Lanier of 2LMN Engineers on Monday and asked if 2LMN could design a new storm drain system for Shepard Ave. by September the 30th. That date being critical since it is the deadline for submission to the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) for this year. Adam was confident that engineering design could be accomplished by that date. Horn noted that any Buckeye Lake Dam money that has or will be designated to solve the problem created by ODNR's shutoff of all storm outlets into Buckeye Lake can only be used to solve the problem of the additional water going to the back side of the dam. We are not trying to fix problems with these funds that existed pre-dam remediation.

Tim Morris said the current storm pipe that runs along Shepard is 4". The minimum engineered storm pipe would probably be a 12". The new pipe could run on either the north or south of Shepard Ave and would be determined by utilities and obstacles in the area. Once a new pipe crosses Lakeside Rd. the path of any proposed line is on private property.

A resident had a concern about the additional water flowing into the Lateral A Ditch. Trustee Horn stated that he would contact FSWCD and the County Engineer offices to make sure an analysis is performed to make sure the Lateral A Ditch has enough capacity to account for the additional water that will be added since the three West Bank pumps will now going into the lateral A Ditch.

Bob Slater noted that there is a large portion of the area that we discussed that was in the 100-year flood plain. This includes West Bank north of Ballards Lane and all of Shepard Ave.

24:00Ken Reber noted that Ed Parish

If the Township wants to proceed with engineering on Shepherd Ave., a Resolution with the County Engineer would need to be passed for the County to assist us with the design utilizing 2LMN Inc. The approximate cost for the design would be \$10,000. There would also be costs associated with property or R/W acquisitions. Any decision for funding by the OPWC would be in January with money being available in July of 2018. The other source of funding is through the State "Lakes in Distress" fund, that was previously designated to help businesses along the lake that were affected by the dam remediation project. The state legislature has worked to allow this funding in the upcoming State budget to also assist the lake residents with storm water improvements due to the ODNR shutoff of storm outfalls. This has not yet been finalized, but could be \$300,000 shared among Walnut Township, Buckeye Lake and ODOT along SR 360. The potential for funding could be as follows. Since OPWC requires a local match of 26% and if we were successful in securing that funding, the Township could then apply for the balance of the project cost through the Lakes in Distress funds.

Horn stated that in the short term the entities that own the areas of the three (3) pumped outfalls along West Bank need to contact ODNR to allow temporary drainage into Buckeye Lake while the permanent storm drainage solutions are constructed.

Colleen Sears of Shepherd Ave., stated her concerns that the Lakeside area floods with heavy rains and she has photos that she can share. She said she would copy them for us so that we can pass them along to the County folks. Horn reiterated the need to verify the Lateral A Ditch is sized large enough to collect the additional watershed. Trustee Yates stated that we are told that we can't build for the 100-year flood, yet we have had several events that over the past several years that have flooded this area.

Yates stated that in the Dam construction bid there is \$70,000 designated for temporary storm water construction at the west bank. We need to make sure this is utilized to ensure that flooding does not occur before permanent measures constructed.

At this time, there has not been an official storm water cap date set.

Dick Williams asked if ODNR would allow temporary connection of downspouts and sump pumps into the lake. Tim Morris stated that any time this is mentioned that ODNR has said no temporary provisions will be made.

Horn said that as a County and Township we have done a really good job of identifying the storm water issues given the short amount of time we have had to react to these issues that we knew nothing about until a short time ago. With that in mind we need to approach ODNR with our needs for temporary measures to be considered that allows storm water to go over the dam while we implement permanent storm water systems.

All money provided from the Lakes in Distress fund would be in the form of a grant not a loan.

It was noted that Schaffer and Balderson have done a great job for us in securing the Lakes in Distress funding. It was about to be cut off entirely since it was not being used and Schaffer was instrumental in getting it designated for BL Dam storm water solutions.

Trustee Yates moved to pass Resolution no. __ - 17 to request the Fairfield County Engineer to assist with surveying, engineering, cost estimates and specifications for the Shepherd Ave and Lakeside Road area Drainage Improvements utilizing 2LMN Inc., engineers for design and the County Engineer to assist with submission to the OPWC. Second by Horn. Motion passed with two (2) yes votes.

Motion to adjourn at 1:50pm, by Yates second by Horn, motion passed with two (2) yes votes. 1:50 pm.

Recorded by Terry Horn - Trustee

William Yates

Terry Horn

Doug Leith, Chairman