

**MINUTES OF THE:  
WALNUT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SPECIAL MEETING  
August 25, 2022 – 7:00 PM**

**Township Officials present:**

Trustees Terry W. Horn, William R. Yates and Douglas G. Leith

Fiscal Officer, Pam Shaloo absent

**Department Heads present:**

Roads & Parks Supervisor – Nate Wagner

**Invited Guests:**

Dave Levacy – Fairfield County Commissioner

Jeff Fix – Fairfield County Commissioner

Jeremiah Upp – Fairfield County Engineer

Jonathan Ferbrache – Fairfield Soil and Water Conservation District

Jon Kochis – Fairfield County EMA Director

Kari Mackenbach, Anil Tangirala, Ryan Pickett – ms Consultants

Doug Turney - EMH&T

**Number of members of the public present: 23**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Trustee Chairman Yates and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

**MEETING PROCEEDINGS**

**Advertised Purpose of Meeting:**

The purpose of this meeting was for the North Walnut Township Stormwater Conveyance Study. Public Review and Input Meeting. Refer to public handout Exhibit A.

**Discussion:**

Trustee Horn introduced the invited guests and Kari Mackenbach with ms Consultants who introduced her team and EMH&T. Kari and her team shared a Power Point presentation, see Exhibit B.

Members of the public and invited guests asked questions and made comments:

Commissioner Levacy noted that ms is currently working with Licking County and the flooding of the South Fork of the Licking River (SFLR). The SFLR does back up during flooding and events and contributes to the flooding in north Walnut Township.

Kari noted that this study is looking at localized nuisance flooding in north Walnut Township for 1, 2 and up to 25 flood events. Most communities can only design up to 10 years level of service and that is due to the cost of design and construction. The design team is currently working on a design up to 25 years level of service for possible solutions. ms is also looking at areas of the SFLR (with Licking County) to reduce flooding that will also help Walnut Township.

A resident asked about the Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities (BRIC) grant administered by FEMA and being applied for by Licking County with the help of ms Consultants. They are looking at the SFLR flooding and especially the flooding of Interstate Route I-70.

Dan Blatter, Director of the South Licking Watershed Conservancy District noted that they have a contract with EMH&T to perform studies of the SFLR with EMH&T who also has a sub-contract with ms Consultants to try and determine what options they have to make a beneficial plan to correct some of the problems we have with the SFLR.

Jonathan Ferbrache noted several items:

This study was scoped to bring as much detail and verification of the existing conditions as possible by utilizing aerial mapping and on the ground surveying.

This work is not designed or is it intended that it will take this area out of the 100-year flood plain.

The work of the eastern portion of the project along S.R. 360 where there are very few Township roads, the Township will be limited in working in the area. This study will provide a master plan solution where drainage infrastructure improvements that allows ODOT to make improvements if they choose to do so. The community could also choose to petition with the County Commissioners to build improvements utilizing this master plan.

This study also identifies the highs and lows of No Name Creek that if dredged and maintained can improve a base level of drainage until a longer-term solution can be built. No Name Creek is outside of Walnut Township (within the Buckeye Lake Village Corp limits).

The flood areas depicted on the maps in the Power Point presentation are areas that the project is targeting for drainage solutions. There is no guarantee that every piece will be remedied because there will be limitations on how much gravity is available. The goal of the project is to achieve the greatest potential for drainage solutions for the largest number of people in the area. And how those fits into a funding opportunity, whether it is a FEMA grant; a County Petition; a local road improvement project with the Trustees; or an ODOT project; or collaborative project with the Village of Buckeye Lake.

Once the concept designs are available the project team will make them available to ODOT and ODNR for review with those entities.

There have been several historic pieces of historic information that could be identified such as the Fairfield County sewer that Licking County maintains and has been provide to the ms Consultants team.

Willis Engineering (surveyors) Mann Ariel Mapping, EMH&T, ms Consultants, Walnut Township, Jonathan F., Bob Slater, Ed Parish and Rusty Mock have all provided present and past input into trying to put all of the historic pieces together to understand where existing infrastructure is located. The goal is to document all existing storm sewer pipe and structures whether it is on public or private property.

At the beginning of the initial field work this spring ODOT came out with Eric McCrady of the County Engineer's Office in observance and removed debris from catch basins along S.R. 360 to try and determine pipe sizes and inverts. Due to the water level in those pipes at the time it was not possible to obtain any beneficial information.

It is hoped that the survey team will be able to go out one last time to observe S.R. 360 catch basins and any other items the public would bring forth during the review of the maps after the presentation.

The public was invited to mark the location of any storm sewer piping structures that they knew of on the hard copy maps that were available after the presentation so that the project team could go back in the field and document their location.

ms comments: The current design is predicated and assumes the SFLR flow and water surface are appropriate to the rainfall event being applied to the North Walnut area. The SFLR is not at a 100-year flood stage but for a 5-year rainfall event in the North Walnut area the river has a 5-year SFLR flow; and for 25-year rainfall the river has a 10-year flow. The design will be based on the worst-case scenario as the initial design premise. The Hydraulics and Hydrology (H&H) analysis has been run to show the SFLR in an appropriate flood stage condition and in a normal river flow or sunny day condition.

4283 North Bank Rd. resident, Terry Hanna noted that he has previously observed the 24" clay tile between S.R. 360 and the Buckeye Lake Dam.

Trustee Horn stated that there will be a final public meeting sometime in late December or possibly early January to share with the residents a completed plan with possible alternatives of construction solutions.

**Adjournment:** At 8:05 PM, Trustee Horn made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Yates seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes. The public was then invited to review color maps and diagrams of the three (3) project areas. 1) Lakeside, 2) Hollywood by the Lake/Sellers Dr. and 3) North Bank Rd. (SR360).

Minutes Recorded By: Trustee Terry W. Horn

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Pam Shaloo, Fiscal Officer

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William R. Yates, Chairman

Douglas G. Leith, Vice Chairman

Terry W. Horn