



CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE

**Engineering Department
Scott Wangler, P.E., City Engineer**

DRAINAGE AND FLOOD CONTROL BOARD

Minutes for Tuesday, October 27, 2015 Meeting

Meeting called to order by City Engineer Scott Wangler at 7:00 p.m.

In attendance were:

Ed Dunham	Safety Service Director Jeff Armbruster	
Dennis Boose	Mario Cipriano	Bob Olesen
William Gardner	Jack Flick	Bernadine Butkowski
City Engineer Scott Wangler	Service Dept. Superintendent Al Swindig	
Assistant City Engineer Cathy Becker		
Resident Rick Szalkowski		

Old Business

A. Minutes for April 28, 2015 Meeting

City Engineer Scott Wangler asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the April 28, 2015 meeting. Board Member Dennis Boose made a motion to approve the minutes. Board Member Bob Olesen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. Minutes for July 28, 2015 Meeting

City Engineer Scott Wangler asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the July 28, 2015 meeting. Board Member Jack Flick made a motion to approve the minutes. Board Member Dennis Boose seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

New Business

A. City Engineer Scott Wangler discussed New Business Agenda Item A—Dixon Ditch Weir Modifications Construction.

City Engineer Scott Wangler displayed photographs of the weir before construction. He then displayed the photographs taken after construction of the weir modifications was complete. The construction included raising the weir height and reducing the opening size by approximately half. He said structural steel was used to construct the modifications instead of concrete since there would be too many difficulties and expense in getting concrete trucks to the site. The steel plates are $\frac{3}{4}$ inch thick. The construction cost was approximately

\$20,000. The modifications were engineered to prevent water backup on the south side of the weir. The modifications will result in a six-inch reduction of the flood water surface elevation in the Gina/Pitts area.

Board Member Bob Olesen said that this would eliminate flooding in a lot of the homes.

Board Member Dennis Boose asked if the construction cost included engineering fees, and City Engineer Scott Wangler said it did not. Engineering fees were approximately \$5,000.

Board Member Bernadine Butkowski asked if this was the pond behind Bainbridge Road, and City Engineer Scott Wangler said it was.

Board Member Bob Olesen asked what the direction of water flow was in the photographs. City Engineer Scott Wangler said that the photos were taken with the turnpike in the background.

Board Member Mario Cipriano asked if the trees shown in the photograph behind the weir needed to be removed, and City Engineer Scott Wangler said they did not need to be removed for purposes of the functioning of the weir. Service Department Superintendent Al Swindig said that they would be removing the trees in the near future so that they did not eventually obstruct the weir opening.

Safety Service Director Jeff Armbruster asked if anyone wanted copies of the photos, and Board Members Bernadine Butkowski and William Gardner said that they did. City Engineer Scott Wangler said that he would send them the photos.

B. City Engineer Scott Wangler discussed New Business Agenda Item B—Ohio Turnpike Mitigation Grant

City Engineer Scott Wangler stated that this is an annual grant offered by the Ohio Turnpike to communities that were negatively impacted by the turnpike. He said that he believed North Ridgeville should apply for a grant to reduce the negative impacts of the increased storm water runoff from the third lane widening of the turnpike. He said the city applied for Phase 2B of the Bramhall flood study recommendations. Phase 2B includes redirecting the flow of the 72-inch diameter culvert under the turnpike away from the Davis Drive ditch and to the West Point basin.

Board Member Mario Cipriano asked if the grant of \$350,000 covered all the costs, and City Engineer Scott Wangler said that there would also be a city share.

Safety Service Director Jeff Armbruster asked if this was the Davis Ditch, and it was agreed that it was.

Board Member Bernadine Butkowski asked where this pipe was located, and City Engineer Scott Wangler said that it was near the intersection of David Drive and Davis Drive.

Board Member Ed Dunham asked if the capacity of the West Point basin was acceptable for the additional flow, and City Engineer Scott Wangler said it was.

Safety Service Director Jeff Armbruster said that construction will take place on state property, and no additional right of way is required.

Board Member Mario Cipriano asked when construction would occur. City Engineer Scott Wangler said that the federally-required studies will take time and construction is scheduled for 2017.

City Engineer Scott Wangler said that construction of Phase 2B will result in a nine-inch reduction of the flood water surface elevation in the Gina/Pitts area.

Board Member Dennis Boose asked where the backed up storm water would go, and City Engineer Scott Wangler said it would be directed to West Point basin. He said that the flow to the Davis Drive ditch would be reduced to flow through a 24-inch diameter storm sewer, and the remainder of the flow would be directed to West Point basin.

Safety Service Director Jeff Armbruster said that 4,000 cubic yards of dirt were removed from West Point basin by a developer last year.

Board Member Bob Olesen asked if West Point basin is the former Ziegan's pond, and there was a general discussion that it was not.

C. Items from Committee Members:

Ditch Cleaning: Service Department Superintendent Al Swindig summarized the department's ditch cleaning activities for the past four years. He handed out color-coded GIS maps showing the ditches that have been cleaned. He also explained how the department tracks the work on ditches. He handed out the department job tracking sheet. He said that hours of time spent cleaning ditches along with ditch names and linear feet cleaned are recorded for each ward. They are now working on a system to track the cost for the time spent cleaning ditches.

Safety Service Director Jeff Armbruster explained that there are different types of ditch cleaning—rocks, trees, embankments, etc. He said that they must clear out these major obstructions before doing the ditch cleaning, and this takes time. Board Member Mario Cipriano asked if they were tracking the time to clear trees as a subcategory, and it was explained that they were not at this time. Service Department Superintendent Al Swindig said that they have had to spend a lot of time removing dead ash trees. Safety Service Director Jeff Armbruster said that the trackhoe is not large enough to lift and remove large dead trees, and Service Department Superintendent Al Swindig said that they were checking into buying a brush hog attachment that would remove brush and small trees. Board Member Dennis Boose said that the public does not understand the time involved in removing trees and other obstructions from ditches prior to cleaning them. Board Member Bernadine Butkowski said that it should be explained to the public how many trees are removed prior to the actual ditch cleaning.

Board Member Dennis Boose asked if there was a schedule for ditch cleaning and how are the ditches prioritized. Service Department Superintendent Al Swindig said that the main ditches are kept clear, blockages are removed, and other ditches are cleaned as needed. Board Member Mario Cipriano asked if there was a carousel approach to scheduling the ditch cleaning. He asked if ditches causing flooding were cleaned first. He also asked if some ditches don't need regular cleaning. Service Department Superintendent Al Swindig responded that Mills Creek and French Creek are cleaned at least two or three times a year due to frequent blockages, so they are a high priority. City Engineer Scott Wangler said that there are many variables involved in scheduling ditch cleaning. Board Member Mario Cipriano said that main tributaries are cleaned first, and the ditch cleaning scheduling is not a simple task and needs to be explained to the public somehow. Board Member Bob Olesen said that residents call the Service Department to notify them when trees are down and blocking ditches.

Safety Service Director Jeff Armbruster said that after heavy rains the city staff is out taking photos of ditches to check the impacts of the ditch cleaning. He said that the city staff takes residents out to show them the ditch cleaning work that has been done when they complain about ditches not being cleaned.

Board Member Ed Dunham said that the Service Department needs another ditch cleaning crew. He also asked if the Army Corps of Engineers could help clean ditches. Service Department Superintendent Al Swindig said that the Army Reserve was out years ago to help clean French Creek and they hit a gas line and almost caused an explosion. Board Member Mario Cipriano summarized that the Army Corps of Engineers is really interested in large bodies of water such as Lake Erie rather than the City of North Ridgeville ditches.

City Engineer Scott Wangler stated that the next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, January 26, 2016 in the Conference Room.

City Engineer Scott Wangler adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Scott Wangler, P.E.
City Engineer

APPROVED: _____