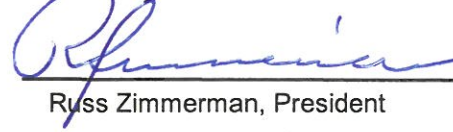


<b>Sandusky County Commissioners – 622 Croghan Street, Fremont, OH 43420</b>			<b>2024 MEETING</b>	
Meeting: Board Of Commissioners	Location: Commissioners' Board Room	Date: 6/20/2024	Time: 8:00AM – 10:02AM	
Present: Commissioners: Russ Zimmerman – President; Scott Miller– Vice President; Charles Schwochow				
Present: Theresa Garcia – County Administrator				
Others Present: Bob Kurtz, Mike Szabo, Scott Kieffer, Jerri Miller				
(*action items)				
<b>AGENDA ITEMS</b>	<b>BRIEF DESCRIPTIONS / ACTION STEPS:</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE:</b>	<b>DOLLAR AMOUNT:</b>	<b>MOTION / VOTE</b>
<b>Call to Order Pledge of Allegiance (8:00am)</b>		Russ Zimmerman, President		
<b>*Review &amp; Approval of Commissioner Meeting Minutes, incoming Mail Review &amp; External Meeting Notices</b>	The 6/18/2024 minutes were reviewed/approved by the Board. The Board reviewed incoming mail and external meeting notices.	Russ Zimmerman Scott Miller Charles Schwochow		*Motion: Move to Approve minutes Moved by: Scott Miller 2nd: Charles Schwochow Yes – 3
<b>Review of External board / Meetings Attended by Commissioners</b>	The Commissioners attended the first hearing for the Wolf Creek Joint Ditch. The Ottawa County Commissioners also attended. The hearing went well. There seemed to only be one person who thought there were 13 people for the petition and 400 against. His issue was mainly financial. Those for the project all made good points for the Commissioners to move forward with the project. Commissioners thought the final hearing may have more people attending with more concerns. Although this second petition will be more affordable and is moving quicker than the first petition. (see attached minutes) There were a couple of individuals that talked about the check issues from the ditch.	Russ Zimmerman Scott Miller Charles Schwochow		

<b>Commissioners and Administrator Discussion</b>	Commissioner Zimmerman had a discussion with individuals about the re-routing of the bike path on the west side. He was told the change of the path is going to block their entrance to their field. Commissioner Zimmerman called Andy Brown, Park District Director, to talk to them. They also said they have been working on their property and they have not been asked to work on their property. The understanding is the Turnpike purchased a portion of the property most likely under eminent domain. They have received a check but feel like they should have been notified of the plans and what was going on.			
	Commissioner Miller had an email from a citizen about a home on Celek Drive that has some maintenance issues. He believes it belongs to Board of DD. Commissioners Zimmerman is going to reach out to the Superintendent to ask if she knows anything about the house.			
<b>* Then /Now Documents</b>	One certificate was presented by the Commissioner's Office. A Po was not established do to waiting for the grant approval. We will get reimbursed. One invoice makes up this certificate. MS Consultants - \$ 10,456.80	Commissioners	\$10,456.80	*Motion: Move to Approve certificates Moved by: Charles Schwochow 2nd: Scott Miller Yes – 3
<b>* Personnel</b>	None			
<b>* Travel Requests</b>	None			
<b>Building Code</b>	<b>Bob Kurtz – Building Code.</b> Bob came in for his quarterly meeting with the Commissioners. Everything is going good. They are very busy. The Commissioners asked about the project at the fairgrounds and if they are getting what they need for the goat barn. He still has not seen any requests for the Industrial Park. Ashley is on vacation next week so Mel is going to cover where needed. Phones and emails will be forwarded. Bob is going to work on putting an advisory committee meeting together just to give an update and answer questions. Commissioners asked if they have had any complaints about how long it is taking for permits or inspections. He	Bob Kurtz – Chief Inspector		

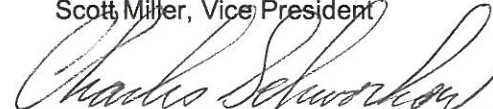
	has not heard anything. They try to get everything responded to in ten days. The biggest hold ups is getting revisions back from the contractor if they are given changes.			
<b>Regional Planning</b>	<b>Mike Szabo – Regional Planning.</b> Mike came in for a regular meeting with the Commissioners. Everything is running smoothly. Mike attended a conference Tuesday in Lima for flood plain manager. Commissioner Zimmerman let Mike know they talked to Steve Shiets about some issues Mike was having and Steve is going to set up a meeting to help walk through the project. Scott Kieffer came in with Mike and he talked about the septic systems in the area and thought they had straight pipes going to the river. Mike has talked to one of the ladies from the meeting to get septic systems filed with the Records office. Mike says he has received some of the Township maps for the web page but at least one was from 2014 so they are not sure if it is truly updated. He is working on an updated regional planning web page, it is still in draft. It is going to have maps, forms, splits, flood plains and more information that will make it easier for individuals to do research.	Mike Szabo – Administrator		
<b>* Resolutions</b>	2024 - 191 APPROVING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO TREASURERS CONTRACT SERVICES (\$14,000.00) FOR NEW PRINTING AND MAILING CONTRACT	Treasurer	\$14,000.00	*Motion: Move to Approve resolution Moved by: Charles Schwochow 2nd: Scott Miller Yes – 3
<b>Public Open Session</b>	Citizens Attendees – none Media Attendees – none Elected Officials – Jerri Miller, Auditor			
<b>* Adjournment (10:02am)</b>	With business completed for the day the meeting was adjourned.			* Motion: Move to adjourn Moved by: Scott Miller 2nd: Russ Zimmerman Yes - 3

Signature of:

  
Russ Zimmerman, President



Scott Miller, Vice President

  
Charles Schwochow

**Board of County Commissioners, Sandusky County Ohio**

Attest:   
Clerk to the Board / County Administrator

I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Board of Commissioners,  
Sandusky County, Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing  
is a true and correct copy from the official record of said  
Board of County Commissioners as recorded in its Journal.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk, Board of County Commissioners, Sandusky County, Ohio

## FIRST HEARING

VIEW JOINT COUNTY DITCH – WOLF CREEK DITCH #232

PETITIONED BY DEBORAH L. JOHLIN-BACH AND OTHERS

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**June 18, 2024 @ 1:00 P.M.**  
AT THE NEELY CENTER, FREMONT, OHIO

Sandusky/Ottawa County Commissioners: Commissioner Zimmerman, Commissioner Miller Commissioner Schwochow, Commissioner Stahl, Commissioner Coppeler and Commissioner Douglas

Sandusky County Engineer: Carlos Baez, Engineer; and Jenna Sommers, Drainage Technician.

Others: See attached sheet.

Commissioner Zimmerman opened the First Hearing by welcoming everyone present. He introduced himself and had the rest of the panel introduce themselves and then turned the meeting over to Carlos Baez. Carlos welcomed all to the Neely Center and explained they will be giving a preliminary presentation on the project. After the report is presented there will be time for questions and comments.

Carlos turned the hearing over to Drainage Technician Jenna Sommers. Jenna went through the petition process for those attending. She also explained Wolf Creek is approximately thirteen miles and has approximately 1300 parcels in the water shed with parcels in Sandusky County and Ottawa County. Jenna reviewed the plan and cost of the ditch project.

A map was presented showing the distance of the ditch. It showed the high areas and low areas of parcels that contribute to the water shed. This explained how the water shed is determined and where the water comes from. The elevation along the ditch was reviewed. The law states that anyone who contributes to the water shed shares in paying for the project. The petition lists the starting area of the ditch being petitioned and the end. Several slides with photos along the path were presented. The assessment criteria was then explained.

The Preliminary Report was presented by the County Engineer Carlos Baez. The preliminary report explains the scope of work recommendation by the Engineers office. An estimate of costs for the recommend work was reviewed to those present. Carlos asked Ottawa County Engineer for comments on the project.

Carlos opened up the floor for question and concerns and discussion.

Q: What is meant by permanent maintenance?

A: This means that once the ditch is cleaned it is put on maintenance where the ditch will be maintained and kept open for the life of the ditch. The law states you can only collect a certain percentage for maintenance after the original assessment.

Q: The quarries in the area dumped lime stone in the ditches, can they be assessed for what they put in the ditches?

A: They have been gone for 40 years and the Commissioners cannot go back on them.

Q: Can the petition go further into Gibsonburg?

A: Only if someone brings it up today requesting to be added or they would start a new petition.

Deborah Bach made a comment about Wolf Creek and how it has deteriorated. Over the years it gets worst. As homeowners they cannot force all the land owners to take care of their areas. The only way you can do this is to petition the ditch and ask the Commissioners to clean and maintain the ditch. She talked about the affect this has on farming. She noted you cannot live as individual parcel owners you have to work together.

Jake Younker commented he felt it was important to clean up the ditch. It has been put off for 150 years.

There was a comment about some maintenance being done where trees are being cut down and dropped in the ditch. This is causing the ditch to plug and it makes no sense. Ottawa County Engineer agreed and will make sure branches are removed.

A question regarding property that is being assessed higher than a neighbor that has more property and has catch basins that were placed that don't catch the water. He would like to have someone come out and walk the property and explain the process to him.

Approval or Denial of Petition - The Board must give consideration:

1. That an improvement is necessary.
2. That the proposed improvement will be conducive to the public welfare.
3. That the cost of the proposed improvement, with reasonable certainty, will be less than the benefits.

Commissioner Zimmerman asked for a Motion to approve or deny the petition.

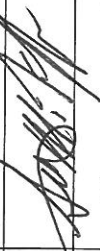

Commissioner Douglas made a motion to approve the project

Any property owner who is affected by the decision may appeal to the Court of Common Pleas within 30 days after the first hearing.

The Engineer is responsible for filing plans, engineering and cost estimates. All the information presented at the hearing are available on the County Engineers web page.

Commissioner Miller moved to adjourn from the ditch hearing. Commissioner Coppeler seconded the motion. Motion carried.

6/20/2024

Name	Signature	Contact Information
Scott Kreffter		Auditor's GIS
Mike Szabo		Auditor Regional Planning