

Drainage and Sewer Control Committee
September 2, 2009, 7:00PM, Macedonia City Center
Regular Meeting

- I. The meeting was called to order at 7:09PM.

- II. **Attendees are as follows:**
 - Members:** Amanda Coon, Jean Gagné, Tom Loya, Cathy Loya, Julia Henderson, Dennis Mulac, and Rosemary Filisky
 - City Representatives:** Kelly Luecke (GPD/City Engineer) and Jim Crevar (Service Dir.)
 - Others in Attendance:** Dave White, P.E. (Summit Co. Engineer's Office)

- III. Minutes of the May 6, 2009 meeting were unanimously approved.

- IV. **Q & A for Residents:** None in attendance

- V. **New Business**
 - A. **Meeting with Mayor and NEORS:** See Rosemary's notes, to be delivered via email, as she attended this meeting. Additional notes from the meeting discussion: There are questions remaining about the Homestead Rate, how you would qualify for this. It still seems like a win/win for Cuyahoga County. The small amount of funds coming back to the city must be used for storm water, but it is not required to have "regional" impact. Another question is how long it will take for them to clear blockages and perform other maintenance services after a storm event.
 - B. **Dave White, Summit County Engineer's Office:** Russ Pry's legal office has already put NEORS on notice that they cannot come into the county without a legal agreement. If they do, legal action will be taken. Summit County cannot take action yet because no action has been taken by NEORS. Only two watersheds in the county fall within NEORS's district lines. The County Engineer's office has had storm water responsibilities in the county since 2002 or 2003. The original NEORS district was created for Cuyahoga County to force communities to work together. It wasn't until later that DOES joined into NEORS with an agreement. Members of the committee received a draft copy of the Rain Water Management in Summit County report dated August 2009. This is based on a 1998 report that determined it would be more beneficial to take a watershed based approach. It also noted that it was more practical to detain the water at the highest points rather than pushing it downstream faster. There are 5 major communities in the Brandywine Creek Watershed: Macedonia, Northfield Center, Hudson, Twinsburg Township, and Boston Heights. There is already a Brandywine Creek Watershed Group in existence; it was formed by the Cuyahoga River Remedial Action Plan group. The general thought is that the fund should be distributed by a watershed group with technical input and support. NEORS is not watershed based, and they do not currently have technical expertise, but they are moving in that direction. NEORS is looking at a storm water conveyance system, not individual watershed areas. There are unique conditions within the Brandywine Creek Watershed. The high ground of the watershed is relatively flat, with a drop in the middle, then a low flat area at the bottom. Summit County is looking at using a watershed group, such as the Brandywine Creek Watershed Group, which would have authority to make decisions regarding the watershed. The group would be recognized by councils and receive

technical support from the county engineer's office, NEORS, and engineers from the member communities. Dave believes that the fact that NEORS keeps making changes is a good thing, and it means they are beginning to understand the issues. The addition of Kyle Dreyfuss-Wells is also a step in the right direction, as she has a good understanding of watershed issues. We could create an agreement between the county engineer and NEORS. We are not sure what the next step will be at this point, the county is working to build support of a county storm water plan. There is a meeting at the county level on September 15, 2009 with the legal, technical, and executive teams meeting together. Amanda will collect questions regarding meeting discussion and the Summit County Rain Water Management Plan Draft and provide a combined list to Dave White by September 16, 2009.

VI. Old Business

- A. Funding:** Storm water funds were removed from the budget by council due to the current economic conditions of the city.
- B. Stimulus Funds:** Kelly noted that she applied for federal stimulus funds in February for the two storm water projects the city was planning on moving forward with. We never heard back, so the assumption is that we will not receive funds.
- C. S. Freeway Drive Drainage:** Jim will check again where the drainage from S. Freeway Drive discharges. He had asked but received no response.
- D. School Projects:** The district submitted their first detailed design in June. There were many storm water issues. The second submittal was mid-August; most issues were resolved at that time. The SWMP (storm water management plan) was 500 pages. They are trying to keep the pace moving quickly; they want to start grading on the NW side of the creek. This is where the old practice football field is.

VII. Discussion

- A. Future Meetings and Direction of DSCC:** As there is no clear direction in where NEORS or the county is leading for storm water, the DSCC will continue regular meetings.

VIII. Calendar

October 7, 2009, 7:00PM: Next regular meeting at Macedonia City Center

IX. The meeting was adjourned at 9:13PM.