

St. Clairsville, Ohio

September 24, 2009

The Board of Commissioners of Belmont County, Ohio, met this day in SPECIAL SESSION. Present: Charles R. Probst, Jr., Matt Coffland and Ginny Favede, Commissioners and Jayne Long, Clerk of the Board.

MEETINGS ARE NOW BEING RECORDED
ALL DISCUSSIONS ARE SUMMARIZED. FOR COMPLETE PROCEEDINGS
PLEASE SEE CORRESPONDING CD FOR THIS MEETING DAY.

Present for the meeting were the following:

Mark Esposito, Director, Belmont Co. Sanitary Sewer District
Kelly Porter, Belmont Co. Sanitary Sewer District Project Manager
Fred Bennett, Belmont County Engineer
John Rauch, Rural Community Assistance Program (RCAP)
Amy Rauch, Ohio Rural Water Association
Robert Sterling, Harrison Co. Engineer
Barbara Pincola, Harrison Co. Commissioner
Mike Vinka, Harrison Co. Commissioner
William Host, Harrison Co. Commissioner
Steve C. Allen, Guernsey Co. Commissioner
Steve Douglass, Guernsey Co. Commissioner
Del George, Guernsey Co. Engineer
Michael C. Bianconi, Pease Township Trustee
Clarence Ridgley, Guernsey Co. Water
Robert L. Ford, Guernsey Co. Northeast Waterline Committee
David W. Totterdale, Jr., Kirkwood Township resident
Eric Ayres; Times Leader News Editor

Agenda

BELMONT-HARRISON-GUERNSEY REGIONAL WATERLINE PROJECT MEETING
September 24, 2009

- A. Purpose: Getting Back on Track
- B. Expected Outcome: To develop a backup water source in the Piedmont Lake area for Belmont, Harrison and Guernsey Counties.
- C. Goal: To create an interconnected water source between all three counties for backup water source needs.
- D. Discussion:
 - 1) Welcome/Introductions: Belmont County Commissioners
Chuck Probst, Ginny Favede, Matt Coffland
 - 2) Speakers: Mark Esposito, Director, Belmont County Sanitary Sewer District
John Rauch – RCAP (Rural Community Assistance Program)
 - 3) Roundtable Discussion:
 - 4) Funding for Feasibility Study:
 - 5) Application Process:
 - 6) Follow up Meeting:

Meeting was called to order by Commissioner Ginny Favede. Commissioner Favede said the purpose of this meeting is to get back on track. She noted that the previous application for funding submitted last year for a feasibility study for the project was unsuccessful.

Mark Esposito, Director, Belmont County Sanitary Sewer District stated the project has a better chance of receiving funding if all three counties work together. He said it will be a time consuming process and needs to start with a feasibility study. He noted the purpose of the project is to create an emergency backup water source for each county.

John Rauch, state coordinator for the Rural Community Assistance Program (RCAP), complimented the three counties for working together on this project and noted there is nothing like this going on in the state at this time. He reviewed the following goals:

- 1) Emergency service to one another in case of catastrophe
- 2) Provide water to areas not currently serviced

A map of the affected areas was reviewed and the need for water CAD software for digital mapping of the area was discussed. The software costs between \$2500 and \$3000.00. RCAP may be able to assist with funding for the software.

Mr. Rauch said he feels the project should be attractive to government agencies and that RCAP will assist the counties in seeking funding for a feasibility study for this project. The feasibility study will cost approximately \$25,000 to \$30,000. Mr. Rauch said there will be no fee for RCAP's assistance and they can conduct the necessary public hearings.

Mr. Rauch reviewed the goals of the feasibility study:

- Backup water protection
- Making master plans fit
- Getting constituents served

Mr. Rauch suggested that each county needs to have at least 2 committees, 1 for pumps and pipes and 1 for agreement management. Counties will need mutual intergovernmental agreements for serving areas that cross each county's lines.

Mr. Esposito said the main goal is to provide emergency backup water sources. Each county will have to do their own survey on what areas are most populated and prioritize their needs. He said Belmont County has been looking at the Hendrysburg area for years and preparing to serve that area. Mr. Esposito said looking at the Piedmont Lake area as another water source is an important part of the study.

Steve Allen, Guernsey County Commissioner, said Guernsey County did a study in 2001 and took a road trip to Washington D.C. to meet with legislators on their plan. They were successful in getting several million dollars to advance their plan as a result. He said he felt it is important to have a comprehensive plan compiled that prioritizes each county's needs before presenting the plan for funding. He also suggested the consultant could acquire the Water CAD and take each county's maps and do a digital map of the project.

Mark Esposito discussed the option of metering points and a charge back system. Mr. Rauch said he thinks RCAP could provide a blended rate that would service all parties well.

Use of the Piedmont area as the backup source was discussed. Mr. Rauch said the consulting engineer should make the recommendation for the water source. Pros and cons of groundwater versus surface water were discussed.

Commissioner Favede said Belmont County will take the lead on applying for funding for the feasibility study. She said the next meeting will be after the funding is received.

Mr. Rauch outlined the next steps:

Belmont County will apply for funding

Counties will need to form subcommittees-scope offs to determine what is needed from feasibility study-what you want consultant to study, what areas.

Mark Esposito emphasized the original point is to focus on a study getting accomplished and identifying where the emergency connection needs to be, what areas in each county need served.

All agreed that Belmont County will serve as the clearing house for information on the project through Mr. Esposito. Rob Sterling, Harrison County Engineer and Del George, Guernsey County Engineer will be the leads for their respective counties.

Mr. Rauch noted the submission date of late October for funding for the feasibility study and it was agreed to shoot for that date.

BREAK-several members of the group left at this time due to prior engagements.

RECONVENED-Commissioner Probst absent.

Motion made by Mrs. Favede, seconded by Mr. Coffland to adjourn.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

- Mrs. Favede Yes
- Mr. Coffland Yes
- Mr. Probst Absent

Read, approved and signed this _____ day of September, 2009.

 _____ COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

We, Charles R. Probst, Jr., and Jayne Long, President and Clerk respectively of the Board of Commissioners of Belmont County, Ohio, do hereby certify the foregoing minutes of the proceedings of said Board have been read, approved and signed as provided for by Sec. 305.11 of the Revised Code of Ohio.

_____ PRESIDENT
 _____ CLERK