

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF GENERAL SESSION

February 9, 2021

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners convened the General Session meeting via Zoom conferencing, at 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, February 9, 2021.

Present were: President Kevin L. Boyce
Marilyn Brown, Commissioner
John O'Grady, Commissioner

Also present were Jeanine Hummer, First Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Prosecuting Attorney's Office; Kenneth N. Wilson, County Administrator; Zachary Talarek, Director, Office of Management & Budget; and, Dean M. Hindenlang, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners, amongst others.

Participants were able to access General Session (via Zoom conferencing) by dialing (929) 436-2866, Meeting ID: 530 479 003; or by joining at: <https://franklincountyohio.zoom.us/j/530479003>

President Boyce called the meeting to order at 9:01 A.M.

President Boyce: As you all know, this is Black History Month. Last week we had a great visit from our local librarian and this week we've got a visit from someone we all know, and is true and dear to our heart, Demetries Neely. Director Neely is here to offer an overview of what's going on at The King Arts Complex. Understandably, the arts community has faced some of its most challenging times this year. We appreciate you being here to remind us that while adversity was a common thread to 2020, The King Arts Complex responded to COVID with opportunities for residents to engage and remain safe. Welcome and thank you for joining us.

Demetries Neely, Executive Director, The King Arts Complex: Good morning. As always, it's my pleasure to be here and thank you again for inviting me to speak. I value the opportunity to speak to the commissioners and thank you for always supporting The King Arts Complex. So, the Martin Luther King Jr. Performing and Cultural Arts Complex, that's a mouthful, so we shortened it to call ourselves The King Arts Complex. It is never lost on us, that we sit here under the gates of Reverend Martin Luther King, one of the greatest statesmen of our time. So, who are we and what do we do? Well, our mission is, to connect community through the arts, and that means we're a lot like you in two important ways. It is important to us that we work to improve the lives of families and children, in Franklin County. I think another way we're like you, is that we change lives every day, and we do it in multiple ways. One way is that we tell the story of black life in Columbus. We preserve, we archive, and we curate these stories. One example of how we archive, preserve and curate these stories is the work we're doing with the Call & Post Newspaper. Some in the audience

may not be familiar with the Call & Post. I know all the commissioners are familiar with it, but that was a black newspaper in Columbus for decades. The editor-in-chief and publisher was, Mr. Amos Lynch, affectionately known in the black community as the 'godfather.' Amos told the stories of black life, again these stories weren't being told in other publications. It may be a church anniversary, an all-black high school team going to the playoffs, the grand opening of a restaurant or a cotillion, but these stories were important to the black community and he told them with pride. When Amos died, he left those newspapers and stories, most of them to The Kings Arts Complex. He knew we would preserve them, archive, and curate them. So, today we're working with the Columbus Metropolitan Library to curate all those stories. There are people who come to The King Arts Complex for a variety of events and they'll see those newspapers, they'll say, that's my uncle, or I'll remember when my grandfather told me that story, so it's important that we preserve that history.

Ms. Neely (cont.): We are better known for being presenters, performers and producers of the arts. One way we're doing that today is, every day on our website in the month of February, you can go and visit kingartscomplex.com, and they'll be a fact about black history out there. So, we're edifying people about black history every day, and we're doing that every day during the month of February. What I'm probably most excited about in Black History Month that we do every year, is that we honor the name, the life and the legacy of Aminah Robinson. When Aminah passed in 2015, she was seventy-five years old, and she would be eighty-one this year. She is beloved by this community and we loved, still love her and miss her to this day. Her first art studio was at The King Arts Complex, so it is important and imperative that we continue to honor her legacy. So, every year we celebrate her birthday, February 18. So, the Saturday following her birthday or the Saturday of her birthday, we have an all-arts event at The King Arts Complex. Aminah was about community and the arts. She wanted the community to be honored and she wanted artists to have a place to do art. So, we honor her by doing those two things. This year's event will be virtual, February 20, 2021, 12:00 P.M. to 1:00 P.M., log onto our website and I can send the link to the commissioners if anyone out there wants the link. Just a sneak peek at the next two Saturdays, it will be a tour of her home and you may know her home's been turned into an artist's residence. So, the artist who is in residence will give us a small tour and talk about the work he's doing. It's an immersive day, but one other thing that's going to happen that day is the art. If you've been to The King Arts Complex, you know we have these large pieces of Aminah's art, and our resident artists will do a theatrical performance of her work. So, it's the art coming alive. So, that's one example of how we produce, perform and present art. We're history makers, people think history is something that happened a long time ago, but people are making history every day. One thing I'm proud of that we have at The King Arts Complex, is something for our young people, especially teenagers and I want to thank the county commissioners publicly because you funded this program. We have a program right now and again, our kids are at risk, but we have a team making a fun program. We're in the third year of kids making short films. These films are in their own voice, their lived experiences and they do everything from writing the script, to choosing the cinematography, to the costumes, the location, they run the camera, choose the lighting, and they do everything from nuts to bolts. A local filmmaker is hired to teach them the art of filmmaking. It's STEM, its literacy, its leadership development, it encourages team building, civic mindedness and self-efficacy, again proof positive.

Ms. Neely (cont.): The final thing I'll talk about is how we rose above the pandemic in 2020. We were a voter registration site, in fact, we registered over four hundred voters, we were a COVID-19 testing site, we provided PPP to the community, provided an outdoor space for artists to perform their art, and we partnered with CoGo bike sharing. The last way we rose above the pandemic, something that is near and dear to my heart, it's called the Heart of Protests. So, out of this tragedy of George Floyd's death, came an opportunity for the art to protest. So, we convened something called the Heart of Protest, and local arts organizations and some regional ones, and at least one out of state joined us. Over thirty arts organizations joined us to protest through the arts. So, out of tragedy, came an opportunity to hire artists and protest through the art and through that we hired over seventy individual artists. It started on Juneteenth. Our initial hope was it would go through Election Day, but it is ongoing, because we still have a lot to say. Thank you for your time.

Approval of the minutes of the January 26, and February 2, 2021, General Sessions; the February 4, 2021, Briefing Session; and, the February 1, and 3, 2021, Administrative Briefings. Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The minutes were unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0090-21, approving street, storm and water improvement plans for The Farms at Jefferson Phase 7, 8, & 9, Jefferson Township, Franklin County, Ohio (Engineer), presented by William "Fritz" Crosier, Chief Deputy of Engineering, Engineer's Office.

Mr. Crosier reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0090-21, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0091-21, authorizing a transfer of funds for the Stormwater Management Program (Drainage Engineer), presented by William "Fritz" Crosier, Chief Deputy of Engineering, Engineer's Office.

Mr. Crosier reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0091-21, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0092-21, authorizing General Fund support to the Franklin Soil & Water Conservation District for calendar year 2021 (Board of Commissioners), presented by William "Fritz" Crosier, Chief Deputy of Engineering, Engineer's Office.

Mr. Crosier reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Jennifer Fish, Director, Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District, addressed the Board in support of the proposed resolution.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0092-21, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

PUBLIC HEARING: Resolution regarding ordering the County Engineer to prepare plans, specifications, estimates, and assessments for the improvement of the Dever Ditch Watershed, Brown Township, Franklin County, Ohio.

President Boyce: I would like to open the Public Hearing. Would anyone like to speak regarding this Public Hearing? Seeing none, I will close the Public Hearing.

Resolution No. 0093-21, ordering the County Engineer to prepare plans, specifications, estimates, and assessments for the improvement of the Dever Ditch Watershed, Brown Township, Franklin County, Ohio (Board of Commissioners), presented by William "Fritz" Crosier, Chief Deputy of Engineering, Engineer's Office.

Mr. Crosier reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution. The Drainage Engineer had a presentation on this resolution to present, should the commissioners choose to view it during General Session.

The Clerk noted that he had the slides and would forward them to each of the respective offices, if they preferred that instead. All three commissioners indicated they would like for Clerk Hindenlang to forward the presentation materials to their office. The PowerPoint slide deck are included herein for reference and information.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0093-21, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0094-21, authorizing a grant contract extension between the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging and Franklin County Office on Aging for services under the National Family Caregiver Support Program (\$107,545.92) (Office on Aging), presented by Damika Withers, Assistant Director of Support Services, Office on Aging.

Ms. Withers reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0094-21, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0095-21, authorizing various Community Partnership Grant Agreements for calendar year 2021 (\$5,992,410.00) (Community Partnerships), presented by Dayna McCrary, Administrator, Community Partnerships.

Ms. McCrary reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0095-21, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0096-21, awarding a service agreement between the Board of Commissioners and the Community Shelter Board to develop and implement strategies that decrease homelessness in Franklin County (\$5,489,390.00) (Economic Development and Planning), presented by Mark Paxson, Community Development Administrator, Economic Development and Planning.

Mr. Paxson reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0096-21, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0097-21, entering into a Funding Agreement with the Affordable Housing Trust to create more affordable home ownership and rental housing and to strengthen neighborhoods within Franklin County (\$3,400,000.00) (Economic Development and Planning), presented by Mark Paxson, Community Development Administrator, Economic Development and Planning.

Mr. Paxson reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0097-21, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0098-21, authorizing an amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the State of Ohio Multi-Agency Regional Communications System (MARCS). (Emergency Management Agency), presented by Jeff Young, Director, Emergency Management Agency.

Mr. Young reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0098-21, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0099-21, authorizing a contract extension with Mighty Crow Media LLC for consultant services related to implementation of the FY 2018 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Medication Assisted Treatment – Prescription Drug and Opiate Addiction (MAT-PDOA) grant program (\$30,000.00) (Justice Policy and Programs), presented by Courtney Benner, Grants Specialist, Justice Policy and Programs.

Ms. Benner reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Commissioner O’Grady moved to approve Resolution 0099-21, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0100-21, authorizing the County Administrator to execute a contract agreement with DeBra-Kuempel, Inc., dba EMCOR Services Automated Controls to perform building controls activities associated with the construction of the Franklin County Corrections Center Continuation Phase 2A (\$1,017,620.00) (Public Facilities Management), presented by Darla Reardon, Director, Public Facilities Management.

Ms. Reardon reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Commissioner O’Grady moved to approve Resolution 0100-21, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0101-21, authorizing the County Administrator to execute a contract agreement with ESI, Inc. to perform electrical activities associated with the construction of the Franklin County Corrections Center Continuation Phase 2A (\$12,518,580.00) (Public Facilities Management), presented by Vivian Alexander, Chief Operating Officer, Public Facilities Management.

Ms. Alexander reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Commissioner O’Grady moved to approve Resolution 0101-21, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0102-21, authorizing the County Administrator to execute a contract agreement with Farber Corporation to perform plumbing activities associated with the construction of the Franklin County Corrections Center Continuation Phase 2A (\$4,982,000.00) (Public Facilities Management), presented by Vivian Alexander, Chief Operating Officer, Public Facilities Management.

Ms. Alexander reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0102-21, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0103-21, authorizing the County Administrator to execute a contract agreement with Farber Corporation to perform HVAC activities associated with the construction of the Franklin County Corrections Center Continuation Phase 2A (\$7,793,000.00) (Public Facilities Management), presented by Vivian Alexander, Chief Operating Officer, Public Facilities Management.

Ms. Alexander reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0103-21, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0104-21, authorizing the County Administrator to execute a contract agreement with Kastle Technologies Co., LLC, to perform communications activities associated with the construction of the Franklin County Corrections Center Continuation Phase 2A (\$1,616,000.00) (Public Facilities Management), presented by Darla Reardon, Director, Public Facilities Management.

Ms. Reardon reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0104-21, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0105-21, authorizing the County Administrator to execute a contract agreement with S.A. Comunale Co., Inc., to perform fire protection activities associated with the construction of the Franklin County Corrections Center Continuation Phase 2A (\$997,888.00) (Public Facilities Management), presented by Vivian Alexander, Chief Operating Officer, Public Facilities Management.

Ms. Alexander reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0105-21, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0106-21, authorizing recycling of information technology equipment declared obsolete by the Franklin County Automatic Data Processing Board (Public Facilities Management), presented by Darla Reardon, Director, Public Facilities Management.

Ms. Reardon reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0106-21, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Regarding Resolution No. 0107-21: Clerk Hindenlang noted that the agenda amount for the proposed resolution is incorrect. However, the published materials within the proposed resolution and the materials supporting the proposed resolution are correct. There is a \$2,850.00 difference between the agenda amount and the proposed resolution.

Clerk: Commissioners, I will read the correct amount into the record [\$21,738,796.07].

Resolution No. 0107-21, approving purchases for various Franklin County agencies (\$21,741,646.07 *[as published; incorrect amount]*) (Purchasing), presented by Megan Perry-Balonier, Director, Purchasing.

Ms. Perry-Balonier reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Please note: The published agenda incorrectly stated the amount of this proposed resolution. The correct amount of \$21,738,796.07 was read into the record and was correctly noted within the proposed resolution materials.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0107-21, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0108-21, authorizing a contract with Eastman & Smith, LTD., to serve as special counsel to the Commissioners regarding pending litigation as needed during 2021 (Board of Commissioners), presented by Kris Long, Deputy County Administrator, Board of Commissioners.

Ms. Long reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0108-21, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0109-21, reappointing Wayne Harer and Tom Fries to the Franklin County Parks and Recreation Board of Trustees (Board of Commissioners), presented by Erik Janas, Deputy County Administrator, Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Janas reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0109-21, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote, with President Boyce abstaining.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:54 A.M.

(Signature Page Follows)

These minutes are a general summary of the Commissioners' General Session meeting of February 9, 2021.



KEVIN L. BOYCE, PRESIDENT



MARILYN BROWN



**JOHN O'GRADY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

Submitted by:



Victoria A. Caldwell

Dever Ditch First Hearing

ORC 6131



Jim Ramsey, P.E.
Riparian and Environmental Engineer for
Cornell R. Robertson, P.E., P.S.
Franklin County Engineer
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- ▶ Petition Recap
- ▶ Overview of Preliminary Report
- ▶ Questions

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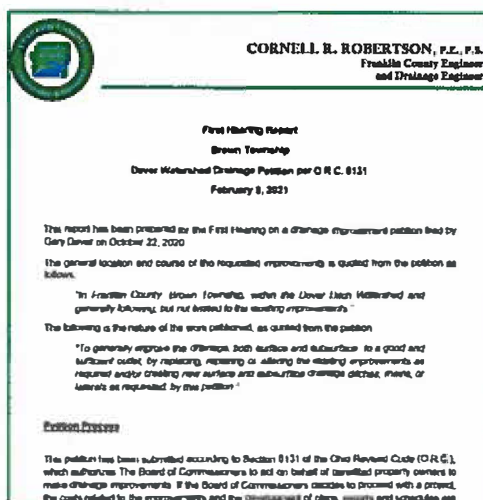
- ✓ **Petition filed**
 - October 22, 2020
- ✓ **View**
 - November 25, 2020
- ▶ **First Hearing**
 - February 9, 2021
- ▶ **Final Hearing**
 - TBD
- ▶ **Appeal Period**
- ▶ **Bidding**
- ▶ **Construction**
- ▶ **Levying of Assessments**
- ▶ **Ongoing Maintenance**



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Components of Preliminary Report

- ▶ Outline of Petition Process
- ▶ Existing Conditions
- ▶ Cost Estimate
- ▶ Factors Favorable vs Unfavorable
- ▶ Benefits vs Costs
- ▶ Conclusions/Recommendation



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Dever Ditch Existing Conditions

- ▶ Existing private tile installed for agriculture
- ▶ New proposed homes need outlet
- ▶ Inadequate drainage for homes and HSTS
- ▶ Surface ponding

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Dever Ditch Existing Conditions



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Preliminary Report

► Cost Estimate

Construction	5708,074.00
Project Administration, Survey, and Engineering	592,358.00
Drainage Maintenance (ORC 6137-First Year Start Up)	530,786.00
TOTAL PROJECT ESTIMATE	5831,218.00

- It is important to understand that the above estimates are preliminary and made in the absence of a current detailed subsurface investigation or topographic survey of the project area.
- Individual parcel assessments are not calculated for the First Hearing and are only calculated if the petition moves forward to the Final Hearing.

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Preliminary Report

► Factors Favorable and Unfavorable

■ Favorable:

- Improved surface and subsurface drainage in the watershed.
- Improved outlet for subsurface drainage components of household sewage treatment systems and for residential drainage systems, which increases safety and property value.
- Reduction of future deterioration of surface and subsurface drainage infrastructure.
- Increased crop yield for farm fields within the watershed.
- Annual inspections and maintenance of the improvement in perpetuity.

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Preliminary Report

► Factors Favorable and Unfavorable

■ Unfavorable:

- Temporary land use disruption during construction.
- Cost of construction and maintenance may be a burden to some landowners.

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Preliminary Report

► Benefits vs Cost

❑ Improved Agricultural Yields

- A publication by The Ohio State University Extension titled "Returns to Farm Drainage" details several studies, conducted by Ohio State researchers, on the effects of drainage on crop yields. The studies show that fields with good drainage will produce higher yields than fields that have poor drainage. A recently completed 25-year study showed that subsurface drainage increased corn yields by 24%-39%, and increased soybean yields by 13%-46%. The same study also analyzed the return on investment for installing subsurface drainage in a field. It found that for corn, \$4 is returned for every \$1 invested, and for soybeans, \$3 is returned for every \$1 invested. To state it generally, the benefits of drainage will equal the increased yield multiplied by the market price.

❑ Increased Value of Residential Properties

- The increased value or benefit for residential properties is much more subjective and difficult to quantify. Communities that have planned and maintained storm water drainage infrastructures generally have higher resale values than those communities that are known to have a history of drainage problems or flooding.

❑ Home Sewage Treatment Systems (HSTS)

- For residential properties, the lack of an adequate drainage outlet can negatively impact the condition of household sewage treatment systems potentially limiting the value of the home for resale. Should the existing system fail, the cost to perform repairs, or construct an alternate sewage treatment system, can range from the thousands to tens of thousands of dollars. It would also be reasonable to consider the cost of environmental degradation due to residential sewage treatment systems that may not be functioning properly.

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Preliminary Report

► Benefits vs Cost

❑ Quality of Life and Positive Neighborhood Perception

- Other benefits that are commonly perceived as a result of drainage improvements focus on quality of life and positive neighborhood perception.

❑ Increase in land value

- From \$10,000 as agricultural to \$32,000 as residential

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Preliminary Report

► Recommendation: Approval

- Based on all of the information gathered and generated for this project, the three county agencies believe this project is technically feasible, financially feasible and would benefit the property owners within this watershed. We are recommending that the Board advance this petition. However, testimony brought to the Board by landowners should be given significant consideration as well.

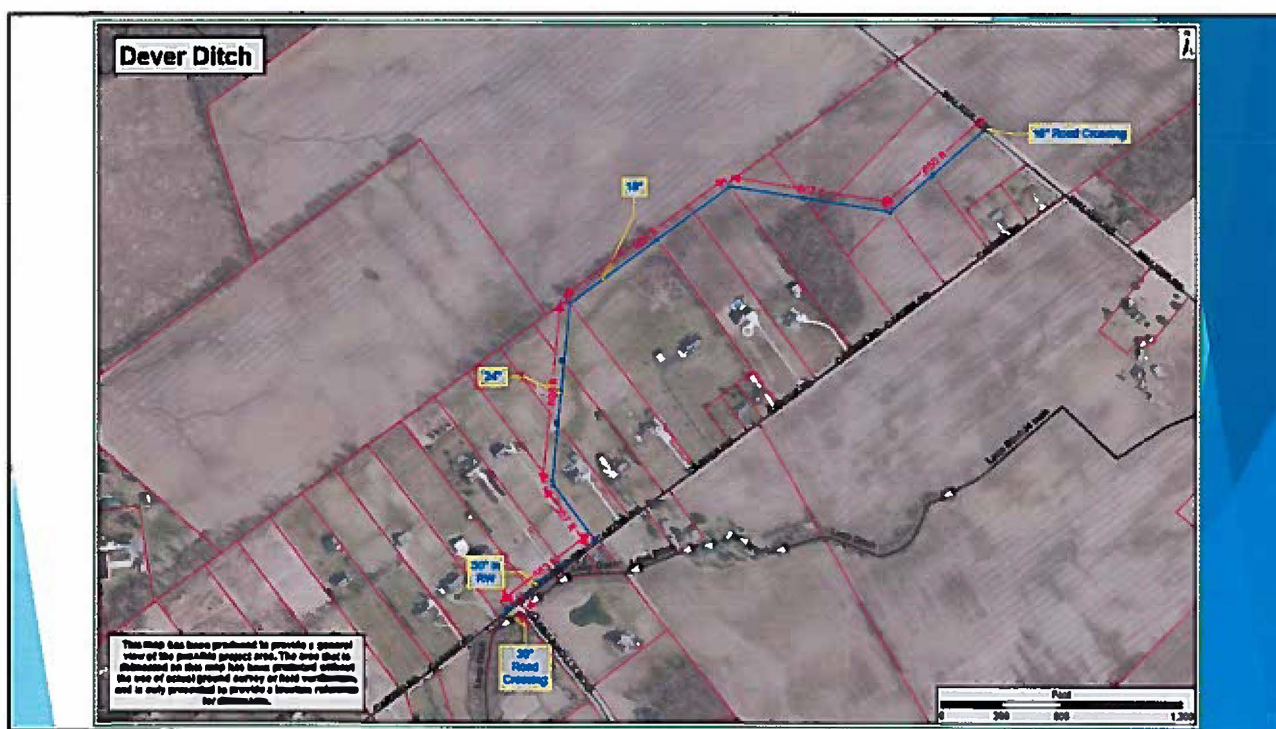
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Questions?



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Riparian & Environmental Engineer for
Cornell R. Robertson, P.E., P.S.
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ORC 6131: 1st Hearing

- ▶ County Engineers file a preliminary report at 1st Hearing
- ▶ Owners may testify at 1st Hearing
- ▶ Joint Board of Commissioners votes to approve or dismiss the petition
- ▶ No changes may be made to the petition or the scope of a project after the First Hearing
- ▶ If the Joint Board of Commissioner votes to advance the petition, the Engineer begins the plans, report and distribution of assessments for Final Hearing

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ORC 6131: Final Hearing

- ▶ Board hears all information, plans, and reports submitted by the County Engineer
- ▶ Land owners may once again offer testimony
- ▶ Joint Board votes to either approve the proposed improvement, including the project plans and schedule of assessments, or to dismiss the petition
- ▶ Board decision is based on 3 factors specified in the code:
 - Is the project necessary?
 - Is the project conducive to the public welfare?
 - Do the benefits of the project outweigh the costs?

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ORC 6131: Next Steps

- ▶ Appeals
- ▶ Construction
- ▶ Assessments
- ▶ Ongoing Maintenance

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