

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT MEETING
May 13, 2025 at 4:30 p.m., Meeting Room A – Administration Building

Item # 1 – Call meeting to order

Item # 2 - The Secretary called the Roll, with the following members present:

David J. Moore, Chair, Lorain County Commissioner
Jeff Riddell, Vice Chair, Lorain County Commissioner
Marty Gallagher, Lorain County Commissioner

Others present:

Jeff Armbruster, County Administrator
Peter Zwick, LC Engineer's Office
Don Romancak, Stormwater
Theresa L. Upton, Secretary

Also present: Lyn Ickes & Jessie Nowjack, Stormwater Management District

Item #3 – Approval of minutes

Motion by Commissioner Moore, seconded by Commissioner Gallagher to approve the minutes of January 14, 2025 as submitted. Upon roll call the vote taken thereon resulted as: Ayes: All Moore, Gallagher & Riddell / Nays: None

Motion carried.

Item #4 – New Business

a. **Review Recommendations of SWAC and Approve Community Grants**

2025	SWAC Community Grant Applications		Engineer's		3/17/2025	Available = \$425,000
RANK	PROJECT	Township	SCORE	COMMENT	REQUEST	Grant RECOMMENDED
1	Stewart Rd, T-41 replace culvert #02.42	Rochester	91	LCE 50%, bridge	\$ 99,790	\$ 99,790
2	Dellefield Ditch Reach D (MartinsRun)	Elyria	85	Twp. 0%	\$ 227,850	\$ 227,850
3	Mason Main Ditch cleaning	LaGrange	84	Twp. 20%, scope TBD	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000
4	Dellefield Rd. storm sewer improvement	Elyria	80	Twp. 16%	\$ 234,040	\$.
5	Ditch Enclosure Jones Rd. west of Anderson	Brighton	65	Twp. 10%	\$ 36,160	\$.
				Total	\$ 609,870	\$ 339,640

Moore moved, seconded by Gallagher. Clerk called for discussion.

Romancak said there were 5 applications submitted as noted above and recommendation is for 3.

#1. Stewart Road is a failing culvert on a township road being assisted by County Engineer

#2. Dellefield Ditch is a continued extension to provide relief along Griswold, Murray Ridge Road, Turnpike, RT2 and Carvana

#3. Mason Main is on Webster/Whitehead Road and extending main east and SWAC has recommended another \$10,000 should the project need it

Moore asked if \$425,000 is what is available. Romancak said yes, they have spent funds on community projects, planning grants and other projects in the townships. Moore would like to see a breakdown of the budget and what funds are earmarked.

Riddell asked about Soil & Water progress. Romancak said they just hired an Engineer and Lyn Ickes met with them about 2 weeks ago. They are working with the Engineer on Gore Orphanage, south of SR18. Also engineering the SR83 W to Willow Creek storm restoration project

Following was adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. SWD-25-5

In the matter of approving the Community Grants)
In the amount of \$349,000 for three projects) May 13, 2025

WHEREAS, Stormwater Advisory Committee reviewed 5 applications from various townships on ditch projects; and

WHEREAS, the total projects consist of \$339,640 as follows:

2025	SWAC Community Grant Applications	Engineer		3/17/2025	Available = \$425,000	
RANK	PROJECT	Township	SCORE	COMMENT	REQUEST	Grant RECOMMENDED
1	Stewart Rd. T-41 replace culvert #02.42	Rochester	91	LCE 60%, bridge	\$ 99,790	\$ 99,790
2	Delefield Ditch Reach D (MartinsRun)	Elyria	85	Twp. 0%	\$ 227,850	\$ 227,850
3	Mason Main Ditch cleaning	LaGrange	84	Twp. 20%, scope TBD	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000
4	Delefield Rd. storm sewer improvement	Elyria	80	Twp. 16%	\$ 234,040	\$ -
5	Ditch Enclosure Jones Rd. west of Anderson	Brighton	65	Twp. 10%	\$ 36,190	\$ -
				Total	\$ 609,870	\$ 339,640

And;

WHEREAS, it was also recommended an additional \$10,000 to LaGrange for Mason Main Ditch due to an extension if it is needed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Stormwater Management District we hereby approve and allocate \$349,640 for the three community grants listed above.

Commissioner Moore moved, seconded by Commissioner Riddell to adopt. Upon roll call the vote taken thereon, resulted as; Ayes: All Moore, Gallagher & Riddell / Nays: None
Motion carried. _____ (discussion was held on the above)

Item #5 – Reports

Don Romancak gave an update.

- * Fortune Ditch is in the 9th District Court of Appeals that is in the amount of around \$1.8 million
- * Roth Ditch next hearing is mid July, and project is around \$1 million
- * Brown Ditch has a last briefing to be filed on July 8 and that project is around \$225,000
- * Stormwater staff attended a conference last week. No new permits from OHEPA, some minor changes in notifications. Jessie received training on MS4's
- * Hoskins Ditch grant
- * Will work with Administrators on the policy regards to maintenance and conservation practices.
- * Jail services ditch its out to bid

Peter Zwick, Chief Deputy Engineer gave a brief update on projects since the last meeting;

1. 2025 applications for SWAC Community Grants are before you today: \$340,000 for best three out of five projects recommended by SWAC Advisory Committee & LCE in March; Two applications are not recommended.
2. Russell Ave. storm sewer replacement in Sheffield Twp. inspected by LCE, and construction recently completed and now 100% complete cost is \$120,000.
3. SWM District projects or Community Grant projects that are currently in the easement acquisition, preparation of legal descriptions, survey, design and/or plan review phases by County Engineer:

- a. Curtice Ditch Restoration in Penfield Twp.—SWMD negotiating *one* remaining easement—otherwise ready to go to construction estimated at \$467,000
- b. Columbia Twp.'s Smith Ditch Restoration—easement acquisition phase
- c. E. Hamilton St. storm sewer outlet, New Russia Twp. —easement acquisition
- d. West North St. storm sewer in Rochester Village submitted for OPWC grant
- e. Carlisle Twp.'s East River Rd. tile replacement to Black River—easements still be negotiated
- f. County Engineer assists with review of other SWMD or SWAC §6117 projects that are under design by various consulting engineers or under construction:
 - i. Mason main ditch, Lagrange Twp. (KEM Engineering)
 - ii. Cole Ditch Extension, Pittsfield Twp. (Rafter Engineering) under construction
 - iii. Daylight drainage tile outlet from State Route 83 to Giles Rd., Eaton Twp. (Wade-Trim Engineering).
 - iv. Dellefield Main ditch, Elyria Twp. (w/cooperation of Orchard Grove Subdivision and TIF
 - v. Baumhart Road ditch, Brownhelm Twp. (Rafter Engineering)
 - vi. Foster Ditch terminus extension, LaGrange Twp. (KEM Engineering)

4. Unfortunately, some otherwise “shovel-ready” projects still delayed by court appeals:

- A. Roth Tile ditch petition in Columbia (\$998,000 est.) LCE recently submitted *expert report* to court
- B. Brown Lateral #1 ditch petition in Pittsfield (\$225,000 est.) LCE in-house engineering

5. The County Engineer also reviews and inspects for code compliance *including OEPA water quality treatment* for storm water management ponds in new developments in townships. Residential and commercial project activity has increased again this year.

6. In 2025, the County Engineer will mow ditches and drainage improvements that are on County maintenance. The County Engineer also maintains two dozen “dry” storm water detention basins in subdivisions that are on County maintenance, and routinely makes minor repairs as needed. The County Engineer also removes log jams from large waterways, when safety or property is jeopardized.

7. Expect separate annual drainage report to Commissioners next month in June 2025.

_____ (discussion was held on the above)

Item #6 – Correspondence - There was none

Item #7 – Old Business

- a. Update on Projects was just discussed.
- b. Programs
Romancak said there was a complaint on Kelner Ditch. OEPA went on site to look at the wetlands and saw no issues, but waiting for final report
- * In stream work, log jam removal on Kelner can begin June 15.
- * Beckett has hired Marks Construction to continue their work on getting the spoils from Gerber property
- * June 3 will be the hearing on Law Road, all easements have been received

Item #8 – Public Comment – There were none.

Item #9 – Meeting at 4:30 p.m.

- b. September 16, 2025
- c. As needed

Item #10 - Adjournment

Moore said with nothing further we are adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Theresa L. Upton, Clerk


Marty Gallagher, Secretary/Treasurer, SWMD