

COVENTRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Special Meeting of May 13, 2025

The Coventry Township Board of Trustees held a special meeting on Tuesday, May 13, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at the Coventry Township Community Center, 335 East Willowview Drive, Akron, OH 44319, to discuss the Hinman Ditch (Glenmount/Penguin) Stormwater Project and Township IT Services, Community Center improvements & Dam/Walking Path Maintenance.

Call to Order:

Chairman Edward Diebold called the meeting to order and asked Administrator Anna Davis to record the following Trustees present: Edward Diebold and Jeff Houck. George Beckham was absent due to illness. Two Trustees were recorded as present.

Also, in attendance were: Fiscal Officer, David Gissinger; Fire Chief, Adam Rockich; and Summit County Engineer's Representatives, Chuck Hauber and Dave Koontz.

Hinman Ditch (Glenmount/Penguin) Stormwater Project:

PowerPoint presentation by Charles Hauber, Summit County Engineer's Office, to discuss the Hinman Ditch/Glenmount Stormwater Project. He explained that this project will widen the ditch, stabilize the banks, involve erosion prevention, basin improvements, and build a new (additional) basin. The County will work with ODOT to replace the 224 culvert and possibly build a new, parallel culvert. This is an estimated \$2 million project funded by the Stormwater Management District and ARPA funding. This will follow the Ditch Petition process as outlined in the ORC, with the exception of the property owners in the Township being assessed due to the outside funding from ARPA. The County will establish easements under ORC 6131, which will grant them the right to maintain the culverts and easements in the future. He went on to explain the process going forward as follows:

1. The Board signs the Ditch Petition
2. Public Viewing held – the project is introduced to the public
3. Public Hearing held – County Council Chambers
4. Property Owners have the opportunity to appeal
5. Final Hearing
6. Finalize plans
7. Acquire easements
8. Construction

There was some discussion over the materials that will be used to control erosion. Chuck Hauber thought it would be rock of some sort, or sod. Adam Rockich asked if they would be cleaning out Brewster Creek at all. He explained that he has been on calls with a bunch of debris under the bridge, and the water flows under there. Chuck Hauber explained that they are not doing anything with the flooding in the Cemetery or Akron. It will be cleaned out across Glenmount and Naomi Street.

Gary Peters, a resident of Penguin Avenue Condominiums, explained that he has read the EDG report online, and page 45 states that homeowners will be assessed. That got everyone pretty upset, so if that is incorrect, it should be removed.

Dave Koontz from the County Engineer's office explained that residents in Coventry will not be assessed. Revenue comes in county-wide for the maintenance of these facilities.

Edward Diebold asked if there was a way we could coordinate with Akron to work together on cleaning up Brewster Creek.

Chuck Hauber stated that they are aware of the study and will be working with us concerning Coventry Crossing's retention basin. They don't have a lot of property to work with.

Gary Peters of Penguin Avenue and Ron Ho from 235 Naomi Street discussed concerns over past flooding and the fact that they have not had too many issues since the major flood in

2011. Gary Peters believed that water from the freeway needs to be controlled, as well as further upstream from Brewster Creek, to be effective. Ron Ho stated that his backyard gets very wet every summer, but since he has lived there, the water has never reached his house. There was discussion about future notifications for public viewing and public hearings. Anna Davis assured Mr. Ho that he was on the list of property owners in the area. Mr. Peters was concerned that the owner would not notify residents within the condo association of the complex. She explained that she would post a notice on the Township's website and Facebook pages.

Township IT Services

Adam Rockich explained the pricing differences between the NMJ, TCS and Blue Lightning IT service quotes. He had NMJ adjust his original quote to provide a more apples-to-apples comparison with the others. The most significant difference is that he does not do websites. He is still significantly lower in terms of cost. TCS is offering to upgrade our website for free if we contract with them, but the cost is almost double that of NMJ. If we stay with NMJ we will still need to upgrade our website. There was further discussion weighing the pros and cons of all three providers. Edward Diebold and Jeff Houck agreed they would like to think on it, and wait until George Beckham was present to decide.

Community Center Improvements

Henderson/Gordion Quote for interior renovations: Anna Davis presented the Board with numbers she received from the State Bid contractor. They are significantly higher than the anticipated budget they had allocated for the project. There was discussion over whether they would need to put together bid specs to pursue this as a single project. The other option would be to separate this into individual projects. Anna Davis asked the Board members if they could recommend any contractors or let her know who to contact. She wasn't sure where to go from there. Dave Gissinger and Edward Diebold stated that they would contact some people to gather quotes.

Dam Walkway Maintenance

Anna Davis and Jeff Houck discussed the maintenance proposal from Bluegrass Landscape for the Clock Tower and Dam Walkway, which included a spring freshen-up and then bi-weekly maintenance. The freshen-up proposal came in at \$14,700, which included mulch, pruning, limestone, weeding, and labor costs. Bi-weekly maintenance would consist of any necessary pruning or weeding, additional stone work, raking goose droppings, and picking up trash, among other tasks, for \$960 per visit. The Board felt these costs were too high and that we could have the Road Department and our summer mowing employee handle some of these items. There was some discussion over the current condition of the walkway and plants. Jeff Houck and Anna Davis explained that they walked the area with the contractor, and the plants are only dead where the mowing contractor sprayed them with weed killer. Some of the plants appear to be "dead" because they needed to be cut back in the fall so new growth could come up. Pruning them now will keep them healthy for this season. There was weed fabric under all of the areas they looked at. Adam Rockich stated that he felt those numbers were high and suggested the possibility that the contractor who had just done the work at the Admin/FD building might also do maintenance work. Anna Davis stated she would get some additional quotes.

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting:

Edward Diebold made a motion to adjourn the special meeting. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold and Jeff Houck. George Beckham was absent due to illness. Motion carried 2-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:38 a.m.

Edul D. Dabhi

Chairman

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Fiscal Officer