

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

DEPARTMENT/ADDRESS

Jacqueline Ditchkett	7580 Twp Rd 95
Brandi Fox	7514 Twp Rd 95
Dean Grammer	2746 SR 224 Findlay, O
Everett Barnes	7388 Westland
1' c'	7810 Driftwood
Craig Stower	6924 TR 136
Carol Stower	"
Kim Smith	7921 West US 224
Matt Smith	" " "
Joe Strecker	6760 TR 136
Carole Wittenberg	3221 JUDITH
Jane Harris	8936 SR 224
Jason Woodruff	9197 Twp Rd 94
Lisa Lantermilch	7575 TR 94
Brianna Patterson	7775 TR 94
Molly Hosler	7866 Driftwood Dr
JIM SUSKO	7600 TR 94
Jeff Hunker	7018 TR 94
Jeff Markel	9161 Twp Rd Findlay
Carl Darta Darta Brey	8163 Rd 5H Leipsic
SHAWN BEVELER	8635 TR 130 Findlay OH 45540

PRELIMINARY REPORT OF COUNTY ENGINEER

Revised Code, Sec. 6131.09

In the Matter of the
Liberty Reed Single County Ditch No.
Single or Joint

Hancock County Engineer's Office,
Hancock County, Ohio.

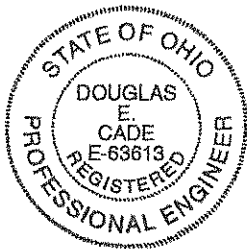
Petitioned for by
Liberty Township Trustees and others.

Proceedings to:

To the Board of County Commissioners, Hancock County, Ohio:

The undersigned County Engineer, in obedience to the order of your Board, made on the
16th day of June, 2020, proceeded in the above matter, and visited the proposed location of said improvement and in my opinion based on actual view and under requirements of Section 6131.09 of the Revised Code, I estimate the cost of construction of said improvement with my further findings as follows:

Other expenses \$ 288,000.00
Engineering and project costs



43,000.00
Total, \$331,000.00

Respectfully submitted,
Douglas E. Cade
County Engineer.

By Douglas E. Cade, PE, PS

~~XXXXX~~

1. Locate, clean, remove obstructions from, construct, reconstruct, straighten, deepen, widen, alter, box, tile, fill, etc., Sec. 6131.04, R.C.

LIBERTY REED SINGLE COUNTY DITCH ENGINEER'S PRELIMINARY REPORT June 16, 2020

The Petition submitted by the Liberty Township Trustees seeks to construct, reconstruct, widen, repair, replace, enlarge and maintain the existing open ditch from the mouth of McKinnis Run at the Blanchard River along the mainline to the intersection with Township road 95, also the West Branch near the end of Driftwood Drive, just to the east of Township Road 136 in the northwesterly direction then along the West Branch to 100 feet north of Township Road 94, also the East Branch near the end of Driftwood Drive to the east of Township Road 136.

The existing drainage system was originally known as the John Reed Ditch of 1951. Maintenance and upkeep of Ditches constructed through the County Petition Ditch process prior to August 23, 1957, are by Ohio law the responsibility of the property owners adjoining the Ditch. The Ohio Legislature passed a law, effective on August 23, 1957, whereby Ditches petitioned and approved after that date would be placed permanently on County Maintenance and a special assessment would be placed on the tax bill of all benefited property owners in the watershed for that maintenance. Based on available records in the County Engineer's office, this watershed has not been petitioned since 1957.

The existing drainage system for this Petition begins at the Blanchard River approximately 4600 feet east of TR 128. It travels in a northeasterly direction as an open watercourse through a wooded area to SR 224 a distance of 3490 feet, then it continues travelling in a northerly direction 900 feet past Driftwood Drive, the mainline continues in a northerly direction 2700 feet to TR 94 and then proceeds another 2800 feet to TR 95. The west branch begins 2000 feet past the end of Driftwood Drive and travels 1600 feet in a northwesterly direction just past TR 94. The east branch begins near the end of Driftwood drive and proceeds 740 feet in a northeasterly direction then continues 100 feet past TR 136. The entire length of the project is approximately 2.2 miles.

A visual inspection of the drainage system makes it apparent that the drainage system has not been maintained by the property owners of the watercourse necessary to address normal rainfall events. We propose the following improvements to provide a basis for continual maintenance of this watercourse:

1. **Removal of all brush, invasive vegetation and trees 4-inches in diameter and smaller located above the ordinary high water of the watercourse.**
2. **Remove all trees leaning at an angle greater than 45 degrees**
3. **Removal of all dead trees near watercourse**
4. **Removal of all debris and obstructions within the water course**
5. **Evaluate hydraulic capacity**

Preliminary construction and maintenance estimates for the petitioned work are listed below. Please bear in mind these engineering based estimates are an 'educated guess' of the potential costs:

Removal of all brush, invasive vegetation and trees 4-inches in diameter and smaller located above the ordinary high water of the watercourse.	\$160,000.00
Removal of all dead trees	\$40,000
Removal of All debris and obstruction within the watercourse	\$30,000
Hydraulic Evaluation	\$10,000
Contingency 20%	\$48,000.00
Engineering	\$43,000.00
Total Estimated Construction Costs	\$331,000.00
Maintenance Reserve (10% of Construction)	\$33,100.00

There are approximately 142 parcels ranging in size from single subdivision lots to 70 acres and encompassing 1.8 square miles or approximately 1152 acres.

While the assessment methodology is not established until the engineering and construction plans are completed and just prior to the Final Hearing, there are multiple methodologies (i.e. per parcel, acreage, Benefits/ Damages, declining benefit, etc). Regardless of the methodology chosen all owners, including the County, Township, and ODOT, will be assessed based on their benefit from the project and determined to be the most equitable for the entire watershed by the County Commissioners.

Using the simplest methodology of a Per Acre assessment as an example the cost would be \$316.06 which is \$31.61 per acre per year when the cost is spread over 10- property tax years.

In conclusion, it is our opinion that the Ditch should proceed to the Engineering Phase and that the benefits received will exceed the cost of the project according to Section 6131.01(F)(3) of the Ohio Revised Code as Benefits are defined in that section:

1. Eliminate or reduce damage from floods and rainfall events
2. Remove water conditions that jeopardize public health, safety or welfare
3. Provide an outlet for the accelerated runoff from artificial drainage whenever the stream, watercourse, channel or ditch under improvement is called upon to discharge functions for which it was not designed by nature; it being the legislative intent that uplands which have been removed from their natural state by deforestation, cultivation, artificial drainage, urban development or other man-made causes, shall be considered as benefited by an improvement required to dispose of the accelerated flow of water from said uplands.

End of Report

No. _____
County, Ohio.
In the Matter of the
COUNTY DITCH No. _____
Sole or Joint
PETITIONED FOR BY
and others.
PROCEEDINGS TO
PRELIMINARY REPORT
OF
COUNTY ENGINEER
Filed _____, 19____
Clerk of County Commissioners