

**GREEN BROOK FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

LOCATION: Middlesex County Planning (Elks Bldg)
New Brunswick

DRAFT

DATE: October 3, 2012

MEETING CONVENED: 7:30PM

NOTE:

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided informing the public of time and place according to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975).

It should be noted there were severe traffic events that prevented/delayed numerous members from attending this meeting.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Ted Bassman – Scotch Plains
John Sweeney – Middlesex
Richard O'Connor – Engineer, GBFCC
Frank McArdle – No Plainfield
Ray Murray – Green Brook
Kristen Michaels – Winning Strategies

Bill Crosby – No Plainfield
Eddie Pfeifer – Green Brook Twp
Ron Sendner – Middlesex Cty Engineering
George Ververides-Middlesex Cty Planning
Alice Tempel – South Plainfield

CORRESPONDENCE

Chairman Bassman stated no correspondence was received by the GBFCC for the month of September. The GBFCC maintains a correspondence file that is available for inspection as may be necessary and upon request.

MINUTES

The minutes of the 09/05/12 meeting were approved. A copy of the approved minutes is available on the GBFCC website.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ray Murray provided the monthly report and bills for September. Bills for the month of September were approved for payment. Copies are available for inspection upon request. A draft of the 2013 budget was distributed for consideration in November. Mr Murray also noted the 2013 RFP for Engineering Services & Government Relations has been sent to current providers, posted on the GBFCC website and advertised in the newspaper.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

No report.

FINANCE REPORT

No report.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Bassman received and responded to correspondence from a Bound Brook resident regarding the current project.

Chairman Bassman noted that Somerset County Chapter of Alliance for Action will be having a meeting next week.

Ron Sendner (Middlesex County Engineering) reported that he had received inquiries regarding site distances at the new Sebrings Bridge. He informed the resident that it was not a County road but he would pass the concern to the USACE.

Kristen Michaels (Winning Strategies) reported that she is working on setting up tours for Congressmen Frelinghuysen and Holt. The tours would occur after the November elections. Additionally, she noted the Federal Government is operation under a continuing resolution.

Chairman Bassman noted that Colonel Paul Own has been appointed as the new USACE District Engineer.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Chairman Bassman selected John Sweeney, William Crosby, and George Ververides as the Nominating Committee for 2013 Officers of the GBFCC. All three (3) members accepted.

ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

The USACE representative was delayed due to the severe traffic events and unable present a report. Therefore, the Agenda notes from the Project Coordination Meeting on October 11, 2012 are attached:

PROJECT COORDINATION MEETING

AGENDA

October 11, 2012 @ 2nd floor conference room

General Items

- Col Owen / Col Savre project visit Oct 9
- Green Brook Flood Commission Meeting
- Cong Holt; briefing/site visit; pending (Fall)
- Rep Frelinghuysen; site visit; pending (Fall)

- Develop Map/Features; web page; video; booklet

- Upper Basin H&H assessment; various scenarios/impacts; mtg held with NJDEP Aug; **additional info request**; Somerset; GBFC; setup

Project Funding Status

- FY13 Budget = **pending \$1M**
 - FY14 Budget = development underway
-

Bound Brook – Corps & FEMA Levee Evaluation

- Pre-application mtg Oct 11; use Corps guidelines not FEMA; verified
- Surveys (Seg U, R1, T); **additional field info required; data pending**
- Inspections: Levees/floodwalls/sluice gates; completed Mar; (RR closure inspection pending); **provided to sponsors; under review; Oct 4 coordination with Somerset**
- H&H analysis: models (Middle , Raritan, Green); **underway**
- Inspections + HEC-FDA (overtop probability) + interior drainage + remap/delineations + ATR = Corps certification (valid 10-years)
- Report documentation underway
- Submit application to FEMA; end 2012/early 2013 + FEMA reviews
- Revise inundation mapping; 100-yr/150-yr/500-yr
- Remap to include NJ Flood Hazard 100-yr + 25%
- **Boro + County; provide existing Inspection/Maintenance Reports & Emergency Response Plans; due Oct**; includes evacuation plans, warning systems, exercise of plans, O&M; **Corps to provide**
- Public info session Bound Brook, include FEMA; end 2012

Finderne Farms --- Wetland Mitigation (Bridgewater Twp)

- \$4.5M; Jul 2006 COMPLETED
 - 2012 Monitoring (6th yr) + Water budget, HEC-RAS, concept plans; **work underway**; concept plans by early 2013
-

Segment U, R1, T (Complete/turned over to NJDEP); Operation & Maintenance

- Projects officially turned over to NJDEP on March 1, 2007
- NJDEP/Somerset County Maintenance Report

Segment U --- Levees, Floodwall

- Erosion along Seg U floodwall/levee; utilize bendway weirs
 - **90% P&S; cost estimate (Oct/Nov)**
 - Access/staging; erosion/sediment control plan
 - Contract TBD (solo or combine with Seg T); ~ Nov/Dec
 - NJDEP emergency repair permit

Segment R1 --- Talmage Avenue Bridge

- \$16.5M; Contractor Rencor
- Project officially turned over to NJDEP on July 18, 2011
- ***PENDING: Final As-builts: provide to DEP, Somerset, Boro***
- ***PENDING: As-builts of U, R1, Talmage, Lincoln Blvd, and T***

Segment R2 --- NJ Transit Railroad Closure Gate and Diversion Pipes

- \$8.2M (ARRA); scheduled Dec 2012 completion
- Contractor Scafar
- 98% Completed; Status report for ongoing work
- Temp closure (aqua barrier bag); two 2' high x 50' long; onsite at R2; officially turned over to Somerset on September 13, 2012
- Railroad Closure Gate
 - NJDEP/Somerset/NJ Transit gate operation agreement; Permit
 - Gates in place; tested July 28; **mod pending** (flood lights, gate hooks, ladders, storage column tie back anchor)
 - **Final inspection; NJ Transit, sponsors (Oct/Nov)**
 - **protocol exercise (formal procedures); Somerset lead**
 - NJ Transit; coordination/onsite; bill payments underway
- Diversion Pipes; complete all Summer 2012
 - Pipe #1 (Talmage); Pipe #2 (LaMonte); Pipe #3 (Vossellar); Pipes #4a/b (Van Kueren); Pipe#5 (West Main) - 100%
 - **Install hinged safety bars @ outlets; mod pending (O&M)**
- ADA: Lamonte/Talmage + Drake/ E Main + Columbus/E Main; **complete**
- Paving @ W Main; RR-Lamonte-Vossellar-R2 pump
 - Install new curbs/sidewalks @ W Main (Boro action)
 - Boro design to include ADA compliance revisions at Vossellar and Lamonte intersections; include street radius revision at W Main/Vossellar
 - Boro contract; awarded Aug; scheduled completion Oct
 - Corps paving @ W Main once Boro curb/sidewalk work complete; **pending Nov; Boro review of final plan**
- NJ Transit issue @ West Main St; request guide rail installation for safety; not a pre-existing condition; **coordination underway**

Segment R2 --- Levee, Floodwall, Pump Station (180cfs)

- \$15.7M; Contractor Scafar
- 99% Completed; Status report for ongoing work
- Project officially turned over to NJDEP on May 22, 2012

- vegetation swale along levee/floodwall; resolved
- Pump Station in AUTO OPERATION; Somerset maintenance
- **PENDING:** Final As-builts
- *Finalize O&M Manual (under Compilation O&M)*

Mod includes: 1) RR cross-section/elevations; 2) RR station underpass;
3) verify 18" line; 4) manhole/pipes cleanout; 5) manhole survey;
6) Drake-Mountain survey

R2 levee tie-off @ existing railroad/train station & South Main St gate

- Survey/elevations (from R2 - South Main); **data pending**
- Corps to determine required actions upon survey results; **FEMA**

Main Street Storm Sewer

- Install sluice gate + flap valve; utilize existing manhole location
- Cleanout, manhole details, outlet details; **data pending**
- NJ Transit coordination for construction

Incorporation of downtown low-spot into overall system

- ~700' line; Mountain to Drake (Pipe#5) into R2 pump
- Street utility survey; **data pending**
- Borings; **data pending**
- Final design pending survey results; ADA impacts

Segment R2 --- South Main Street Closure Gate

- \$3.8M (ARRA); Contractor Kyle Conti
- 99% Completed; Status report for ongoing work
- Project officially turned over to NJDEP on May 31, 2012
- Gate re-adjustment completed May 15; clean track, wet down plates
- Repair/reinstall snatch block anchor points for manual cable operation on both sides of gate; replace manual transfer switch & strip heater; install light photocell; revised Handle w/Care (survey); underpass elevation survey; stain repairs; **complete**
- **Retest manual closure operation scheduled; Friday, October 12**
- Portable 6" pump; delivered to Somerset Public Works Garage (Hillsborough, NJ); move pumps into BOUND BROOK north county garage; **pending**
- **PENDING:** Final As-builts
- *Finalize O&M Manual (under Compilation O&M)*

East Main Street / Lincoln Blvd Bridge

- Project officially turned over to NJDEP on March 1, 2007

Segment T --- Pump Station (60cfs); Repair/Reactivate (with East Street Closure)

- Contractor DJ's Mechanical (8A); 100% complete
- Project officially turned over to NJDEP on May 21, 2012
- Pump Station in AUTO OPERATION; Somerset maintenance
- *Finalize O&M Manual (under Compilation O&M)*

Irene Damage Repairs:

- Ringwall levee pump repair; 1-time fix, local responsibility; **owner to sign RE agreement BEFORE any work; provide O&M manual**
- **coordination underway (NJDEP/Boro); Counsel/RE**

Segment T --- Levee (verification of levee height + overtop location)

- **Design heights TBD by FEMA evaluation; data pending**
- Borings for settlement determination; **analysis underway**
- **90% P&S; cost estimate (Nov)**
- **County request for access ramp + pave top of levee**
- Contract TBD (solo or combine with Seg U); ~ Nov
- NJDEP Sanitary Landfill permit; N/A design; may need construction
- Billian Field @ Seg T; transfer plantings; Boro; await Seg T design

East Street Closure Gate

- Portable 6" pump; delivered to Somerset Public Works Garage (Hillsborough, NJ); move pumps into BOUND BROOK north county garage; **pending**
- Snatch block/pulley cable closure; sponsor approved updated version
- Contract TBD (solo or combine with Seg U & T); ~ Nov

Overall Bound Brook Operations & Maintenance Manual

- Compilation O&M for Bound Brook; all segments
 - NJDEP/Somerset procedures; **Compilation O&M**
 - **Preliminary draft; awaiting sponsor comments (Oct); necessary to proceed with FEMA**
-

INTERIM OPERATION PROCEDURES (PENDING AN EVENT)

- Talmage Ave + Lincoln Blvd Bridges; functional – Somerset / Middlesex
- U, R1, R2, T (levees, floodwalls, drainage structures); functional – Somerset
- R2 + T pump stations; functional – Somerset

- Diversion pipes #1, #2, #3, #4a/b and #5; functional - Somerset
 - South Main Closure Gate; functional – Somerset
 - East Street Closure Gate; functional – Somerset
 - Railroad Closure Gate; functional – **pending inspection** – Somerset & NJ Transit
 - R2 tie off; **pending survey**
 - Main St storm sewer gate; **pending survey/installation**
 - Downtown lowspot; **pending survey/installation**
-

Construction sequencing for next Segments C-H-B-D

- **Coordination required with LURP, NJDEP; pending assessments**
 - Sequence, temp impacts; mitigation requirements; permit(s)
 - Update/Finalize PMP; after LURP meeting
-

Determine new project mitigation site(s)

- B1; B2; B4; utilize Finderne; B3; H; utilize onsite
 - C; D; new site required; wetland, riparian, Green acres impacts
 - **Potential mitigation site; Dismal Swamp (Edison)**
 - Mtg held EPA Feb 16; EPA remediation report Fall 2012; site appears viable; EPA schedule TBD
 - **Need to identify additional sites (sponsors)**
 - Preparation of Supplemental EA for C-H-B-D
-

Next Segments C-H-B-D; Middlesex

- **Segment B1 (floodwall, bridge, levee, pump); under construction**
 - **Segment B2 (~500 ft. portion of floodwall)**
 - **Segment B3 (levee, pump station, floodwall) with TEMP TIE OFF**
 - **Segment B4 (buyout, remaining floodwall, Union Ave closure gate)**
 - Segment B5 (pending FUSRAP resolution)
 - South Lincoln Ave (bridge replacement)
 - Segment H (buyouts, levees, floodwall)
 - Portion of Segment C (levees, floodwalls, 3 pumps, railroad culverts)
 - Non-structural/Floodproofing (various locations)
 - Segments C + D (levees, floodwalls, 2 pumps, Bound Brook Rd closure gate)
-

Segment B1 --- Sebrings Mills (Middlesex/Green Brook Twp)

- \$19M (ARRA); scheduled Sept 2013 completion
- Contractor Montana
- 60% Completed; Status report for ongoing work
- Interim; provides 10-yr risk reduction until future segments
- Public meeting held 18-Sept with affected properties

Upstream Levee + Temp Levee tie-off; scheduled completion Oct-12

- Levee + levee weir; topsoil/seeding (Fall); 99% complete

Pump station (100cfs); scheduled completion Apr-13

- Control building; 69% complete

Bridge Raising; scheduled completion Dec-12

- Bridge; 73% complete
- Lane closure, constant 2-way traffic, 1st + 2nd lanes complete & open
- Phase 3 (west lane) underway; **completion Dec**
- NO LEFT TURNS posted on E Green Brook Road and plaza exit
- Bridge to close certain dates/times for necessary construction
- **2nd house; impacts/driveway; pending**

Downstream Floodwall; scheduled completion Aug-13

- Floodwall; 45% complete
- **Design change underway (floodwall openings); mod pending**
- Planting & Fence rules at/along floodwall

Segment B1 Operations & Maintenance Manual

- O&M for Segment B1; NJDEP/Middlesex procedures during event

Design of next initial segment (Overall Segment B)

- ENG borings + HTRW @ B2,B3,B4; **data under review**
- FUSRAP samples @ B3 temp tie off; **data pending**
- H&H for design

Segment B2; floodwall (~500 feet); pending FY13

- Interim raises to ~40-year risk reduction until future segments
- Raise Seg B1 levee weir (not floodwall openings) at completion of B2
- Design on hold; **boring data + MCI line issues; pending**
- MCI line: mtg held Mar-12; MCI to provide input for line realignment; necessary for construction; MCI requesting reimbursement agreement to conduct design work; **coordination underway**
- **Segments B3 & B4 require significant realignment of MCI line before design & construction**
- Verify acquired water property structures; **results pending**
- Construction Access + Staging Areas; split B1 access entrance
- P&S ATR requirements + NJDEP Permit (3 months)
- Real Estate construction; title/appraisal; easement areas

Segment B3; floodwall, pump station, temp levee tie off

- Interim tie-off @ pump station location raises risk reduction to ~100-year once B4 also in place
- Temporary until FUSRAP resolution at Middlesex site (Seg B5)

- Design pending; MCI line resolution
- Initiate RE for construction; upon design

Segment B4; buyout, remaining floodwall, Union Ave closure gate

- **GRR buyout appears N/A, however, new buyout will be required for Access + Staging areas; pending**

 - Design pending; MCI line resolution
 - Initiate RE for construction; upon design
-

Non-Structural Flood Proofing Design (Green Brook Twp)

- Phase 1 (Earthworks)
 - Flood proof methods; per center of expertise (Omaha)
 - Results provided to sponsors for review
 - **Additional coordination required; underway**
 - **Flood proofing = voluntary; Induced = flowage easement**

 - Individual timeslot meeting(s) with homeowners; **TBD**
 - Verify participating properties AND/OR flowage easement

 - RE agreements to include O&M responsibilities
 - Next phase for participating properties, develop plans & specs
-

NJDEP

No report.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Mr McArdle questioned if there has been any movement/comment of the USACE meeting with the NJDEP on the upper basin. Mr Murray spoke of the various projects that fall into the similar scenario as the upper basin. He noted that it isn't feasible to spend on studies in favor of spending actual construction. Ms Michaels noted that the Government would rather show that a construction project is completed before starting a new one considering availability of funding.

Chairman Bassman thanked Middlesex County Planning for the use of their facility and their continued support of the GBFCC.

A motion was made and approved to adjourn.

Listed are the GBFCC meeting dates:

2012
Novemember – tentatively North Plainfield
December – tentatively Plainfield

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:00 PM