

DATE: June 1st, 2023

TO: Lucas County Engineer, Mike Pniewski; P.E., P.S.

FROM: Lucas Soil and Water Conservation District

By: D j Mears

SUBJECT: Annual Ditch Maintenance Report

In accordance with our MOU, this annual report is hereby submitted on ditches which were improved under Section 6131.01 to 6137.15 O.R.C.

Mosquito Creek Ditch #74

During our 2022 annual inspection we found poisonous hemlock on the upper end. This will require both annual mowing and spraying for the next few years. We estimate the maintenance balance to be \$5,000 after the first half collection. We request last year's collection amount in the sum of \$10,000.00.

Van Fleet Ditch #1049

During our inspection, I found no severe deficiencies. I do anticipate some spraying of brush and continue seeding grass to help fill in areas lacking adequate vegetation. We also need to establish our first-year maintenance fund. We recommend to collect \$15,000.00 next year. The Lucas County Engineer's Office will supply the special assessment role to be collected.

Schmitz Ditch #424

We will need to control brush by spraying methods on this entire ditch. We estimate the maintenance balance to be \$26,000.00 after the first half collection.

Disher Ditch #428

We need to contract for spraying of brush regrowth. Also, we will need to watch the deteriorating condition of the subsurface tile outlet ends for possible replacements. We estimate the maintenance balance to be -\$160.00 after the first half collection. We request last year's collection amount in the sum of \$10,000.00.

Drennan Ditch #1045

In my field inspection of this ditch, we need to continue to control brush by spraying. Also, the blockages left in this channel will need to be addressed by some mechanical methods. We estimate the maintenance balance to be \$0. We recommend to collect \$45,000.00 next year. We have attached the special assessment role to be collected.

Ballard Ditch #888

We need to continue our contracting for brush control on this ditch by mechanical removal. We estimate that there is still over \$20,000 for brush removal. We will also need to control regrowth of brush that's been mechanically removed by spraying methods. We estimate the maintenance balance to be \$3,500.00 after the first half collection. We request last year's collection amount in the sum of \$20,000.00.

Householder Ditch #891

We found during our 2022 field inspection after talking with a tiling contractor on site, we need to perform a total cleanout which we plan for in 2025. We estimate the cleanout will cost \$23,000. We estimate the maintenance balance to be \$11,000 after the first half collection. We recommend to collect \$10,000.00 annually the next two years. We have attached the special assessment role to be collected.

Collins Ditch #911

We need to contract for spraying of brush regrowth. We estimate the maintenance balance to be \$8,600.00 after the first half collection.

Zaleski Ditch #1035A

We need to control brush by spraying. We estimate the maintenance balance to be \$8,000 after the first half collection.

Lone Oak Ditch #1048

We will be performing our ditch maintenance work activities using two different techniques. First, will be by the agriculture ditch drainage standards. Those major standards are controlling brush and periodically the removal of the bottom sediments. This area is upstream of Oakbrook Drive and downstream of Winslow Road. The second, will be by the urban ditch drainage standards. Those major standards promote stable ditch banks and limit stagnant ditch water.

We need to be contracting for, brush control on this ditch by mechanical removal. We estimate that the \$20,000 for brush removal annually the next two years. After that period a more detailed inspection can be performed. We estimate the maintenance balance to be \$0.00. We requested to collect \$20,000.00 for the next two years. The Lucas County Engineer's Office will supply the special assessment role to be collected.

Wilhelm Ditch Watershed Improvement #1051

In my field inspection of this ditch and my conversation with a Jerusalem Township Trustee I am making the following recommendations. First is to address the unmanaged woody vegetation growth and then to look at possible future bottom cleanouts. We requested to collect \$20,000.00 annually for the next two years. The Lucas County Engineer's Office will supply the special assessment role to be collected.

Niles Ditch Watershed Improvement #1052

In my field inspection of this ditch and my conversation with a Jerusalem Township Trustee I am making the following recommendations. First is to address the unmanaged woody vegetation growth and then to look at possible future bottom cleanouts. We requested to collect \$5,000.00 annually for the next two years. The Lucas County Engineer's Office will supply the special assessment role to be collected.

Beecher Ditch #1866

We need to contract for spraying of brush regrowth. We estimate the maintenance balance to be \$2,700 after first half collection.

Bench/Hageman Ditch #1917

We need to continue our contracting for brush control on this ditch by mechanical removal. We estimate the cost to finish removing brush to be approximately \$10,000.00. During our inspection in 2022, we found poisonous hemlock on our de-brushed ditch. This will require both annual mowing and spraying for the next few years. We will also need to chemically control the brush that's been removed. We estimate the maintenance balance to be \$17,000 after the first half collection. We recommend to collect \$20,000.00 for 2023. We have attached the special assessment role to be collected.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dj Mears

Drainage/Agricultural Conservationist