

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD AN INFORMAL REGULAR SESSION ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2013, WITH COMMISSIONERS EDWIN H. HUMPHREY, ROBERT L. PROUD AND DAVID H. UIBLE IN ATTENDANCE.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE WERE STEPHEN H. RABOLT, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, AND DEBORAH BRITTON, CLERMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE. ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES AT THE INFORMAL REGULAR SESSION ARE LISTED ON THE ATTACHED ATTENDANCE SHEET.

LET THE RECORD SHOW THAT THE DECEMBER 18, 2013 INFORMAL REGULAR SESSION WAS VIDEOTAPED AND IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 8:00 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M. LOCAL TIME. IN ADDITION, THE INFORMAL REGULAR SESSION IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC VIEWING THROUGH THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT WEBSITE AT <http://www.clermontcountyohio.gov/videos-worksession.aspx>.

Informal Session began shortly after 12:00 p.m.

THE FOLLOWING ISSUES WERE PRESENTED FOR DISCUSSION:

- 1. Issue - Pipeline Project, Paul Braasch, Director, Clermont County Office of Environmental Quality and Pam Broughton, Director, Clermont County Emergency Management Agency...10-0303-003**

Discussion – Mr. Braasch, Director of the Clermont County Office of Environmental Quality (OEQ) described the proposed pipeline project that Bluegrass Pipeline is bringing through Clermont County and his concern that the pipeline will be running through portions of the East Fork Little Miami Watershed. Mr. Braasch provided a copy of several maps; one showing the overall view of the proposed pipeline, the second was the proposed section of pipeline running through Monroe Township in Clermont County, and the third the sections and how they directly relate to our watershed.

The Bluegrass Pipeline will be a 24" pipeline that will carry various products at different times. These products will be by-products from the fracking done in Pennsylvania, West Virginia and eastern Ohio. Mr. Braasch noted that if a leak were to occur it could mean a spill as large as 1M gallons before being discovered. Should a leak of this magnitude occur it is a concern of OEQ and the safety of our drinking water supply because of the proximity to the East Fork Little Miami Watershed and Harsha Lake.

Bluegrass Pipeline has estimated that in the event of a leak it would take approximately 10 hours to for a contamination to reach Harsha Lake. Mr. Braasch stated OEQ's estimates are about 1.2 hours. Mr. Braasch has requested the modeling information from Bluegrass Pipeline in regard to how they achieved those estimates, citing at this point they are not willing to provide the details.

Mr. Braasch stated there are mitigation efforts that can be discussed and a meeting is scheduled with several representatives from Bluegrass Pipeline in January to explore OEQ and EMA's concerns about the watershed contamination and containment mitigation options and efforts.

Commissioner Proud inquired if the pipeline will be all underground. Mr. Braasch stated he believes it is planned to be all underground with an estimated depth of three feet. Mr. Braasch also stated that this is unlike the utilities project that was done several years ago in Clermont County so residents are not required to sell property to Bluegrass Pipeline. Since there is no imminent domain associated with this project, there will be several areas where the pipeline will jog around property owners who decide against having the pipeline run through their property.

Ms. Broughton has also been very involved in this process due to the emergency response that EMA would be responsible for should we have a leak in the future. Mr. Braasch noted that the County has been encouraging Bluegrass Pipeline from the initial concept meeting to avoid our watershed, but to no avail.

Conclusion/Follow-Up Action Needed –

The Board agreed this is a project that will be of great concern and asked that Mr. Braasch keep the Board updated and that for contingency planning Ms. Broughton be included in all discussions.

Adjournment

Informal Regular Session was adjourned.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CLERMONT COUNTY, OHIO**

Absent

EDWIN H. HUMPHREY, PRESIDENT

DAVID H. UIBLE, VICE PRESIDENT

ROBERT L. PROUD, MEMBER

STEPHEN H. RABOLT, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

1/15/14
DATE APPROVED