

**Open Work Session
Stormwater Management Update
February 5, 2019**

Mr. Dallas Baker, Director of Public Works, came before Council. Mr. Cannon thanked him for being at the meeting, and said, from what he has seen in the Brief Book, it is a pretty detailed update, and he is anxious to see what Mr. Baker has to add.

Mr. Baker said, as Council knows, he has been working on a couple engineering studies, one of which is for Pratt Road, for which they applied for a grant through the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) to begin the first phase of construction for improvements. He said, just as a refresher, Phase I includes downstream improvements, which is, actually, behind Nithsdale where Pratt Road eventually makes its way to the water going down through West Nithsdale, which is eroding the channel behind the homes, so they need to stabilize that before they start sending more water through Pratt Road. He said they just received an update yesterday, so he updated that slide, which is not in the Brief Book. He said MEMA approved the grant, and the next step is forwarding it to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for consideration. He said this is the first time they have run through this grant process, and there are four phases. He explained, there is the initial approval, which they have, there is a secondary approval, which they now have, and it is under review now by FEMA. He said FEMA has told them, if they are going to tell the County "no", they will tell them by May, but, if they are going to tell them "yes", they will tell them by December. Mr. McCain asked if that means, if they do not say no by May, their answer will be yes in December, to which Mr. Baker responded, he had the same question, but it may be affected by any future Government shutdowns. Mr. Cannon asked how much the grant for Pratt Road is, to which Mr. Baker responded, the grants are capped at \$100,000, and the County is asking for the full amount for design and construction, which, as Council can see, is a little under \$60,000. Mr. Dodd asked if that will fall under the County's labor, to which Mr. Baker responded, no, they would have somebody else haul in the material, and stabilize the riprap. Mr. Dodd asked if Mr. Baker thinks that will help with the flooding in that area, to which Mr. Baker responded, the entire plan will help with the flooding in that area, but this step in particular will not. He clarified, they are not going to see a difference in Pratt Road because, again, they cannot send the additional water until they know they are not going to damage anything downstream, so this shores that area up. He said, again, with the \$100,000 limit to these FEMA grants, the way they have structured the work is such that they will keep applying for each phase. He explained, FEMA is favoring the communal approaches as opposed to just providing funds for single family homes to be raised up because of a floodplain issue, but they are looking for these community type projects, so the County has some favorable things working for them.

Mr. Cannon asked if the design of the stormwater pond on Pratt Road is sufficient, or are there some serious corrections that need to be made to that, to which Mr. Baker responded, it was sufficient for what the design standards were when it was built. He said it can be increased to hold additional water and hold more volume back, but they also have the opportunity to provide additional water quality improvements that they can then use to claim credit through the WIP program, and through MS4. He said, with the improvements they plan to do for that pond in particular, they are going to get a nice trifecta of addressing flooding, getting MS4 credits, and getting WIP credits all out of the same project. Mr. Cannon asked if they are trying to improve the quality, and make it larger, to which Mr. Baker responded, yes, but he suspects what they will do is go deeper with it. He explained, they will look where the groundwater table is since they cannot dig below the groundwater table because that is not going to do anything in terms of quantity management, but, yes, they will look at making it bigger. He said, again, this is through their Homeowners Association (HOA), and they have control over it, so they have to approach Hunter's Mill HOA about this. He said they have talked briefly with them about the

general concepts, but they do not have anything in writing, and they will have to take the step of getting permission before these projects move forward, and the same is true with West Nithsdale.

Mr. Cannon said he has one more question about this same area with the work the State is doing on Nanticoke Road, and he assumes they are going to be allowing more water to pass through under the road, to which Mr. Baker responded, that is what he has been told. He said he has not seen the plans yet, but their ultimate plan is to allow more water to go through. He said they have to do a series of hydraulic modeling because the Riawakin Pond discharges to Anderson Mill Pond, which then goes to the river. He said they had the washout of Pemberton Drive when a boat got stuck in the outfall, but that does not affect Pratt Road because Pratt Road drains to the river through the same path, and does not drain directly into Anderson Mill or Riawakin. Mr. Cannon said he understands that, but it is in the same area, so he just wanted to make sure he did not leave that out. He said, with the last storm they had with a lot of rain through both of those culverts, the water was just pouring out of there incredibly fast, and he was just concerned. He then asked, if the State allows more to go south, is the State going to help the County protect Pemberton Drive at that location, because it has happened twice. Mr. Baker said the State has to prove to the Maryland Department of Dam Safety that they are not having an adverse impact downstream, and they have to model what they have at Anderson Mill.

Mr. Baker said, switching to Coty Cox, they have awarded a contract to George, Miles, and Buhr (GMB) to begin working on the permits required to clean out that branch. He clarified, this would be between Morris and Rose Streets, and, again, they are dealing with wetland impacts, sediment erosion control permits, and various other agencies before they are allowed to start getting the debris out of that flood path. Mr. Dodd asked if GMB will be doing the cleaning, to which Mr. Baker responded, no. He clarified, the County will do it with in-house forces, but the type of information required is beyond the County. Mr. Cannon asked if they will be doing this in concert with the City, to which Mr. Baker responded, the area between Morris and Rose is the County's, but south of Rose is the City's. He said he has made the City aware they are going to be doing the work, but he does not know whether or not they are going to do anything in their section. He said they have alerted them to some of the pipe invert elevation discrepancies downstream, and he has not heard anything as far as if they are going to have a mitigation plan to address those issues, but the County's house will get in shape. Mr. Dodd said they have done some cleanup efforts there in the past, to which Mr. Baker responded, correct. Mr. Cannon said Delegate Sheree Sample-Hughes did a lot of cleanup efforts there, to which Mr. Davis responded, yes, but not on the creek. He clarified, that was on the dryland, and this project is going down in the creek.

Mr. Baker said the latest drainage study they are working on is Kaywood Drive, and that study is complete. He said, just for some background, the area of South Kaywood Drive, which is just off Mt. Hermon Road behind the old Kmart, drains to Parker Pond, and is almost a 26-acre drainage shed. He said a lot of the pipes in that storm drain system are very flat at 0.06 percent. He said, typically, they see 2 percent, or 1.5, so 0.06 is very flat, and the system has several bottlenecks in it. He said it starts at 15 inches upstream, increases to 24, decreases back down to 15, and then in turn increases back to 24. He said the outfall that it discharges to in Parker Pond is subject to surcharging during heavy rains, which means the water level of the pond rises up and covers the outfall from the storm drain, and is not capable of handling more than about the one-year storm right now. He said, just to give Council an idea, their current systems are designed to handle the 10-year storms. He said there are also several areas in the Kaywood community that have localized flooding in their backyards due to depressions with lower elevations, which is a challenge to help address the damage the residents are experiencing. He said there are several alternatives, and one they looked at is replacing the smaller 15 inch pipes downstream with a 36-inch pipe, and taking that to the pond, but they found that there was not any appreciable difference in addressing the flooding, and they still were not able to get much above the one-year storm

simply because of how flat those pipes are. He said they are just not at a significant enough slope to get that volume of water off of Kaywood, and down into the pond. He said they looked at two other alternatives, which are variations on a theme. He explained, a lot of the drainage that is coming onto Kaywood is coming from the farm field to the east of it. He said they looked at building a swale to intercept that water, and send it directly to Parker Pond, or building a pipe system and intercepting it, and, again, sending it to Parker Pond. He said both of these scenarios are able to adequately address the 10-year storm and reduce flooding on Kaywood Drive. He said there are also alternatives in the study for extending that system into Kaywood, and then providing outreached pipes to pick up the flooding in folks' backyards, but whether or not that is something they want to do is another story, and there are engineering options available to help address flooding in folks' backyards. Mr. Dodd said, when they have flooding in their backyards, it also crosses the road in front of their house, to which Mr. Baker responded, when they get flooding in the road, that is because of the large storms. He clarified, they do not see water building up in a backyard and then coming into the road, but it is these large storm events where they are getting 8 inches of rain in six hours, and everything floods where they see water built up in the road. He said they will experience some localized flooding during the smaller storms where it starts creeping in from their backyards, but it does not touch the road until they get to the very large storms. Mr. Dodd said he has been out there and saw it during one of the storms.

Mr. Baker said they have a couple of options, and the piping option is cheaper. He said the hiccup to this is that Public Works has had discussions with the farmer, and he had some bad experiences with State Highway when they were building the Bypass, so right now he is not willing to give the County an easement, or sell them the property they need to put in this pipe or swale system. He said the pipe is, obviously, going to be a lesser impact to any type of farming operations, but they are going to have to have some further discussions with him to see if there is any wiggle room, or any type of assurances they can give him. Mr. McCain asked, since this is for the public good, is eminent domain an option, to which Mr. Baker responded, it is. Mr. McCain said he is sure they do not want to go that route, but that is what it is for, to which Mr. Baker responded, that is an option, or, again, if he knows they are serious about building this up, they can try to find out what his concerns are. He said he knows that, whatever the State promised him, apparently, they did not deliver when they built the Bypass, and that, unfortunately, is bleeding over into the County's efforts, but they will continue to have talks with him.

Mr. Dodd said he and Mr. Baker met with State Highway to talk about the ditch near Adkins Farm. He then asked if there was any further discussion about that, and would that help relieve any of the flooding, to which Mr. Baker responded, not for Kaywood. Mr. Dodd said it is down a couple of blocks.

Mr. Baker said, moving on, as far as drainage construction goes, they have been cleaning up ditches, and constructing new ditches. He showed a picture of Fawn Drive, and said there was an actual ditch there at one point, and they reestablished it, and it is the same thing for Dagsboro Road. He said the ditch was there, but it was just in very poor shape, so they had to dig down several feet to get it cleaned out, open and running again. He said they, actually, received an email from a citizen thanking the County and said whatever work they did is working because Dagsboro is not flooding the way it used to. He said, in the Sharptown area they were having some drainage issues, and they found a beaver dam.

Mr. Baker said it has been since September when he and Council talked specifically about drainage, so he just wanted to list everything Public Works has accomplished since September. He showed a slide of projects listed and pictures, and said there is more work than what he can put into pictures. He said right now they are doing work on Collins Wharf Road working with the Moore family. He showed a picture demonstrating that a lot of the grass clippings from the sod farms make their way into the ditches. He said, on Baker Road, they have cleaned out the ditch alongside the road, but he wants to

point out the picture showing the ditch that drains the road, then takes a 90 degree turn, and heads out through a farm field. He said this is a typical drainage pattern of what they see in the County where the public roads eventually take an angle outside of the County's right of way, head through a field into the woods, and kind of disappear. He said they have reached out as far as they could with the Gradall in this picture, but, again, this is one of the challenges of how to address getting these farm fields cleaned out to open up the drainage and keep things moving. He said he does not have an answer yet, but it is something they are working on, and it is just something he wanted to make Council aware of.

Mr. Cannon asked what Mr. Baker will be doing differently now than what he was doing before because these are not being maintained on a regular basis, to which Mr. Baker responded, a lot of these are not new. He clarified, a lot of these are places where they have cleaned out existing ditches, and they are still working off of a reactive system where they are going out when they get calls of flooding issues. He said he would, certainly, love to have a dedicated crew doing nothing but going through the County and cleaning out ditches on a systemic basis the same way they cut grass. Mr. Dodd said, to follow up on Mr. Cannon's comment, looking at the before and after, it looks like the ditch is filled in through erosion, so what are they going to do to maintain those so it does not happen again, to which Mr. Baker responded, again, they are talking about a proactive program where they would actively clean these out whether they are getting calls or not. Mr. Dodd said they have to do that, to which Mr. Baker responded, that would be ideal, but he does not have the resources to do that. Mr. Kilmer said Mr. Baker mentioned a dedicated crew for doing that, and budget season is coming up. He then asked if Council see a request for a dedicated crew in the budget, to which Mr. Baker responded, right now Public Works has about ten vacancies in the Roads Department, so it is difficult to make requests for additional people when he is not even fully staffed. He said they are just not seeing people apply. He said they have positions open from entry level up through experienced equipment operators, mechanics, and masons, but people are not applying. Mr. Dodd asked if he has ten allotted positions that nobody has applied for, to which Mr. Baker responded, they get a lot of folks who will just fill out an application, such as a hairdresser applying to operate a Gradall. He said he appreciates that effort, but it does not help him. Mr. Davis asked if it is because of the pay, to which Mr. Baker responded, there was a recent study undertaken, and he has lost mechanics to other jobs. He said they come in and work for a year, and get all of their experience, but then they are hired away from the County at salaries he cannot match, so it is a challenge. He said, to answer the question of whether there are going to be more positions requested, he has a hard time justifying needing seven more people to go out and put a crew together to clean ditches when he has ten vacancies sitting right there. He said, if he can get his ten positions filled and is maxed out, then he would need more, but right now he would be happy with getting the ten vacancies he has filled. He clarified, no, he is not putting a request in for additional people when he cannot fill what he has. Mr. Cannon said he thinks the whole idea is that these projects for which he has spent a whole lot of time putting together, which is really great, are not long-term. He said it sounds to him that they have dug a ditch on Dagsboro Road, and they have dug a ditch on Fawn Drive, but two or three months from now the ditches are going to disappear. He said it seems that they should have a program in place, and that is what he was trying to get at, to which Mr. Baker responded, again, they are actively looking at doing more ditching, and that message is clear. He said ditching used to be at the bottom of the list, but now they are asking for more ditching, and what other places they can go to. He said even when they were fully staffed with the HUR (Highway User Revenue) money, and they were an enterprise fund, it was his understanding that they were cleaning out ditches maybe once every five years. He said, if they have to come back in six months and find this ditch silted in, something else is going on because these cleaned out ditches should last for years. He said they will see vegetation starting to grow in the bottom, which is, actually, a good thing because it helps stabilize the ditch, and helps remove nutrients. He said they will receive calls from folks telling them they have grass growing in the bottom of their

ditch and they would like it cleaned out, but that grass is a good thing. He said they can see some of the differences, and Collins Wharf is a good example of when the ditches truly need to be cleaned out.

Mr. Hastings said, in reference to the picture shown of Baker Road, a couple of years ago he did a lot of work with the American Farmland Trust and others in the Agricultural community, and he works in conservation, but a majority of the agricultural lands in the County are all leased land. He said, usually, the landowners do a great job of taking care of the properties, but the lease folks do not do as good of a job, so they try to work with the broader public. He said he does not know if there is a way they can continue to do some sort of effort to help the folks who need to be doing a better job of continuing to take care of the land, but he thinks the agricultural community has always been the first to say that.

Mr. Kilmer said Mr. Baker mentioned Levin Dashiell Road. He then asked what has been happening there because it is a lot more heavily traveled than it used to be, and the part between the collector road and Nanticoke Road is very heavily traveled. He said it gets flooded with just a light rain, and he has not seen much drainage work done there, to which Mr. Baker responded, that road, in particular, is a challenge because there is not a clear drainage path. He said all of that water wants to go to Mitchell Pond, but they have to cross private fields, and private businesses to get it some place, and there is not an easy fix there. Mr. Kilmer said Mr. Baker mentioned they have been working on Levin Dashiell. He then asked what they have done there, to which Mr. Baker responded, there are sections along Levin Dashiell further past the nursery, and further past where Naylor Mill intersects where they were having some problems with a particular house flooding, so they looked at cleaning out some of the ditches, and getting some of that stuff moving off her property. Mr. Kilmer said, if the collector road is not going to be completed, and the traffic pattern is forced onto Levin Dashiell Road to use Naylor Mill Road, then either they should complete the collector road to get the traffic off that portion of Levin Dashiell, or they should have drainage so people are not hydroplaning regularly there. He said he thinks there are two options there, to which Mr. Baker responded, he is hoping there is an opportunity to partner with the State in addressing some of that area because the State still is actively looking at Nanticoke Road at the entrance to Willow Creek where those fields flood over top of Nanticoke Road and then head down to the Willow Creek community. He said, depending on what type of ditch or swale system he imagines the State would build along Nanticoke Road, the County might have the opportunity to tie into that to get the water to move to an outfall. He said he does not think that will address all of Levin Dashiell, but he thinks it will address the portions closer to Nanticoke Road. He said, as far as that middle section, that is probably another section that needs a drainage study to try to come up with a solution of how to get the water from that bowl to an outfall. He said it is on his radar, and they are trying to chip away at it.

Mr. Baker said they are still working with drainage outreach, and he has met with the managers of the Allen Public Drainage Association (PDA), and the Horsebridge PDA to discuss some of their drainage concerns. He said, coming up on the 13th, he is meeting with the Soil Conservation Board of Supervisors to see if there is any type of coordination they can do between drainage projects they are working on, and what the County is working on, again, looking for any overlap, or ways to partner with other organizations. He said, at the Horsebridge meeting, there was a representative from Kilburnie who asked him to attend their meeting coming up this spring, and he told him he would be there for that to, potentially, discuss an Urban Service District to try to address some of their drainage problems.

Mr. Baker said it was asked awhile back how they prioritize projects within Public Works for drainage, so he wants to explain that the Roads Division has other responsibilities besides drainage. He said, when they assess projects, first is always emergency response, whether snow plows, or hurricane responses, and their second priority is road failures. He said, if something opens up that is going to cause a hole in the road beyond just a pothole, that is going to take priority. He said they still have to address their

paving program, and, before a road is paved, they replace the crossroad pipes underneath it because no one wants to see a newly paved road cut open to have a pipe replaced, and see a joint and bumps, and a good example of that is Pemberton Drive at Anderson Mill Pond where there is a bump. He said, after the roads are paved, they have to replace the shoulders. He said, typically, there are several inches of drop off between the height of the new asphalt and where the shoulder is, so they have to put millings or stone back to make sure it has a safe transition in case a vehicle accidentally leaves the road. He said then they get to drainage issues, tree trimming, and grass cutting. He said, typically, the crews cutting grass in the summer and spring are the same ones who are cutting the trees in the fall and winter, so they will see one crew come off, and that same crew will go to a different job. He said, lastly, is their dirt road maintenance, which he knows Council has been bringing up. He said they are still working on Bear Swamp, and that portion of Walnut Tree is still on their list. He said they are experiencing a lot of vandalism of the road with folks going out with their four-wheelers and tearing it up, so they are finding sections where they have to go back in and regrade, but that is the first step. He said that is where they are, as far as looking within the picture of all of the things that get accomplished in the Roads Division.

Mr. Cannon said he was out at Walnut Tree, and he was really surprised. He explained, he happened to be headed in that direction the other day, and, if someone was going down that road at night at any great amount of speed, their car would probably not end up getting out of there, and he does not know if that is a liability on the part of the County. He said he was extremely shocked as to the conditions because there was, literally, a pond about the length of this room in the middle of the road. He said, again, at night, someone is going to go right through it. He said there was a pothole that, literally, could have completely taken the wheel off his car because it was that deep, so he is just worried about what the County might open themselves up to if they keep that road open under the circumstances. Mr. McCain said some of the dirt roads are worse than that, to which Mr. Baker responded, one of their own Public Works trucks, literally, got stuck on Bear Swamp today. He said, especially with the high groundwater table they are all seeing it right now, there are portions of these dirt roads that are under water, and, in reality, they cannot grade until that water level starts dropping because they cannot grade mud. He said they are taking out tandem loads of stone and dumping them into some of these holes to start building these roads back up. He said, just in those cases, when they are looking at dirt roads, they try to prioritize the roads that people actually live on as the top priority, but they are hearing Council's concerns about Bear Swamp and Walnut Tree, and they are trying to address them.

Mr. Baker said, moving back to drainage projects, there are those they can do in-house, and then the ones they have to program into the budget and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). He said, when they get a call about a drainage concern, the first thing they do is go look at it to see what the problem might be. He said then they start going through lists of questions to figure out if it is something they can handle in-house, or if it is a life safety issue, which would get an immediate response. He said they look at how many people are being affected, whether the road is being affected, how many people travel on the road, whether the County has the equipment to address it, if they need a permit, whether it is a wetland or a blue line stream, if it is something they can handle in-house, and if it something that fits within their current operating budget. He clarified, all of these things go into whether they handle something at Roads, or whether something is developed into a CIP project or bigger, and he cannot give one specific example because it is a matrix of things. He said, if something like Coty Cox needs the permit level, they are going to be able to do the work in-house, but they have to put it further down the priority list simply because they know it is going to take a month or two to get those permits. He said then, while they wait for that, they can go do ditching on Collins Wharf, for example, because they do not need a permit to do that, and then the crew that is working on Collins Wharf will then go over to Coty Cox when they get the permits, so it is a very dynamic situation. He said, if they determine a project cannot be handled in-house, they look at very similar items, such as safety concerns. He said, when they are prioritizing, they

look at things such as, if it fails, would it cause a loss of life, are they experiencing property damage, or is it just nuisance flooding where somebody's front yard that is 5 to 6 acres has a puddle in front and the homeowner does not like it and would like to see it addressed. He said, when they compare that to the problems, such as on Pratt Road, it is going to fall further back in the priority schedule. He said they look at how many people are affected, how many cars are traveling on the roadway, what the costs are, and whether they are able to access it. He said Twin Tree, for example, is right next to the branch that needs to get cleaned out, and is in conjunction with a downstream improvement where they are going to replace the pipes under Riverside Drive that Twin Tree replaces into, so it ties in nicely with project overlap. He said, again, they also look at permitting, easement needs, and any other additional criteria, such as whether the project can be modified to get them some WIP or MS4 credits with those projects.

Mr. Cannon asked what Mr. Baker sees as the final solution in Kaywood, to which Mr. Baker responded, the next step is to acquire the necessary right of way or easements to get that pipe in the ground, and once they get that, they can start programming money for the design of the storm drain pipe and construction. Mr. Dodd asked if the biggest obstacle is the farmer where the easement is needed, and if that is the most important aspect, to which Mr. Baker responded, right now, yes. He said that option is far cheaper than tearing up the center of Kaywood Drive and putting a new storm drain pipe right down the middle. He said, if it is a definite no from the farmer, and eminent domain is not something Council wants to explore, then they may have to look at putting a pipe down the middle, and what that cost would be, which is definitely significant surface restoration as opposed to covering a pipe up with farm dirt versus repaving an entire road. Mr. Cannon said, if they get into eminent domain as a last option, nobody likes that, and nobody ever wants to get into eminent domain. He said he thinks this is a case where what the County would do would not infringe too much on the value of the property. Mr. McCain said sometimes it is a benefit. He said his business is, actually, doing this on the Western Shore in a lot of Counties for the State of Maryland because they have had to take over a lot of streambeds that have collapsed, and things of that nature. He said they are doing easements on these streambeds, and have to pay property owners a fairly small amount because they are, actually, improving them, but they are doing easements on these waterways just to open them up and restore them. He said it might come to that for Wicomico County, but the end result is they are, actually, making an improvement. He said they are already dealing with their existing ditches as they are now, so in a lot of cases they might have to do easements on these properties, to which Mr. Baker responded, they might take the approach of telling them they are putting a pipe in so they are not losing the ability to use their land, and, barring some type of catastrophic emergency, they make the easement conditional on not doing any work when they are harvesting, such as the fall and winter when they are not actively using their field. He said, again, they will see what this gentleman's concerns are, and try to find a path forward.


Mr. Cannon said he thinks Mr. Baker has done a great job. He said the second portion they are trying to address is the County's role as far as establishing guidelines and parameters, and whether or not they need to have some compliance issues recommended. He then asked if he sees that developing next, and how far they might be away from that because that is a critical element, to which Mr. Baker responded, one of the things they are going to work on next is talking with developers about what he calls individual operating plans. He explained, a lot of the problems they see are when these lots are built lower than the road. He said the road is designed to pick up the water, drain it to a stormwater facility, and not have people's yards flood. He said builders go in, such as in West Nithsdale, and build lower than the road, and it does not help. He said, before they drop any type of regulatory hammer, they want to have a discussion with the developers to tell them the problems the County is experiencing, and whether this is something they can self-regulate, and if there is something the County can help them with instead of just coming in and saying here are some new regulations they have to follow. He said they are trying to take a more grassroots approach with some of the developers. He said they have a list together, and will

be reaching out to them to have a forum type of meeting to show the challenges the County is facing on the drainage side, and ask if there is some way they can work together without having to write laws and regulations for it. He said that is the next approach. Mr. Cannon said the reason he asks is, with what Mr. Baker displayed on Fawn Drive and Dagsboro Road, which is excellent work, the first thing he thought about was a quarter mile down the road. He said, if they have established a small network of ditches, but a quarter mile down the road whoever owns that property is not maintaining that ditch, this is not going to be as successful of a project for the entire region, to which Mr. Baker responded, that follows very true for the example on Baker Road. He clarified, what is in the County's right of way is very easy to address, but when it drains outside of the County's right of way, they have to try to encourage someone to go out and clean it when maybe they do not have the money or the resources. Mr. Dodd asked if there is Legislation on the books for situations like that to make these property owners comply with the ditches and drainage, to which Mr. Baker responded, not that he is aware of. He said it is a tough question of how they can say the Government is going to come in and tell people what they have to do on their property, but what they are doing on their property is also affecting everybody else's. Mr. Dodd said it is a quality of life issue. Mr. Cannon said it is no different than the Government making the decision to put a stop sign up because, if they do not, someone can run the stop sign and kill somebody. He said some of these are necessary evils, and he completely understands that they do not want to overextend their hand, but there are some measures he thinks may need to be taken for the good of everybody without being too punitive on any of it. Mr. Baker said it might be that they have to come in and do the work, and then bill them afterwards, and maybe that is spread out over some type of reasonable timeframe so it is not a burden. There was no further discussion.


John T. Cannon, President


Larry W. Dodd, Vice President, District 3


Ernest F. Davis, District 1


Marc Kilmer, District 2

Josh Hastings, District 4


Joe Holloway, District 5


William R. McCain, At-Large


Laura Hurley, Council Administrator