

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**October 7, 2021**

*The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met on October 7, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. for a Public Viewing located at 10037 Mitchells Mills Road, Chardon, Ohio.*

*It is declared and determined that all formal actions of the Board of County Commissioners concerning and relating to the adoption of all resolutions that were adopted in this meeting, and that all deliberations of the Board of County Commissioners that resulted in such formal action were open to the public and were in compliance with all legal requirements, including section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.*

*The Board opened the Viewing at 10:08 a.m. at the location of 10037 Mitchells Mill Road in Chardon Township for the Proposed Vacation of the Public Right of Way upon a portion of Wisner Road, all of Section C (TR-0084) in Chardon Township.*

*\*Commissioner Spidalieri was absent from the Viewing.*

*Clerk, Christine Blair thanked everyone in attendance for signing in today, those in attendance included the Commissioners, County Administrator, Clerk, Staff from the County Engineer's Office, the Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Property Owners from the area and the property owners affected by the proposed vacation, including Mr. Cardinal, Staff for the Holden Arboretum and their Attorney.*

*Everyone was gathered by Mr. Cardinal's driveway and Deputy Engineer Andy Haupt presented a copy of his report that he submitted to the Commissioners and a copy of a map depicting the section of Wisner proposed to be vacated. The start of the vacation is the edge of Mitchells Mills Road and Wisner fifty feet wide. The group then walked towards the corner pin of Mr. Cardinals property that abuts Holden Arboretum property along the river. Mr. Haupt showed where everyone was standing on the map, showing that the county highway exists and what is being proposed to be left behind is a non-motorized vehicle easement thirty feet wide.*

*Everyone then walked to the bridge. Mr. Haupt explained that this is where the non-motorized, non-vehicular easement would end, in the center of the bridge so if the bridge goes away it will then end in the creek. Mr. Haupt explained and discussion was held about the bridge, how old it was, it's structural soundness, weight limit, ratings.*

*Commissioner Lennon inquired about the property surrounding the bridge, to which it was noted that this is the future Holden Arboretum property. Mr. Lennon inquired if this was the property that the Commissioners assisted in being able to purchase in January, which was acknowledged. A member of the Holden Arboretum staff explained that all the structures on the property will be removed. Local resident Carl Henderson expressed concern over safety, to which Holden noted that they plan to keep the bridge. They noted that the Stebbins gulch is on the property and this is referred to as Stebbins creek. Mr. Haupt stated that the bridge is loaded at 80,000 lbs, structurally it's sound, but it has scour on it from the water. Maintenance was done to the bridge to keep it how it is, including adding steel and a rust inhibitor. Annually the bridge is inspected and gets posted for what it is.*

*Everyone then walked to the end of the designated highway which is where a previous vacation had taken place. Mr. Haupt explained that the easement being requested would end in the center of the bridge. Local resident John Mauter stated that he posed a question at the Township meeting about what could be considered a compromise. To which it was noted that would be for next week at the Public Hearing, that today was just to get eyes on and see what it being proposed. From this location at the guardrail to Mitchell Mills Road is what is being considered to be vacated. There was some discussion about the previous vacations and the bridge that had been removed. It was noted that there would be access for research by Holden personnel to the property and that members would have limited access to the area.*

*Being no further questions or comments, Mr. Lennon moved to close the Viewing at 10:30 a.m., seconded by Mr. Dvorak.*

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*Geauga County Board of Commissioners*

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*James W. Dvorak*

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*Timothy C. Lennon*

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*Ralph Spidalieri*

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*Christine Blair, Commissioners' Clerk*

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