

Village of Pemberville
Flood Committee Meeting – May 27, 2026 @ 1:00pm

Present: Susie Rahe, Christina Yaniga, Pat Rollins, Chief Vaughn, Mayor Wozniak, Eric Campbell, Gene Steele, Erlin Mortz

Ms. Yaniga opened the meeting by reviewing information she received during meetings with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), Ohio Emergency Management Agency (Ohio EMA), FEMA, and Wood County officials regarding floodplain management, post-flood assessments, mitigation efforts, and the Village's responsibilities under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

The committee discussed FEMA's post-flood assessment process and the training provided by ODNR. It was noted that local officials are responsible for documenting visible flood damage and submitting information for review, rather than making structural or insurance determinations. Members discussed the importance of maintaining compliance with FEMA requirements, including post-flood assessments, documentation, and enforcement of floodplain regulations, in order to preserve residents' access to flood insurance and maintain eligibility for certain federal programs.

Discussion also focused on the Village's flood damage prevention ordinance, which governs development and construction within flood-prone areas, and the distinction between long-term flood mitigation efforts and emergency flood response activities. Members reviewed the Mayor's role in enforcing floodplain regulations and the responsibilities of zoning and building officials.

The committee reviewed available FEMA mitigation programs, including Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) and Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC), which may provide funding for planning, mitigation projects, property acquisitions, and flood reduction efforts. Discussion included potential future property buyouts, floodproofing measures, and other long-term strategies to reduce repetitive flood damage.

Members discussed recurring flooding concerns throughout the Portage River watershed and acknowledged that meaningful flood reduction efforts would require extensive engineering studies, funding, and coordination among multiple agencies.

The committee identified two primary areas of focus moving forward:

1. **Emergency Management** – preparing for and responding to flood events through public communication, resource coordination, sandbag availability, and post-flood assistance.

2. **Flood Mitigation** – researching grants, reviewing regulations, pursuing long-term flood reduction strategies, and supporting compliance with FEMA requirements.

Additional discussion included FEMA compliance reviews, maintaining accurate records, researching sandbag suppliers, reviewing past flood assessment records, and utilizing FEMA educational resources. The committee also expressed interest in studying successful floodplain management programs implemented by other communities, including the City of Findlay.

Committee members agreed that ongoing meetings will be necessary to continue developing flood preparedness, emergency response procedures, and long-term mitigation strategies.

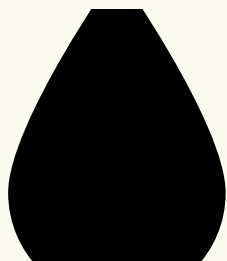
Ms. Yaniga's presentation is attached summarizing the information discussed and provided educational materials for the committee's review. Members agreed to review **NFIP Floodplain Management Requirements, Unit 1 (pages 25–53)** found at https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema-480_floodplain-management-study-guide_local-officials.pdf prior to the next meeting to prepare for further discussion on floodplain management responsibilities and compliance requirements.

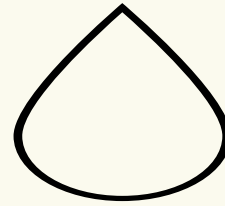
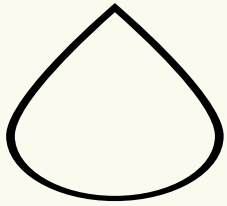
Next Meeting: June 24, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.



PEMBERVILLE FLOOD MANAGEMENT & MITIGATION

FLOOD COMMITTEE MEETING MAY 27TH 2026





AGENDA

- EXPECTATIONS
- REPORTS FROM APRIL & MAY
ODNR (FEMA GUIDED) MEETINGS
- NEXT STEPS AS RECOMMENDED
BY ODNR
- EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT VS
MITIGATION
- FLOOD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE
FUNDING
- IDEAS FOR QUESTIONS AND
COMMUNICATION WITH NEXT
RECOMMENDED OFFICIALS

WHY IS THIS COMMITTEE DIFFERENT ?

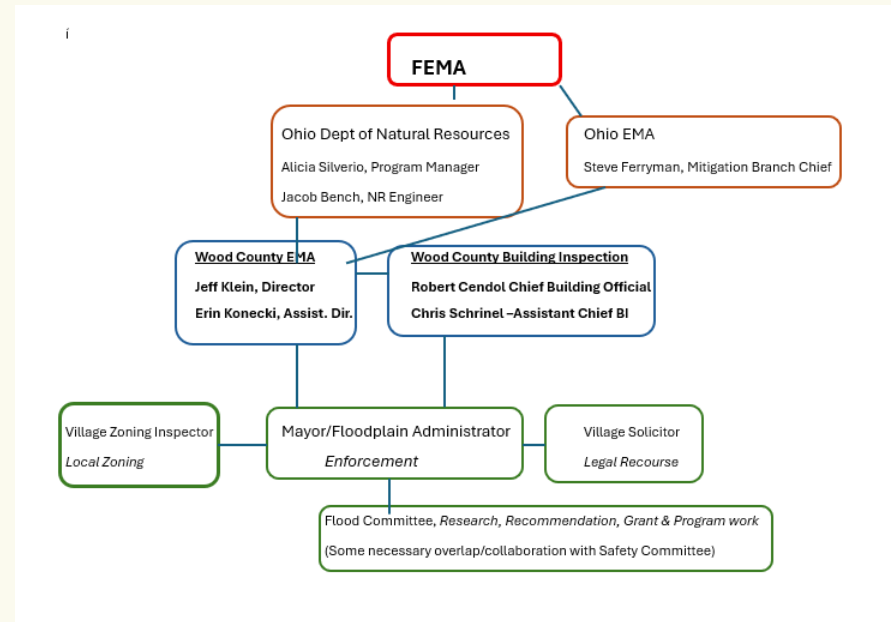
STAKES ARE HIGHER

**AFFECTS AREAS OF NATURAL DISASTER, POTENTIALLY ALTERS FUTURE
PATHS OF FLOOD EVENTS THAT DIRECTLY IMPACT HOMES, PROPERTY,
LOCAL ECOLOGY**

**OVERSIGHT INCLUDES MANY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND THEREFORE
REGULATIONS**

**RESIDENT VIOLATIONS OF FLOODPLAIN REGULATIONS CONSTITUTE A
MISDEMEANOR NOT A ZONING VIOLATION**

EXPECTATIONS OF SUSTAINABLE FLOOD PLAIN ADMINISTRATION



- ALL **LOCAL** PARTIES NAMED IN THE ABOVE DIAGRAM MUST BE APPROPRIATELY INVOLVED, EDUCATED, AND WORK TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE OUTCOMES, EACH FULFILLING THEIR RESPECTIVE ROLE
- WORK/ PROGRESS MEETINGS MUST BE AS REGULAR AS ANY OTHER COUNCIL COMMITTEE

REPORT FROM RECENT MEETINGS WITH OHIO DEPT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

ODNR LED FEMA TRAINING WITH VILLAGE AND COUNTY OFFICIALS

April 22, 2026

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

PEMBERVILLE NEEDS TO EFFECTIVELY AND CONSISTENTLY ENFORCE ITS FLOOD ORDINANCES WHICH SERVE AS OUR FLOOD MITIGATION PLAN

ASSESSMENTS OF AFFECTED STRUCTURES MUST BE COMPLETED IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING A FLOOD EVENT AND LOGGED IN THE FEMA APP SYSTEM TO BEGIN POPULATING A LARGER POOL OF DATA THAT KEEPS US IN GOOD STANDING AS A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

- Assessments are not optional
- Assistance in completing these assessments is critical
 - Supports include: ODNR, Wood County EMA, Wood County Building Inspection, Ohio EMA

***FOLLOW-UP WITH ODNR REP
STRONGLY RECOMMENDED***

REPORT FROM RECENT MEETINGS WITH ODNR (CONT.)

PHONE MEETING WITH JACOB BENCH, ODNR

MAY 8, 2026

- **NEXT STEP COURSE OF ACTION RECOMMENDED BY JACOB BENCH, ODNR**
- UNDERSTAND AND ENFORCE PEMBERVILLE'S FLOODING ORDINANCES
 - Overlap with zoning but entirely zoning's responsibility
 - Requires collaboration with County and State entities for authoritative enforcement
- CONTACT WOOD CO AND OHIO EMA'S FOR GUIDANCE IN PURSUING GRANT OR LOAN FUNDED FLOOD MITIGATION PROGRAM ACTION
- **RECOMMENDATIONS FROM LOCAL ATTENDEES:**
- BEGIN SETTING MONIES ASIDE FOR FLOODING ALLEVIATION PURPOSES
 - Our share of enforcement measures
 - Our share of future flood mitigation projects such as home buy outs and repurposing of floodway residential land (specific action recommended by Jacob Bench)
- BUILD A STRONG FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT PRACTICE VIA THE FOLLOWING:
 - Fostering strong communication and united efforts between the Flood committee, Safety committee, Zoning Inspector, mayor/ flood plain administrator, and village solicitor
 - Pursue assistance from Wood Co and State of Ohio to
 - Complete qualifying measures we need to be taking this year to keep in good standing for these grants/monies
-

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: WHAT WILL THIS TEAM'S PLAN CONSIST OF?

	PREPARATORY	DURING EVENT ACTION	POST EVENT REACTION
EXAMPLES	Count sandbags and ready for distribution with sign out and fee	Check in on affected residents	Order dumpster(s) for debris and damaged items (to be assessed back on residents?)

FLOOD MITIGATION

RESOURCES	AGENCY
Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant Program	FEMA
Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities	FEMA
(All of the above we would have to coordinate and apply as a sub applicant under the state)	Ohio EMA

PURPOSES FOR WHICH FUNDS CAN BE APPLIED

- Assistance in assessing damage and establishing enforcement procedures
- Land buyout and repurposing
 - Using 75/25 state program

WE NEED TO EQUIP OURSELVES

TRAINING

- FEMA NFIP Study Guide for Officials
- Visit a well-functioning flood administration team from a neighboring community
- **more from list in Study Guide**

RESEARCH

- FEMA Materials for Local Officials
- Grants & loans for assistance with enforcement & mitigation projects
- *Additional resources public and private to provide affected homeowners with options

CONTINUAL GUIDANCE

- Alicia Silverio, Program Manager, ODNR
- Steve Ferryman, Ohio EMA Engineer

PROPOSED NEXT STEPS

1. Study unit 1 of the NFIP FMP Study Guide and meet back next month to discuss
2. Create a starting list of questions together for our next contacts
3. Meet regularly

Study Unit 1 of NFIP
FMP Study Gd For
Officials

Work toward understanding of NFIP guided processes as reflected in our ordinances and the Study Guide individually AND as a group – *everyone keep a running list of questions*

Begin Drafting an
Emergency Plan

Each committee member, official, or person record and bring their suggestions to the next meeting concerning pre, during, and post flood actions that this group can make practice

Meeting regularly

As often as any other committee, compare notes on docs, build on starting questions, pursue grants and loans, set monies aside for our expected portions of funded efforts



FEMA

SUGGESTED NEXT MEETING FOCUS



**Department of
Natural Resources**

- **DEVELOPING EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PRE, DURING, AND POST FLOOD EVENT PLAN**
- **REVIEW AND DISCUSS UNIT 1 OF NFIP STUDY GUIDE FOR OFFICIALS**
- **CONTRIBUTE TO A MORE FLESHED OUT LIST OF QUESTIONS FOR STEVE FERRYMAN AND ALICIA SILVERIO**



**Ohio Emergency
Management Agency**

Any other suggestions?