Village of Pemberville
Flood Committee Meeting – August 26, 2026 @ 5:30pm

Present: Mayor Wozniak, Susie Rahe, Pat Rollins, Christina Yaniga, Eric Campbell & Gene Steele

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The Committee discussed scheduling conflicts with Wednesday evenings. Members agreed to move future Flood Committee meetings to 1:00 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of the month.

Public Education and FEMA Resources
Christina Yaniga reported that she and Eric Campbell reviewed flood-related educational resources for residents. Four resources were identified for possible placement on the Village website covering flood preparedness, actions before/during/after a flood, mold prevention and cleanup, and filing flood insurance claims.
The Committee also discussed providing appropriate flood information to property owners in flood-prone areas.

Flood Response Planning
The Committee discussed the concept of a volunteer Flood Event Response Team to assist residents before and after flooding events. Any volunteer response would need to be coordinated with Village departments and emergency services, with volunteers limited to safe activities.

Village Flood Response Procedures
The Committee discussed documenting the Village's existing flood-response procedures to preserve institutional knowledge and identify responsibilities, gaps, and areas of overlap. Information will be gathered from the Mayor, Police Department, Fire/EMS, Streets Department, Electric Department, Water/Sewer operations, Zoning/Floodplain Administration, BPA, and others involved in Village flood response. The information will be used to begin developing a coordinated written Village flood-response plan.

Sandbagging and Flood Protection
The Committee reviewed previous sandbagging and flood-control efforts and discussed focusing on practical measures for individual properties. Engineered flood-protection systems should not be recommended by the Village without appropriate professional guidance.

Flood Mitigation and Grant Opportunities
The Committee discussed identifying potential flood-mitigation projects and considering Village funding that could serve as a local match for future grants. Members also noted the importance of documenting flood-related expenses that may qualify for reimbursement or matching purposes.
Previous discussions with ODNR representatives Alicia Silverio and Jacob Bench were reviewed, including consistent enforcement of floodplain regulations and the potential for property acquisition/buyouts in appropriate locations. The Committee will identify priorities and questions before a future discussion with ODNR/FEMA representatives.

Floodplain Ordinance and Enforcement
The Committee discussed the importance of consistently administering and enforcing the Village's floodplain ordinance and permit requirements, including restrictions affecting development and improvements within floodplain and floodway areas.
The Committee also discussed organizing historical floodplain records, permits, correspondence, and FEMA documentation.

Substantial Damage Evaluations and Education
The Committee discussed FEMA's Substantial Damage Estimator and the need for additional training or guidance for post-flood property evaluations. Members will continue reviewing FEMA and floodplain-management educational resources.

New Business – Bridges and River Debris
Gene Steele reported that debris at the Beierly Street Bridge was removed after he contacted the county. He also reported debris accumulation at a railroad bridge downstream in Sandusky County. The Committee discussed the potential impact of downstream obstructions on the Portage River system.

Action Items
Everyone
- Document questions regarding potential ODNR/FEMA flood-mitigation grant projects.
- Read Chapter 3, pages 72–112, of *NFIP Floodplain Requirements: A Study Guide and Desk Reference for Local Officials* and identify discussion points.
- Review and become familiar with the Village's floodplain ordinance.

Christina
- Prepare a questionnaire for the Mayor, Police, Fire/EMS, Streets, Electric, Water/Sewer, Zoning/Floodplain Administration, BPA, and other appropriate Village personnel regarding existing flood-response procedures and responsibilities.
    - Circulate the draft to the Committee for two days of feedback.
    - Incorporate feedback and distribute it to the appropriate departments and officials.
- Send Ed links to the four public-education resources for the Flood Committee webpage.

Eric
- Prepare a sample flood-information addendum packet for homeowners with property in the floodplain.

Susie
- Complete and distribute the August meeting minutes.
- Ask the Finance Committee to continue considering flood-mitigation funding as part of next year's appropriations.

Ed
- Add the public-education resources to the Flood Committee webpage upon receipt from Christina.
- Confirm the number of Village properties currently carrying flood insurance.

The next Flood Committee meeting will be held on September 23rd @ 1:00pm