

FOREST LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

SPILLWAY REPAIR PROJECT UPDATE

JUNE 12, 2021

Spillway Design Document Status

The final design phase of the project began in early December 2020 after the USDA grant was finalized. Since that time Ron Swagman and I have had several design review meetings with Lapham Associates and our comments have been addressed. Documents were submitted to the State of Michigan EGLE Dam Safety Unit and the USDA-NRCS on April 9th. The administrative review by EGLE started on April 12th and the purpose of the review is to confirm that all documentation required for a technical review has been submitted. On May 20th EGLE issued a request for additional information to Lapham Associates and they responded on May 25th. They also had a phone conference with EGLE on May 28th. The remaining documentation to be provided by Lapham Associates was scheduled to be complete last week. EGLE may now use up to 60 days for the technical review phase. Earlier this week Lapham Associates was directed by EGLE to remove the weir structure downstream of the proposed settling pond at the end of the spillway. The drawings are currently being updated accordingly. Unfortunately, the permitting phase has been a lengthy process, but it is an important part of the project to confirm that the design is adequate, especially in light of the public safety aspects of the project.

The bid documents will include separate pricing for base bid grant eligible work and alternate pricing for grant ineligible items. After bids have been received and analyzed the Board will decide if the grant ineligible items will be included in the contract or subcontracted separately.

Preliminary Schedule

Lapham Associates will be preparing bid forms, contract forms, general conditions, etc. while EGLE is completing the technical review. The intent is to issue the project for bids as soon as possible after all permits have been issued. Bid documents will include a requirement for substantial completion of the construction by December 31st and final completion by March 31, 2022. The intent is to raise the lake level to normal level next spring. If all goes well, we can start raising the level at the normal time next year but there could be delays if any issues occur.

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe Grant

Moffatt Township has received a \$50,000 grant from the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe on behalf of our Association. The funds are designated to be used only for the new weir gates to replace the stop logs at the dam. The weir gates are not eligible under the USDA grant and

therefore the funding from the Tribe is very much appreciated. The grant amount will not cover the entire cost of the gates, installation and associated electrical work. Therefore, the Association will be responsible for the additional costs.

Public Assistance

Public assistance for our disaster remediation began a few days after the flood when USDA personnel inspected our site and contacted Board members to provide information regarding the Emergency Watershed Protection Program. After it appeared that we might be eligible for a grant the Board contacted the Arenac County Board of Commissioners to request sponsorship for the USDA grant. The County agreed to the sponsorship in a timely fashion and the process of procuring a grant began.

The Board also applied to the Small Business Association (SBA) for a low interest loan when our request for FEMA assistance with dredging and dock repairs was denied. After we provided considerable documentation to the SBA our application was denied since Moffatt Township was not a member of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The Board contacted the Township and requested that they apply for membership in the NFIP. Legal notifications were published in the local paper, a virtual special meeting was held, the Township successfully joined NFIP, and our loan application was reinstated within a few weeks.

Earlier this spring the Board was contacted by Arenac County and Moffatt Township regarding the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe 2% grant program. They offered their assistance and made suggestions on how our Association could apply for a grant. We provided cost information and a narrative to the Township, and they made a grant application on our behalf.

Our Association would be in very difficult situation without the public assistance and substantial funding that has been provided. A considerable amount of time and labor has been provided at no cost to the Association. In the future, the valuable assistance by all of the local agencies should be remembered if the Board is requested to make changes that could impact the local community.

Spillway Drawings

A site plan drawing of the proposed spillway is available for your viewing after the meeting. This drawing is being modified as a result of the permitting process and therefore photographs of the drawing are not allowed.