

**Resolution #06-2017**

**A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE INCLUSION OF RICHFIELD TOWNSHIP IN THE YELLOW CREEK WATERSHED CONSERVANCY DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, the Yellow Creek Foundation has proposed the creation of the Yellow Creek Watershed Conservancy District that would include and impact nine (9) communities, including the Cities of Fairlawn, Akron, and Cuyahoga Falls; the Townships of Copley, Sharon, Granger, Richfield, and Bath; and the Village of Richfield;

WHEREAS, the new Yellow Creek Watershed Conservancy District also proposes a new property tax levy in the amount of 0.3 mills to fund future projects that would advance the purposes of the new conservancy district; and

WHEREAS, Richfield Township already has funds available to take flooding and erosion control measures that may be necessary to protect residents of the Township; and

WHEREAS, Richfield Township Board of Trustees have discussed and are exploring opting into the proposed Summit County Engineer's Surface Water Management Program for flooding and erosion control measures and such funding could be spent with greater efficacy if stormwater determinations were made by Richfield Township with Summit County providing regional coordination; and

WHEREAS, areas of Richfield Township are within the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS) and are already subject to the NEORS's Regional Stormwater Management Plan and associated Stormwater Management program fees, and the Township does not believe that additional tax levies for similar purposes should be imposed upon residents and businesses within such areas of the Township; and

WHEREAS, this Board respectfully requests that the Yellow Creek Foundation exclude Richfield Township and its residents from the proposed conservancy district because this Board does not believe that a new conservancy district is necessary and does not support this proposal because it is not in the interests of Richfield Township residents; and

WHEREAS, recently the Wolf Creek Watershed Conservancy District was created and while it was initially proposed that five (5) communities, including Barberton, Norton, Akron, Fairlawn, and Copley Township would be included in the Wolf Creek Watershed Conservancy, Fairlawn and Akron requested exclusion from the Conservancy which now consists only of the communities that affirmatively wanted to join together to form the Wolf Creek Watershed Conservancy District: namely, Barberton, Norton, and Copley Township; and

WHEREAS, the Yellow Creek Watershed Conservancy District should adopt the approach used by the Wolf Creek Watershed Conservancy District and include only communities who affirmatively consent and agree to join the proposed conservancy district and exclude any communities that do not want to be included, particularly if they are already within a professionally managed stormwater management program.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Trustees of Richfield Township, Summit County, State of Ohio that:

SECTION 1. The Richfield Township Board of Trustees strongly opposes the inclusion of the Richfield Township in the Yellow Creek Watershed Conservancy District as well as any proposed taxes of the Yellow Creek Watershed Conservancy District that would be levied upon properties located in Richfield Township.

SECTION 2. The Richfield Township Board of Trustees requests that the Yellow Creek Foundation exclude Richfield Township and all of its territory and residents from the proposed conservancy district because Richfield's inclusion in this new conservancy district is unnecessary and not in the best interests of Richfield Township residents.

SECTION 3. It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of the Board concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of the Board, and that all deliberations of the Board and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22

5/4/17

Janet Jankura

Date

Janet Jankura, Richfield Township Trustee

Jeff Shupe

Jeff Shupe, Richfield Township Trustee

Robert Luther

Robert Luther, Richfield Township Trustee

Attest:

Laurie Pinney  
Laurie Pinney, Richfield Township Fiscal Officer