



Medina County Sanitary Engineering Department

Brunswick Water Service Area

In January 2004 Sudsina & Associates was engaged by Medina County to study the financial viability of a proposal to supply water to the Brunswick Water Service Area.

The primary objectives of the study included:

- Assessing the revenue potential and cost components of the changeover from the Cleveland Water System,
- Analyzing the basis and rationale for any necessary “make whole payments” to Cleveland,
- Reviewing and commenting on other requirements proposed by competing perspectives of outside consulting groups, and
- Compiling an independent report assessing the financial viability of the conversion.

The report concluded that Medina County was well-positioned to supply water to the Brunswick Service Area in a cost-effective manner, while providing a significantly lower rate structure for those customers. The differences between Cleveland Water, the City of Brunswick and Medina County on how past capital costs are to be accounted for, and exactly which future capital expenditures are required to cause no harm to remaining Cleveland Water customers, were deferred to future negotiations. It was determined that, although a minority of current Brunswick customers might pay more for Medina water, the large majority of customers will pay less. However, an alternative rate structure was also proposed to further assist homestead and low use customers.

Case Study

Water System Expansion Studies

Hinckley Hills Water Service Area

In August 2004 Sudsina & Associates was engaged by Medina County to study the financial viability of a proposal to expand its water system to encompass the Hinckley Hills area, which was currently served by the City of Cleveland’s water system or had no fresh water supply other than wells.

The scope of services included:

- Utilizing the information gathered by previous studies, develop a preliminary assessment of the impact on customers of the County incorporating the Hinckley Hills area into its water system,
- Gather and analyze additional supporting data supplied by the County, and
- Compile a detailed report assessing the financial viability of the conversion.

The final report indicated that Medina County agreed that it would be inefficient to absorb responsibility for service to the entire Township. However, to neutralize any redundant costs, the County indicated it was willing to negotiate to share service to the area with Cleveland Water.

In the final analysis, Medina County would retain development rights certain geographic areas while agree to permit Cleveland to grow its service area to provide water to any new development outside that area. The County also indicated its commitment to make the required capital investment to construct a water tower, install a pump station and run additional water lines from to adequately supply the remaining and future customers.



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