

LOWER HURON RIVER WATERSHED ADVISORY GROUP (WAG) NOTES July 19, 2005



Attendees

- Bob Burns, Friends of the Detroit River, Detroit Riverkeeper
- Traci Castro, OHM for Huron Township
- Susan Featheringill, Woodhaven-Brownstown School District
- George Ferraro, METCO for Sumpter Township
- Brent Florek, Charles E. Raines for Gibraltar, and Flat Rock
- Mike Gaworecki, Hennessey Engineers for Berlin Twp, South Rockwood, and Woodhaven
- Bruce Hammond, Flat Rock
- Tricia Huddas, MDEQ
- Rodney Julian, Brownstown Township
- Noel Mullett, Wayne County Department of Environment
- Elizabeth Riggs, HRWC
- Heather Shymanski, OHM for Romulus
- Deeda Stanczak, Huron Township
- Brian Woodworth, Wade-Trim for Brownstown Township

Action items are identified in **bold**.

A. Welcome and Introductions; Agenda Review

B. Reading and Approval of 5/17/05 Meeting Minutes

- Noel Mullett made a motion to approve the 5/17/05 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and the meeting minutes were approved.

C. Nominations and Elections of Vice-Chair

- Deeda Stanczak of Huron Township was nominated to be Vice-Chair of the Lower Huron River Watershed Advisory Group to replace Rob Rochon. Deeda accepted the nomination. The other positions are unchanged: Roy Schrameck is Chair and Elizabeth Thacker is Secretary.

D. Development and Coordination of Storm Water Permit Elements

1. Public Participation (PPP) Updates: Review 2nd public meeting

- Elizabeth stated that there was a small turnout at the May 19, 2005 public meeting and that she hopes the other means of getting the word out to the public, as described in the PPPs, are more effective than the public meetings. Elizabeth posed the question to LHRWIC of ideas for getting the word out. One idea was to put information in community newsletters. The presenters at the public meeting, Roy Schrameck and Elizabeth Riggs, were commended for the informative presentations, and Noel Mullett was thanked for exhibiting Wayne County's watershed displays.
- The 3rd public meeting is Wed, Sept 28 or Thurs, Sept 29 which gives the group one month to prepare. **The group needs to finalize the date at**

the August meeting and select a meeting location. Deeda Stanczak stated there is more lead time for this meeting to get the word out in newspapers, on cable TV, and postings at schools. It was suggested that there needs to be more human interest shown in the marketing of the public meeting in order to get people to attend. **By August 15, Elizabeth will distribute information to the group that can be distributed for newspapers, community mailings, cable TV and other media outlets. Communities should take the provided information and tailor it to the concerns and situations in your own community as a way to make it more pertinent to your residents.** The unifying issues identified by the group are flooding concerns, new development, changes in streambanks, water levels, and erosion.

2. Watershed Management Plan Update

a. Comments on draft chapters 1-5

Communities received a draft of Chapter 5 in the mail that included the 11x17 maps. The Executive Summary and Chapter 1 still need to be completed. Elizabeth stated that she's waiting for everyone's comments on Chapter 5. Currently Chapters 2-5 are in draft form. Elizabeth stated that the WMP is being written to meet NPDES Phase II requirements as well as section 319 funding, and CMI funding if funds remain after 2005.

At Noel's request, Elizabeth reviewed the contents of the Action Plan table in Chapter 5. Noel had a question on the use of the symbols in the table. Elizabeth explained that the raindrops noted the elements that were already being done in a community's IDEP, PEP and SWPPI. Elizabeth added that she's looking for feedback on each community's level of interest. In the meantime, she filled in the blanks as a place holder until each community responds.

Noel mentioned that many items in the table are items that are addressed by either Wayne County's Storm Water Ordinance or OSDS Ordinance so possibly certain items in the table could reference one of these Wayne County ordinances were applicable. Noel mentioned that the Wayne County 24-hr pollution reporting hotline should be added.

Elizabeth requested that each community go through their IDEPs to make sure that all elements of their program are represented in the Action Plan table of Chapter 5 table along with the levels of interest. Each community needs to go through the items in the Action Plan table marked by a water drop to verify that the "watershed-wide" items are accurate and that these items are indeed areas where communities are making commitments.

Communities should let Elizabeth know that if they would like to see any of the appendices ahead of the draft plan as she could either email them or burn them to a CD.

b. Discuss process for local review and MDEQ review

The timeline for activities of the LHRWIC was handed out and reviewed by the group. **It was decided that the deadline for receiving comments on Chapter 5 would be Friday, July 29.** The group discussed whether or not the MDEQ review should be dropped. Tricia Huddas of the MDEQ stated that she didn't think she could meet the mid-September deadline anyways. By dropping the MDEQ review, this would give communities more time to present to their Boards and Councils.

Elizabeth will work on the changes to Chapter 5 in early August and communities could present to their councils and boards from mid-August until October 1st. By the next meeting on August 22, Elizabeth will have a draft ready for the group.

3. Other Permit Elements: IDEP; PEP; SWPPI

Noel made a suggestion on the table in Chapter 5 to rearrange the order of the management alternative types so that the table begins with IDEP, then PEP, and then all other activities. Elizabeth stated that she could make this change. Noel also suggested that he and Elizabeth talk after meeting about activities that Wayne County implements currently that may alleviate communities' concerns about their commitments in the Action Plan table. Wayne County has submitted several grant proposals that will assist lower Huron communities if the proposals are successful.

E. Other Watershed News/Comments from Members

Noel brought in the "Streambank Stabilization Project" sign that will be placed at the locations where the stabilization demonstration projects were completed earlier this year, including Brownstown. Communities should let him know if they want to order a sign.

Susan Featheringill from the Woodhaven-Brownstown School District passed out the LHRWIC financial statement. She stated that the report was self-explanatory because only one entity is paid (i.e., HRWC). She also mentioned that there will be a new representative for the school because she is moving to a new school district; Jack Rychlicki, Director of Maintenance, will attend the meetings until her replacement is selected.

F. Next Meeting - Monday August 22, 9-11AM at Wade-Trim, Taylor. Topics: draft of WMP; how to prepare SWPPIs; plan for final public meeting