

OWRC SACG Meeting

MINUTES

MAY 18, 2016

9:00 AM

OWDA

MEETING CALLED BY	Brian Hall, OEPA - DSW
TYPE OF MEETING	OWRC/SACG Bi-monthly
ATTENDEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brian Hall, OEPA –DSW• Kevin Fowler, OEPA – DSW• Jim Morris, USGS• Erin Hazelton, ODSA• Ken Heigel, OWDA• Zuzanna Bohrerova, OSU – Ohio WRC• Greg Nageotte, ODA• Keith Banachowski, USGS
	Next meeting July 20, 2016

Agenda topics

WELCOME AND REVIEW OF THE MEETING NOTES

B. HALL

DISCUSSION	Brian Hall conducted the meeting, which started at 9:00 AM. Brian welcomed everyone and asked for comments on the previous meeting's notes. There were no comments
CONCLUSIONS	None.

UPDATE ON SUNSETTING THE OWRC

B. HALL

DISCUSSION	<p>The first draft of the sunseting bill did not include the OWRC. However, there may be additions as the first draft only contained obvious choices. The legislature will be recessing in the next couple of weeks until after the November election.</p> <p>There is a concern for the void that would be left if sunseting of OWRC does occur. The value of the group is in the exchange of ideas, collaboration, and being able to identify problems. If the sunseting does happen, the SACG plans to lobby for MOUs between agencies to continue the work.</p> <p>Successes of the OWRC have been documented on the website to help give reasons why the council should continue.</p> <p>How often does the OWRC meet? They must meet once per year for the budget. Does the EPA have to take the lead? No, it used to be led by DNR. If OWRC is sunset what happens to the funds in the account currently managed by DNR? Does it go back to the agencies on the council? That would have to be determined.</p> <p>Should the SACG meeting in July occur? Should meetings only be held quarterly? Meetings are currently scheduled through the calendar year.</p> <p>Coordinating a meeting with the WMAO conference went well last year and it may be a good idea to do that again in November. It is a good idea because advisory group members attend.</p>
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CONCLUSIONS

The July SACG meeting will remain on the schedule. Brian will solicit for agenda items. The meeting will be canceled if there is nothing significant for the agenda.

PROGRAM UPDATE AND OTHER BUSINESS**SACG MEMBERS****DISCUSSION**ODSA**Stormwater Retrofit Loans**

- One project is in Cincinnati and two are in Toledo.
- Trying to generate more interest in Brownfields.
- If SACG members know of anyone who might be interested, please let Erin know.
- Marketing could certainly help. They are big projects. Really just want to get the word out there.
- Examples of projects are alternative stormwater and green solutions (Downtown Newark). The applicant must be a public entity.
- Will get together a write up on it and get it out to members so that they can promote.

Petroleum Cleanup

- The first round is closed and 7 of the 12 projects that applied will be funded.
- The 7 projects are spread all around the state.
- The next round will be more diverse and more projects will be funded. 10 to 15 projects should be funded.
- The RFP for the next round will be out in July and applicants must be a public entity.
- Gave out \$1.2 million in the first round and are planning on \$3 million per round going forward.

OWDA

- The board approved \$2 million for testing lead in schools. The program is being coordinated with the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission.
- There is \$10 million in HB 512 to replace fixtures in school buildings that were built prior to 1990. The money will be retroactive to January 1, 2016 for those schools that have already spent money on updating fixtures.
- Applications are due for the R&D program on June 1st. Last year's program was mostly for HABS and this year's is expected to be as well. The money will be awarded in October. There is no total cap. However, the per applicant limit is \$200,000.

USGS

- Very busy with field work. U.S. Fish and Wildlife is sampling on the Maumee River and getting support from USGS.
- Changing offices. The move is scheduled in July. There is a chance that it may get pushed back a month. Moving lab equipment is difficult.

ODA

- The move to ODA has been good. Leadership there is very supportive of the programs.
- Manure complaints have increased and ODA staff is going out to investigate.
- Rules followed with the move from ODNR to Agriculture. ODA rules allow for fines where ODNR rules didn't allow for the collection of penalties.

- With the promotion of Kirk Heinz to Chief, Matt Lane has been placed over the technical aspects of the program and Rob over the programmatic side.
- The Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Districts annual training meeting will be held on July 18th and 19th in Dublin. It may be a good idea to have someone from Ohio EPA speak on dredging.
- The WMAO conference will be November 9th and 10th at the Grand Plaza in Worthington. The theme this year is Voices of Water.
- There has been buzz about the loss of ERIN. Looking at providing the data in another way through the internet.

OSU – Ohio WRC

- Preparing the required Ohio WRC annual report. Will be sending around a one-page summary in July. More details will be available on the website.
- Two summer projects. The first is a public lake manager education. Currently creating educational materials. The second project is to educate citizens on the monitoring of the lower Olentangy in hopes that they will become more interested.

DDAGW (by DSW)

- HABs management is now completely under DDAGW (both for drinking water and recreation). Amy Klei is now the manager over the Office of HABs management.
- There will be a new HABs advisory update soon. The focus used to be on state run beaches. It will now be on informing people on lakes and rivers as a whole.
- The advisory update will be before recreation season. There are already advisories on Buckeye Lake and Grand Lake Saint Marys.
- Working on how they monitor and report lead and copper.
- HB 512 is through the Senate and now in the House.
- Starting June 1st all surface water treatment plants must test for HABs every 2 weeks.

DSW

- The integrated report regulated through USEPA 303B was due in April has been delayed. The biennial report includes listing what Ohio waterbodies are impaired and what will be done to correct the impairment.
- The budget bill required OEPA to do a nutrient mass loading report. The data has been pulled together from 7 different watersheds using Heidelberg and NPDES permits. The report will be out this summer.
- The GLWQ Agreement for Lake Erie requires a load reduction of 40%. States are responsible for an action plan by 2018. Ohio, Michigan, and Ontario have entered into a collaborative agreement that identifies deadlines for meeting the 20% and 40% reductions. Ohio's is developing its plan to meet these deadlines for the western Lake Erie basin.