

OWRC SACG Meeting

Minutes

July 16, 2014

9:00 AM

OWDA Offices

MEETING CALLED BY	Brian Hall, OEPA- DSW
TYPE OF MEETING	OWRC SACG Bi-monthly
ATTENDEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve Grossman, OWDA • Brian Hall, OEPA-DSW • Marie Barnett, OEPA – DSW • Scott Jackson, USGS • Denise King, ODA • Karl Gebhardt, OEPA-DSW • Ashley Ward, EPA-DSW • Dick Bartz, USGS • Steve Ferryman, Ohio EMA • Anthony Sasson, Ohio Nature Conservancy • Dave Douglas, USDA, Rural Development • Mike Baker, OEPA-DDAGW • Greg Nageotte, ODNR • Rebecca Fugitt, ODH

AGENDA TOPICS

REVIEW LAST MEETING NOTES

B. HALL

DISCUSSION	Brian Hall conducted the meeting which started at 9:00 AM; Brian welcomed everyone and had everyone introduce themselves. There were no comments on the last meeting notes.		
CONCLUSIONS	None.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
None			

MORPC UPPER SCIOTO RIVER WATERSHED BALANCED GROWTH PLAN

B. HALL

ABSENTEE ENDORSEMENT

DISCUSSION	It was brought up that absentee endorsement may be a violation of Ohio's Sunshine Laws. Ohio EPA's attorney recommended not approving the plan through absentee voting.
CONCLUSIONS	The Plan has been with the OWRC waiting for endorsement for a long time and MORPC would like to see it get processed soon. It was concluded that a Council meeting should be scheduled as

	soon as possible and the members should vote on the Plan.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None		

OWRC WEB PAGE CHANGES

B. HALL

DISCUSSION	<p>The website is transitioning from being hosted at ODNR to being hosted at OEPA. ODNR has been responsive when Brian requests changes, but it will be easier to keep the website up to date once it is hosted at OEPA.</p> <p>The new website should be up and running by the end of July.</p>	
CONCLUSIONS	<p>Nobody raised concerns over switching the website from ODNR to OEPA. Brian will send out the new link to everyone when the new website is completed.</p>	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Send new OWRC website link out to SACG members	Brian Hall	8/1/2014

2014-2018 STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN – WORKGROUPS PROVIDE UPDATES

B. HALL

DISCUSSION	<p>Each workgroup presented an update on their action/task items. Brian is hoping to get the draft Strategic Plan and Action Items ready for the Council meeting which he was hoping to schedule in September.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Education and Outreach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No updates. Brian will work with Carolyn Watkins (OEPA, Chief of Environmental Education) to finish making tasks. 2. Watershed Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action items and tasks are done. They are looking for guidance on how to complete the objectives. 3. Water Quality <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The workgroup wants to keep the existing objectives. • Action Item three should potentially be removed. • Water Quality is focused on nutrients. Does there need to be more tasks aside from the Nutrient Reduction Strategy? • There need to be tasks that are ongoing – that don't end June 2015. 4. Water Quantity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For Action Item 3, there needs to be a meeting with OEPA, for example: does there need to be more gauges in eastern Ohio with the new withdrawals taking place there? • The objectives for Water Quantity need updated.
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	<p>5. Data and Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Everything is completed for the 2014-2018 version but Greg and Steve need to review the revisions made by Dick Bartz. <p>6. Water Resource Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Everything is completed for the 2014-2018 version. <p>7. Water Related Natural Hazards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steve has some tasks for Action Item 1, but needs to discuss them with Gail. Action Item 2 has been completed and will need removed. There have been intense storms in north eastern Ohio, a pattern that is expected to continue due to global warming, should the OWRC work on a mechanism to help fund infrastructure improvements? This has environmental and public health impacts. Should this be incorporated into Water Resource Infrastructure? Should global warming be pulled out to be its own topic? It impacts so many different areas. There could be a global warming Action Item that includes a broad statement and then the task could be further development. Cost is a driver. What is the cost of policy versus the cost of inaction? Do we have the responsibility to reach out to local communities when events happen to find out the cost to businesses? There are potential research projects associated with climate change. <p>Future Council Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This will be many Directors' first Council meeting and they will need background on the OWRC, the Strategic Action Plan, the Budget and Balanced Growth. Is the end of September too soon? Probably, but the MORPC plan needs to be endorsed quickly. The Next OLEC meeting is in August, could the MORPC plan be endorsed during that meeting? Could the Strategic Action Plan be changed to 2015-2019? Mike, Brian, and Karl need to talk with Director Butler on how he wants to move forward. When the Strategic Plan and Action Items are ready to be endorsed the SACG members should review the documents with their Directors to see if they want any revisions made before the Council meeting. When will the PAG receive a copy of the draft Strategic Action Plan and Action Items? 	
CONCLUSIONS	<p>September is too soon for a Council meeting.</p> <p>The PAG will receive a copy of the draft Strategic Action Plan and Action Items the same time the SACG does.</p>	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

<p>Complete and submit to Ashley Ward/Brian Hall, revised and completed Action Items, tasks and objectives</p> <p>Compile updated action items into format of current version and send out to SACG for review.</p> <p>Review Action Items, tasks and Strategic Plan and come to next SACG meeting with comments prepared.</p> <p>Find out if it is possible to have the MORPC plan endorsed at the OLEC meeting</p>	Action Item work groups	8/24/2014
	Ashley Ward/Brian Hall	9/3/2014
	SACG	9/17/2014
	Brian Hall	ASAP

UPDATES

B. HALL

DISCUSSION	<p>ODH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ODH will hopefully be filing the Household Sewage Treatment Systems rule package next week. • It is a controversial rule package centered around requiring connection to sewers as they become available. • The proposed effective date is January 2015. <p>OEPA, Drinking and Ground Waters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revised for review HAB response protocols. <p>OWDA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In a couple of weeks the in-lieu program will be a reality. • OWDA has a proposal meeting about the Muskingum Conservatory loan. • Phase 1 funding to MORPC, Greater Ohio Policy – new funding for brown fields. <p>OEPA, Division of Surface Water</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The waters of the US rule comment period was extended to 90 days (October). Ohio EPA will be working with other state Agencies to determine if Ohio has comments. • There is an event in Toledo – alternatives for dredge disposal. There are different challenges in Cleveland and Toledo. Cleveland material has contamination issues, Toledo has nutrient issues. The Governor will be signing a Proclamation of Cooperation trying to find alternative ways to dispose material. <p>USGS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOA is asking for Ohio River Basin pilot studies. There is little gauging data – it is a difficult river to gauge, but the technology is available now. • USGS asked what the Nature Conservancy was interested in and their answer was flood plan assessments.
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CONCLUSIONS	
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ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None		