

BRWP Steering Committee Meeting

July 21, 2010

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Phil Martin. BRWP Watershed Coordinator, at 7:04 p.m.

The following members were present: Dick Kozlowski, Theresa Allen, Bob Connour, Sarah Betts, Jeff Loerhke, Anne Creswell, and Phil Martin.

Ex-officio member present was Mike Homsher Univ. of Findlay

The agenda was approved with one additional item from Homsher.

Coordinator's Comments

Martin presented Coordinator's Comments concerning activities since the last meeting.

The Outlet/Lye Creek WAP

- Revision of the WAP for The Outlet/Lye Creek watershed is on schedule. The first six chapters are finished. Chapter 7 is the implementation chapter and is being worked on at this time. The problem with the Houcktown area has been addressed with the Health Dept. and county commissioners. A plan of action is ready to be written. I have finally got sediment load reduction figures. Denny Tressel, Karen Chapman, and others will work on the other problem areas in August.

Water Quality Monitoring

- All sites, except for the 3 riffle dams in Findlay have been monitored. The riffles will be done on Friday morning.

EDF Money

- The \$ 15,000.00 dollars from EDF has been deposited and is available. \$ 5,000.00 has been earmarked for Riley Creek.

Coastal Management Grants

- Coastal Management did not receive the GLRI grant to hire a Watershed Coordinator for three years.
- We did receive a \$15,500.00 grant from Coastal Management for a part time coordinator from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011.

Other Concerns

- One of my major concerns this year is our lack of attendance at the Steering Committee meetings. In May, there were 6 members present; the June was cancelled because of only 2 members be able to attend; and tonight's meeting looks like only 6-7 members will be present. If there is a better time or way to meet, I am open to checking it out.
- The BRWP has received several thousand dollars of grant money that we need to use by the end of the year. I feel that we are doing a good job on the water quality monitoring and getting the action plans written. The other half of the organization is what use to be the MODE committee. We broke the mode committee into the Strategic Issues committees of Organization, Development, Communications, and Education. I feel that these committees need to get more active. Dick and I have meant and will be discussing options. Your input is needed and welcome.

Treasurer Report...

Martin reviewed the treasurer's report based on his conversation with Nancy Benroth.

starting balance	\$ 21,000.00
EDF money received	\$ 15,000.00
new balance	\$ 36,000.00
money set aside	\$ 12,000.00
new balance	\$ 24,000.00
EDF for Riley	\$ 5,000.00
new balance	\$ 19,000.00
Misc. set aside	\$ 1,500.00
Projected money avail.	\$ 17,500.00

The \$17,500.00 is money that is available for outreach, education and other items. This money needs to be spent by the end of the year.

Committee Reports...

No Reports

Previous Minutes...

Loerke moved, Allen second to approve the minutes. motion passed

Old Business...

- Martin discussed the BRWP sponsored clean-up date on August 21, 2010. Martin has sign with UF, with Kozlowski's approval, to offer clean-up with the UF Freshmen. Kozlowski has contacted Pat Westrick for his help again. Westrick has given his preliminary approval. The BRWP has agreed to open the clean-up to community volunteers. We need to have several members present to help coordinate the clean-up effort. Please let Martin know if you are available on August 21st.
- Martin mentioned that Leo Schroeder was trying to organize a clean up in Ottawa with the Ottawa-Glandorf football team.
- Martin mentioned that during the Stream Observation walk in Riley Creek watershed sites for clean-up will be a priority.

New Business...

- Connour agreed to chair a committee to plan the annual meeting. Connour would like to have other join him in planning the annual meeting. Contact Bob at robert_connour@owens.edu.
- Martin asked that a committee be form to help find the funds need to help implement that clean-up behind Riverside Dam. Betts suggested that a news release concerning this effort might help get more stakeholder involvement. Martin with look into this suggest.
- Martin presented the project proposals that were submitted. Martin reviewed the proposal for attending the Ohio Watershed Leadership (OWLs) meeting to be held August 30-31, 2010 at Stone Lab on Put-In-Bay. Registration cost is \$ 65.00. Jeff Loerke moved, Allen seconded to send up to four members to the conference. Motion passed. Martin is going. Kozlowski and Connour are interested. If you are interested, please contact Martin immediately. There is a limit of sixty.
- Kozlowski presented three proposals for outreach and education. Proposal #1 addressed preparing materials for commercial and government groups in the area. A lengthy discussion was held and several

adjustments to the proposal were made. I will be sending out proposal #1 for a vote later this week.

Proposal #2 presented by Kozlowski dealt with creating and printing a 2X3 ft. poster showing the watershed for display in various areas of the watershed. After a short positive discussion, the proposal was tabled until a final cost for printing could be determined. **Proposal #3** involved preparing a panel display to place in several places throughout the watershed. Content will include; who we are, the value of the river to the community, contact info., and how improve the value to you. Betts moved , Creswell second, motion passed to fund this proposal.

- Kozlowski brought up the idea of nutrient standards and asked if the BRWP showed take a stance. After discussion, no action was taken.
- Martin mentioned that it appears that a stand alone conservancy district appears to be the route the elected officials are leaning to handle the flood control issue in the watershed. He mentioned that the BRWP may be asked to take a position on the conservancy and may be asked to take a role in the group dealing with water quality.
- Homsher mentioned he is looking at attending a conference presented the Great Lakes Innovative Stewardship through Education Network (GLISTEN). The mission of the group focuses on undergraduate curriculum development.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m. The next meeting will held on August 18, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at Owens CC.

submitted by P. Martin