

# OWRC Meeting

## Minutes

May 12, 2021

9:00 AM

MS TEAMS Call

<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Brian Hall, OEPA- DSW
<b>TYPE OF MEETING</b>	OWRC Quarterly
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mike Angle &amp; Jim Raab, ODNR - DGS</li> <li>• Ken Heigel &amp; Dan Gill, OWDA</li> <li>• Matt Redfield &amp; Annie Van Blaricom, ODSA</li> <li>• Keith Banachowski, ODNR- DWR</li> <li>• Carolyn Watkins &amp; Dennis Clement, OEPA - OEEF</li> <li>• Jon Bernstein, OEPA- DEFA</li> <li>• Joy Mulinex, OLEC</li> <li>• Annie Baas, PUCO</li> <li>• Zuzana Bohrerova, OSU - OWRC</li> <li>• Josh Smith, USDA - RD</li> <li>• Kaabe Shaw, ODNR - DMRM</li> <li>• Brian Hall, OEPA- DSW</li> <li>• Julie Denniss, ODOT</li> </ul>
	Next meeting August 11, 2021 via Teams

### AGENDA TOPICS

#### WELCOME AND REVIEW OF THE MEETING NOTES

B. HALL

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	The meeting started at 9:00 A.M. Brian welcomed everyone and did introductions.
<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>	

#### AMD ABATEMENT PROGRAM AND AMLER

K. SHAW

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Kaabe Shaw, ODNR Mineral Resources provided an overview of Ohio’s AMD abatement program and discussed the new AMLER grants.</p> <p>The overview of the AMD abatement program included the program funding sources, AMDAT Plans created AMD Assessment Initiative (rating streams 1, 2, 3 and 4), Priority watershed selection based on public interest (Raccoon, Sunday/Monday, Huff Run, Leading Creek). There were several examples of reclamation and treatment systems that have been installed and how they are managed by the program. Kaabe provided a water quality review of Monday Creek and Raccoon Creek. A story map has been developed for Raccoon Creek that was shared with the group.</p> <p>The AMLER (Abandoned Mine Land Economic Revitalization) formally known as Pilot Funds is a federal grant that provides funding to address AMD but now must also</p>
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	provide economic developing to the area. Ohio received funding for 3 yrs - \$10 million per yr, to focused on projects. It was noted that the funding is project oriented with an economic development focused. There is a limited amount of funding available for staffing. Several examples discussed - Wilds, Eclipse Village, Plans - Baileys Trail System (mountain bike trail in Wayne Forrest), Moonville Rail Trail (funding to constructing bridges), and Truetown (using AMD to make paint pigment)
<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>	•

**PROGRAM UPDATES**

SACG MEMBERS

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>ODNR DGS -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Received their first test well log for a salmon farm that will withdraw 4 mgd of groundwater in northwest Ohio. Much of the groundwater will be used to raise the fish and then be discharged to surface waters.</li> <li>• Continue to develop interactive geology map improvements and have added new features to application, this is in addition to other existing features,</li> <li>• Working on updating the ground water vulnerability maps, looking at a new grant proposal to update our ground water resources/yields maps</li> <li>• Working on positing's for GW hydrogeologist and a new Lake Erie geologist to perform shoreline studies.</li> </ul> <p>OWDA -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Refinance program is up and running, more refinance requests coming at the May and June board meetings</li> <li>• R&amp;D applications are due June 4.</li> </ul> <p>ODSA -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working on grant agreement out for large brownfield project in Warren - former Hospital asbestos is main contamination.</li> </ul> <p>ODNR DWR -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brad Lodge is working on online user portal-</li> <li>• H2Ohio work is continuing,</li> <li>• Dam safety inspections continue to be a big focus</li> <li>• flood plain outreach.</li> </ul> <p>OEPA OEEF -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GLRI funding working with soil water conservation districts</li> <li>• OEEF will be open for proposals at the end of June - looking for education proposals, hosted a few virtual workshops</li> <li>• hope to be able to get back out, Project Wet web page has been added to the WMAO site</li> </ul> <p>OEPA DEFA -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• H2Ohio OEPA has about \$9 m that is going towards drinking water wastewater, HSTS and lead service projects.</li> </ul>
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- Released both drinking and wastewater management plans had \$700 m nominations,
- Working on the American Rescue Plan - \$11 b
- It was discussed that applicants that receive federal funding need to be reminded that they need to receive all their necessary permitting (like NEPA and 401) prior to construction, CEQ might be emergency \$

OLEC -

- LE Quality index - hope to be completed by the end of the year,
- DAP workshop that was on line 60 -70 participants, it went well
- Meeting priorities of GLRI - 5 focus areas - coordinating with different programs, waiting to see what happens with Budget and H2ohio
- First National Weather Service HAB bloom forecast was sent out this week.

PUCO -

- Jenifer French was appointed by the governor to be the new Chair on the commission. Her term ends on 4/10/24.
- Dennis Deters was reappointed to the commission by the governor. His term ends on 4/10/2026
- The commission issued an order approving Carol Township Treatment Services' application to increase rates (20-1585-ST-AIR)
- Frazier put in an application to transfer the business to Copley Business Center (21-197-WS-ATC)
- Staff filed a report in Christi Water's application to increase rates (20-1428-WW-AIR)
- OSU- COVID it been a year and will be funded for 2 more years, numbers are low, looking at other gene markers, looking at sequencing genes variants in wastewater. OWRC starting on new projects some on algae blooms and PFAS project, USGS Water resources release water issues and PFAS in the next four.

USDA RD -

- Funding has been slow due to pandemic and many plans have changed-funded several water and sewer treatment systems,
- Currently short staffed, positions are being posted, hoping to get help soon.

OSU- OWRC -

- Continue to coordinate sampling of COVID Wastewater Monitoring Network. (plan to provide overview of the network at the OWRC August Meeting)
- Working to set up the next Water Resources Ctr Advisory Board meeting for June.

OEPA DSW -

- WQ Manage Plan Update (208 plan) - Required by CWA and describes

	<p>efficient and comprehensive programs for controlling water pollution in a defined geographic area. Ohio law - can't approve a PTI that conflicts with the plan. 6 local planning agencies manage the 22 most highly populated counties, OEPA does the remaining 66 counties. PH on May 20 to discuss updates to Ohio's plan prior to being submitted to US EPA for approval</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ephemeral streams HB proposed to exclude ephemeral (short live streams) features from water pollution control programs, including the section 401 water quality certification program. This legislation somewhat mirrors what was done at the federal level under WOUS.</li><li>• US Army Corps Nationwide Permit issued last fall, didn't give Ohio the necessary time to PN and go thru our Antideg process. Corps considered that Ohio waived our rights to regulate when we didn't issue within their timeframe. Working with Corps to try to correct this. Other states are having the same issue.</li><li>• Field Season - Large Rivers, Lake Erie and Lower GMR follow up</li><li>• USGS microbial source tracking - agreement with USGS in Lucas and Ottawa Co are where OEPA is working on an unsanitary nuisance area</li><li>• Brian is planning to retire at the end of August and the group briefly discussed the OWRC Committee Leader role</li></ul>
	<p>Next meeting plan to have Rebecca and Zuzana review the Ohio COVID Wastewater Monitoring Network.</p>