

# OWRC SACG Meeting

## Minutes

February 14, 2018

9:00 AM

OWDA

<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>• Brian Hall, OEPA - DSW</li> <li>• Emily DeLay, OEPA - DSW</li> <li>• Mike Eggart, OEPA – DDAGW</li> <li>• Julie Dennis, ODOT</li> <li>• Mike Hallenback, ODNR</li> <li>• Kim Schaffer, USGS</li> <li>• Annie Baas, PUCO</li> <li>• Ken Heigel, OWDA</li> <li>• Linda Weavers, OSU</li> </ul>
	Next meeting May 9, 2018 at OWDA

### AGENDA TOPICS

#### WELCOME AND REVIEW OF THE MEETING NOTES

B. HALL

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Brian Hall conducted the meeting which started at 9:00 AM. Brian welcomed everyone and asked if there were any comments on the previous notes. There were no comments.
<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>	None.

#### REVIEW OWRC BYLAWS

B. HALL

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>This was the second look and discussion at new draft bylaws authored by Sue Daly for the Ohio Water Resources Committee. A summary of comments from the last look at the bylaws was given by Brian Hall. The following comments and solutions were provided:</p> <p>Questions/Comments after second look:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Should the list of member agencies be revised?</li> <li>2. Do we need to be specific in how long the meetings should be?</li> <li>3. How should a committee leader be elected? Should there be a separate meeting and presentation coordinator and meeting leader?</li> </ol>
<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The list of member agencies should remain the same or be similar, as we don't want to exclude anyone. Educators, State agencies, and Federal agencies should all be kept on this list.</li> <li>2. We do not need to be specific on how long the meetings should last. However, the meetings should not go over 2.5 hours.</li> </ol>

	<p>3. It was decided that a committee leader should be elected every two years, to align with the biennium budget. This is, in part, because the committee only convenes four times annually. It was also decided that two separate heads should be elected – one to coordinate the meetings and presenters for the meetings, and a separate person to lead the meetings. The idea is to eventually have everyone take their turn in a rotation of power, so all perspectives can be adequately explored.</p>	
Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
Edit bylaws to include two elected leaders	Brian Hall	5/9/2018

**PROGRAM UPDATES**

SACG MEMBERS

<p><b>DISCUSSION</b></p>	<p><b><u>OEPA – DDAGW:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public water system (PWS) asset management rules out for comment, comment period closed 2/16/18. Required to do asset management planning, effective 10/1/18. Offering zero interest loans of \$10K for PWSs.</li> <li>• Started a grant program where water systems serving less than 1,000 people can get up to a \$10K grant for a generator and mandatory switch-over provisions for their water systems to help with emergencies and operational issues that happen with small systems when power failure happens. Have about \$500K for that now with 10-15 people applying so far.</li> <li>• Lead and Copper Rule is proposed. Public hearing was March 6. A lot of the provisions came from SB 2 where water systems have to do more monitoring for lead and report results quicker. Most will go back to annual monitoring, which some used to be on triennial monitoring.</li> <li>• Operator Certification rule will be original filed soon. Changing terminology from “certified operator” to “professional certified operator”, adding minimum requirements for visits. Apply to both water and wastewater plants.</li> <li>• New disruption of service rule. Interested party review should be soon. There’s a self-reporting tool for these events that water systems can use which is online now.</li> <li>• Manganese policy for PWS. Traditionally addressed as a secondary maximum contaminant level (MCL), which is just a recommendation, but now looking at health advisory levels. 0.05 mg/L is the secondary MCL, 0.3 mg/L for lifetime, working on policy to require systems to treat if they exceed those levels.</li> <li>• SB 2 – working on policies for sub-metering and purchased waters. It’s a grey zone that falls between DDAGW and PUCO rules.</li> <li>• HAB for this year – EPA, ODNR and ODH are in the process of revising the HABs response strategy for recreation waters. Should be finalized in the next couple of months. Cyanotoxin thresholds are still unchanged from 2016 strategy, which explains when signs should be posted, trigger levels, etc. The past couple of years, EPA has been analyzing all of the concentrations for cyanotoxin using a qPCR method, now water systems will have to do that on their own via certified labs mostly.</li> <li>• HAB group plans to do more outreach in 2018 to campground associations, local health departments, and others. Continuing the partnership between US EPA, USGA, NOAA, and NASA on method comparison and validation issues for satellite imagery and how</li> </ul>
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that goes with the actual concentrations in water.

- Ohio is a pilot state for a multi-agency project for a cyanobacteria assessment network using the satellites to identify the blooms across the US.
- Working with US EPA and a contractor on comprehensive performance evaluation (CPE) on optimizing drinking water for treatment and we're looking at that specifically for cyanotoxin removal at different stages in the treatment process.
- Working with DSW on Tapin Lake and Caesar's Creek Wilmington to develop a new approach for source water protection in surface waters.
- Water systems contingency planning efforts and a requirement that all water systems have an updated contingency plan which is in place and being followed.
- Identifying PPhos/PFoa exposure to public and private water systems in Ohio, trying to identify where the chemical is and who may have used that chemical. Action level is 70 ppt in drinking water.

**ODOT:**

- Minnesota DOT just published data in a report about their study about road salt in ground water.
- One of the offices is looking at the NPDES storm water permit and the new levels that are coming out. Research efforts are happening because of this.

**OWDA:**

- New director – Scott Campbell, formally CFO.
- New board member: Bill Stanley from The Nature Conservancy.
- 2017 was a record year. Third straight year of over \$1 Billion in awards from the three programs (WPCLF, Drinking water assistance and freshwater loan program) and 330 projects.
- New tax reform has impacted OWDA because they can no longer do any refunding of tax-exempt bonds that are outstanding.

**USGS:**

- Losing three people.
- OH, IN, and KY are now all one water science center. Programs that might have found a foothold in different states can share knowledge and data with each other.

**PUCO:**

- No updates.

**OSU:**

- Get federal funding through USGS, so the continuing resolution affects OSU. Have determined who we want to fund this year, but have to wait until funding is resolved for a longer term before the awards can be handed out. Projects normally start for researchers March 1, and reporting is in June.
- Want to fund HABs, and fracking areas.
- Were able to get some internal funding through Office of Energy and The Environment.
- Project on water technology, looking at membranes for produce water.
- 2 projects on HAB issues. One looking at reptiles and amphibians and the effect on them when HABs are present. Another looking at Maumee River sediments and understanding whether the nitrogen is a source or a sink to the system.
- Coordinating with Ohio Sea Grant and what they've been funding to be sure that we're not covering things they have already covered.

- Did strategic planning a year ago, starting to figure out how to improve relationships with state stakeholders. In 2019 RFP – would like to have the researchers already connected to the stakeholders.

**ODNR:**

- Great Lakes Compact Council and the regional body are working on revising the review process for water diversion applications out of the Great Lakes basin. Meeting for comments in Toronto, Mid-March.
- Ground water and observation well programs are now part of the Division of Geological Survey.
- Andy Ware, Deputy Director and Acting Chief of Division of Water is leaving on March 2. Fred Shimp, Assistant Director, will be taking his place.

**OEPA – DSW:**

- Clean Water Act requires the Integrated Water Quality Report which is the list of impaired waters, and how we will correct them. Need to provide a schedule for the next two years of what water bodies will have a total maximum daily load (TMDL) done on them. Actively working on 2018 report. 2016 report was approved by US EPA, environmental groups sue US EPA for not forcing Ohio to list the open waters of Lake Erie as “impaired”, so US EPA said they no longer approve of the 2016 report. US EPA will review the data to determine why we have not listed the open waters.
- Working with University of Toledo, OSU, and Bowling Green to come up with a strategy of how to list the open waters as impaired based on satellite imagery. Need to come up with a plan before we submit the 2018 report.
- New TMDL legislation exempts Ohio EPA from going through the rulemaking process for each TMDL, but requires robust stakeholder outreach and input. Asked for public input on the TSD for the Big Darby last year. Received a lot of feedback.
- The NPDES General Construction Storm Water permit expires in April and the new permit is out for comment. 25,000 people under this permit.
- Rover Pipeline – 300 miles in OH, \$4 Billion project. Dual 42-inch gas pipelines that travel across the state. Started construction on the first pipeline last Spring. One of the first issue they had was HDD under the Tuscarawas River. Lost 2 million gallons of drilling mud in a sensitive wetland. They are back to drilling the second pipe under the Tuscarawas River and Ohio EPA recommended to FERC that drilling cease because they were losing drilling mud again. FERC agreed, but then Rover convinced FERC that they had precautions in place and could resume drilling. Lost 200,000 gallons of drilling mud in the pilot hole phase.
- Nexus Pipeline – 401 WQC was approved for them to take a path through City of Greene. Greene filed a lawsuit about us issuing the certification, saying that it wasn’t justified. At federal court of appeals, 6<sup>th</sup> circuit. Nexus proposed to Greene that if they allowed the pipeline to go through, they would give them 20 acres of property in Greene and a settlement for \$7.5 million. Greene dropped lawsuit.