

OWRC SACG Meeting

Minutes

September 16, 2015

10:00 AM

OWDA Offices

MEETING CALLED BY	Brian Hall, OEPA- DSW
TYPE OF MEETING	OWRC SACG Bi-monthly
ATTENDEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brian Hall, OEPA-DSW • Ashley Ward, EPA-DSW • Mike Miller, OPWC • Gail Hesse, OLEC • Dick Bartz, USGS • Katie Salvator, PUCO • Greg Nageotte, ODNR • Lynn Garity, ODNR • Beth Messer, OEPA- DDAGW • Steve Grossman, OWDA • Denise Franz King, ODA • Annie van Blaricom, ODSA • Charles Dietz, USDA - Rural Development • Allauddin Allauddin, OEPA - DEFA • Sue Daly, PUCO • Zuzana Bohrerova, OSU Extension
	Next meeting November, 2015

AGENDA TOPICS

WELCOME AND REVIEW OF THE MEETING NOTES

B. HALL

DISCUSSION	Brian Hall conducted the meeting which started at 10:00 AM; Brian welcomed everyone and provided an overview of the OWRC.	
CONCLUSIONS	Gail Hesse attendance needs added to July's meeting notes. Next meeting will be held on Wednesday November 18 in the afternoon at the WMAO Conference.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

PROJECT DISCUSSION

B. HALL

DISCUSSION	a. ODNR (Water Withdrawal Model Pilot Study) and OEPA (GLOS sonde network reporting).
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	<p>These proposals are moving forward. Brian is going to start preparing the paperwork.</p> <p>b. PUCO (OH2O outreach)</p> <p>PUCO has made the proposal more general and has added more language about coordinating with other agencies. They still want to do the stormwater / drinking fountain contest, but the message is up for discussion. The contest could be split by age group. It is a great opportunity for earned media, and there is a social media emphasis. It would be positive media for OWRC.</p> <p>Q: Will the implementation be statewide?</p> <p>A: Yes.</p> <p>Q: What is the message for water fountains? Storm water drains make sense, but what is the purpose of the water fountains?</p> <p>A: Inclusion, in some areas it may not be safe to paint storm drains or in unsewered areas, they may not have drains.</p> <p>Q: How will impact be evaluated? By the number of participants?</p> <p>A: That is one way. This needs some thought.</p> <p>Q: Would the cost of materials be covered by schools or would it be subsidized?</p> <p>A: Possibly a corporate sponsorship, this needs a later discussion. The contest could be an opportunity for groups like boy/girl scout troops.</p> <p>Q: Is water quality off limits?</p> <p>A: No.</p> <p>Ohio is relatively water rich, water conservation should be a second tier message. It may be better to focus more on pollution, how to keep water clean and where it comes from. The Action Plan states that the OWRC should have a cohesive message, what should that message be? PUCO's perspective is that the cleaner the water, the cheaper to treat, the better the rates. Ohio is required to have a conservation plan, but implementation is voluntary. We want people to take water quality seriously, but we don't want them to be alarmed. At its heart, the message is that water matters. ODA gets video submissions for their Ag is cool campaign, and they get a lot of creative videos. It has worked really well, PUCO may want to look into it.</p> <p>OWRC is close to spending authority for SFY 15. The money left could be earmarked, and PUCO would like to see that done for OH2O.</p>	
<p>CONCLUSIONS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carolyn Watkins is planning to attend the next SACG meeting, the meeting will focus on education and outreach. • Thanks to Sue and Katie on revisions to the OH2O proposal. • The message of PUCO's proposal needs some work and input. • SACG members need to come up with a couple of outreach and educational messages to discuss at the next meeting. • The next step for the OH2O proposal is to incorporate OWRC outreach and education message into the proposal, then review with OEPA. • USGS says the GLOS project is great. 	
<p>ACTION ITEMS</p>	<p>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</p>	<p>DEADLINE</p>

Complete Paper work for ODNR and OEPA projects	ODNR/OEPA	10-15-2015
Come up with message ideas!	SACG members	11-18-2015

2015-2019 STRATEGIC ACTION ITEMS

B. HALL

DISCUSSION	<p>See September 16, 2015 Action Item Update for details specifics. A few highlights include:</p> <p>a. Education and Outreach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lots of activity occurring with project wet, teaching water awareness. - Exhibits and trainings are ongoing. - Water monitoring summary could be a task because there is an outreach component. - The Balanced Growth website continues to be updated. <p>b. Watershed Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lynn has been working on documentation to show EPA and NOAA that we are meeting requirements. Approval is tied to 319 and coastal management funds. <p>c. Water Resources Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Members of the Finance Committee of the SCEIG met with a representative of the ACE in July and recommended projects to the ACE the Corps forthcoming fiscal year. - The Director of Ohio EPA has convened a working group to address how to fund the CSO issue as it affects Lake Erie and the western Basin of Lake Erie. 	
CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Send out an electronic copy of Updated Action Items	Brian Hall	11-11-15

UPDATES/OTHER BUSINESS

B. HALL

	<p><u>Updates</u></p> <p>OEPA DEFA</p> <p>Director Butler renewed the HSTS principal forgiveness for maintenance and rehabilitation of HSTS. The available funding is being increased</p> <p>Package Plant Initiative - reaching out providing training, inexpensive operations, a forum for idea discussion, free training and \$300 kits for process control. This is for WWTPs with design flows less than 100,000 GPD. DEFA has been targeting facilities in SNC.</p> <p>ODA</p> <p>Working on the transition of ODNR's Soil and Water Conservation District to ODA. About ten people are transferring. It is a "drag and drop" transfer - even the phone numbers are being</p>
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transferred.

USGS

USGS will be hiring a Deputy Director for Ohio.

OLEC

OLEC had a staff of four people. Gail's last day with OLEC is October 9. She has accepted a position with the National Wildlife Federation. Sandra will be the only one left at the OLEC.

OLEC is restructuring the Lake Erie Protection Fund. Proposals will be filtered through the lens of nutrient reduction and sediment management. Grant applications that are normally due in the fall are suspended due to fund restructuring and lack of staff. The next OLEC meeting is October 7.

There are currently no nominations for the Lake Erie award. It's not too late if someone has a suggestion.

OSU

There are two upcoming lectures at OSU: "At the confluence: nutrients, trace chemicals, and sustainability in the urban water sector" on September 24 and "Great Lakes regional climate change modeling" on October 14.

OWDA

There has been the greatest demand ever for the OWDA R&D grants, thirteen proposals have been received. A committee is meeting on 9/24/2015 to decide which grants to recommend. Grants were received from OSU, BG and OU.

OEPA - DSW

There are HABs on the Ohio River, causing issues with drinking water intakes and recreation. We have never seen a bloom this large before on the Ohio River. The mycrosystin toxicity in Lake Erie is low this year.

CONCLUSIONS

Would like to Thanks Gail for her service to the State and Lake Erie and wish her the best in the future.

ACTION ITEMS

PERSON RESPONSIBLE

DEADLINE