



Stormwater Coalition Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 15, 2025

Submitted for approval on April 16, 2026

Members and Alternates Present: Eric Barnes, Andrea Beard, David Bench, Amanda Gamby, Lorie Haslinger (virtual), Andy Hohlbein, Josh Hollinger, Steve Kessler, David Kuhn, April McDonald, Matt Miles, Kelly Moore, David Myerholtz, Melissa Petrea, Lauren Rush, Rachel Sizer; **Partners:** Mackenzie Bailey, Lynette Hablitzel, Sarah Williams (virtual), Wei Zhang; **TMACOG Staff:** Tiara Gonzalez, Kari Gerwin, Melissa Hopfer, Sandy Spang, Jennifer Allen

Call to Order/Welcome – The Stormwater Coalition met on Thursday, January 15, 2026, at 1 p.m. in the TMACOG Boardroom. Chair Andrea Beard called the meeting to order, noting a quorum had been reached. Introductions were made around the room.

Approval of Minutes – A *motion* was made by April McDonald and *seconded* by Matt Miles to approve minutes from the October 16, 2025, meeting. *The motion passed unanimously.*

Nominations for 2026 SWC Vice Chair – A *motion* was made by Lauren Rush and *seconded* by Matt Miles to appoint Rachel Sizer vice chair of the Stormwater Coalition. *The motion passed unanimously.*

Stormwater Coalition FY 2027 Annual Work Program – Tiara Gonzalez, TMACOG's environmental education coordinator, gave a presentation on the Stormwater Coalition's FY 2027 Annual Work Program (AWP), which begins July 1, 2026, and ends June 30, 2027. The file showing the revision to the AWP is available upon request. A *motion* was made by Amanda Gamby and *seconded* by April McDonald to accept the annual work program and recommend it for approval by the Water Quality Council. *The motion passed unanimously.*

2025 Review, 2026 Reporting, and LESH Themes – Mrs. Gonzalez gave an update on the following items.

Clear Choices Clean Water (CCCW) – Stats for the CCCW educational campaign, including the number of webpage users, web sessions, Facebook impressions, and Facebook Reach, surpassed the desired goals.

Lake Erie Starts Here (LESH) – Stats for the LESH campaign, including the number of webpage users, web sessions, 13abc.com impressions, Premion OTT impressions, and targeted display impressions, exceeded the desired goals.

Student Watershed Watch (SWW) – Stats for the SWW, including participation in the teacher training, sampling, and summit surpassed the program's goal.

Non-Program Specific – Stats were shared regarding non-program specific goals including community presentations, tabling events, e-blasts, and webpage views for the advocacy toolkit.

Stormwater Resources – Resources found on TMACOG's stormwater resources page were highlighted. The webpage can be found here: <https://tmacog.org/water/stormwater/resources>.

2025 Reporting – The 2025 review report will be forwarded coalition members in mid-February.

SWAG Themes – The six topics that will be featured each month during the LESH campaign include: Smart Salting (January), Storm Drain Awareness (March), Pet Waste (May), Litter (July), Septic Systems (September), Leaf Pick-Up (October). Staff welcomes additional input from coalition members on other issues or areas of concern.

Areawide Water Quality Management (AWQM) Plan or 208 Plan – Melissa Hopfer, TMACOG program manager, discussed the 208 Plan and upcoming stormwater chapter updates.

Ohio EPA Update – Lynette Hablitzel gave an update on the status of the draft MS4 permit. There will be a 45-day public comment period starting in early February. OEPA will determine which permittees will be eligible for waivers. NOIs will be required for both renewing and new permit holders. Ms. Hablitzel invited coalition members to join her for MS4 bootcamp. More information regarding the new MS4 permit will follow in the coming weeks. Annual reports are due April 1.

Member Update – Kari Gerwin, TMACOG’s director of water quality planning, noted that H2Ohio has an active grant for chloride reduction. Applications are due February 6. Tiara Gonzalez will share a link with coalition members. A couple of members of the coalition shared updates from their respective communities.

Village of Holland: David Myerholtz, the new administrator from the village introduced himself. He replaced Bob Bethel who retired in December.

City of Bowling Green: Amanda Gamby reported on SKnow, Bowling Green Public Works Division’s winter weather dashboard. The dashboard provides the public with real-time updates on road conditions, including an interactive map that uses GPS tracking to track snowplow and road salting progress. Bowling Green has a similar dashboard for refuge pick-up.

Staff Report –Tiara noted that her last name had changed from Davis to Gonzalez.

- 2026 Dues and Stormwater Campaign: Invoices were sent in late December.
- Stormwater Coalition Membership: Sandy Spang, TMACOG’s executive director, announced that at a future meeting, the coalition will be presented with proposed operating procedures that would eliminate alternates from their membership roster. The elimination of alternates from all TMACOG policy boards and committees was recommended by TMACOG’s legal counsel. With the absence of alternates, coalition members will be asked to consider who should represent them at the meetings.
- Stormwater Training – Municipal Inspectors and Contractors training scheduled on March 18 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Oregon’s Municipal Building. Attendees will be eligible for professional development hours. Registration will open in February.

Public Comment Period – There were no representatives from the public present for comments.

Any and All Other Business – Stormwater Coalition members were invited to attend the TMACOG Winter General Assembly. This annual meeting of TMACOG members is scheduled to take place on Friday, January 30 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Hilton Garden Inn Garden Inn in Perrysburg. Guest speakers from the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Cities Initiative and Cuyahoga County will highlight Lake Erie’s economic impact on Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan. Registration is open and can be accessed on TMACOG’s website, www.TMACOG.org.

Next Meeting/Adjourn – The next Stormwater Coalition meeting will take place on Thursday, April 16, at 1 p.m. in the TMACOG Boardroom. A **motion** was made by Amanda Gamby at 2:30 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned.

Andrea Beard, Chair, Stormwater Coalition
Toledo Metropolitan Area
Council of Governments (TMACOG)

Tiara Gonzalez, Environmental Education Coordinator
Toledo Metropolitan Area
Council of Governments (TMACOG)