



Wastewater Committee
February 3, 2021
1:00 p.m.
Web-based meeting

Virtual Meeting Intro:

Alice Godsey, Chair of the Wastewater Committee, City of Perrysburg, began the meeting with welcome. Alice introduced herself and Jeffery Lamson, Vice-chair, City of Fremont.

Roll Call:

Matt Kennedy, TMACOG Water Quality Planner, began roll call attendance by member jurisdiction. After roll call was complete, it was determined there was a quorum to conduct official business of action items.

AWQMP and Wastewater Committee FY 2022 Annual Work Program (AWP):

Action Requested: *Approval the FY 2022 AWP*

Alice Godsey introduced the AWP. As there were no further comments or questions, Alice Godsey asked for a motion. Doug Clark, City Bowling Green *moved to approve*. Lana Gore, Wood County Health Department *seconded*. *Motion carries*.

Presentation: Update to SARS CoV-2 in Wastewater Monitoring Program

- Dr. Saurabh Chattopadhyay, University of Toledo
 - Wastewater is a new area for early detection of community spread. Humans shed the virus through feces almost immediately after exposure. Asymptomatic infection is detected, and this gives a better indicator of community spread. Raw wastewater is tested for viral gene copy and wastewater-based epidemiology is able to monitor for new variants of the virus. This helps to detect if our area has any of the new variants of COVID-19. The CDC launched a nationwide wastewater monitoring network and Governor Dewine started a state monitoring project, recruiting state universities to do this work. The University of Toledo is currently monitoring the WWTP of Toledo, Oregon Lucas County, Napoleon and Defiance. The project is currently approved to run through June 2021. For a specific case study of University of Toledo dorms, they were tested during winter break when campus was mostly empty to get a baseline and that the students had only been back for 2 weeks. At this point they are seeing a downward trend but it is too soon to tell. Dorm water is being tested much closer to the source that at the WWTP so it is not as diluted. More data and information is coming out as work continues into the future.

Discussion of Continuing Education Credit Opportunities:

Alice Godsey asked for thoughts or ideas for continuing education, or if there were topics from the subcommittee. Sarah Helbig suggested the possibility if a virtual tour of a WWTP in the area. Kari Gerwin discussed the webinar format for last year and asked if anyone preferred in-person vs. webinar training. Jeff Lamson stated that he prefers in-person training, but webinars might be valuable for people who cannot attend an all-day training. Alice Godsey suggested that we look to see if there are virtual tours already

available anywhere in Ohio that we could use. Alice asked if a subcommittee was needed to plan for these trainings. Matt Kennedy will form a subcommittee for this task.

Member Update:

Perrysburg WWTP has teamed up with BGSU to add to the wastewater monitoring network.

OEPA Update:

Ryan Gierhart, OEPA stated that limited field work had resumed and they were starting to visit sites for inspections again. Ryan Gierhart said inspections need to be in-person to facilitate better communication. Virtual is better than no inspections but does not work as well as in-person.

Staff Report:

Matthew Kennedy stated that the 208 plan was formally adopted by the board of trustees and turned over to the Ohio EPA. This is updated annually so he would be reaching out mid-May for input for next year.

Public Comments:

None

Next meeting scheduled for May 5, 2021