

TMACOG Community Water Resource Advisory Group

Meeting Notes

July 24, 2025, 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

TMACOG Boardroom

Attendance Mike Fields, Jeff Lamson, Andy McClure, Tom Jasinski, Todd Saums, Brad Lowery, Liz Buening, Kris Barnswell, Tom Borck, Carrie Johnson, Marisa Stewart, Youngwoo Seo,

TMACOG Staff: Kingsley Kanjin, Melissa Hopfer, Kari Gerwin, Ann Nair

Welcome and Introductions

Kingsley Kanjin, TMACOG, started the meeting with a welcome and asked for roundtable introductions.

Presentation – Non-Revenue Water Reduction Challenges and Technologies

Kingsley Kanjin gave a brief introduction for Ken Schone, Director of Sales, Distributor Relations, Orbis Intelligent Systems who gave a brief background of his company. He discussed various types of leak detection technologies and their pros and cons. The newer technology that he is using is attached to fire hydrants. This is an additional tool that Todd Saums from the city of Toledo is using and they have found at least 60 leaks using this during their trial program using 50 hydrant caps. They are happy with the process and are working to add many more to their inventory and continue using them. Todd Saums also feels the software is user friendly.

Q&A followed.

Presentation – Slow Work, Strong Ties: Co-Creating Solutions through Community-Based Water Research

Kingsley Kanjin gave a brief introduction for Dr. Youngwoo (Young) Seo, Professor, Departments of Civil & Environmental Engineering and Chemical Engineering, University of Toledo who discussed several studies that University of Toledo has collaborated on with area Water and Wastewater facilities. He talked about the need to work with these groups to find better ways to treat water and work on removing contaminants. He is looking for more opportunities to collaborate with facilities.

Staff Update –208 Plan comprehensive Update

Kingsley Kanjin stated that they are in the final part of the Drinking water Chapter which is final review and approval by committees. He showed the maps from the chapter and asked if there was anything that needed to be added. Liz Buening stated that Marblehead is a distribution only system now and is set to be decommissioned within the year. Kingsley Kanjin asked for service area data for drinking water facilities in either GIS or Excel data. He also asked that attendees let him know if they see anything that needs to be fixed in the chapter or if they feel anything is interesting that needs to be added. Brad Lowrey asked, “How will these maps affect regulatory issues? How will the public perceive this information?” Color choice is important to perception. There will be descriptions and text for public consumption.

Staff update – Water Workforce Coalition

Kari Gerwin gave background on project, classroom process and cohort completion. She stated that TMACOG is looking for a way to formalize the coalition and continue moving forward with this program.

Roundtable - Drinking Water issues for discussion in our next meeting

- PFAS – EPA guidelines, new developments
- Microcystin sampling
- Kingsley Kanjin asked for suggestions for speakers on these topics be sent to him to follow-up.

Partner and Staff Reports

- Ottawa County – regionalization with Marblehead. Finishing constructing secondary feed loop, 24” water line. The current water line is near some sink holes. Resiliency project.
- Ohio EPA – Mark Johnson is moving positions
- City of Toledo – is using processes discussed by Neo Water Treatment at the January CWR meeting for a 2-month trial. It uses rare earth metals and leaves more of the phosphorus in the biosolids, 6 weeks into process should see numbers drop. First phase confirmed that it binds with P.
 - WW remodel Arcadis contract – projects are starting
- Bowling Green – Rehab intake on river starts next month and will take a year.
- Fremont is building a sludge storage building, increasing water rating.
- TMACOG – Delta Institute will present at the August 11th water Quality council meeting.

Public Comments

None

Recommendations to Water Quality Council

None

Adjourn at 2:38 pm