

TMACOG Watersheds Committee

October 28, 2020 | 1:00 pm

Meeting Minutes

Attendees

Deanna Bobak, Civil & Environmental consultants, Vice-Chair; Joey Sink-Oiler, Lucas SWCD; Cherie Blair, Ohio EPA; Mike Libben, Ottawa SWCD; Kris Patterson, Partners for Clean Streams; Christina Kuchle, ODNR Scenic Rivers; Alexis Sakas, The Nature Conservancy; Sandra Kosek-Sills, Ohio Lake Erie Commission; Melissa Hopfer, Toledo Lucas County Sustainability Commission; Jim Carter, Wood SWCD; Jordan Rofkar, Hull & Associates; Joy Minarcin, TMACOG; Matt Kennedy, TMACOG; Sara Guiher, TMACOG

Approval of 2021 meeting schedule - meetings will be virtual until further notice

Quarterly on 4th Wednesdays at 1:00 pm, beginning in January

January 27, April 28, July 28, October 27

Deanna Bobak asked for a motion to approve the 2021 meeting schedule – 1st Mike Libben 2nd Joey Sink-Oiler

Nominations for 2021 Watersheds Committee leadership and Water Quality Council representation

- Sara Guiher stated that Tim Murphy would be stepping down as Chair, Deanna Bobak is willing to stay on as Chair or Vice-Chair, and Edith Kippenhan (City of Toledo) is willing to serve as Vice-Chair
- Sara Guiher asked for a motion and second to open nominations – 1st Joey Sink-Oiler 2nd Kris Patterson
 - Kris Patterson nominated Deanna Bobak as Chair and Edith Kippenhan as Vice-Chair
- Sara Guiher asked for a motion and second to close nominations (not sure about this one because of my notes but I think it was 1st Joey Sink-Oiler and 2nd Melissa Hopfer)
- Sara Guiher asked for a motion and second to approve Deanna Bobak as Chair and Edith Kippenhan as Vice-Chair – 1st Kris Patterson 2nd Mike Libben
- Deanna Bobak asked for a motion and second to approve Watersheds Chair and Vice-Chair as representatives on Water Quality Council – 1st Kris Patterson 2nd Joey Sink-Oiler

H2Ohio Update - Christina Kuchle, ODNR Scenic Rivers

- ODNR has funding for Phase 1 and Phase 2 of H2Ohio wetland restoration projects. Phase 3 is expected to be approved next year but will depend on state-level funding.
- Other public/private funding sources are being sought out
- Submit potential wetland projects to Christina Kuchle. Should include a map/conceptual design, drainage area, landowner or parcel, current ownership of site. Prefer projects 5+ acres.

Discussion of 2021 work plan and focus areas

Sara Guiher gave an overview of the current annual work plan and highlighted areas that the committee is already completing work on. Two components could be further developed – researching targets and benchmarks for water quality goals and setting project priorities based on the Annex IV project completed by TMACOG in 2016-2018. The work plan will be sent to committee members to review and suggest edits prior to the January 2021 meeting, and will be approved at that meeting.

Member and partner reports

Alexis Sakas, TNC

- TNC is coordinating a grant-funded program offering training to farmers
- Maps and details are available for watersheds that have been modeled using TNC's Agricultural Conservation Planning Framework
- TNC is currently hiring for a Natural Infrastructure Director

Joey Sink-Oiler, Lucas SWCD

- This week is Lucas SWCD's Virtual Conservation week with partner spotlights, farm tours, and more at the Lucas SWCD website and on social media

Staff Report – Sara Guiher

- The TMACOG NPS-IS Advisory group had a meeting recently and will meet again to discuss FY21 work items prior to the end of the calendar year
- AFLE is moving on to be approved by Water Quality Council, Executive Committee, and Board of Trustees prior to release during the General Assembly
- The virtual Student Watershed Watch Summit will take place on the TMACOG website during the week of November 16
- Committee members and participants will need to fill out participation forms for 2021

Public Comments – There were no public comments

Adjourn
