

**Alliance of Downriver Watersheds**  
***DRAFT* Meeting Notes**  
**September 11, 2007 9:30 am**



1) **Welcome:** Craig Lyon of Taylor opened the meeting. In attendance were:

Designated or Alternate Community Representative:

Allen Park  
Berlin Township  
Brownstown Township  
Dearborn Heights  
Ecorse  
Flat Rock  
Gibraltar  
Grosse Ile Township  
Lincoln Park  
Melvindale  
Riverview  
Romulus  
Southgate  
South Rockwood  
Sumpter Township  
Taylor  
Van Buren Township  
Wayne County  
Wayne County  
    Airport Authority  
Westland  
Woodhaven  
Woodhaven-Brownstown  
    School District  
Wyandotte

- Lorinda Beneteau, Grosse Ile Township
- Ron Caryl, Sumpter Township
- Mark Gahry, Brownstown Township
- James Gorris, City of Gibraltar
- Neil Greene, Woodhaven-Brownstown Schools
- Mark Kowalewski, City of Wyandotte
- Craig Lyon, City of Taylor
- Dan Swallow, Van Buren Township
- Greg Tupancy, Urban Engineering for City of Southgate
- Bryan Wagoner, Wayne County Airport Authority
- Kevin Buford, City of Westland (alternate)
- Brent Florek, Grosse Ile Township (alternate)
- Mark Gaworecki, Hennessey Engineers for S. Rockwood (alternate)
- Noel Mullett, WCDOE (alternate)

Other Interested Parties:

- Mark Gaworecki, Hennessey Engineers for Berlin Twp
- Leah Groya, Wade Trim
- Patricia Huddas, MDEQ Water Bureau
- Ric Lawson, Huron River Watershed Council (HRWC)
- Patrick McCauley, Giarmarco, Mullins, & Horton, for Taylor and Dearborn Heights
- Kelly McRobb-Ackland, Wade Trim for Allen Park
- Donna Petry, Wayne Conservation District
- Vicki Putala, OHM
- Elizabeth Thacker, OHM for Romulus and Westland

**OFFICIAL ACTIONS** of the ADW taken at the meeting are shown in bold capitalized letters. *Action Items* for the future are shown in bold italics.

1) **Welcome and Introductions**

- a. Role Call of Alliance Members and Alternates Present – role call was performed and a quorum was present.
- b. Addition or Changes to Draft Agenda - There were no proposed changes to the meeting agenda (distributed to members via email September 7, 2007).
- c. Approval of June 26, 2007 meeting notes – **ACTION:** there was a motion by Brownstown Township to accept the June 26, 2007 meeting notes. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gibraltar. Passed unanimously.

2) **Status Report on Membership in Alliance of Downriver Watersheds**

- A handout was distributed that provides a summary of ADW membership.
- Van Buren Township accepted the bylaws on September 4, 2007
- Mark Gaworecki reported that Belleville is currently reviewing the bylaws and he was hopeful that within the next couple months they would accept the bylaws.
- There was no update regarding the status of Inkster, Huron Township, and Rockwood
- *The ADW will send a letter to those communities that have not joined the ADW (Huron Township, Inkster, Rockwood, Belleville, and Trenton) encouraging them to join.*

3) **Standing Committee Reports**

- a. Finance - A handout was distributed that provides a summary of those that have been invoiced and those who have paid. Also included in the handout is a summary of payments that the ADW has made to date.
- b. Ecorse Creek Watershed Advisory Group – the group had not met since the last ADW meeting
- c. Combined Downriver Watershed Advisory Group – the group had not met since the last ADW meeting
- d. Lower Huron River Watershed Advisory Group – Ric Lawson provided a report
  - The Lower Huron group met on August 15, 2007. Topics discussed were the budget, discretionary funds, and ADW activities.
  - The bulk of the discussion was focused on how to work with communities that

have not joined the ADW. The Lower Huron group had decided to send letters to those communities that have not yet joined. Ric reported that these letters had not yet been sent and agreed to coordinate efforts with the ADW so that duplicate letters were not sent to communities.

- The next Lower Huron meeting is scheduled for November 7, 2007 at Wade Trim.

#### 4) ADW Budget Process

##### a. Selection Committee

- A memo was distributed that provides a brief summary of the selection process and the recommendation to hire the OHM team for facilitation services.
- **ACTION:** there was a motion by Westland to accept the recommendation of the selection committee to hire the OHM team for facilitation services. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wyandotte. Passed unanimously.
- **ACTION:** there was a motion by Brownstown Township to authorize the selection committee to negotiate a contract with OHM with review by Patrick McCauley. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Westland. Passed unanimously.
- *Noel Mullett volunteered to create a draft contract based on the contract developed for the Watershed Management Plans and the Rouge facilitation services.*
- Mark Gahry suggested including a renewal option in the contract if satisfied with the work done by OHM. Dan Swallow added that this type of language was included in the Rouge contract.
- Mark Gahry asked if the full ADW needed to approve the contract. Mark Kowalewski suggested emailing the contract to the group and asking for comments. If no comments are received, the contract can be signed. The rest of the ADW members agreed.

- ##### b. Public Education Committee – Noel Mullett provided a report. There is a contract in hand for the Grow Zone grant. It will be signed by Wayne County and then sent to the DEQ by October 1 at which time it is hopeful that the State will be able to sign the contract.

- c. Technical Committee – Noel Mullett provided a report.
  - The IDEP water chemistry monitoring in the Ecorse Creek and Combined Downriver Watersheds has been initiated. Monitoring in the Lower Huron will begin soon. At the time of the meeting, about 20% of the work was complete.
  - All monitoring should be completed by November.

**5) Status of WMP/SWPPI approvals by MDEQ**

- Patricia Huddas reported that the new permit is out for pre-public notice. SEMCOG is the main group coordinating the effort for review. Once the DEQ receives their comments, the permit will go out for public comment.
- Patricia Huddas reported that the RFP for CMI/319 should be out very soon. Once the RFP comes out, communities will have 60 days to apply.
- Vicki Putala reported that the DEQ had provided a comment on the Ecorse Creek and Combined Downriver Watershed Management Plans (WMPs) that stated that in order for the plans to be approved for 319, the milestones in the plan had to be more measurable. She suggested that an upcoming meeting of the EC/CDR groups would be necessary in order to address this comment.
- Ric Lawson reported that the Lower Huron group may try to update the Lower Huron WMP as part of a grant.
- Noel Mullett suggested that the ADW investigate the possibility of updating all three of the WMPs as part of a grant. This could be looked into by the technical committee.
- **ACTION** - there was a motion by Wayne County to submit a 319 grant application and update the WMPs as part of the grant. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brownstown Township. Passed unanimously.

**6) Discussion of Issues Offered by Members**

- *Mark Gahry asked that an email be sent out that lists the various ADW committees and those who are sitting on each of the committees.*

**7) Opportunity for Public Comment**

- There were no comments by the public.

8) **Summary of Action Items and Items for Next Meeting** – the action items that are bolded and italicized in this summary were noted.

9) **Set Next Meeting Date(s)**

**ACTION:** there was a motion by Brownstown Township that future meetings should be held quarterly (Dec, March, June, Sept) on the second Tuesday of that month. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gibraltar. Passed unanimously

- *The next meeting was set for December 11, 2007 at 9:30 am at the Taylor Meadows Golf Course.*

10) **Adjourn**

- **ACTION:** there was a motion by Brownstown Township to adjourn the meeting. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Westland. Passed unanimously.

Draft notes prepared by Elizabeth Thacker (OHM) for the City of Romulus and Noel Mullett, Wayne County. *Please forward comments on the draft notes to the City of Romulus (Secretary), c/o Elizabeth Thacker at [elizabeth.thacker@ohm-advisors.com](mailto:elizabeth.thacker@ohm-advisors.com).*