

# Alliance of Downriver Watersheds

## *DRAFT Meeting Notes*

October 8, 2008 10:00 am



- 1) Welcome: Kevin Buford from the City of Westland opened the meeting. In attendance were:

### Designated or Alternate Community Representative:

- Lianne Clair, Van Buren Township
- Mark Gahry, Brownstown Township
- James Gorris, City of Gibraltar
- Neil Greene, Woodhaven-Brownstown School District
- Mike Kruse, City of Woodhaven
- Rick Lang, City of Allen Park
- Roy Schrameck, City of Rockwood
- Greg Tupancy, Southgate
- Bryan Wagoner, Wayne County Airport Authority
- Buford, City of Westland
- Brent Florek, Grosse Ile Township (alternate)
- Mark Gaworecki, S. Rockwood (alternate)
- Krystina Kramarz, Dearborn Heights (alternate)
- Noel Mullett, WCDOE (alternate)
- Derrick Schueller, City of Romulus (alternate)
- Dan Swallow, Van Buren Township (alternate)

### Other Interested Parties:

- Dan Brooks, Wade Trim for Dearborn Heights
- Robert Burns, Friends of Detroit River
- Leah Groya, Wade Trim
- Ric Lawson, 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
- Betsy Nightingale, DEQ

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

**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 agenda
- c. Approval of June 24, 2008 meeting notes – **ACTION**: there was a motion by Brownstown to accept the June 24, 2008 meeting notes. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rockwood. Passed unanimously.

2) **Status Report on Membership in ADW**

- a. Updated List, Budget && Map
  - A handout of the updated budget and membership list was distributed
  - 98.4% of the total budget has been collected.
  - Inkster is the only potential member that has not joined the ADW.
- b. Budget amendment
  - There were several proposed adjustments to the budget. A handout summarizing these adjustments was distributed (Amendment 1).
  - **ACTION** – there was a motion by Brownstown to accept the adjusted budget. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Romulus. Passed unanimously.

3) **Discussion on CMI/319 Funding**

- a. Summary of projects/NOI
  - On behalf of the ADW, Wayne County had sent in three notices of intent (NOI) to the DEQ. All three NOIs were deemed eligible for submission of grant applications.
  - The three projects are: 1) a planning project that includes updating the WMP, education on LID, impervious surface analysis 2) an implementation project that includes a green roof, two culvert replacements, and miscellaneous debris removal 3) riparian land acquisition project.
  - Van Buren Township is submitting a separate application on their own and asked to recognize the ADW as a partner on the application. There were no objections.
  - Grant applications are due October 29, 2008
- b. Recommendations from the Technical Committee
  - The technical committee met and is recommending that the ADW move forward with submitting separate applications for all three projects. The DEQ will further review the projects and provide comments on the highest likelihood of being accepted. If the DEQ feels that the projects will be more likely accepted if two of the applications are combined, the technical committee will submit two applications instead.
- c. Approval to prepare & submit full grant applications by October 29<sup>th</sup> deadline
  - **ACTION** – There was a motion by Allen Park to submit applications for the three projects by the October 29<sup>th</sup> deadline. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Van Buren Township. Passed unanimously.

4) **NPDES Phase II Permit**

- a. Contested case hearing update/permit status
  - Patrick McCauley provided an update
  - On October 1, Patrick McCauley met with a Judge to review all petitions. The DEQ pushed for the Judge to set a hearing date but the Judge would not. He set the following timeline:

- All petitioners meet within 45 days (by November 12) to develop a plan for moving forward
  - Within the next 30 days following (by December 12) petitioners to meet with the DEQ to discuss what is needed for a resolution
  - Within the next 30 days following (by January 14) both sides are to meet again with the Judge to report the status of the talks.
  - The Judge stated that petitioners would be operating under the current permit and are not in jeopardy of being in non-compliance.
  - Patrick McCauley stated that he felt that it was favorable to the petitioners that the Judge did not set a hearing date and that he thought there was still a chance that discussions with the DEQ could resolve the issue.
  - Roy Schrameck asked whether communities that didn't file a petition are under the new guidelines. Patrick McCauley said that wasn't clear. Betsy Nightingale stated that non-contested applications are being processed and the DEQ is several months away from issuing COCs but that was the intent.
  - The idea of consolidating attorneys was discussed as a possibility. The group felt that the cost sharing would be beneficial.
- b. Annual Reports
- Leah Groya stated that most communities have annual reports due November 1. A summary of ADW activities will be emailed to the group by October 17. Wayne County and HRWC will also be emailing a summary of their activities.

## 5) Status Reports

- a. Monitoring
- Ric Lawson reported that the technical committee has been moving forward with implementing the monitoring plan. He stated that macroinvertebrate monitoring has been completed and that two flow stations in each watershed have been established.
  - Noel Mullett reported that Wayne County is maintaining 4 of the 6 flow monitors and that they have collected July and August data.
  - Three bug hunt sites have been completed and more will be done.
  - Photo documentation of the grow zone sites has started.
- b. Detention pond workshop
- Two workshops were held. The first was on July 29 at the City of Taylor and there were 11 attendees from 2 communities. The second was on August 27 at Flat Rock and there were 9 attendees from 6 communities.
  - Most attendees were from home owners associations.
  - Evaluations overall were good.
  - Mark Gahry suggested that the ADW have a workshop geared toward community employees to be held during the day. Brownstown is willing to host such a workshop.
  - There are 950 manuals left to be distributed to ADW communities.
- c. Green infrastructure analysis
- USGS made a flight to obtain aerial photographs.
  - The contract with Sanborn has been signed. There will be a deliverable this year and the project is on time and budget.
- d. Grow zones
- The final designs have been completed and submitted to the DEQ.
  - 6 of 11 statements of agreement for O&M have been received.
  - Planting is scheduled for May 2009

6) **Standing Committee Report**

- a. Finance – nothing to report
- b. Ecorse Creek Watershed Advisory Group – nothing to report
- c. Combined Downriver Watershed Advisory Group – nothing to report
- d. Lower Huron River Watershed Advisory Group
  - Ric Lawson reported that the group met on July 15.
  - The primary discussion at the July 15 meeting was centered on use of the discretionary funds. The WAG decided to move forward with an advertising plan with pre-developed material. The plan will use newspaper ads targeted at the Lower Huron area.
  - The price of the advertising was tailored to fit the amount of the discretionary funds.
  - Neil Greene suggested posting the ads on the ADW and Lower Huron websites.
  - The next Lower Huron WAG meeting is scheduled for Wed September 15.

7) **Summary of Action Items and Items for Next Meeting**

- The action items that are bolded and italicized in this summary were noted.
- Dan Swallow stated that the ARC is pursuing non-profit status in order to be eligible for state grants. The ADW may want to consider this as well. The group decided to make this an agenda item for the next meeting.

8) **Set Next meeting Date(s)**

- *The next meeting was set for Thursday January 22, 2009 at 9:30 am at the Taylor Meadows Golf Course.*

9) **Adjourn**

- There was a motion by Brownstown to adjourn the meeting. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Romulus. The motion passed unanimously.

Draft notes prepared by Elizabeth Thacker (OHM). *Please forward comments on the draft notes to [elizabeth.thacker@ohm-advisors.com](mailto:elizabeth.thacker@ohm-advisors.com).*