



**Upper White River Watershed Alliance (UWRWA)  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
Veolia Conference Room  
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

**MEETING RECORD**

- A. Lenore Tedesco initiated the meeting with round-the-room introduction. Round the room introductions. Organizations present included: IUPUI, Madison County – White River Watchers, Veolia Water, DNR, IDEM, KCI, Empower Results, Morse Waterways, City of Indianapolis, and other individuals.
- B. Jill Hoffmann provided a recap of the December Record of Meeting and all members present voted to approve the Record as written.
- C. Grants Update
- Riverwatch Project - UWRWA finally received a draft contract for this project. Subconsultants have been contacted and the contract will be returned to IDEM shortly. Works is expected to start later summer.
  - LARE Regional Planning and Assessment Project - work is progressing on this project, although slower than expected due to data synthesis challenges. IDEM fixed station data is the only set that is proving to be helpful for spatial and temporal trend analysis throughout the watershed. Water quality data is being assess back to 1991 at truck, tributary confluences, and headwater locations. Hotspot analysis is now underway. A very large bibliography has been created including all past studies. Tedesco encourage anyone with access to old studies to share them with her to include in the bibliography and document clearinghouse.
- D. MS4 Regional Public Education and Involvement Program  
Hoffmann updated the group on the primary activity of the regional MS4 education program, the public knowledge/interest survey. She reported that the first communication related to the survey went out in late February and would continue into May in order to insure statistically relevant return rates. She walked the group through some example questions and the general structure of the survey. Question from the membership included cost (response, \$38,000 for nine jurisdictions) and availability for future use such as at HOA meetings, etc. Hoffmann noted that the UWRWA now owned the survey and would be able to reproduce and reuse as appropriate.
- E. Educational/Technical Program – Ron Lauster, Marion County SWCD  
Lauster provided an overview of the Lower Fall Creek Watershed Management Plan including its findings, next step activities and future initiatives. Concerns identified in the plan included by tradition and nontraditional things, everything from erosion to green space preservation. Attention was paid to wellhead protection areas, the Septic Tank Elimination Program (STEP) and better public awareness. The project included and outreach event at the fairgrounds and a few workshops on rain barrels and shoreline stewards. The social indicator survey that was circulated saw a poor response rate. Recommended management measures included: more Rule 5 enforcement, streambank stabilization, HEL overlay for planning purposes, development of lake management plans, integration of LID, and more demonstration projects.

#### F. Tech Committee Update

- Hoffmann described the ongoing website overhaul & organizational rebranding that the Tech Committee has been working on. She described the new website layout and function. Hoffmann asked for volunteers to help with key pages that needed leadership.
- Hoffmann noted that the Tech Committee's next big project is the final content and layout of the BMP selection tool. The Tech Committee hopes to have it available via the website by September.
- Next Tech Committee mtg April 30, 2009, 2-4 pm Hamilton Co.
- Announced Green Site Planning Workshop coming up – March 26, 2009

#### G. Watershed Projects & Event Updates – Coordinators (5 minutes each)

- Eagle Creek – Tedesco noted that the group was working on a large cost share project with a horse farm in Zionsville. The project is being slowed by permitting challenges, but should turn out to be one of the most comprehensive whole farm project undertaken with a 319 grant. The project will almost completely spend down remaining cost share funds. The next newsletter is coming out in early April and will continue publication even after grant expiration. Additional pharmaceutical research is also going on in the watershed with EPA. Watershed group is planning for a new 'drug drop-off' program.
- Madison Co. Projects/White River Watchers – Blassaras noted the receipt of a \$26,800 donation from a single donor to continue their efforts. Walmart's management has also been participating in monthly meeting of the WR Watchers and 30-40 volunteers from Walmart participated in clean-up events. The group is always looking for guest speakers for their meetings.
- Williams Creek, Hamilton Co. – no formal update. Public meeting planned for May.
- Morse and Geist – Jim Schneider reported that the Morse/Cicero Creek steering committee hired a contractor and had its first meeting. Historic data is being reviewed. The next steering committee meeting is March 27<sup>th</sup> and the public meeting is set for April 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Marion County – Ron Lauster  
Upcoming workshops are planned in the Mapleton Fall Creek neighborhood (rain barrels) and one on regulated drains in Lapel. Next round of 319 funding doesn't look promising.
- Other basins/subs – Bonnie Elifritz noted that while Randolph Co applies for a 319 grant for the headwaters of the White, funding seems unlikely. Buck Creek in Tipton Co. is trying to revitalize its efforts. Morgan Co is also working to keep projects moving. Some people have also expressed interest in working on watershed efforts and green design in Speedway.

#### H. Bylaws Revisions & June Elections – Tedesco (10 min)

#### I. **Next Meeting Date – June ?, TBD – 2:00-4:00 pm at Veolia.**

Later confirmed to be **June 9<sup>th</sup>**. Elections will occur at the June meeting.

#### J. Adjourned 4:05 pm