



Upper White River Watershed Alliance, Inc.
November 2, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 2:06 PM Wednesday November 2, 2005. Those present were as follows: Mr. Kenton Ward, Hamilton County Surveyor; Mr. Robert Thompson, Hamilton County Surveyor's Office; Mr. Walter Evans, Hamilton County Surveyor's Office; Mr. John Buechler, Polis; Mr. Larry Stout, Hamilton County ISSD; Mr. Bob Meyer, Upper White River Board of Trustees, Ms. Chris Meador, American Consulting; Mr. Rob Schumowsky, MCCOG; Ms. Summer O'Brien, Williams Creek Consulting; Mr. Hans Peterson, Clark-Dietz; Mr. Sam Robertson, Clark-Dietz; Ms. Meg Anderson, Christopher Burke Engineers; Mr. Bill Savage, City of Elwood; and Mr. Glenn Pratt, Concerned Citizen.

Approval of Minutes of September 1, 2005:

There were no changes made; the minutes were approved.

UWRWA Golf Outing – Recap:

Ms. Anderson stated that everybody who sponsored the golf outing has paid up. They have \$6,465.63 in the bank, which is less than the projected budget, but considering the concerns they had leading up to the outing she believes that this is excellent. They may want to put together a donations committee and solicit door prizes in the future.

Mr. Thompson stated that at the next meeting they may want to talk about forming a committee for next year's outing and start planning earlier.

Mr. Ward asked about a date for next year; should it be earlier or in the middle of summer.

Ms. Anderson stated that there are drawbacks to doing it in the summer because of the high demand of the course and it may cost a little more, but they may get more participation. This year it was Wade's idea to wrap it up with membership; \$400.00 and if you wanted to pay \$500.00 you got your membership. They got six members out of that. If you did it a little earlier you may want to adjust the amount. The course was a good location being along the river, the people were very good to work with and very affordable.

Mr. Thompson stated that the fairways did have a very bad fungus problem and there was no driving range for people to warm up on. They may want to put together a small committee and make recommendations for next year.

Mr. Ward stated that he would speak with Jeff and see about putting a committee together for next year.

UWRWA GIS Project Update:

Mr. Buechler stated that they have the site, subject to comments and edits, complete. Mr. Thompson has been very good at forwarding information in emails. There is some other content that he believes needs to come from the committee as a whole and he will incorporate all that information. The City of Indianapolis has been good about hosting data; previously they had just limited it to the Marion County border partly because they are doing more and more of the data hosting for the water company which covers multiple counties. From a maintenance standpoint it is a very good thing for everybody. He would like to pull all the comments together over the next month so they can clean that up.

Mr. Ward asked if the Committee needed to send out an email to folks.

Mr. Buechler stated that they have done that; it's a matter now of somebody getting more information to them (names, titles, address information, etc.); part of that he can do. Part of it is the information from the old site. He can work with Christopher Burke, but the easiest way would be to print out the pages and circle.

Mr. Thompson stated that he printed the information from the whole website, which is down temporarily, waiting for a transfer from URL to your site; the old website is down now. The first thing that came to mind was the bylaws; he is not sure if they are current or not, but there is a copy of the bylaws on the old website. He would assume that this may be something that they will put on the new website.

Mr. Ward stated that he didn't know if those bylaws are current.

Mr. Thompson stated that he would doubt that they are current, but he doesn't know that. This is something that probably should be there; it is, in some respects, goals of the Upper White River Watershed Alliance; whether these need to be reviewed and then put on the website or are they still current. Another item that is on the website that is probably no longer needed is a database for inserting water quality monitoring data. There are enough other sites like River Watch that is tracking water quality. The grant applications that were made by various watershed task forces is old and needs updated.

Mr. Buechler asked if the studies are good to go.

Mr. Thompson stated that the studies need updated. The Upper White River Member benefits probably needs to be updated. There is also a link to a power point presentation that Christopher Burke probably has and also current issues and priorities. There is a link to various other sites and many of those links are probably bad. Contact information will need to be changed. When the organization got started there were quarterly newsletters and there are four or five there that still have PDF files that are probably hosted by Christopher Burke. Do they want to restart newsletters and who would be responsible?

Mr. Ward stated that he didn't recall if those were hard copies or if they sent out digital copies?

Mr. Evans stated that it would make sense to do digital now.

Mr. Thompson stated that they could have the newsletters on the website that could be downloaded.

Mr. Buechler stated that the fact that these newsletters are 2002, does the Committee still want to put them out?

Mr. Thompson stated that they may want to wait until they restart their newsletters. A page to other documents for Upper White River, Stormwater Phase II Communities needs updating because there are communities that aren't on here that are MS4 communities. The evolving Upper White River Watershed had a map with links to various websites and other entities as far as watershed plans; that needs updating and revamping. The impaired water bodies probably needs updated; does the Committee want to do that or just provide a link to IDEM? IDEM has a website where you can get that information. They had some discussion on the Stormwater Best Management Practices toolbox and whether they wanted to update that document or not, even if they didn't update it, it is pretty much still a valid document.

Mr. Ward stated that they could pass these around to everyone here and if you could do one or two of them and give them back to Mr. Buechler.

Mr. Thompson stated that some of them may take quite a bit to do, like the nineteen pages of existing cities; somebody from IDEM would probably have a good handle on existing watershed studies and there is link. They probably should take this information and before they redo these pages make sure that the information is not already available by a link.

Mr. Ward asked Mr. Thompson to go through these and see where they could pull this information out and then get those links to Mr. Buechler. Some of this is going to have to be researched because he is not sure who the participating communities are right now. See if you can find links and where you don't find links, where they can get that information.

Mr. Thompson stated that it would be a couple of weeks before he can get that to Mr. Buechler because he will be on vacation.

Mr. Buechler stated that was fine. The goal is to update the site over time and as new things become available add it. If at each Technical meeting they could revisit it there will be new items that will need to be added.

Mr. Ward asked if the City of Indianapolis will be doing that for them or just hosting the site.

Mr. Buechler stated that the City will be hosting the site; if there is additional GIS data that cannot be housed by Hamilton County or Madison County and its Upper White related he believes that the City is very interested. They reviewed the site with Jonnie and several people at the water company and they are very interested; they are still talking about pursuing some other funding and studies. If they could get Hamilton County's Health Department water sampling data at some point they can add it to that database. Jill is defining the symbolology for the Indiana map for things like roads and parcels and she is to get that to him any time; they will apply that to the parcels.

Mr. Stout stated that Mr. Thompson had mentioned that several houses were off from his house; what data is Mr. Buechler using?

Mr. Buechler stated that he believes that they are using TIGER data because it covers the entire watershed.

Mr. Stout stated that he has better data.

Mr. Buechler stated that he believes that it is a technical issue of geo-coding one source that covers the watershed.

Mr. Stout stated that if you put in just the street address and no zip code, the geo-code is just fine, but somewhere not in the watershed, which is a little disconcerting. It doesn't say 'you didn't give me enough information' it's just a screen with a green dot in the middle of it.

Cool Creek 319 Project Summary:

Mr. Hans Peterson with Clark-Dietz gave a presentation to the Committee on the Cool Creek project.

Mr. Meyer asked how the responsibility of the storm water facilities transfer as time goes along and the developer sells out to adjacent landowners. Who makes sure that those things continue to operate the way they should.

Mr. Ward stated that unfortunately he blew threw a meeting last week and forgot all about it and that is the meeting that they were to discuss ownership. He will need to reschedule it. There is a possibility of Westfield Parks or Washington Township Parks taking it or stay as the Common Area for the development.

Mr. Meyer asked if it was unreasonable or out of the financial reality to endow these things with sufficient operating capital so they permanently have a source of funds to keep them up.

Mr. Ward stated that this is why he would like to see it go to one of the parks; the parks with a deed restriction on the county site where anything they do to it they have to get approval.

Mr. Meyer stated that when CILTI received their money from the fish kill funds to purchase two or three different projects over the last few years that were purchased along White River for riparian restoration they were buying riparian lands; low floodplain, floodway lands and thinking that they should be paying \$3,000.00 per acre or there about; this last one they purchased was appraised at \$8,000.00 per acre; unbuildable; it must be because there is more and more developers looking for these kinds of sites.

Guide Lamp Trustee Projects Update:

Mr. Meyer stated that he looked at the minutes from their last meeting on September 1, 2005. August 3, 2005 was the last Citizens Advisory Committee meeting so there isn't any news. The minutes say that the money has been allocated and so there's not too much more that the Guide Fish Kill money hasn't already been funded, but will be funded.

Other Business:

Annual Board Meeting – Mr. Thompson asked if there would be an annual Board meeting of the Upper White.

Mr. Meyer stated that there is a desire to have one in December.

Mr. Ward stated that he would ask Jeff.

Mr. Meyer stated that the project that CILTI is purchasing at Eller Road and 116th Street looks pretty firm. The school board is going to sell their 40 acres and the Eller's have verbally committed to sell theirs, so it would be 78 acres of ground that will be restored to either hardwoods or tall grasses. There is a planning meeting for that Monday at the CILTI office in Indianapolis. The school system will be built around this as well; they are going to build a curriculum around participation and be involved in the restoration. All the paperwork should be signed if it gets to the State Attorney General's Office by the end of the year.

Next Meeting Date:

The meeting was set for Wednesday January 18, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. in Noblesville.

Kenton C. Ward
Hamilton County Surveyor

Attest: _____
Executive Secretary