

Upper White River Watershed Alliance, Inc.
Technical Committee Minutes
November 20, 2001

The meeting was called to order at 2:15 PM Tuesday November 20, 2001. Those present were as follows: Mr. Kent Ward, Hamilton County Surveyor; Mr. David Heighway, Ms. Cindy Fort, American Consulting; Mr. Don Anthis, City of Noblesville Utility Director; Mr. Steve Hall, Goode and Associates and Ms. Sheila McKinley, Ratio Architects.

Review of Minutes of August 7, 2001 Meeting:

There were no changes made for the Minutes of August 7, 2001.

Vice Chair Person:

Mr. Don Anthis was elected as Vice Chairperson to act as Chairperson in Mr. Ward's absence.

Mr. Ward had to leave at this point and Mr. Anthis took over as Chair of the Meeting.

Water Quality Data Survey:

Mr. Hall stated that he web enabled the survey that they had and he checked the TP site and someone has tried to enter and fill the form about 12 times, but unsuccessfully.

Ms. Fort asked if this was a user problem or a problem with the site?

Mr. Hall stated that there were five other entries with no problems.

Mr. Anthis asked if Mr. Hall could tell who it was that was having trouble.

Mr. Hall stated that they had not filled out their contact information.

Mr. Anthis suggested that the site should have the contact information filled out first before anything else.

Mr. Heighway asked if it was possible that they fill out the contact information before they have access to anything else.

Mr. Hall stated that he would check on that.

Mr. Anthis asked if there was a mailing?

Mr. Hall stated that they wanted to send out a letter now announcing that it was out and requesting people to access the website.

Mr. Anthis asked when would it be mailed out?

Mr. Hall stated that they would send it out when the alliance wanted it sent out.

Mr. Anthis suggested that if Mr. Hall could work with his web page designer and check it one more time and send a letter out to all municipalities and entities involved.

Mr. Hall stated that there was a list of about 500 chemical and biological parameters and was tedious to set up. The original form asks who are you and do you have a chemical or biological-monitoring program? He hopes to get interest with the form that is on the web and follow up with an e-mail with a web enabled attachment or a hard copy attachment that can be quickly checked off because it is very hard to web enable.

Mr. Anthis asked if there was any pre-designed databases that will accept these entries from EPA or IDEM that Mr. Hall was able to utilize?

Mr. Hall stated that to make the check list for all the parameters they requested IDEM's data base and added the contact information fields which would be downloaded into a text format that can be imported into the access data base that they got from IDEM.

Mr. Anthis stated that access is a limited days database structure. If they get a lot of data coming in from a lot of municipalities and industries they may have to host it on the city server in a single server format. He stated that they could probably sign some kind of agreement with the alliance to do that.

Mr. Hall stated that they have a decent amount of web space, but nothing near what a municipality would maintain. The contents of the letter that will be sent out was discussed at an earlier time and he would come up with a letter in the next week to ten days and will e-mail the letter to the group for any additional comments. He stated that Mr. Ward would have a lot more postage than he would use this year and will re-evaluate it again and make sure he had the extra and send the letter out through his postage.

Mr. Anthis suggested that there should be thank you e-mail or a follow up thank you response for participating in the program and encourage them to up date their parameters.

Mr. Hall stated that they may get solicitations on the web site form from people who do not show up for the alliance meetings and participate in the survey as a way of picking up e-mails and new contacts.

Mr. Anthis stated that he would hesitate giving out e-mail account names.

Mr. Hall stated that they would not give it out it is just what they would send them.

Ms. Fort suggested that there should be a place for them to say they want to be on the mailing list.

Mr. Anthis stated that would be the appropriate thing to do.

Mr. Heighway suggested that the contact information should have to be filled in before they can get in to the actual survey.

Mr. Hall asked if the draft letter should run through policy?

Mr. Anthis stated that it should out of courtesy and also the Board members as well.

BMP's for Stormwater Phase II Update:

Mr. Hall stated that they are trying to develop structural and non-structural BMP's. There is a lot of information on structural BMPs and Ms. McKinley was working on planning and non-structural BMPs.

Mr. Anthis asked how this plays into what IACT expects?

Mr. Hall stated that IACT package is a self-assessment tool and is strongly packaged with educational materials that explain what Stormwater Program is and how it applies to a community.

Ms. McKinley stated that she had a large list of ordinances and different types of plans that can be used to address water quality issues and is struggling with how to present it in an easy to read format. She suggested a chart format.

Mr. Anthis suggested that Ms. McKinley check into who has ordinances currently on the books in Indiana and who she could contact in the community and ask them how it is working and what they would do different, what they learned and what pitfalls they encountered.

Ms. McKinley found a web site, Center for Watershed Protection, which talks about watershed based zoning and a description of it and then the utility as a watershed protection technique. There are local examples and a nation wide example; some of the east and west coast areas are a little more progressive.

Ms. Fort stated that she found another web site, www.stormwatercenter.net. She stated that it has a lot of non-structural BMP's listed, examples, and model ordinances and actual ordinances from different cities non of which are in the mid-west. On the structural side, a couple of her staff went to the ASCE BMP design class in Chicago last month and the instructor in the class now works for Center for Watershed Protection which is who hosts this web site. As they worked through the examples their staff was interested in Chapter 700 and the web site has a plan developer and almost looks like the Indianapolis document was prepared out of this web site.

Mr. Anthis was interest in looking at the Indiana Code and see what things would be available as far as setting up a stormwater utility and what the makeup of the utility board would have to be. He stated that there may be things out there where they need to work with IDEM and legislature on getting some legal authority to get some of these things to happen.

Ms. McKinley asked what deadline were they shooting for on the BMP work?

Mr. Hall stated that they wanted to have it done by the end of the year. He asked what Ms. McKenley would like to do with what she has so far.

Ms. McKinley stated that she would sub-divide the information.

Mr. Heighway stated that he had an engineer on staff who just got sworn in as attorney and he would try to volunteer her services.

Ms. Fort stated that she could help with the search for the current codes as far as stormwater utility.

Mr. Hall stated that Josh did a research project that had something to do with that and he would check and see if he was done.

The deadline for the non-structural BMP was set for the end of December.

Rule 13:

Mr. Hall stated that he wanted the latest information on Rule 13.

Set Meeting Date:

The next meeting was set for January 16, 2002 at 2:00 PM.

The meeting was adjourned.

Kenton C. Ward
UWRWA Technical Committee Chairman