



Upper White River Watershed Alliance, Inc.
Technical Committee Minutes
December 2, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 2:04 PM Tuesday December 2, 2003. 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. Larry Stout, ISSD; Mr. Steve Hall, Christopher Burke Engineering; Mr. Bob Meyer, Upper White River Board of Directors; Mr. Don Anthis, City of Noblesville; Mr. Rusty Spiars, Woolpert; Mr. Bob Weaver, Upper White.

Review of Minutes of August 13, 2003 Meeting:

There were no changes; the minutes were approved.

IDEM White River TMDL Meeting & Comment Period:

Mr. Thompson stated that they just received a letter from IDEM notifying them of the public meeting being held in Anderson on December 4. The document became available officially on the website today; he requested an e-mail copy of it and received it yesterday of the draft document. He has not had a chance to look at it; it didn't look like Hamilton County was in too bad of shape as far as what he could see; the public comment period is till January 2nd. It needs to be gone through with a fine tooth comb; he noticed just briefly that Cicero was left out as far as designated entities in Hamilton County.

Mr. Hall stated that a good summary of what they are pointing their finger at is in page 51; the implementation section; the most significant sources of e-coli include CSOs, non-point source runoff, live stalk and failing septic systems, which is pretty much the issues in every watershed in the mid-west; it is general in that respect; they have suggested some management practices here. They are suggesting septic system education program, getting live stalk out of streams, requiring maintenance of septic systems and structural urban BMPs for Phase II programs to be implemented.

Mr. Spiars asked if they indicated which source was more severe.

Mr. Hall stated that they don't prioritize one over the others; he has not covered it in detail, but it seems that they are the same; all of these are potential sources and there are BMPs that might address those potential sources.

Mr. Thompson stated that they had some maps showing where the problem areas and violations were occurring and for the most part they were north of them.

Mr. Anthis stated that Monday there was a conference call between IAC and IDEM concerning e-coli; he did not participate in it. He received an e-mail this morning summing up some of their concerns.

Mr. Hall stated that he did not participate in the call himself; Josh participated, but he has not seen his notes; he saw the e-mail that generally outlined some of the highlights that were discussed in the conference call.

Mr. Spiars asked if any other States have limits for that.

Mr. Hall stated that several other States have tiered limits; different designated uses; he believes that Indiana is the only State ranking 5 that doesn't have an alternative designated use that allows for a higher number for e-coli during wet weather conditions; some call them Urban Stream Designations; some have secondary contact designations, but Indiana is the only one that has a flat swimmable, fishable designation.

Mr. Ward asked if Mr. Hall has seen anything in there that would pass down anymore; they have already set unreasonable limits; he asked if there is anything worse than what they already have or is there going to be something where they can show some minor victories and do a stepping stone type of thing.

Mr. Hall stated that they are trying to move towards minor victories; some alternative designation to the swimmable; whether that will be a blanket Statewide, wet weather exclusion, whether it will be specified for urban stream segments that receive CSOs discharges or storm water discharges has to be agreed upon. He believes that they are at least trying to come up with some sort of alternative designation even if it is seen as just getting their foot in the door.

Mr. Anthis stated that there are several groups that have been working on this; they have been working on this for years and getting no where. IDEM feels that their hands are tied and they don't want to move.

Mr. Hall stated that IDEM is having legal interpretation of State water quality standards to say all MPS programs must result in water quality standards being met; the argument seems to focus on that is a correct legal interpretation.

Mr. Ward asked if they felt that they should have any reaction to this.

Mr. Hall stated that he believes that they should get a summary of the discussion and get that routed around and get the latest of what IDEM puts around as a result of that discussion. They probably need to distribute the summary of this week and digest it before deciding how to act.

Mr. Ward stated that with the holidays it will be short as far as the time. He asked Mr. Myer if they should route this through the Board also.

Mr. Meyer stated that they probably should; it is a significant issue.

Mr. Thompson asked if IDEM ever extends the comment period if requested by enough.

Mr. Hall stated that they are very hesitant to do that, but it has happened before.

Mr. Thompson stated that during the holidays maybe the Upper White River could request an extension for the comment period.

Mr. Hall stated that last year EPA produced memo to States discussing the impact of TMDLs on Stormwater Phase II programs; basically stating that TMDLs should not result in numeric water quality limits being added to a Stormwater Permit; this will be based on all of the technicalities of the federal rule versus the state rule, but the federal rule being based on the maximum extent practicable or BMP approach meeting water quality goals as apposed to Indiana's approach that all permits have to result in meeting numeric water quality limits; there is still a difference in interpretation or implementation between the state and the federal government. A lot of Stormwater Phase II communities are going to be using that memo as they prepare their Stormwater management programs where they have TMDLs coming through their community.

Mr. Ward asked if this material was on electronic data so they can spread it around easily.

Mr. Hall stated that it was.

Mr. Spiars asked if Mr. Hall had the notes from the conversation from the conference call.

Mr. Hall stated that he did not have them, but believes that he can get them.

Mr. Ward asked if a 30 day extension is something that they feel would be beneficial.

Mr. Anthis stated that he didn't have a problem with asking them to do it, but everyone has been commenting on this for years.

Mr. Hall stated that there is more opportunity to influence the e-coli limit through the tri-annual review process than there is by making comments to that. It seems that what they have identified now is so general.

Mr. Anthis stated that the e-coli is the same standards that they have at the treatment plant.

Mr. Hall stated that it's not pointing a finger, so to speak; it's saying it could be septic systems, it could be live stalk or CSOs; it's not saying that it's 'this farm' or 'that plant'. Fall Creek TMDL in Marion County, their final report ended up saying basically what this says, that CSO programs, Stormwater Phase II Programs, septic system programs to connect homes that are on septic systems to sanitary sewers are seen as existing programs that would achieve the ultimate goal of the TMDL; that may be where they are going here; leaving it that general; even if they leave it at general meeting the e-coli limit is still a challenge in trying an overview is the best place to tackle that.

Mr. Anthis stated that Noblesville developed ordinances to deal with the un-incorporated areas in Noblesville Township and what it costs to get them on septic fields and written procedures; if anyone would like to look at them and see if they want to use them in other communities; they are just going around them until the petition for sanitary sewers service; they have a formalized plan that they can show IDEM on how they are going to resolve that issue.

Mr. Hall stated that Thursday the Upper White annual meeting is being held they will have time review the IAC summary and some additional information.

Mr. Meyer asked who would be leading the discussion on this subject at the Board meeting.

Mr. Anthis stated that he did not believe that they needed to go into a lot of detail; just some summaries of some conference calls that they can review at their convenience; as this evolves they can report back in more detail.

Mr. Hall stated that they would try and get all the information that he can get his hands on, get it to Bob who can distribute it to them before Thursday.

Mr. Spiars stated that the National Academy of Science a couple of years ago did some analysis of the TMDL program and criticized primarily that they are trying to implement this draconian without real detailed scientific modeling; how has this affected this; is that why they are staying away from that, because they don't have detailed models to see what is going on and whether the creek can accommodate or not.

Mr. Hall stated that he didn't read the report from the Academy, but he got a summary of that and discussed it with some of the TMDL staff; it appears that they feel that this is as good as they can do with the data they have available; they would certainly like to produce more technically sound, more quality assured raw data sets as well as better modeling, but with the resources they have in hand that's the best they can do; whether that is good or not that will probably turn out to be a legal decision.

Mr. Anthis stated that in general they based it on 11 people getting sick out of 1,000 and compared water _____; if you go to the doctor community and the hospitals he did not believe that you would see that many people sick from e-coli.

Mr. Ward asked that Mr. Hall get the information to Bob to distribute and have something for the Board on Thursday.

Polis Feasibility Study Update:

Mr. Meyer stated that on Tuesday November 18 they met with Bob Lawrence; they were hoping that Dave Mocker would be there, but he was not; the intent was to deliver the message that the Trustees of the Guide Fish Kill generally support the idea of the GIS; they are pending a decision till the feasibility study is done, but even with or without a positive feasibility study they don't want to spend big money on GIS if there isn't some assurance that the people that will take care of the GIS after it is established will be here 5 to 10 years from now; unfortunately the fish kill money cannot be used to create an endowment; it has to be spent on projects that are here and now. They can get it started, but they can't make it funded in perpetuity. The point is that he was delivering a message to Barb that somehow this group that Indianapolis was behind the origination of, Indianapolis really needs to step forward and provide some leadership and seed it with some long term money or some capital commitment out of a minimal of understanding. He would say that the long and short of it she bought time; she didn't want to give an answer and perhaps by the absence of the right people she didn't have to because she could defer to her own staff who weren't present. He followed up with a letter; they have had the letter for approximately two weeks; it was his hope that they would have response before the Board meeting this Thursday so they would know where they stood; there has been none so far. He believes that Josh and Zach are trying to follow up and give her a push and see if she can force an answer. Somebody in a large metropolitan entity needs to basically say 'Upper White River is going to be around for a few years because they have the money to make sure it happens'; hopefully this will mean that the smaller fry will all kick in and they have some assurances developing.

Mr. Hall stated that Indianapolis to support the project seems very critical; as he understands some tentative commitments from others, but they are really hoping that Indianapolis will step up in addition to those other commitments; the Trustees need to feel comfortable if they are going to go any further than they have gone already; they need to feel very comfortable in spending a decent chunk of money that there is going to be a group that can maintain and support the tool over a period of time without some formal commitments by Indianapolis and others it probably won't happen.

Mr. Meyer stated that this is beginning to look like more and more money to the Trustees because whereas 2 – 3 years ago when they got started they had a \$6,000,000.00 bank account and is now spent down to about half of that; that is a faster spending rate than most of these mediations or actions go through it. On the other side of the coin; if they can get this thing up and going it is a tremendous thing to say that the Upper White is really doing something and they are going somewhere and they have something to build their program around. There is basically a follow up to the meeting that Mr. Hall had attended where somebody had to stand up and be counted.

Mr. Ward asked how much time they thought they should wait.

Mr. Meyer stated that this is where everybody else's opinion is important; he has not thought any further along; he does not have a plan B.

Mr. Spiars stated that Dave Mockert was promoted; he is climbing in his position of influence down there.

Mr. Hall stated that there have been several lines drawn in the sand between Indianapolis and communities upstream as to who is causing how much of a problem and with the Fall Creek TMDL saying that existing programs were going to achieve what they needed for e-coli; he doesn't have a tremendous amount of motivation to get heavily involved in. He stated that he was not sure that he was familiar enough at this point in time of this project and proposed product and what it can do for him.

Mr. Meyer asked if they had failed in educating him.

Mr. Anthis stated to Mr. Hall that they could go down and talk to him.

Mr. Hall stated that he didn't know if he was weighing in and if he is even weighing in on this at this point; Dave Mockert in particular is certainly holding a lot of cards right now.

Mr. Meyer asked if they view this as a threat to the system that they already have in place; that it is the construction of a parallel tool that was redundant.

Mr. Hall stated that the City/County has IMAGIS, but he didn't know if Carlton is even thinking about this project and its impact or influence on his programs.

Mr. Meyer stated that one of the impacts might be that they talked about rather than giving cash to the Upper White to instead give effort, labor and time through their own capabilities; maybe that has some impact; he got the feeling that some of the things that were necessary they already did.

Mr. Hall stated that he was familiar enough, at this point, with all of the conversations that have that have had an opinion or understanding.

Mr. Meyer stated that it does seem that getting all of this on the table is better than just hoping that they agree to it without discussing it; he would think that if the man understands that it is more data that he can get at more easily, even if it is data he doesn't like coming down stream, he is in a better spot than he would have been otherwise; how could he disagree.

Mr. Spiars stated that he believes that Dave's goal is to find out what his other departments need from GIS and help them make his tool something they can use; he did not know if he personally would want that data; he would probably be more in tune with it if somebody in his city or staff wanted it and he would be interested in helping them get it.

Mr. Ward stated that he believes that, from the study, the cost would be \$50,000.00 for the annual maintenance.

Mr. Meyer stated that he believed that it was more like \$22,000.00.

Mr. Evans stated that he believed that it was closer to \$20,000.00 as well.

Mr. Meyer stated that it was a question to keep things simple Indianapolis would take all or out of fairness to Indianapolis would do 70% and then hope that Hamilton County would step in and pick up the balance.

Mr. Ward asked about U. S. Filter; they have an interest in this.

Mr. Meyer stated that as a back up plan if they get a note from Barb; who they would call on that.

Mr. Ward stated that he would pass this on to Dale on Thursday and see what reaction they would get from him.

Mr. Spiars asked if the \$22,000.00 was the cost that Polis would take to maintain it; was this Polis dollars are real world dollars. Polis is different than a typical entity outfit they might contact to do something like that.

Mr. Meyer stated that he believed that this was Polis' estimate of real world dollars that Upper White would be paying anybody.

Mr. Spiars stated that this tells him that this is real world dollars and there is not a whole lot of maintenance to be done; \$22,000.00 is not a whole lot over the course of a year.

Mr. Ward stated that basically they are talking about monthly downloads, integration of data, maybe even quarterly. He asked what the plan for Thursday for the report to the Board was.

Mr. Meyer stated that it probably falls to him to make some comments unless somebody else particularly wishes to; he would frankly say what he just now unless somebody thinks he is being too candid about either a personality or an entity looks bad.

Mr. Ward stated that he had hoped that Indianapolis would step up to the plate on this because the whole alliance was kind of something that _____ and Josh kind of put together down there.

Mr. Meyer asked if he had this right; unfortunately they are under a different administration that doesn't carry the same sense of ownership. He would be happy to make the same comments.

Mr. Ward stated that maybe before or after the meeting talk to Dale.

Mr. Meyer stated that they should try to do it before because if Dale has some comments to make he may choose to make them right after he speaks; he will try to get to him right away; he may try and call Dale later this afternoon or tomorrow; then they have a chance to discuss internally to IWC about it.

Mr. Hall asked if everybody had seen a draft report on the feasibility study.

Mr. Meyer stated that it shows the funding coming to him.

USGS Gauging Station Program:

Mr. Ward stated that he had a letter dated October 17 from USGS; they are looking for station locations both to re-initiate and also to put in as new stations; the per station cost for installation is \$5,800.00 and the per station cost for annual maintenance and operations is \$10,200.00. They have the money to do the initial installation if the entity would pay for at least half of the annual maintenance.

Mr. Spiars asked about the size of the station.

Mr. Ward stated that these are the satellite links; with this you get the real time data. This is where the large numbers come into play; for satellite time.

Mr. Spiars that they have frequency set aside for hydraulic purposes for radio frequencies; the National Weather Service oversees those; you put self recording stations out for about that much money and they report by radio real time; 10 years ago the base stations were about \$25,000.00 and the maintenance was a little motorcycle battery type deal.

Mr. Ward asked if he had spoken with Tom Mann lately about radio time; the FCC is requiring everyone with GPS and the robotics to buy licenses; they will be good for 10 years and there is no guarantee that they will be renewed.

Mr. Spiars asked if the purpose was for their survey.

Mr. Ward stated that he was correct; the airways were getting so crowded that this is their way of controlling it.

Mr. Spiars stated that it has been 10 years since he has done this, but there used to be hydrologic frequencies set aside; it's different in survey.

Mr. Ward stated that he was not sure about that; he is paying \$850.00 per license right now and it will be good for 10 years; he did not know what the overall plan was; Tom may have a better idea; Tom's putting the base station stuff together; they will be talking to the Commissioners next week. He stated that he had always thought that the station on Stony Creek between the bridges on S. R. 37 was abandoned, but it is active. They are going to upgrade this to the satellite link; they have money from the stations that they have decommissioned. The locals have to kick in half of the funding for the annual maintenance.

Mr. Meyer asked if the system was going to be part satellite based, that which the USGS oversees, and part radio.

Mr. Ward stated that the USGS wants to upgrade all of them to satellite; all onto satellite or decommissioned. He stated that he and Mr. Anthis have been talking about sharing the costs of putting one on Stony Creek, now that they know that this one is active and they are going to upgrade it anyway, so they can keep track of what the reaction is and make sure that their models were on target.

Mr. Meyer asked how many they had in the county that they would have to put \$5,000.00 per year on.

Mr. Ward stated that it would just be the one they are talking about right now on Stony Creek. The ones that they have now they are either going to keep satellite or they are going to be deactivated.

Mr. Thompson stated that they had put together a letter to USGS about the flooding and how the gauging stations worked to identify problems.

USA (Heritage Group) Gravel Pit Levee:

Mr. Ward stated that Heritage owns the land and US Aggregates leases the land. Mr. John Bundy was telling him about a log jam and that is how it all started; it went clear across the river. He told Dave Knipe about it and he wanted to see it; they believed that this would have caused the higher elevations in Noblesville. They arranged for an air boat and they went down the river and saw the levee; it was about 20 feet in height and they were adding to it; there was fresh dirt on it. The pulled over and got on top of it; Dave had stated that he did not believe that they had a permit; found out that they had a permit to excavate the gravel pit, but not to build a levee; he then turned it over to the enforcement division. The levee is coming out.

Mr. Meyer asked if Mr. Ward believed that they did this knowingly or just out of carelessness.

Mr. Ward stated that these folks have dealt with DNR for along time over the years; a lot of different permits.

Mr. Meyer stated that he sat on a Board of a land trust that they approached and wanted a land trust to buy some of the property across the river from them; as soon as the heard about this they didn't want to be associated with them.

Mr. Ward stated that right now there is a lot of talk about various law suits that have arisen out of this. He stated that he went to the meeting for the City of Noblesville on the buy out for the lower area and they are talking about not having enough money to have more than \$1,000,000.00 worth of money to buy out because they have to do a quarter of it.

Mr. Stout stated that Indianapolis had aerial photography done on September 4 from Noblesville to Martinsville and they have offered them a copy of that; it should show the dam.

Mr. Ward stated that he would be interested in that; DNR did the modeling on it and it raised the flood elevations 2 ½ feet there at the levee and at the south edge of Noblesville it was raised 1 ½ feet, which meets a lot of the homes on the edges that had not been flooded. At the buy out meeting one of the women asked if the suit that she was going to do against the gravel company would effect the buy out; the answer was 'no'; they were two separate issues.

Mr. Weaver asked how long the levee was that was built.

Mr. Ward stated that it was about 1 mile around; it wasn't from the upper most point of where it intercepted the flood plain all the way around; it was in a major bend in the river; it's cutting the opposite bank quite a bit.

Centre Properties:

Mr. Ward stated that Fishers has tentatively agreed to support Centre Properties Diversion Channel Maintenance and the company entity in charge of the maintenance. Centre Properties, which is located at 96th Street on White River plans to fill in 15 acres of wetland in the flood plain. To do this they are proposing a diversion channel, which would take the main thrust of the flood through the site; DNR said they could do that if they found a public entity to do the maintenance of that channel. Fishers has come to the plate for Centre Properties and agreed to do so.

Mr. Meyer asked if they were accepting a lot of liability.

Mr. Ward stated that the Surveyor's Office and the Drainage Board have both sent letters recommending against this; he has talked to a couple of the Town Councilors, both of them voted no on the project; one is David George. He stated that he believes that they are opening themselves up to a lot of liability because if any high water hits the 116th Street Bridge and those folks they will be the first people to meet the flood. The other issue is; they have noticed what a levee will do to the opposite bank; think about what 15 acres of fill in the flood plain will do to the opposite bank here.

Mr. Spiars asked if they had a compensation mitigation plan for those impacts; he hasn't seen it, but it would make them look at the increase velocities or the erosion velocities in addition to water surface increase.

Mr. Anthis stated that he would be concerned if he was Carmel.

Mr. Ward stated that he made Carmel aware of this and they brushed it off.

Mr. Spiars asked who the consultant was for Centre Properties.

Mr. Ward stated that it was DLZ; this is not a done deal yet; DNR asked him and the Drainage Board to come to a meeting on Thursday; they wanted to discuss the issue with the people from the Town of Fishers, Centre Properties and the Drainage Board; they will go and see what they have to say. He believed that there is decision down at DNR; he did not believe that everyone at DNR is comfortable with this; Mike Nyer is the one that called him and asked him to come to the meeting. He will let everyone know what they talk about on Thursday.

Mr. Meyer stated that there were so many different adversarial groups that are wrapped up in this thing too; are they behind some of this as well.

Mr. Ward stated that he was not sure; Tim Mahoney went to all of the town meetings and he knew what their stance was; Mr. Franks was dead set against it because the first one to flood would be him. There were several neighborhood groups against it too.

Mr. Stout asked if they just went through this on the 116th Street Bridge.

Mr. Ward stated that they did; that's why Steve Dillinger and Steve Holt are very upset right now; they're adamant about being against this. They've already had that fight and they are afraid that if anything goes wrong they will be brought into it.

Mr. Weaver stated that one other issue he became aware of yesterday was that Morgan County has had a lot of ramifications from the relocation of White Lick Creek around the air port where there was a major relocation of a stream, but they don't have any representation on the citizens group or the steering committee; Morgan County has no representation at all.

Mr. Ward asked if that was the one that went down on the west side of the property.

Mr. Weaver stated that it was; it really hit home with the floods they had in the fall; he did not know if Janice knows some of the details on that or anybody else they may have on Morgan County on Thursday; the whole downstream community is pretty well left out of the whole discussion.

Mr. Ward asked if some of that would go through Hendricks County.

Mr. Weaver stated that he believed so.

Mr. Ward stated that he would e-mail Terry Brock and see what he can tell them about it.

Mr. Hall stated that they are going to be working in the watershed where the airport expansion work was occurring. This watershed was being added to CBBEL's existing project for completing a watershed management plan that included the two downstream 14 digit watersheds from the airport. The watershed was of interest because of the concerns about runoff from the airport; it's been added to the scope for the watershed management plan and Wade Amos is working on the project in their office. Terry has sent a letter to the FFA requesting that they hold funding from the airport on a project until further evaluation of drainage. Because the airport was using federal dollars they had to do pretty extensive environmental impact assessment and they bought somewhere in the neighborhood of 2,000 or 3,000 acres of subdivision and farm land and mitigated it all back to grass lands and prairie to compensate the runoff; those are the two ends of the spectrum, but he didn't know exactly what the middle ground is there.

Mr. Ward stated that this would be a good update for the next meeting.

Mr. Weaver stated that the Soil and Water District have on schedule color infrared in the spring to locate underground drain tiles; Delaware County did it last year.

Mr. Thompson asked about the results of that.

Mr. Weaver stated that he heard some mixed things; he needs to go up there and get a sample and see how things went because they wanted to use the same contract.

Mr. Stout asked if they need to do this within 48 hours of a ground saturating rain.

Mr. Weaver stated that they do and also catch it before there is too much grass cover, green cover or crop cover; it's kind of a juggling act and you can obviously have situations where you don't have a nice even rain through the whole county. He ran into a non-profit group in Illinois that is working on some software to extract out and create vector files for the tiles, which would be a big help; their biggest question is how to verify and hookup with the landowners and get their knowledge; they had NRCS and USDA paid for a lot of tile drains put in over the years, but several years ago their federal office decided they needed to clean out file cabinets so they just threw everything; in their case, if it will work, it will be very valuable.

Mr. Meyer asked if this will get on the web someday, particularly if they have GIS.

Mr. Weaver stated that they would; the Soil and Water Conservation District is doing it and they are using some EPA/IDEM Grant funds and they also have a grant from NASA; experimental grant for part of it; the rest of it will be financed by landowners paying for their farms primarily. They also work with the Commissioners and Plan Commission that people filing any kind of a plat for minor subdivisions would be required to have a copy of this; either a hard copy or a digital copy to help begin identifying tile drains that are normally overlooked.

Mr. Ward stated that their old FCS did the same thing; they put in hundreds of mile if not thousands of miles of tiles through the fifties to the mid seventies, but they did it under the landowners name at the time; to go through all those files would be horrendous.

Mr. Stout stated that the photos that they take on this are georeferenced so the accuracy is not what they have come to be used to in Hamilton County; it varies, the closer to the edge of the photo you are the less accurate it is. He has seen some samples and they are pretty accurate.

Mr. Ward asked Mr. Stout if he had seen any of the Delaware County work.

Mr. Stout stated that he had not seen any of their actual photos, but he has heard a presentation by Delaware County on the project; it was mostly private money that paid for theirs, so it is not going on the web; they will not make it free to all the people who chose not to help pay for it.

Mr. Ward stated that this would be good for road school.

Mr. Thompson stated that it would go along way for Phase II for mapping outfalls into the drains.

Mr. Weaver stated that there are a couple of people at Purdue that have offered to help if they needed it; from a technology standpoint if they needed help in creating the actual tile maps or extracting those from the raster files or anything. There have been different projects, in the past, where they tried to do this most everything he found had been done with pretty poor resolution.

Mr. Stout asked if this was based on the principle that the land nearest the tiles drains most rapidly and therefore the tiles in that area have a different temperature.

Mr. Weaver stated that he believed so; it has to do with the color infrared too.

Mr. Stout stated that this was based on temperature; if they had a tile that wasn't working it probably wouldn't show up.

Mr. Weaver stated that it would show up different; the ones that he has seen, as you look at the tile, you can see areas that the dry areas are white and the wet areas are dark; you can see the difference in the pattern it has around the tile as you follow it, you will see all kinds of different tiles from white to dark. You should be able to see where something is not working; nothing shows up where you have green grass in the yard; if a septic is failing badly you will see a stress pattern around the failure. You may see an outfall from a septic field or something going out to the stream.

Mr. Hall stated that Allen County Health Department has been investing a tremendous amount of time in GPSing all new installations of septic systems; the entirety of the system and they have been using aerial photography in late summer to identify green areas in residential lawns; they have been GPSing the new ones and then looking at older subdivisions that they know are on septic systems and they don't have good records for them. They have done this particularly in

targeted watersheds where they have done some water quality monitoring that identified e-coli levels to be 10, 12 or 100,000.

Goals for 2004:

Mr. Ward stated that they need to finish goal for the study for the GIS and go forth with that if they can find the money. He asked if there was anything else.

Mr. Thompson asked if the infrared was a topic they would want to explore or TMDLs.

Mr. Weaver asked if FEMA was doing anything other than Johnson County. They are doing new studies and new modeling.

Mr. Ward stated that they have a new study.

Mr. Spiars stated that they were working with region 15 planning in south central Indiana for a grant for mapping.

Mr. Meyers asked that when it came to goals, is there anything they should do as a technical committee to facilitate distribution or help with any of the other entities when it comes to compliance or regulatory things.

Mr. Ward stated that they usually try to disseminate that through the e-mails to everybody as things come in; trying to keep everyone updated.

Mr. Meyers stated that he was looking to help justify their existence as Upper White; one of the things is to help the little guys that have a hard time keeping their nose above the water.

Mr. Ward stated that one of the things that he has been thinking about doing is moving the Technical Committee around; go north, go south; maybe get some more participation from some of the other entities. He also thought this was central to everybody too, but it's not working like that.

Mr. Meyer stated that he wondered if the general membership of the Upper White is even week to week aware of their meetings; maybe it would be a good idea to move around.

Mr. Thompson stated that they could offer something that they could apply to their Phase II compliance; some of the minimum control measures would certainly buy into it; they would have to offer them a product and it would be an easy way for them to comply. Not all of the 6 minimum control measures would be there for their group to assist with, but there are probably aspects that they could explore and see if they could package to communities and offer them, whether it's Public Education aspects.

Mr. Meyer asked if he was thinking about communities around the stream itself or just give away to anyone who is a paying member.

Mr. Ward stated that if they were a paying member they should just share it because a lot of this is just sharing new ideas.

Mr. Weaver stated that their urban committee has 2 workshops they are working on for Phase II; they do this about every year for related things; they also do some continuing education for realtors through the Board of Realtors on retention pond issues and other water quality issues; that committee meets once a month and they would be glad to work jointly or there is a lot of opportunities to do things jointly because they cover 10 Counties. They would be glad to do the

foot work and put the projects on; usually when they put a workshop on or something like that the cost is just based on covering their expense; it is very low cost if any cost. Sometimes they pick up a sponsor to cover refreshments or something like that. They have some licenses on ArcView; it's over 3.1, but they have some license on ArcView that they could give away or loan or if somebody would need it to get started; they do some training classes on ArcView. They have 10 to 12 ArcView licenses.

Mr. Spiars asked if it could be somebody who has their own data.

Mr. Weaver stated that it could be; or he has been working with Johnson County White River Township Fire Department, they really didn't have anywhere to go, but they just got the data the County had, they didn't have the data and even if they did they didn't know what to do with it, but ArcView gave them a way to jump in and get the County data and get started, get rid of their paper maps; all their big maps they cut into 8 ½ x 11 sheets and put them in a binder; they have even gotten a few lap tops, but they didn't have anything on them to take in the field. There was a lot of has mat software.

Mr. Spiars asked if DNR had every finished their manual on erosion control or BMP manual.

Mr. Ward stated that he keeps hearing that they will get that out to them, but he has not seen it.

Mr. Hall stated that on goals his thought would be expanding the attendance and diversifying the attendees, whether it's moving them around or educating more people about what they are doing with Committee or getting on the phone and harassing a few folks.

Mr. Weaver stated that the information that is brought out and discussed at the table here; it fell a news letter every time anyway; whether they get it on the website or get it in the form of a newsletter; there is a lot of information and a lot of things brought to the table that if they could get it out it would be a great service.

Mr. Meyer stated that there is in the works on the White River at 116th Street a conservation area; the Trustees of the fish kill look like they are favorably inclined a silty application to purchase somewhere in the neighborhood of about 80 acres. Half of it is schools and the other half is the Ellers and to turn it into a conservation area.

Mr. Ward asked what some of the other projects they are looking at.

Mr. Meyer stated that there is quite a list; the extend all the way down to Marian County; they are redoing some of the White River Park and the Lake Indy area. The old interurban piers north of Noblesville in White River are looking favorably at being removed; that is moving forward to being funded. The web site has a complete database of the current projects.

Next Meeting Date:

The next meeting was set for Thursday February 5, 2004 at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned.

Kenton C. Ward
UWRWA Technical Committee Chairman