

PRINCIPALS

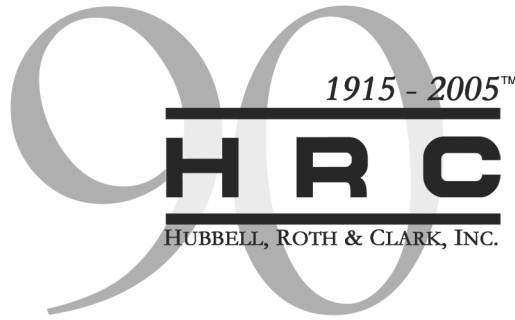
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Jesse B. VanDeCreek
Robert F. DeFrain
Marshall J. Grazioli

MEETING MINUTES
Livingston County Phase II Watershed Groups
South Branch Shiawassee River Subwatershed Group
Break Out Meeting No. 11

Date: 4/8/05
Time: 9:45am
Meeting Held: Green Oak Township Hall

HRC Job No. 20030566

<u>Present:</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Phone No.</u>
Matt Bolang	LCDPH	517.552.6870
Maureen Cross	Howell Twp	517.546.2817
Ed Fox.....	Oceola Twp.....	248.343.0137
Mike Gaden	MSU-Extension	517.546.3950
Bob Hanvey	Marion Twp	517.546.1588
Brian Obrecht.....	Howell Twp Resident (Red Cedar Watershed).....	517.552.5300
Rolly Olney.....	Hartland Twp	810.632.7498
Jacy L. Paul.....	HRC	248.535.3456
Katie Schlueter.....	Hartland Twp Resident.....	810.632.4797
Becky Simpson	LCDC	517.546.0040
Bill Stone	HRC	248.454.6337
Steve Wasylk	LCRC	517.546.4250

<u>Not Present:</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Phone No.</u>
Ken Algozin.....	The Nature Conservancy	989.723.9062
Bill Bamber.....	Oceola Twp.....	517.546.3259
Cheryl Bartley.....	MDEQ.....	517.335.6093
Bob Batt.....	MDOT, University Region.....	517.750.0410
Merry Bering	Howell Twp	517.546.2817
Jacqueline Cwik.....	Hartland Twp Resident.....	n/a
Florence Davis	Livingston County Planning	517.546.7555
Greg Green.....	Howell Twp Resident.....	517.545.4927
Brian Jonckheere	LCDC	517.546.0040
Dave Kuzner	Tyrone Twp.....	810.629.8631
Julie Peltier	Hartland Twp Resident.....	586.530.8119
Nancy Sauvage	Oceola Twp.....	517.546.5886

PURPOSE:

The purpose of today's breakout meeting was to provide the group with an overview of the first draft of the Upper-2 Shiawassee River (USR) Watershed Management Plan (WMP). In addition, plans for the second public meeting in early May were discussed.

A) Amended South Branch (Upper-2) Shiawassee River Watershed Group Contract

The amended USR watershed group contract is still under review with the Drain Commissioner's approval board. All signatures have been received from group members on the amended contract and Becky Simpson expects to have a fully executed contract ready for distribution at the next watershed group meeting.

B) Review of Draft Upper-2 Shiawassee River Watershed Management Plan

- A CD of the first draft of the USR WMP (Plan) was distributed to the group. In addition, a hard copy of the Executive Summary of the WMP was distributed to the group members. Jacy Paul of HRC walked the group through the Summary which provides a shortened, summarized version of the overall scheme and contents of the Plan.
- The Executive Summary provides information on the following WMP components:
 - a) Outlook for Watershed Planning: Implementation will focus on prevention Best Management Practices (BMPs) more than treatment BMPs (which are typically more costly) given that the overall water quality in the watershed is good, with minimal impacts on water quality and hydrology thus far.
 - b) Overview of the NPDES Phase II permit requirements
 - c) Purpose of Watershed Planning
 - d) WMP Development Process
 - e) Overview of the Scope of the Watershed
 - f) Land Use and Growth:
 - Current and future impervious surfaces in the watershed
 - Relationship between land use (zoning) and water quality
 - g) Status of Water Quality in the Watershed:
 - Evaluation process (resources utilized)
 - Water Quality Impairments/Threats
 - Pollutants, Sources and Causes
 - Gaps in Water Quality Data
 - Critical Areas
 - h) Long-Term Goals and associated Objectives for Water Quality Protection and Improvement
 - i) Selection of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to meet the goals and objectives of the WMP.
- A full draft of the Plan was passed around so members could get a feel for the contents in the main document. Draft comments (hard copy or via email to jpaul@hrc-engr.com) would be

appreciated on or before the next breakout meeting (or even before the public meeting on May 4th).

- A very important component of the watershed planning efforts will likely focus on sustainable land use planning that incorporates “Smart Growth” principles. Jacy provided a number of resource links to better understand these concepts. The following links were given to the group to research:
 - Overview of Smart Growth Principles @:
<http://www.mecprotects.org/confsummary.htm>
 - “Consuming Land, Losing Character—How Large Lot Residential Zoning is Reshaping Michigan’s Agricultural Communities” @:
<http://www.mecprotects.org/densityreport.pdf>
 - Powerpoint Slides representing relationship between Residential Development Densities and Impacts on Imperviousness on Watershed-Scale @:
<http://www.mecprotects.org/anderson.pdf>
- Jackie Cwik brought along an information packet highlighting a case study of watershed management and the link to sustainable development in Topeka, Kansas. The information provides a good overview of some of the practices that that jurisdiction is putting in place to incorporate smart growth into protection of water quality (i.e. example ordinances they’ve enacted [landscaping ordinance, open space ordinance, stormwater utility fees] and ways they’re incorporating onsite stormwater management in innovative ways). It’s a great example of how development could progress in the USR watershed that fits with the goals of the USR WMP.

C) Public Meeting No. 2

- The next public meeting will be on **Wednesday, May 4th from 7:00pm to 9:00pm** at the **Howell Township Hall**. The Chain of Lakes public meeting will be held separately at a later date as the discussions will be more focused on each specific WMP and the goals, objectives, and tasks outlined in them.
- It is intended that the second public meeting will be an opportunity to provide the public with an updated summary of the data analyses included in the WMP, the goals and objectives of the plan, which potential BMPs will be selected to achieve the goals and objectives, as well as gain additional public input on possible “critical areas” in the watershed where implementation efforts might first be focused.
- Jacy will develop a poster to advertise the event and distribute via email (or hardcopy for those that may need them). In addition, a press release and stakeholder email will be drafted in the next week or so to solicit attendance at the event and will also provide an update to readers on the progress of the watershed planning efforts (as outlined in the South Branch Shiawassee River Public Participation Plan).

D) Other Items of Interest

• Rolly Olney asked what the best ways were to get watershed planning information to local community boards. As with many watershed planning efforts, getting local boards to understand the watershed planning process is a large hurdle to overcome. The following recommendations were given:

- Distribute the draft Executive Summary to Board members;
- Educate the board members on an on-going basis as new information is learned;
- Provide short powerpoint presentations on planning components to boards on a regular basis;
- Have board members attend the watershed group meetings and Public Meetings, etc.

Along these lines, HRC will draft a form letter for communities to distribute to local board members and commissions to invite them personally to the next public meeting. This has proved to be successful for other watershed groups in southeast Michigan.

• Brian Obrecht asked what the bottom line is with the development of the WMP. Bill Stone explained that the idea with the watershed-based permit, and subsequent requirement to develop the WMP, is aimed at providing a means to address water quality improvement and protection on a watershed-scale, as opposed to merely implementing BMPs only in a community's jurisdiction. The idea is that a more holistic approach to solving water quality problems and concerns will be much more effective, not to mention a cost-savings to community's and resource-sharing opportunities by partnering together to address the issues.

E) Next Break Out Meeting

The next meeting will focus on selection of BMPs and provide an opportunity to share comments on the Draft WMP.

The next break out meeting is scheduled to meet after the regularly scheduled LCDC Subwatershed Group's meeting on **Friday, May 13, 2005** at **Green Oak Township Hall**.

These minutes are intended to be a summary of those items discussed. Any corrections and/or comments should be noted to the writer as soon as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

HUBBELL, ROTH & CLARK, INC.

Jacy L. Paul

JLP/jp

pc: All present
HRC; M. Synk Kuhn; J. Booth; File