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MEETING MINUTES
Livingston County Phase II Watershed Groups
South Branch Shiawassee River Subwatershed Group
Break Out Meeting No. 4

Date: 8/13/04
Time: 10:00am
Meeting Held: Green Oak Twp Hall

HRC Job No. 20030566.26

<u>Present:</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Phone No.</u>
Bill Bamber	Oceola Twp	517.546.3259
Matt Bolang.....	LCDPH	517.552.6870
Bob Hanvey.....	Marion Twp.....	517.546.1588
Doug Kuhn.....	Hartland Twp.....	810.629.3818
Terry Lee.....	Tyrone Twp.....	810.629.8631
Rolly Olney	Hartland Twp.....	810.632.7498
Jacy L. Paul.....	HRC.....	248.535.3456
Bill Stone.....	HRC.....	248.454.6337
Becky Walling.....	LCDC	517.546.0040
Steve Wasyk.....	LCRC.....	517.546.4250

<u>Not Present:</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Phone No.</u>
Cindy Ambrose	Deerfield Twp	517.546.8760
Merry Bering.....	Howell Twp.....	517.546.2817
Mike Gaden.....	MSU-Extension.....	517.546.5154
Brian Jonckheere.....	LCDC	517.546.0040

PURPOSE:

At today’s break out meeting, the purpose was to familiarize the group with the watershed road/stream crossing field survey results. A photo journal was shown to the group via a powerpoint presentation. The idea was to give the group a visual representation of what we physically saw going on in the watershed so that they can fully understand what the known and suspected impacts currently are throughout the South Branch Shiawassee River Subwatershed area. The next big step in watershed planning is to delineate the impaired and threatened designated uses in the watershed. The field survey was meant to solidify the suspected pollutants, sources and causes that are impacting the watershed.

A) Photo Journal Presentation

A total of 30 survey sites were examined. Each site was given a station ID which consisted of an abbreviation of the stream name and its number ID which was based on the MDEQ GLEAS procedure. The sites were presented in order of upstream reaches to downstream reaches so the group could visualize how stream conditions changed the further downstream you go. A picture of the upstream and downstream sides of the crossing were shown, and any important details were discussed. In particular, conditions that showed an impairment or a desirable condition were noted. For example, impairments such as flashy hydrology, stream bank erosion, lack of instream habitat (riffles, vegetation, woody debris) or lack of stream canopy were pointed out. Those sites that had excellent instream habitat or stable stream hydrology were pointed out. The chemical parameters that were measured at each site were summarized in a chart for the group. The following parameters were analyzed at every site: dissolved oxygen content, pH, temperature, turbidity, total dissolved solids, and conductivity; select sites were also evaluated for fecal coliform and Total phosphorus.

Survey sites were selected randomly and aimed to evaluate the headwater, mid-stream and the stream areas just prior to joining another stream system in order to give a good idea of the overall water quality conditions for the subwatershed area. A total of 7 subwatershed areas were represented: the Shiawassee River (south branch), Marion and Genoa Drain, Bogue Creek, Yellow River Drain, Cranberry Creek, North Ore Creek and the Denton Creek.

Comments regarding each site were given by group members as we went along. For instance, if they knew of local inputs that may be affecting the stream, that was noted, or if a problem area was pointed out and conditions were known to having improved, that was noted. For example, near a site in the Cranberry Creek watershed, a large dairy farm was noted as having a manure handling problem in the past, but it had since been remedied. Another example was a site that had been completely graded of all vegetation and the stream rechannelized—that site had recently been stabilized with grass seed and the drain had been enclosed.

Overall, the chemical parameters that were analyzed were very good suggesting that there aren't any major impairments to the water quality throughout the watershed; however, a few problem areas do exist, and there are general impairments in some subwatersheds. The details are listed below.

- Sedimentation
- Flashy Hydrology
- Minor bank erosion
- Trash/Debris in or near waterbodies
- Stream Modifications/Channelization

Here are the averages for the physical parameters:

- pH range: 7.76 – 8.48
- DO range: 5.07 – 13.72
- Temp range: 55.6 – 74.9°F
- Turbidity range: 0 – 17.5
- Conductivity: 432 – 1262
- Fecal Coliform: Highest Count: 594 colonies/100 mL

- Total Phosphorus: Highest Count: .129 mg/L

Again, there aren't any major red flags in terms of the physical/chemical parameters, but they can still be used to identify potential inputs that may be negatively impacting the water quality throughout the watershed.

B) Draft Tables of Designated Use Impairments

The group was given a packet that outlines the steps in Chapter 2 of the Blue Book; unfortunately, we ran out of time to review the packet. At our next break out meeting, the goal will be to go through the packet, after digesting the survey site conditions, and work together to agree upon the designated use impairments in the watershed, and figure out what the pollutants may be, as well as their source and cause. At that point, we can begin to prioritize areas of concern and begin to develop watershed goals.

C) Next Meeting

The next break out meeting is scheduled to meet after the regularly scheduled LCDC Subwatershed Group's meeting on **Friday, September 10, 2004** at **Green Oak Township Hall**. At this meeting, the group will revisit the draft tables of Designated Use impairments as setup in Chapter 2 of the Blue Book and they will be discussed in detail. The group should bring their Blue Books for reference.

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