

**Water Quality Council  
Meeting Minutes  
January 8, 2018 – 1:30 p.m.  
TMACOG Boardroom**

**Welcome:**

Carol Contrada, Lucas County Commissioner, Chair, Water Quality Council began the meeting. Those in attendance are noted on the sign-in sheet for today's meeting.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Commissioner Contrada asked for a *motion* to approve the meeting minutes from the November 9, 2017 WQC meeting. John Hull, Hull & Associates, moved to approve the meeting minutes and was seconded by Dave Thompson, Monroe County. ***Motion carried.***

**Wetland Mitigation and Banking:**

*Wetland Banking in Northwest Ohio*

*John Kusnier, Davey Resource Group*

There are several different options for offsetting wetland and stream impacts as part of the regulatory process approved by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. Mr. Kusnier explained mitigation requirements and options for mitigation including mitigation bank credits, in-lieu fee credits, and permittee-responsible (in-kind) options. The mitigation providers and costs for northwest Ohio were addressed. Attendees were provided a copy of the presentation. The presentation was followed by Q & A.

*Wetland Banking Through Michigan Municipal Wetlands Association (MMWA)*

*Stacy L. Hissong, Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes PLC*

*David Thompson, Michigan Association of County Drain Commissioners*

The MMWA is a non-profit organization engaged in a public-private partnership with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) to offer wetland mitigation bank credit opportunities to Michigan municipalities and agricultural producers. The MMWA serves as the bank sponsor, constructs the bank, provides an endowment for major maintenance. The MDNR retains ownership of the land, maintains the bank in perpetuity, and performs all routine and major maintenance. The program is self-sustaining after the initial investment. Attendees were provided a copy of the presentation. The presentation was followed by Q & A.

**Agenda for Lake Erie:**

Commissioner Carol Contrada reviewed the draft Agenda for Lake Erie with members. A copy of the draft was included in the meeting packet. Kari Gerwin described the structure of the document and each policy brief contained in the draft. All feedback needs to be submitted by January 17. Next steps include WQ committees to review drafts and propose changes to WQC by early May. Presentation at stakeholders meetings and the TMACOG Executive Committee are scheduled to be complete by April. The resolution to approve the Agenda for Lake Erie will be presented to WQC on May 14, and the TMACOG Board of Trustees on June 20, 2018.

**Member Updates:**

Mayor Craig Stough, City of Sylvania, gave an update on the progress of the Regional Water Planning committee. Eric Rothstein the facilitator for the City of Toledo, and 8 sub-divisions, have reached a memorandum of understanding for regional water. A press conference detailing efforts of the committee is tentatively scheduled for the end of January.

**Staff Report:**

- TMACOG's Winter General Assembly will be held January 29, 2018 at the Holiday Inn French Quarter. Please contact Jennifer Allen, TMACOG, for registration.
- Kurt Erichsen, VP of Water Quality, TMACOG, will be retiring on January 31, 2018 after 34 years of service. There will be a reception from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on that day in the TMACOG boardroom.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Future Meetings:**

March 12

May 14

July 9

September 10

November 5

January 14, 2019

**All at 1:30 PM in TMACOG Board Room unless otherwise announced**

**Adjournment:**