



**Water Quality Council
Meeting Minutes
July 9, 2018 – 1:30 p.m.
Pearson Park Macomber Lodge/Howard Marsh Tour**

Members and Alternates Present: Carol Contrada, Chair, Lucas County Commissioner; Jon Eckel, Vice-chair, City of Perrysburg; Deanna Bobak, CEC; Howard Brebberman, City of Maumee; Sally Gladwell, Mannik-Smith Group; Alice Godsey, City of Perrysburg; Ken Kilbert, University of Toledo; Kevin Laughlin, Wood County Engineers; Tim Murphy, CEC; Angie Ruiz, City of Fremont; Shawn Valentine, Spencer Township; Sandra Kosek-Sills, Ohio Lake Erie Commission; Shannon Nabors, OEPA; Tim Schetter, Metroparks – **Guests:** Pat Wright, LEF/ACLE; Gene Steele, Pemberville; State Representative Mike Sheehy; John F Stuartek; Majorie Mulcahy, ACLE; Matt Cleland, Metroparks of Toledo – **TMACOG Staff:** Kari Gerwin, Director of WQ; Sara Guiher, WQ Planner; Joy Minarcin, Administrative Assistant.

Welcome:

Carol Contrada, Lucas County Commissioner, WQC Chair, called the meeting to order. Round table introductions were made. Members and guests in attendance are noted on the sign-in sheet for today's meeting and are listed above.

Approval of Minutes and Agenda:

Commissioner Contrada asked for a *motion to approve* the meeting minutes from the May 14, 2018 WQC meeting, and the Agenda for today's meeting. Alice Godsey, City of Perrysburg, *moved to approve* the meeting minutes and agenda and was *seconded* by Tim Murphy, CEC. **Motion carried.**

Reports for WQ Council & Committee Leadership:

Carol Contrada shared the response received from Senator Randall Gardner and Representative Steve Arndt to the letter sent to them providing feedback on proposed HB643/SB299 and HJR 16/Senate Joint Resolution 6. A copy of the letter is provided in the meeting packet.

Kari Gerwin explained the proposed bond issue set to bring before voters in November.

Ohio House Representative Mike Sheehy stated that he was copied on a letter to the governor that the Ohio Farm Bureau had sent in response to the house and senate bills.

Watersheds Committee: Tim Murphy, chair of the Watersheds committee invited the group to join the Watersheds committee at Sauder Village in Archbold on Wednesday, July 25 at 1:00 p.m. The meeting is focusing on partnership with the Tri-State Watershed Alliance. A tour of a local farm showing best practices, and a tour of wetlands within Sauder Village will be available after the meeting.

Wastewater Committee: Alice Godsey, chair of the Wastewater committee, reported. The next meeting of the Wastewater Committee will include a presentation on the City of Perrysburg's WWTP Nutrient Reduction Pilot Study by Rick Johnson of InNow, and another on TMACOG's contribution to the Nutrient Source Inventory by Kris Barnswell. The meeting will take place at Northwest Water & Sewer District, Bowling Green, OH, Wednesday, August 9, 2018.

Shannon Nabors, Ohio EPA informed the group \$200k in grant money is available to each County health department for upgrades through Ohio EPA.

SWC: Kevin Laughlin, Stormwater chair. The next meeting of SWC will take place July 19, 2018, and the invitation has been sent out to a wider audience. The meeting will focus on DEFA funding (Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance, Ohio EPA) and the non-regulatory programs offered by the

Ohio EPA through the Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention (OCAPP). Please share with anyone who would benefit from this information.

Staff Report:

Kari Gerwin, TMACOG

Gerwin presented on the TMACOG rollout of the hashtag, #lakeeriestartshere. Explanation was given on what a hashtag is, how and where to use it, and what the purpose is. Various pictures were shown on how #lakeeriestartshere is being used on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts. Everyone is encouraged to have their organizations begin using the hashtag and posting pictures relevant to Lake Erie with a goal of raising awareness of water quality issues and assets across the watershed.

PRESENTATION:

HOWARD MARSH METROPARK

Tim Schetter, Metroparks of the Toledo Area

Schetter gave a presentation on the development of the Howard Marsh Metropark beginning with the initial acquisition of Howard Farms in 2008 for \$6M. The current site of the Metropark is 995 acres. Explanation was given to the significance of restoring the Lake Erie Coastal wetlands. Schetter also gave a historical look at the wetlands and how it exists today. Plan development began in May 2013 and a final concept plan was accepted in January 2016.

After the meeting a tour of the Howard Marsh Metropark was given. Members and guests were given the option to kayak or to visit operation of the large water control structure that Controls water levels and allows for maintenance of the wetland. The structure also allows for fish passage in and out of the marsh.

Public Comment:

None

Future Meetings:

September 10

November 5

January 14, 2019

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

Adjournment:

Commissioner Contrada, called the meeting adjourned.