

**TMDL Committee Meeting
Minutes of August 18, 2005 Meeting**

Welcome and introductions: Larry DeLong called the meeting to order. In attendance were: Sue Foune, Kathy Buckham, John Byrnes, Julia Kirkwood, Bill Nelson, Kary Howard, Liz Binoniemi, Mark Kieser, Mike Tenenbaum, Lowell Knapp, Jane Herbert, Dave Kuitert, Dean Baas, Jeff Eves, Dave Heinicke, Larry DeLong, Scott Miller, Don Brown, Nicole Reid, Rene Wilson and Doug Carter.

May 12 minutes approved with a change that clarifies that a request for MSU research data on water quality sampling will be honored when the request outlines that the data will be used in a manner consistent with the intent and purposes of the TMDL Implementation Plan.

Announcements

Doug - EPA has proposed clean up of Allied Paper Company PCB Superfund site in Kalamazoo.

- Portage Creek – Willow Blvd area
- Comments due September 16, 2005
- Information on alternatives and how to comment available at www.epa.gov/region5/sites/kalproject

Don – EPA’s preferred alternative includes leaving sheet piling in the river – most local groups support removal of sheet piling and restoration of the riverbank and establishing a greenbelt up to 100-200 feet back from the river – this would preferably be available for public use.

Doug - Kalamazoo River Clean Sweep scheduled for Saturday, October 1, 2005

- For the section of river in Battle Creek and upstream:
Chris Kosmowski - City of Battle Creek
269-966-0712 - cmkosmowski@ci.battle-creek.mi.us
- For downstream sections:
Patricia Fenn - Kalamazoo River Watershed Council
269-978-4606 - patfenn@charter.net

Doug - Friday, August 26 - 1:00 pm Seminar by our own Nicole Reid on the “Biogeochemical impacts of major reservoirs on the Kalamazoo River”
KBS, Stacks Building, Room 237

Doug - Kalamazoo River Watershed Council changes:

- Office is now located in the ARGUS Depot building in downtown Kalamazoo
- Address is 408 East Michigan Avenue, Kalamazoo 49007
- Phone number 269-978-4606 fax is 269-978-4607
- Steve Hamilton is President and Board Chairman - hamilton@kbs.msu.edu
- Patricia Fenn is the office manager - patfenn@charter.net

Mark - CMI grant awarded for Stormwater improvements on Portage/Arcadia creeks – will result in P reduction of 170 pounds.

Mark – WMU doing lots of work on south campus – utilizing Low Impact Development approaches.

Jeff – Still unsure of the status of Menasha Corporation – there is a proposed buyer, but could fall through.

Liz – Reported that the Gun Lake Tribe has received its federal Targeted Watershed Grant from EPA. They’re currently working on establishing an agricultural trading network, and will have a draft ready for review. Kathy Buckham will take the lead for TMDL to make sure the two programs compliment one another.

Doug – SB 209 introduced to further reduce P in dishwasher and laundry detergents. Don agreed to track.

Reports:

Kanoe the Kazoo: Doug reported that there were 15 events scheduled this year, most are completed. All events this year were planned and conducted by local sponsors. Events were fairly well attended, and very well received.

Lake Allegan Carp Derby: Larry reported that the third annual Lake Allegan Carp Derby was held on June 11. About 400 of fish, representing 1,200 pounds, were harvested

Watershed-wide Public Forum: Doug reported that plans are moving forward for the Forum on October 7 at the McCamly Plaza Hotel in Battle Creek. Noted author and water policy expert Dave Dempsey will be the keynote speaker, and conduct a number of activities in the watershed on October 6. We are seeking a WK Kellogg Foundation "Expert in Residence" grant to help pay for all of this.

Phosphorus Sampling Program: Dean reported that he now has one full year's worth of data, and that at the end of September he'll have one complete growing season. P levels appear to be done significantly.

Volunteer Monitoring Program: Jane and Nicole stated that their testing has confirmed a pretty good correlation between transparency tubes and total P readings reached through lab testing. Result – we can use volunteers. We are providing training on September 14, and it will be stressed that volunteer data cannot be used for decision making, enforcement or permits, but only as an indicator of a trend or a condition at a single point in time.

Point Source reductions: Mark shared graphs showing the success the Point Source folks have had in reducing P to the system over the years. They have been consistently below the targets since 2002. Larry applauded them, and again challenged the non-point folks to start measuring and reporting their reductions.

Kalamazoo River Watershed Council: They have asked that TMDL appoint someone to represent them at their Board meetings. Sue Foune will be our representative to the Watershed Council.

Elections: Jane Herbert, Sue Foune and Dave Heinicke will serve as the nominating committee, and will prepare a slate of candidates for consideration at the next TMDL meeting.

The next meeting will be November 3, 2005 at 9:00 at the Argus Depot in Kalamazoo.

Notes prepared by Doug Carter.