

TMDL Implementation Committee Meeting
Location: KWRP, Kalamazoo
February 9, 2006

Welcome and introductions: Kathy Buckhum, Committee Chair welcomed everyone and each person introduced themselves.

Approval of Agenda- Approved by group.

Approval of Minutes from November 3, 2005 TMDL Implementation Committee Meeting- Approved by group.

Announcements:

- Doug Carter mentioned that there would be an Umbrella group meeting this evening at the Kalamazoo Lake street Fair grounds.
- Doug Carter stated that there would be an EPA web cast on funding watershed plans.
- Steve Allen representative from SW Michigan Chapter of Sustainable growth invited everyone to their March 2, 2006 meeting on Wind Energy, as an alternate power source, which will be held at the Kalamazoo Chamber of Commerce. There will be a \$15 registration fee which will include lunch and that the registration will be handled through the Kalamazoo Nature Center.
- Pat Fenn mentioned that the Art Hop would be held March 3rd at various locations around downtown Kalamazoo. Pat provided the committee with brochures of the various pieces and locations they can be viewed.
- Kalamazoo realtors association asked Julia Kirkwood or Greg Danneffel of the MDEQ to attend their March 2nd meeting.
- Jeff Spoelstra- stated that the Kalamazoo River Watershed Council is currently discussing writing a grant proposal for the Kalamazoo watershed. He stated that it is critical that we make contact with everyone attending this meeting because a lot of work has already been done in the Watershed and that this needed to capture in writing the grant proposal. We would also like to ask for TMDL implementation committee's and point source support and matching funds. The council has a March 9th deadline to submit the proposal for the grant.
- Home Expo will be held on March 11-15 at Midlink Park on Sprinkle Road.
- Conservation District Expo will be held in Battle Creek on March 25th.

Reports

TMDL implementation Draft Charter

Mark Kieser stated that he was working on the revisions to the TMDL Implementation Committee Charter. He stated that Doug Carter started the charter and presented it in November 2005. That the work that Doug had done on the charter provided a great outline. That the all the comments that were submitted to-date were being intergraded into the document.

Mark stated that this document was going to be a living document. That this document could serve as a transition document while the Umbrella group was being formed. Mark stated that there are other charters out there but not as detailed as we would like to see. Mark also stated that we should make sure that the TMDL implementation plan was referenced in the document.

Mark stated that his current target is to get the draft charter to the leadership committee by the end of February then to the entire implementation committee.

The original draft mentioned authority that the leadership had that was not valid and it detailed the roles of the officers. Mark stated that the charter was not a legal document just a document to keep us in line.

Chris Kosmowski – wanted to know if the new umbrella group would use this. Mark Kieser said that how the charter gets used in the future would need to be determined.

Phosphorus Interim Report

Dean Bass from Michigan State University W.K. Kellogg Biological Station Land and Water Program presented his interim report on Phosphorus sources, fate, and transport in the Lake Allegan/Kalamazoo River TMDL watershed for the growing season April 1 to September 30, 2005. You can request copies of the report by emailing Dean at dean@msu.edu or phoning him at 269-671-2412 extension 260.

Julia Kirkwood stated that Sylvia's study and Dean's study both showed that phosphorus reductions were really happening. That there would be PR on this reduction. Julia also stated that a lot of Ag BMP's were going on and we should see the results within the next couple of years. Doug, Julia, Sylvia and Dean will work on the press release. They will include positive quotes from the MDEQ.

Umbrella Group Meeting this Evening:

Doug stated that in December of 2004 he had brought everyone together both Point Sources and Non-point Source groups working within the Kalamazoo River Watershed. That all groups are doing good things but that there was not a way to bring information together for the groups. Then in October we had the forum in Battle Creek for the watershed. One of main out comes were that a Watershed wide group was needed to gather and disseminate information. Therefore a subcommittee was formed to look at developing a 503 c organization, develop a strategy, timeframe, and goals for each working group. Doug stated he would keep everyone apprised of the outcome of the subcommittee's.

Watershed Database

Julia Kirkwood stated she was working with an intern on a watershed contact spreadsheet. This may be a PDF file with the capability to do a word search. That there are currently 400 listings within the watershed and that we needed to amend the

list and have it completed by the end of this year. They would like to be able to update it as needed and have it housed at the same location for a long period of time.

Positive Identity of the Kalamazoo River

Doug Carter stated that we were looking for ways to positively enhance the identity of the river and that the positive identity initiative was not a part of the Umbrella group at this time. Kanoe the Kazoo has helped, Michigan Heritage trails will help and is moving forward. Dave Linberg from WMU will be helping with the trail along with each of the counties along the river which will have a point person who will be responsible for pulling the following information together: history, safe/legal egress access, water difficulties, and information signage paid for by local businesses.

The next meeting will next Thursday at 9:30 am at the Nature Center. Tim from St. Joseph will be doing a presentation on what steps they went through to develop their heritage trail guide.

Pat Fenn volunteered the KRWC to work on the Trail in the Kalamazoo area.

Kanoe the Kazoo

Doug stated that Tom Funke will be taking over the coordination and registration of the Kanoe the Kazoo, the KRWC has planned both May and August Kanoe Kazoo events.

We will need to follow model created last few years and will need to produce pictures and maps. Hopefully we will have maps before we start the canoe trips this year. It was stated that we would like to see a \$3.00 registration fee from each person that signs up. That people are more likely to participate if they pay a fee. Local groups may or may not charge above the \$3 fee but Tom's group would need at least \$3 per person to do the registrations and coordination of the events. Tom dropped Doug an email indicating that different groups have scheduled 20 trips so far this year. There will be a fund raising strategy meeting February 21st at 1:00 at Binder Park for the Kanoe the Kazoo.

Super Soils Saturday

Steve Allen stated that the main event would be held April 22nd; there will be a similar number of locations as last year. PR for event will come out the end of February. Steve also stated that Home depot will have flyers to hand out for the event. There will also be partnering with tree sales, some events will be before April 22nd and some after. Hillsdale will have their event on April 8th and 9th. Steve stated that they would be partnering with the Master gardeners again this year. They will have packets for yards/backyard testing to send to Lansing.

Non-point Source Grants

Julia Kirkwood spoke about the Rice Creek grant being extended for another 2-3 years; the extension resulted because MDEQ added several new things to the original scope of work. Rice Creek is also looking at land use planning.

Mark Kieser mentioned that they were working on the Arcadia Creek/Milham Park watershed grant.

Steve Allen mentioned that Hillcrest neighborhood was installing downspout rain barrel kits and that he was looking for a sponsor for 20 kits.

TMDL implementation Sub-Committee Reports

Point Source Sub-Committee

Tom Dunn mentioned that the new chair for the Point source group would be decided on at the March Point Source meeting.

Larry Delong mentioned that the billing for the point source website was still being handled by the Forum. Mark Kieser stated he has a list of the point sources that were to be billed for the maintenance of the website and technical reporting assistance.

Mark Kieser provided a handout that summarized the contribution loading of various sources and the change in discharge percentages from the various phosphorus discharge sources. In 2005 Mark stated that 12% came from industrial dischargers and now in 2006 only 10% of the loading is coming from industrial dischargers.

Non-Point Source Sub-Committees

Dave Heinicke stated that:

- Bill Hinz is the new chairperson for the **Septic and onsite ww system sub-committee**.
- John Paquin was the Chair for the **Stormwater sub-committee** in the past but the future of this sub-committee has yet to be determined.

Land use and Construction Sub-committee

Mark Kieser is chairperson for the Land use and Construction activity sub-committee. Mark stated that Urban Stormwater was the main source of phosphorus. That phos is not at the top of the parameters for the MS4's stormwater plans. That it would be nice to know how much phosphorus is coming out to the stormwater treatment systems and that it is hard to determine at this time. That urban runoff is a major source of the non-point phosphorus loading to the river.

Julia Kirkwood mentioned that the new grant would produce a cookie cutter stormwater education piece. Smaller communities that do not have MS4's should be working on stormwater plans, and all could come together to get grant.

Chris K. wanted to know if they would have to have voluntary permits. Julia stated that she needed to check.

John Paquin stated that there was a lot of overlap between the stormwater, land use and construction sub-committees.

Chris K is putting together a list of the total number of stormwater treatment systems being installed in Battle Creek and Kalamazoo.

Mark Kieser wanted to know what improvements we have made and how do we take it pass the current MS4's.

It was stated that we need to look at the sub-basins, transportation systems and construction areas to see what amounts they are contributing to the non-point source of phosphorus. That we could use the GIS mapping layer as a tracking tool to track the hot spots.

Larry Delong mentioned the permitting issues for the Carp Derby in June.

Jeff Spoelstra stated that he would be updating the Kalamazooriver.net website in the near future.

Next TMDL implementation Quarterly Meetings
May 11th, August 17th and Nov 9th 2006.

Next Semi-annual Point Source meeting
March 23rd and October 26th, 2006