



Lower Grand River Watershed Project

Rural Subcommittee Minutes

Date: October 21, 2003

Location: Wyoming Clean Water Plant

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Prepared by: Laurie Beth Nederveld

In Attendance:

Mr. Reggie Brooks – Eaton Rapids Township

Mr. Jason Buck – Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber, Inc. (FTC&H)

Mr. Myron Erickson – Wyoming Clean Water Plant

Ms. Mary Ledford – Wright Township

Ms. Laurie Beth Nederveld – GVSU Annis Water Resources Institute (AWRI)

Item 1: Introduction

The meeting began with introductions from subcommittee members. To note, Mr. Reggie Brooks will now be representing Eaton Rapids Township at future Rural Subcommittee meetings.

Item 2: Summary of Sand Creek Physical Inventory Results

Ms. Laurie Beth Nederveld informed the committee that a two-week physical inventory had been performed on the main branch of Sand Creek in August 2003. The following nonpoint source pollutants and impairments were noted during the inventory: nutrients, sediment, hydrologic flow, thermal pollution, toxic substances, invasive species, and trash. A brief summary of inventory results was passed out to committee members. The summary noted the variety of site descriptions and recommended several best management practices. Committee members inquired about the locations and descriptions of several of the pollutants and recommended additional Best Management Practices (BMPs). Ms. Ledford recommended looking into Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices (GAAMPs) for farms and farm operations in Michigan.

Item 3: Sand Creek Macroinvertebrate Inventory Results

Ms. Nederveld informed the committee that a macroinvertebrate inventory of Sand Creek had been performed on October 4, 2003 to determine the general water quality of Sand Creek and the East Fork, the creek's main tributary. Six locations along Sand Creek and 2 locations along the East Fork were sampled. Neil MacDonald, a GVSU professor, led this effort with support from the Lower Grand River Watershed Project and the Sand Creek Watershed Partners. Volunteers included students from the Soil and Water Conservation Club of GVSU and residents from the Sand Creek Watershed. This inventory marked the fifth macroinvertebrate inventory performed on Sand Creek. A summary of macroinvertebrate inventory results was passed out to committee members and included data from the following years: 1993, 1994, 1996, 2002, and 2003. Average macroinvertebrate scores, by sensitivity class, indicate fair water quality at Taft, Arthur, Lincoln, and Leonard road/stream crossings but good water quality for the East Fork, M-45, and Luce crossings.

Item 4: Sand Creek Watershed Management Plan

A. WMP Time Line/Review

A schedule for the review of the Sand Creek Watershed Management Plan (WMP) was handed out to committee members. The Rural, Technical, I&E, and Steering Committee reviews are slated for mid-December as well as the municipal/public review. The Sand Creek WMP is scheduled for completion on January 15 at which time it will be submitted to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) for approval. The committee agreed to read and receive via e-mail the final draft of the Sand Creek WMP prior to the next Rural Subcommittee meeting. At this time the committee will submit their final comments and suggestions.

B. Impacts, Sources, and Causes of Pollutants

The spreadsheet entitled, "Sources, Causes, and Impacts of the Pollutants Affecting Designated Uses in the Sand Creek Watershed" was handed out to subcommittee members for comment. Ms. Nederveld explained priority rankings of pollutants/impairments and designated uses.

C. Final Water Quality Statement

The "Final Water Quality Summary for the Sand Creek Watershed" was passed out for comment. Ms. Nederveld explained the project goals as they related to the designated uses of the Sand Creek Watershed.

Item 5: Update on Lower Grand River Watershed Project/ Urban Pilot WMPs

Ms. Nederveld requested that Mr. Jason Buck provide an update of the Urban Pilot WMPs. At this time Mr. Buck informed the group that a similar WMP review schedule was slated for the Urban Pilot WMPs as is for the Rural Pilot WMP. Ms. Nederveld gave an update on the progress of I&E, Technical, Visioning, and Steering Committees. To note, the second edition of *The Grand River Beacon* was passed out to committee members who agreed to display them at their places of employment.

Item 6: Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 16, 2003 from 9:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. at the following location:

City of Wyoming
Clean Water Plant
2350 Ivanrest Avenue
Wyoming, MI 49418