



Lower Grand River Watershed Project

MEETING MINUTES

Project: Lower Grand River Watershed Project Meeting Date: May 13, 2004
Subject: Steering Committee Meeting Start: 11:30 a.m.
Meeting Site: FTC&H - Grand Rapids Office Meeting Adjourn: 1:30 p.m.
Conference Room 2C1
Prepared By: Mr. James E. Smalligan, P.E. Project No.: G02408
Attending: Mr. Corky Overmyer - Grand Rapids
Mr. Paul Geerlings - Ottawa County Drain Commissioner
Ms. Kristine Huizen - Frey Foundation
Mr. Karl Hausler - Michigan Department of Agriculture
Mr. Don Stypula - Grand Valley Metropolitan Council (GVMC)
Mr. Andy Bowman - GVMC
Mr. Jim Holtvluwer - Georgetown Township
Ms. Janice Tompkins - Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ)
Ms. Laurie Beth Nederveld - Grand Valley State University (GVSU), Annis Water Resources
Institute (AWRI)
Mr. James E. Smalligan, P.E. - Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber, Inc. (FTC&H)

1. Status of Lower Grand River Watershed Management Plan (WMP)

- a. Chapters 1 and 2 - Revisions have been made.
- b. Chapters 3 through 6 - Will be distributed to the Steering Committee for review by May 28, 2004. Comments due by June 12, 2004.
- c. Final review by Steering Committee on June 24, 2004.
- d. Final draft to the MDEQ by June 30, 2004.

2. Lower Grand River Workshop

- a. Invitations (over 300) were sent out.
- b. A brochure was distributed with the agenda.
- c. The agenda includes two concurrent workshops to allow hands-on exposure to the Watershed Interactive Tool (WIT), Watershed Interactive Map (WIM), Watershed Assessment Matrix (WAM), and Watershed Action Plan (WAP). A presentation on the WMP will split the two workshop sessions.
- d. Mr. Corky Overmyer suggested that the introductory comments explain how the workshop products can be used to help prepare watershed grant applications and meet National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II requirements.
- e. Mr. Andy Bowman suggested we should have facilitator training (scheduled for May 26, 2004).



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- f. Mr. Overmyer asked about handout materials. Mr. James E. Smalligan, P.E. replied that the interactive website is the primary product.

3. Watershed Organization

- a. Mr. Bowman distributed a memo on the Organizational Structure Discussion (attached) based on input from the Vision Committee. There was considerable discussion about a possible temporary organization that may be housed at GVMC. Mr. Bowman also distributed an illustration of the relational and operational structure of GVMC that shows how the potential membership of a watershed group could extend far beyond the existing GVMC membership. An important aspect of a temporary organization would be to identify a leader with startup skills and a demonstrated passion for the vision. Mr. Bowman will summarize the discussion in another memorandum.

4. Next Meeting

- Thursday, June 24, 2004, FTC&H - Grand Rapids Office

5. Adjourn

sdg
Attachment
By e-mail

Distribution:

Attendees

Ms. Abigail Matzke - GVSU
Mr. Brian Donovan - City of East Grand Rapids
Mr. Jim Oosting - Bowne Township Planning Commission
Mr. Tom Doyle - Barry County Drain Commissioner
Mr. John Hardy - Maple Row Dairy
Mr. Scott Conners - City of Walker
Mr. Chris Kenyon - City of Ionia
Mr. Jim Beelen - Allendale Township
Mr. Tom Leonard - West Michigan Environmental Action Council
Mr. John Koches - GVSU, AWRI
Mr. Jason E. Buck - FTC&H
Ms. E. Wendy Ogilvie - FTC&H



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