

SRWC Steering Committee Meeting

April 3, 2008 – Heidelberg College, Tiffin, OH

Present: Jim Bailey, Cindy Brookes, John Crumrine, Dr. Dave Baker, Lee Orians, Joe Perry, Bre Hohman, Joe Perry, Ann Bishop, Stu Smith, Bob Vargo and Katie McKibben

Welcome: Cindy Brookes called the meeting to order in the absence of the chair and no vice chair. John C. made a motion to approve the March meeting minutes, Joe Perry seconded the motion. All in favor, motion approved.

Cindy announced that due to a meeting between the National Center for Water Quality Research and the Institute of Public Health and Water Research starting at 9:00 AM and all Steering Committee members are invited to attend if their schedule allows.

Old Business

Vice Chair Nominations – Cindy shared that she was acting as chair person since Chris Schimpf was out of town and Paul Harrison had resigned in February leaving the seat vacant. John Crumrine nominated Ann Bishop and she respectfully declined. Dr. David Baker nominated Joe Perry with Jim Bailey seconding the nomination. All were in favor and the motion passed. Joe conducted the rest of the meeting.

Crawford County Nominations – Joe asked if there were any nominations. Cindy stated that she has received no information but would contact the Crawford County SWCD office to see if they have any recommendations.

New Business

YSI Grant – Bre Hohman presented the Firelands Coastal Tributaries proposal to “Minding the Planet” YSI 60th Anniversary Grant in which the Ohio EPA Credible Data Certification would be held in Northern Ohio to encourage more volunteer participation within all the Lake Erie basin watersheds. She requested a letter of support from the SRWC to submit with the application. John Crumrine moved to have Cindy Brookes write a Letter of Support on behalf of the Sandusky River Watershed Coalition and Stu Smith seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed.

National Ground Water Research and Education Grant – Stu Smith handed out a draft of the proposal he is putting together for the Coalition. The proposal includes a demonstration using wells in the limestone aquifer to show how disinfection can be done. He is developing a protocol to complete cleaning within 24 hours as a more convenient method compared to the current 48 hour method. The grant is due April 15th and is looking for letters of support from the County Health Departments.

His focus is on limestone wells for two reasons. One problem is the sump area of a well, which is the area between the bottom of the well and the well pump where coliform bacteria builds up. Secondly, determining all the locations that water enters the well will aid in determining how to properly clean the well. The grant is for a maximum of \$8,000 and he is looking to utilize the health department’s submersible camera as one way to utilize local funds. Jim Bailey moved to submit the grant and John Crumrine seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed.

American Water Environmental Grant – Cindy presented a proposal for a Medicine Take Back Program that would be submitted to American Water Company which is the parent company of Ohio American Water Company that supplies water to the City of Tiffin. The application falls into their Source Water Protection category and has a total of \$10,000 funding available per grant. She has contacted several of the watershed hospitals with a few very interested in participating. The grant proposal would provide a full color Educational poster about proper disposal methods and several

Medicine Take Back events. Many partners have been identified to participate and others are still joining the effort. John Crumrine moved to submit the grant and Jim Bailey seconded the motion. Discussion followed with Stu Smith commenting that this is currently a hot topic. Bob Vargo offered to provide the in-kind support of helping with the full color Educational Poster design. Vote was called for, all were in favor and the motion passed.

Watershed Coordinator Funding – Cindy shared with everyone that funding is down and the Bucyrus Community Grant was not selected. While WSOS through the contract is obligated to fund a full time coordinator, she suggested that some form of fundraising is necessary. Cindy will be spending more time seeking grants to help the current situation.

Committee Reports – To reduce the length of the meeting written reports were provided and attached to this report

Ag – no report.

Development – Attached

Stream Flow & Habitat – no report

Wastewater – no report

Water Supply – attached

Education – no report

Staff Report – Cindy –

Announcements

- River Rally – May 2-5 at Sawmill Creek Resort - Registration available on line at www.rivernet.org/rn/rally. - Cindy is going to check to see if tickets can be purchased for the banquet only.
- June Meeting is being scheduled as a tour of the Crawford County Landfill. Please mark your calendars if you would like to join us.
- OEC Environmental Lobby Day, Tuesday , April 22, 2008 8:30AM – 6:00PM
Cost \$25.00 for members and \$30.00 for non-members
- Great Lakes United Annual General Meeting, Friday, May 2, 2008 12:00PM, All River Rally registrants new to the Great Lakes United will receive a free introductory membership.
- Bre Hohman Announced the Pipe Creek Stream Clean-up will be held Saturday, April 5th from 9AM – 2PM.

Next meeting will be May 8, 2008 in Tiffin at the Seneca Co. Ag. Center Conference Room.

-notes submitted by Bre Hohman and Cindy Brookes