

**Lower Huron Sub Watershed  
Watershed Advisory Group (WAG) Notes  
August 24, 2006**

A. Welcome. Attendees:

- Keith Boc, Belleville
- Robert Burns, Friends of the Detroit River
- Kelly Cave, Wayne County
- George Ferraro, METCO Services for Sumpter Township
- Brent Florek, Charles E. Raines Co., for (Gibraltar) and Flat Rock
- Mark Gaworecki, Hennessey Engineers for Berlin Twp and S. Rockwood
- Jim Gorris, Gibraltar
- Leah Groya, Wade-Trim
- Rod Julian, Brownstown Township
- Elizabeth Thacker, OHM for Romulus
- Michael Kruse, Woodhaven
- Michelle LaRose, OHM for Huron Township
- Ric Lawson, HRWC
- Laura Rubin, HRWC
- Roy Schrameck, ECT for Rockwood
- Linda Spangler, Huron Township
- Deeda Stanczak, Huron Township
- Dan Swallow, Van Buren Township
- Brian Woodworth, Wade-Trim for Brownstown

Action items are identified in **bold**.

B. Reading and Approval of 05/25/06 Meeting Notes

- The 05/25/06 meeting notes were approved.

C. Watershed Group Facilitation and Organization

1. Update on one-year contract with HRWC for facilitation services. The HRWC contract with Woodhaven-Brownstown School District was submitted on 8/21/06. The contract covers work through February 2007.
2. Update on City of Belleville joining the watershed group - Since the last meeting, the City of Belleville had decided that they would like to join the watershed group. Belleville signed a separate contract with HRWC to cover their portion of the current work plan and additional work to update the WMP to include them.
3. Continue discussion on group organization
  - a. Status updates on community discussion/adoption of Alliance of Downriver Watersheds by-laws
    - The Alliance is officially formed once 51% of communities adopt the bylaws.
    - There are a total of 26 communities within the three watersheds forming the Alliance. Therefore, 14 communities must join in order for the Alliance to

form. At the time of the meeting, there were 10 communities that had adopted the bylaws. *Note, since the meeting additional communities (a total of over 14 communities) have adopted the Alliance bylaws and the Alliance has been officially formed.*

- b. Discussion of next steps
  - When the bylaws are adopted, the community is adopting both the allocation and the maximum fees. If not all of the communities join, the scope of services will be adjusted accordingly.
  - The allocation was done based on population and area. If additional communities join (Belleville or Trenton), the total amount available would increase and an adjustment would be made at the end of the year.
  - Kelly Cave indicated that she had received questions as to what Wayne County was contributing for in-kind services. She stated that she previously had sent out a document explaining the services. This document is available on the County's website.
  - Laura Rubin asked for an explanation of the flow monitoring cost. Kelly Cave stated that the installation cost is a one-time cost but there is an O&M cost that would be repeatable.
  - Kelly Cave stated that there has been interest by other watersheds (Grand River and Clinton River) in forming their own Alliances.
  - Ric Lawson asked what would happen with HRWC's existing work plan once the Alliance formed. Kelly Cave stated that they would have to sit down and figure out the details. She didn't think that there were a lot of overlapping tasks between the two.
  
4. Discussion of new work plan activities
  - Ric Lawson asked the group what types of activities the group is interested in doing (both short and long-term)
  - Most annual reports are due November 1. It was suggested that HRWC start compiling a list of activities that have been completed in the last year. **Ric Lawson will work with Noel Mullet to compile a list of activities for communities to report.**
  - Dan Swallow from Van Buren Township reported that there were a group of residents who were taking an interest in the Griggs Drain. He thought they may be forming a creekshed group and may be interested in ordinances (buffers and conservation ordinances).
  - Huron Township expressed an interest in ordinance work.
  - **Ric Lawson will send out info on ordinances to the group.** Laura Rubin stated that it might be more productive if the group were to choose a few ordinances on which to focus.
  - Bob Burns stated that he believes riparian corridors are key to protecting water quality and would like that to be the focus of the ordinances.

- It was stated that the thought of consistent ordinances throughout the watershed was a nice idea; however, there may be differences between developed and undeveloped communities. Roy Schrameck stated that this is true, but developed communities may still be able to apply ordinances to redevelopment.
  - Kelly Cave stated that in October, Wayne County will be coming out with an update to their storm water ordinance. The County has added a lot of information on low impact development, riparian corridor management, etc.
  - The group decided to focus on the following ordinances: woodlands/wetlands, riparian corridors, low impact development, and Wayne County storm water ordinance or similar.
  - Kelly Cave suggested that the group look at the monitoring proposed for the Alliance and decide if there's anything additional the group desires. Laura Rubin stated that HRWC had formulated a plan but they are still working on the associated dollar amounts. **Laura stated that this will be distributed at the next meeting.**
5. Set calendar of meetings for 2006 – the next meeting date was set for **October 19, 2006 at 9:30 am at Wade-Trim**. In general, the group will try to meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the particular month.

D. Storm Water Permit Element Development and Coordination

1. Watershed Management Plan (WMP)
  - a. Status on MDEQ review of WMP revisions – Patricia Huddas (MDEQ) was unable to attend the meeting. Ric Lawson had contacted her prior to the meeting to receive a report. Patricia had told him that she was initially working on reviewing the WMPs but had refocused on the SWPPIs. She is hoping to have both the WMPs and SWPPIs reviewed by the end of September. She also stated that most people would likely need to make changes to their post-construction and good-housekeeping actions.
2. SWPPI Submittals
  - a. Report out on SWPPI submittal status – see above
  - b. Next steps for permit elements (placeholder) – for many communities, annual reports are due in November.

E. Other Watershed News/Comments from Members

- Kelly Cave distributed a summary of the nutrient reduction campaign for use in communities' annual reports.
- Ric Lawson reported that HRWC is in the process of updating the Lower Huron Watershed's website.

- Laura Rubin asked the group whether they were distributing the flyers that describe the WMP. The group indicated that they were. Ric Lawson stated that he had extra flyers if anyone needed them.
- Kelly Cave distributed flyers for Wayne County's storm water displays. If your community would like to use one of the displays, the contact information is located on the back of the flyers.
- The HRWC also has watershed maps available for use. Please contact HRWC if you are interested.
- Bob Burns stated that the DEQ has an upcoming seminar scheduled called "Filling in the Gaps." The seminar will discuss BMPs for storm water issues pertaining to developments.
- Laura Rubin suggested that future meetings include presentations or reports on specific activities. **Storm drain labeling was suggested for next meeting.**

#### F. Adjourn

Next Meeting: **October 19, 2006 at 9:30 am at Wade-Trim**

Notes prepared by Elizabeth Thacker (OHM) on behalf of the City of Romulus