

Minutes from the Indiana Water Monitoring Council Board of Directors meeting (4/14/2011)

Next scheduled meeting: May 12, 2011

Action Items:

- Get approval from legal staff regarding the IGS role as registered agent in the Council's Articles of Incorporation (Shawn Naylor)
- Send general member affiliations to Rachele Baker and Lenore Tedesco so they can use them to establish categories for resource users.
- Establish categories of resource users that would go under a "who are you?" drop-down menu on the InWMC Web site and determine what categories fall under the technical resources committee versus the education and outreach committee (Rachele Baker and Lenore Tedesco)
- Set up Google Documents tool for editing and tracking nominations for the upcoming InWMC Board elections (Jody Arthur)
- Organize Web-Ex meeting to present the Council's 2-year draft strategic plan and send out materials that will be discussed prior to the meeting (Jeff Frey)

Attendees (10 total*):

Jody Arthur, Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM)

Jeff Frey, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

Sandy Clark-Kolaks, Indiana Dept. of Natural Resources (IDNR)

Tony Bailey, Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)

Via conference call

Shawn Naylor, Indiana Geological Survey (IGS)

Sara Peel, Indiana Lakes Management Society (ILMS)

Lenore Tedesco, Upper White River Watershed Alliance)

Leighanne Hahn, Office of Indiana State Chemist (OISC)

Jody Arthur calls the meeting to order at 10:05 am and announces that a quorum is not in attendance so no official voting will be conducted.

Projects in committee

Organizational Structure Committee

Jody Arthur noted that the InWMC Articles of Incorporation (required in order to file for non-profit status at the state level) have been completed and that we are now waiting to find out if the Indiana Geological Survey (IGS) can serve as a registered agent for the Council. Shawn Naylor noted that the Articles will need to be approved by Indiana University legal council before this can

be confirmed. If it is determined that this process can be completed in a reasonable timeline, then Naylor will submit the Articles for approval. Once the Articles of Incorporation have been submitted to the State, these can be used with the InWMC Bylaws to open a checking account at Chase bank, which Stu Shipman has determined as a likely option for the Council since there are branches throughout Indiana. The bank account will then allow the Council to begin collecting dues from members.

Technical Resources Compilation Committee

Rachele Baker noted that she is still trying to arrange a meeting with Lenore Tedesco so she can identify the distinction between audiences for each of the compilation committees. She also noted that she has viewed other state monitoring council Web sites that list resources based on audience which she feels is much more appropriate. Shawn Naylor noted that the current InWMC Web site can possibly be changed to accommodate such a format, but someone still needs to determine what the audience categories will be and what resources and text will populate pages listed under those categories.

Research, Education, and Outreach Compilation Committee

Lenore Tedesco noted that she has spoken with other committee members (Jill Hoffman, Gwen White, and Lynn Creighton) and that they are still trying to determine what the audience might be once users of technical resources are removed from consideration. As she noted in the previous Board meeting, she prefers that the resources be listed based on a “who are you?” drop-down menu is the best approach. Lenore mentioned that her committee’s audience could range from educators to storm-water managers and that they could simply answer the questions “what do we monitor?” and “why do we monitor?”. Jody Arthur suggested that she and Rachele convene to sort out the audience categories that would fit under a “who are you?” drop-down menu and that Shawn can send them a general membership list with background information so they can use the backgrounds of current Council members as a starting point for determining categories.

Conference Planning Committee

Sara Peel has completed summarizing the fall InWMC symposium evaluations and the results have been submitted to the Board for review.

Nominations and Elections Committee

Jody Arthur described a spreadsheet recently sent out to the Board of Directors that summarizes who is currently serving on the Board, their interest in remaining on the Board and running for re-election this June, vacancies that currently exist, and potential nominees to fill vacancies. She also noted that she would like to develop a method for everyone to have access to the spreadsheet and edit both the column regarding their organization’s interest in remaining on the Board and the column listing any potential nominees that could fill vacancies. It was recommended that Google Documents is a good tool for this sort of editing and Jody noted that she will get something started soon. She also noted that she would like to send the list of nominees up for election and announce the June GM meeting before May 1, 2011.

Tony Bailey noted that there may be problems with the NRCS serving on the Board of Directors and that they may be stepping-down from their position on the Board. He suggested that the USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS) might be a likely alternative/nominee for their position.

New Business

Proposed projects for next year

Jeff Frey described a strategic plan that he and Jody are currently in the process of developing. This plan will include a list of potential projects that the InWMC could embark upon over the next 2 years. The list of potential projects has resulted from breakout session notes from the Fall meeting, and Jody would also like to append some projects based on her notes from the National Water Monitoring Council meeting that she attended. Current project categories include items such as “methods in water monitoring” and “data documentation”. Jeff noted that he would like to organize a Web-Ex meeting sometime in the next couple weeks so he can present these project categories and refine them prior to the June GM meeting. His goal is to identify one of these project categories that members feel is most pressing to address and focus new Council efforts to address that particular topic for the next 2 years.

Wrap-up / Next Steps

Our next meeting will be on May 12th at 10am.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 am