

Minutes from the Indiana Water Monitoring Council Board of Directors Meeting (8/30/2011)

Next meeting: October 15th - November 9th (exact date to be determined via Doodle Poll)

Action items:

- Draft strategic plan template with introductory text that is catered to the Council prior to next Board meeting (Jody Arthur)
- Send Jody Arthur comments and suggestions for the Strategic Plan (All members)
- Inquire with IDEM personnel who may be interested in serving as chairperson for the InWMC Coordination and Collaboration Committee (Jody Arthur)
- Speak to individuals who may be interested in chairing the Research, Education, and Outreach Compilation Committee (Jeff Frey)
- Contact Lenore Tedesco and find out what progress the Research, Education, and Outreach Compilation Committee has made to date (Bob Gillespie)
- Speak to individuals who may be interested in chairing the Technical Resources Compilation Committee (Jeff Frey)
- Verify that InWMC can file for 501 (c)(3) status without being incorporated (Jody Arthur)
- Establish nominations for President-elect and Treasurer positions (Sara Peel, Siavash Beik)
- Contact Laura Esman (Purdue Univ.) in order to find out if there are students or watershed groups who may want to plan and host the next InWMC field day (Tony Bailey).
- Contact Sugar Creek Watershed group to see if they might be interested in hosting a spring InMWC field day (Jeff Frey)
- Draft a one-page message that can be used to solicit additional student members for the InWMC (Melody Bernot)
- Update the InWMC Web site to include the current committees on the home page and the current Board Members under the "About Us" section (Shawn Naylor)
- Establish a Doodle Poll that can be used to establish a date for the next Board meeting (Shawn Naylor)

Attendees (13 total):

Jody Arthur, Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM)

Shawn Naylor, Indiana Geological Survey (IGS)

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

Siavash Beik, Christopher Burke Engineering, Ltd.

Sara Peel, Indiana Lakes Management Society (ILMS)

Tony Bailey, National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Tom Bruns, Aqua Indiana, Inc.

Doug Smith, United States Dept. of Agriculture (USDA)

Bob Gillespie, St. Joseph River Watershed Alliance

Via conference call

Daragh Deegan, City of Elkhart

Dan Perkins, Jasper County Soil and Water Conservation District

Melody Bernot, Ball State University

Lisa Holscher, Sullivan County Soil and Water Conservation District

Jeff Frey calls the meeting to order at 1:05 pm.

InWMC Strategic Plan

President Jeff Frey noted that the goal for the InWMC Strategic Plan is to allow the Council to maintain focus and document what has been accomplished to date (e.g., field days, conferences, etc.). He also noted that it is his goal to break-up the plan into sections and assign sections to individuals on the Board. Jody Arthur noted that she can collect submissions from others and combine them into one document. She also noted that she can draft a strategic plan template with introductory text that is catered to the Council and submit this to others who will be working on individual sections at the next Board meeting.

Projects in Committee

Identifying Combined Monitoring Network Needs (committee proposed during last GM meeting)

Jeff Frey summarized the top 5 projects that were voted upon by the Board of Directors in May and discussed during the June 1st GM meeting. Based on these survey results and subsequent discussions, Jeff mentioned that he would like to spearhead an effort aimed at identifying fundamental monitoring needs and developing an approach to establishing a combined monitoring network that meets several water resource management objectives in terms of both water quality and water quantity.

It was discussed whether or not this effort should be a new ad-hoc committee or if this effort falls under the purview of the Coordination and Collaboration Committee. Bob Gillespie recommended that the project could be undertaken as a task force.

***Motion made by Sara Peel:** I motion that the Council form an “Integrated Water Monitoring Network Optimization Taskforce”.*

Motion seconded by Doug Smith.

***Vote:** All in attendance voted in favor.*

***Motion made by Sara Peel:** I motion that the “Integrated Water Monitoring Network Optimization Taskforce” be managed under the Coordination and Collaboration Committee.*

Motion seconded by Jody Arthur.

***Vote:** All in attendance voted in favor.*

Coordination and Collaboration Committee

Jeff Frey asks for volunteers who may be interested in chairing this committee. Jody Arthur agrees to inquire with colleagues at IDEM who are responsible for coordinating multi-agency efforts and who may want to chair committee. **Tom Bruns and Siavash Beik** agreed to serve on the committee.

Research, Education, and Outreach Compilation Committee

Jeff asked for volunteers to chair this committee since the existing chairperson, Lenore Tedesco, will be vacating the position soon. There was no response so Jeff agreed to inquire with others who may be interested in taking on a leadership role. **Bob Gillespie** agreed to contact Lenore Tedesco regarding what progress has been made to date and also volunteered to serve on the committee. **Doug Smith, Tony Bailey, and Melody Bernot** also agreed to serve on the committee.

Technical Resources Compilation Committee

Jeff asked for volunteers to chair this committee as well since little progress has been made over the past year and the existing chairperson is no longer on the Board. There was no response so he agreed to continue his search. It was discussed that this committee could begin by organizing a list of water resource topics specific to Indiana that research papers and other higher level technical resources can be organized under (e.g., streamflow analysis, nutrient management, *E. coli*). **Daragh Deegan** agreed to serve on this committee.

Organization Structure Committee

Jody Arthur noted that IDEM and likely other agencies will not be able to affiliate with an “incorporated” entity due to legal constraints. However, she spoke with Chase Bank and verified that a bank account can be opened without submitting proof of incorporation. Prior to abandoning completely the plan to file for incorporation, Jody agreed to verify that the Council can still apply for 501(C)(3) status without incorporation.

Nominations Committee

Sara Peel noted that we will need to establish an incoming President-elect and Secretary (to replace Stu Shipman) that will fill the existing Executive Officer positions on the Board. **Siavash Beik and Sara Peel** agreed to serve this role and come up with nominations for each position.

New Business

Proposed Projects

Jeff noted that it’s probably too late to plan field day for this fall but that spring is good timeline. He also mentioned that, since the 2010 field day was held in central Indiana, we should look for a location in southern or northern Indiana where the next event can be held. He noted that the Council should begin putting out feelers with watershed groups in these regions who may want to host the next field day. Tony Bailey agreed to contact Laura Esman at Purdue in order to find out if there are students or watershed groups who may want to plan and host the event. Jeff Frey agreed to contact representatives from the Sugar Creek Watershed group as well in order to see if they might be interested in hosting the next field day.

Fall Symposium

Jody Arthur mentioned that the Indiana Water Resources Association (IWRA) will be hosting a half-day symposium at the Indiana Government Center this fall and asked if InWMC would want to collaborate (Friday, Nov. 4th is the exact date). Jeff Frey noted that we likely do not have enough time to plan a half-day symposium but that maybe someone from the Council can present information on the new Integrated Water Monitoring taskforce.

Drumming-up additional support for the Council

Jeff Frey and Jody Arthur mentioned that there exists a need to garner additional members from students and that one approach may be to write a one-page solicitation that can be emailed to professors around Indiana who can then distribute it to students within their departments. Melody Bernot agreed to draft a message before the next Board meeting.

Siavash Beik noted that there are updates that need to be made to the InWMC Web site, including the home page that does not have the current committees. Shawn Naylor agreed to update the Web site to include the current committees and the recently elected Board of Directors.

Future Meetings

It was determined that the next Board meeting should be scheduled using a Doodle Poll that includes dates between October 15th and November 9th.

Jody Arthur motions to adjourn the meeting.

Motion seconded by Daragh Deegan.

Vote: All in attendance voted in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.