

Minutes from the Indiana Water Monitoring Council Board of Directors Meeting (10/26/2011)

Action Items

- Contact Greg Bright to see if he would be willing to accept nomination to serve on Board under the consultant category. If Greg is not available, then contact Jim Ray and/or Mike Massonne with DLZ (**Jeff Frey**).
- Develop Survey Monkey survey that can be used to glean information regarding priorities and potential partners for the Integrated Water Monitoring Network Optimization Taskforce (**Jeff Frey and Shawn Naylor**).
- Coordinate a meeting with the Education and Outreach Compilation Committee and the Technical Resources Compilation Committee (i.e., Daragh Deeghan) before next Board meeting (**Bob Gillespie**).
- Contact Chris Ritz (NRCS) regarding whether or not he will accept the President-elect nomination (**Tony Bailey**).
- Update InWMC Web site home page to include text summarizing the symposium and field day that have been hosted over the past year as well as the new taskforce that has been formed (**Shawn Naylor**).
- Include Twitter option on InWMC Web page so that members are identified when Web site is updated (**Shawn Naylor**).
- Verify that Sugar Creek watershed group is willing to host spring field day. If so, begin coordinating with parties that will be participating (Sugar Creek group, IDEM, IDNR Hoosier Riverwatch, USGS) to identify potential dates (**Jeff Frey**).
- Distribute one-page solicitation for student membership to professors for dissemination via email or for posting on bulletin boards (**Melody Bernot, Shawn Naylor, Jody Arthur**).
- Schedule next meeting during first two weeks of December using Doodle Poll (**Shawn Naylor**).

Attendees (12 total)

Jeff Frey, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
Jody Arthur, Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM)
Shawn Naylor, Indiana Geological Survey (IGS)
Tony Bailey, National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
Tom Bruns, Aqua Indiana, Inc.
Jerod Chew - Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA)
Lisa Holscher, West Central Indiana Watershed Alliance (WCIWA)

Via conference call:

Leighanne Hahn, Office of the Indiana State Chemist (OISC)
Jill Hoffman, Upper White River Watershed Alliance
Siavash Beik, Christopher Burke Engineering, Ltd.
Doug Smith, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA)
Bob Gillespie, St. Joseph River Watershed Alliance

Jeff Frey calls the meeting to order at 1:15pm

Old Business

Replacements for Board resignations

Jeff Frey announces that three positions need to be filled, but it is determined that Lenore Tedesco's position will be filled by her designee for the Upper White River Watershed Alliance, Jill Hoffman. Jeff notes that Audrey Wendling (Allen County Soil and Water Conservation District), who was on the recent Board election ballot, is willing to serve the position vacated by Dan Perkins.

Motion made by Shawn Naylor: *I move that Audrey Wendling replace Dan Perkins as local agency representative on the InWMC Board.*

Motion seconded by: *Leighanne Hahn.*

Vote: *All in attendance voted in favor.*

Three consultant names were discussed that could replace the position vacated by Gwen White: Greg Bright (Commonwealth Biomonitoring), Mike Massonne (DLZ), and Jim Ray. Jeff Frey agreed to contact Greg Bright first to see if he is willing to accept the position.

Projects in Committee

Coordination and Collaboration Committee

Jeff Frey distributed a list of questions that will be submitted to agencies conducting water monitoring work in Indiana and discussed each question on the questionnaire. He also presented a list of interested parties that the questionnaire would be distributed to and how the feedback would be used to identify monitoring networks that could be combined into "optimized" monitoring sites. It was also discussed what involvement could be solicited from private companies that might be conducting monitoring. Two examples that were given included mining companies and pesticide companies. Lisa Holscher noted that the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Reclamation could be contacted regarding mine monitoring and Leighanne Hahn mentioned that pesticide data are submitted to the U.S. EPA so they would be a point of contact. Several universities (e.g. Manchester College, Hanover) were mentioned because they collect samples.

Technical Resources and Research, Education, and Outreach Compilation Committee

Jeff Frey asked for volunteers or recommendations for individuals to chair the Technical Resources Compilation Committee. No volunteers responded so Jeff will continue the search.

Jeff Frey pointed out that, in the past, it was recommended that research papers and reports could be listed in an annotated bibliography format. He also mentioned that there is a need to ensure that there is no duplication between these committees. Bob Gillespie agreed to coordinate a meeting with the Research, Education, and Outreach Compilation Committee and the lone active member of the Technical Resources Compilation Committee, Daragh Deegan, to address these issues.

Nominations Committee

Siavash Beik noted that he and Sara Peel have identified Chris Ritz of the NRCS as the potential President-elect and Jerod Chew (ISDA) as Treasurer but has not yet contacted them to see if they will accept nominations. Jerod Chew accepted the nomination to serve as InWMC Treasurer. Tony Bailey (NRCS) will speak to Chris Ritz to determine his availability to serve as President-elect.

Communications Committee

Shawn Naylor mentioned that he is waiting to update the Board of Directors list until the final two positions are resolved. He also noted that the InWMC home page was not updated since the last meeting because he was not sure what information to include in text. It was agreed upon that text summarizing the symposium and field day that have been hosted over the past year as well as the newly formed optimized monitoring network taskforce should be included. Lisa Holscher suggested that Twitter updates be incorporated into the InWMC Web site so members can be notified when the Web site is updated. Shawn Naylor stated that he will look into this option.

New Business

Strategic Plan

Jody Arthur noted that she has not received feedback from other Board members on the strategic plan so she has expanded on the existing draft. Jody will send out a message to solicit input from Board members with more specific guidance.

Field Day Planning for Next Year

Lisa Holscher noted that there are some watershed management groups that have field days listed as requirements for their IDEM 319 grants. She suggested contacting these groups to see if they are interested in hosting a field day with the InWMC. Jeff Frey noted that the Sugar Creek watershed management group is interested in hosting event and agreed to verify that they are willing to host a spring field day. If so, organizers will need begin coordinating with parties that will be participating (e.g., the Sugar Creek group, IDEM, IDNR Hoosier Riverwatch, USGS) to identify potential dates.

It was also discussed that in addition to addressing monitoring approaches at such a field day, agriculture and water resource conservation success stories could be highlighted as well as other watershed issues such as abandoned mine lands (AML).

Drumming Up Additional Support for InWMC

A one-page solicitation for student membership, drafted by Melody Bernot (Ball State Univ.), was reviewed by those in attendance. It was decided that the information sheet is ready to distribute to professors for dissemination via email or for posting on bulletin boards.

Wrap-up / Next Steps

It was decided that the next Board meeting should be held sometime during the first two weeks of December. Shawn Naylor agreed to set up a Doodle poll to identify an optimal date and time.

Jody Arthur motions to adjourn. Tom Bruns seconds the motion. All vote in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15pm