

**Minutes from the Indiana Water Monitoring Council: Interim Board of Directors Meeting
(8/26/2008)**

Attendees (16 total):

Stu Shipman, Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)
Robert D. Waltz, Office of the Indiana State Chemist (OISC)
Leighanne Hahn, Office of the Indiana State Chemist (OISC)
Art Garceau, Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM)
Jody Arthur, Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM)
Cindy Muffet, Resource Conservation Specialist, Clinton County Soil and Water Conservation District
Scott Morlock, United States Geological Survey (USGS)
Bill Jones, Clinical Associate Professor, Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs (IU SPEA)
Laura Esman, Purdue University
Sara Peel, Indiana Lakes Management Society (ILMS)
John Steinmetz, Director and State Geologist, Indiana Geological Survey (IGS)
Shawn Naylor, Indiana Geological Survey (IGS)
Siavash Beik, Christopher Burke Engineering, or Designee
Rodney Renkenberger, Executive Director, Maumee River Basin Commission
Gwen White, Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)
Elizabeth Trybula, Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Shawn Naylor: welcome, overview of agenda, and introductions

Scott Morlock: overview of the processes and steps taken to get to this point

Elizabeth Trybula: discussed vision and mission statements generated by Planning Team and posed question: How does this Board work to implement the vision of its stakeholders?

Bill Jones: The Board serves to oversee / facilitate activities while the membership carries these out.

Cindy Muffet: How do we lead the membership to begin work?

Gwen White: Is this an organization of organizations or an organization of members?

Cindy Muffet: Seems like it should be a combination of both.

Jodi Arthur: Right now, bylaws are written such that membership is open so anyone can participate.

Scott Morlock: We need broad based membership to succeed – including charter members, volunteers, and students.

Cindy Muffet: What are current restrictions on membership?

Jodi Arthur: It is my understanding that there are no restrictions.

Siavash Beik: Membership could be a corporation, agency, or individuals.

Gwen White: We should think about membership in terms of vision statement components.

Bill Jones: This is a good point since we need to keep in mind that organizations may be better suited to serve the vision statement functions.

Cindy Muffet: By making it an organization of organizations, we may be alienating individuals who voluntarily collect water quality data.

Art Garceau: The current structure of the bylaws allows individuals to contact Board members if they have concerns. The National Water Quality Monitoring Council has a primary board and separate boards that are part of the council but serve different functions.

Scott Morlock: The InWMC wouldn't happen without representatives from organizations putting it together. Individuals most likely would not have brought it to this point.

Siavash Beik: Board representatives are chosen by their organizations and Board - Charter members can change based on general elections from general membership.

Bill Jones: We need a Board that can change. For instance, other schools such as Ball State, Butler, and others should be able to take-over as Board members representing academia.

Elizabeth Trybula: How do we know who is an individual or general member?

Jodi Arthur: The structure in place has attempted to give general members a vote on Board members every year.

John Steinmetz: One year elections seem like too quick a turnover – we need to maintain institutional knowledge with say 2 – 3 year terms.

Stu Shipman: We need to have permanent members that are not subject to being voted-out to maintain continuity with data contributions.

Scott Morlock: It is important to keep in mind that we have an existing Charter membership that was voted-in during the IWRA meeting and a Board that was also voted-in by the general membership present at that meeting.

Gwen White: How are we going to maintain general membership involvement?

Bill Jones: We need some incentive to give members a concrete feeling of being a member – paying dues for instance.

Elizabeth Trybula: How do we determine who is a member so we know who is voting for the Board?

Siavash Beik: Currently, the Bylaws are written to include anyone who wants to be a member.

Bill Jones: Drew a diagram of the current InWMC structure with the Board at the top of the diagram followed by sub-committees and then general membership.

Siavash Beik: We need to have a separate category for participating members in addition to the general membership.

Gwen White: “Charter member” terminology should be removed from Bylaws.

Siavash Beik: proposed the following distinctions:

Affiliate member – non-voting (participating) members

General membership – shall elect board of directors

Leighanne Hahn: Lets brake and then go through the Bylaws one article at a time.

10 minute break

Return from break

Discussion Re: Article 4

Leighanne Hahn: During drafting of bylaws, it was decided that Board members would have 2 year terms and half of the Board would be up for re-election each year.

Gwen White: We need to decide what positions are permanent and what positions are voted-in.

Siavash Beik: Let’s move back to Article Four which deals with meetings.

Gwen White: You need to have one annual meeting if you report finances - one annual business meeting.

Rodney Renkenberger: Is this going to be a 501(c)(3)?

Several: No...not yet at least.

Several: We need to clarify a Congress versus a meeting in Article Four.

Siavash Beik: Meetings relative to the Board should be listed under Article Five.

Leighanne Hahn: What is a quorum? A majority of the members?

Gwen White: Organizations often use a set number...say 20 for this Council.

Discussion Re: Article 5

Leighanne Hahn: Let's discuss Board Officers. Has the IGS agreed to serve as Treasurer as well?

Shawn Naylor: No, we haven't discussed that.

Gwen White: We can add Treasurer to the list of Board Officers.

Siavash Beik / Scott Morlock: We should add a Treasurer even if there are no monies currently.

Gwen White: We need to make a decision on the permanent members and have it written in the bylaws.

Stu Shipman: It should be the first 3 members.

Art Garceau: The USGS should also be a permanent member.

Scott Morlock: It seems the IGS-Executive Secretary should also be a permanent member?

Cindy Muffet: Aren't they non-voting?

Cindy Muffet: Do we need to include someone from the ag. sector?

Elizabeth Trybula: Before people start leaving, we should decide upon an Interim Director – decision maker to help get us through the bylaw creation process and lead meetings.

Several: Do we have any nominations or volunteers?

Scott Morlock: Agreed to act as Interim Board Director.

Stu Shipman: It seems that we needed to vote upon meeting sponsorship according to the agenda.

Laura Esman: Ron Turco and others are organizing a December meeting with the goal of inviting speakers from around the country to speak about how other states are using monitoring data to show change. There will be 2 national level keynote speakers and breakout sessions to discuss successful and unsuccessful attempts at using data to show watershed management success.

Jody Arthur: What does sponsorship look like?

Laura Esman: Just putting the name and logo on the meeting to get the InWMC name out there. Purdue staff will do the leg work. We envision the InWMC sending out an email to its members to encourage participation in the meeting.

Elizabeth Trybula: Could we meet and vote on bylaws at the meeting?

Laura Esman: The meeting is from 9am to 3pm so if you can plan around that then it should be fine.

Leighanne Hahn: It sounds like a good time to introduce the bylaws to the general membership and get a vote.

Leighanne Hahn: Does anyone know why the Indiana State Department of Agriculture representatives were absent?

Gwen White: We need to determine if they are interested in being permanent members.

Meeting adjourned

Summary of bylaw revisions to be made

Article 3

Remove “Charter Members” paragraph

Include paragraph describing “affiliate members” as non-voting and non-due-paying members that are still eligible to participate in Council activities (e.g., sit on sub-committees)

General members should be described as those members who are due-paying and eligible to vote.

Article 4

Remove “congress” and replace with “annual meeting”

Establish a set number of general members that shall constitute a quorum (20 suggested).

Move “Board of Director Meetings” to Article 5 and also include a new paragraph titled “Special Meetings of the Board of Directors” under Article 5.

Article 5

Add paragraph that describes permanent members of the Board (this list was not confirmed).

Add Treasurer to list of Board Officers.