

# MRBPLG

The Maumee River Basin Partnership of Local Governments



## Meeting Summary

10:00a.m.-Noon Thursday, May 19, 2005

City-County Building Omni Room

One Main Street, Fort Wayne, Indiana,.

(NEXT MEETING: July 21, 2005 in Defiance, OH)

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Those in attendance included:

Greg Meszaros, City of Fort Wayne Utilities, Fort Wayne, IN  
Mary Jane Slaton, City of Fort Wayne Utilities, Fort Wayne, IN  
Bob Stevenson, City of Toledo Water/Wastewater, City of Toledo, OH  
William Garber, Environmental Services, City of Toledo, OH  
Dave Schnipke, Environmental Compliance, City of Lima, OH  
Gary Haydel, City Utilities, City of Perrysburg, OH  
Rory Prigge, Water Pollution Control, City of Defiance, OH  
Paul Steffens, Town Council, Town of Leo-Cedarville, IN  
Al Frisinger, Allen County Surveyor, Fort Wayne, IN  
Mike McConnell, City New Haven Engineering, New Haven, IN  
Lindsay Potts, US Rep Marcy Kaptur, Toledo, OH  
Mark Wickersham, US Rep Mark Souder, Fort Wayne, IN  
Tony Friona, WLEB Project, US ACE, Buffalo, NY  
Jenny Cornell, Hull & Associates, Toledo, OH  
John Wilson, USDA/NRCS, Marysville, OH  
Greg Lake, Allen County IN SWCD  
Tim Kroeker, Watershed Specialist, IDEM, Indianapolis, IN  
Cathy Robb, Flood Control Department, City of Fort Wayne, IN  
Kim Stier, Flood Control Department, City of Fort Wayne, IN  
Rodney Renkenberger, Executive Director, MRBC, Fort Wayne, IN  
Siavash Beik, Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd., Indianapolis, IN  
Sheila McKinley, Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd., Indianapolis, IN  
Lori Gates, Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd., Indianapolis, IN

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Greg Meszaros opened the meeting with introductions and a reference to the agenda. Greg introduced Deputy Mayor, Al Moll, who welcomed everyone to the City of Fort Wayne.

### **City of Fort Wayne - "Update on Activities of Fort Wayne City Utilities"**

Greg then gave an update on some of the projects that the City of Fort Wayne's Utilities Department have been working on. Greg described the status and dollars spent with the City's CSO and Phase II Stormwater programs.

### **Allen County Surveyor's Office – “Phase II Stormwater Partnerships”**

Al Frisinger, Allen County Surveyor described his responsibilities with serving as the County's drainage engineer and as the lead office for the County's Phase II Stormwater program. He also reported on the County's soon to be adopted county-wide, comprehensive, Stormwater Management Ordinance; which will cover all of the Phase II Stormwater Ordinance requirements as well as water quantity issues. Al was asked about how the County intends to fund their Phase II Stormwater program. Al gave information on a cost study that is underway to look at the County's options for establishing user fees, permit fees, and/or assessments.

### **City of New Haven – “CSO Issues of Concern”**

Mike McConnell, Director of Engineering, City of New Haven, spoke about issues associated with the City's Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) program. Mike believes the City's public education efforts have been very fruitful. He described the City's sewer separation program where the City will reduce from 4 CSO outfalls to only one CSO outfall. He said that there is potential for individual homeowners to have to replumb their homes in order to truly separate items like gutters and sumps from the new separated sanitary system. Mike said that the City is in the process of increasing their sewer rates and that the City is still waiting from approval from IDEM on their Long Term Control Plan.

### **Maumee River Basin Commission (MRBC) – “MRBC Role and Responsibilities in the Maumee River Basin”**

Rodney Renkenberger, Executive Director, MRBC and Siavash Beik with Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. gave a PowerPoint presentation on the MRBC; describing what the MRBC is and does, the MRBC Master Plan, Plan implementation, MRBC accomplishments, and challenges ahead. Their PowerPoint presentation is posted on the MRBPLG web site.

### **Updates from Local Watershed Groups and MRBPLG Working Groups**

No local watershed group representatives were present. Lori Gates reported on activities conducted by the Questionnaire and October 2005 Conference Committees. Questionnaires will be mailed on Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup> to all local watershed groups, municipalities, and counties in the Maumee River Basin. The questionnaires are also available on-line at [www.mrbplg.org/questionnaires](http://www.mrbplg.org/questionnaires). The goal of the questionnaires is to help the MRBPLG learn more about other entities in the basin and then the MRBPLG will use the results to help direct its efforts. The MRBPLG 2005 Conference date has been finalized as Thursday, October 13, 2005 and will be held in Lima, OH. The City of Fort Wayne is finalizing a contract with the Lima Convention Center. Lori asked for ideas on finding prominent keynote/opening and luncheon speakers.

### **Other Issues of Regional Interest/Concern**

Lori Gates gave a legislative update on the “Great Lakes Environmental Restoration Act” (S.508, formerly S. 1398) and “Great Lakes Restoration

Financing Act” (HR 792, formerly HR 2720) bills. Both bills were reintroduced this year. S. 508 was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. HR 792 was referred to the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee’s Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee as well as the Committee on Resources’ Fisheries and Oceans Subcommittee.

**Next Meeting July 21<sup>st</sup> in Defiance, Ohio**

The next MRBPLG meeting will be held on July 21, 2005, in Defiance, OH from 10:00a.m. until noon and will topics will include discussions on various Stormwater Management Ordinances.

**Camp Scott Constructed Wetlands Tour**

Pat Callahan, CSO Program Manager, City of Fort Wayne, gave an overview presentation of the City’s Camp Scott constructed wetlands project site. Attendees then toured the project site.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned after attendees had toured Camp Scott.