

Ottawa River Coalition Meeting Minutes
May 16, 2024 8:00 am LACNIP
General May 2024 Meeting

In attendance:

Joe Gearing, AC Engineer's Office	Lydia Archambo, Allen SWCD
Russ Decker, Nutrien	Kevin Cox, Perry Township
Marcus VanMeter, AC Engineer's Office	Ron Meyer, Sanitary Eng.
Megan Hurd, Alloway	Jessica Begonia, City of Lima
Tyler Beemer, Allied Environmental Services Inc	Dakota Clay, City of Lima
Leslie Riley, Tri-Moraine Audubon Society	John Schneider, LACNIP
Whitney Hamblin, Citizen of Allen County	Melinda DeLaRosa, ASWCD
Denise James, LACNIP	Ron Meyer, Allen Co. Sanitary
Brad Niemeyer, Allen Co. Sanitary	Sara Weekley, City of Lima

Quorum was met. Chairman Adam Haunhorst called the meeting to order at 8:00 am.

Adam Haunhorst welcomed the group to the May 2024 Meeting. Members introduced themselves.

Adam Haunhorst introduced the minutes from March 2024 Annual meeting.

Motion by Kevin Cox to approve the march 2024 meeting minutes upon corrections mentioned. Motion seconded by Joe Gearing and carried.

Treasurer's Report

Financial Report-

- Russ Decker presented the May 2024 financial report.
- The unencumbered funds balance of our account as of 3/1/2024 is \$19,057.77
 - Large payment was for Executive Director payment (2023)

Motion by Kevin Cox to Approve March treasures report. Motion seconded by Dakota Clay and carried.

Lydia Archambo announced that the annual Form 990 filing has been completed with the IRS. If you would like to view those documents, set up an appointment with Lydia.

It is time to renew are membership with the Chamber of Commerce. With receiving this so close to the meeting the Executive board just thought it would be easier to go through member vote.

Unanimous vote to continue our Chamber membership.

- Membership: NA

Committee Reports

Executive Committee-

- The executive committee met in April/ fundraising committee
 - The large discussion was that due to the short amount of time before River Day the decision was made to table river day and bring back the Good Friday Fish Fry! This is because we would like to start the planning for the fish fry NOW and put on a great event come next year. We have spoken to the rotary club and they would like to host a fish derby the day of in the fair pond. This will help us go back to the roots of the event (family event that connects people to water). Russ has spoken to ORC's large members about helping to cover the 2024 year by giving one-time donations to help us get to next year. The largest payment ROC has every year is the Executive Director payment. For the past two years the public has been asking about the fish fry and the demand seems to still be there. We would like to make it clear the River day is just Tabled and we may revisit it in the future. Given the time frame of this year we are scared we would not be able to give it the full shebang would like to give an event like this. We would like to emphasize that as we bring back this event we would like to replicate the planning of former executive director/secretary Beth Siebert, in that each portion has a chairman who ensures that their portion is ready to go the day of. This method will help keep the gears turning.

Education Updates-

- Lydia Archambo mentioned the 2024 area 1 Envirothon was hosted here in Allen county in April and thank you for those who helped
- Lydia Archambo gave an update of the ORCU in that it was a beautiful day for the event, over 100 people attended and thank you to all of those who came out
- Lydia Has some school events coming up and remains busy

Stormwater Committee-

- Joe Gearing (County)
 - the Bluelick and 65 Wetland has a complete date of May 30th.
 - two stage ditch plans coming out soon
 - Bidding out for tar and chip
 - Bridge updates
- Dakota Clay (city)
 - West street bridge is looking to be open end of August
 - Flood Plan Plans updated and are on city ordinance website

Scholarship Committee-

- Russ Decker says to be on the lookout for a committee meeting date as we need to get the applications out soon!

Old Business

New Business

- Slate of officers introduced themselves again for first time comers

- Contract for Executive Director 2024 – Lydia Archambo presented the proposed 2024 executive Director contract. Lydia Noted the two changes made.
 - The payment will be based on hours worked UP TO 520 hours
 - The payment will not need to be given to ASWCD until the first quarter of the following year allowing ASWCD to capture full hours worked and ORC to settle the years finances
- Upon signing this contract today Lydia will present this contract at the June ASWCD board meeting for ASWCD approval

Motion to sign contract was made by Russ Decker and Seconded by Kevin Cox. Motion Carried.

Next meeting: July 18, 2024 – Alloway hosting at Ohio Energy Manufacturing Center (1220 South Main Street Lima, Ohio 45804)

Member reports

- Kevin Cox – Perry TWP is doing well and are hoping to have a data center move into a piece of property.
- Brad Niemeyer – Shawnee plant upgrade is on the way. This is huge project and excited for it to finally get started. Hume is still the target for sewers and they are looking for contractors.
- Megan Hurd – Gearing up for busy season
- Jessica Begonia – ORCU proved to be a success for the SeeClickFix App for those that used it. It allowed the city to see some of the current dump sites within the river. With 100% certainty that there are more dumpsites in the river Jessica would like to emphasize that we do not loose site of this clean up project. This will be a large topic of discussion at the June ORC Meeting to discuss hoe ORC would like to move forward with this project.
- Russ Decker – Nutrien is gearing up for a “turn around” this is a cleaning time for the machines. Therefore Russ would like us to know that the factory will look and sound different for about four weeks. There will also be more traffic in the area.
- Lydia Archambo – ASWCD is entering IDDE season, you may see our interns in the river or looking is storm drains...that’s their job. Lydia also will be working with EMA to create a “user friendly guide to the illicit discharge regulations” to hand out to residents in the county. This has not started yet but is ORC would like to help in this process all is welcome.
- Adam Haunhorst – Active transportation Plan is out for public comment. Adam ensured that Blue ways were covered within this document to help receive funding for blue way projects. Please read over if you are interested.

Motion by Kevin Cox to adjourn the January 2024 meeting. Motion seconded by Megan Hurd and carried.
Meeting adjourned at 9:06 AM.

Minutes transcribed by Lydia Archambo, Executive Director

