

Whitewater River Watershed Steering Committee Meeting



Minutes of July 12, 2017

Whitewater River Watershed

Attendees: Heather Wirth, Jon Seymour, Mike Kohlsdorf, Adam Lehmann, and Lori Divine

The meeting began at 6:00 pm at the Harrison Library in Harrison, OH. After Heather Wirth, Watershed Coordinator, called the meeting to order, the attendees were asked to review the previous meeting minutes. No corrections were made.

Under new business:

Cost-share Applications Review

The committee had one new application to review that was located in a medium priority area. The landowner uses holistic management for his pasture and cattle. He also has pasture pigs and a unique watering system from his lake. The landowner already practices rotational grazing and the only resource concern present was the area around the pig feeders where concrete HUAPs are needed. The landowner offered to host a field day on his property if we would be willing to help with the concrete HUAPs. The committee can only fund 3 applications in a medium priority area who ranked over 120 points during the first half of the grant period and one was already approved. After much discussion and consideration, the committee decided to try to fund this application because of the value of the location and education a field day would have for the project. Heather will contact IDEM on seeking approval since the application did not meet the 120 point requirement on the ranking sheet for a medium priority area application. The committee then reviewed the other applications that were tabled during the last meeting that were high priority areas. After some discussion about the applications and good promotion for the cost-share program, the committee decided to fund the 3 applications that ranked 50 or higher.

Education and Outreach Events

The River Sweep clean-up was held on June 17th along the Whitewater River and Barbara Road in West Harrison with 11 volunteers. A Home Sewage Treatment workshop is scheduled for Thursday, July 27th at Whitewater Forest Park in Harrison at 6pm. Hamilton County SWCD, Hamilton County Health, and OKI are partnering on it. The committee then had more discussion about the recreation/use map, possibly partnering with CanoeFest, holding an expo, and doing a special clean-up.

The date for the next meeting will be set when more cost-share applications will need to be reviewed.

With no further business or concerns, the meeting was adjourned.

Heather Wirth

Heather Wirth, Watershed Coordinator

Update – 7-18-2017 – IDEM denied the request to fund the low ranking medium priority area application who was willing to host a field day

8-8-2017 – Sent information about new application in a high priority area that needed a quick response – members approved funding for watering system, HUAP, and access road.