

**DRAFT AGENDA**  
**ALLIANCE OF DOWNRIVER WATERSHEDS**  
Tuesday, February 14, 2023  
1:00 pm  
VIA VIRTUAL MTG DUE TO COVID-19



**Member Communities**

Allen Park  
Belleville  
Dearborn Heights  
Ecorse  
Flat Rock  
Gibraltar  
Grosse Ile Township  
Inkster  
Lincoln Park  
Melvindale  
Riverview  
Rockwood  
Romulus  
Southgate  
Sumpter Township  
Taylor  
Van Buren Township  
WayneCounty  
Westland  
Woodhaven-  
Brownstown School  
District  
Wyandotte

- 1. Welcome and Introductions**
  - a. Roll Call of Alliance Members and Alternates Present
  - b. Introductions
  - c. Addition or Changes to Draft Agenda
  - d. Approval of October 11, 2022 meeting notes

**Action**
  
- 2. Finance Committee Report**
  - a. Financial Status Report

**Information**
  
- 3. Status Reports per ADW Budget Framework**
  - a. IDEP Activities
  - b. Planning and Reporting
    - Biennial Report due April 2023
    - Collaborative Plan Updates
      - IDEP
      - PPP/PEP
  - c. Progress Evaluation Activities Update
    - 2022 Monitoring Report
    - Macroinvertebrate Monitoring
  - d. Public Education Tasks
    - Photo Contest Status Update
    - E-newsletter to Community Leaders
    - Resident Survey
    - Green Schools Outreach
    - Stream Crossing and Watershed Road Signage

**Information**  
**Information**  
**Information**  
**Information**
  
- 4. Ecorse Creek/Friends of Detroit River grant project**

**Information**
  
- 5. Announcements and Member Sharing**
  - a. 2023 Meeting Schedule – May 16, October 10, December 5 (if needed)

**Information**
  
- 6. Summary of Action Items and Items for Next Meeting**

**Information**
  
- 7. Adjourn**

**Action**

**DRAFT AGENDA**  
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Brownstown School  
District
- Wyandotte

1. **Welcome and Introductions**
  - a. Roll Call of Alliance Members and Alternates Present
  - b. Introductions
  - c. Addition or Changes to Draft Agenda
  - d. Approval of May 16, 2023 meeting notes **Action**
  
2. **Finance Committee Report**
  - a. Financial Status Report **Information**
  - b. 2024 Budget Approval **Action**
  - c. Facilitation Team Contract 2024 **Action**
  - d. Fiduciary Contract 2024 **Action**
  
3. **Status Reports per ADW Budget Framework**
  - a. Planning and Reporting **Information**
    - Reapplication Reminder
    - Collaborative Plan Updates
      - IDEP
      - PPP/PEP/TMDL
  - b. Progress Evaluation Activities Update **Information**
  - c. Public Education Tasks **Information**
    - 2024 Watershed Community Calendars
    - E-newsletter to Community Leaders
    - Schools for Clean Water Contest
    - Stream Crossing and Watershed Road Signage
  - d. IDEP Activities **Information**
    - Update on IDEP investigations
    - SEMCOG IDEP/Good housekeeping Training (Oct 10, 11, 17)
  
4. **Announcements and Member Sharing** **Information**
  - a. Friends of Detroit River/Ecorse Creek Committee Updates
  - b. 2023 Meeting Schedule – December 5 (if needed)
  - c. 2024 Meeting Schedule – February 13, May 14, October 8, December 3 (if needed)
  
5. **Summary of Action Items and Items for Next Meeting** **Information**
  
6. **Adjourn** **Action**



**Alliance of Downriver Watersheds**  
**Meeting Notes**  
**October 10, 2023 1:00 pm**  
**VIRTUAL MTG**

- 1) Welcome: John Danci from Sumpter Township opened the meeting. In attendance were:

Allen Park  
Belleville  
Dearborn Heights  
Ecorse  
Flat Rock  
Gibraltar  
Grosse Ile Township  
Inkster  
Lincoln Park  
Melvindale  
Riverview  
Rockwood  
Romulus  
Southgate  
Sumpter Township  
Taylor  
Van Buren Township  
Wayne County  
Westland  
Woodhaven-Brownstown  
School District  
Wyandotte

Designated or Alternate Community Representatives from:

- Allen Park – Brent Florek
- Dearborn Heights – Robert Conrad, Mariana Hernandez
- Flat Rock – Brent Florek
- Gibraltar – Brent Florek, Marsha Kozmor
- Grosse Ile – Brent Florek
- Riverview – Brent Florek
- Rockwood – Brent Florek
- Sumpter Township – John Danci
- Taylor – Kelly McRobb- Ackland
- Van Buren Township – Ron Akers
- Woodhaven-Brownstown School District – Kathleen McBride
- Wyandotte – Greg Mayhew

Other Interested Parties:

- Leah Groya, L Groya Consulting
- Jennifer Kangas, HRWC
- Pam Labadie, HRWC
- Ric Lawson, HRWC
- David Lossing, HRWC
- Valerie Novaes, OHM Advisors
- Andrea Paine, HRWC
- Kathleen Sexton, EGLE WRD
- Elizabeth Thacker, OHM Advisors
- Mary Trzeciak – OHM Advisors
- McKenzi Waliczek - Friends of the Detroit River
- Maaike Wielenga, HRWC

**OFFICIAL ACTIONS** of the ADW taken at the meeting are shown in bold capitalized letters.

**Action items** for the future are shown in bold italics.

### 1) Welcome and Introductions

- a. Roll call of Alliance Members and Alternates present – roll call was performed and there was a quorum present. Brent Florek announced that Trenton was officially joining the ADW.
- b. Introductions of meeting attendees
- c. Addition or changes to draft agenda – there were no changes
- d. Approval of May 16, 2023 meeting notes – **ACTION: There was a motion by Wyandotte to approve the May 16, 2023 meeting notes. Seconded by Van Buren Twp. Passed unanimously.**

### 2) Finance Committee Report

- a. Financial Status Report
  - Jennifer Kangas provided the financial status report, which was included in the packet.
  - Roughly 53% of the budget was spent to date. However, HRWC bills quarterly so recent months have not yet been taken into account.
  - There is still \$9333 owed in dues from Rockwood, Belleville, and Inkster.
  - There is projected to be a \$210k fund balance at the end of the year.
- b. 2024 Budget Approval
  - Over the last couple months, the Tech/PE committee developed the proposed 2024 budget and work plan. The executive committee also met prior to this meeting to review the proposed budget/work plan.
  - Elizabeth Thacker presented the proposed budget and work plan to the membership. The overall budget is \$287,300 which is lower than recent years. In general, the IDEP budget was increased and the PEP budget was decreased. There is also budget included to assist members with their permit renewal applications due in April.
  - **ACTION: There was a motion by Van Buren Township to approve the proposed 2024 ADW budget and work plan as presented. Seconded by Grosse Ile Twp. Passed unanimously.**
- c. Facilitation Team Contract 2024
  - **ACTION: There was a motion by Wyandotte to approve the interim chair to sign the 2024 facilitation services contract. Seconded by Gibraltar. Passed unanimously.**
- d. Fiduciary Contract 2024
  - **ACTION: There was a motion by Wyandotte to approve the interim chair to sign the 2024 fiduciary contract. Seconded by Grosse Ile Twp. Passed unanimously.**
- e. ADW Chair – Kathy Hood has retired from Romulus. Therefore, a new ADW Chair is needed. The Vice-chair position is also vacant.

### 3) Status Reports per ADW Budget Framework

- a. Planning and Reporting
  - Most ADW members will have to submit a permit reissuance application in April 2024
  - As part of the permit renewal, the ADW will be updating its Collaborative IDEP, PEP, PPP, and TMDL plan. The updated IDEP was already sent out to the membership for review and subsequently sent to EGLE for their initial review.

#### b. Progress Evaluation

- Macroinvertebrate monitoring took place in September. 6 sites were visited.
- The ADW's 12th chemistry and flow monitoring season wrapped up at the end of September. Data will be analyzed during the fall and winter.
- HRWC continued its partnership with the University of Michigan's Digital Water Lab (DWL) this summer to install real-time water level sensor nodes through the Downriver area. Currently, real-time data is available for Brownstown Creek at Civic Center Park and the Huron River at Lower Huron Metropark. To view all available real-time water level data, visit <http://maps.open-storm.org/>.

#### c. Public Education Tasks

- 2024 Calendar
  - Calendars will be sent out tomorrow.
  - The calendar landing page provides ideas for how to distribute the calendars, including polling locations, non-profits, etc
  - The photo contest was again included in the calendar and will run in 2024. Instead of 12 months of rolling submissions, we will be seeking submissions through the summer months based on feedback.
- E-newsletter to Community Leaders
  - The e-newsletter runs quarterly and is aimed at decision makers in the community. The purpose is to promote the ADW and its efforts as well as provide public education.
  - Please reach out to the facilitation team if you have any community stories to share in future newsletters
- Schools for Clean Water Contest
  - The contest is a pledge campaign where schools complete for pledges and can earn prizes.
  - The contest will run from October 16-Nov 3.
  - Please help get the word out. There are social media graphics available for your use.
- Stream Crossing and Watershed Signs
  - Targeted sign locations were determined based on a previous inventory report. There were 23 signs reported as being in poor condition that will be replaced.
  - The graphics on the sign were updated/simplified in order to streamline the process
  - The signs will be produced within the next couple months
  - Leah Groya will be contacting communities that will be receiving signs. Most will just require the replacement of the sign plaque and will utilize the existing post.
  - There was some discussion on the wording that will be on the signs. Leah talked about the complexities of streamlining the wording and the thought process for finalizing what would be printed on the signs.

#### d. IDEP Activities

- Update on IDEP Investigations – there are ongoing IDEP investigations. A summary will be provided at the next meeting.
- SEMCOG IDEP/Good Housekeeping Training (Oct 10, 11, 17) – please sign up if you haven't already to meet your permit training requirements

4) **Ecorse Creek/Friends of Detroit River grant project**

- McKenzi Waliczek discussed the Ecorse Creek/Friends of Detroit River grant project. The project will be done in 3 phases and Phase 1 just wrapped up. Phase 2 prioritization will start in November. They will be seeking funding for projects. A link was provided in the Zoom chat box so that communities can provide input on the prioritization.

5) **Other Items and Announcements**

- 2024 Meeting Schedule –February 13, May 14 (after the meeting this was updated to May 21 based on availability), October 8, December 3 (if needed)

6) **Summary of Action Items and Other Announcements**

- The action items, as identified above in bold/italics, were reviewed.

7) **Adjourn**

- **ACTION:** There was a motion by Van Buren Twp to adjourn the meeting. **Seconded by Grosse Ile Township. Passed unanimously.**