

SWEET Meeting Minutes

Monday September 11, 2023 at 10:30am

This meeting was held virtually and in person.

Present: Erica Eason (MC Soil and Water CD) Trohn Enright-Randolph (MC Surveyors Office), Rebecca Swift (Bloomington Parks and Rec), Kriste Lindberg (City of Bloomington Utilities) and Adam Rickert (MC MS4).

1. Call to Order

2. Big Collaboration Items (those needing group discussion)

- i. City of Bloomington Utilities Newsletter is in development.
- ii. INAFSM-Indiana Association of Floodplain and Stormwater Management Conference is scheduled for 9/13-9/15/2023. If SWEET members are attending INAFSM conference, carpooling might be a possibility.
- iii. Discussion of completing a survey to determine optimal SWEET meeting time and date. Results of the 2nd survey were summarized. A third and final survey will be distributed to rank the top three "most available time and dates" provided through the first two surveys.

3. Agency and Department Updates

a. Friends of Lake Monroe (Maggie Sullivan)

- i. Gearing up for annual **Lake Monroe Day** on Sunday September 17, 2023. For the week leading up to 9 17 2023, FLM will have events such as hiking, biking, kayaking, pontoon boat rides, shoreline clean ups and water treatment plant tours. On the evening of 9/17, a celebration/fundraiser at the Upland Wood Shop (350 W 11th Street, Bloomington) is planned. Information and registration for the events planned during this week is available on the Events section of FLM website, <https://friendsoflakemonroe.org/events/>
- ii. FLM is working on a cost share program within the watershed, and it includes the counties of Brown, Jackson and Monroe. Martha Miller is assisting with the cost share program which encourages conservation practices.
- iii. In October, DNR is sponsoring a **Monroe Lake Cleanup Week** with a week's worth of cleanup events. A cookout is planned during this week; an Eventbrite registration link will be forwarded by Maggie when available.

b. The Go Green District (Elisa Pokral)

- i. Elisa was not able to attend however she is currently providing environmental classroom presentations for local schools.

c. City of Bloomington Parks & Recreation (Rebecca Swift)

- i. Bug Fest is coming up on September 23rd and there are plenty of exhibitors, however volunteers are needed. If you know someone that volunteer, please encourage them to participate.
- ii. World's River Day is scheduled for the day after Bug Fest, September 24th from 1 to 3 at Switchyard Park. Trash bags, gloves, buckets, etc will be provided, just looking for volunteers.

- iii. **Nature Days** is underway. **Looking** for Creek Station Facilitators and/or Group Leaders for Leonard Springs on Tuesdays from 9:45-2pm. Pretty simple lesson revolves around Hoosier Riverwatch principles and identifying different chemical data points. Rebecca included the following links to sign up within the Agenda:

[September 26](#)

[October 10](#)

[October 17](#)

[October 24](#)

- iv. Rebecca recently received an email from IDEM's Office of Water Quality. Their office is willing to host another Instructor level training for Hoosier Riverwatch. It will likely be in early Feb to March 2024.

d. City of Bloomington MS4 (Kriste Lindberg)

- i. Creating a stormwater newsletter is on Kriste's wish list.
- ii. City of Bloomington will no longer be offering street side leaf pick up services via vacuum trucks. CBU is encouraging residents to compost.
- iii. CBU will be acquiring street sweeping services from City of Bloomington Street Services later this Fall.
- iv. Adopt A Drain is going well.
- v. CBU will be adopting a section of Clear Creek just north of West Gordon Pike at Winston Thomas site.
- vi. Rekindling efforts with MCCSC to coordinate with their STEM bus curriculum.
- vii. Kriste participated in the City of Bloomington Volunteer Fair.
- viii. Blooming Neighborhoods Celebration is scheduled for 9/26/2023 from 6-8pm.
- iv. Peden Family Farms Festival is scheduled for 9/28 and 9/29.
- x. STEAM night (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) at MCCSC is scheduled for Oct 3 from 6 to 7:30.

e. Monroe County SWCD (Erica Eason)

- i. Attended MC IRIS plant sale on 9/9/2023.
- ii. Scheduled for Bug Fest on 9/23/2023.
- iii. At last regional meeting, focus was on upcoming grants, removing invasives and planting natives.
- iv. Currently working on getting free soil tests out. Erica is working on a flyer to promote this program.
- v. Working on a logo for SWEET and have spoken with Adam to discuss SWEET name recognition efforts.
- vi. Planning on tabling for Pedens Farm Childrens Festival.

- f. Monroe County Highway Stormwater Program (Adam Rickert)
 - i. Adam shared draft idea for SWEET logo to help provide name recognition amongst the public. Trohn mentioned his previous experience with creating logos: creating a border with the logos to ensure the text is readable. Trohn suggested creating more of a flyer for the SWEET meeting minutes as opposed to a newsletter. The flyer would have links to SWEET related events and QR codes. Other ideas discussed including developing stickers and other promotional items featuring SWEET.
- g. Monroe County Surveyors Office (Trohn Enright-Randolph)
 - i. Trohn discussed updating the Stormwater Management ordinance, links were provided in chat messages as:
https://www.co.monroe.in.us/egov/documents/1669831347_72535.pdf
Link to DRAFT Stormwater Technical Standards Manual (August 2022):
https://www.co.monroe.in.us/egov/documents/1669831403_93922.pdf
 - ii. Trohn recently attended Drainage School and had a few takeaways:
House Bill 1639 (Watershed Commission) panel discussion included White River Alliance, representatives of District 11, Big Blue River Conservancy District and Wells County Surveyors Office. Discussion included developing funding mechanisms for watershed protection.
 - iii. Next Monroe County Stormwater Management Board will be during INAFSM conference. Trohn will be co-hosting a booth at INAFSM with the Indiana Geographic Information Council.
 - iv. Trohn discussed the benefits of the new office area of the Surveyors Office in the Showers Building.
 - v. Trohn mentioned the Bean Blossom Watershed plan and asked about updates.
 - vi. Kriste mentioned she is attending a **Pond Management Workshop** hosted by the Brown County SWCD, scheduled for 9/27. Kriste also mentioned that the White River Alliance has an excellent online training course for ponds within subdivisions.
 - vii. Trohn shared an article about Michael Dorsett's recent efforts at IU:
<https://news.iu.edu/live/news/31863-protecting-bodies-of-water-on-campus-and-elsewhere-t>

4. Public Input

- a. No public input during meeting.

6. Adjournment

- b. Date of Next Meeting: Monday October 9, 2023 at 10:30am, HYBRID
 - i. Zoom links will be sent. In-person will be held in room 100B.