



Black River Advisory Committee

Facilitating Organization: **LoCo 'Yaks**

138 Alabama Avenue

(Mailing Address: 331 Missouri Ave.)

Lorain, OH 44052

(419) 239-3779

Minutes

QUARTERLY MEETING

Monday, January 29, 2019, 1:00 PM

Brew & Stew | 630 Broadway Ave., Lorain OH 44052

Don Romancak* Chair	Lorain County
Tom Brown* Vice-Chair	Lorain Port & Finance Authority
Bryan Goldthorpe*	LCMP
Jennifer Scott-Wasilk*	Sandstone EHS Services, LLC
Julie Mackey	OSU Extension
Jill Lis*	Lorain County Public Health
Chip Wendt	Coldwater Consulting
Kristen Risch	Coldwater Consulting
Lyn Ickes	LCCDD
Lynn Garrity	Ohio Lake Erie Commission
Erika Fabbro*	Backpackers Shop
Matt Nahorn*	Beaver Creek Watershed/ New Indian Ridge Museum
Steve Holland	ODNR
Duane Cribley	Lorain County Public Health
John Sabo	Lorain County Public Health
Max Schaefer	OEC
Christin Brandon	LCCDD
Rick Payerchin	The Morning Journal
Stephane Moore Koscho	LoCo 'Yaks/ Facilitating Org.
Robb Koscho	LoCo 'Yaks/ Facilitating Org.
*Voting Member/ Proxy	

- ❖ Meeting called to order by Don Romancak at 1:03PM.
- ❖ Fiscal updates reported by Stephane:
 - FY2018 support grant – \$24,972.73 spent to date
 - \$500 for keynote speaker
 - \$400 for venue
 - \$3,000 advertising, brochures, fact sheets, invitations, displays, etc.
- ❖ Motion to approve 10/22/2018 minutes as posted by Bryan. 2nd by Julie. All in favor. Motion passes.
- ❖ Lower Black River Restoration Grant Project Updates
 - Kristen Risch – Rec site was bid on last Thursday. Engineer's estimate = \$6.7 million. Project purpose is to cover and cap all the slag – grading slopes, seeding, controlling erosion, pulling slag from stream channel. Will improve BUIs because the rain runoff is being diverted and filtered with a wetland seed mix with bluegrass for quick coverage. 75% native, heavy on the seeding along with trees and shrubs. Will only cover about half the site, but will be visible to the public from River Road
 - Kristen Risch – Seep system will be getting improvements when warmer weather arrives



Black River Advisory Committee

Facilitating Organization: **LoCo 'Yaks**

138 Alabama Avenue

(Mailing Address: 331 Missouri Ave.)

Lorain, OH 44052

(419) 239-3779

- Kristen Risch – Lakeview modeling – wind and wave issues have finally been resolved – software glitch; list of possible solutions per source; will study impactful effects; February – meeting to discuss answers with stakeholders/ LCPH; report will be ready by the end of July; Kate submitted a short application for funding for “municipality issues” i.e. bacteria from outfalls.
- Kristen Risch – need to look into whether there will be enough or too much material for the dredge facility; RFQ for Operations Manager is ready to go; looking for an entity to run/ manage/ operate for the City (similar to what they do in CLE); facility mixes and sells dredgings; biggest concern is managing all the material as it comes in; Tom B. – maybe reach out to Stein for extra property; Don – that was discussed in 2004 with Timko & Stein but nothing happened.
- Kristen Isom – Is there any data relating to the fish shelves yet? Kristen Risch – Midwest Biodiversity preliminary reports are complete – all numbers went up; another round of studies this summer will produce even better numbers because as time goes on, there is less steel and more natural plant growth inviting more life and species to make this home; biodiversity increased from 6 to 16 species documented; report will be shared after edits are complete.
- Kristen Risch & Kate went to a meeting in Ashtabula. Learned about a bedload interceptor – a device that sits at the bottom of the river continuously collecting stones, etc. to reduce the volume in the area to be dredged. It was a very long discussion about something that may or may not happen in the distant future.
- ❖ Overview of the BUIs and OH-AOC work plan – Lynn Garrity
 - Lynn thanked the committee for being the committee and doing what we do.
 - Due to Chad Ferguson’s sudden departure, there is no replacement yet. In the meantime, Lynn is the go-to for all things workplan-related. LY will continue working with Cherie for the support grant.
 - Lynn’s priority with BR is to have MAPs complete by end of September. Then coordinate a “MAP Complete / BUI removal is next” meeting/ celebration.
 - TetraTech compilation is almost complete for BUI 11. Finishing data summary. Documentation is looking like the aesthetics of the Black River is very comparable to other non-AOC rivers of similar size and use. Expecting to see a draft document this summer.
 - BUI 8 Dredging – just in beginning stages of assembling information. Will take the majority of the year and can be discussed more in the fall.
- ❖ Old Business
 - Lyn Ickes – Fortune Ditch project went out to bid and has been awarded. No start date. Lyn & Don need to schedule a call.
 - Invasives work will be partnering with US Fish & Wildlife.
 - Don – Waiting on confirmation extending Phase III into 2020.
- ❖ New Business
 - Chad Ferguson
 - Port Authority’s application for EPA Brownfield Assessment funding



Black River Advisory Committee

Facilitating Organization: **LoCo 'Yaks**

138 Alabama Avenue

(Mailing Address: 331 Missouri Ave.)

Lorain, OH 44052

(419) 239-3779

- Port Authority – Working on an assessment grant to help facilitate the redevelopment of the Brownfields. Phase I is property assessments which will establish a baseline and give protection if needed. This grant would allow Phase II assessments which are more intrusive surveys with soil samples to determine the depth of any contamination.
- Port would like BRAC as partner on app.
- BR Summit
 - Trying to confirm Thursday, March 21 at the Palace.
 - Do we know when streetscape is scheduled to begin construction? – check with Kate if necessary.
 - Backup location options to consider: LCCC Spitzer, Antlers, Henry's Barn, Whitehall in Grafton.
 - Format – doors open/ lunch begins at 11:30; summit begins around 12:30; intermission at 2:30; wrap up around 4:00.
 - Lunch – soup bar with crackers, toppings, bread, etc.
 - What do we want to display?
 - VR headsets
 - Keystone & Amherst projects
 - Maps? – Coldwater will work on
 - Brochures? – Coldwater
 - Do we want to invite anyone else to display/ have table? – ODNR Coastal Mgmt, Steve Holland; Clean Marinas
 - Other Summit issues/ details/ concerns
 - Should include the following among speakers: Streetscape presentation, BUIs and how are addressing them the same as other AOCs, increase in recreation, updates on AOCs in general. Should have photos rolling during lunch.
 - Possible speakers: Radhika Reddy, keynote?; Farm Bureau; Port; LCMP
 - Check with Kate about being in March utility bill.
 - Chris Korleski, Director, GLNPO – Kristen Isom will begin discussing with him; possible ½ hr. presentation.
 - Need to confirm keynote ASAP.
- 2019 AOC Conference – in the CLE this fall
 - GLAOC Conference planning updates. – Lynn Garrity
 - Lake Erie Commission is co-hosting with USEPA.
 - September 11 & 12, with optional site tour 10th
 - Tentative location: Windows on the River (delayed due to shutdown)
 - BRAC is wondering about an optional “conference adjacent” BR tour afterwards – suggested we come back to this later.
 - Jane Goodman reached out about our involvement – will discuss further at next 2 meetings.



Black River Advisory Committee

Facilitating Organization: **LoCo 'Yaks**

138 Alabama Avenue

(Mailing Address: 331 Missouri Ave.)

Lorain, OH 44052

(419) 239-3779

- We can use displays from BR Summit.
- 2019 Quarterly Meeting dates – Tuesday, April 23, 2019; Monday, July 22, 2019 with river boat tours; Monday, October 21, 2019; Monday, January 6, 2020.
- ❖ Announcements
 - BRCU 19 – May 4 & 5, 2019
 - Paddle & Pedal Fest is now Sunset Beach Fest – evening event in August
 - Vermilion River Watershed open house event with a live wildlife exhibit from Back To The Wild.
 - Kayak-A-Thon is the 4th weekend in June - 6/29/2019
- ❖ Motion to adjourn at 2:41PM by Tom Brown; 2nd by Max Schaefer; All in favor; Meeting adjourned.