



**Black River Advisory Committee**  
Lorain County Conservation District - Facilitating Organization  
blackriveraoc@gmail.com  
440.326.5800

**BRAC QUARTERLY MEETING** | Tuesday, February 6th, 2024 @ 2:00 PM

**Location:** Lorain County Public Health Building, 9880 Murray Ridge Rd., Elyria, OH 44035

**To join via Zoom:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/3316376366?omn=89097495328> | Meeting ID: 331 637 6366

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## *Agenda*

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*Note: text in [blue](#) are hyperlinks for more information*

❖ **Call to Order / Welcome & Introductions**

- ❖ **Fiscal Report:** Q3 report submitted 1/29/24. Reimbursement of \$3944.21 requested.  
Balance remaining: \$37,800.00 - 8092.08 = **\$29,707.84**

- **Spend down grant money: IDEAS NEEDED FROM COMMITTEE**

❖ **Old Business**

- Minutes from November
  - Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_

❖ **New Business**

- [Grant: F24AS00062 National Fish Passage Program Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Restoring River, Floodplain, and Coastal Connectivity and Resiliency](#)
- AOC/Community Field Day/Work Day?
  - Partner with [Lorain County Beautiful](#), Saturday, May 18, 2024?
  - Just AOC members or recruit volunteers?
- [Great Lakes Commission Semiannual Meeting - March 2024](#)
- Lorain County Stormwater Management District: conservation projects update

❖ **Black River Watershed Project Updates**

- County updates:

November 2023: Chagrin River Watershed Partners, Inc., is writing NPS-IS plans and providing technical assistance for project development for the Black River Watershed HUC 12, Lower West Branch Black River HUC 12, and Jackson Ditch East Branch Black River HUC 12. They plan to include these 3 Black River HUC-12s in their 319 application for NPS-IS writing and technical assistance.

  - Email Keely Davidson Bennett ([kdavidson-bennett@crwp.org](mailto:kdavidson-bennett@crwp.org)), Kim Brewster Shefelton ([kbrewster@crwp.org](mailto:kbrewster@crwp.org)), or Heather Elmer ([helmer@crwp.org](mailto:helmer@crwp.org)) with any questions or call 440.975.3870 ext. 1003
- City/Township updates:



*Agenda, cont'd*

❖ **Ohio AOC Program Updates & Announcements**

- [BUI 4 removal OFFICIAL](#)
- Up next: BUI 10 - Beach closings
- DEI/EJ matrix of Ohio AOC activities available upon request
- [Ohio AOC Program Highlights 2022-23](#)
- Updated documents:
  - [Delisting Guidance and Restoration Targets for Ohio Areas of Concern](#)
  - [A Framework for Implementing Ohio's Area of Concern Program - Federal AOC Program Updates & Announcements](#)

❖ **Announcements | Other Business**

- EPA requesting End of Year Reports for 2022 & 2023
- Education & Outreach
  - Planned activities? Accomplishments to highlight?
- [17th Annual Ohio Stormwater Conference](#): May 8-10 at Kalahari in Sandusky. Registration opening in late February. Will keep committee updated.
  - If you have any questions, please contact Harry Stark at [harry@tinkerscreek.org](mailto:harry@tinkerscreek.org)

❖ **Adjournment until May 2024**

Quarterly breakdown of expenses for LORSWCD - FDERIE22 grant

Q1		6/30/2023						
Staff	Hours	Salary rate	Fringe rate	Salary total	Fringe total	TOTAL	Other Expenses:	
Patti	34.75	\$ 30.00	\$ 5.24	\$ 1,042.50	\$ 182.09	\$ 1,224.59		
Lynne	2.5	\$ 19.25	\$ 3.37	\$ 48.13	\$ 8.43	\$ 56.55		
	<b>37.25</b>			<b>\$ 1,090.63</b>	<b>\$ 190.52</b>	<b>\$ 1,281.14</b>		
						<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>\$ 1,281.14</b>	
Q2		Due: 9/30/2023						
Staff	Hours	Salary rate	Fringe rate	Salary total	Fringe total	TOTAL	Other Expenses: GLAOC Conference	
Patti	47.75	\$ 30.00	\$ 5.24	\$ 1,432.50	\$ 250.21	\$ 1,682.71	Flight: \$ 770.23	
Lynne	4.5	\$ 19.25	\$ 3.37	\$ 86.63	\$ 15.17	\$ 101.79	Conference Registration: \$ 116.00	
	<b>52.25</b>			<b>\$ 1,519.13</b>	<b>\$ 265.38</b>	<b>\$ 1,784.50</b>	Hotel: \$ 196.00	
Other Expenses (Column H):						<b>\$ 1,082.23</b>	<b>\$1,082.23</b>	
						<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>\$ 2,866.73</b>	
Q3		Due: 12/31/2023						
Staff	Hours	Salary rate	Fringe rate	Salary total	Fringe total	TOTAL	Other Expenses: Emerge, Inc (website transfer)	
Patti	85.25	\$ 30.00	\$ 5.24	\$ 2,557.50	\$ 446.71	\$ 3,004.21	940.00	
Lynne	0	\$ 21.00	\$ 3.37	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
	<b>85.25</b>			<b>\$ 2,557.50</b>	<b>\$ 446.71</b>	<b>\$ 3,004.21</b>		
						<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>\$ 3,944.21</b>	
Q4		Due: 3/31/2024						
Staff	Hours	Salary rate	Fringe rate	Salary total	Fringe total	TOTAL	Other Expenses: Emerge, Inc (website transfer)	
Patti		\$ 30.00	\$ 5.24	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Lynne		\$ 23.00	\$ 3.37	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
	<b>0</b>			<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>		
						<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	

# Semi-Annual Technical Report

## Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District

### Black River AOC Facilitation Services

LORSWCD-FDERIE22

Project Reporting Period: 10/1/2023 to 12/31/2023

	Target #	Units	# Complete	% Complete
AOC Coordination, Support and Communication Activities	General secretarial services to AOC Advisory Committee	Ongoing	---	
	Coordinate Scheduling of AOC Advisory Committee Meetings	4	Meetings	3 75.00%
	Create/post minutes from AOC Advisory Committee Meetings	4	Minutes Posted	2 50.00%
	Provide progress and fiscal update to AOC advisory Committee	4	Updates	3 75.00%
	Assist with BUI removal/delisting process	1	Documents	2 200.00%
	Assist with developing/maintaining Management Action Project list	Ongoing	---	
	Assist AOC specific project mgmt teams, sub-committees, or workgroups	2	Teams	2 100.00%
	Provide grant writing assistance to implementers for AOC non-MAPs	1	Assists	0 0.00%
	Assist with the preparation of AOC - specific Habitat Restoration Plans	1	Plans	0 0.00%
	Provide mapping and other GIS related assistance to AOC Implementers	1	Maps	0 0.00%

Explanation for AOC Coordination, Support and Communication Deliverables: Review & post BUI #4 Removal document & press release; Work group at Margaret Peak Nature Preserve; Provide grant writing assistance to implementers for AOC non-MAPs = n/a

	Target #	Units	# Complete	% Complete
Grants Administration and Management	Maintain separate account and grant financial accounting system	Ongoing		
	Maintain an AOC Facilitating Organization Time Code & Tracking System	Ongoing		
	Prepare and submit an AOC specific annual report	1	Report	0 0.00%
	Submit semi-annual progress report	1	Report	1 100.00%
	Submit quarterly Fiscal Reports	4	Reports	3 75.00%
	Submit final fiscal and progress reports at grant closing	1	Reports	0 0.00%

Explanation for Grants Administration & Management Deliverables: This document constitutes first semi-annual report

	Target #	Units	# Complete	% Complete
Public Involvement and Engagement	Coordinate public meetings	2	Meetings	3 150.00%
	Enlist additional AOC advisory committee as needed	5	Members	5 100.00%
	Assist Ohio EPA with BUI removal public meeting/public comment period	1	Meetings	1 100.00%

Explanation for Public Involvement and Engagement Deliverables: Organized a work day at Margaret Peak Nature Preserve (MPNP) prior to LoCoBROH rollout public event; Co-led interpretive walk at MPNP; Shared news articles for BUI delisting process; Reviewed & published BUI 4 Removal Report on social media pages - Black River AOC, Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District (LSWCD), NatureFind Cleveland

	Target #	Units	# Complete	% Complete
AOC Specific Education, Outreach and Information Management Activities	1. Establish/maintain an AOC specific website	12	Updates	8 66.67%
	2. Establish/maintain an AOC specific facebook page/ other social media	24	Updates	39 162.50%
	3. Create/post short AOC specific videos on social media	2	Videos	2 100.00%
	4. Create/distribute AOC specific print newsletter/e-newsletter	3	Newsletters	0 0.00%
	5. Develop/distribute AOC specific press release	2	Press Releases	3 150.00%
	6. Develop/distribute AOC specific brochure or fact sheet	1	Brochure	0 0.00%
	7. Develop/distribute management action project brochure or fact sheet	1	Brochure	0 0.00%
	8. Use exhibit/display regarding AOC program at festivals/events	3	Events	2 66.67%
	9. Present regarding AOC specific issues at webinar, workshop, conference	2	Events	0 0.00%
	10. Attend AOC program related webinar, workshop, conference	3	Events	4 133.33%
	11. Conduct AOC specific workshop, conference, symposium, summit	1	Workshop	1 100.00%
	12. Conduct AOC specific management action project site visit/field day	2	Events	2 100.00%
	13. Conduct boat, bus and/or walking tour for public, officials or other audience	1.2	Events	1 50.00% - 100.00%
	14. Conduct AOC - specific management action project site visit/field day	1.2	Events	1 50.00% - 100.00%

Explanation for AOC Specific Education, Outreach and Information Management Deliverables: #5: Distributed press release for BUI 4 Removal document on social media pages; #8: Educational banner set up for Lorain County Community College spring event, April 26, 2023; #10: Ohio Stormwater Conference May 11-12, 2023; Maumee AOC Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) May 25, 2023; Cuyahoga AOC BUI #4 Removal Public Comment meeting June 8, 2023

At a minimum please provide the items referenced under photographs, publications, and outreach & education; if the project is not at a stage where these items are available, please specify "not applicable". Use of the "other" category is optional.

**Photographs:** Please provide project site photos (electronic format preferred) showing before, during, and after implementation details; label photos with project site and locational information and provide a caption identifying what is illustrated.

List Photographs provided here:

**Publications:** Please provide copies (electronic format preferred) of all project publications and/or products completed during this reporting period; examples include fact sheets, brochures, videos, project specific assessment report, MAPs, website pages, workshop and field day announcements and training materials, etc.

List Publications provided here: Not applicable. None created during this reporting period.

**Outreach & Education (use the space below to provide this information):** Had old Black River banners on display at LCCC Earth Day event. Discussed what an AOC is and steps taken toward delisting with LCCC visitors, staff, & students. Newer AOC signage on display all during Fair Week 2023. We engaged hundreds of visitors & educated them about AOC-specific issues & steps they can take at home to lessen their impacts on our watersheds.

Please identify audiences targeted during this reporting period (general public, project stakeholders, technical experts, particular stakeholder group, e.g. farmers, park users, etc.); type of outreach (meeting, field day, mailing, river festival, canoe float, project site tour, volunteer implementation such as monitoring, tree planting, bank stabilization, etc.) and results of outreach (number of participants, summary of evaluation comments received, number of new volunteers, newspaper/TV coverage, etc.)

**Education and Outreach: 4/26/2023 - LCCC Earth Day event: AUDIENCE: LCCC students & family members, LCCC staff, general public**  
**TYPE: Tableting event RESULTS: Total Participants: 57 (Adults: 54 / Children: 3); Lorain County Fair: Did not count total number of visitors into the Soil & Water barn, but over the course of the week, we spoke to hundreds of people.**

**Other (optional; use the space below to provide this information)**

Please share any noteworthy project accomplishments and/or project challenges during this reporting period; project accomplishment examples include chemical, physical, or biological water quality improvements; special designation or recognition of the project site or project partners; overwhelming public response to outreach & education; or anything else you'd like to share with us; project challenge examples include unexpected delays due to unforeseen site conditions, weather, landowner, and/or sub-contractual issues, or anything else you'd like to share with us.

**Other:**

Report Preparer (print): Patricia A. Donnellan Signature:  Date: 1/29/2024 Phone Number: (440) 406-3365

By signing this report, I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report is true, complete, and accurate, and the expenditures and disbursements are for the purposes and objectives set forth in the terms and conditions of this grant award.