

## **Euclid Creek Watershed Draft Council Minutes**

Thursday, April 15, 2021  
Hosted Virtually on Zoom

In Attendance: Chris Vild (Chair), Mayor Roche (Vice Chair), Brian Belfiore, Andy Blackley, Mary K. Evans, Jeff Filarski, Anthony Fioritto, Jennifer Heard, Meg Hennessey, Elizabeth Hiser, Mayor Holzheimer Gail, Doug Metzung, Jan Rybka, Scott Sipos, Sarah Stangelo, Laura Travers, Mayor Ward

Voting Members: Andy Blackley, Brian Belfiore, Mayor Holzheimer Gail, Jennifer Heard, Doug Metzung, Mayor Roche, Chris Vild, Mayor Ward

The Watershed Program Manager welcomed everyone and provided instructions for how to use the Zoom platform, votes were placed using the reactions yes and no tool. The meeting was recorded.

Before the official meeting, an icebreaker activity with introductions and most successful community watershed or stormwater projects was held.

After introductions Chair Vild called for a movement to call the meeting to order. Moved, Mayor Roche, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Mayor Gail – All approved

The chair reviewed and proposed the use of a consent agenda for remote meetings to streamline the routine, procedural, informational and self-explanatory non-controversial items on the agenda. All consent agenda items were presented to council in a single motion for an up or down vote after allowing anyone to request that a specific item be moved to the full agenda for individual attention. Other items, particularly those requiring strategic thought, decision making or action, are handled as usual.

The chair proposed the use of one motion and vote for the following items during the meeting: Approval of the October 2020 Minutes, Chair Nomination, Vice Chair Nomination, Approval of the 2020 Work Plan End of Year Summary, 2021 Work Plan & PIPE Work Plan, and 2021 Work Plan Updates

Chair Vild requested nominations for the 2021 Chair. Mayor Roche nominated Chris Vild. No other nominations were given. Mayor Roche moved to close nominations, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mayor Gail.

Chair Vild requested nominations for the 2021 Vice Chair. Chair Vild nominated Mayor Roche, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mayor Gail. No other nominations were given. Mayor Gail motion to close nominations, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mayor Roche.

Chair Vild called for discussion. No discussion was requested.

Chair Vild called for the vote on the consent agenda. All approved

Chair Chris Vild introduced the next item, Euclid Creek Watershed Program Updates

Ms. Hiser went over program highlights starting with thanking council for renewing the Euclid Creek Watershed MOU for 2021-24.

Hiser - This years work plan is mostly a continuation of last year with the usual watershed partner coordination and outreach, site inspections, conservation site volunteer maintenance, NEORS D watershed grant work, and volunteer monitoring program, though we have several new projects we are coordinating on with council communities.

We have applied for construction funding for the Mayfield Campus Phase 1 project and are anticipating award announcements by the end of April. If awarded our hopes would be to have construction this winter.

The USFS GLRI Tree planting project has started which will involve riparian reforestation efforts in Mayfield Village, Richmond Heights, and Lyndhurst. CRWP and SWCD will support coordination between consultants and community.

We are working with our CLEB partners on a 319 grant that includes a Basin Retrofit Screening tool as well as several homeowner backyard streams workshops that offer bioengineering packets to streamside owners that take the trainings. SWCD is serving on the advisory committee for the basin retrofit screening tool project and leading the backyard streams workshop. There is one tonight.

South Euclid is doing a pilot stormwater control measure incentive program. SWCD staff will help with sites visits and application review.

Highland Heights is conducting a connectivity study around Highland Heights Community Park. SWCD will help with public input and WCC will help with grant writing effort based on that input.

The Mayfield Sand Ridge -Lyndhurst restoration 90% design is complete, Enviroscience is finalizing 3 separate bid packages for each phase as well as working on a license agreement and environmental covenant and finalizing draft permit applications.

The Ohio EPA 319 grant for phase 1 looks promising if Federal partners decide it is ok to support a project on private property.

The USFS/GLRI Grant Kick off meeting was held spring 2021. Next up CRWP will work with partners on contracts and a consultant RFP.

The Euclid Creek PIPE Committee meeting was held March 22<sup>nd</sup>. It was recorded and a shortened version of our 2021 program options is available for viewing on demand. Most of our events for 2021 are scheduled, we will be reaching out to communities to finalize details on any tentative planned events.

For the past few years there has been a trend of concerns about trash and litter at our PIPE committee meetings. Stream cleanups will continue this year and we are now able to host large groups. We also will be working to incorporate data collection into our outreach and communication efforts to have better informed conversations with upstream partners about trash and its impacts to the watershed.

The next Master Rain Gardener Class starts the week of April 26<sup>th</sup>. Please promote to your residents. Rain Gardens are a great way to address residential runoff and meet your community's public involvement goals. Our program will be featured at the Ohio Stormwater Conference and we have received funding from OEEF to continue the program offerings into 2022.

We are working with our CLEB partners to host a few Setback implementation workshops this year to help communities make informed decisions when there are requests for variances on stream and wetland setbacks. The workshop will bring in local experts and provide decision making tools for those that have to implement setbacks.

The Phase 2 permit was made official April 1<sup>st</sup>. Changes will impact the services Cuyahoga SWCD provides to our stormwater communities. SWCD staff will coordinate with partners and the community's to update protocols as needed to ensure communities continue to remain compliant.

Many of the proposed changes are tied to TMDLs. This will have an impact on communities, especially those that have both Chagrin River and Euclid Creek watersheds.

Each minimum control measure has proposed new TMDL performance standards – these must be applied at a minimum within the target TMDL project watershed identified. The permit did back off some of the TMDL requirements and added a few more alternative options for some of the MCMS, but especially for IDDE, Construction, Post Construction, and Good Housekeeping, there are some added efforts asked of the MS4s. I am going to walk quickly through the changes from the proposed changes we went over in October.

Of note the new permit requires electronic submittal of all documents through the Ohio EPA eBusiness Center. The permit requires that all MS4s renewing coverage update their SWMP to be consistent with new requirements by April 1, 2022.

Ms. Hiser reviewed changes made to the draft permit and how they impact MCM 1-6.

Heard – Will you be able to provide these slides after the meeting?

Hiser – Yes I can provide these slides after the meeting as well as a link to a recent John Mathews interview about the new permit and fact sheet that summarizes the changes.

Vild announced the next agenda topic: Additional Business from Watershed Council members

Vild – I want to echo sentiments expressed earlier thanking Doug Metzger for being a great member of the group and wish him well in his retirement. I'd like to welcome Scott into the group.

Hennessey – Friends of Euclid creek has a new website: [www.friendsofeuclidcreek.com](http://www.friendsofeuclidcreek.com). I would encourage you to check and promote their events. Roy Larick will be presenting virtually next Tuesday on using mobile applications to plan for stormwater control measures. Additional events are available on the website.

Mayor Gail – Euclid is hosting The Big Clean on April 24<sup>th</sup>.

Vild – The next agenda item is to schedule the next meeting. Does Thursday mornings 8-9 am work for the group? We will need to schedule a meeting for July or August. The Mayors are likely the busiest so if we can receive input from them on their preference that would be best.

Hiser – I am happy to provide a doodle poll to schedule the next meeting.

Mr. Vild asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Moved: Mayor Gail, seconded Mayor Roche

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes compiled by Elizabeth Hiser, Watershed Program Manager

Reference:

Watershed Council Meeting was recorded and video is available for viewing at this link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/7905605566366341891>