

**Western Lake Erie Basin (WLEB) Partnership  
Leadership Group Development Meeting Minutes  
Oregon, Ohio  
Draft January 10, 2006**

**In attendance:**

Facilitator

Arleen Kreuzsch, Outreach Specialist, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District

Partners

Terry Cosby, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Ohio State Conservationist

LTC Touchette, Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Buffalo District

Paul Thomas, Watershed Coordinator, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency

Mary Knapp, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Stephen Shine, Representing Governor of Michigan/Michigan Department of Agriculture

Jim Morris, Ohio Water Science Center Coordinator, U.S. Geological Survey

Gary Weck, Great Lakes Committee, National Association of Conservation Districts

John Kessler, Admin, Division of Soil & Water Conservation, Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Larry Antosch, Ohio State Technical Committee/Ohio Farm Bureau

Larry Clemens, Indiana State Technical Committee/The Nature Conservancy

David Hanselmann, Representing Governor of Ohio/ Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Bill Garber, Representing Maumee River Basin Partnership of Local Governments/City of Toledo

Jim Lake, Representing Governor of Indiana/Indiana Department of Agriculture

Jack Bricker, Michigan State Technical Committee, NRCS, Michigan State Conservationist

Elected representatives and municipality representatives

Hon. Marcy Kaptur, Congressional Representative

Bob Armstrong, Mayor, City of Defiance

Roger Szemraj, Rep. Kaptur, DC Office

Lindsay Potts, Rep. Kaptur, Toledo Office

Barbara Barber, Rep. Gillmor

Marge Brown, Mayor, City of Oregon

Bob Stevenson, Director, Public Works, City of Toledo

Other attendees

Shannon Zezula, U. S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS

Norman Grannemann, Great Lakes Coordinator, NRCS

Steve Davis, Maumee Basin Project Leader, NRCS, Ohio

Chris Coulon, Public Affairs Specialist, NRCS, Ohio

Doug Zehner, Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations, NRCS, Ohio

John Wilson, Ohio Area 1 Manager, NRCS

Lori Gates, Maumee River Basin Partnership of Local Governments

Jack Rintoul, Deputy Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District

Anthony Friona, Western Lake Erie Basin Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,  
Buffalo District  
Craig Forget, Western Lake Erie Basin Program Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo  
District  
Christine Brayman, Chief, Planning, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District  
Gary O’Keefe, Chief, Planning, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District  
Karl Gebhardt, Teater-Gebhardt & Assoc. – Environmental Defense  
DavidHines, NRCS, Ft. Wayne  
Rick Ellsmore, NRCS, Columbus  
Alan Herceg, NRCS, East Lansing  
David Liu, University of Toledo – Department of Geography and Planning  
Jeff Leonard, City of Defiance  
Jeff Stone, City of Defiance  
Matt Reese, Ohio Country Journal  
Sandy Bihn  
Carol Stepian, Director, Lake Erie Center

## **INTRODUCTIONS AND OVERVIEW OF THE DAY’S AGENDA**

Marge Brown, Mayor of the City of Oregon, welcomed the partners to her city and indicated that Lake Erie is a wonderful resource and needs to be protected.

**Minutes** - Edited (J. Lake’s statement), Reviewed and Accepted 7 November 2005 Minutes as amended. The Executive Committee agreed to have minutes posted to the Partnership website once they are approved.

**Mission and Principles** – It was explained that the draft Mission Statement and Principles were compiled as a result of the work done by the Executive Committee in a breakout session at their first meeting. The Operational Committee met by teleconference to discuss the mission and principles and the adjustments made were described during the review.

**Mission Statement** - Approved Mission Statement as distributed at meeting and via email.

### **Operating Principles**

- Explained that the Operational Committee worked on the Principles and changes made by the Operational Committee from original draft compiled from their breakout session.

- Walked through distributed Operating Principles (same as distributed via email)

**Principle 1:** No comments

### **Principle 2:**

J. Lake commented on “watershed groups” can be very broad and that we all need to understand that. L. Clemens discussed the importance of “science based” decisions as we all talked about it. LTC Touchette reinforced that it was a theme of several groups at the November meeting.

**Principle 3:** Operational Committee added “adaptive management”. Leadership Committee agreed to add “science based” here instead of in Principle 2.

**Principle 4:** Is about transparency and outreach. David Hanselmann raised a concern about “speaking with one voice”. Bill Garber said we can each speak for own agency in that capacity but this is about the Partnership coming to consensus and then agreeing that the Partnership speaks with one voice once a decision is made. LTC Touchette talked about nesting organizational goals under the Partnership. LTC stated that the one voice is the Partnership voice, not trumping any organizational voice. It should take structure when the Outreach Committee is developed.

**Principle 5:** Operational Committee added “public and private” and changed “leverage” to “coordinate”. J. Lake commented this is very broad and encompassing. Terry Cosby said that this is one of the things we need to talk about. The concern was that “Environmental Goals” are very broad too. Are we just about “land and water” or other goals like air? Terry Cosby stated that we need to make recommendations about how the subcommittees will look. LTC Touchette asked if the Operational Committee should chew on #5 more. J. Lake stated that if he was the only one with concerns, he didn’t need to have it changed. Mayor Armstrong commented that the three states need to make area as competitive as possible in a global market.

Facilitator Kreuzsch asked what the Leadership Group wanted to do. Did anyone want to send it back to the Operational Committee or accept as they are with the minor changes made? David Hanselmann said to accept as is. A Kreuzsch asked if anyone in the group disagreed with the Principles as is and no one stated any objections.

### **Organizational Structure**

Organizational Structure – Operational Committee asked to have “groups” changed to “committee” and “resources” changed to “funding” not to be confused with natural resources, human resources, etc. The issue was raised about the need move on to populate the sub-committees and who might be on these sub-committees. Terry asked Tony and Steve’s (Operational Committee) opinion on who. Tony suggested that the sub-committees could be populated with interested parties especially more municipalities in the basin and other non-government organizations and stakeholders like Great Lakes Commission. Terry stated the Operational Committee should try to populate these and come up with principles for operating the sub-committees.

David Hanselmann asked about the need for project goals. Larry Antosch – Project Committee identifies what we want to accomplish and the role and responsibilities of each committee and we need to keep sub-committees as flexible as possible. If the structure is fine, then the next step is to define the sub-committee role and then populate them.

LTC – If we agree the structure is okay, then the Operational Committee needs to define sub-committee roles and responsibilities and bring them back to the Leadership Committee. Do you all agree with Mr. Cosby and I on this? Is there anyone who can’t live with the proposed structure and tasking out to the Operational Committee. No one objected.

### **Statement by Representative Kaptur**

If you ask Americans to do anything, they can particularly with the leadership of LTC and Terry Cosby. Impressed with the work already, the inclusiveness and trying to be broad. I'm very impressed and I want to thank you. With respect to USACE and NRCS there aren't too many places in America where this has been done especially given the size of the watershed and LTC and Terry were nervous about this. Our efforts are bi-partisan and tri-state (mentioned Gillmor and Souder)

We need to understand the water resource as an asset itself. I brought pictures of the bowl they call Toledo, of recent flooding and where we are not doing the best job we can in water management. This group needs to think big but also on a community by community basis. When we passed the legislation the legislative intent was – if we put a wall around the edges of the watershed, what do we have? Yes, Lake Erie, but also rivers, wells, rainfall – how do we better describe what we have in our watershed – what do we have and how do we explain it to the public? Talk about flow. Why does Toledo have problems still? What can we do block by block, community by community. How do we avoid spending 100s thousands and millions on giant retention reservoirs? How do we protect our asset in the global sense? If I gave a talk about agriculture in our watershed I could tell you what we produce, where, how it affects global market, etc. I couldn't do this on water. We need to do this to help the local decision makers who don't have enough staff to do this.

Attach legislative intent from bills (USACE, NRCS) to your organizational principles.

Do we have time series Landstat data where we can show the public? For teachers to use in schools? How much water is there? What is the flow? What is the living dynamic? I've never seen a presentation for public understanding. We hear about lake levels but not river flows. I was talking to Rep. Souder and he said that the same thing about Ft. Wayne. All the representatives think we are not spending the money the best way but we need data not anecdotal. The way that you put the data together – any water problem within the basin – put it on the map – press release and report on any problem. I want to give people a chance to talk about water problems. Maybe someone in here knows that, but I sure don't and it makes it hard to then make the best decisions. I want to ask for each member to make public service announcements and you give us an 800 # and we will gather data. Help the reps direct questions to the public. This would be extraordinarily useful. The neighborhood I live in floods all the time and they say it's because the storm sewers are not big enough, but maybe I should be directing funding to Mike Oxley's District on the Blanchard River to retain water there rather than build bigger sewers. Log complaints by congressional districts and show us how to solve it, give us a timeline, with achievable projects.

How much money has been devoted to this over the years? Roger – with 2006 – about \$6.5 M.

Maybe we need culverts, connections, instead of sewers...maybe there's something neighborhoods could do.

How would we phrase a call in question?

Take "oil" we can tell you lots about it. We can't do that for the water asset in this area, or even in a way that makes us more marketable. But we'll be able to at the end of this effort.

Are there any questions about what I said? Does this clarify?

Mayor Armstrong asked if Rep Kaptur could address the unfunded mandate of Combined Sewer Overflows? Rep Kaptur – Congress set mandates via Environmental Protection, but then didn't follow with the funding particularly where economic growth has not occurred. I know that in Harborview in Oregon we were able to bring some funding in to address this but it's not enough. Toledo has a huge it - \$455M – right next to the Lake with a population of 300,000+. We are taking care of the watershed's problem on the back of Toledo. Can we work with my colleagues in the watershed to come up with a better solution? All the people living along the Blanchard floodplain affect Toledo. Can we do something there? Reservoirs upstream? Fill quarries? I don't like the solutions of all the dirty water sitting under Toledo in a tunnel/reservoir. We need to collectively look at the federal funds in all the congressional districts and come up with a holistic solution rather than floundering around and put band-aid solutions on things.

Bob Stevenson – You are absolutely right. WE need to take a more holistic solution.

Rep. Kaptur – The water is coming from somewhere else. What do we do? We have two assets in this area that will save us or sink us – fresh water assets (+) and high costs of power (-). The second isn't this group's problem.

David Hanselmann asked – The Council of Great Lakes Governors had a Great Lakes initiative with increased funding. How do you see this group supporting that? I support, the governors do, (other representatives I'm not sure about), funding from Administration, but I'm not waiting on the Great Lakes regional collaboration for this watershed.

Rep. Kaptur - As a member of the Defense subcommittee, I'm trying to fight to recognize the Great Lakes as 4<sup>th</sup> sea coast. America needs to look at all of its coasts. The Seaway was purposely built too small to compete with the other coasts. In many ways, we've been disadvantaged and the region is losing clout in Congress so the region needs to fight together including the states.

Q – There was a question about establishing a trust fund for Combines Sewer Overflows and to fund water management projects similar to the highway trust fund. Representative Kaptur replied – This is not my committee, but give me info. Maybe that is a recommendation that could come from this group.

Please give any ideas about incentive recommendations coming from this group to me.

Karl Gebhardt – Asked for support of conservation efforts in upcoming Farm bill.

Representative Kaptur – I think of myself as a conservationist. I can vote for these things at a federal level but we need to bring it back home and implement it at a local level including in the city.

### **Project List - Craig Forget**

Craig showed a template spreadsheet just as an example and solicited input from Partners. Send info, including “budget level” estimates. Differentiate “wishes” from what we are already doing. Look for close, potentially duplicative efforts and work collaboratively to save resources and potentially use them elsewhere. Look for interdependences. The Project Committee will be working on keeping this up-to-date.

Courses -

Craig – Is working with University of Toledo on a dam removal course in early February and a May

Course – Stream restoration, rain gardens.

(FYI August Course in Cleveland area) ????

### **Very Brief Report on Rapid Assessments Stakeholder Mtg. and meetings with Soil and Water Conservation Districts in the basin - Steve Davis and David Hanselmann**

Steve Davis – NRCS has been working quite diligently in the Blanchard since the end of October. They are very pleased with the response from the first stakeholder meeting at all levels including local officials. Rapid Assessment process is two parts – data collection, then analysis. This one is taking longer because NRCS is building the procedures. We've found there is no shortage of data, rather it needs to be sorted out by relevancy then do analysis of potential solutions/treatments and corresponding costs. NRCS will move on to a second watershed in Ohio then moving into Indiana and Michigan particularly for data collection and get NRCS from those states engaged in the data collection as a means to start.

David Hanselmann – ODNR DSW has put together agreements with Soil and Water Conservation Districts in the watershed with outreach on conservation, soil tillage, scope of potential issues via outreach to landowners and farmers. We believe additional outreach will pay dividends. Soil and Water Conservation Districts will also be assisting with Rapid Assessments. Will ultimately help sediment and nutrients issues. Each Soil and Water Conservation Districts has a draft contract that they are reviewing locally and expect to sign in the next month or so. We expect most Soil and Water Conservation Districts to sign (in OH, IN and MI) in watershed.

### **Report on Responses for Potential Partnership Project Reviews – Steve Davis**

Steve presented a summary of Input Received for the comments on the potential partnership projects.. He shared submitted comments and averaged scoring. The lower the number, the higher it was ranked. For virtually all proposed items, half the group felt it was critical and the other half felt it was low priority. Comments by topic included:

Maumee Knowledge – Expert Consensus on 1) areas of agreements, 2) where we have data but need more analysis and 3) emerging issues where more data and *analysis* are both needed

Conservation Action Project (CAP) – Will be available to IN, MI

Water Budget – Rep. Kaptur reinforced need for this along with making understandable to the general public

Market Research – none

Digitized Wetland Layer - none

Top five were fairly wide supported and NRCS felt they should move forward. This is not for grants. This is a 50-50 cooperative agreement.

Tillage Conference – For the low cost, NRCS recommends moving forward with this.

Forestry Planting Assistance – Steve recommend we re-name and broaden this to include a total marketing program (not just a planting service) for tree plantings and riparian forest buffers because increased incentives for tree plantings that will be coming in the Lake Erie CREP revised project work plan. Rep. Kaptur asked a question about tree planting and sprigs in the spring –We can work with congressional reps to help mobilize the public. Toledo has highest population of trees for urban areas. They are worrying about ash border and removal of trees. This is a good project and need some guidance on how to get message to public. This is something to do soon.

Cultural Assessments – There are other ways to accomplish this.

Watershed Modeling - NRCS and USACE may have other national avenues to fund some of this. A future joint meeting is planned.

Tile drainage – Steve presented an idea to add a project in newly emerging technology which would include a demonstration project on the technique of controlled. This project could possibly involve working with USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and participating farmers to demonstrate the beneficial effects of controlling the outflow of tile water from drain tiles in the period when crops are not growing in the fields. This could involve a partnership which could leverage ARS and also private funds. Some joint meetings will be scheduled in the future to discuss this.

Representative Kaptur ask If the cities were managing rain water better could this solve the problem themselves?

Terry Cosby– I came from Idaho where there are large water right issues. Also there are 5 million acres in the watershed and control of this and constricted flow helps with flooding and helps create habitat for duck hunters.

Steve says two different sources of water causing flooding in Toledo– Part is Maumee river and other stream overflow which comes from the watershed. The other part is surface and ground water from rainwater that falls directly on the city and affected areas.– Steve is not sure of percentages and that's what we need to find out and how this affects the communities. Steve guessed it is something like 50-50 or 60-40, but we could hold all the water back in the Maumee and there would still be flooding in places in Toledo. Both problems need to be worked on.

In returning to the project list Steve asked consensus from the Leadership Committee on How/What to Proceed With – The group concurred on proceeding towards project agreements for the top 5 projects (Conservation Action Project (CAP), Maumee Research compendium, Water Availability Budgets, Market Research, and the Digitized Wetland Layer; as well as including the forestry marketing idea and the conservation tillage conference.

### **Carol Stepien presentation – University of Toledo Lake Erie Center**

Mission – Research, Communication and Outreach and Education

- Comparing Lake and Bay Conditions from the 1970s on
- Bioremediation
- Constructed wetlands – riparian and coastal
- Fishery Stock Assessment: Largest database in the world for walleye, ?, and ?
- Nonindigenous Species

For the first time, University of Toledo Lake Erie Center is offering 1 week courses for 3 credits this summer and hosts a monthly Open Lecture Series.

**Mrs. Terry Noto, Environmental Defense Organization via phone – Terry is with the Center for Conservation Initiatives (CCI)**

Terry explained that it is the intent of the Center for Conservation Initiatives to provide outreach, informational/educational assistance and also financial incentives in the watershed. This will help with working towards the Lake Erie project goals.

The CCI desire is to marry CREP and EQIP - want to start relatively modest project and then grow. CCI is hiring a farmer in watershed for outreach. They will also provide tree planting funding incentives (a CREP program bonus) available to groups of farmers who create a continuous riparian buffer. NRCS is working to develop a special EQIP project in the watershed to entice farmers to develop conservation plans. The CCI is working with NRCS on this. NRCS needs technical service providers in the watershed in order to implement their proposed NRCS Special EQIP Project and anticipates using cooperative agreements with local Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Steve Davis cautioned this is very preliminary and should not be publicized at this point, until final project details are worked out. David Hanselmann discussed that the funding for Lake Erie CREP has been cut in half by the state in recent years and are working on a revised proposal to capture the water quality benefits. (Attached are handouts on the Center for Conservation Incentives, NRCS Special EQIP Project )

**Kevin Czajkowski, Department of Geography and Planning, University of Toledo - GIS and Remote Sensing in Support of the Western Lake Erie Project – “What UT is Doing”**

University of Toledo has a contribution agreement with NRCS to assist with Rapid Assessment efforts. Kevin explained the work UT is doing within this agreement to support the project.

GIS and Remote Sensing is the foundation for the UT analysis and efforts including

- Digital Data Layers including Land Cover and Crop Rotation
- Combine state databases for OH, IN and MI to house GIS layers
- Establish accessible website to this data
- New techniques to determine crop residue
- Time Series Imagery free via “Ohio View”, but needed to purchase IN data and working with Purdue University for this

**Partnership Operating Procedures** led by Arleen Kreusch and asked of the Leadership Committee

Q1: What are the key points the Operating Committee should include in the operating procedures? Q2: How formal do you think our structure should be?

- What are the roles between the Leadership Committee, Operational Committee and Sub-Committees?
- Will we entertain expanding the Leadership Committee? The Operational Committee?
- Leadership Committee should not get bigger and should make decisions (LTC). Operating Committee and sub-committees need to conduct the staff work and develop recommendations. Operating Committee should draft a charter defining this.
- A project committee reports progress to operational committee and leadership committee
  - o Sow, schedule, connection to mission.
  - o Rank and prioritize projects.
- Funding Committee
  - o Reports to project committee, operational committee, and leadership committee, on a regular monthly/ quarterly basis.
- Project committee what projects are relevant and need tracking
  - o Filter
  - o People seek help to move project forward.
- Funding timeline source and district
- 
- Meetings every two months? Yes as long as the Operating Committee has enough to present to the Leadership Committee. Knapp – LTMS as a model: Operating Committee quarterly and Leadership 1-2x per year, but we are not there yet so we need to meet more until we are more established and then it could be less. Terry Cosby said that Leadership Committee will not set the agenda, that should come from the watershed up, Operating Committee
- Rotating it in the watershed? Yes! Cities in the watershed – MRBPLG to assist in this.
- Report out on projects throughout the watershed for all agencies. Rank unfunded projects. Research ways to fund these projects. (Much discussion about this and applicability to “projects”.)
- Are people going to be able to commit resources other than NRCS and USACE?
- R. Szemraj – Meeting in March? – with congressional delegates in DC and perhaps staff from the three states Governors’ offices. Maybe this would help solidify support in higher levels. Also commented on getting more local governments involved on a regular basis. Also, could you have “in state meetings” as a precursor to Basin Partnership meetings and bring more opinions from the state.
- (Defiance rep) Who are we targeting and who is voluntary? Terry – Maybe have a group of Mayors as a subset but as a group by itself.
- Membership of group depends on recommendations – ie local development zoning which must be done by locals – Who exactly needs to be involved may be premature now. Should we develop sub-watershed groups? Top down vs. bottoms-up?
- Create a vehicle for “problems/issues/opportunities” to be elevated. Task Force, etc? Don’t limit structure to four sub-committees.
- Need to balance representation/# of participants versus being so large the group is ineffective.
- Leadership Committee can “facilitate” efforts at the local level, even if we can’t do it all with representatives on the Leadership Committee.
- Interface between agriculture and urban may be the key to opportunities and this group can be the catalyst and facilitators, while keeping in mind we can’t be all things to all people.
- Need to be flexible as sources of funding, maybe multiple “sub-committees” under a heading like “Projects”.

- Roger stated we need to look at legislative history – NRCS \$ in broadest possible authority. Need positive contributions and recommendations from all parties. Where might there be opportunities where we tweak them – think broadly, innovatively. Where are there authority constraints? Leadership Committee should be giving this info while Operating Committee tells us what’s going on in the watershed.

Q3: What is important in the way the group chooses to make decisions?

- “Consensus” via majority agrees and everyone can live with decision like State Technical Committee in lieu of formal voting.
- (LTC) Consensus won’t work if this group gets more visibility. Disagreement isn’t disloyalty given our agency constraints. Silence and non-participation can be of more harm and undermine
- There were concerns about voting to allocate resources of a certain organization.
- Aren’t we looking for middle group?
- We should hold an annual review to look at things to change.
- (Gary Weck) Need to consider how the public views us and a vehicle like Roberts Rules of Order brings discipline.
- Group landed on a charge to the operating committee that we would operate on consensus and the chairs would reserve the right to call for a vote if needed on certain issues.

Q4 and Q5: Didn’t have opportunity to discuss. The Leadership Committee decided that they would like the Operational Committee to make a recommendation for operational procedures to be sent to the Leadership Committee in advance of their next meeting for discussion.

Update on NRCS Funding Opportunities Steve Davis

Steve presented a follow-up on Charles Whitmore 07 November 2005 talk. There currently are opportunities for partnership (minus NRCS) that should led by a non-NRCS entity to to come up with a plan to apply for grant dollars that are available. Accepted proposals would have 18 months to develop a plan to implement a project to address a natural resource – who? How? A Committee should apply – ODNR (J. Kessler) volunteered to lead the Committee. (Committee includes Mary Knapp, Larry Clemens, Steve Shine, Paul Thomas and Jim Lake.)

Closing and Wrap-up LTC Touchette and Terry Cosby  
 Next Leadership Meetings were scheduled as follows: March 29 – Ft. Wayne  
 May 24 – MI possible one of the State/National Wildlife Refuge

The next date for Operations Committee Mtg. was established: – 24 JAN phone conference – 10 AM EST.

Roger updated people that the next– PRESIDENT’S BUDGET would be introduced on FEB. 6th

List of Action Items for Operating Committee:

- Define what forms the subcommittees, their purpose, functions, and start to build them
- Continue work on Project List, on the list differentiate between projects and programs

- Invite Mayors as separate group. MRBPLG
  - Develop Operation Procedures (ie Charter)
  - Recommend a location for May 24 meeting
  - Develop agenda for the next ft. Wayne meeting which included emphasis on municipal issues
- Arleen Kreuzsch asked the committee members to review the contact list and make her aware of any changes that need to be made.

The meeting adjourned.

## Appendix

1) Agenda from January 10, 2006 meeting

### AGENDA

#### Western Lake Erie Basin Partnership Leadership Meeting

Lake Erie Center, Oregon Ohio

January 10, 2006

9:15	Registration/Coffee	
9:45	Call to Order	LTC Touchette & Terry Cosby
9:55	Opening Remarks & Introductions	Arleen Kreusch
10:00	Welcome(s)	LTC Touchette & Terry Cosby
	Carol Stepian	Director of Lake Erie Center "Welcome & Brief Overview of Center"
	Marge Brown	Mayor of Oregon "Brief Welcome from the City of Oregon"
10:10	Remarks by Congresswoman Kaptur	Congressional Representative, District OH-09
10:30	Reports from Previous meetings	
	Review & Accept Minutes	Arleen Kreusch
	Report & Accept Mission Statement and Operating Principles	Arleen Kreusch
	Report & Accept Organizational Structure	Arleen Kreusch
11:00	Break	
11:10	Project List	Craig Forget
11:15	Very Brief Report on Rapid	Steve Davis & David Hanselmann

Assessments Stakeholder Mtg.  
and meetings with SWCD's in  
the basin

- 11:20 Report on Responses for Potential Partnership Project Reviews Steve Davis /Terry Cosby
- Summary of Input Received  
Recommendation from NRCS  
Consensus on How/What to Proceed With
- 11:50 Lunch Provided by the Lake Erie Center
- 12:45 Presentation - Success Story! Mrs. Terry Noto, Environmental Defense Organization
- Offer to Leverage New Resources
- Proposal to Assist with Outreach  
Proposal for Bonus Funds for Riparian Plantings  
Other Ideas
- 1:00 Presentation - Partner Project Kevin Czajkowski, &/or Lawrence Patrick University of Toledo
- GIS & Remote Sensing in Support of the Western Lake Erie Project – “What UT is Doing”
- 1:30 Partnership Operating Procedures Discussion Arleen Kreusch
- 2:15 Update on NRCS Funding Opportunities Steve Davis
- 2:45 Closing and Wrap-up LTC Touchette & Terry Cosby
- Establish future dates/place for Leadership Group Mtgs.  
Establish next date for Operations Group Mtg.  
Review List of Action Items
- 3:00 Adjourn

## **Appendix cont.**

### 2) Mission and Principles

#### Approved Mission Statement

The Western Lake Erie Basin Partnership is a tri-state partnership dedicated to enhancing multi-purpose projects that improve land and water resource management in the basin and promote a healthy productive watershed.

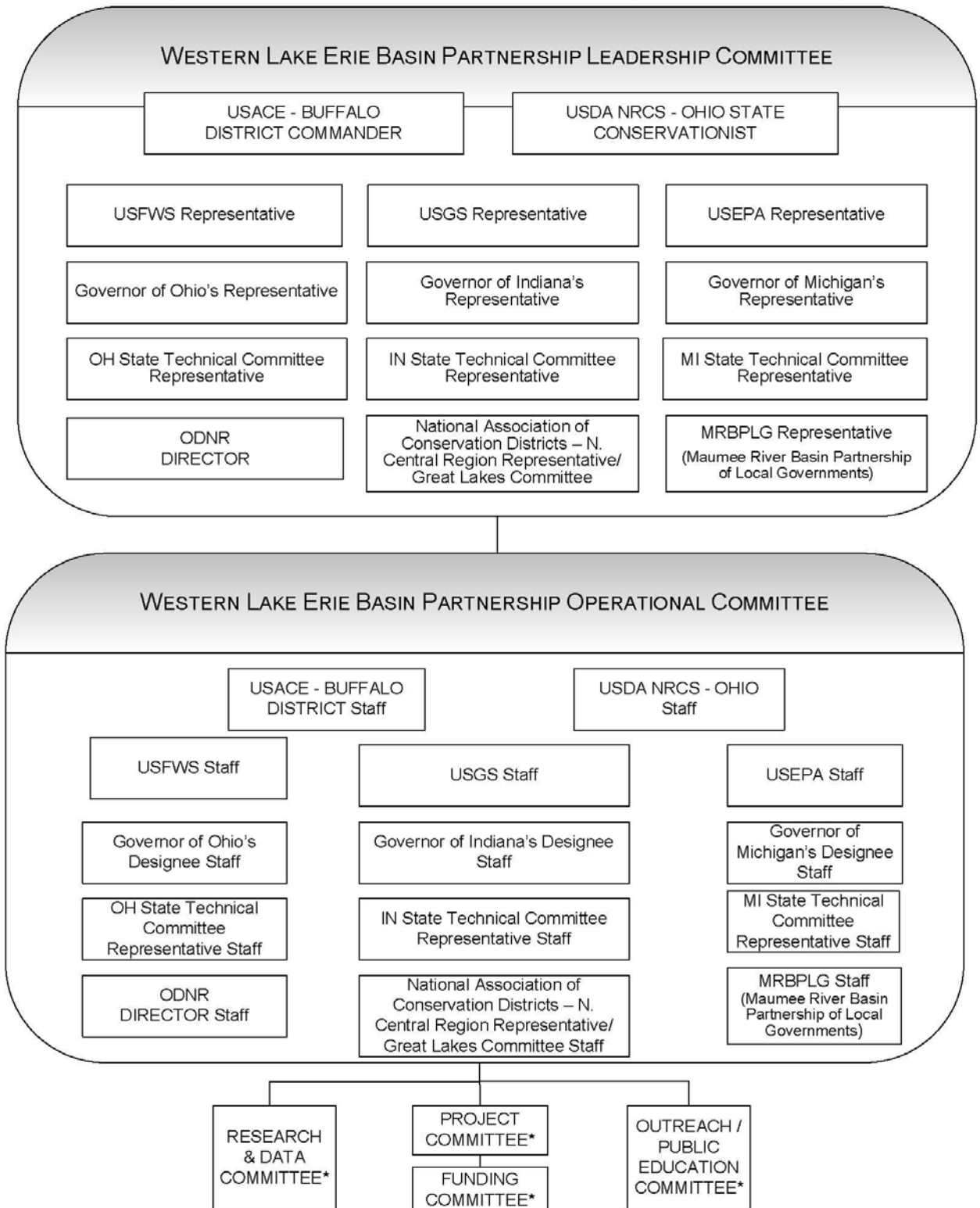
#### Approved Principles:

1. The Partnership is committed to collaboration and consensus building - sharing resources and knowledge to link land use to water quality, support ongoing efforts and identify new opportunities to enhance and improve the watershed.
2. The Partnership will apply watershed-based solutions to local problems and apply local solutions to watershed problems - inclusively empowering and building the capacity of local watershed groups and supporting ongoing efforts.
3. The Partnership is results oriented - it will define the baseline status of the basin, identify and prioritize science based solutions, responsibly support the implementation of innovative and cooperative projects, monitor and evaluate its actions and support an adaptive management approach.
4. The Partnership will speak with one voice, promote transparency, encourage participation, be responsive, create awareness, educate and inform.
5. The Partnership will provide the structure necessary to coordinate public and private resources across political boundaries to accelerate achievement of environmental goals and support for local conservation initiatives.

**Appendix cont.**

3) Approved Framework (attached)

**FIGURE 1: WESTERN LAKE ERIE BASIN PARTNERSHIP**



\* Committees will include additional state, local and non-governmental staff.

**Appendix cont.**

4) Project spreadsheet (attached)

Western Lake Erie Basin Project List - Phases, Funding & Schedule																			
Lead Agency	Point of Contact	Non-Federal Sponsor	Funding Program	Project Name	Phase	Requested Funding For Phase	Funding Received to Date	Start	Finish	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Con			
USACE	Tony Friona	Toledo, OH	GI	Western Lake Erie Basin Study	Feasibility Study	\$2,000,000	\$500,000	1-Feb-06	30-Sep-09										
USACE	Craig Forget	TLCPA	O&M	Toledo DMMP	Revised Preliminary Assessment	\$156,000	\$156,000	1-Oct-04	30-Sep-06										
USACE	Craig Forget	ODNR	CAP 204	Maumee Bay Habitat Restoration	Feasibility Study	\$500,000	\$0	1-Oct-06	30-Sep-09										
USACE	Craig Forget	TNC	CAP 204	Erie Marsh Preserve	Feasibility Study	\$250,000	\$0	1-Oct-06	30-Sep-09										
USACE	Craig Forget	Oregon, OH	CAP 204	Wynn Road	Feasibility Study	\$250,000	\$0	1-Oct-06	30-Sep-09										
USACE	Dan Green	Toledo, OH	CAP 14	Ottawa River, Shoreland Avenue	Construction	\$660,000	\$660,000	1-Oct-02	31-Dec-06										
USACE	Sophie Baj	Toledo, OH	594	Combined Sewer Flow	Reimbursement	\$250,000	\$250,000	1-Oct-04	30-Sep-06										
USACE	Sophie Baj	Jenera, OH	594	Waste Water Treatment Plan	Reimbursement	\$500,000	\$500,000	1-Oct-04	30-Sep-07										
USACE	Sophie Baj	Freemont, OH	594	Sewerline Extension	Reimbursement	\$300,000	\$300,000	1-Oct-04	30-Sep-06										
USACE	Sophie Baj	Elmira, OH	594	Waste Water Collection System	Reimbursement	\$300,000	\$300,000	1-Oct-02	30-Sep-08										
USACE	Sophie Baj	Ottawa, OH	594	Regional Water Line	Reimbursement	\$300,000	\$300,000	1-Oct-05	30-Sep-08										
USACE	Sophie Baj	Benton Ridge, OH	594	Waste Water Treatment	Reimbursement	\$500,000	\$500,000	1-Oct-05	30-Sep-08										
OEPA	Trinka Mount			General Ohio TMDL Progress Map to Date	Varies											The ma http://w already			
OEPA	Trinka Mount		TMDL	Upper Auglaize	Completed				1-Dec-05							Approv availabl			
OEPA	Trinka Mount		TMDL	Blanchard River	Development				31-Dec-08							Asses on th 04100			
OEPA	Trinka Mount		TMDL	Toussaint	Draft Final				31-Jan-06							Draft t 2006			
OEPA	Trinka Mount		TMDL	Swan Creek	Assessment				31-Dec-06							2 HUC			
OEPA	Trinka Mount		TMDL	Lower Maumee Tributaries	Assessment				31-Dec-06							1 HUC			
USFWS	Mary Knapp			Sediment Control for Critical Mussel Beds (St. Joe River and Fish Creek)	Assessment											A multi upper w offices stages the best			
USFWS	Mary Knapp		NRDA	Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) for the Ottawa River	Assessment											The FW Ottawa past dan Council Atty Ge			