

**Oak Orchard Watershed Protection Alliance**  
**Minutes**  
**November 18, 2009**  
**Orleans County Soil and Water Conservation District**

**Present:** Judy Bennett, David Drake, James Kingston, Steve Lewandowski, Daniel Schuth, Lynn Metcalf

**I. Introductions**

**II. Grant Activities:**

1. Judy reported that Van Lieshout's finished their project for the Round XI Grant. She is waiting for the engineer to inspect the project and sign off on it. Once that is done, Van Lieshout's can be paid and she can start working on closing out that grant.
2. Edwin Blank finished his project for Round XII and are also waiting on the engineer to inspect the project and sign off on it. Once this is completed, this will also be ready to close out.
3. For Round XIII this close out is completed and waiting for review by Les Travis.
4. Round XIV have several projects in some form of completion.
5. James asked if Fred Luckey from EPA has called yet to set up an appointment. Dan reported that he has not contacted him yet.

**III. Shoreline Cleanup:** Dan reported that there was a record number of 44 volunteers that participated in the Shoreline Cleanup on September 19. There was 4,134 pounds of trash in 3 hours. There were quite a few tires collected this year. A bed and couch were picked up at the Canal Wide-waters.

**IV. Tire Cleanup:** Judy reported that the District recycled over 700 tires. There were quite a few that were already at the County, but we were able to take care of them also through the FL-LOWPA funding.

**V. SWAT Model:**

1. Lynn reported that she attended a SWAT Model training at Brockport College. It was for the Genesee River Watershed, but was broad based and could be applicable to the Oak Orchard Watershed. The models are a lot more accurate than what they used to be. We will use this tool determine the efficiency of proposed BMP's to quantify it for grant applications. This is all being funded by the Army Corp of Engineers for the Oak Orchard Watershed. We are just providing them with requested information. There is a GIS interface for it. It should prove to be a powerful and useful tool once we are able to start using it.
2. Dan reported that he did an informal tour with George Squires from Genesee County, Brian Richards, and Byron Rush from Army Corp of Engineers. They toured sites that would be used for sampling and monitoring. He thought that Paul Richards had wanted to get the monitoring started by now. He email him today to see if there was anything to report at tonight's meeting and did not get a reply from him at this point.
3. Steve reported that he got a different perspective of the training. The Genesee River is such a large watershed that if you collect very detailed data there is a problem of handling the data. He felt the model itself might be too detailed for us to use. They may use a different model that isn't as detailed.

**VI. Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI):** Steve reported that we do have some details as to how this is going to come about. The RFP's will be coming out soon. Dan reported that the President has signed the bill for the full \$475,000,000. He has a list from Kristy Lamanche from FL-LOWPA that shows some preliminary proposed projects. He explained some of the proposed projects. There is a FL-LOWPA full board meeting tomorrow in Auburn and this will probably discussed.

**VII. Carry In/Carry Out Signs:** Dan reported that 4 signs have been put up. We are fortunate enough to have a good working relationship with the County Highway Department. They installed the signs down at Salmon's access site on Park Avenue, at the Waterport dam, and 2 signs on Yates Carlton Townline Rd.. For each one of the signs we have to do the Call Before You Dig to have the sites staked out.

VIII. **Other:**

- A. Steve handed out some newsletters from LOCI. He discussed a grant that LOCI has received through the Clean Water Act. They applied to do TMDL's for the impaired tributaries and waterbodies relating to Lake Ontario that are already impaired in a sense that they have reached a certain point of documentation. They got this funding of about \$250,000. For whatever reason Oak Orchard is not impaired, however they are going to do Oak Orchard Watershed as well. The TMDL process is a process with much of what we have done in the last five years with the development of reports. The next part of the process is selecting a model and doing some modeling. This would involve identifying the pollutant of interest, which in this case is phosphorous, and the ability of the waterbody to absorb it or use it or have it in it as a pollutant. Next would be to determine a level that you could get to where it would not be impaired for any of its uses. Discussed this further. They need this committee to get involved and would like to broaden the attendance by getting farmers and legislators to attend.
  - B. Dan reported that he attended a Small Harbors Coalition meeting at Tillman's Village Inn. This was a combined effort through Sea Grant and an organization out of Michigan to talk about the money that is not available to dredge these small harbors. They discussed how in Michigan they came up with money to dredge their harbors. Discussed writing a letter of support for the Small Harbors Coalition stating that there interest that needs to take place. Dan recommends developing a letter stating that as a shareholder within the Oak Orchard Watershed we support the Small Harbor Coalition and their efforts to improve the quality of life within the Oak Orchard Watershed. Dan and Judy will draft something and present it to David.
  - C. David recommended updating the website. He did say that the minutes and notices have been updated. Judy said to let us know what needs to be updated and we will get that done. He would like to see it kept fresh and up to date.
  - D. David asked about the slashbuster. Dan reported that it was scheduled for some Sandy Creek work, but we don't know what has gotten done at this point. He also reported that the District received a letter from DEC that they did a surprise inspection of the Sandy Creek site that we have used the slashbuster on and were pleased with the outcome.
  - E. Dan reported that there is state money that comes around once a year. He put in for a pull behind grass seeder, pull behind yolk rake, and a trailer for carrying the equipment.
- C. **Next Meeting – Monday, January 4, 2010 at 10:00 am**