

September 4, 2024
ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Executive Committee
Meeting Summary

Attendance

Rob Kastner	Wayne Soil and Water Conservation District
Wesley Carder	City of Canton
Tony Demasi	City of Cuyahoga Falls
Dominic DiSalvo	City of Ravenna
Ron Etling	Portage County Appointee
Kevin Givins	City of Orrville
Genny Hanna	City of Akron
Chuck Hauber	Summit County Engineer's Office
Patrick Jeffers	City of Twinsburg
Jenn Kiper	Wayne County Planning Department
Ross Nicholson	Summit County Department of Sanitary Sewer Services
Justin Rechichar	Portage County Health District
Julie Reis	Summit County Public Health
Paige Seech	Stark County Health Department
Gordon Cromley	Portage County Water Resources
Will Duck	Portage County Health District
David Kohlmeier	CTI Engineers, Inc.
Joe Hadley	NEFCO
Tom LaPlante	NEFCO
Maia Peck	NEFCO

Chair Kastner called the meeting to order.

Public Comments

There were no comments from the public.

Meeting Summary

The August meeting summary was accepted as transmitted.

Consideration by the ERTAC of a Recommendation to the NEFCO Board

Consideration by the ERTAC of a recommendation to the NEFCO Board to release the FY2025 Clean Water (208) Plan FPA update for public review and comments

Mr. LaPlante and Ms. Peck, NEFCO's GIS specialist, each showed slides to help the committee understand what's being requested by NEFCO staff and see how the mapping of the FPA updates is presented in two distinct forms – .pdf maps and an interactive online map that should be used together to view the FPA updates. Ms. Peck gave a presentation on "NEFCO CWP 2024 Update Mapping Intro". She showed slides refreshing the ERTAC on the importance of mapping scale and explained that the ratio of map to world determines precision and visibility of map details. She showed examples of a large scale map and small scale map side-by-side and explained how smaller scale maps, like the static .pdf maps of the FPA updates, hide details, such as small prescription changes of only tens of feet that can only be seen when the viewer uses the interactive online map to enlarge the map by zooming way in to the parcel level. She showed slides demonstrating how the interactive online map can be used to view existing FPA boundaries and wastewater prescriptions and proposed FPA boundaries and prescriptions by turning those layers on and off. She noted that the .pdf maps and interactive online draft map will be posted on NEFCO's website during the public comment period, and she showed a slide to demonstrate how the public will be able to post comments directly onto the online map for any update area.

Mr. LaPlante noted that subject to public review and comment are 32 proposed FPA update maps, consisting of 55 proposed Update Areas, which amount to about 721 updates – parcels (large and small), and slivers and overlaps with proposed wastewater prescription or FPA boundary changes. He added that all proposed FPA updates have had coordination between the MA requesting the updates and affected MAs with jurisdiction in the update areas and affected local governments/agencies. He noted that also subject to public review and comment is a proposed text-only update to prescription language for Chapter 3 Appendix 3-33-Springfield No. 91 FPA. He showed slides of each update location map (index map) and select existing/proposed maps for each of the proposed FPA updates, organized by county, with the total number of Update Areas and total number of updates to parcels, slivers, and overlaps for each FPA update. He went over the specific proposed text-only update to the prescription language for Appendix 3-33-Springfield No. 91 FPA. He noted how the public will be informed of the FPA update's release by the NEFCO Board with the ERTAC's recommendation to do so, adding that this would be done through a press release to all 4 major newspapers, local governments, and all primary MAs, a legal notice published in those newspapers, and through NEFCO's Annual FPA Update website. He then requested the consideration by the ERTAC of a recommendation to the NEFCO Board to release the FY2025 Clean Water (208) Plan FPA update for public review and comments.

Mr. Hadley commented that the ERTAC is a very important part of this FPA update process and the NEFCO Board depends on the ERTAC's review and recommendation when it considers the release of the update for public review and comments. He added that staff needs to make the board aware that the .pdf maps are representations of the online draft update map. Mr. Demasi added that as someone who went through the 'mini update' process years ago, before NEFCO updated its 208 Plan regularly, he appreciates the time that the MAs and staff have invested in this year's FPA update. Chair Kastner added that he, too, appreciates staff's time and detailed work in coordinating with the MAs and reviewing all the draft maps that were submitted to NEFCO, including the ones that Wayne County submitted.

Hearing no further discussion, Chair Kastner asked if there was a motion from the ERTAC to recommend that the NEFCO Board release the FY2025 draft FPA update for public review and comments. Mr. Demasi made the motion. Mr. Etling seconded it. No ERTAC members were opposed. There were no abstentions. The motion carried.

NEFCO FY2025 Work Program

Ongoing annual 201/208 Facilities Planning Areas update; challenges thus far and next steps

Mr. LaPlante went over some of the challenges encountered during this year's annual FPA update, most notably how to keep the number of update maps being reviewed to a minimum while having about 721 requested updates – parcels (large and small), and slivers and overlaps with proposed wastewater prescription or FPA boundary changes. He noted that staff suggesting that the MAs group them into clusters resulted in 55 Update Areas that could be shown on 32 update maps. He added that the next steps include responding to all comments after the NEFCO board's release of the FY2025 FPA update for a 30-day public review and comment period, then seeking NEFCO board approval of the update at its December meeting through a recommendation from the ERTAC to approve it.

State certification of NEFCO's Board approved 208 Plan updates March 2023 through December 2023 submitted to Ohio EPA on December 27, 2023; status

Mr. LaPlante reviewed the specifics of these Plan updates that NEFCO submitted for state certification and reported that Ohio EPA is managing its public notification of these, along with Plan updates from other areawide planning agencies and Ohio EPA (for some of the 68 counties not part of an areawide's planning area). He added that on August 15th, the Ohio EPA gave public notice that there will be a 45-day public comment period that will run until September 29, 2024. He noted that the

agency will hold a public hearing for these Plan updates on September 16, 2024. He asked ERTAC members to contact him if they would like the link to join the public hearing or to submit comments.

City of Akron names Northside Interceptor Tunnel boring machine after local Cuyahoga River advocate Elaine Marsh

Mr. LaPlante reported that according to a recent City of Akron press release, at the One Water Technical Conference and Expo in Sandusky last month, the city unveiled the name of its Northside Interceptor Tunnel boring machine – the machine will be named “Elaine” after Cuyahoga River advocate and past NEFCO partner and ERTAC meeting guest speaker, Elaine Marsh.

Ohio EPA is accepting requests for proposals until September 16, 2024, for phosphorus treatment optimization projects in the Lake Erie Basin for POTWs over 0.5 MGD

Mr. LaPlante briefly went over the specifics of this RFP and asked ERTAC members to contact him if they would like additional information.

Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District is accepting applications for its nonpoint source implementation strategy development (NPS-IS) fund to improve water quality in the District

Mr. LaPlante briefly went over the specifics of this NPS-IS funding mechanism for HUC 12 subwatersheds of the Muskingum River watershed, including those subwatersheds in the NEFCO region. He asked ERTAC members to contact him if they would like additional information.

Reports from ERTAC members (a chance for members to report on activities or problems affecting their communities)

There were no reports from ERTAC members.

Information items requested

Mr. Etling requested a copy of selected articles.

Ohio EPA Public Notices requested

While no copies of Ohio EPA public notices were requested, Mr. Hadley mentioned that another Ohio EPA public notice that isn't listed on the agenda came in after the mailout, and it pertains to up to \$20,000 being available under the CyberOhio Local Government Grant Program, and the application deadline is September 16, 2024. He noted that hackers are being successful in attacking online controls and generators of smaller wastewater treatment plants and this funding is being made available to help with needed cybersecurity software to help prevent those attacks.

Chair Kastner drew the ERTAC's attention to the Early Stakeholder Outreach pertaining to rules regarding PFAS in public water systems.

Ohio Environmental Legislation Recently Signed or Introduced

None.

Other Business

There was no other business to discuss.

ERTAC Contact Hour Course List

Chair Kastner drew the ERTAC's attention to the list.

Next Meeting

Chair Kastner said that the next meeting would be held at 9:00 a.m. on October 2, 2024 at The Natatorium, Hopewell Room, 2345 4th Street, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.