

111 Liberty St., Suite 100 Columbus, Ohio 43215 www.morpc.org

NOTICE OF A MEETING AGRICULTURAL & RURAL COMMUNITIES OUTREACH TEAM MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

REMOTE MEETING

April 3, 2025, 10:00 am AGENDA

1. Call to Order

2. Discussion on Framework for Working Team

Members and staff discussed the transition from the Sustaining Scioto Board to the Regional Water Advisory Council, which will guide the work of the Agricultural & Rural Communities Outreach Team. Chair Brandt noted that the primary guiding document for the new Council and the Ag Team will be the new Water Study, with additional guidance from the 2015 Sustaining Scioto Study.

Member Brandt mentioned the potential establishment of an Education & Outreach Team that would focus on broader water quality topics across a 15-county area, complementing the Ag Team's efforts.

3. Discussion on Active Recruitment

Chair Brandt emphasized the need to recruit additional Members for the Ag Team, aiming for eight to ten active participants. He asked for recommendations and offered to reach out to potential Members. Members and staff brainstormed potential new Members, including representatives from Aqua Marion, Madison County Water Treatment Plant, and various farmers and organizations. He suggested that Members provide names and contact information for potential recruits, which he would vet with MORPC staff before making any invitations.

Chair Brandt will contact Tom Fontana at the Soybean Council to discuss potential representatives for the Ag Team.

Members and staff viewed a map showing the expanded 15-county target area for the Regional Water Advisory Council, highlighting the need for representation from both the northern and southern parts of the area. Chair Brandt suggested outreach to additional soil and water conservation districts and other stakeholders.

4. Preliminary Workplan Discussion

Members and staff discussed the need to develop a Work Plan for the Ag Team, which would guide their activities over the next year and help secure funding for implementation. Chair Brandt noted that the Work Plan would be guided by the deliverables and activities identified in the Sustaining Scioto Study and the new Regional Water Study. He also suggested working with MORPC and other organizations to raise funds for specific activities outlined in the Work Plan. Chair Brandt proposed developing a Preliminary Work Plan to be shared and discussed at the next quarterly meeting of the Ag Team, with input from Team Members and staff to finalize the plan.

Chair Brandt will schedule a debrief meeting with MORPC staff lead Edwina Teye in the near future to discuss next steps and chart out actions.

5. Adjourned

Please notify Lynn Kaufman at 614-233-4189 or lkaufman@morpc.org to confirm your attendance for this meeting or if you require special assistance.

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission Remote Meeting

Agricultural & Rural Communities Outreach Team Meeting

April 3, 2025

Members Present

Chair Brian Brandt, American Farmland Trust Brent Nicol, The Nature Conservancy

Staff Present Lynn Kaufman Édwina Teye

<u>Public Present</u> Susan Kuba, Delaware Soil & Water Conservation District



Agricultural & Rural Communities Outreach Working Team

April 03, 2025



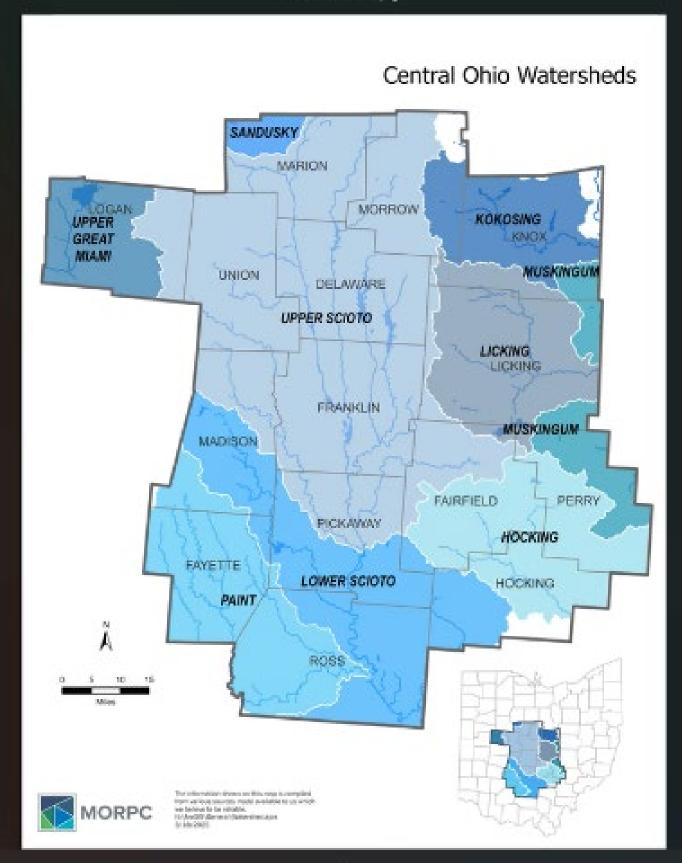
AGENDA



- 1. Call to Order Chair, Brian Brandt
- 2. Discussion on Framework for Working Team
- 3. Discussion on Active Recruitment
- 4. Preliminary workplan discussion
 - a. Upper Scioto Watershed Communications Plan
 - b. Fundraising for implementation of workplan
- 5. Adjourn



Discussion on Active Recruitment



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- 5. Adjourn



Meeting Adjourn

Brian Brandt Chair Ag. & Rural Communities Outreach Working Team

bbrandt@farmland.org



