



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

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

REMOTE MEETING

September 15, 2022, 10:00 am

AGENDA

Call to Order

Team Discussion

The Team discussed feedback on the Scioto Watershed webinar held in August. Brent Nicol moderated the session, with presentations by Glenn Marzluf, Chris Pancake, and John Matthews. The webinar had around 25 attendees, mostly from agencies and watershed groups, but few farmers. The recording is available on the Sustaining Scioto Board webpage. Members and staff discussed improving outreach strategies, including creating a shared contact database and offering hybrid events to increase participation.

Brent shared feedback on a Farmer Meeting he recently hosted. Attendance was lower than expected, but the discussion was productive. The Team acknowledged challenges in attracting attendees and emphasized the importance of personal outreach and relevant content. Suggestions included diversifying meeting agendas and leveraging organizational newsletters for promotion.

The Team explored options for increasing visibility at the 2023 Farm Science Review. Ideas included hosting a booth, partnering with other organizations, or presenting at the Gwen Conservation Center. The importance of being listed in the event program was emphasized to ensure visibility.

Members and staff discussed upcoming turnover in the Outreach Team and the Sustaining Scioto Board. Suggestions for new members included township trustees, county commissioners, farmers, and small business owners. The team plans to refine a list of potential members and revisit the topic in the November meeting.

The Team began identifying priorities for 2023. Ideas included continuing research collaborations, educational outreach, and leveraging student involvement from local universities. Members and staff also discussed aligning with the watershed planning process to share information and engage stakeholders.

The Team proposed organizing a Field Day in early April 2023, targeting stakeholders on the south side of Columbus. The event would feature diverse topics and speakers, including potential

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Erik J. Janas
Chair

Chris Amorose Groomes
Vice Chair

Michelle Crandall
Secretary

presentations on nitrate monitoring and public water supply impacts. Members and staff agreed to begin planning and finalize details in future meetings.

Other Business

Updates included the installation of a nutrient monitoring sonde in Kenton by AFT and Heidelberg University, and the upcoming Summit on Sustainability on October 14. USDA's Climate Smart Projects initiative was also mentioned, with potential funding opportunities for Ohio farmers.

Member or Partner Updates

Adjourn

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.

**The next meeting of the
Agricultural & Rural Communities Outreach Team will be on November 17,
2022, 10:00 am.
Location to be Determined**



Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
Remote Meeting

Agricultural & Rural Communities Outreach Team Meeting

September 15, 2022

Members Present

- Chair Brian Brandt, American Farmland Trust
- Jessica D'Ambrosio, The Nature Conservancy
- Kyle Wilson, Franklin Soil & Water Conservation District
- Aaron Wilson, OSU

Staff Present

- Lynn Kaufman
- Edwina Teye

Public Present

- Brent Nicol, The Nature Conservancy