

## **Arcadia-Pierport Watershed Plan**

### **Minutes from the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) meeting of October 18, 2013**

**Location:** 3480 State St., Arcadia

**Attendees:** Doug Carter, Sam Catanese, Sharon Goble, Brad Hopwood, Connie Macek, Laura Heintzelman (Manistee Foundation)

The ELT met at 8:30am. This meeting was a followup to the October 9, 2013 meeting at Blacker Airport arranged by Tim Ervin of Alliance for Economic Success (AES) to discuss with multiple local jurisdictions the State's Stormwater/ Asset Management/ Wastewater (SAW) Grant and Loan program. At the October 9<sup>th</sup> meeting it was not clear if the Arcadia-Pierport Watershed Plan Partnership ("the Partnership") would be an appropriate entity to apply for the grant. Laura Heintzelman clarified that the Partnership cannot directly apply for the SAW grant, however, if Arcadia Township seeks sewer/asset funding through the SAW grant, it would be not be separate from the watershed plan development, but would be complimentary and help to fund a portion of that work. It is not yet clear if Resolutions for Support would need to be obtained from the other jurisdictions within the Partnership watershed boundaries, or if a Resolution of Support from Arcadia Township will be sufficient. The grant program is expected to be highly competitive, so not every applicant will receive grant monies. Because of this, local jurisdictions are working with the Alliance for Economic Success and the Manistee County Community Foundation to evaluate opportunities to collaborate on SAW grant applications.

The Partnership Agreement and Map are finalized. Various steps were discussed to move the plan forward including:

- 1) Setting a funding-raising goal of \$25,000 to cover both the \$12,750 cost share to pay a consultant to develop the Plan (total cost estimate is \$85,000), and to fund an Endowment with the remaining funds to implement prioritized projects in the Plan. Some Coastal Zone Management grant funds have already been obtained (approximately \$30,000) to be used toward the Plan development.
- 2) Development of an Education and Communication Plan to inform the communities of the Plan's development and to seek their support and involvement. Ideas discussed included:
  - a. Print out the Partnership Agreement and Map
  - b. A Frequently Asked Questions document
  - c. Bullet points
  - d. A plan to obtain community signatures in support of the Plan
  - e. Development of other materials for a website.
- 3) Develop a fund-raising plan

Laura Heintzelman agreed to forward information to the ELT to help with the development of the various documents, communication and education plans. There was a brief discussion to explore more formal organizational options for the Partnership that may better position it for future grant opportunities. The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00am.

Submitted by Sharon Goble 10/19/13, revised 10/28/13

