

Ottawa River Coalition Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2026 8:00 am Perry TWP
Annual Meeting

In attendance:

Lydia Archambo, Allen SWCD	Ron Meyer, Sanitary Eng.
Chad Reynolds, Allied Science	Adam Haunhorst, Delphos
Joe Gearing, ACE	Greg Kessen, Allen Water Dist.
Kevin Cox, Perry TWP	Kim Stiles, Allen Water District
Drew Munshower, EMA	Jessica Begonia, City of Lima
Megan Hurd, Alloway	Alex Fields, Ada Water
Brad Niemeyer, Sanitary Engineer	Casey Hielman, Allen SWCD
Melinda DeLaRosa, Allen SWCD	Paul Neff, Shawnee TWP.
Jed Metzgeer, Chamber foundation	Amanda Sear, Ada
Lana Jackson, Alloway	Gabby Scott, Hardin SWCD

Adam H welcomed the group to the 2026 Annual Meeting.

Adam H introduced the minutes from November 2025 meeting

Motion by Kevin Cox to approve the November 2025 meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Dakota Clay and carried.

Treasurer's Report

Financial Report-

- Lydia Archambo introduced the January 2026 Financial Record for the period from November 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025.
 - Beginning balance - \$25,783.58
 - Total income – 545.00
 - Total Expenses – 1,170.00
 - Balance as on December 31, 2025 (Unencumbered) - \$23,775.63

Motion by Kevin Cox to Approve treasures report. Motion seconded by Megan Hurd and carried.

- Membership:
 - Allied Environmental Services
 - Allen Water District
 - Allen County Engineer
 - Hardin SWCD
 - National Lime And Stone
 - Blanchard River Watershed Partnership (in kind membership swap)
 - Sanitary Engineer
 - Anne Decker Marcketing
 - Guardian
 - Village of Ada
 - Alloway

Motion by Casey Heilman. Seconded by Kevin Cox. Motion passed

- Membership new members
 - City of Delphos would like to be a new member of the coalition. Adam Haunhosrt (current Chairman) would represent them. Due to this. Ron Meyer asked for a motion to accept the City of Delphos.

Motion by Meegan Hurd. Seconded by Dakota Clay. Motion passed.

Executive Committee – Adam Haunhorst

- The executive committee met in December 10, 2025
- Discussion was had on the Fish Fry, Ottawa river Clean up, and annual meeting

Community relations

- Be on the lookout for emails from Russ pertaining to....
 - Placemat Ads for the Good Friday Fish Fry
 - Silent Auction Items for the Good Friday Fish Fry
- We have a new caterer for the Good Friday Fish Fry
 - Fat Kid BBQ – they have been very helpful and involved in making sure were getting the good deal and are excited for the event!
 - This is because of Old Barn out Back closing

Stormwater Committee-

- Joe Gearing (County)
 - Updating the County SMESCR
 - 3/4 of county 2 stage ditch projects complete
 - Plan review projects
 - Applications for Assistant Drainage Engineer now being taken
 - Data Center and Amazon projects are two of the big hitters
- Dakota Clay (city)
 - Lima vetrain memorial is 90% done (waiting on the weather for final touches)
 - Culvert rehabilitation will take place this summer
 - Jackson street Community Garden Project underway
- Lydia Archambo and Melinda DeLaRosa (County)
 - Melinda is getting into contact with municipalities for training
 - Lydia and Melinda are in annual report season
- Water in the News “WITH” – Melinda
 - Changes to “water of the state” to match the federal ruling – most of these changes pertain to wetlands
 - Jon Husted introduced a proposed bill to provide more emergency water services to rural areas.

Old Business

- Board Walk Signs
 - Looking for a good location on the river walk on the west end of town
- Swag
 - Swag options were laid out at the meeting for people to look at.
 - Please get orders to Lydia ASAP so she can place the order
 - Payment will need to be made prior to order being placed. Lydia will get you a “bill” prior to the order
- Cenovus Cares
 - Because Cenovus had three employees volunteer at the fish fry in 2025 they have a program that rewards the employees and the organizations volunteered for. So we received a check from that program!

New Business

- Ottawa River Clean Up

- The executive Committee and the City of Lima met on January 6th to discuss the possibility of the Ottawa River Coalition being the new “Home” for the ORCU. The event has always been and will continue to be a partnership event meaning the City is not stepping away from the event completely and will continue to support how they can (location, dumpster, volunteers). The ORC Execs liked the idea of having a fundraiser in the spring and actually moving the Clean up to the fall to allow for better weather, safer river conditions and capping both ends of the year.

Motion made by Kevin Cox to take over the clean up event. Second by Joe Gearing. Motion Passed.

- Annual Awards
 - Chairman Adam h presented the annual awards
 - Member organization of the year – Allen County EMA
 - Volunteer of the Year – Kevin Cox
 - Outstanding Watershed Partner – Alloway (Megan Hurd)

Committee Reports

- Chad R.
 - Business as usual
- Brad N.
 - Shawnee treatment plant is still underway
 - Hume Road is the next big project
 - Shawnee Collection 2 will go out to bid this year
- Casey H.
 - Allen SWCD fish sale news to come out soon (pond fish NOT FISH FRY)
 - Tree giveaway in April
 - Potential native plant sale coming
- Adam H.
 - Sewage projects underway
 - Roadway extensions taking place
- Kevin
 - Always busy in Perry
 - Clean up event in June
- Megan H.
 - Alloway made it through busy season
 - John H projects extended so more work will be done with those!
- Lana J.
 - First time attending from Alloway and really excited and happy to see what all is going on.
- Jed M.
 - Lightbulb lab at the hub went great in December. Thanks to Lydia for helping to plan and at the event Lydia and Melinda at Allen SWCD, Marie at JAMPD, Maddy at UNOH for helping at their booths!
 - Looking to have more lightbulb labs in the future!
- Kim
 - East regional loop project is looking for a funding source
- Alex F.
 - Starting Ada water treatment plant project. This will be a huge undertaking in 2026
 - Pump station corrosive testing to start soon. This is a mandatory testing/project that takes place before major changes to the plant.

- Amanda S.
 - First time attendee from Village of Ada. Happy to be here and see what ORC is about.
- Jessica
 - River Front 1 updates to come (restoring of original face and tear down of back building)
 - Young professionals toured wastewater treatment plant
 - American 250 “local history scavenger hunt trails” getting set up and one of the trails will feature the river walk!
- Drew
 - Give out take 10 spills in 2025.
 - EMA has drones that can be used for various projects and emergencies. Get in contact with them if interested. EMA is also looking to add to their drone squad so if you or someone you know is a certified drone pilot, reach out.

Motion by Jessica B. to adjourn the 2026 Annual meeting. Motion seconded by Kevin and carried.

Minutes transcribed by Lydia Archambo, Executive Director