

4th Quarter

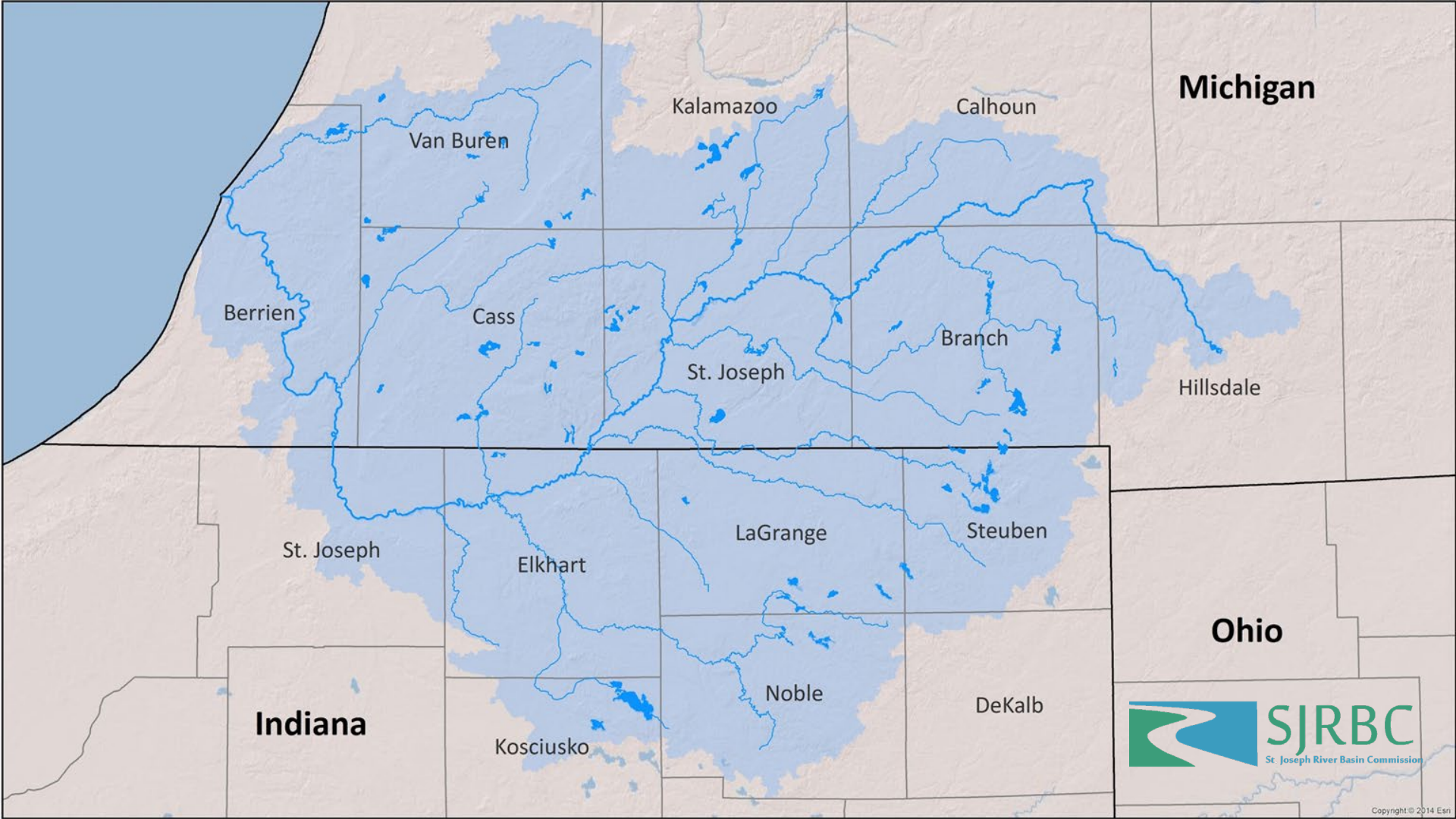
December 3, 2020



Opening Business

- Call to Order
- Introduction/Meeting Instructions
- Roll Call





Michigan

Kalamazoo

Calhoun

Van Buren

Berrien

Cass

St. Joseph

Branch

Hillsdale

St. Joseph

Elkhart

LaGrange

Steuben

Ohio

Indiana

Kosciusko

Noble

DeKalb



PURPOSE: *The St. Joseph River Basin Commission exists to provide a forum for the discussion, study and evaluation of water resource issues of common concern and foster cooperative planning and coordinated management of the basin's water and related land resources.*

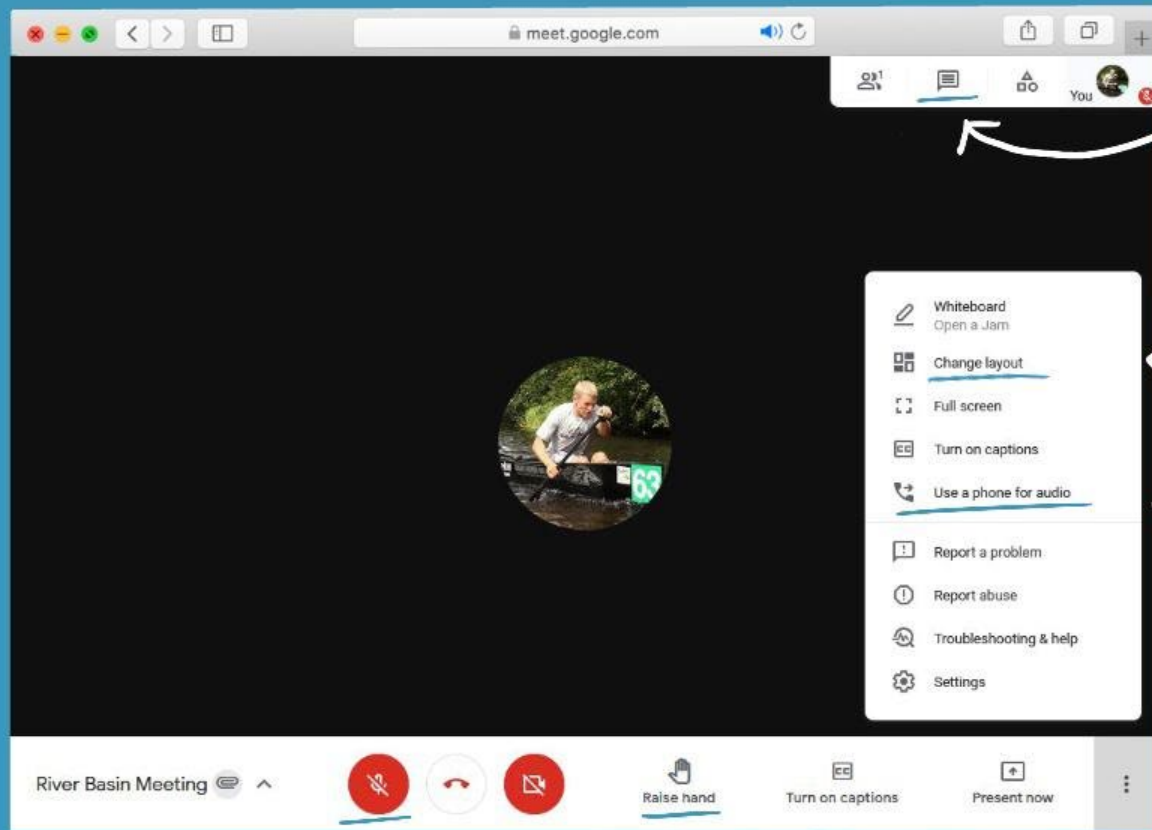
The St. Joseph River Basin Commission was created by the Indiana General Assembly in 1988 to address water quality issues in the St. Joseph River and all the lakes and streams that flow to it. The enabling statute of the Commission (IC 14-30-3) was amended in 2018 to expand the scope and powers of the Commission to address flooding as well. The Commission seeks to work with agencies, organizations and local units of government to:

- Develop plans and tools to improve water quality or mitigate flooding in the basin;
- Coordinate monitoring of water quality and hydrology in the basin;
- Promote best practices for urban stormwater and rural drainage management;
- Develop strategies to increase water infiltration and storage capacity in the basin;
- Distribute reports on the Commission's objectives, studies, and findings;
- Make recommendations in matters related to the Commission's objectives to political subdivisions in the basin and to other public and private agencies;
- Act as a coordinating agency for programs and activities of other public and private agencies that are related to the Commission's objectives;
- Serve as an advocate of the basin's interests before Congress and federal, state and local government agencies.

The SJRBC shall consist of the following (or their proxy):

- The **Mayor** of each Class-II City or the Executive of the municipality with the largest population if the County does not have a Class-II city
- A **County Commissioner** from each County
- The **Health Officer** from each County
- The **County Surveyor** from each County
- A **Representative of the SWCD** from each County
- The Director of the Indiana DNR

(paraphrased from IC 14-30-3-8)



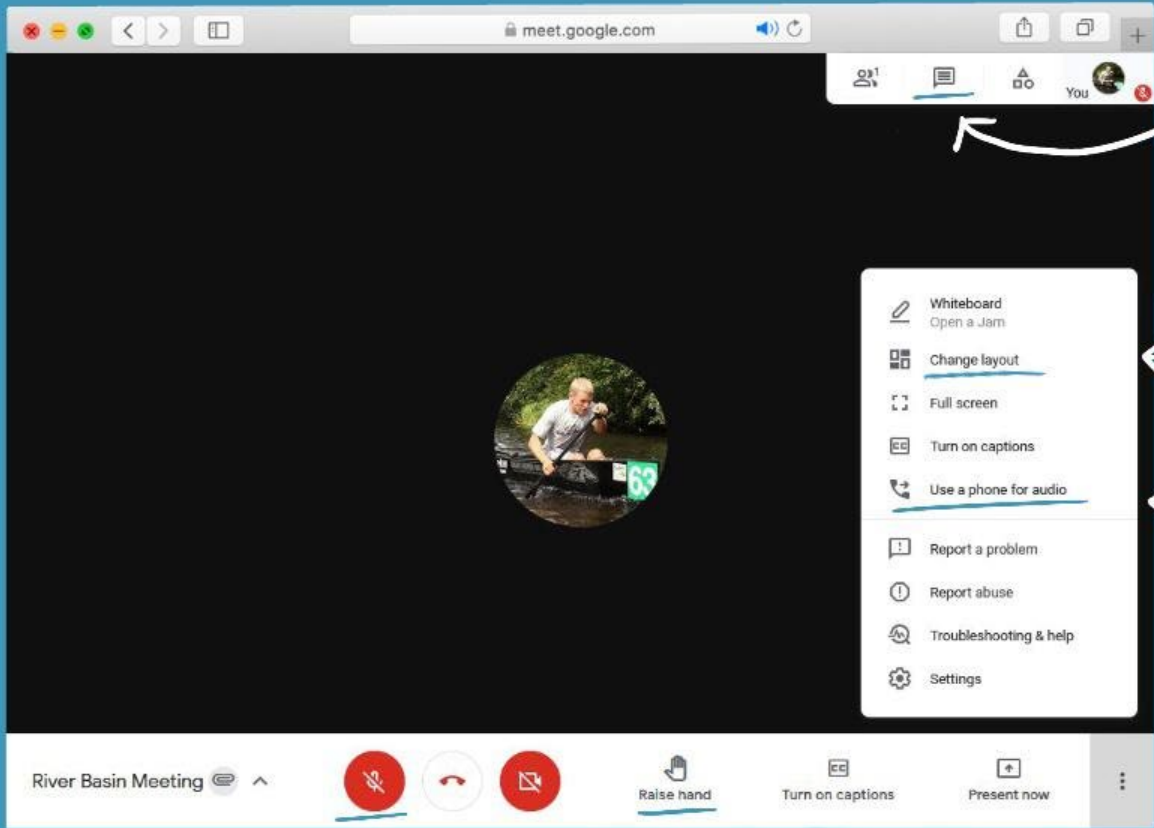
CHAT

CHANGE LAYOUT

CALL IN

MUTE

RAISE HAND



CHAT

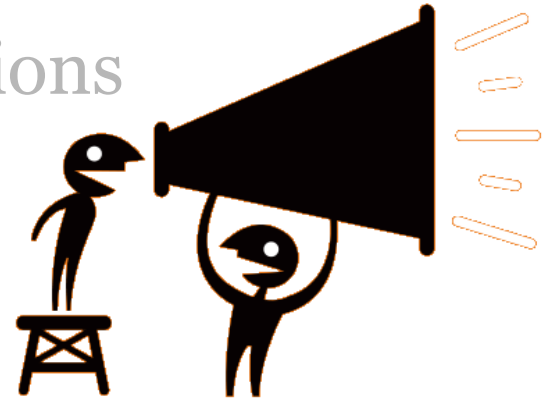
CHANGE LAYOUT
CALL IN

MUTE

RAISE HAND

Opening Business

- Call to Order
- Introduction/Meeting Instructions
- Roll Call
 - Your Name
 - Your Title/Affiliation
 - Who you represent (if you are a proxy)



MUNICIPAL EXECUTIVE

APPOINTEE



Rod Roberson
Mayor
City of Elkhart

rod.roberson
@coei.org
(574) 293-8968

PROXY



Daragh Deegan
Aquatic Biologist
City of Elkhart

daragh.deegan
@coei.org
(574) 293-2572

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

APPOINTEE



Suzie Weirick
Commissioner

sweirick
@elkhartcounty.com
(575) 534-3541

PROXY



Frank Lucchese
Commissioner

knarf65
@aol.com
(574) 534-3541

HEALTH

APPOINTEE



Lydia Mertz, M.D.
Health Officer

lmertz
@elkhartcounty.com
(574) 523-2105

PROXY



Bill Hartsuff
EHS Supervisor
Health Department

bhartsuff
@elkhartcounty.com
(574) 875-3391

DRAINAGE

APPOINTEE



Philip Barker
County Surveyor

pbarker
@elkhartcounty.com
(574) 971-4571

PROXY



Steve Schweisberger
Deputy Surveyor

sschweisberger
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(574) 971-4573

CONSERVATION

APPOINTEE



Jim Hess
Soil & Water
Conservation District

jhess
@elkhartcounty.com
(574) 533-4383 x3



ELKHART COUNTY

MUNICIPAL EXECUTIVE

APPOINTEE



Paul Stoelting
Council President
Town of Syracuse

stoeltinglaw
@gmail.com
(574) 457-2000

PROXY



Mike Noe
Manager
Town of Syracuse

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@syracusein.org
(574) 457-3348

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

APPOINTEE



Cary Groninger
Commissioner

cgroninger
@kcgov.com
(574) 267-3570

PROXY



Jon Roberts
SWCD Supervisor

jarobkos
@gmail.com
(574) 834-2348

HEALTH

APPOINTEE



William Remington, M.D.
Health Officer

wremington
@kch.com
(574) 372-2349

PROXY



Robert Weaver
Administrator
Health Department

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@kcgov.com
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DRAINAGE

APPOINTEE



Michael Kissinger
County Surveyor

mkissinger
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PROXY



Jim Moyer
Assistant Surveyor

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@kcgov.com
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CONSERVATION

APPOINTEE



Jewel Wise
Soil & Water
Conservation District

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MUNICIPAL EXECUTIVE

APPOINTEE



Ray Hoover
Council President
Town of LaGrange

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@lagrangein.org
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PROXY



Diane Cameron
Council Member
Town of LaGrange

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COUNTY EXECUTIVE

APPOINTEE



Larry Miller
Commissioner

lmiller
@lagrangecounty.org
(574) 463-3947

PROXY



Martin Franke
SWCD Manager

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HEALTH

APPOINTEE



Tony Pechin, M.D.
Health Officer

tpechin
@goshenhealth.com
(260) 562-3131

PROXY



Jarod Nisley
Health Inspector
Health Department

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(260) 499-4182 x6

DRAINAGE

APPOINTEE



Zach Holsinger
County Surveyor

zholsinger
@lagrangecounty.org
(260) 499-6307

PROXY



Steve Vaughn
Deputy Surveyor

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CONSERVATION

APPOINTEE



Dona Hunter
Soil & Water
Conservation District

dona.lee.hunter
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MUNICIPAL EXECUTIVE

APPOINTEE



SuzAnne Handshoe
Mayor
City of Kendallville

mayor
@Kendallville-in.org
(260) 374-0352

PROXY



Sue McGee
MS4 Coordinator
City of Kendallville

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COUNTY EXECUTIVE

APPOINTEE



Anita Hess
Commissioner

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@nobleco.us
(260) 636-1290 x1153

PROXY



Dan Lash
Riparian

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@mchsi.com
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HEALTH

APPOINTEE



Terry Gaff, M.D.
Health Officer

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PROXY



Jason Pippenger
EHS Specialist
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DRAINAGE

APPOINTEE



Randy Sexton
County Surveyor

rsexton
@nobleco.us
(260) 636-2131

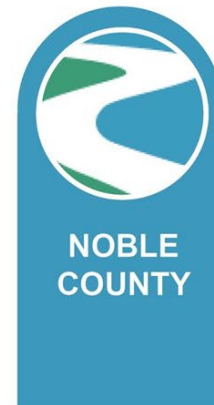
CONSERVATION

APPOINTEE



Stacey McGinnis
Soil & Water
Conservation District

stacey.mcginis
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MUNICIPAL EXECUTIVE

APPOINTEE



David Wood
Mayor
City of Mishawaka

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(574) 258-1601

PROXY



Adam Bowden
Engineer
City of Mishawaka

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MUNICIPAL EXECUTIVE

APPOINTEE



James Mueller
Mayor
City of South Bend

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(574) 235-9337

PROXY



Kieran Fahey
Director of LTCP
City of South Bend

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COUNTY EXECUTIVE

APPOINTEE



David Thomas
Commissioner

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PROXY



Roger Nawrot
Retired City
Engineer

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HEALTH

APPOINTEE



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PROXY



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DRAINAGE

APPOINTEE



John McNamara
County Surveyor

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PROXY



John Law
Construction
Supervisor

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CONSERVATION

APPOINTEE



Sarah Longenecker
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Conservation District

sarah.longenecker
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**ST. JOSEPH
COUNTY**

MUNICIPAL EXECUTIVE

APPOINTEE



Dick Hickman
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City of Angola

rhickman
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COUNTY EXECUTIVE

APPOINTEE



James Crowl
Commissioner

countycommissioners
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HEALTH

APPOINTEE



Ted Crisman, M.D.
Health Officer

healthdept
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DRAINAGE

APPOINTEE



Mike Ruff
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CONSERVATION

APPOINTEE



Janel Meyer
Soil & Water
Conservation District

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STEBEN COUNTY



PROXY



Kris Thomas
MS4 Coordinator
City of Angola

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@angolain.org
(260) 624-2663

PROXY



Tara Lee
SWCD Resource
Conservationist

tara.lee
@in.nacdnet.net
(260) 665-3211

PROXY



Alicia Walsh
Administrator
Health Department

avanee
@co.steuben.in.us
(260) 668-1000 x1515

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

APPOINTEE



Daniel Bortner
Director

dbortner
@dnr.in.gov
(317) 232-4020

PROXY



Rod Edgell
LARE Biologist

redgell
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(260) 244-6805 x230

Opening Business

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Approval of Minutes
 - September 3, 2020



Financial Report – FY 21 Q1 Activities

	FY20 Actual	FY21 YTD	FY21 Budget	% Budget to Date	Notes
REVENUE					
State of Indiana	102,874.52	22,307.00	89,227	25%	A
Local Government	55,751.00	3,153.00	63,660	5%	B
Special Projects	43,959.85	0.00	23,500	0%	C
Interest	2,972.23	89.22	2,500	4%	
Other Income	0.00	0.00			
Total Revenue	205,557.60	25,549.22	178,887	14%	
EXPENSES					
Basic Operations					
SJRBC Director	46,032.49	11,906.09	47,000	25%	
Accounting Services	3,663.85	372.10	4,000	9%	
Office Rent	2,100.00	525.00	6,250	8%	D
Legal	1,738.00	350.00	2,000	18%	
Bank Service Fees	224.29	37.00	750	5%	
Insurance	518.64	129.66	520	25%	
Travel/Mileage	756.14	113.75	1,250	9%	
Audit	2,720.00	0.00		0%	
Information Technology	999.96	249.99	1,000	25%	
Printing	79.74	19.54	350	6%	
Postage	8.50	3.50	50	7%	
Telephone	240.00	60.00	240	25%	
Misc Expenses	39.99	43.60	250	17%	
Operating Expenses	59,121.60	13,810.23	63,660	22%	
Special Projects					
Water Monitoring	4,000.00	0.00	27,200	0%	E
Additional MACOG Staff	2,506.97	819.19	35,700	2%	F
Municipal/Partner Support	4,090.59	75.33	9,350	1%	
Planning/Resource Development	67,523.75	29,990.00	31,077	97%	G
Education/Outreach Provision	3,494.64	1,789.92	7,400	24%	
Drainage (GLPF) Project	2,486.49	814.45	4,500	18%	
Project Expenses	84,102.44	33,488.89	115,227	29%	
Total Expenses	143,224.04	47,299.12	178,887	26%	
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$62,333.56	(\$21,749.90)	\$0		

Financial Report – FY 21 Q1 Assets

ASSETS

Cash

Lake City Account (1944)	\$241,495.33
--------------------------	--------------

Total Cash	\$241,495.33
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Accounts Receivable

State of Indiana	\$0.00
------------------	--------

Total Accounts Receivable	\$0.00
----------------------------------	---------------

Total Assets	\$241,495.33
---------------------	---------------------

LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$16,012.12
------------------	-------------

Total Liabilities	\$16,012.12
--------------------------	--------------------

Fund Balance

Fund Balance FYE 2020	\$247,233.11
-----------------------	--------------

Change in Net Assets YTD	(\$21,749.90)
--------------------------	---------------

Total Fund Balance	\$225,483.21
---------------------------	---------------------

Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$241,495.33
---	---------------------

Financial Report – FY20 Year End Cash Flows

CASH RECEIPTS

State of Indiana	\$22,307.00
Special Project Revenue	\$0.00
Drainage (GLPF) Project	
IU Grand Challenge Grant	
Local Government Appropriation	\$3,153.00
<u>Elkhart County</u>	
City of Elkhart	
City of Goshen	\$2,603.00
City of Nappanee	
<u>LaGrange County</u>	
Town of Lagrange	
<u>Noble County</u>	
City of Kendallville	
Rome City	\$50.00
<u>Steuben County</u>	\$500.00
City of Angola	
<u>St Joseph County</u>	
City of South Bend	
City of Mishawaka	
<u>Kosciusko County</u>	
Town of Syracuse	
Misc. Income	\$0.00
Interest Earned	\$89.22
Total Cash Receipts	\$25,549.22

Financials

- Financial Report
- Approval of Claims

SJRBC Claims Submitted for Commission Approval December 3, 2020

Accounts Payable Voucher Register

Date	Vendor	Description	Amount
7/31/2020	MACOG	Invoice #FY21-1 July 2020 Services	\$3,464.46
8/31/2020	MACOG	Invoice #FY21-2 August 2020 Services	\$6,101.28
9/30/2020	MACOG	Invoice #FY21-3 September 2020 Services	\$6,280.20
11/5/2020	CHRISTOPHER BURKE ENG.	Invoice #20346 - NB Elkhart Planning Project	\$2,500.00
12/3/2020	THORNE GRODNIK	December 2020 Legal Expenses	\$350.00
		Total	<u>\$18,695.94</u>

Old Business

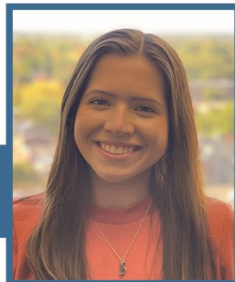
- Special Projects:
 - Additional MACOG Staff
 - Municipal/Partner Support
 - Education/Outreach Provision
 - Drainage Project
 - Planning/Resource Development
 - Water Monitoring

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CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$62,333.56	(\$21,749.90)	\$0		

Old Business

- Special Projects:
 - Additional MACOG Staff:
 - two new interns

**MADISON
WARD**



SJRBC - Intern



227 W. Jefferson Blvd.
11th Floor County-City Bldg.
South Bend, IN 46601

**CONNER
FLORA**



SJRBC - Intern

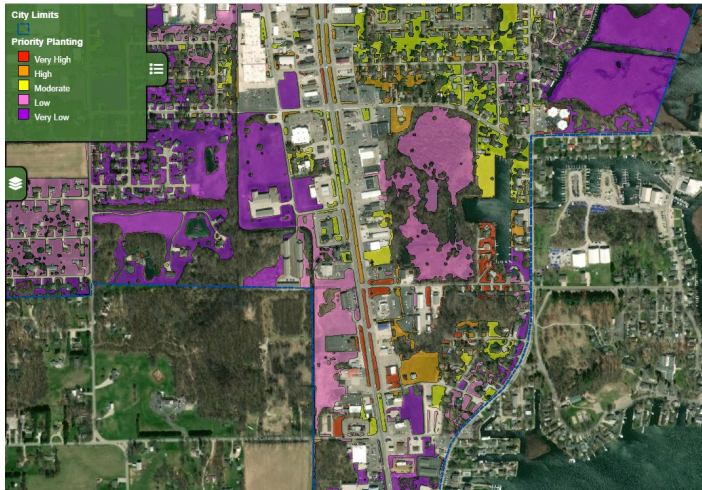
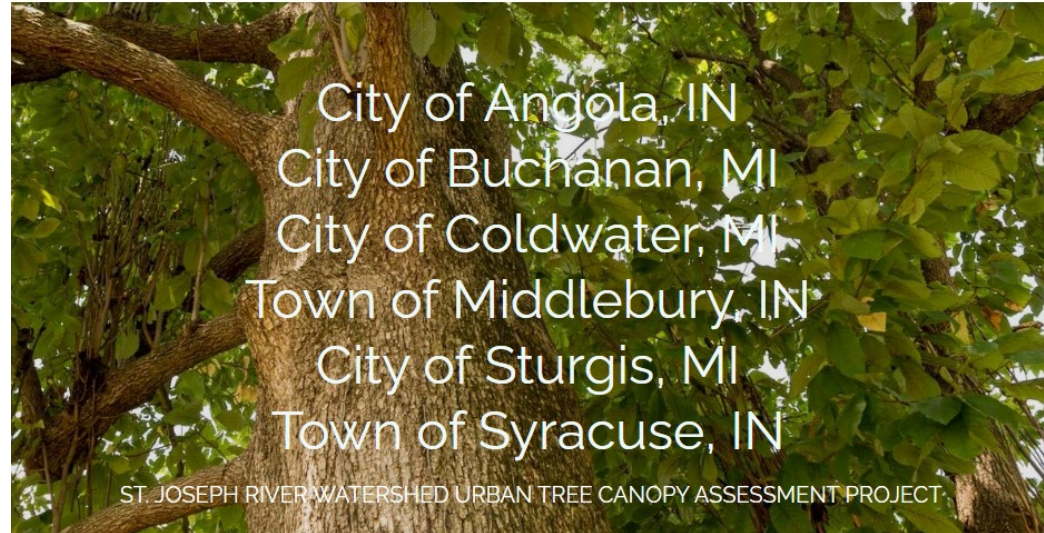


227 W. Jefferson Blvd.
11th Floor County-City Bldg.
South Bend, IN 46601

Old Business

- **Special Projects:**
 - Additional MACOG Staff
 - **Municipal/Partner Support:**
 - tree canopy project

TREE CANOPY IN THE ST. JOSEPH RIVER WATERSHED

[HOME](#)
[PROJECT PARTNERS](#)
[PROJECT OVERVIEW](#)
[COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT RESULTS](#)
[RECOMMENDATIONS](#)
[MORE...](#)


Old Business

- Special Projects:
 - Additional MACOG Staff
 - Municipal/Partner Support
 - **Education/Outreach Provision:**
 - communication training





Old Business

- **Special Projects:**
 - Additional MACOG Staff
 - Municipal/Partner Support
 - Education/Outreach Provision
 - **Drainage Project:**
 - new benefit determinations

Legend

Land Use, Soil

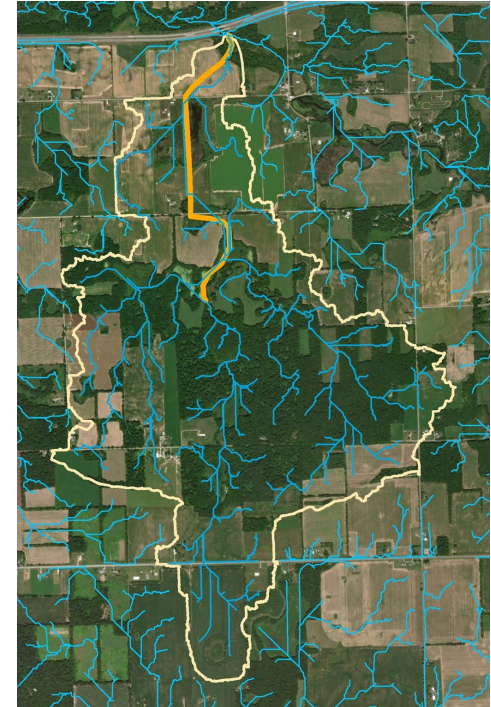
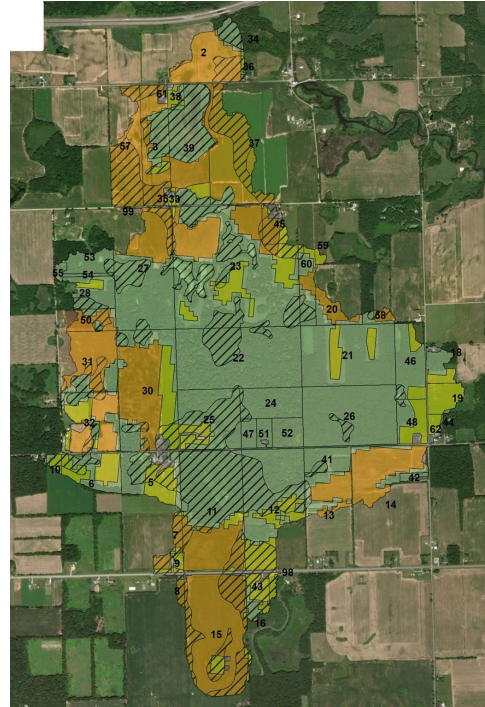
	Developed, Poorly Drained
	Developed, Well Drained
	Natural, Poorly Drained
	Natural, Well Drained
	Pasture, Poorly Drained
	Pasture, Well Drained
	Row Crops, Poorly Drained
	Row Crops, Well Drained

Legend

	Knight DEM Modeled Flow
	DEM Modeled Stream Flow
	J.W. Knight Drain and Tiles

Approximate Cost Per Acre:
(after \$15 per parcel)

Developed, Poorly Drained	\$64.99
Row Crops, Poorly Drained	\$60.44
Developed, Well Drained	\$36.36
Row Crops, Well Drained	\$33.85
Grass/Hay, Poorly Drained	\$31.19
Grass/Hay, Well Drained	\$17.47
Natural, All Soils	\$16.25



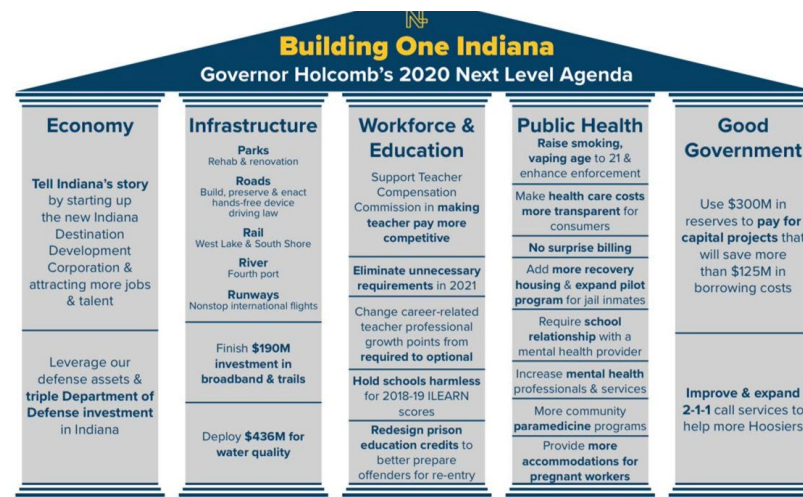
Old Business

- **Special Projects:**
 - Additional MACOG Staff
 - Municipal/Partner Support
 - Education/Outreach Provision
 - Drainage Project
 - Planning/Resource Development
 - **Water Monitoring:**
 - crowdsourced streamgages



Old Business

- Special Projects
- Biennium Change Request:
 - **FY22-FY23 Budget:**
 - base reduced by ~\$16K
 - current reserve would result in ~\$32K loss
 - met with SBA in October
 - finalized budget expected later this month



Old Business

- Special Projects
- Biennium Change Request
- Future Meeting Planning:
 - 2021 Meeting Schedule Quarterly on first Thursday:
 - March 4th
 - June 3rd
 - September 2nd
 - December 2nd

2021																											
JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	25	26	27	28	29	30	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28							28	29	30	31										
31																											
MAY							JUNE							JULY							AUGUST						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3							
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31						30	31						30	31						30	31					
SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2	1	2				1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4				
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31	
							31																				

Old Business

- Special Projects
- Biennium Change Request
- **Future Meeting Planning:**
 - 2021 Meeting Schedule
 - Meeting Location:
 - **Schrock Pavilion**
411 West Plymouth Ave.
Goshen, IN 46526



New Business

- Election of 2021 Officers
 - Customary officer progression
 - The existing officers expressed a willingness to serve in the following offices for 2021:
 - *Chair:* Daragh Deegan, City of Elkhart
 - *Vice Chair:* Kris Thomas, City of Angola
 - *Secretary:* Alicia Walsh, Steuben County



New Business

- Election of 2021 Officers
 - Unless there are other nominations from the floor, we need a motion to accept the following slate of officers for 2021:
 - *Chair:* Daragh Deegan, City of Elkhart
 - *Vice Chair:* Kris Thomas, City of Angola
 - *Secretary:* Alicia Walsh, Steuben County
 - *Treasurer:* _____, _____



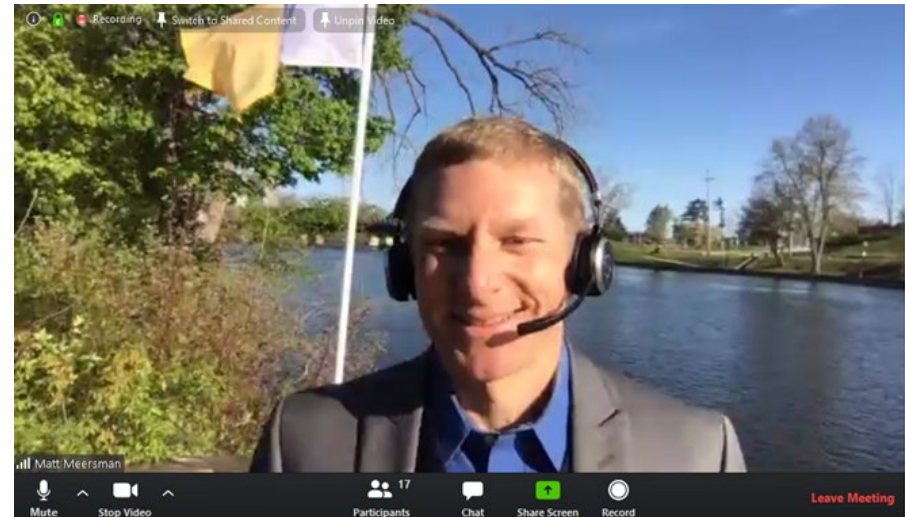
New Business

- Election of 2021 Officers
- **Indiana Watershed Leadership Academy**
 - Financial assistance typically provided
 - The following individuals from our basin have applied for 2021:
 - Martin Franke - District Manager, LaGrange Co. SWCD
 - John Vander Roest - President, Haekenburg Lake Assoc.



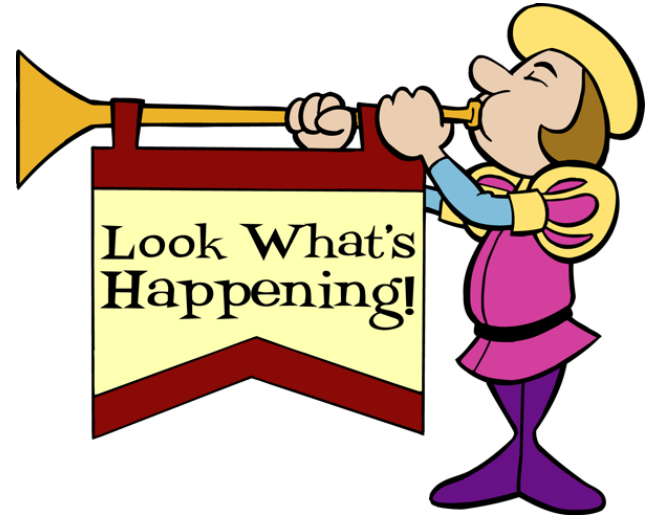
New Business

- Election of 2021 Officers
- Indiana Watershed Leadership Academy
- **21st Annual Symposium**
 - Plan for virtual event
 - Traditionally held on the second Friday in May:
 - May 14th, 2021



New Business

- Election of 2021 Officers
- Indiana Watershed Leadership Academy
- 21st Annual Symposium
- Other Business/Updates
 - [Announcements from Commission Members](#)



Director's Report

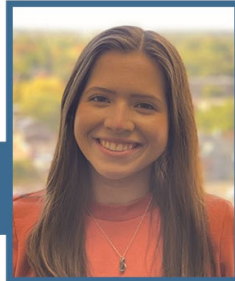
- Administrative
- WQ Planning/Resource Development
- Education/Outreach
- Water Monitoring
- Advocacy
- Partner Awareness
- Partner Support



Presentation

- Fall Internship Projects

**MADISON
WARD**



SJRBC - Intern



227 W. Jefferson Blvd.
11th Floor County-City Bldg.
South Bend, IN 46601

**CONNER
FLORA**



SJRBC - Intern



227 W. Jefferson Blvd.
11th Floor County-City Bldg.
South Bend, IN 46601



Commission Communications

Madison Ward



Intro

- Madison Ward
- Mass Comm.: Public Relations
 - Minor in Sociology & Graphic Design
- Career Track
- What I've done
 - Notre Dame CCI
- SJRBC Interest



Accomplishments

- Content Analysis
- Proposals
- Website Updates
- Organizational Charter
- Annual Report

North Branch Elkhart River Planning Project

The St. Joseph River Basin Commission hired Christopher B. Burke Engineering to develop a flood risk management plan to assess the overall functional health of the North Branch of the Elkhart River (NBER) and identify opportunities to mitigate flood hazards. This project was supported by a Grand Challenge grant from the Environmental Resilience Institute at Indiana University. Project partners included the Conservation Law Center and Robert C. Barr, a Hydrologist and Fluvial Geomorphologist from IUPUI.

After performing field inspections and analyzing historic precipitation and streamflow data, the NBER was found to be an incredibly resilient and healthy river system due to the large storage capacity of numerous lakes and relatively little wetland loss. These attributes, combined with the groundwater driven nature of the system, make the NBER a unique tributary of the St. Joseph River. The fact that increased annual rainfall and storm intensity have not significantly increased flow volumes downstream demonstrates the stability of this watershed.

Although the mainstem of the NBER is stable, instability was found in the headwaters of the Middle Branch above Sylvan Lake. This was mainly due to channel modifications and floodplain disconnection downstream of the City of Kendallville. The negative impacts of these changes are generally not experienced beyond Sylvan Lake because the lake traps sediment and serves as a hydrologic shock absorber, which reduces negative impacts further downstream in the NBER.

The study concluded that nature and location of flooding in the NBER watershed is the product of geology and climate, two factors that cannot be controlled. According to the plan, attempts to control natural fluctuations should be avoided in favor of adaption strategies. Based on the findings of this study, it is not likely feasible or cost-effective to significantly reduce flood problems for homes that were built in the floodplain by creating additional upstream storage, clearing vegetation downstream, or by more intensive means of increasing the outflow from lakes without creating negative impacts elsewhere.

What is recommended instead is to take a series of steps to adapt to higher lake levels and flooding patterns. These steps include protecting homes and reducing vulnerability to flood damages through the adoption of specific strategies for maintaining the inherent resiliency of the NBER watershed. To access this plan, [click here](#).



This image is of the Location map included in the report that highlights and visualizes the different areas of the region, including the lake chains and river sections.



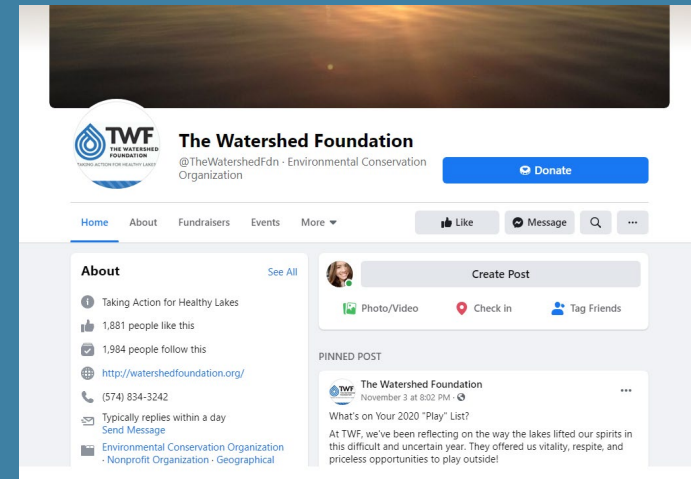
Figure 28 Headwater Lake Ditch, Downstream from Kendallville (Ditch Assessment)



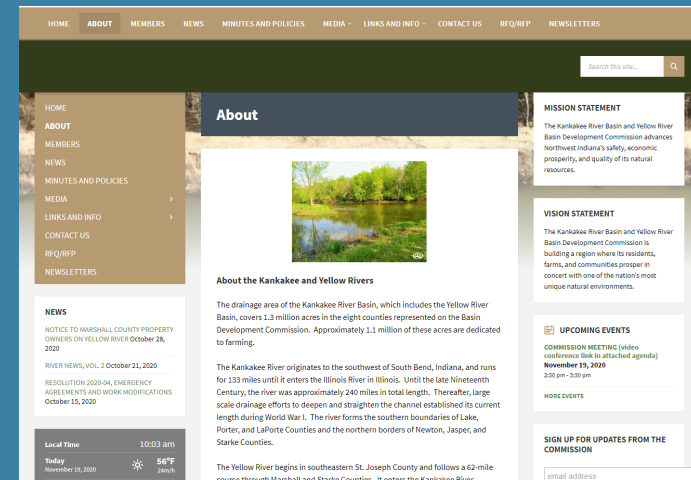
This map showcases the "Flood Resilience Planning Areas" from the final North Branch Elkhart River report. Courtesy of Burke Engineering, and data derived from IDNR, FEH, and U.S. Bureau Census files.

Content Analysis

- SJRBC web presence
- Similar organizations' web presence
- SJRBC membership presence on Facebook



The screenshot shows the Facebook profile for The Watershed Foundation. The profile picture is a circular logo with the letters 'TWF' and the text 'THE WATERSHED FOUNDATION TAKING ACTION FOR HEALTHY LAKES'. The cover photo is a landscape image of a sunset over water. The page name is 'The Watershed Foundation' with the handle '@TheWatershedFdn - Environmental Conservation Organization'. There is a blue 'Donate' button. The navigation bar includes 'Home', 'About', 'Fundraisers', 'Events', and 'More'. The 'About' section is expanded, showing 'Taking Action for Healthy Lakes', '1,881 people like this', '1,984 people follow this', the website 'http://watershedfoundation.org/', the phone number '(574) 834-3242', and the description 'Typically replies within a day' and 'Send Message'. A 'Create Post' box is visible with options for 'Photo/Video', 'Check in', and 'Tag Friends'. A pinned post from November 3 at 8:02 PM asks 'What's on Your 2020 "Play" List?' and mentions reflecting on the year's challenges.



The screenshot shows the website for The Watershed Foundation. The navigation bar includes 'HOME', 'ABOUT', 'MEMBERS', 'NEWS', 'MINUTES AND POLICIES', 'MEDIA', 'LINKS AND INFO', 'CONTACT US', 'RFQ/RFP', and 'NEWSLETTERS'. The main content area is titled 'About' and features a large image of a river landscape. Below the image is the heading 'About the Kankakee and Yellow Rivers' and a paragraph describing the drainage area of the Kankakee River Basin, which includes the Yellow River Basin, covers 1.3 million acres in eight counties, and is dedicated to farming. Another paragraph describes the river's origin in South Bend, Indiana, and its course through Marshall and Starke Counties. A third paragraph describes the river's course through southeastern St. Joseph County. On the right side, there are sections for 'MISSION STATEMENT', 'VISION STATEMENT', 'UPCOMING EVENTS' (listing a commission meeting on November 15, 2020), and 'SIGN UP FOR UPDATES FROM THE COMMISSION'. A search bar is located at the top right. A weather widget at the bottom left shows the local time as 10:03 am on November 15, 2020, with a temperature of 56°F and 24% humidity.

Proposals

- Social Media Integration
 - Sample Facebook page
 - With sample posts/content/sources
 - And Social Media Policy
- Website Renovation
 - Evaluating how we define SJRBC on home/about pages
- Other Work Plan Ideas
 - Such as an organizational charter, newsletter, member survey, etc.

SJRBC St. Joseph River Basin Commission

About

227 W. Jefferson Blvd 112
County-City Building South
Bend, IN 46601

Promote your business locally to lead people directly to 227 W. Jefferson Blvd 112 County-City Building South Bend, IN 46601.

The St. Joseph River Basin Commission (SJRBC) was established by the Indiana General Assembly in 1988 to improve water quality, encourage conservation and increase coordinated management of the water and related land resources within the St. Joseph River.

0 people follow this

<http://www.sjrb.com/index.html>

(574) 287-1829

Send Message

basindirector@macog.com

2 People Reached 1 Engagement **Boost Unavailable**

Like Comment Share

Comment as St. Joseph River Basin Commis... Press Enter to post.

SJRBC St. Joseph River Basin Commission
October 21 at 10:46 AM

Tree canopy assessments identify priority planting locations to maximize stormwater uptake in 6 local communities. <http://www.sjrb.com/news/2020/UrbanTreeCanopy/index.html>

Website Updates

- Added 4 news articles for 2020
 - Urban Tree Canopy Project
 - North Branch Elkhart River Project
 - Crowdsource Streamgage Installation
 - Better Drain Benefit Apportionment
- Linked new meeting minutes, agendas, & recordings
- Other
 - Footer Contact Info
 - Insert Vision/Core Values
 - FAQs

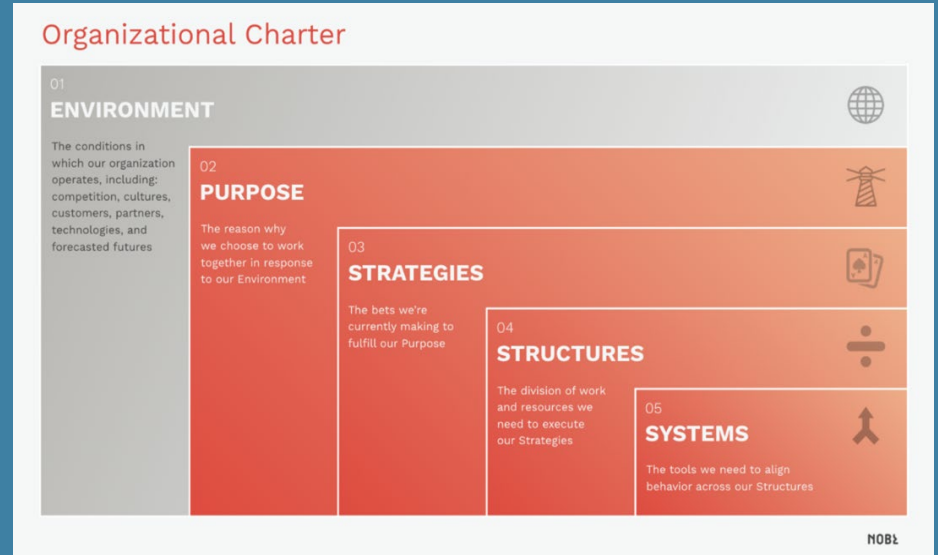


The screenshot shows the SJRBC website's news section. At the top is the SJRBC logo and navigation menu (HOME, ABOUT, BOARD, SYMPOSIUM, RESOURCES, NEWS). Below is a 'News' heading followed by a grid of news items. Each item includes a representative image, a title, a date, and a short summary.

Image	Title	Date	Summary
	North Branch Elkhart River Planning Project	November 2020	A flood risk management plan was developed to assess the overall health of the North Branch of the Elkhart River.
	Urban Tree Canopy Project	May 2020	Tree canopy assessments identify priority planting locations to maximize stormwater uptake in six local communities.
	Cobus Creek Feasibility Study Public Meeting	June 25, 2019	A public meeting is planned to discuss stream assessment results and recommendations.
	Water/Ways Exhibit Features SJRBC	January 24, 2019	Water/Ways exhibit explores the essential role water plays in our environment and society.
	HB 1089 To Expand Scope of SJRBC		
	Water Monitoring Report Now Available		
	Final Cobus Creek Watershed Study Now Available		
	Draft Cobus Creek Watershed Study Available For Review		

Organizational Charter

- Completed team Organizational Charter template
- Broke down different aspects of SJRBC
 - Environment, Purpose, Strategies, Structures, Systems
- Template can be used:
 - To renovate Home/About pages
 - Mission/Vision/Core Values
 - For new members/employees to understand the organization



Annual Report

- Included:
 - Intro/Background/Accomplishments
 - Clarify Mission/Vision/Core Values/Purpose
 - 4 News articles with visuals
 - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
 - Meetings/Members
- Upload to the website
- Also can be used as handout/deliverable material



ST. JOSEPH RIVER BASIN COMMISSION 2020 Annual Report



Table of Contents

- Page 1 - Introduction
- Page 2-5 - News
- Page 5 - FAQs
- Page 6 - Meetings/Members

Mission

To conserve, enhance, and promote the health of the St. Joseph River Basin by connecting people, ideas and resources in an effort to increase understanding and collaboration.

Vision

Healthy lakes and streams in the St. Joseph River Basin.

Core Values

Communication - Establishing connection and cooperation among local watershed managers and stakeholders.
Transparency - Promoting honest and trustworthy information concerning the health of our watershed and the policies that impact it.
Understanding - Providing context for watershed data and observations to inform management decisions.

Introduction

The St. Joseph River Basin Commission (SJRBC) was established by the Indiana General Assembly in 1988 to improve water quality, encourage conservation and increase coordinated management of the water and related land resources within the St. Joseph River Basin. The governance and funding comes entirely from the Indiana portion of the basin, but the SJRBC is authorized to work with Michigan to improve water management throughout the watershed.

Background

The SJRBC provides technical assistance, sponsors studies, supports demonstration projects and coordinates information sharing opportunities for local governments throughout the basin.

The Commission also serves as a liaison between federal and state water resource agencies and local land and water managers.

The Commission is currently headquartered in the offices of the Michiana Area Council of Governments (MACOG) in South Bend, Indiana. An ongoing partnership between the two agencies exists through a cooperative agreement.

Accomplishments

Throughout this year, there have been many challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but the Commission has forged ahead and met these challenges by adapting meeting and communication techniques to maintain contact with members and partners.

Some of the projects the Commission has worked on include the North Branch Elkhart River Planning Project, the Urban Tree Canopy Project, and Better Drain Benefit Apportionment. Other accomplishments of 2020 include hosting the 20th Annual SJRBC symposium, hiring two interns, and providing communications training with Water Words That Work, LLC.

Purpose

As described in our enabling statute (IC 14-30-3), the Commission should:

- Provide a forum for the discussion, study, and evaluation of water resource issues of common concern.
- Facilitate and foster cooperative planning and coordinated management of water and related land resources.
- Develop positions on water resource issues and serve as an advocate with federal, state, and local government agencies.
- Make recommendations on watershed related matters to political subdivisions and other agencies.
- Develop plans and tools to improve water quality and mitigate flooding.

Thoughts

- **Motivating Work**
 - Collaboration
 - Environmental awareness
 - Promoting better living conditions
- **Future**
 - Continue collaboration and increase it
 - New ways to collaborate, such as:
 - Evaluation Survey
 - Monthly Survey Log/Report
 - Write more news stories
 - Social Media Integration

Meetings

March 5

This was the first quarterly meeting of the year, which took place Thursday, March 5, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. in the Elkhart County Public Services Building in Goshen, IN. The meeting discussed old business including the 20th Annual Symposium Planning, additional staffing, the GLRI Urban Tree Project, and the North Branch Elkhart River Project. The new business discussed included the Lake Michigan Watershed Seminar, the Partner Grant Support, and other business/updates from Commission members. This was followed by a presentation by the Indiana Watershed Leadership Academy Experience, and later the floor was opened up for any other questions, concerns, or topics of discussion.

June 4

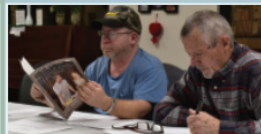
This was the second quarterly meeting of the year, which took place Thursday, June 4, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. electronically (due to the pandemic) as well as published on YouTube afterwards for those who could not make it to watch later on. The meeting discussed old business including the 20th Annual Symposium and Special Projects Updates. The new business discussed included the FY 16 - FY 19 Audit, the FY 21 Work Plan, the FY 21 Budget Adoption, the FY 21 Local Gov. Appropriation Requests, the FY 21 Legal Contract, and other business/updates from Commission members. This was followed by a presentation by a North Branch Elkhart River Project Update, and later the floor was opened up for any other questions, concerns, or topics of discussion.

September 3

This was the third quarterly meeting of the year, which took place Thursday, September 3, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. in the Schrock Pavilion in Goshen, IN and attendance electronically through video conferencing was encouraged as a substitute for attending in person. The meeting discussed old business including Special Projects, the new business discussed included Grant Opportunities, the Biennium Change Request, the Future Meeting Planning, and other business/updates from Commission members. This was followed by a presentation by a North Branch Elkhart River Project Update, and later the floor was opened up for any other questions, concerns, or topics of discussion.

December 3

This will be the fourth quarterly meeting of the year, which will take place Thursday, December 3. The meeting agenda and minutes will be attached to the website following the meeting.



SJRCB presented to Kosciusko County about the tree project. Courtesy of inkfreepress.com.

Members

Elkhart County
Mayor Rod Roberson
Proxy Daragh Deegan

Commissioner Suzie Weirick
Proxy Frank Lucchese

Health Officer Lydia Mertz, M.D.
Proxy Bill Hartsuff

Surveyor Philip Barker
Proxy Steve Schweisberger

Soil & Water Conservation District
Appointee Jim Hess

Kosciusko County
Council President Paul Stoehting
Proxy Mike Noe

Commissioner Cary Grouinger
Proxy Jon Roberts

Health Officer William Remington, M.D.
Proxy Robert Weaver

Surveyor Michael Kissingner
Proxy Jim Moyer

Soil & Water Conservation District
Appointee Jewel Wise

LaGrange County
Council President Ray Hoover
Proxy Diane Cameron

Commissioner Larry Miller
Proxy Martin Franke

Health Officer Tony Pechin, M.D.
Proxy Jarod Nisley

Surveyor Zach Holsinger
Proxy Steven Vaughn

Soil & Water Conservation District
Appointee Dona Hunter

Noble County
Mayor SuzAnne Handshoe
Proxy Sue McGee

Commissioner Anita Hess
Proxy Dana Lash

Health Officer Terry Gaff, M.D.
Proxy Jason Pippenger

Surveyor Randy Sexton

Soil & Water Conservation District
Appointee Stacey McGinnis

St. Joseph County
Mayor of Michiana David Wood
Proxy Adam Bowden

Mayor of South Bend James Mueller
Proxy Kiera Fahy

Commissioner David Thomas
Proxy Roger Nawrot

Health Officer Robert Eimler, M.D.
Proxy Mark Espich

Surveyor John McNamara
Proxy John Law

Soil & Water Conservation District
Appointee Sarah Longenecker

Stauben County
Mayor Dick Hickman
Proxy Kris Thomas

Commissioner James Crowl
Proxy Tara Lee

Health Officer Ted Crisman, M.D.
Proxy Alicia Walsh

Surveyor
Appointee Larry Gilbert

Soil & Water Conservation District
Appointee Janel Meyer

Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Director Daniel Bormer
Proxy Rod Edgell

Staff

Matt Meersman, SJRCB Director
Conner Flora, SJRCB Coordinator
Madison Ward, SJRCB Coordinator

Questions?



SJRBC Internship

Conner Flora



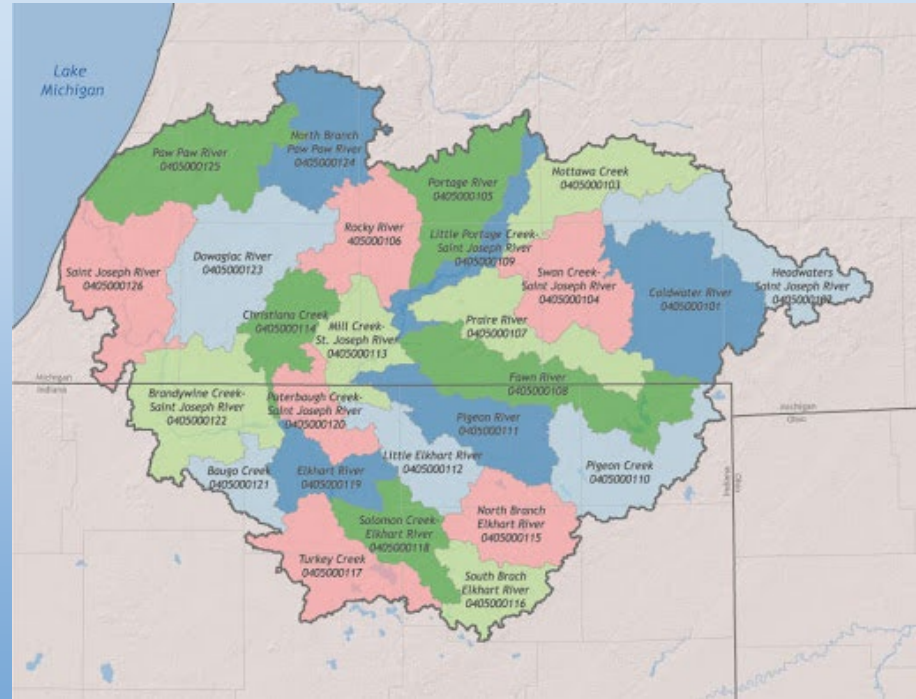
About Me

- Indiana University – Environmental Management (SPEA) '19
 - - Hatchery Technician at the Elkhart Conservation
 - - Fish Survey Crew with Daragh Deegan
- Founder of the Indiana University Fly Fishing Club and previous member of the SJRVFF and LECTU
- Peace Corps - Senegal, West Africa



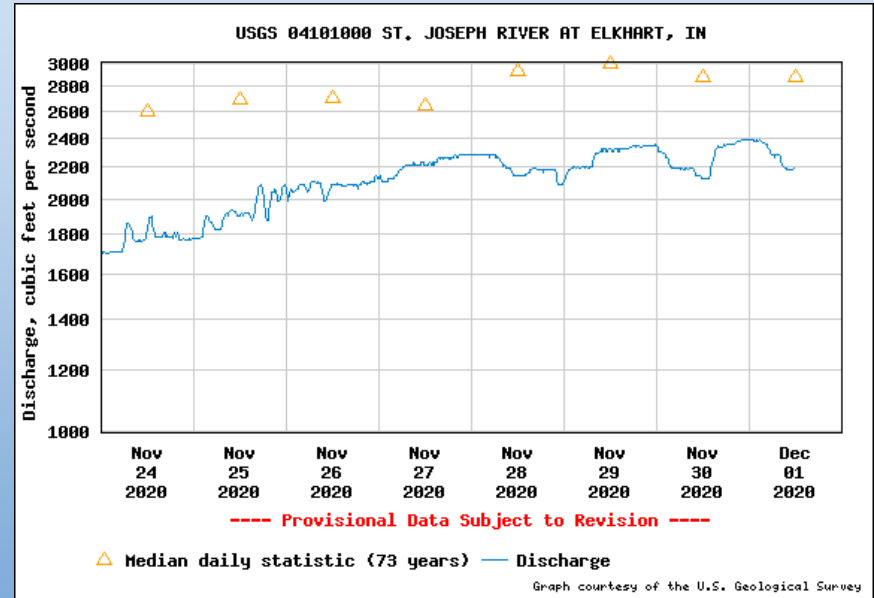
Initial Plan

- Tell a story
 - Biological
 - Chemical
 - Hydrological
- Create an app or web-page to display the data



Problems

- Difficult to effectively display data
- Limited coding knowledge

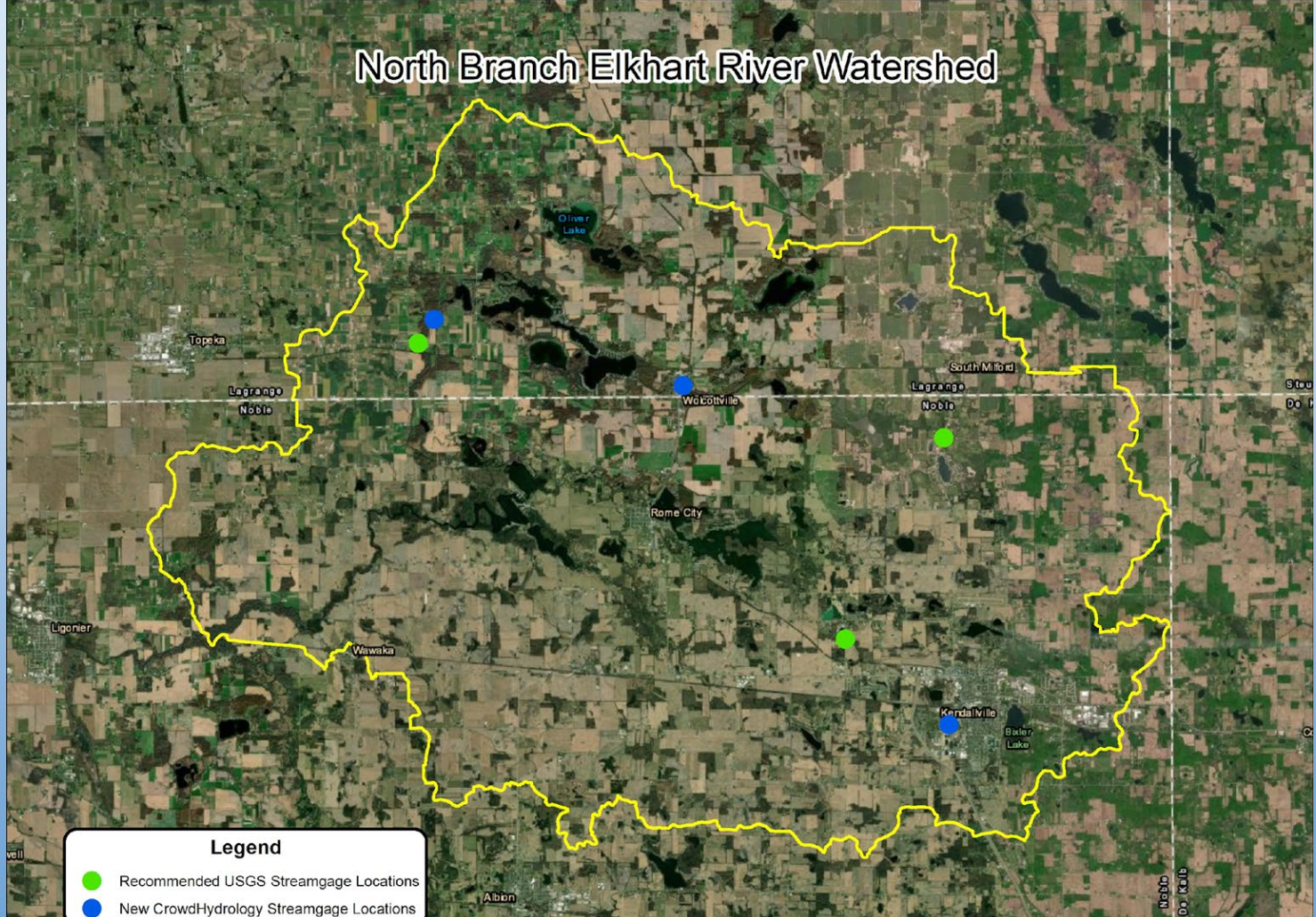


CrowdHydrology

- Crowd-sourced streamgauge
- Professor Chris Lowery of the University at Buffalo
- Significantly cheaper
- Relies on community members
- Locations taken from NBER study



North Branch Elkhart River Watershed



Legend

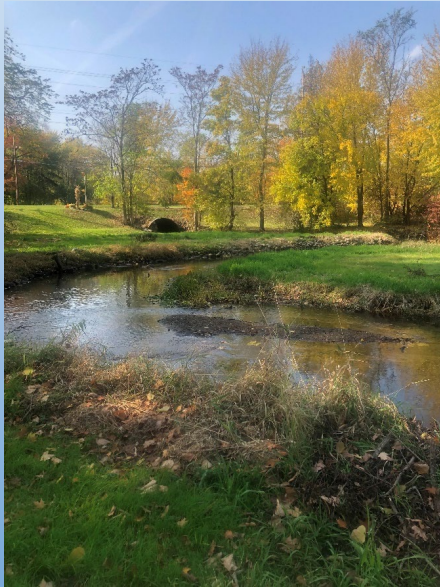
- Recommended USGS Streamgage Locations
- New CrowdHydrology Streamgage Locations

Delt Church Park (IN1002)



North Branch of the Elkhart River

Wolcott Park (IN1003)



Little Elkhart Creek

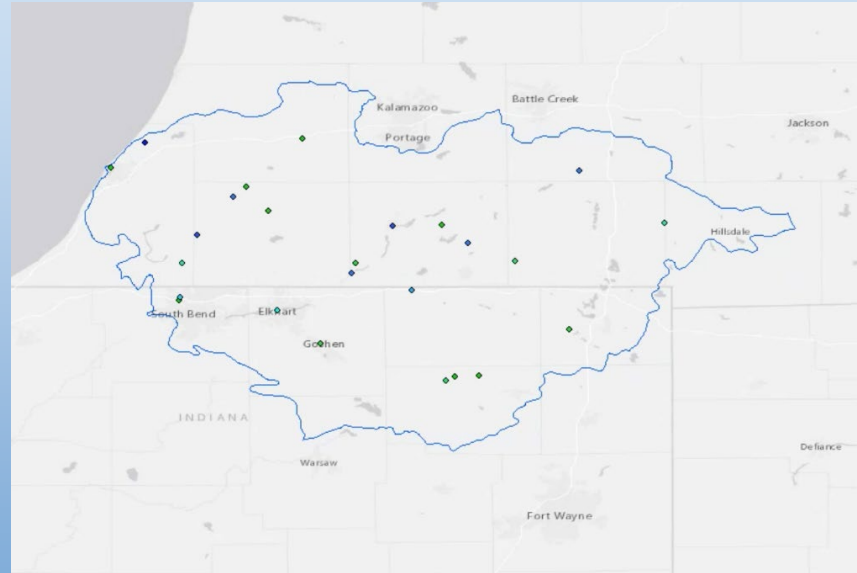
Sunset Park (IN1004)



Bixler Lake Ditch

USGS Mapping

- CoCoRaHS Rainfall Data
- USGS Exceedance Data
- Goal is to show how water moves through the SJRB
- Hydrologic Alteration Index



Data Collection in SJRB

- Creating a list of data collected within the basin
- Focusing on Elkhart County
 - City of Elkhart
 - City of Goshen
- Similar to Indiana Water Monitoring Inventory



What I've Learned

- Entities within SJRW
- Interactions between different parties
- Providing support
- Communication with stakeholders
- Delivery of projects



Items From the Floor

Other
Misc.
Etc...

Next Meeting
March 4th, 2021



SJRBC

St. Joseph River Basin Commission