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RESOLUTION 2013-2

Resolution approving revisions to the Greater Lansing Regional Committee on Phase II Nonpoint Source Pollution Prevention Memorandum of Agreement and appointment of the representative to the Committee

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has required communities in the greater Lansing area to apply for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4); and

WHEREAS, Clinton County and the surrounding communities that are in the watersheds of the Grand River, Red Cedar River, and Looking Glass River have previously entered into an agreement to create the Greater Lansing Regional Committee (GLRC) for Stormwater Management to protect the waters of the State and to meet the requirements of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality; and

WHEREAS, the current agreement is expiring April 30, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the GLRC has updated the MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT; and

WHEREAS, the MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT establishing the GLRC requires that each community's governing body approve the AGREEMENT and to name a person to represent the community on the GLRC.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Clinton County Board of Commissioners approve the attached MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clinton County Board of Commissioners hereby designated the Drain Commissioner be authorized as the representative to the GLRC.

STATE OF MICHIGAN

COUNTY OF CLINTON

I, DIANE ZUKER, Clerk of the County of Clinton do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Clinton County Board of Commissioners at the regular meeting held February 26, 2013 and is on file in the records of this office.

Diane Zuker, Clinton County Clerk

**GREATER LANSING REGIONAL COMMITTEE
for Stormwater Management**

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT - MAY 21, 2004
REVISED-DECEMBER 13, 2012**

I. PURPOSE

It is the purpose of this Memorandum of Agreement (hereinafter the Agreement) to set forth the composition, duties and responsibilities of the Greater Lansing Regional Committee for Stormwater Management (hereinafter the "GLRC") to be formed as more particularly described below. Local public agencies, institutions, and communities believe there are substantial benefits that can be derived under this Agreement through cooperative management of the Grand River, Red Cedar River and Looking Glass River watersheds to protect the Waters of the State; to meet local initiatives for protecting the environment; and in providing mutual assistance in meeting the requirements under the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems, (hereinafter the "MS4 Permit") or similar stormwater discharge permits issued to public entities within the Grand River, Red Cedar River, and Looking Glass River watersheds.

The Agreement will also provide a framework for consideration of new, permanent watershed organizations with potentially broader responsibilities that could provide a more cost effective and efficient means to meet state and federal requirements, and public expectations for restoration and maintenance of the beneficial uses of the watersheds.

II. HISTORY OF GLRC

On November 15, 1999, Delta Township and the City of Lansing hosted a meeting for several local communities. The meeting notice stated that this was to be “an informal meeting to discuss the Stormwater Phase II program (now referred to as the MS4 program) and how, or if, there may be a way to pool resources on a regional basis”.

Representatives from various communities, counties and MDEQ discussed the Federal Regulations for Stormwater Phase II and the MDEQ’s program allowing a “Voluntary Permit Program.” Originally nine communities and three counties were listed as designated communities by MDEQ.

Subsequent meetings were held to continue exploring the feasibility and cost of a cooperative effort. On June 8, 2000, a draft Resolution was prepared for the establishment of the “Greater Lansing Area Regional NPDES Phase II Stormwater Regulations Committee” and for each community to name a representative to serve on the committee.

Throughout the remainder of 2000, the committee obtained Resolutions from each community; elected officers; received proposals and interviewed four consulting firms. Tetra Tech MPS was selected to assist the Committee in determining how to best comply with the Phase II Stormwater Rules. Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (TCRPC) also assisted the Committee in providing contractual, fiduciary, and administrative support.

In May 2001, Tetra Tech MPS completed the “Step 1 – Permit Strategy Development” study which incorporated the Committee’s decision (April 20, 2001) to proceed as a group using the State’s Voluntary General Permit approach. The Committee then agreed to retain Tetra Tech MPS to prepare the Voluntary General Permit Application for each of the nine communities. The cost for each community was based on a formula that included weighted factors for population and land area. Eight of the nine communities then passed a second resolution agreeing to continue as a group with voluntary general permits using

the distribution of costs as presented. Williamstown Township elected to proceed with a jurisdictionally based permit.

The eight communities proceeding under the voluntary general permit, also formally agreed to have the watershed management plans developed under the individual drain commissioners.

On January 25, 2002, the Committee agreed to retain Tetra Tech MPS to prepare a watershed management plan for the Grand River, Looking Glass River, and the Red Cedar River. Again, the allocation of cost agreed to by everyone was based on weighted factors involving the percent of population and land in each watershed. Each community adopted a third resolution committing their appropriate funds for the watershed management plans.

A Public Education Advisory Committee was organized to assist in the educational portion of Voluntary General Permit Applications.

Throughout 2002 and 2003 fourteen additional communities within the three watersheds were invited to join the committee. Ten communities were required to meet the MS4 Permit requirements based on the 2000 census.

Eight communities ultimately joined and participated in the regional approach and completed the Voluntary General Permit Application utilizing Tetra Tech MPS.

In March 2003, all sixteen communities and the three counties submitted their Voluntary General Permit Applications to MDEQ. In November 2003, certificates of coverage were issued to each of the sixteen communities and to each of the three counties.

In 2006 Lansing Public Schools and DeWitt Public Schools joined the GLRC.

In 2007, a lawsuit filed by a Township in Kalamazoo County, established that some townships no longer required an MS4 Permit from MDEQ. As this case relates to the

GLRC, MDEQ determined that Alaiedon, Bath, Oneida, Watertown, and Windsor Townships would no longer need an MS4 Permit.

At the December 14, 2007 GLRC meeting, the GLRC membership took formal action to establish an Associate Membership category to encourage any public agency, institution, or community who did not have an MS4 Permit to join the GLRC.

In 2012, the City of DeWitt entered into an agreement nesting DeWitt Public Schools.

In 2012, the MDEQ changed the process for permit renewal, instead of issuing a general watershed based permit; individual MS4 permits will be issued. The application process will detail all activities of the GLRC and members through two separate applications. Then, the MDEQ will review and negotiate, with the end result being MDEQ issuing a permit specific for each member.

III. GREATER LANSING REGIONAL COMMITTEE (GLRC)

A. Term

While the ultimate organization of the GLRC and its responsibilities has evolved over time and after thoughtful review of alternatives, the signatories to this Agreement want to continue to work together under the following terms to assure the continuation of responsibility for essential services. These stormwater management services provide for the legal and financial responsibility to meet state and federal stormwater discharge permit requirements as well as local initiatives to protect the Waters of the State.

The current GLRC agreement expires on April 30, 2013. This agreement replaces the current GLRC agreement in its entirety for the period expiring April 30, 2017. As confirmed by MDEQ, expiration of the current permit is September 30, 2017; an application will be due to MDEQ by April 17, 2017. The members may mutually

agree to renew and/or extend the term of the GLRC under the provisions contained in this Agreement.

Any member community may withdraw from this Agreement and the GLRC by delivering to the Executive Committee a resolution of withdrawal adopted by its governing body. Any such withdrawal adopted shall be effective 30 days following delivery of withdrawal, provided however, that any withdrawing community shall remain liable for payment of its annual assessment through the end of the current fiscal year.

B. Composition

Membership in the GLRC shall consist of "full members", "associate members", and "ex-officio members".

The full members of the GLRC shall consist of a representative, or designated alternate, appointed by the appropriate governing body in each township, city, village, school district, institution, and county within the Grand River, Red Cedar River and Looking Glass River watersheds that has an MDEQ NPDES MS4 Permit and that are signatory to this Agreement.

The associate members of the GLRC shall consist of a representative, or designated alternate, appointed by the governing body in each township, city, village, school district, institution, and county within the Grand River, Red Cedar River and Looking Glass River watersheds that does not have an MDEQ NPDES MS4 permit and that are signatory to this Agreement. However, once an associate member obtains an MDEQ NPDES MS4 Permit, they must become a full member of the GLRC.

Members, and designated alternates, shall serve until replaced in writing by the appointing authority.

The GLRC may also include ex-officio representatives from such agencies as Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (TCRPC), MDEQ and others as determined by the GLRC.

C. Public Participation

All meetings of the GLRC shall be noticed and conducted in accordance with the Michigan Open Meetings Act, MCL 15.261, et seq. The GLRC and/or its Executive Committee shall:

- Determine the rules for public participation
- Schedule meetings at facilities that are fully accessible to the interested public, and
- Routinely provide notice of meeting times and places at publicly accessible locations

D. Voting

The GLRC shall take all formal actions by a simple majority vote of a quorum. A quorum shall consist of one more than fifty (50%) of the GLRC members, or their designated alternates, eligible to vote. Members eligible to vote are those full members and associate members authorized in writing by an appropriate governing authority that has adopted this Agreement and that has paid its assessment. Ex-officio members shall be non-voting members of the GLRC.

E. Election of Officers and Appointment of Executive Committee

The GLRC shall annually elect, from among its members, a Chair, a Vice-Chair, a Secretary and a Treasurer. The Chair and the Vice-Chair shall be elected or appointed officials, or employees of a voting full member of the GLRC. The

Secretary and Treasurer may be representatives of any full, associate, or ex-officio member of the GLRC. Officers elected by the GLRC may serve up to three consecutive terms. All terms shall be for one calendar year. The Vice Chair, or the Treasurer in the event the Vice-Chair is unavailable, may assume the duties of the Chair if the Chair is unavailable.

The Executive Committee shall have a maximum of eight voting members consisting of:

- (2) the Chair and Vice Chair of the GLRC
- (3) one representative or alternate from each member county
- (3) the Chairs of the Illicit Discharge Elimination Plan (IDEP), Public Education Plan (PEP), and Ordinance/Best Management Practices (BMP) Committees

The Chair of the GLRC shall chair the Executive Committee, with the responsibility succeeding to the Vice Chair, then the Chair of the PEP Committee if the Chair of the GLRC is absent. If neither the Vice Chair of the GLRC nor the Chair of the PEP Committee is present at an Executive Committee meeting, the Chair of the IDEP Committee shall serve as Chair for the meeting. The Chair of the GLRC shall not have an alternate serve on his behalf on the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee will seek consensus on all issues brought before it. In the absence of consensus, the Executive Committee will adopt motions only when a majority of its members vote in favor of a motion. Each full and associate member will have one vote. A County or Committee may designate an alternate to serve and vote on behalf of their appointed representative to the Executive Committee.

F. Meetings

The GLRC shall meet at least twice each year at a designated time and location established by the Executive Committee. Agendas for GLRC meetings will be distributed and circulated to all members at least two weeks in advance of all meetings. The Executive Committee will meet at least five times each year at the call of the Chair. All meetings of the GLRC, Executive Committee, standing committees or special committees established under the GLRC shall operate under the Robert's Rules of Order unless modified by a majority vote of the GLRC members. The meetings of the GLRC may be rotated to locations throughout the three watersheds allowing any member or community agency to host a meeting.

G. GLRC Duties

The GLRC shall have the following duties:

1. Budget and Assessments

The fiscal year for the GLRC shall coincide with the calendar year.

Upon execution of this Agreement, review and approve the annual budget for the GLRC and establish the allocation of annual assessments for each member category. The GLRC shall adopt a budget before each December 31 for the calendar year that follows.

2. Standing Committees

Establish and outline a charge for up to three standing committees. The IDEP, PEP, and Ordinance/BMP Committees will continue to function. Any member or designated alternate may serve on any standing committee. See Appendix A for a flow chart of the GLRC structure.

3. Watershed Management

The GLRC is committed to working with watershed partners in the region. This includes but is not limited to: Middle Grand River Watershed Planning Project (319), Red Cedar River Watershed Planning Project (319), Friends of the Looking Glass River Watershed, Middle Grand River Organization of Watersheds (MGROW), Mid-Michigan Environmental Action Council (Mid-MEAC), student groups, etc. The GLRC values the watershed efforts being conducted and will work with these groups to improve water resources in the Tri-County region.

4. Other Duties

- Maintain official written record of meetings that includes attendance, issues discussed and votes taken.
- Recommend to member communities, institutions, school districts, and counties any subsequent changes needed to this Agreement.
- Take other actions required, including delegation of responsibilities to the Chair or Executive Committee to carry out the purposes and conduct the business of the GLRC including, but not limited to, directing the activities of any committees established under this Agreement or subsequently authorized by the GLRC.
- Encourage and promote public input into decisions and recommendations of the GLRC, and of all committees established by the GLRC.

H. Executive Committee Duties

The Executive Committee shall have the following duties:

1. Budget

With the advice of the standing committees, supervise the expenditure of GLRC monies consistent with the approved annual budget.

2. Supervise Staff and Arrange Support Services

Arrange for the services of staff responsible for facilitating meetings, preparing agendas, and negotiating and advocating on behalf of the GLRC. Supervise and provide direction to staff of the GLRC, make provisions for necessary management support services for operation of the GLRC.

All staff or employees employed by the GLRC shall be and remain at all times solely the agents, servants, or employees of the GLRC and shall not be construed for any purposes to be an agent, servant, or employee of any constituent member of the GLRC.

3. Provide Forum for Discussion

Provide a forum for discussion, and, if appropriate, resolution of issues related to the implementation of this Agreement brought to its attention by any member of the GLRC.

4. Other Duties

- Assist the standing committees and special committees of the GLRC in meeting their respective responsibilities.
- Maintain a brief written record of each Executive Committee meeting including, at a minimum, attendance, list of issues, and a record of decisions.
- Take other actions that are consistent with the provisions of this Agreement and direction provided by the GLRC.

IV. RESOLUTION

The communities, institutions, school districts, and counties entering into this Agreement shall do so by the passage of a formal resolution, or exercising authority that includes the ability to commit to the payment of their appropriate assessments based on their membership category for support of the GLRC. In subsequent years, communities, institutions, school districts, and counties shall indicate their acceptance to continue this Agreement, should it remain unchanged, through the payment of their appropriate annual assessment in support of annual budgets approved by the GLRC.

Modifications to this Agreement as may be recommended by formal action of the GLRC shall be subject to acceptance of the appropriate authority of each community, institution, school district, or county.

Services provided through the GLRC and grant funds if obtained for stormwater management shall be, to the extent practical, limited to members that have signed and met their respective financial obligations under this Agreement.

V. FIDUCIARY SERVICES

The TCRPC has agreed to provide fiduciary services for the collection and expenditure of assessments paid under the terms of this Agreement. It is understood that the assessments paid under the terms of this Agreement will be used only for the services identified in the GLRC Annual Budget as adopted by the GLRC members. It is further understood that the assessments paid may be used to provide the required local match for federal grant dollars used to support the annual GLRC budget.

TCRPC has agreed to provide the Executive Committee full and complete access to records concerning the use of the funds collected from the members so that all expenditures of monies collected through assessments to members can be audited through a process determined to be appropriate by the Executive Committee. TCRPC has further agreed to provide a financial accounting of all funds collected and expended to the

GLRC within 45 days following the end of each calendar year. Copies of the annual accounting and audit reports shall be made available to all GLRC member communities upon request. TCRPC shall obtain Executive Committee consensus before expenditure of any of the assessments collected.

VI. INDEMNIFICATION, INSURANCE AND LEGAL FEES

Each signatory to this agreement, as part of its general liability coverage, shall maintain coverage for any damages, claims, causes of action, or actions of any nature whatsoever arising from this agreement, and does hereby agree to indemnify and save and hold harmless each other signatory, respectively, its officers, employees, and agents from and against any and all such damages, claims, actions and causes of action, including legal fees, based on this agreement, as may arise from any action taken or permitted by each signatory, respectively.

This agreement is not intended to create a legal entity subject to suit. Nothing in this section shall be construed to give any third party any claim to which said third party would not otherwise be entitled, nor shall it abrogate or diminish the defense of governmental immunity, or any other defense, for any claim against any party.

APPENDIX A
GLRC MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

