

WaterShed Partners

Meeting Minutes for January 12, 2000

ATTENDEES:

Alyssa Hawkins, SP Neighbor. Energy Cnsrtm	Kevin Bigalke, MN DNR – Trout Streams
Anne Weber, St. Paul Public Works	Lyndon Torstenson, MNRRA
Barb Liukkonen, UofM Water Resources	Mary Gullickson, Anoka Conservation Dist.
Charlotte Shover, Dakota County EE	Michele Hanson, Rice Creek WSD
Cliff Aichinger, RWMWD	Pauline Langsdorf, Met Council
Connie Fortin, Fortin Consulting	Randy Thoreson, St. Croix Nat. Scenic River
Erin Sutter, St. Croix Nat. Scenic River	Ron Struss, BWSR/Extension
Irene Jones, Friends of Miss. River	Shannon Lotthammer, MPCA
Jay Michels, MPCA	Shelley Shreffler, SP Neighbor. Energy Cnsrtm
Jennifer Schol, Dakota County EE	Tracy Fallon, Hamline - CGEE
Jerome Wagner, Capitol Region WSD	Tracy Fredin, Hamline - CGEE
Jerry Spetzman, Dept. of Ag.	Tricia Mangold, Hennepin Conserv. Dist.

PARTNER UPDATES:

Ron

- The University of Minnesota Extension Service has a job opening for an Environmental Education Coordinator in Carver County. For an application or more information contact Vern Oraskovich at 612-442-4492 or voraskovich@extension.umn.edu.
- Carneilian-Marine Watershed District has request for proposals for their Community Education Services. For further info., contact Derek Heinecke (TKDA Inc.) at 651-292-4605 or Ron Struss 651-215-1950.
- Does anyone have a good watershed diagram?

Randy

- The workshop “Protecting the St. Croix: Reducing and Managing Phosphorus” will be on February 24, 2000. WaterShed Partners are welcome to attend, but over 1000 people have been invited from within the St. Croix basin so they will have to limit attendance from areas outside the basin. For general registration info., call 612-624-4194.

Cliff

- The RWMWD is also sponsoring the WATERFEST 2000 in Tanners Lake Park on Saturday, June 3rd between 10:00 am and 3:00 pm. To receive a flyer explaining the details of the project or information of the Watershed 2000 please contact Cliff Aichinger at 651-704-2089 or cliff@rwmwd.org

Irene

- The Friends of the Mississippi River have a position open for a River Steward Coordinator. The closing date is January 26th. FFI: Irene at 651-222-2193 or see <http://www.fmr.org>.
- The River Leaders Breakfast Meeting will be held January 26 at Humanities Education Center in St. Paul. Jay Michels will be the keynote speaker. Call Irene if you would like to be added to River Leaders mailing list.

Tricia

- Does anyone have a pattern for a fluvian model/stream table?

Jay

- The Minnesota Erosion Control Association (MECA) is co-sponsoring the following E-team (Erosion Team) workshops: Carver County (1/27 & 2/3), Scott County (2/10 & 2/17), Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (2/11 & 2/18), Washington County (3/2 & 3/13), and Hennepin County (3/16 & 3/23). MECA is working with Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed and Rice Creek Watershed Districts to develop programs for their communities. This is a two-part program designed to develop local erosion control programs. The first session concentrates on developing the program and a study of successful programs. The second session is "Rules and Tools" and covers the NPDES permit requirements, the tools that are available to meet the permit requirements, what goes into developing erosion control plans, implementing the plans, field inspection, and enforcement.
- The MECA's 11th Annual Conference will be held at the Doubletree Park Place Hotel in St. Louis Park on March 9th and 10th. FFI: Jay at 651-296-7036.

Barb

- MN Water 2000, sponsored by the Water Resources Center, is scheduled for April 25th & 26th at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Call for papers ends Friday, January 14. Brochures are not available as of yet. FFI: Barb at 612-625-9256.
- The River Council of Minnesota's annual State of the Rivers meeting is scheduled for February 24, 25, & 26, at Hamline University. FFI: Julie Kingsley at 218-732-2085.

Charlotte

- The Dakota County Environmental Education Program has created several pieces of literature for Dakota County residents.
 - A door hanger about controlling erosion (the problem, what you can do, and how the Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District can help).
 - A flyer about the Wetland Health Evaluation Project (its goals, what volunteers do, and how the project works with local government).
 - A flyer about understanding non-point source pollution (lists sources, actions, and results for different pollutants – sediment, nutrients, toxic substances, and litter and yard debris).
- The Cannon River Summit 2000 will be held on February 3rd, 8:30am-4:15pm at Cabela's Retail Store in Owatonna. FFI: Cannon River Watershed Partnership at 507-332-0488.

- “Vernal Pools and Frogs: How to Identify Them,” a part of the Dakota County wetlands education series, will be held on February 23, 7-9pm at the Eagan City Hall. FFI: Charlotte at 651-480-7734.

NEW STEERING COMMITTEE FOR 2000

The 2000 Steering Committee consists of:

- Jim Falvey
- Shelley Shreffler
- Cliff Aichinger
- Connie Fortin
- Michelle Hanson
- Jerry Spetzman
- Ron Struss
- Tracy Fredin

At the last Steering Committee meeting, the above group was approved. With the amount of work to be done in the next year, the committee felt that a larger Steering Committee would be useful. As usual, all WaterShed Partners are welcome to attend Steering Committee meetings. They are held every 4th Monday of the month at Hamline University.

PRESENTATION OF METRO MONITORING PLAN

A steering committee has formed to undertake the tasks of implementing the plan. There are three basic areas of focus: funding (currently, Met Council, Board of Innovation and LCMR funds are being sought), staffing, and writing of a work plan. Connie Fortin has been asked to help with communication and facilitating for the group. The committee is meeting January 13th and one of the items on the agenda is to work on laying out details for the LCMR Grant.

COMPREHENSIVE LCMR FUNDING PROPOSAL FOR WSP PROJECTS

Proposed projects include:

- 1) Education Outreach (\$250K)
 - Support for development of education tools
 - Community-based education
 - Education network with mini grants
- 2) Volunteer Stream Monitoring (\$500K)
 - Equipment, coordination and training
 - Data interpretation
 - Program promotion, local program support
- 3) The WaterShed Exhibit (\$250K)
- 4) Phosphorus runoff (\$670K) - Being submitted through the Dept of Ag.
 - Demo plots
 - Best BMPs
 - Media Campaign

General consensus during the discussion was that the Partners can work through any pitfalls or challenges that would be brought to light and we should give it our fair shot. Hamline is willing to be the fiscal agent, but the option for the U of M Water Resources to share in that duty is being investigated. A joint meeting of the sub-committees (Education and Monitoring) will be held on January 20th, 10:30am, room 007 at Hamline University.

PHOSPHORUS LEGISLATION

The Department of Agriculture submitted legislation intended to limit the use of phosphorus fertilizers in the 7 county metro area and regulate use only in areas where it is justified. The Governor has approved of the legislation and it will go to the Legislature during the upcoming session. A few changes were made to the draft version and they are now in the process of drafting statutory language. The Department of Ag. has submitted an LCMR Grant proposals to financially compliment the legislation.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Watershed Education Conference Exploratory Meeting was held on December 15th. The group agreed there was a need for a regional conference on watershed education. The group outlined goals and potential funders, and concluded that a conference-planning group should be hired to handle the details. The working title is "Collaborations for Watershed Education: A Regional Conference with National Significance." If you are interested in participating with the initial planning of this conference, please contact Shelley at 651-221-4462.

****** *The "After the Rain: Urban Runoff" video showing was postponed due to time. *******

NEXT WATERSHED PARTNERS MEETING:

Wednesday, February 9th, 9-11am at Galtier Plaza, 7th floor conference room (175 E. 5th St., St. Paul). Contact Shelley Shreffler (651-221-4462) or any other Steering Committee member if you have an agenda item for the meeting.

NEXT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING:

Monday, February 28th, 3-5pm, at the Center for Global Environmental Education, Hamline University (1536 Hewitt Ave., St. Paul). Steering Committee usually meets on the 4th Monday of each month, 3pm, at Hamline. Meetings are open to all WaterShed Partners.

2000 STEERING COMMITTEE:

Cliff Aichinger, 651-777-6037
Jim Falvey, 612-870-3441
Connie Fortin, 612-553-2926
Tracy Fredin, 651-523-3105

Michelle Hanson, 651-766-4192
Shelley Shreffler, 651-221-4462
Jerry Spetzman, 651-297-7269
Ron Struss, 651-215-1950