



MINUTES March 8, 2000

ATTENDEES:

Anne Weber, St. Paul Public Works
Barb Liukkonen, UofM Water Resources
Brook Waalen, Mpls. Environmental Mgmt.
Cliff Aichinger, RWMWD
Irene Jones, Friends of Miss. River
Jerome Wagner, Capitol Region WSD
Jerry Spetzman, Dept. of Ag.
Jill Torres, MN Valley Nat. Wildlife Ref.
Jim Heintzman, Science Museum
Kary Schumpert, Friends of Miss. River
Kevin Bigalke, MN DNR – Trout Streams
Lisa Gilliland, Anoka County Parks - Wargo

Lyndon Torstenson, MNRRA
Mary Gullickson, Anoka Conservation Dist.
Michele Hanson, Rice Creek WSD
Pam Larson, Wilder Research Center
Pauline Langsdorf, Met Council
Rodney Johari, Hawthorne Area Community
Ron Struss, BWSR/Extension
Shelley Shreffler, SP Neighbor. Energy Cnsrtm
Stephanie Nelson, Wilder Research Center
Tracy Fallon, Hamline - CGEE
Tracy Fredin, Hamline – CGEE
Tricia Mangold, Hennepin Conserv. Dist.

PARTNER UPDATES:

Barb

- The Water Resources Center will be hosting “MN Water 2000 – A Watershed Year” at the Mpls. Convention Center on April 25-26, 2000. For more details and registration information, contact our web site <http://wrc.coafes.umn.edu/water2000/>
- The Water Resources Center has moved to a new building on the U’s St. Paul campus. You’ll find the new address on our Directory web page (Barb’s phone number has not changed). <http://cgee.hamline.edu/watershed/partners/directory.htm>.

Michele

- Paula West with the Minnesota Lakes Association heard about the Water Education Resource Book at the State of the Rivers Conference. She is tracking down a copy in the Brainerd Area and will then write an article on the project for the upcoming issue of the MN Lakes Association newsletter. She encourages WaterShed Partner to visit their web site for other watershed resources <http://www.mnlakesassn.org>.
- The Rice Creek Watershed District is hiring Temporary Summer Interns to inspect land development projects and related activities. The positions will start in April as part time and become full time during June-September. For application or questions call Tony Brough, RCWD District Inspector, at 651-766-4192.

Ron

- Several months ago, Ron mentioned the creation of a small version stormwater display. The Met Council will fund the project, but we need to find a woodworker willing to assist

with the project. He estimates about 80 hours to complete 20 displays, starting in June. FFI: Ron at 651-215-1950.

- The Children's Water Festival is scheduled for September 27th. If you know of classrooms interested in participating, please urge them to submit their registrations by March 31st for the lottery deadline.
- The University of Minnesota offers a work-study program that reimburses employers for a portion of the student's salary. FFI: Ron at 651-215-1950.

Charlotte

- The Dakota County Environmental Education Program is sponsoring the Vermillion River Congress on April 11, 8am-4:40pm at the Dakota County Extension and Conservation Center. There will be an overview of the river, student and citizen presentations on monitoring, a visit to a riparian restoration site, explanation of the river's impact on local planning efforts, visions for the future of the river, and information on how to get involved. No charge, lunch provided. WE WELCOME DISPLAYS – Contact Laura Jester, Dakota County SWCD, 651-480-7784 or check out the Vermillion River Watch web site <http://www.dakotaswcd.org>. FFI: Charlotte Shover, 651-480-7734, cshover@extension.umn.edu.

Tricia

- The Hennepin Conservation District will have a macroinvertebrate monitoring training day on Saturday April 8th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Minnetonka. This training day is open to anyone (including teachers, citizens and professionals) interested in learning the national River Watch Network protocol for macroinvertebrate monitoring. Organisms are identified to the family level in order to produce useful data that can be shared with state agencies, watershed management organizations and others. Half of the training day will be outdoors learning the protocol for collecting macroinvertebrates and completing a habitat assessment. The other half of the day will be indoors, dedicated to macroinvertebrate identification and interpretation of the results. This is an experiential workshop, so be prepared to explore the biological community of Minnehaha Creek in your hip boots as well as to distinguish between midges, mayflies and mites while squinting through a scope! Lunch will be provided, and there is a \$15 fee for participants who are not Hennepin County teachers. FFI: Tricia Mangold at 952-544-8572 or at tricia@hcd.hennepin.mn.us

Cliff

- The Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District is seeking students for summer internships. They need an intern for permit inspection, water quality monitoring, and habitat restoration. If you know of potential applicants, have them contact Cliff at 651-407-2089.

Kevin

- A technical writer is needed to assist with the drafting of Best Management Practices. FFI: Kevin at 651-772-6152.

- The Lower Minnesota River Watershed District is in need of an Administrator. Send names and information to Kevin at 651-772-6152.

Tracy Fallon

- The Announcement Forms used to note your Partner Updates are available on the website. You can download a Word or PDF version and submit it before or after the meeting. You can find the form at <http://cgee.hamline.edu/watershed/meetings>.
- The Waters to the Sea CD-ROM are now available. For ordering information, please see <http://cgee.hamline.edu/waters2thesea>.

Tracy Fredin

- The teacher training sessions for the new CD have been scheduled. To register, please contact Lori Forkner at 651-523-2895 or lforkner@gw.hamline.edu. Include your name, school, phone number, and the session that you wish to attend.
 - March 20, Hamline University (1536 Hewitt Ave.), St. Paul
 - March 21, Fairview Community Center (1910 W. County Rd. B.), Roseville
 - March 23, Water Treatment Facility (14100 Technology Drive), Eden Prairie
 - April 10, Teachers and Instructional Services (925 Delaware St. SE.), Minneapolis
 - April 11, Richfield High (7001 Harriet Ave. S.), Richfield
 - April 13, North High School (2416 East 11th Ave.), N. St. Paul
 - April 17, Columbia Heights High (1400 49th Ave. NE), Columbia Heights
 - April 18, Wayzata Central Middle School (305 Vicksburg Lane), Plymouth
- CGEE has secured a contract with Eden Prairie to produce a video on reducing water usage.

Irene

- Kary Schumpert was introduced as a new employee for the Friends of the Mississippi River.
- The Friends of the Mississippi River needs volunteers for several upcoming projects:
 - Storm drain stenciling in neighborhoods in Minneapolis, St. Paul, and the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District from April to October. FFI: Kary at 651-222-2193 and see <http://cgee.hamline.edu/watershed/meetings/fmr2.pdf>.
 - Planting native trees and shrubs and removing invasive European Buckthorn near the Koch Petroleum Group in Rosemount on May 20th. FFI: Great River Greening at 6751-665-9500, ext. 2 and see <http://cgee.hamline.edu/watershed/meetings/fmr1.pdf>

Jerry

- The EPA recently granted funds to create a high school watershed curriculum.

WATERSHED EXHIBIT EVALUATION

Lyndon, Pam, and Stephanie

- Pam and Stephanie attended the meeting to summarize the evaluation they did at the Children's Water Festival last fall. For a copy of the Summary and the Lessons Learned, please see <http://cgee.hamline.edu/watershed/partners/evaluation00.pdf>.
- The discussion then turned to the next steps that must be taken.
 - Need additional strategies for follow-up and an opportunity to help teachers incorporate watershed education into the classroom.
 - Students didn't fully grasp where water goes from the street. This would be a good place to boost understanding.
 - Need to talk to youth that weren't interested in the exhibit and determine why.

PHOSPHORUS LEGISLATION UPDATE

Jerry

- The Phosphorus legislation put forth by the Department of Agriculture received good support from both houses and approval by the Governor's office, but with details to still work out, time ran out for this bill to be passed in this session. It is normal to not pass a bill during its first time through. For copies of flyers given to legislators, please see <http://cgee.hamline.edu/watershed/partners/phosphorus.htm>. These pieces can be used by you when discussing the issue with others.

VOLUNTEER MONITORING PROGRAM UPDATE

Michele

- The group is waiting for the Met Council to distribute funding for targeted grants. In the meantime, the group is pursuing other funding opportunities.
- The group putting a great deal of energy into the LCMR funding request. A one-page flyer was drafted and teachers have been contacted to have their students write letters of support to legislators. It looks as though Kathy Tinglestad is interested in supporting the request.
- The Steering Committee will meet on the 1st Thursday of each month. All Partners are welcomed to join.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Ron

- The WaterShed Partners received \$35,000 from the Met Council to fund the Education Network. Because this was only half of the request, the Committee is looking at ways to cut back on the original plan and create a working plan for the coming year. The objectives for the committee are:
 - Be a "Fair Broker" of available education resources.
 - Connect educators with resources specific to their watershed.
 - Connect new teachers with those with experience.

MEP WATERSHED EXHIBIT GRANT UPDATE

Tracy Fredin

- The WaterShed Exhibit 2000 Task Force will convene to determine how best to update the WaterShed Exhibit. Last year's funding from the Met Council was used to create a new version of Table 1 – What is a WaterShed? This year, focus will be placed on updating the other three tables and putting more pizzazz into the Action Table (table 4). If you are interesting in being a part of this Task Force, please contact Tracy Fallon ASAP at 651-523-2591 or tfallon@gw.hamline.edu. Meetings will begin immediately with the goal of having new pieces before the Minnesota State Fair.
- There was discussion around the need for and use of the tent. If we had a self-supporting tent, would more people use the exhibit at outdoor events? The current tent is damaged and very cumbersome to use.

LCMR UPDATE AND STRATEGY DISCUSSION

Tracy Fredin

- Please think of people who can help lobby or champion the WaterShed Partners LCMR Proposal. The Steering Committee is looking into the viability of hiring a professional lobbyist.

WATERSHED EXHIBIT – NEW TABLE 1

Tracy Fredin

- The Science Museum of Minnesota's Exhibit Shop has completed final touches on the new version of Table 1 – What is a WaterShed? The table was displayed for Partners to review. Please see <http://cgee.hamline.edu/watershed/exhibit/theshed.htm> to view the new version.
- The Partners celebrated the completion of this project. Thanks for the Partners who participated in the Task Force and a special thanks to the Met Council for funding our projects!!

NOTES:

- **Next Steering Committee meeting: Mon, March 27, 2pm**, at the Center for Global Environmental Education (CGEE), Hamline University. The Steering Committee meets regularly on the 4th Monday of each month, 2-4pm, at Hamline. Meetings are open to all WaterShed Partners.
- **Next WaterShed Partners meeting: Wed, April 12, 9am**, at the Dept. of Ag., St. Paul. Let a Steering Committee member know if you have an agenda item for the meeting. Meetings of the WaterShed Partners are regularly the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 9-11am, and will now be hosted by the Dept. of Ag.

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

FFI: Shelley Shreffler, 651-221-4462; shelleys@spnec.org or Tracy Fallon, 651-523-2591; tfallon@gw.hamline.edu