



MINUTES August 8th, 2001

ATTENDEES

Anne Weber, St. Paul Public Works
Cliff Aichinger, RWMWD
Daniel Huff, Dakota Co. EE Program
Jamie Schurbon, Anoka Conservation Dist.
Janell Miersch, Rice Creek WS District
Jay Michels, Mn. Erosion Control Assoc.
Jeanne Prok, Freshwater Society
Jerry Spetzman, Dept. of Ag.
Jim Heintzman, Science Museum of MN
Joan Ellis, Minnehaha Creek WSD
Jon Steadland, Mpls. Environmental Mgmt.
Kristen Soderlund, Environmental Education
Program Dakota County

Louise Watson, RWMWD
Lyndon Torstenson, MNRRA
Margie Vigoren, City of Plymouth
Maria Olson, Great River Greening
Michele Hanson, MN DNR
Pam Davis, St. Croix River Basin
Pamela Jessup, Hamline -- CGEE
Pauline Langsdorf, Met Council
Randy Thoreson, NPS – RTCA
Ron Struss, MN Extension
Service/BWSR
Shelley Shreffler, SP Neighborhood
Energy Consortium

PARTNER UPDATES AND ACTIVITIES:

JAY MICHEL

The Minnesota Erosion Control invites you to attend: **STREAM RESTORATION IN URBAN & URBANIZING ENVIRONMENTS**: Thursday Aug. 16th 2001 8 a.m.-4 p.m. The seminar is being held at Dakota County Extension & Conservation Center, 4100 220th St. West, Farmington. The registration fee is \$55, send in to Jay Michels at the Mn Erosion Control Office. For more information contact Jay at 651-351-0630.

LOUISE WATSON

There will be a River Clean Up on Sept. 5th from 9-3 p.m. Audubon Society is cleaning up the Mississippi River and is looking for volunteers to help out. Volunteers will meet at the boat landing on the West side of the Mississippi River at I-494. There will be boats available there that will go on over to the Pig's Eye area. Clean up around that area and bring the junk back to the boat landing area at I-494 and the Mississippi River. Contact Louise Watson at 651-704-2089 for more information.

LYNDON TORSTENSON

The music CD "Great Mississippi", songs by Charlie McQuire, the "Singing Ranger," is now available. The songs feature the rich stories of the diverse Mississippi River. The CD may be purchased through Homestead Pickin' Parlour or at any of the numerous CD release concerts around the Twin Cities.

PAULINE LANGSDORF

Metro Environment Partnership grant guidelines area on the website for Metropolitan Council www.metrocouncil.org. The deadline is October 26th at 4:00 p.m. Contact Joe Mulcahy if you need more guidance. Met Council's main number is 651-602-1005.

JON STEADLAND

Thanks to everyone who attended the June meeting of the Twin Cities Metro Area WaterShed Network. If anyone would like summaries of the legislative updates from BWSR, PCA, DNR, and the Met Council contact me 612-673-5814 or jon.steadland@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

PAM DAVIS

February 21, 2001 is the 3rd Annual Nutrient and Sediment Conference. The focus is on updating projects and application in nutrient management for point and nonpoint sources in the St. Croix Basin; including poster and exhibition; including afternoon session for all those involved in water resource protection management and planning to coordinate a Basin Wide planning process. Pam Davis 651-439-7122.

RANDY THORESON

Tom's of Maine is interested in sponsoring/co-sponsoring "Rivers Festival" event in Twin Cities. The initial local contact is Whole Foods. More information to follow.

RON STRUSS

Navigating the Digital Divide: Tools for Schools - GIS Technology You Can Use. The 8th annual Epic – Epp17 GIS conference focuses on tools and materials to help educators explore Minnesota's natural and cultural resources. Friday, August 17th, MnDot Training Center – Shorewood, \$15 Registration. Learn how GIS technology can be used as a teaching tool. Also receive free GIS software. Designed for classroom teachers and others working in natural resources education and/or community planning. Go to www.mnplan.state.mn.us/EPPL7/conference/register.htm for more information, or call 651-296-1201.

AGENDA ITEMS:

PROJECT NEMO

Jay Michels

We are busy preparing the "generic" version of the presentation for review of the steering committee and Metropolitan Council. We hope to have the presentation reviewed and ready by September 1st.

VOLUNTEER STREAM MONITORING PARTNERSHIP

Michelle Hanson

The data sheets and protocols are close to being in order and work is progressing on putting together the data base. A teacher training will be offered on Aug. 22nd in Chaska. The River Summit will be held November 15th at the Science Museum. If you would like further info about VSMP call Julia Nerbonne 612-624-7460 or Mary Gullickson 612-625-6781.

WATERSHED EXHIBIT UPDATE

Pamela Jessup

State Fair: The WaterShed Exhibit will be in the DNR building along the South Wall (same place as last year). Training for staffing the exhibit at the state fair will be on Tues. Aug. 21st from 1-3, and Wed. Aug. 22 from 10 a.m.-12. The fair starts on Thurs. Aug. 24th. **There are still 22 open shifts to fill** before the fair

begins on the 23rd. If you know of anyone in your organization that would be interested in signing up, please let me know.

This year there will be WSP t-shirts to wear during your shift at the fair. The t-shirts are being made by Graphic Traffic in North St. Paul. They are white with the WSP logo on the front and back. With "Clean Water Starts With You" also written across the back. They are free to all volunteers that are staffing the state fair, and are \$10 each if anyone would like to purchase one who isn't working the state fair. Just let me know the size you'd like. We have M, L, XL, and XXL. The t-shirts will be at the state fair at the WaterShed Exhibit, so when you work your shift, just pick up a shirt.

John Shepard has been working on the new MN statewide puzzle kiosk. It will be finished in time for the State Fair. Because it is an extension of the map piece on Table 2, the kiosk will be set up next to Table 2. Also the MNRRRA kiosk will be there again this year. We will have 2 Mac's running the kiosk on Table 4.

WaterShed Exhibit Usage Update: This summer the WaterShed Exhibit has been very busy! The number of places the WSE has gone to has increased 120% in the last year. Because of the increase in checkouts, there is an estimated 200% more people the exhibit has reached.

If you still need to take the Van Driving Training on the CD Rom, please call me and set up a time when you are able to come over to my department and view it. Remember, you must take the training before you are allowed to check out the van.

STATE WIDE WATERSHED EXHIBIT TASK FORCE UPDATE

Jerry Spetzman

The task force has met 3 times so far. They are working on developing a statewide puzzle piece table for Table 2. New inserts for Table 1 are being designed to show a shoreland management focus. The pump system would remain the same, but the inserts would be 2 identical houses with different landscapes. Table 2 would be a statewide puzzle piece. Table 3 is still being planned, but it would have a nutrient run-off focus for water quality. Right now the task force is working with the SMM to design it. The initial cost estimate is \$36,000 for the 3 tables. Next the task force will be working on how to raise the money, and where the money will come from.

SCHOOL TO WORK PROJECT IN ST. PAUL

Renee Wonser (Louise Watson)

Hamline University's Center for Global Environmental Education (CGEE) is putting together a teacher-in-the-workplace experience for St. Paul area science teachers, and we're looking for environmental partners. The experience is designed to give science teachers a look inside environmental agencies and organizations to see how environmental professionals use science in their jobs. The goal is to help teachers teach with an eye on how science is applied.

CGEE is looking for partners who could:

- Spend two hours with science teachers at an orientation day on August 6, talking informally to groups of two or three teachers at a time, giving them an overview of the environmental organization and their work.
- Arrange 20-24 hours of job shadowing with one or more professionals in the organization who could introduce the teacher to how science plays a part in their work. Our preference is that each teacher will spend time with several staff members in each organization, to get the broadest look at the kinds of work each organization does. The 20-24 hours in the workplace would be spread over two to three weeks in August, and arranged to fit the schedules of both the teachers and the working professionals at the organizations.
- Join us for a small celebration at the end of the experience, to celebrate with the teachers.

If you are interested in participating in this exciting partnership with St. Paul schools, please contact Renee Wonser at 651-523-2419 or rwonser@gw.hamline.edu

WATERSHED NETWORK

Jon Steadland

Twin Cities Metro WaterShed Network is a loose affiliation of WaterShed districts in the Metro Area. They have a packet of WS resources with great contact information. If you would like a packet, contact Jon at jon.steadland@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.

METRO MEDIA CAMPAIGN

Ron Struss

A committee is being formed to see what was done in the past and what to do in the future for the Metro Media Campaign. If you are interested please sign up to be on this committee. The first meeting won't be for a month or 2.

GREEN GUIDE PRESENTATION

Ami Voeltz

The Twin Cities Green Guide is an almost all-volunteer, non-profit organization that is creating a 300-page guidebook and website about "green" living, sustainability, and healthy communities. The guidebook will cover over 250 issues from Gardening to Clean Energy to Alternative Transportation. Following each issue is a 2-page article on each topic, with 2 books to reference, 2 websites, and 2 community contacts, if the reader is looking for more information. There will be over 10,000 printed copies of the book distributed around the Twin Cities Metro area and parts of Greater Minnesota. Half of the books will be sold at co-ops and bookstores, and the rest will be distributed for free to libraries, schools and in lower socioeconomic neighborhoods. The profits from ½ the books will be used to print a second edition in 3-4 years. The book will also be on the web-site www.thegreenguide.org when it is completed. The Green Guide will cost less than \$10, and will go into print in September and will be available to purchase beginning of November.

BLUE SKY GUIDE PRESENTATION

Katherine Mullen

The Blue Sky Guide promotes products and services that are environmentally sound. It is equivalent to the Happenings Book, but only has environmentally friendly organizations. Eight organizations are sponsoring the publication. The books are being used as a fundraiser in schools, and other organizations. The profits kept will be a minimum of 40% from each book. The books will cost \$20 each. 15,000 copies will be printed on Sept. 1. If you would like to buy a book, there are 3 main non-profit distributors on the area: St. Paul Neighborhood Energy Consortium, Eco-Education, and the Recycling Association of Minnesota. For more information go to www.findbluesky.com

WATERSHED EXHIBIT DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE UPDATE

John Shepard (CGEE)

John presented the new Minnesota Statewide Puzzle map kiosk to be used at the State Fair. Because it is an extension of Table 2, it will sit between Table 2 and 3. Right now it is a separate program from the original kiosk system we have, however, after the State Fair, it will be incorporated into the main kiosk.

WATERSHED VAN GRAPHICS UPDATE

Julyna Webb (CGEE)

Julyna showed the design of the graphics that will be put on the van. The van will go in to have the graphics put on sometime in early September.

NOTES

- **Next Steering Committee meeting: Mon, Aug. 24th, 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, Sept. 12th, 9am**, at the Dept. of Ag., St. Paul. Let a Steering Committee member know if you have an agenda item for the meeting. The WaterShed Partners meet regularly on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 9-11am.

2001 STEERING COMMITTEE:

Cliff Aichinger, 651-704-2089

Jay Michels, 651-351-0630

Jim Falvey, 612-334-9460 x112

Connie Fortin, 763-478-3606

Tracy Fredin, 651-523-3105

Michele Hanson, 651-772-6150

Shelley Shreffler, 651-221-4462

Jerry Spetzman, 651-297-7269

Ron Struss, 651-215-1950

FFI: Contact a Steering Committee member or Pamela Jessup, 651-523-2591 / pajessup@gw.hamline.edu