



# MINUTES

## May 8, 2002

### **ATTENDEES**

Alaina Berger, (guest speaker) Metro DNR  
Anne Weber, St. Paul Public Works  
April Rust, MN DNR – Project WET  
Barb Huberty, Rochester Public Works Dept.  
Barb Luikkonen, UM Water Resources Ctr.  
Cliff Aichinger, RWMWD  
Don Berger, MPCA  
Jane Dusek, Capitol Region WSD  
Jerry Spetzman, Dept. of Agriculture  
Jim Heintzman, Science Museum of MN  
Julie Westerlund, MN DNR

Kevin Proescholdt, VSMP – UM Water Resources  
Linda Henning, Metropolitan Council ES  
Michele Hanson, MN DNR – Watershed Protection  
Margie Vigoren, City of Plymouth  
Pamela Jessup, Hamline -- CGEE  
Pauline Langsdorf, Met Council  
Randy Thoreson, NPS  
Ron Struss, MN Extension Service/BWSR  
Sage Passi, RWMWD  
Sarah Riddle, Eco Education  
Shelley Shreffler, McKnight Foundation

### **PARTNER UPDATES:**

#### **CLIFF AICHINGER**

The website for Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District is now up and live. Please visit it at [www.rwmwd.org](http://www.rwmwd.org) and send them any comments you have. Call Cliff at 651-704-2089. Also, Water Fest 2002 is coming up. Saturday May 18 at Lake Phalen 10 a.m.- 3 p.m..

#### **JOHN BILOTTA**

The 2002 Children's Water Festival at the State Fair Grounds is scheduled for Wednesday Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>. There is a new CWF Volunteer email list serve to keep in contact with volunteers. Please register to the list serve by going to <http://lists.extension.umn.edu/mailman/listinfo/cwf>. Type in your email address to subscribe. FFI contact John at 952-361-1814 or [jbilotta@co.carver.mn.us](mailto:jbilotta@co.carver.mn.us)

#### **METRO WATERSHED PARTNERS UPDATE**

##### **METRO THINK CLEAN WATER CAMPAIGN – Ron Struss**

Funding is almost assured from Metropolitan Council for one and a half years. On May 17<sup>th</sup> there will be a meeting with Metropolitan Council and the MN Department of Agriculture to discuss how the campaign will coordinate with the phosphorus fertilizer legislation. It will go in front of the Environment Committee at Metropolitan Council for approval on the 28th.

##### **TV WEATHER / WATERSHED WEBSITE – Ron Struss**

The weather people who work for the local TV stations will be going to a national conference in this June that has a session on TV weather / watershed education websites. Ron is going to write metro TV weather people telling them of this session and inviting them to work with WaterShed Partners if interested in creating a TV weather / watershed education website.

#### **PROJECT NEMO**

Jay Michels is currently in Canada giving presentations on NEMO. He has submitted the LCMR grant, and received the 319 grant. This money will expand the area he can serve by 100 miles.

### **VOLUNTEER STREAM MONITORING PARTNERSHIP – Kevin Proesholdt**

Three out of the four training sessions are done. They have been well attended; the first had 28 participants. May 9<sup>th</sup> is the 4<sup>th</sup> and final training session.

### **AWARD SUGGESTION FOR PHOSPHORUS LEGISLATION – Ron Struss**

The steering committee has put together 4 certificates to key politicians and activists involved in getting the phosphorous fertilizer legislation passed. They are Mayor Woody Love, Peggy Leppik, Linda Higgins, Commissioner Gene Hugoson, and Jerry Spetzman. The steering committee will visit these people to deliver their certificates. We will also send co-signers of the bill with a letter of appreciation. We will make up 3 new ones to send to Bachmann's, Dundee, and Menards.

### **K-12 EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

The teacher survey is going out to the teachers on the list serve on May 9<sup>th</sup>. The survey requests demographic information as well as info about how many hours teachers spend on watershed education per year, what resources they are interested in, if they are interested in grants, if they are interested in mentors, etc. The summer Rivers Institute hosted by Hamline University is being planned for a 1-4 daylong class. This will hopefully promote networking between teachers and WaterShed organizations.

### **PHOSPHOROUS FERTILIZER LEGISLATION PRESENTATION – Jerry Spetzman, MDA**

Jerry passed around the actual bill that was passed, and his PowerPoint presentation on the bill. Jerry also explained how and why 0% phosphorous is important, and how to figure out the levels of phosphate in your lawn. Contact Jerry for a copy of his power point presentation at [Jerome.Spetzman@state.mn.us](mailto:Jerome.Spetzman@state.mn.us)

### **NEIGHBORHOOD WILD PRESENTATION – Alaina Berger, DNR**

The Neighborhood WILDs Program offered by the MN DNR is designed to help metro area residents understand, protect and restore the natural resources in their neighborhoods. Consisting of 2 separate phases – workshops and demonstration projects – the program aims to link and buffer existing natural areas by coordinating landscaping and land management among neighbors. A collaborative effort of the MDNR, local conservation groups, and neighborhoods, the 2001-03 program is funded by the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCMR) and the Metropolitan Council. In order to participate, neighborhoods must team up with a sponsoring agency, (i.e. city or county, a watershed district or a private nonprofit organization.) This agency will help residents to complete an application for a workshop. If a neighborhood is selected, the sponsor will then help to organize, and potentially, facilitate the workshop in collaboration with Neighborhood WILDs staff. If the neighborhood is sufficiently galvanized, it may wish to apply for Phase II of the Program: funding and technical assistance for a demonstration project that emerges from the Activity Plan. During 2002-03, up to 8 neighborhoods will be selected to receive as much as \$15,000 each. For application forms or FFI contact Diane Hellekson, NWP Consulting Coordinator [dhellekson@barr.com](mailto:dhellekson@barr.com) 952-832-2963.

### **PAULINE LANGSDORF'S RETIREMENT PARTY**

Pauline Langsdorf, Metropolitan Council, is retiring June 4<sup>th</sup>. Pauline was one of the founders of the Metro WaterShed Partners. We will miss Pauline's enthusiasm and energy for environmental education tremendously. Thank you Pauline for getting so many people involved with the WaterShed Partners. Best of luck to you with your future endeavors!

#### **NOTES:**

- **Next Steering Committee meeting: Monday, May 20th, 2 p.m.**, at the Center for Global Environmental Education (CGEE), Hamline University. The Steering Committee meets

regularly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month, 2-4 p.m., at CGEE. Meetings are open to all WaterShed Partners.

- **Next WaterShed Partners meeting: Wednesday, June 12th, 9 a.m.**, at the Dept. of Agriculture, St. Paul. Let a Steering Committee member know if you have an agenda item for the meeting. The WaterShed Partners meet regularly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month, 9-11 a.m.

**2002 STEERING COMMITTEE:**

Cliff Aichinger, 651-704-2089

Jay Michels, 651-351-0630

Jerry Spetzman, 651-297-7269

Margie Vigoren 763-509-5506

Michele Hanson, 651-766-4192

Ron Struss, 651-215-1950

Tracy Fredin, 651-523-3105

**FFI:** Contact a Steering Committee member or Pamela Jessup, 651-523-2591 / [pajessup@gw.hamline.edu](mailto:pajessup@gw.hamline.edu)