



MINUTES

August 14th, 2002

ATTENDEES

Anne Weber, St. Paul Public Works
April Rust, MN DNR – Project WET
Barb Huberty, Rochester Public Works
Cliff Aichinger, RWMWD
Jane Dusek, Capitol Region WSD
Jay Michels, MN Erosion Control Association
Jenny Schaub, Hennepin Conservation District
Jerry Spetzman, Dept. of Agriculture
Jim Heintzman, Science Museum of MN

Joan Ellis, Minnehaha Creek WSD
Kevin Proescholdt, VSMP
Linda Henning, Metropolitan Council ES
Louise Watson, RWMWD
Margie Vigoren, City of Plymouth
Michele Hanson, MN DNR – Watershed Protection
Pamela Jessup, Hamline -- CGEE
Tracy Fredin, Hamline – CGEE

PARTNER UPDATES:

JOAN ELLIS

The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District office is moving to 18202 Minnetonka Blvd.; Deephaven, MN 55391. There is no change in the phone or fax numbers. Effective Sept. 16th. For more information contact Joan Ellis at 952-471-0590 or jellis@minnehahacreek.org

KEVIN PROESCHOLDT

VSMP has a new web-site, part of the U of M's Water Resources Center site. VSMP's web site can be reached at www.vsmpp.org. FFI contact Kevin at 612-624-7460 or kevinp@umn.edu.

JANE DUSEK

1. Como Lake Strategic Management Plan has been adapted. Copied (printed and CD-Rom are available). Call for details.
2. Public Comment Period for the Lake McCarron's Management Plan is running through Friday Oct. 4th. Call CRWD office for a printed or CD-Rom copy of the Public Review Draft. FFI contact Jane at 651-488-1476 x14 or jane.dusek@co.ramsey.mn.us .

APRIL RUST

1. Looking for volunteers/presenters for "Make a Splash with Project Wet" Water Festival on Friday, September 27th at Mississippi River County Park (near St. Cloud). Activities are pre-selected and prepared for presenters. Training is available. FFI contact April at 651-297-4951 or april.rust@dnr.state.mn.us
2. Advanced Project WET Facilitator Training on new national water quality program. "Healthy Water, Healthy People", at St. Croix WaterShed Research Station, September 19-20th. All Water Educators welcome! Free Workshop!

JAY MICHELS

MECA invites you to attend "Demonstrating Temporary Erosion Control Systems in a Testing Environment" Thursday Sept. 12, 2002 Turtleback Country Club & American Excelsior Testing Facility in Rice Lake, WI \$35 covers all costs for this seminar – space is limited so register soon! Rain or Shine, so dress appropriately. FFI contact Jay at 651-351-0630 or jmichels@skypoint.com

TRACY FREDIN

1. Thank you to the National Park Service/MNRRRA and Lyndon Torstenson for donating \$1,750 to the WaterShed Partners. We will be looking at buying some used computers to convert into kiosks for the WaterShed Exhibit.
2. Hamline University's Center for Global Environmental Education hosted a week long Rivers Institute Course for educators nationwide. The Rivers Institute was very successful, with 50 students enrolled, and generated a lot of enthusiasm and energy for next year. However, enrollment from teachers locally was very low. Thank you to the WaterShed Partners who participated in making this week a huge success!

JOHN BILOTTA

1. John is now actively soliciting volunteers for the 2002 Children's Water Festival September 25th. The first email went out last week via the CWF list serve. Volunteers are needed to serve as class guides, presentation helpers, parking, lunch, and water arcade assistance. If anyone is interested in volunteering, they should contact me at jbilotta@co.carver.mn.us. Everyone is encouraged to sign-up on the list serve if you desire to have weekly updates as the Festival approaches. To sign up for the list serve, the web site address is <http://lists.extension.umn.edu/mailman/listinfo/cwf>. Or just contact John. An update on volunteers recruited so far, should be out sometime next week - but more help is needed.
2. Also, who might be attending the 2002 Water Planners Conference September 23-25 in Hinckley? John would like to go - but CWF is the 25th. If others are interested - John might go up Monday night and come back Tuesday late afternoon - to hit a few of the discussions. But he will only go if others are interested in making the quick commute up and back. Unfortunately, we have CWF to prepare for as well. Please contact John at jbilotta@co.carver.mn.us if you would like to carpool.

METRO WATERSHED PARTNERS UPDATES

METRO THINK CLEAN WATER CAMPAIGN

WSP submitted a grant proposal to Met Council for \$160,000. We'll most likely be approved for \$100,000. We're still waiting to receive word on when the Met Council will distribute the money. We also submitted a grant proposal to the OEA in the amount of \$70,000 – to compensate for what we would not receive from the Met Council. So far the OEA has rated our grant proposal very high. If we do get all the funding, the project will start this winter. Linda Henning from the Metropolitan Council mentioned she would like WSP to submit the campaign as a competitive grant under the upcoming grant cycle as well to be considered for a targeted grant.

TV WEATHER / WATERSHED WEBSITE

All weather people from the major television networks in the metro area attended the half day *Focus on the Environment* weather and watershed conference in Virginia. We will be following up with the networks in the near future to see if they would like to start a website with help from the Metro WaterShed Partners.

PROJECT NEMO – JAY MICHELS

Jay is wrapping up the pilot projects by September 20th which were part of the MEP plan. Now the next phase will be going one ring out of the metro area. After September 30th another MEP grant will be applied for to continue with Project NEMO program.

VOLUNTEER STREAM MONITORING PARTNERSHIP – KEVIN PROESHOLDT

Intro to Biological Monitoring will be held on August 21st. It is the first set of fall training programs. It will be held at North Mississippi Regional Park in Minneapolis. For teachers, citizens, and professionals interested in learning how to sample for and identify macroinvertebrates. It is a good refresher.

Registrations must be received before Friday Aug. 16, 2002. Cost is \$10 for volunteers in the VSMP network, \$25 per person for others. FFI contact Kevin.

UPDATE ON STATE FAIR – PAMELA JESSUP

The MN State Fair begins Thursday August 22nd and runs through Sept. 2, 2002. Again this year we will have the entire WaterShed Exhibit set up in the DNR Building. There are still open shifts available, you can check the schedule at <http://cgee.hamline.edu/watershed/Exhibit/02fairsignup.htm> Training for volunteers staffing the exhibit will be held on Tues. Aug. 20th from 2-4 p.m. and Wed. Aug. 21st from 10-noon. Training is not mandatory, however it is a good refresher. T-shirts are required for all volunteers. If you need a t-shirt, please contact Pamela Jessup at 651-523-2591. If you know of someone who would like to volunteer for an open shift, please have him or her contact Pamela, and she will send them out a state fair packet. All volunteers receive a free ticket to get in the fair. We will also have old Table 3, and 2 kiosks set up at the PCA booth in the education building. This does not need to be staffed by the WSP.

PHASE II STORMWATER GUIDE PLAN PROJECT - REMI STONE, LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA CITIES

Since mid-July the LMC Phase II Guide Plan Steering Committee has been meeting and assigning tasks to sub-committees to advance the development of the Guide Plan. On July 16th the Steering Committee convened and selected as chair Barb Huberty - Environmental and Regulatory Compliance Coordinator for the City of Rochester Public Works. The Steering Committee assigned members to assist in “short-listing” consultants for interview before the full committee on August 12th. After the consultant is selected, the Steering Committee will meet on a regular basis to provide advice and direction on the Guide Plan development. On July 12th the League issued a modified request for qualifications. By July 26th, seven consulting firms had submitted their statements of qualification as the vie for the ability to prepare the LMC’s Phase II Guide Plan. The sub-committee recommended to the LMC Board of Directors’ Executive Committee that the full Steering Committee interview the following three firms at the LMC Office Aug. 12: Bonestroo, WSB, and Wenck. The Executive Committee reviewed the sub-committee’s recommendations and concurred with their recommendations.

It has been a fast paced couple of weeks on the LMC Phase II Guide Plan front. Below are links to the most recent published LMC articles on the Plan's progress. Since the time of the publication of these articles consultant interviews were held and a recommendation was made to the LMC Board's Executive Committee

The Phase II Stormwater Guide Plan Steering Committee interviewed three firms on Monday, August 12, 2002. Firms interviewed were Bonestroo, Wenck & WSB. After an intense day of interviews and discussion, Bonestroo was selected as the firm the Steering Committee recommends to the LMC Board for the development of the Guide Plan. The Steering Committee urged the LMC to enter into negotiations with Bonestroo as soon as possible to achieve a timely delivery of the Guide Plan product.

Bonestroo's approach to developing the Guide Plan blended the national perspective of AMEC Engineering (an international engineering firm) with a very practical decision tree methodology designed to reflect Minnesota's environmental idiosyncrasies prepared by local consultants. The Steering Committee felt this broad approach to assisting cities in building a Phase II permit application would best fit the needs of all MS4 communities - those in Greater Minnesota, the metropolitan area, those with large, small and medium populations and those facing unique environmental challenges associated with outstanding resource value waters.

Nevertheless, Bonestroo was the highest cost proposer and the Steering Committee, while supporting the Bonestroo approach, asked that the LMC work with them to reduce their cost by refining their scope: i.e. remove unnecessary components or components that cities can access through normal membership benefits,

such as acquiring sample ordinances via the LMC Research Department or using LMC sponsored listservs to exchange public education information.

If that fails, the Steering Committee asked that LMC move on to the Wenck / UND approach and ask them to ramp up their services.

The committee made it clear that they did not want LMC to be in negotiations with two firms at the same time.

The committee demanded a clear identification of tasks that are within the Scope of Work for the project and a clear identification of tasks that are not within the Scope of Work for the project. A sub-committee of the Steering Committee will be reviewing this information within the week.

The committee also made it clear that they want the selected consultants to be very aware of and to work to avoid any appearance of or actual conflict of interest between the chosen consultant, its current city clients and potential city clients.

The Steering Committee recommended that the education element of the Bonestroo proposal be removed and the WSP work on this element separately with the LMC.

1. Guide Plan history, LMC's role, list of potential "partner" cities - please be aware the list of interested cities is growing every day and the attached list is current as of last week.

<http://www.lmnc.org/bulletin/legis.cfm#guideplan>

2. Steering Committee's work and membership

<http://www.lmnc.org/bulletin/legis.cfm#committee>

3. MCEA's challenge and Steering Committee's recommendation to move ahead with Guide Plan

<http://www.lmnc.org/bulletin/legis.cfm#challenge>

Follow the link to access the latest LMC Cities E-Bulletin in its entirety:

<http://www.lmnc.org/bulletin/citiesbulletin.cfm>

If you are not a E-Bulletin subscriber and would like to be, please visit our web site at <http://www.lmnc.org> for more information or contact Jeanine Hopp at <mailto:jhopp@lmnc.org>

Remi Stone, League of Minnesota Cities

Tel: 651-281-1256

There will be a WaterShed Partners sub-committee working on Phase II Educational Effort issues, people interested in joining this group are Jay Michels, Michele Hanson, Cliff Aichinger, Jim Heintzman, Tracy Fredin, Anne Weber, Ron Struss.

<http://www.lmnc.org/>

PCA ADDRESSES ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION - DON BERGER, PCA

Don Berger is the MPCA's Environmental Education Coordinator. Don shared some key objectives of the PCA's education plan with us. Don would like to know where there is overlap of goals and objectives with WSP and what collaborative opportunities may exist for us to work together. MPCA key objectives are as follows: **Building Environmental Literacy: Sustaining Our Air, Land, and Water Resources Involving Citizens, Developing Youth Leadership, Supporting Education.**

Audience: Classroom school teachers, home school teachers, green print audiences, students, civic organizations, citizen volunteers and anyone else who is interested in conservation of our air, land, and water resources.

Goals: To help create and define the MPCA's role working with others in promoting an

environmental stewardship ethic in Minnesota citizens. Striving for increased literacy and personal responsibility for environmental stewardship.

To contact Don call 651-297-8494 or Donald.berger@pca.state.mn.us

NOTES:

- **Next Steering Committee meeting: Monday, August 26th, 2 p.m.**, at the Center for Global Environmental Education (CGEE), Hamline University. The Steering Committee meets regularly on the 4th Monday of each month, 2-4 p.m., at CGEE. Meetings are open to all WaterShed Partners.
- **Next WaterShed Partners meeting: Wednesday, September 11th, 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 2nd 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