



MINUTES

September 11th, 2002

ATTENDEES

Alyssa Hawkins, Friends of the Miss. River
Anne Weber, St. Paul Public Works
Barbara Huberty, Rochester Public Works
Cliff Aichinger, RWMWD
Don Berger, MPCA
Jay Michels, MN Erosion Control Association
Jenny Schaust,
Jim Heintzman, Science Museum of MN
Jim Vaughan, City of St. Louis Park
John Bilotta, Extension Service – Carver Co.
Kevin Proescholdt, VSMP
Linda Henning, Metropolitan Council ES

Lisa Gilliland, Anoka Co. Parks – Wargo
Louise Watson, RWMWD
Lyndon Torstenson, MNRRRA
Marcia Holmberg, Minneapolis Park and Rec.
Margie Vigoren, City of Plymouth
Michele Hanson, MN DNR – Watershed Protection
Pamela Jessup, Hamline – CGEE
Randy Neprash, Bonestroo
Rich Cairn, Cairn and Associates
Ron Struss, MN Extension Service/BWSR
Sage Passi, RWMWD
Tracy Fredin, Hamline – CGEE

PARTNER UPDATES:

DON BERGER

The Minnesota Ground Water Association is seeking guidance and support for educating Minnesotans about Groundwater Stewardship. The MGWA is at the first step of requesting advice and guidance from others doing water education. A one paragraph abstract will be forwarded for comment.

The National Youth Watershed Summit will be held October 6-10 in Edgewater, Maryland. 5 students from the School for Environmental Studies (SES) will be representing Minnesota. They will have on display their work from water monitoring and Apple Valley. Don will send out info for distribution.

FFI on either of these, contact Don at the MPCA at 651-297-8494 or Donald.berger@pca.state.mn.us

JOHN BILOTTA

As of September 1st, the Carver County Water Resource Management Rules are now in effect. These rules cover erosion and sediment control, storm water management, and well as shoreland, wetland and floodplain protection. Please see www.co.carver.mn.us/water

The Children's Water Festival will be on September 25th. Thanks to all of the current volunteers; only a few more are needed. Everything is set for the Festival. There have only been a few class changes- see e-mails from John. Contact him as well to be placed on the CWF List Serve. FFI contact John at the U of M Extension Service- Carver County at 952-361-1814 or jbilotta@co.carver.mn.us

CLIFF AICHINGER

The district project tour will be on September 16th from 1-6pm. If you're interested in attending, please call Shelly at the office by tomorrow. 651-704-2089

LYNDON TORSTENSON

The Big River Journey- a school program and field trip to connect students in grades 4-6 to the Mississippi River and its watershed- will have a lottery registration for spring 2003 participation. The lottery will be open until October 14th. For information, or to add teachers to a mailing list to receive a registration flyer, contact Lyndon Torstenson at the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area at 651-290-3030 x232. Several WaterShed Partner organizations collaborate to offer the Big River Journey.

ALYSSA HAWKINS

The Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR) has out their Fall/Winter Special Places Tours Calendar/Brochure and it's ready to be distributed. FFI contact Alyssa at 222-2193 x6 or ahawkins@fmr.org

METRO WATERSHED PARTNERS UPDATE

RE-CAP AND SUMMARY OF STATE FAIR – PAMELA JESSUP

The entire WaterShed Exhibit was displayed in the DNR building and Old Table 3 with 2 kiosks was displayed with the MPCA booth in the Education Building at the St. Fair this year. Once again over 100,000 people saw the exhibit. Thank you to all the volunteers who graciously took a shift to work at the State Fair. Your suggestions were helpful and very appreciative. If anyone would like a WaterShed Partners t-shirt who wasn't at the fair, you can purchase one for \$10. Call Pamela at 651-523-2591.

METRO THINK CLEAN WATER CAMPAIGN – RON STRUSS

The Partners will be re-submitting the targeted grant as a competitive grant proposal at the request of Metropolitan Council for the *Think Clean Water* Campaign. The deadline for these grants is Mid-October.

TV WEATHER / WATERSHED WEBSITE – RON STRUSS

Ron is working with the T.V. station weathermen to create a "WeatherShed" website. It would be ideal to have one person from MPCA, OEA, and DNR to help facilitate the stations. We will look at finding someone from each of these agencies to participate in this effort. Terry Meyer, Forest Service, has also expressed interest in this project.

PROJECT NEMO – JAY MICHELS

Jay is wrapping up Met Council's Pilot Project, five areas around the Metropolitan area. Through McKnight they are expanding the areas to the outer ring of the Twin Cities (Crow, Chisago County, Northfield, St. Michael, Albertville, St. Cloud, Lindstrom, Taylor's Falls, Waseca, and more!) Jay is doing about 2-3 presentations per week about NEMO. He will be submitting another grant request to Met Council. The NEMO website is live. The address is www.MNErosion.org. The next NEMO steering committee meeting is Sept. 18th.

VOLUNTEER STREAM MONITORING PARTNERSHIP – KEVIN PROESHOLDT

October 18th is the National Water Monitoring Day. VSMP is offering free Water Monitoring kits to the first 3 groups from every county that contacts VSMP. The monitoring kits are reusable for 50 different test times. Linda Henning, Kevin Proesholdt, and Michele Hanson are planning a 30th Anniversary of the Clean Water Act celebration for October 18th with invitations to go out to the media. This will take place in downtown St. Paul and showcase the clean up of the Mississippi River efforts. The river clean up efforts helped spark the riverfront revitalization in St. Paul. Guest speaker hopefully to be Dave Durenberger, former congressman, Water Mondale former senator, and possibly Mayor Rybak. The next VSMP meeting is Monday at 8:30 a.m. at the PCA.

PRESENTATION ON THE GRAND EXCURSION 2004 -- CHRIS OSHIKATA

Chris Oshikata from the St. Paul Riverfront Corporation gave a presentation about the Grand Excursion 2004. The Grand Excursion is taking place from the end of June to the beginning of July 2003, with a culminating celebration on July 4, in St. Paul. 19 paddleboats and 200-300 more private boats will be coming up river. There will also be bus tours, motorcycles, bicycles, and other groups joining the excursion. Furthermore, 43 cities are participating from the Quad Cities in Iowa to St. Paul. The Grand Excursion is an awakening of river cities to increase awareness of our connection to the Mississippi River. It is a celebration and getting back in touch with our roots = the river. If we teach our kids the importance and value of their local river valley, they will want protect it as adults. This is a time for people to learn about and tell about their history, origins, and connections to the river without judgment.

Many WSP have already pledged one project for the event. There is a “matrix” calendar about all that is taking place in St. Paul at <http://www.riverfrontcorporation.com/asp/page41.asp> If you have a project you would like to advertise in conjunction with the Grand Excursion, please contact Chris at 651-293-6866 or oshikata@riverfrontcorporation.com .

PHASE II STORMWATER PROGRAM OVERVIEW/GUIDE PLAN PROJECT DISCUSSION

Jay Michels gave a quick overview of the 23 page General Permit for Authorization to discharge storm water. Over 200 cities will be obligated to get the permits. Counties, WaterShed Districts, prisons, townships, the University of Minnesota, MnDOT, and others are all affected by NPDES Phase II.

Bonestroo was awarded the contract from the League of Minnesota Cities to put together a guide for the cities for the NPDES Phase II. Bonestroo had contracted with CGEE to do the educational piece of these permit requirements. CGEE has asked the WSP to work with them to complete the educational information for cities to use.

Randy Naprash, Bonestroo, gave an overview of the contract that was awarded. He would like the guide plan to be ready to be delivered to the cities by the end of October.

Tracy Fredin, CGEE, gave an overview of the educational piece and our negotiations with Bonestroo to be in the contract. CGEE is the fiscal agent working with WSP.

After today’s WSP meeting there is a follow up meeting in Conference room A to discuss more about the Phase II contract, primarily focusing on the educational component. A taskforce is being formed to answer questions.

NOTES:

- **Next Steering Committee meeting: Monday, September 23rd, 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, October 9th, 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