

Middle Kansas WRAPS Meeting - November 10, 2009

Frontier Farm Credit, Manhattan, Kansas

Management Team:

Doug Helmke ☺
Dennis Schwant ☺
Shelly Buhler
Granville Davidson ☺
Sharon Bosse
Mary Howell ☺
Bob Lienemann ☺
Scott Schwinn ☺
Roberta Spencer ☺
(☺ = Present)

Others in attendance:

Rick Davis - Coordinator and KAWS
David Denman - Shawnee County Conservation District
Amanda Reed - KDHE
Janice Plummer - Riley & Pottawatomie Co. Cons. Districts
Katie Miller - Kansas Rural Water Association
Carol Blocksome - KSU Extension
Will Boyer - KSU Extension
Thad Rhodes - Kansas Forestry
Tom Stiles - KDHE
John Bond - KAWS
Eric Banner - KDHE
Harold Klaege - KAWS
Mike LeValley - US Fish & Wildlife Service
Jeff Keating - Fort Riley
Dea Brokesh - KSU Facilities
Sherry Davis - Kansas Pride
Judy Boltmann - Shawnee County Conservation District

Rick Davis opening the meeting by introducing himself at 1:05 P.M. Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.

Rick Davis presented the agenda and gave the floor to the Rock Creek Focus Group.

Rock Creek Focus Group

Sherry Davis distributed a summary of the goals of the group and the accomplishments achieved to date. She is looking for direction for continuing work.

Mary Howell distributed and discussed the accomplishments of the Clean Water Farms project by the Kansas Rural Center.

Carol Blocksome distributed information regarding her work to conclusively prove that cattle are the largest source of bacteria in Rock Creek. A decision is needed to run bacteriologic tests for specific wildlife, such as deer, geese, beaver, etc.

Bob Lienemann reported on the completed streambank evaluations on Rock Creek. He also mentioned water source relocations, abandoned wells that have been plugged, etc. He reported that their group has learned that KDWP has been adding phosphorus to the state lake to encourage fish production, and as such, there is little to worry about any other sources of phosphorus.

Sherry Davis suggested that a newsletter for the area would be helpful to bring our message to the local residents. After discussion, Ms. Davis will create a draft copy for the SLT's review in January.

Soldier Creek Assessment

Rick Davis showed a map of the Soldier Creek Watershed. He asked for the opinion on what portion of the watershed to evaluate. A large portion of the Potawatomi Reservation covers the Soldier Creek Watershed and reportedly, they have a good idea of the quality of the streambanks. It was consensus to do an evaluation on that portion between the Jackson - Nemaha County boundary and the Reservation.

Wildcat Creek WRAPS

Rick presented some news regarding a possible new WRAPS group on Wildcat Creek. Amanda Reed suggested that we let the new group do their own thing. A motion was made and seconded to withdraw the area. Motion and second were withdrawn after discussion.

Other Work

Carol Blocksome gave a report on her projects. A green roof project was completed which is going to be used and possibly expanded to include other buildings on the K-State campus. Harold Klæge also spoke to explain that Ms. Blocksome's contract needs to have specifics regarding the money we have budgeted for her services. This contract is for approximately \$7500. Kansas Pride, simple bacteria sampling and large animal composting will be the focus of the contract, per SLT consensus.

Roberta reported that a previously approved pond rehabilitation cannot be done with an alternate watering supply as previously described. Controlled access is another option which will be explored. Consensus of the SLT was to ask the landowners if they would agree to controlled access.

Will Boyer reported that he continues to work with landowners in the Middle Kansas WRAPS area.

Judy Boltman reported that the Tri-County Technician has started work this month.

Nine Element Plan

The Draft is available for downloading from the KAWS website. It will be submitted to KDHE around the 1st of December. Rick explained his rationale for estimating the costs per year to have a stream meet its KDHE established TMDL and the short-, middle-, and long-term goals for load reduction.

Next meeting is tentatively planned for January 12, 2010.

Doug Helmke reported that the Middle Kansas WRAPS is now a partner of the EPA WaterSense Program.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 P.M.