



**Middle Kansas WRAPS Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, April 25, 2007**  
Puffy's Steak and Ice House  
215 Main  
Maple Hill, KS

**Rick Davis, Kansas Alliance for Wetlands and Streams (KAWS),** welcomed everyone. Attendees introduced themselves and the organization they are affiliated with.

**1. Presentations**

**“ Vermillion Creek Bacteria” - Tom Stiles, KDHE – Watershed Planning Section**

Tom Stiles gave an overview of bacteria issues associated with the Vermillion and Rock Creek watersheds. Highlights of the presentation include:

**Kansas Bacteria Standards**

1. *E coli* replaces Fecal Coliform as Bacteria indicator
2. Criterion is based on swimmability and accessibility
3. Primary Recreation
  - a. Accessable (B class) = 262 counts
  - b. Restricted (C class) = 427 counts
4. Secondary Recreation criterion is 9 X Primary = 3843
5. Must use Geometric Mean of 5 Samples taken in 30-days.
6. Vermillion and Rock Creeks are C class waters

**Summary for Vermillion Creek**

- High Bacteria seen in Spring
- High Bacteria seen with runoff
- Rock Creek appears to highly loaded
- Existing Bacteria TMDL will be evaluated in 2010-2012
- More intensive sampling to occur in 2008

**“Livestock Waste Management in Relation to WRAPS Projects”**  
**Don Snethen – KDHE Watershed Management Section**  
**Cindy Hotovy – KDHE NE District Livestock Waste**

Don Snethen and Cindy Hotovy gave an overview of livestock waste management in Kansas. Highlights include:

- Historically, KDHE was the first state in the nation to write livestock waste regulations. This was largely driven by fish kills. One incident in the 1960's resulted in a fish kill over 20 miles in the Cottonwood River.
- Kansas livestock regulations preceded EPA by 2-3 years. The Clean Water Act did not occur until 1972.
- KDHE does not regulate pasture-based operations as long as management practices do not result in concentration or confinement. Pasture-based producers are most likely at risk when over-wintering management results in feed, water, and shelter adjacent to a stream.
- Additional information can be obtained through:
  - KSU Watershed Specialists
  - KDHE Livestock Waste Website – [www.kdhe.state.ks.us/feedlots](http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/feedlots)
  - Your local Conservation District or NRCS office.

## 2. Review and Discussion of Draft Middle Kansas WRAPS Development Plan

Rick Davis gave a short overview of the document and opened the floor for discussion. Comments included:

- The document should be referred to as a “report” since the term “plan”, in WRAPS terms, refers to the development, planning, and assessment phases together in one document.
- The Middle Kansas Watershed Stakeholder Leadership Team needs to be in place by the end of the development phase of the project. Rather than one large leadership team that meets monthly, an alternative may be to break into smaller groups, based on geographic location and/or local issues in the watershed. For example, Junction City, Manhattan, Topeka, could be subgroups. Also, Rock Creek watershed in Pottawatomie County has expressed interest in possibly forming a subgroup. In order to facilitate coordination and communication between the subgroups, a Middle Kansas Watershed Council could meet once or twice a year and be comprised of representatives from the subgroups.
- Watershed conditions section currently includes only the Middle Kansas watershed. With the addition of Manhattan and Wildcat Creek, watershed conditions need to be incorporated for the Upper Kansas. Watershed conditions for the Lower Smoky Hill need to be incorporated for Junction City.
- Discussion included ways to reach the general public about the Middle Kansas WRAPS. Possibilities included:
  - Contact Topeka Capital – Journal and smaller newspapers to run articles.
  - Contact Grass and Grain to run an article.

Rick Davis will continue revising the development report and forward for review and comment ASAP.

### **3. Demonstration Projects – Urban and Rural**

Current funding for two demonstration projects is approximately \$9,000.00. A couple of rural applications have been received. Also, an urban application to construct a rain garden below the new golf course club house in Junction City has been received and is in the approval process

The next meeting date is tentatively set for May 23, 2007, from 1:00 to 4:00 pm date in Topeka, specific location TBD. The meeting location and an agenda will be forwarded ASAP.

#### **Meeting Summary Submitted April 26, 2007**

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