



WAKARUSA WRAPS

Kansas Alliance for Wetlands and Streams

Watershed Happenings

WEBSITE - WWW.KAWS.ORG

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March 11, 2009 Meeting Notes

Coordinator's Report

The meeting began at 9:00 am with Wayne Lukert, SanDe Fishburn, Lori Kuykendall, Richard Runnebaum, John Bond, Will Boyer, Keith Whealy, Robert Bierly, Amanda Reed, Dave Bruton, and Tom Huntzinger attending. Meeting adjourned about noon.

Opening remarks and welcome – At the request of Wayne Lukert, Vice Chair, Tom Huntzinger welcomed everyone and presided over the meeting. Tom Huntzinger gave a briefing of the last meeting and there were no comments.

2009 WRAPS Program Proposal (completed)- The grant proposal for the next three years was submitted by KAWS. Copies of the proposal were available to the attendees and will be sent to Leadership Team members unable to attend. The proposal requests services and demonstration projects consistent with discussions, priorities, and summary tables presented to the Leadership Team at the December meeting. The proposal requests \$200,000 each year through 2012. KDHE will be presenting proposals submitted from all WRAPS watersheds to a panel of agency representatives to decide funding allocations and program activities for each. In the next month or so the Leadership Team will have an opportunity to respond to these decisions and eventually establish the final allocation and program for the coming years.

Public Meeting held January 22 in Berryton, briefing- There were fourteen land owners and nine program representatives in attendance at the public information meeting at the Berryton Methodist Church. About 500 notices were sent out by Conservation District staff to owners in Deer, Lynn and Burys (Berrys) Creek drainage that owned 40 or more acres. Notices were posted in the Community. A presentation of the highlights of the WRAPS program was given and posters and information on services were available. Lunch and time to meet with service providers resulted in four owners asking for site visits to discuss conservation projects. All four had been contacted prior to this Leadership Team meeting. Responses to a questionnaire indicated attendees considered the information and presentations useful, they would like tours, and more hands on help. They thought a follow up post card listing practices available would be helpful. A post card has been prepared that lists available conservation practices that is awaiting printing. Sherry Davis, service provider, will be sending them to all those who received the meeting notice. It is designed with a check box at each practice that can be filled out, folded and returned postage free to WRAPS for assistance. Post card mailings will be done by Sherry. Richard Runnebaum, Lori Kuykendall, and SanDe Fishburn from the Leadership Team attended.

Coordinator's Report (cont. from page 1)

Owner/Operator contacts plan- Results of the assessment show about 400 sites in Deer Creek, Lynn Creek and Burys (Berrys) Creek that are potential sources for sediment, nutrients, or bacteria. Will Boyer has developed an interactive data base of site locations and owners to use in planning one on one contacts. A team of service providers that include Will Boyer, Jim Weaver, Douglas County Buffer Coor., Dave Dennon, Shawnee County Buffer Coordinator, Lori Kuykendall, Osage County Buffer Coorinator, Ed Reznicek, Rural Center, and Tom Huntzinger will share the contact list. The Team will solicit ideas for solutions to water quality problems with each contacted owner and tenant in the next few months.

Other topics of discussion-

Status of demo projects- David Badgers project is complete including site inspection. Jeff Crume and Richard Little have submitted construction invoices and site inspections need to be scheduled. Dan Cains project construction is underway and Robert Flukers will follow with the same contractor. Bruce Owens has been approved and construction is pending. Contacts were made and application submitted for Vicki Colvin for a stream channel stabilization. Johann Forrestt chose not to proceed with her project. New applications are pending for Kent Graber, John Solback, and Stacy Sumpter.

Briefing on Horizon 2020- Drafting of the Environmental Chapter is progressing. A manuscript for the Water Section is under discussion by the Douglas County Planning Commission Committee. It is projected to be a couple months before it is ready for public comment. Huntzinger has been participating in the Committee meetings. Huntzinger is working with Keith Whealy, Leadership Team member, to meet with the Lawrence Director of Public Utilities.

Briefing on Natural Resources Inventory- Barry Beagle, Shawnee County Planning Director, has met individually with the County Commissioners and all have expressed support for the effort. WRAPS Coordinators from the Upper Wakarusa and Mid. Kansas gave a presentation before the Planning Commission and the Commission voted to support the

effort. Granville Davidson from the Shawnee County Conservation District Board attended. It was noted by Vice Chair Wayne Lukhert that Leadership Team members should be given more notice and a better opportunity to attend future meetings with the County. Huntzinger concurred and will make more effort to provide notice of meetings. Funding has been included in the grant proposal for this work.

No Till workshop- A No Till workshop was hosted by the Conservation Districts on March 5 at the Stull Methodist Church. WRAPS provided the meal. About 40 landowners and tenants attended and about 10 program representatives also attended. No Till on the Plains conducted the workshop which focused on cover crops. Two farmers gave presentations on their success with cover crops to hold soil in place and to consume excess spring soil moisture. A no till workshop was also conducted by the Osage County Conservation District and Lori Kuykendall attended that workshop. A follow up field day is scheduled for July to be hosted by all the eastern Kansas WRAPS.

Partner Updates— None

Next meeting date and location- No meeting date was set. It will be scheduled by email.

Upcoming WRAPS meetings, activities, and events

NEXT WRAPS SLT meeting has not yet been scheduled. An email will be sent to schedule the meeting. It will likely be held in June at the Shawnee Co Farm Bureau Office from 9:00 am - Noon. We would like to send special thanks out to the Shawnee County Farm Bureau Office for use of their meeting room.