



Kansas Alliance for Wetlands and Streams

Lower Kansas WRAPS

February 19, 2008 Meeting Summary

The February 2008 meeting for the Lower Kansas WRAPS was well attended, with 33 participants including state, federal, and local government agencies, consultants, local farmers, and concerned citizens. A list of attendees is included at the end of this summary. The meeting was held at Davis Hall at Wyandotte County Lake 9 am till noon. Thanks to Cheri Miller of the local conservation district for reserving the meeting place and John Bower of Wyandotte Co. parks and recreation for offering the space.

The meeting began with introductions, an overview of the current meeting, and a short summary of the January meeting. Then, **Rebecca Bilderback, civil engineer with the City of Olathe and Olathe Lake WRAPS**, gave an informative presentation, explaining the establishment of the Lake Olathe WRAPS, its rationale for formation, planning and assessment steps, and the every-day challenges in making the implementation plan work. Lake Olathe is a 170-acre reservoir, situated in a 17-square mile watershed, is used for water supply and recreation. Water quality concerns—phosphorous loadings, algal blooms, and land use changes—prompted the formation of the Lake Olathe WRAPS in 1999. As customary with WRAPS, assessments were conducted and planning was initiated. A protection plan, with 14 water quality protection measures, was published. After all the work, the City passed a resolution designating the Lake Olathe watershed as a special protection area in 2004. And with that designation, new requirements for development would be necessary including a water quality report where, among other things, runoff post-development would have to equal runoff pre-development. Perhaps one of the most proactive outcomes, besides protection of the watershed, is the BMP (best management practices) cost share program, where potential developers can be assisted with the construction of measures to reduce runoff and improve water quality. The Olathe Lake WRAPS is a pretty impressive story and shows how WRAPS can be effective in protecting a watershed.

After the talk, the meeting shifted into a discussion of funding for the Lower Kansas WRAPS, especially how it relates to services of technical service providers. Given its complexity and convoluted nature, Dan Zerr, KDHE environmental scientist, stepped in to provide a summary of funding for WRAPS programs in the State. Simply put, WRAPS funding is obtained yearly from the Kansas Water Office and EPA (Section 319b grant), which are administered by KDHE and divvied out to KAWS. Basically, 2008 WRAPS funding requests (\$10 million) exceeded 2008 appropriations (\$2 million) so funding for WRAPS programs was limited in 2008.

Similarly, funding for service providers (e.g., conservation districts, KACEE, KAWS, KFS, etc.) was also significantly less than requested. Service providers provide important assistance to WRAPS programs in the form of information and education, demonstration projects, assessments, and the like. With reduced funding, it is important for each WRAPS group to determine how best to utilize each service provider having funding in 2008. However, after some lengthy discussion, it was decided to wait on determining the role of each funded service provider until a stakeholder leadership team had been formed. The group of attendees did not feel that it could make such decisions, given the intended nature of WRAPS (citizen-driven) and the varying composition from meeting to meeting of attendees.

With that tabled, the meeting moved to discussing the next item agenda—Demonstration Projects. It was intended to discuss two demo projects—the Williams Alternative Water Supply Project and the Bonner Springs Stream Stabilization Project—and then approve available funds as applicable. Frank indicated that there was \$12,857 worth of funding available and the project applicants requested up to \$27,748. These applicants had waited some time for approval and projects needed to be started this year. Also, if funding was used up, then the demo grant could be closed out, allowing KAWS to obtain the retainage fee. Discussion ensued about other Lower KS WRAPS demo projects not being on the docket, appropriateness of this group

approving demo projects, and the nature of these demo projects. Jerry Wooley of the Leavenworth Conservation District was unclear why other potential projects were not being discussed, while it was concluded that a Stakeholder Leadership Team should be approving demo projects and not this group in attendance.

Discussions moved towards forming an ad hoc committee to assist in forming a stakeholder leadership team as well as requests for volunteers to be on such a team. Marty Burke (Kansas Water Office), Will Boyer (KSU extension service), and Heather Schmidt (Johnson Co. government) agreed to be on the ad hoc committee, while Mark Johnston (GCSAA), Jerry Wooley, and Rodney Parsons (local farmer and business owner) agreed to be on the stakeholder leadership team. Frank requested everyone in attendance to consider potential persons interested in being on the team and indicated that he would be getting back with team members in planning the next meeting.

The remainder of the agenda items were not addressed as the meeting adjourned at around 12 noon. The meeting adjourned around noon after discussions concerning the time and location of the next meeting. Heather Schmidt agreed to look at the availability of several places in Johnson County for a meeting during the week of March 17th.

Lower Kansas WRAPS Signup Sheet

February 19, 2008

| First Name | Last Name | Organization | Address | City | State | ZIP | Phone | E-mail |
|------------|------------|------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|-------|-------|--------------|------------------------------|
| Ed | Theis' | | 18433 N+ Olivet Rd | Leav | KS | 66048 | 913-682-4576 | |
| Alicé | Theis | | " | " | " | " | " | |
| Roberta | Bildarback | City of Olathe | 1 | | | | 913-971-9116 | rbildarback@cityofolathe.com |
| Susan | Corbett | LV Co Extension | PO Box 611 | Leavenworth | KS | 66048 | 913-682-2113 | Susan.corbett@ks.net |
| Mite | Epler | LV Co Extension | 500 E. 1st Ave. R/SK103 | Leavenworth | KS | 66048 | 913-250-2200 | m.epler@ksu.edu |
| Ferry | Wobloy | LV City Consu. Serv | PO Box 611 | Leav | KS | 66048 | 913-682-2113 | |
| Will | Boyer | K-State Extension | 2110 Harper | Lawrence | KS | | 785-587-7828 | wboyer@ksa.edu |
| Pan | Zehr | KDHE | 1000 SW Jackson | Topeka | KS | | 785-296-0854 | zendanz@kdh.ks.gov |
| Richard | Wright | LV Co A. Bd | 500 Eisenhower Rd | Leav | KS | 66048 | 270-2008 | |
| Jerry | Jost | KS Rural Center | 2002 E 1600 | Lawrence | KS | 66048 | 766-0478 | jost@kansasruralcenter.org |
| Joe | Daniels | LV Co LEPP | 20815 175th St | Longwood | KS | 66048 | 913-721-1956 | |
| Jon | Navinsky | LV Co | 32421 255 St | Easton | KS | 66020 | 913-793-9291 | |
| Gene | Procusnik | KSU | 4th 2004 Bldg. of Agronomy | Manhattan | KS | 66206 | 785-532-0416 | blakson@ksu.edu |
| Rick | Sours | | 1848 222nd Avenue | Linwood | KS | 66052 | 913-347-340 | rkdsour@jona.com |
| Marty | Burke | KS Water Office | 901 S. Kansas Ave. | Topeka | KS | 66412 | 785-296-0873 | mburke@ksa.state.ks.us |
| Debbie | DeRoque | St. Thomas | 19690 Mistake Rd | Jongara | KS | 66056 | 913-845-2062 | |
| Diana | Konrad | St. Thomas | 1533 E. Wagoner Rd | DeSoto | KS | 66607 | 913-724-4214 | |
| Aileen | Sternman | Johnson County | 155-2809 St | " | " | " | 913-919-28 | 9104 |
| John | Parsons | | 2026 1/4 Road | Leav | KS | 66048 | 913-222-3071 | |
| Bob | Muller | City of Bonner Springs | 705 E 2nd | Bonner Springs | KS | 66022 | 913-077-7165 | bmuller@bonnersprings.org |
| Deid | Hartshorn | City of Lawrence | 7301 W 133rd | OP | KS | 66213 | 913-744-2615 | hartshorn@lawrenceks.org |
| Fatty | Ogle | City of Lawrence | PO Box 708 | OP | KS | 66044 | 913-574-2513 | po@ci.lawrence.ks.us |
| Heidi | Schwitt | Johnson County | 1800 W 56th | Olathe | KS | 66061 | 913-785-82 | heidi.schwitt@jocogov.org |
| David | Anderson | WY County | 10201 Riverview | Olathe | KS | 66011 | 913-447-4245 | |



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Meeting Agenda

February 19, 2008

Davis Hall at Wyandotte Co. Lake

- 9 to 9:15 Registration at the Door
- 9:15 to 9:30 Introductions, Overview of Today's Meeting, Summary of January's Meeting
- 9:30 to 10 Speaker to be Determined, Vegetation of the Lower Kansas Watershed
- 10 to 10:15 Break
- 10:15 to 10:45 Demonstration Projects—Introduction, Discussion, and Approval
Williams Alternative Water Supply Project
Miller Stream Stabilization Project
- 10:45 to 11:45 Revision to Goals and Objectives for the Lower Kansas River Watershed
- 11:45 to 12 Closing Comments Date and Location of Next Meeting
- 12 to 1 Lunch on Your Own or Together at the Legends (optional)