

Wright County Water Management
Water Management Task Force
Meeting Minutes for February 28, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Chair, Doug Triplett. Present: Doug Triplett, Bob Peterson, Paul Zabinski, Darek Vetsch, Gloria Wynnemer, Jeff Burns, Alicia O'Hare, Kevin Dahlman

Agenda

O'Hare requested the addition of Township Testing to the agenda.

Motion to approve with the addition by Zabinski, 2nd by Dahlman. Motion passed.

Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes by Vetsch, 2nd by Wynnemer. Motion passed.

North Fork One Watershed One Plan overview noted Diane Sander will be the coordinator, 15 entities are represented in the partnership, funding includes \$642,377 state dollars and \$412,540 federal dollars, priority geographic areas have been identified, and projects will be ranked by priority. Initially the priority will be to address phosphorus in agricultural areas.

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). WRIP (Wright Ramp Inspection Program) regional inspection is in Annandale. Waiting for DNR (Department of Natural Resources) approval to go ahead with program. Addressing the biggest concern with 2018 program, lack of enforcement. Approval needed by April 15. Also added a self-inspection program for regular boaters and a 21-day exemption for lake service providers.

An AIS coordinator will be hired. Treatment applications are due March 4 with applications submitted by species. Paul Zabinski motioned to ensure all treatment grant requests get an allocation of dollars. Kevin Dahlman seconded the motion. Motion passed.

15 ramps will be inspected in 2019

Interactive display for AIS was discussed. Motion was made to get request for proposals to Wildlife Forever and other potential partners for the interactive display. Motion by Jeff Burns, seconded by Bob Peterson, motion passed.

AIS give-aways were noted: ink pen, lure, key float and possibly a dry dock ad. Vetsch suggested a coloring book and colors for children.

Burns noted the Annandale Expo is April 13 and volunteers are needed.

Monitoring Projects. Discovery Farms data for 2012 – 2018 was reviewed. Considering crop rotation, the data on precipitation, runoff, suspended solids yield, and phosphorus and nitrogen

yields provide valuable insight. SWCD staff are hoping to get cover crops on the field during the next rotation.

Filters and water quality efforts on Mink Lake, Lake Martha, and the Crow River were reviewed. Trends for the Crow River, Beebe Lake and Howard Lake were reviewed, each experiencing positive trends – improvement.

Township well testing for nitrates by the Department of Agriculture and Wright Soil and Water Conservation District in vulnerable counties was done in 2018. Five townships in Wright County were tested. Follow-up sampling will occur in 2019 to determine the need for further action. Testing for pesticides will be part of follow-up.

Next meeting will be June 27, 2019. Paul Zabinski motioned to adjourn at 7:50pm. Derek Vetsch seconded. Motion passed.