

Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order and Introductions
2. Previous meeting notes
 - a. Comments – none – notes accepted
3. EPA Wetland Program Development Grant – KWO
 - a. Letter of support requested from WRAPS work group
 - b. KWO – Past several years the KWO has been working on the development of a method to identify wetlands in a watershed – they think it's ready to go – now they will move away from that focus and through a new grant, the focus will shift to the implementation of projects. TWIP – goal of this project is to go back and look at previously implemented wetlands and see how they are functioning and develop a guidance document. The KWO is picking 50 wetlands to evaluate. Looking for a letter of support from WG. Questions?
 - c. KDHE- wetlands included in NPS management plan – this information could provide support for many state programs.
 - d. Concurrence on letter of support
4. WRAPS Partnership Application Reviews – since the subcabinet is dissolved the old process of approval no longer qualifies. A notice was sent to partners telling them to re-apply. Need to be approved.
 - a. Cheney - approved
 - b. KAWS - approved
 - c. Kanopolis – need to bring completed app to next meeting for approval
 - d. Flint Hills RC&D – need to bring completed app to next meeting for approval
KSU – do we need to have individuals apply for partnerships? Yes, each individual should apply if they wish to receive
5. Announcements
 - a. Work Group Members
 - i. KDWP – biological sampling to begin this year in Smoky-Saline – looking for sites specifically. 35 sites this year. Matt Unruh will shoot KDWP an email.
 - b. NPS Conference (Previously WRAPS Conference) Spring 2012
 - i. KDHE- NPS conference, normally have WRAPS conference, but this year expanding, including urban tracks, SRF tracks, NPS and WRAPS tracks. Since we are facing budget cuts, conference will be in Spring 2013.

c. Visitors

d. Future WRAPS WG meetings: Back at normal time

- i. May 22, 2012
- ii. July 24, 2012
- iii. September 25, 2012
- iv. November 27, 2012

6. Review of Grant Applications

a. Overview of 319 Budget Cuts

i. Overview of budget cuts – we tried to hold WRAPS program as harmless as possible.

1. Base –salary, I&E, supplies, monitoring, planning, etc.
2. Incremental – bulk has to go to implementing 9 element watershed based plans.
3. Recommended by OMB to cut base. \$672,000 cut in SFY12. KDHE is taking 30% cut – 3 positions not being filled. Our travel, supplies, etc. being cut considerably. In addition monitoring is being cut back.
4. 22% cut from I&E
 - a. EARTH
 - b. KACEE
 - c. SBEAP
 - d. KELP
 - e. CWN
5. 48% budget cut of WRAPS
 - a. SCC / NRCS Partnership funded @ \$200,000 (Year 3 of 3 year commitment)
 - b. MDC Forestry SFY 12 Commitment - \$90,000 (SFY 12 commitment)
 - c. KSU Watershed Specialists - \$72,698 (funding extension)
 - d. Cheney - \$55,880 (funding extension)
 - e. Tuttle - \$156,500 (Year 3 of 3 year commitment)
 - f. Eliminate earmark for Hillsdale (-\$50,000)
 - g. Upper Lower Smoky (extension out of other grants)
 - h. Missouri (extension out of other grants)
 - i. Neosho Headwaters ((extension out of other grants)
 - j. Toronto (extension out of other grants)
 - k. *Note – it is anticipated that the WRAPS projects and Service Providers mentioned above will submit grant applications next year – SFY 14

b. Reduction Recommendations and Considerations

Was difficult to make these decisions, BMP funding will still happen, depended on to leverage. Please do KDHE the courtesy of keeping this information to yourself. We would like to relay this information to our projects in the proper way.

i. Discussed considerations

1. Project Priority Score

a. Protection vs Restoration

2. Opportunity for Success (as identified in the plan)

3. Performance – ability to spend past BMP funding in targeted areas

4. SLT engagement

5. 9 element watershed plan

6. Validity of interstate issues

ii. Discussed Recommendations in General

1. Minimize outreach – fund a small portion of those that requested funding for Tours, workshops, field days - only. Eliminate all other education or information requests.

2. Maximize travel to \$2,000

3. Eliminate M & E (exceptions Kanopolis and Little Ark – Lower Kansas)

4. Cut all Coordinators to max $\frac{3}{4}$ time for highest priority watershed and $\frac{1}{2}$ FTE for middle and lower priority watersheds (note - some Coordinators may be full time if they sponsor more than 1 wraps).

5. BMP funds are maxed at 40% of 'after cost share cost' need as stated in the 9 element plan (exceptions - Upper Wakarusa, Pomona, Lower Kansas)

a. Acknowledge historic program philosophy *KS WRAPS was founded on the idea that 319 funds should not be used fully implement watershed plans – rather to fund the people and other expenses necessary to leverage the resources to fully implement watershed plans. By focusing 319 funds for BMPs on the 'after cost share cost' we are already considering other funding sources. KDHE's intent is to preserve the historic program philosophy but balancing that with a projects ability to

have resources to reasonably leverage other funding sources.

NRCS - On recommendation #4 – do counties, cities, etc. pay for any of the coordinators? Some projects do pitch in for payment of coordinators, most can provide match. Some don't even request coordinator funds.

c. KDHE Recommendations by Basin – Each KDHE Project Officer briefly walked through the WRAPS projects within their basins and described the application request and recommended funding. The WRAPS Work Group concurred with each of KDHE's budget recommendations.

- i. Ks Lower Republican
- ii. Marais Des Cygnes Basin
- iii. Solomon
- iv. Smoky Hill – Saline
- v. Upper Republican
- vi. Walnut
- vii. Lower Arkansas
- viii. Neosho
- ix. Verdigris

d. KDHE Recommendations by Service Provider Each KDHE Project Officer briefly walked through the Service Provider applications, described the application request and recommended funding. The WRAPS Work Group concurred with each of KDHE's budget recommendations.

7. Remaining Review Process

A brief explanation from KDHE on the remaining review process describing the table below.

9. WRAPS Work Group meeting to review KDHE preliminary recommendations and WG member comments.	March 27, 2012	Section Chief / Program Manager
10. Program Manager meet with PO's to review WG comments and finalize draft allocation recommendations to SC.	April 2, 2012	Program Manager / Project Officers
11. Program Manager meet with Section Chief to finalize allocation recommendations.		Section Chief / Program Manager
12. PO's visit with projects and begin negotiating SFY 13 allocations.	April 4 - 18, 2012	Project Officers
13. Finalize allocation recommendation.	April 18 - 25, 2012	Section Chief / Program Manager
14. KDHE, KWO, SCC meet to finalize budget recommendations.	April 26, 2012	Section Chief / Program Manager
15. Send budget allocation recommendation to WG via email for concurrence	April 26, 2012	Section Chief
16. Send allocation recommendations to SWAC via email	May 8, 2012	Section Chief / Program Manager
17. Send approval letters and PIP comments to all projects	May 15, 2012	Section Chief / Program Manager
18. Send Contract agreements for SWP funds and 319 beginning July 1	June 1, 2012	Project Officers
19. PIP comments due to all projects regardless of start date	June 1, 2012	Project Officers
20. All PIP's due regardless of start date	June 15, 2012	
21. Project Officers review resubmitted PIP's and approve or require additional revision	June 30, 2012	Project Officers
22. Approved projects submitted to Section Chief / Program Manager review all PIP's for Final Approval	July 15, 2012	Section Chief / Program Manager
23. Approved projects sent to EPA	July 16, 2012	Project Officers
24. Unapproved PIP's comments due to cooperator	June 15, 2012	