

Meeting Notes

1. Call to Order and Introductions
2. Previous meeting notes – group reconstruction; concurrence given on notes and posted to the WRAPS website.
3. Status of 9 Element WRAPS Plans – KDHE WMS
 - a. LAST TIME REPORTING!!! - KDHE briefly discussed list of plans now complete and needing Work Group Review. Work Group would like extended review period since remaining plans will come in all at once for review. Jaime briefed group on our thought process and timetable development regarding updating/revising the plans.
4. SFY 14 - 16 Request For Proposals – Possible Future Funding Reductions: Impact on 3 Year Funding Commitments – Draft procedure
 - a. Went over new recommendations for absorbing additional cuts. –KSU asked if we could use old BMP funds to absorb cuts. KDHE responded that it could get pretty difficult to determine how each project could absorb. Those things are taken into consideration during funding allocations – this after the fact budget cut has to be based on SFY14, 15 and 16 allocations. Concurrence was given on this process.
5. New KDHE WRAPS Project Officer assignments – Jaime sent around new P.O. map and went over changes. Amanda Reed will remain project officer for: Tuttle Creek Lake, Delaware and Missouri WRAPS. Sheryl Ervin is the project officer for: Marmaton WRAPS, Lower Kanas, Middle Kansas, Marmaton, and Middle Marais des Cygnes. Beth Rowlands: Milford Lake WRAPS Ann D'Alfonso: Still maintains projects within the Verdigris and Neosho River Basins. Rich Basore: El Dorado WRAPS and Upper Lower Smoky WRAPS. Scott Satterthwaite: Remains project officer for most of the Lower Arkansas Basin. Doug Shcneweis: Kanopolis WRAPS, Kirwin, Waconda and Cedar Bluff WRAPS. Travis Sieve: Prairie Dog WRAPS and Pomona WRAPS. Old project officers are working closely with new project officers, it is always a difficult transition to transfer knowledge of years of management to new person. KFS: What does a Watershed Field Coordinator do? KDHE: We used to get LEPP funding – ta, grant admin, inspections, but with elimination of LEPP needed to spread out duties a bit more.
6. Work Group – Revisit Purpose, Roles of agency representatives – Are we maximizing our time together? – Jaime goes over documents 1 and 2 (MOU). Needs will diminish as we move forward – only allocating once every 3 years, and have completed planning - so role is changing, MOU says: - would like work group to think about how we are maximizing our goals and efforts. WRAPS program is one small piece water resource needs – how can we do a better job of directing resources to priority waters? Any thoughts? WRAPS is becoming more stable – reasonable to revisit our purpose. KGS – yes if administration decreases, let's take this opportunity to rethink our purpose or our roles. Can share more of our interagency research, initiatives, etc. The more this group can share with each other to better spread and utilize information the better. Not in the next 6 months, we have

a lot to do, but the next fall or winter – we should have an opportunity to redefine ourselves.

7. 106 Funds for NPS Projects – Final Report Out – Handout – when 319 was bumped down, 106 was bumped up and so we dedicated those 106 funds to BMPs. – Handout – all went very smoothly. Jaime: exciting for 2 reasons: projects can spend money quickly and using practices in their plan in targeted areas. KGS: Do we have any monitoring to show that these funding areas have shown improvement? For these specifically, we didn't include any BMP monitoring, but we do have KDHE/WRAPS sites and KDHE stations, but haven't looked at that data. For NWQI, we do have monitoring specifically for these areas. We look more at long term/overall improvement. Will we apply for 106 funding again, but unfortunately it probably won't be available.
8. Information & Education Programs: Status of KELP and EARTH – two historically successful projects funded for years – KELP piloted in 1999. KELP overview – 2009 revamped curriculum, retirements, new coordinators, 319 budget reduced for this program increased participant costs, have decided to discontinue funding for program. Is this program coordinated with other agencies for additional resources – never could get additional resources to cover increasing costs of KELP. Cheney WRAPS – thought it was very valuable, but has run its course, they are not going to send an SLT member this year. EARTH – Began in 2003 and was initially funded through Sedgwick Co extension, then moved to KCARE. The program educated teachers on how to increase environmental awareness for middle school and high school students through hands on learning throughout the year – celebrate at end of year. Due to staff turnover, budget cuts increased costs for participants, KDHE is no longer funding. Need to find another way to accomplish these for our management plan.
9. WRAPS Annual Meeting: Report – Manhattan, well attended, agenda – trouble convincing landowners to complete projects, - committee formed – what are the best ways to contact landowners – committee will develop “toolbox” based on past successes of real coordinators. Overall everyone thought it went well and wants to do it again – related to the fact that we are expanding our conference this year to all NPS not just WRAPS. KSU Comments: Annual meeting was really good, WRAPS groups got some team building, felt like roundtable.
10. Nutrient Reduction Framework: Draft 16 Priority HUC 8's – KDHE WPMAS – Tom Stiles briefed the Work Group on developments since last meeting on nutrient framework – draft HUC 8 watersheds identified in provided handout. – TP is focus, easier for us to control, N is on back burner for Ks. 1st table only considered concentrations – Western watersheds stuck out as being problematic because they are dry and when they get a large event they pick up a lot runoff and appear high in P. 2nd table takes hydrology into consideration and we can start to see some loading. The next several tables show a couple more factors used to determine what the sweet sixteen should be. One additional factor in whether or not there are sub-watershed priority areas already identified. The next goal will be to set reduction goals (7). NWQI watersheds are in sweet 16, and what this means for the TMDL program is that they must reset the rotation of TMDL development for basins.

Based on reorganizing according to the new Sweet 16 watersheds, the TMDL section is only dealing with Neosho River in-stream phosphorus issues and Walnut River in-stream phosphorus issues. Verdigris will not be looked at right now. In next 10 years, they will only develop TMDLs for 6 of 12 basins, not going to go to the western watersheds, not where the nutrient issues are. When it comes to nutrient reduction, not just going after NPS, going after point sources too. Almost every stream situation where there is usually good water quality, in these dry years can see influence from point sources. Still draft, several agencies meeting next week. Biggest developments really include changing the TMDL focus to only be on nutrients in near future. Questions: How many HUC 8s in Kansas? 92 What's "big"? Big Creek in Kanopolis drainage. How to decide on which of 92 should be focus? Some are obvious, but when it comes down to the last few, it was hard to decide, but a lot of factors have determined this. Top 25% was roughly where the TMDL section made the cut. Should be able to hold off on developing numeric criteria – will be using TMDLs as plan to get to a level that would be acceptable. I think EPA is willing to let KDHE play it out and see how it works. KGS – pretty good match between KDHE study and existing WRAPS projects, but were there some that were identified that don't have WRAPS? Yes, a few HUC 8s were thrown out because they don't have a WRAPS. WRAPS was very important in decisions. Made sense to go ahead and include WRAPS because it meant that for implementation we were not reinventing the wheel, the WRAPS groups already have watershed plans, have already identified critical areas, and have already developed milestones. Some other states are not considering their 319 watersheds, which seems short sighted, have to plan and fund separate watersheds.

11. Subcommittee reports

- a. Riparian Work Group – KFS – not much activity since meeting in November – the Riparian Work Group had a poster at the Kansas Natural Resources Conference in Wichita – Riparian Work Group member has volunteered to handle website upkeep – still trying to recruit groundwater members, have not found funding for corridor person. Billy Beck of the Kansas Forest Service is stepping down as chair, and wants to chair the Society of National Foresters. Riparian Work Group next meeting is Feb 21st, TBD location. Questions from KFS: What would you like to see from us? Information sharing; original concept of Riparian Work Group was to come up with guidelines to determine a definition of what constitutes an acceptable riparian area for state regions – NRCS said don't do this, we are doing it. Not a lot research on prairie streams, so where do trees belong in KS. The problem has been that the Riparian Work Group has no budget, we have the ability to raise questions but no money to do follow up research. Have continued to raise lots of questions. KRWG: Does NRCS have a regional planting spec? NRCS: yes, but it is unknown how fine they get, but NRCS does have regional recommendations for planting in Kansas' regions. CCRP– marginal pastureland – not utilized – supposed to be able to evaluate functionality of stream – not qualified to do that. Let's have on future agenda to have Jeff discuss this methodology and why they aren't being utilized in Ks. KGS: is there data of remediation efforts through trees – southeast Kansas has used poplars to remediate a site used for strip mining.
- b. Priority Score Matrix Update – Officially Dissolved
- c. WRAPS Assessment – KDHE WMS – Assessment subcommittee ahead of schedule – canceling this week's meeting due to competing priorities, will talk

about cropland assessment methodologies at February meeting. End goal will be to come out with a tool box – guidance document, to use to help our WRAPS groups assess their watersheds.

12. Work Group Member Information Sharing

13. Announcements

- a. Work Group Members – KSU - Sediment meeting this afternoon. KWO – State Water Plan budget, as recommended by the governor. Is there a specific person that handles cloud seeding? Hail suppression is what it's becoming, Lakin – a GMD #1 SW Kansas. DOC: DOC working on wind erosion in western KS during this spring – working with NRCS and K-State extension to gather info and get training done soon so if a producer walks in and says they have a big issue – they can present recommendations. Anticipate a lot of erosion from rangelands, they are stressed. KFS: Presented an idea for a grant application – Delaware riparian assessment grant wrapping up and KFS wants to put someone on the ground to implement riparian buffers. There someone there, tons of cost-share for trees, momentum there, recommended.
- b. Visitors – Cheney had a meeting yesterday, to talk about soil health, not just no till, cover crops, how to build soil health – rangeland/cropland/whatever producers were really excited and there 50 people in attendance. Can you share agenda? Lisa French said she would share agenda. Doug Peterson was speaker – no agenda – but have a small group that meets regularly to discuss their activities.
- e. Future
 - i. March 26, 2013 – Two day meeting? – will be grant applications, deliverable summaries, etc. second day penciled in, can cancel if needed. Jaime will send out meeting request.
 - ii. May 28, 2013
 - iii. July 23, 2013
 - iv. September 24, 2013
 - v. November 26, 2013