

### Meeting Notes

1. Call to Order and Introductions
  - a. In attendance: William Zung - Greenhorne and O'Mara, Laura Downey and Melissa Arthur –KACEE, Jaime Gaggero, Amanda Reed, Don Jones, Marios Sophocleous, Jeff Gross, Steve Schaff, William Beck, Tara Lanzrath, Jeanne Fox, Susan Metzger, Dan Devlin, Don Jones, Jim Putnam, Matt Unruh, Sheryl Ervin.
2. Previous meeting notes
  - a. No comments – concurrence.
3. WRAPS Capacity Building Report – KACEE
  - a. Update on latest WRAPS Capacity Building Forum – June 19, 2012, Manhattan, KS.
    - i. With budget cuts that happened last spring, necessary at this time to take the next step. Providing WRAPS coordinators an opportunity to have people regroup re-strengthen communication and remind everyone how we have overcome challenges in the past.
    - ii. Agenda – Morning Session included discussions of grassroots organizations and the power of collaboration as well as learning how to think big to address watershed challenges and opportunities. Afternoon Session included discussions regarding finding a voice for watersheds in the legislative process, being stronger together, and beyond.
      1. It was clear to KACEE that after the morning session, this group still has a lot of momentum and passion for this work. They requested more discussion on these topics:
        - a. Landowner recruitment
        - b. Legislative message
        - c. I&E
        - d. Organization
    - iii. A few things they decided they wanted to figure out: Have KAWS head their funding advocacy group; come up with collaborative I&E campaigning; how do we communicate what we are without the WRAPS name – how do we apply for funding on our own or jointly? How do we do these things together? WRAPS Facebook page set up, KACEE pleased to see that everyone was positive and decided we just have to find another way to do what we do. Left with a commitment for a follow up action from each coordinator. Left it open and flexible.

- iv. KAWS heading up this funding group – having a meeting next week with Jaime Gaggero – KDHE and Tracy Streeter KWO to share past funding information.
- v. Work Group Questions:
  - 1. NRCS – Did they decide how an organized group would funnel additional grants? KACEE - Yes, they looked at entities that were already managing lots of WRAPS projects.
  - 2. KGS – NAAEE should put together a booklet of the best methods for becoming an organized group.
  - 3. NRCS – legislative discussion – want to use Banner Creek on agenda for legislative tour – stream mitigation most of the point, but they are going to include banner creek lake.

#### 4. National Water Quality Initiative – NRCS

- a. FY 12 Report – reminder of 3 HUCs selected – Grasshopper, Munjor, Emma, Jeff Gross gave presentation broadening the scope to discuss how the initiative is going nationally and how a new partnership is blooming.

#### 5. Status of 9 Element WRAPS Plans – KDHE WMS

- a. Spreadsheet update – 29 KDHE Approved Plans, 3 plans expected to be submitted to Work Group Fall 2012, 3 plans expected to be submitted to Work Group Winter 2012/2013.

#### 6. Post-Planning Outreach Proposal – KDHE WMS

- a. Press Release / Load Reductions FFY 11
  - i. Planning chapter coming to a close, shifting to imp phase activities full time – KDHE plans to set up meetings with agencies to introduce new chief/new capacity and to communicate that we are now completely in implementation with most projects, discuss moving forward, discuss partnering opportunities.
    - 1. Work Group Comments: KDWPT – new initiative should include collaborative efforts – KWO – great idea, should extend outside natural resource agencies – KDOT, Commerce. Greenhorne and O’Mara – FEMA risk map program – on watershed basis – flood mitigation, good opportunity to introduce land use improvement opportunities, KDA, Ks Dept of Emergency Management – they all have mitigation plans – may have already identified actions that tie into our actions. NRCS – What kinds of actions? – buy-out, wetland development,

2. Work Group Questions: KWA – Supportive of WRAPS – do you have the opportunity to report to them? KWO – Topical glance sessions – should be able to get on those agendas. EPA – working hard to get conversations with non agency groups – NRCS – National Fish and Wildlife have money to purchase easements in the flint hills – money and interest in WRAPS activities.

ii. KDHE recently got WRAPS program FFY11 load reductions approved by EPA – NRCS/WRAPS/DOC within targeted areas.

- Nitrogen reduction = 1,054,125 lbs/yr
- Phosphorus = 540,751 lbs/yr
- Sediment = 142,450 tons/yr

1. Values Rank # 4 as compared to other states. To celebrate – KDHE is having a press release regarding these accomplishments and future activity – KDHE will share press release with DOC and NRCS prior to publishing.

b. FFY 12 Success Stories Drafted – 5 submitted

- Big Creek – Bacteria
- Dragoon – DO
- Neosho River – DO and Bacteria
- Main branch eagle creek - Bacteria
- Mill Creek-Bacteria

c. May be having a success story celebration – NRCS – thinks celebrations are very good thing, press present, local folks to discuss.

d. KSU – do you know the amount of BMPs? Yes we request BMPs from NRCS and DOC and compare to area of delisting to confirm water quality improvements are associated with collaborative BMP implementation.

7. Subcommittee reports

a. Riparian Work Group – KFS

- Cloud City meeting – talked a lot about sand deposition on Missouri – saw both tribal and private land in Doniphan county – August 23<sup>rd</sup> Washington county meeting to look at streambank projects on the Little Blue River. Next spring will meet and conduct plant identification training.

b. Priority Score Matrix Update - KDHE WMS

- Information from KDHE: started matrix revision process 2 years ago – have drafted the new matrix – have concurrence of subcommittee – want to share with Work Group – we have an open review period for

WRAPS projects right now – after those comments and any changes will be sent to Work group via email for formal review – can give concurrence or comments at that time.

1. Summary page and score criteria
2. KSU – Implementation Score – Factors 5-8 in particular – If your WRAPS group got little money last year than isn't it going be hard to compete? KDHE - Not necessarily, it's relative to each watersheds plan goals and additionally - SIPS Factors 5 and 6 are really tied to PWS. KSU – wondering if Little Ark shouldn't get more points because of the recharge – it will still be high ranking because of the other factors. Shouldn't there be a factor for that? Probably will submit comments.
3. Webinar synopsis – questions geared to Implementation Score – since that's now the measure – they wanted clarification on factors that would judge their performance.

#### 8. Work Group Member Information Sharing

KSU – Sedimentation research project with KWO, KBS, finishing up writing final reports, hoping to have a presentation and discussion day this winter. It has been exciting to have all the research groups and agencies working on one topic. NRCS – this should be on the NPS conference agenda.

KWO – Next week the Governor's Water Quality Conference registration will open.

USGS NAQWA – currently going through cycle 3 planning to determine where monitoring will go next year – trying to get more monitoring in Kansas.

NRCS – in the middle of drought but working on flooding in Missouri – have a new initiative to getting cost share to remove sand, shape and plant cover crops, producers can get payments; on drought side; CRP haying is open - 10% now not 25% - wetland contracts can now be hayed – to be announced next week – be selective – case by case evaluation. District Conservationists will monitor impact and can cancel haying – landowner has to request.

SCC and KACD – having a joint meeting next week – task to look at field office of the future – facing 10% budget reductions – will continue the discussion in the fall at KACD annual meeting.

KFS – CCPI runs through EQIP but sets aside monies for – request more info from KFS.

#### 9. Guest Speaker – Sheryl Ervin – KDHE Watershed Management Section “Marais Des Cygnes Targeted Watershed Grant Successes and Lessons Learned”

#### 10. Announcements

## Kansas Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy Work Group

July 24, 2012 Meeting Notes

Azure Conference Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Curtis State Office Bldg, 10<sup>th</sup> & Jackson St, Topeka, KS

Page 5 of 5

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- a. Work Group Members
  - i. KDHE Personnel Changes – WMS Chief, MDC Basin P.O., Missouri P.O., Solomon/Upper Republican/Smoky Hill Saline P.O.
  - ii. Fall forestry field day October - Kickapoo
- b. Visitors
- c. Future WRAPS WG meetings:
  - i. September 25, 2012
  - ii. November 27, 2012
  - iii. January 22, 2013
  - iv. March 26, 2013

