

### Meeting Notes

1. Call to Order and Introductions
2. Previous meeting notes – no comments or clarifications – concurrence
3. Water Quality Success Celebrations Update – KDHE WMS – approached work group with idea of a celebration at our last meeting and it was supported so we have moved forward with some planning. First we approached WRAPS projects – KSU and Osage County; Second we notified DOC and NRCS to ask for support; support given. Internal support gained through KDHE media folks and working on scheduling an invite for the governor – Secretary Rodman and Secretary Moser will co-invite Governor Brownback. That's why the delay in setting a date. May have to do a combo indoor/outdoor celebration due to the fact that we won't get a date until late November early December.
  - a. Questions/Comments: KSU – suggesting to give a presentation at the Governor's Water Quality Conference or do an insert for the packet that everyone will receive. A 1-2 page summary in the packet would be very useful – at the least. DOC and NRCS would be willing to look at summary – Jaime will think about the presentation.
  - b. KDHE WMS Success Story Planning steps:
    - i. Press Release identifying Kansas' load reductions
    - ii. Success stories
    - iii. Press releases about Success Stories
    - iv. Press releases about celebration
    - v. Celebration – 1 day event. Start at Pomona then drive to Big Creek in the afternoon. Agendas for morning and afternoon be similar, Secretaries would be asked to stay for both.
    - vi. KDHE will be notifying representatives and senators. Sunflower journeys wants to do a story about 40 year anniversary of CWA, so this would tie in well.
4. Status of 9 Element WRAPS Plans – KDHE WMS – Handout given outlining a few projects who do not yet have an approved 9 Element Plan. These include:
  - a. Grouse – Silver Creek
  - b. Hillsdale
  - c. Lower Ark
  - d. Upper Fall River
  - e. Middle Marais des Cygnes
  - f. Timber Creek
  - g. Kirwin

5. SFY 14 Request For Proposals – KDHE WMS - At Kaizen Lean event we decided there was a lot of benefit in committing future year funding. In recent years we stopped the multi-year grant allocations. Today's proposal for WG: We would like to go ahead and do an RFP with applications submitted in Jan-Feb in which everyone will be required to submit a 3 year application. We would then earmark and essentially allocate SFY14,15 and 16 budgets. We would not have a competitive RFP again until SFY17.
- b. Pros:
    - i. Administrative burden decreases for everyone – admin, sponsors, coordinators – frees us up to do more field work
    - ii. Gives WRAPS projects some certainty – job security
  - c. Cons:
    - i. With decreases in overall funding, those that don't get funding will be locked out until SFY17. If 319 were to receive a bump or SWP increases, etc. we could then do something like a mini RFP to fund projects that didn't qualify in SFY14.
  - d. Questions: NRCS – What did WRAPS coordinators think? Supportive – they are looking for stability. KGS – Would we fund 1 year at a time? Yes, each year should be a self contained module – EPA grant will be set up that way. KSU – Would we be submitting 3 PIPs? EPA – one PIP with three years of activities set up. Administratively it will save – KDHE staff is down and this idea is timely in shaving off some workload. KWO – in off years, would projects be able to apply for supplements? No these funds are obligated and decided upon during SFY 14 – set the 2 and 3<sup>rd</sup> year in stone. KDHE – also – performance is a big factor, if a project doesn't perform in year 1 they will probably not get the next years funding. NRCS – Service providers too? KDHE – Jaime discussed that the WRAPS program has let the service providers settle, now we know which are requested and we are very comfortable awarding multiple years. KBS – What's the risk of the stability of the money over 3 years? Committing on paper but what if money doesn't come? EPA answers: On 319 side we should be stable for the next few years. Hard to predict but optimistic that we will continue to receive funding. EPA - Should we have a policy up front to decide how to cut it overall? If you receive cuts in the middle of a cycle – it would seem that the best thing to do would be to make cuts equitably. NRCS – any new projects coming? High priority projects funded? Medium and low priority varies in whether they are funded or not. KDHE – We could even submit 3 year application to EPA – we may be considering this option. Now that we've finished planning we have to make sure we are staying on track – switching to a 3 year program would allow us to spend more time on plan tracking future assessments, uncharted territory in terms of the future of projects. EPA supportive. Any input from KWA or KWO on SWP funding? KWA approved increased funding for WRAPS but we have to wait and see. KWO – can go to

water office website and see line items in SWP budget. DOC – SWP down to fees I don't see it going away. 800,000 for WRAPS, 547,000 for nutrient and sediment reduction, which could potentially come to WRAPS, 500,000 for nutrient CREP. Only questions are whether legislature will do fund sweeping. SWP will not have to take an additional 10% cut like SGF is bracing for.

- e. Do we have support for this 3 year funding commitment? Concurrence

6. EPA 319 Draft Guidance – KDHE WMS / EPA

- a. September 29<sup>th</sup> should have draft guidance out – EPA briefed work group on some of the key proposals in guidance. Recommendations to give more guidance to states – didn't make substantial changes in the way program is being run, no earth shattering changes – Seen large reduction in funding in the last few years: 238 million annually at peak. 165 million now. Other portions of the new guidance include: Incremental funds had to be spent on plan implementation – now 50% required to be spent on implementing plans, 50% TMDL development, state staff, revisions to existing plans. Region 7 is recommending that revisions should be spent from project money. Updating NPS management plan – Ks already done that but guidance is saying revise every 5 years – a lot of kick back on that – small revisions every 5 years probably. Monitoring limitations lifted but, but monitoring funds will come from base pot of funding. OMB is trying to get states to provide more match – if state puts in more of own money then guidance provisions can be dropped from 319. The whole reason the OMB review came about is because “they” thought that we weren't putting enough money into protection but OMB is saying we need to be putting more money into restoration. It is difficult to justify restoration – substantial majority of funds will go to restoration – this issue is holding up finalization of guidance. The guidance is currently being negotiated between senior management at headquarters and OMB. KDHE Healthy Watersheds initiative – has this been taken off the table or are there going to be any more opportunities for funding this? Probably not – it was an excess in funds. Guidance is supposed to be finalized in November.

7. WRAPS Annual Meeting – KDHE WMS

- a. We asked our WRAPS projects if they would like to have an annual meeting to just get together and have more informal discussions regarding some of the issues currently facing the program. They were in favor and we have scheduled the First Annual WRAPS meeting on Dec. 5 in Manhattan.

8. CWN Grant Highlights:

- a. Lake Meade Bio-mats – presentation by Scott Satterthwaite
- b. Lake Shawnee – presentation by Amanda Reed

9. Emergency Drought Livestock Water Supply Initiative – KDA, DOC
10. Post-Planning Outreach Update
  - a. Priority Sub-watershed maps - Shared states highest priority subwatersheds maps with our WRAPS projects
  - b. Questions: NRCS where is OTWS and rangeland targeted area on the livestock map? Jaime will check on and send an update to the Work Group.
11. Watershed Plan Updates – Phase 2 for Sub-Watershed Assessments – KDHE WMS
  - a. Trying to get ahead of the revision process – what do we need, how do we administrate? We need to look a little deeper than the current round of assessments we've used for recent planning efforts. It would be beneficial to identify 1 or 2 HUC 12's to do some detailed assessment in to further prioritize within those HUC 12s. We would like to come up with an acceptable tool box for assessing HUCs dependent upon land use. Some of the tools could include streambank walks and completion of inventory for riparian corridor protection. Use more up to date software for cropland needs. Needs inventory like DeAnn Presley. Some counties have LiDAR – field scale modeling. Should the Work Group put together a subcommittee? We would identify what tools are best for streambank assessments, rangeland assessments, etc. NWQI should be figuring out what their assessment tool is going to be, should be able to help us look at fields, use this kind of inventory to directly relate to TMDL. We would like to invite the following agencies to the subcommittee: KWO – Matt Unruh; EPA, Steve Schaff NRCS – Jeff Gross will find us the right person to serve on the committee; KSU – Josh Roe; KS Riparian WG – Paul Ingle and or Billy Beck are invited to serve on subcommittee. Questions subcommittee will be answering: Can we replicate modeling done in Little Ark? Field scale modeling presentation by Kyle Mankin identified edge of field. Kanopolis has WKCAT Western Kansas Cropland Assessment Tool. Green Infrastructure Assessment??? It has been modified.... A comprehensive assessment of the state has been postponed but a modified version for SRF projects, wastewater treatment facilities, etc. being submitted in Clean Water Needs Survey.
12. Subcommittee reports
  - a. Riparian Work Group – KFS – Hand out provided by KFS discussed by Jaime Gaggero.
  - b. Priority Score Matrix Update - KDHE WMS – WMS is working on compiling implementation scores and cross checking updated SIPS, Work Group should see an updated version including new ranking by mid to late November.
13. Work Group member information sharing
  - a. EPA moving – need to forward new address and map to WRAPS projects.

- b. KBS – mentioned management component to vegetation in relation to issues that can arise including fish kills.

14. WRAPS Project Officer Presentation: Lower Arkansas, Walnut Basin Presentation

- a. No presentation was given due to time constraints

15. Announcements

- a. Work Group Members
- b. Visitors
- c. Future WRAPS WG meetings:
  - i. November 27, 2012
  - ii. January 22, 2013
  - iii. March 26, 2013
  - iv. May 28, 2013

