

Planning Work Group for Root River One Watershed One Plan

Monday, November 18th, 2019

9:30am – Actual start: 9:35am

Conservation Building, 912 Houston Street Northwest, Preston, MN 55965

Meeting Notes

❖ Attendees

- Sheila Harmes, Daryl Buck – Winona County SWCD; Dave, Dan – Root River SWCD; Kevin Stark – St. Mary's University; Adam Beilke – BWSR; Emily Zanon – MPCA; Justin Hanson – Mower; Laura Christensen, Nikki Shaw – Fillmore SWCD.

❖ PTMapp Services Cost Estimate – Kevin Stark, St. Mary's University

- Able to get all data for PTMapp; hand-out of hydro-conditioning cost summary and of map. Getting PTMapp up to date, able to more accurately state drainage areas and potential conservation practices. Provides better data input set to get PTMapp ready to go. Crop tillage resource, can use to input that data into PTMapp. Conservation Technology Information Center – membership -> data. Highest resolution aerial imagery on a county basis is very helpful in the process.
- Would this incorporate the higher loading and higher concern areas as highlighted in HSPF? Yes, but is a very similar toolset already integrated into PTMapp and is likely already using those layers and criteria, but PTMapp could be using the data in a slightly different way. Statement in the theory documentation, within the app you have choices for inputs in the process.
- Stream Power Input – higher quality dataset to plug in after hydro-conditioning to dial down the data and make it more accurate, vs using HSPF, ACPF, etc.
- Training in January in St. Cloud for ACPF; not so much the tech, but, “what are these things and what do they mean” – for biologists and managers and planners, not GIS people.

❖ Funding Updates

- Watershed-Based Funding grant update – Daryl Buck, Winona SWCD
 - Dispersed \$213,468.10, remaining: \$637,832.90
 - Spent \$367,641 in cost-share and incumbered.
 - Exhibit A – Amended
- Watershed Based Funding program update – Adam Beilke & Shaina Keseley, BWSR
 - Handout: guidance document on budget request and workplan for new grant; about the same as previous. The monies is already loaded into ELink, need to fill out workplan and request to get the grant “application” loaded. Targets: number of practices, outreach events, etc in years 1, 2, and 3. January 22nd is deadline for completing the funding request. Deadline is for the pilot programs, not new rounds of 1W1P planning.

❖ RCPP Reporting

- Normal reporting is end of Oct, NRCS had issues and pushed reporting deadline back to end of November. What has been spent that can be considered as match to RCPP, and outreach events within the watershed or workshops, since the end of September 2018.
- Discussion about the specific questions, given explanations on what questions were looking for and how to answer, what projects/events qualify, etc.

❖ Watershed-Based Funding group discussion and planning

- Root River 1W1P Advisory Committee input
 - Discussion on discussion from advisory committee meeting: well inventory; fishing access signage; forestry improvements; wetland improvements; more civic engagement.
 - Handout: DRAFT Root River 1W1P 2020-21 Exhibit A
 - Keep same priority areas, or change them? – shift to Rush-Pine for civic engagement with Rush-Pine Farmer Led, but Farmer-Led may be coming to a close. Shift to Money Creek..? Money Creek over Torkelson.
 - Upper Iowa – Ecoli, TSS, drain tiling, water storage, other priorities . . . using the WRAPS? What portion of the Upper Iowa, just Mower, or extend into Fillmore?
 - Capital improvements – listed in the plan
 - Mabel – flooding; tech assistance to assess what needs to be done then following up with it. Vague enough in plan that can head towards storage as well.
 - East Willow Creek flood control structure
 - Friends of the Root River – fishing access, highway signage
 - Nutrient Management Specialist
 - 20 plans 2018
 - 30 plans 2019
 - Soil Health Tech – since July 2018
 - Cover crop plans - 7
 - Grazing management plans - 5
 - Field visits - 83
 - Status review -11
 - Workshops – 3
 - Shift funding around to specific projects and disciplines.
 - Daryl will revise handout and resend for planning work group to look over before policy committee meeting. Remove DWSMAs?

- ❖ Next meetings:
 - Advisory Committee meeting
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 - Policy Committee meeting
 - January – doodle poll to follow
 - Planning Work Group meeting
 - January 28th?
- ❖ Other
 - Adjourn ~ 12:15