

Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance Technical Committee

Wednesday, October 14, 2011 Blue Earth County Ag Service Center, Mankato, MN

Present:

David Bucklin
Darlene Kukuczka
Kathy Smith
Michele Wigern
Jerad Bach
Brian Nyborg
Jill Sackett
Brooke Hacker
Paul Davis

Representing:

GBERBA/Cottonwood SWCD
GBERBA
Martin SWCD
Faribault SWCD
Blue Earth SWCD
Jackson SWCD
U of M/Rural Advantage
Ecosystem Services Specialist
MPCA

Present:

Kay Clark
Michele Stindtman
Ashley Brenke
Wendy Chirpich
Mark Leiferman
Marla Watje
Andrew Ahrens
Chris Hughes
Leo Getsfried

Representing:

GBERBA
Faribault SWCD
Martin SWCD
Martin County
Waseca County
Waseca SWCD
Nutrient Mgmt Specialist
BWSR
DNR

Call to Order: Vice Chair Michele Stindtman called the meeting to order at 9:38 am.

Agenda: Motion by Kathy Smith, second by Brian Nyborg to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried, all yes.

Minutes: Motion by Jerad Bach, second by Dave Bucklin to approve the September 28, 2011 minutes as presented. Motion carried, all yes.

Old Business:

Cost-Share Project Final Payment:

Doug Krueger	22-01	Rain Garden	Cost \$4,444.99	Cost-Share \$3,333.74
Judy Beckman	46-13	Rain Garden	Cost \$345.00	Cost-Share \$258.75
D Henning	81-05	Rain Garden	Cost \$	Cost-Share \$3,590.00

Motion by Kathy Smith, second by Brian Nyborg to approve the Final Cost-Share payment for Doug Krueger (22-01 \$3,333.74), Judy Beckman (46-13 \$258.75) and D Henning (81-05 \$3,590.00). Motion carried, all yes.

Coordinator Report: Dave Bucklin/Kay Clark

Working with Darlene to complete the 2012 GBERBA Budget and also sending out the Buffer Education funding for each District. Completion of Clean Water Fund applications to the BWSR. Working with MPCA to provide the Turbidity TMDL information at the November Policy/Technical Meeting.

Active Grant Update: Darlene Kukuczka (Handout)

Active grant update handout was reviewed with grant totals, dollars spent, remaining balance, projects paid and encumbered and cash balance.

New Business:

Cost-Share Projects Encumbered

Dan Erickson	24-02	Sediment Basins	C-S Encumbered	\$5,305.00
Garner Paulson	32-01	Grade Stabilization	C-S Encumbered	\$30,375.00
Dennis Witt	81-	Grass Waterway	C-S Encumbered	\$1,050.00
Norma Witt	81-	Grass Waterway	C-S Encumbered	\$712.00
Russ Guse	81-	Sediment Basins	C-S Encumbered	\$14,850.00

Motion by Mark Leiferman, second by Dave Bucklin to approve the above listed cost-share contracts for encumbrance (Erickson \$5,305.00, Paulson \$30,375.00, D. Witt \$1,050.00, N. Witt \$712.00 and Guse \$14,850.00). Motion carried, all yes.

November Combined Policy/Technical Meeting

MPCA will present on three related TMDLs including the Minnesota River Turbidity, South Metro Mississippi River Turbidity and Blue Earth River Turbidity projects. Questions are being developed for small group discussion among participants. In addition, Jill Sackett will present on the MN Cover Crop Decision Tool.

PAGE 2
GBERBA Technical Meeting
October 14, 2011

CWMA Grant Submission: Kathy Smith

Motion by Dave Bucklin, second by Jerad Bach to approve the submission of the CWMA Grant for \$20,000. Motion carried, all yes.

Drainage Workshop – November 1: Kathy Smith

Request that GBERBA help sponsor a Drainage Workshop to be held on November 1. Topics will be controlled drainage and structures associated with these practices. The day will be broken up between an on site visit and presentations. Consensus to help sponsor.

Staff Reports:

Jill Sackett – Conservation Agronomist - Handout

Michele Wigern – Urban/Wellhead Specialist - Handout

Nutrient Management Specialist – Andrew Ahrens - Handout

Ecological Services Specialist – Brooke Hacker

McKnight RFP submitted to help update marketing website. CMM Strategic Planning meeting will be held in December. Working on St. Peter source water protection. Looking to schedule a Technical Meeting in the near future. Continuing to work on shoreland mapping, should be completed by January 1.

Cobb River Technician - Handout

Agency Reports:

BWSR – Chris Hughes

Clean Water Fund requests: Assistance (31.3 million); Accelerated Implementation (4.9 million); Drainage (1.35 million); Partners (1.2 million) and Wells (\$304,000). All categories were over subscribed with the exception of the Conservation Partners category. Focus is on a targeted approach to conservation.

Good participation at the BWSR Academy, notes will be posted soon on the BWSR website. Water Plan updates are in the process for several counties. RIM program opportunities will be rolled out by the end of the year.

DNR – Leo Getsfried

December 1st MPCA will begin working on a watershed basis in their work areas, so some counties will be dealing with different individuals. A merger has taken place with ecological services – some staff reassigned – responsibilities have not changed significantly.

MPCA – Paul Davis

Greater Blue Earth Turbidity TMDL is going up for comment. Le Sueur PMZ meeting will be held in November. Geomorphic work is being done on the Le Sueur. Clean Water Partnership RFP will be coming out soon.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 12:20 a.m. by Vice Chair Michele Stindtman.

Secretary's signature of approved minutes _____ Date: _____