

Watershed Oversight Committee Meeting minutes:

2/12/15

Meeting called to order 10:07 at by Jackie Kraft at SWCD office, Normal, IL

Attendees:

Jackie Kraft, Janet Beach Davis, Rick Nolan, Krista Kirkland, Trent Tolliver, Rick Twait, Julie Weber, Phil Dick, Mike Steffa, Ashley Maybanks

Committee reports:

Biological Committee: Krista- Updates: Partnership with wetlands project, there are three wetlands in, and two with equipment. A fourth landowner is joining. Coke is offering funding for a wetlands at Lake Bloomington near the two current wetlands. There will be 7 wetlands in the two watersheds. The nesting bald eagles at Lake Bloomington are doing well and seem to be sitting on eggs.

NFWS will be doing the Mackinaw River water basin survey this year. There will be sites on six mile and money creeks.

The money for the north shoreline restoration should be released soon. Then tree removal can start. After that the lunkers can be installed. The whole completion of the project should only take a week, if weather cooperates.

AG: Jackie for Kent- updates- Cattle are gone on one of the remaining watershed cattle operations. The land owner is interested in having his creek area (on T2 of Evergreen Lake) stabilized. Jackie is checking on sources for funding, as the farmer isn't forthcoming with the costs to repair the area.

Urban Committee: Phil- Urban has been working to install a stream station for Six Mile Creek along pipeline road, paid for by Town of Normal, but would like an intergovernmental agreement. City Of Bloomington will have it budgeted this year, and it should be done by this summer. ISU and BNWRD will both be involved in the installation. They would like to make this and a replacement station at Hudson uniform. The current watershed agreement is for three years, and is about to expire. The agreement needs to be rewritten to continue the program, and Phil suggests that a downstream gauging station should be included and funding sources confirmed. The new samplers will have web based information sharing, and will be able to get turbidity as well.

Rick-Jackie: Watershed activities

Coming up:

319 grant was awarded for a social indicator survey around Lake Bloomington. The surveys will be hand delivered by ISU students, who will then go back in 24 hours and pick them up. May 11-29 is the survey window. The local village boards and homeowner groups will be notified so that no one will be alarmed about the students coming to their door. The assessment is for urban knowledge and concerns on their water supply. The results from this survey will be the basis for educational efforts for future 319 grants.

This year SWCD will be doing timing trials for nutrient application on three farms.

There is an ISU student who has identified all the CRP acreages in the Evergreen Lake watershed to help identify people who might be interested in some of the newer programs or would like assistance in re-enrolling. She will be working on the Lake Bloomington watershed next.

T# now has a resaturation riparian buffer zone to remove nitrates from tile water. Tile water is returned to the buffer strip and flows through a second time to help remove more nutrients before the water enters the lake. This is a Drinking Watershed Partnership project.

Jackie checked with Chris Davis at IEPA about 319 grants. Next year will be a new cycle that we might be able to get funds to update the watershed plan.

Rick Nolan- April 9th will be the Community Forum Breakfast at the Doubletree with a speaker about community planning. Call Rick for more information. \$20 registration fee.

Pond and Lake management clinic at Davis Lodge on March 17th at 6pm. Any organization can set up a display- Contact Jackie.

Next Meeting:

May 28th at 10:00 am at SWCD office.

Meeting adjourned at 11:12