



Lost Nation-New Landing
River Conservancy District of IL
205 Cuyahoga Drive, Suite A
Dixon, IL 61021



AGENDA

Watershed Planning Committee and Technical Advisory Committee

June 7, 2011, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Taylor Township Building

280 W. Flagg Rd.

Dixon, IL

(West of the intersection of Flagg and Lowden)

1. Accept minutes from February 22, 2011 WPC and TAC joint meeting.
2. Consultants present information for review:
 - a. Portions of the watershed action plan draft.
 - b. Results of GIS-based computer modeling.
3. Prioritize action items based on new information.
4. Determine the continuing role and structure of the two committees.
 - a. Elect a new meeting facilitator.
 - b. Redirect focus of committee from planning to education and implementation of the plan.
5. Set next meeting date.
6. Adjourn.

MINUTES OF CLEAR CREEK
WATERSHED PLANNING & TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES
JUNE 7, 2011

IN ATTENDANCE: Ed Bettner, Steve Larry, Becky Brekenfelder, Rebecca Olson, JoeRush, Bill Kleiman, Abby Merriman, Sherrie Taylor, Nathan Hill, Jerry Sellers, Karen Rivera, and Dan Boehle.

President Ed Bettner called the meeting to order shortly at 2:02pm.

No minutes were available.

President Bettner turned the meeting over to Rebecca:

The plan draft is due July 1, 2011. This will be the last meeting before then. Some input will still be needed but it can be done by email.

Rebecca said that today we should discuss the model and put a measurable time frame on the plan and decide what we can accomplish in a reasonable period of time.

Steve commented that this is the first phase of the plan to manage the watershed. The R.C.D. will manage the basin. Hopefully this committee can stay together to review the plan, get updates and make the plan happen. Meeting once or twice a year should be sufficient. Steve said RCD has a budget to keep Rebecca as facilitator for the group working with NRCS, grants and with Joe in his role.

Everyone seemed to be in favor of keeping the committee together.

Ed suggested one project a year. Joe felt we should prioritize projects for a 5 year plan and depending on who is doing the project, perhaps more than one a year can be done.

Rebecca explained chapter 4 that was sent to everyone. Nathan Hill built a GIS Model. He had a land cover map that was not up to date so using a new aerial photo and other information built a new land cover map. He used all of the best management practices that we came up with that were measurable, and plugged them in to come up with a pollutant reduction factor.

Since he didn't have a 2 year history of monitoring water events for this watershed he used similar watersheds as examples. Not all recommendations were measurable. Not all owners agreed to let him walk the stream bank thus he was not able to walk all of the stream bank.

Recommendations were then measured separately and prioritized according to the amount of pollutant reduced. Very little row crop land is expected to change so priority is on addressing severe

stream bank erosion. A definition of severe stream bank erosion is needed to be put into the report. In summary:

1. Very little row crop land is expected to change
2. Priority is given to land next to the stream
3. Restoration of wet land and filter strips is recommended

The report recommends property in the southeast corner of watershed be converted into nature cover. Bill was concerned that putting this on the map might antagonize that owner.

Nachusa Grasslands is planning some work this fall that may be considered one of the projects. Others are coming down the road.

RCD is working on a grant for the sediment control area.

Rebecca reviewed the recommendations in the report. The areas that we need to focus on are:

1. Residential areas
2. Row crop areas
3. Pasture and hay

Rebecca introduced Nathan Hill. Walking the streams Nathan found:

- 440 ft. severe stream bank erosion
- 40a filter strips could be implemented
- 636a could be restored as wet land
- 3145a are highly erodible
- 100 rain gardens are recommended
- 4a should be put in sediment control
- 350a are in pasture
- 13,200 ft of creek
- 9% is in conservation farming
- 160a are in conservation easement
- 3222 could be put into natural areas
- recreation trails could be built

Discussion of priority items and putting a timeline on them.

A list of action items was passed around. Items #1,2, & 4 were prioritized by the report. Nathan listed the items he felt would be most measurable. He put them into 3 categories: Urban, Cropland BMP and in stream.

EPA will be most interested in the items that will reduce pollutants and by how much. Action items most important are 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20. the remainder of action items are good goals.

A five year plan was suggested. Karen suggested putting things that we are already doing in the 1st year of the plan and then planning actions for years 2 – 5. Don't just put everything in that you plan to do in 5 years.

Ed explained how H.E.L. farmed soils are monitored randomly.

Items that could be put in year one include the Babbling Brooke stabilization project, adding more owners to that property, the wetland creation planned by the natural land institute, initiating a plan for a 3 year septic system inspection, and rain garden education.

The intermediate items could be implementing the septic inspection, getting a few owners to put in the rain gardens, stabilize 100 ft eroding streak banks, 40 acres of filter or buffer strips and restore some wetlands.

Rebecca will put this together in a report and email it to the committee for suggestions and approval.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectively Submitted,

Daniel J. Boehle