

# **Groundwater Collaboration Work Group Communication Work Group Meeting Notes May 26, 2016**

**Attendees:** Tom Bauman, Kyle Burton, Callie Herron, Sara Geers, MaryAnne Lowndes, Jodi Parins, Russ Rasmussen, Andrew Savagian

## **Summary of Homework Assignments**

- Group agreed Russ will talk to EPA about the need for citizens have a venue for providing additional input beyond this public informational meeting.
- Group agreed Drew will delete the executive summary; include maps and photos; work with Andrew Craig to fix the BMP/Sensitive areas section in the appendix and add similar text in Chapter 3.
- Davina and Russ will work with the other members to finalize a presentation that can be used at the county meeting June 21, the public informational meeting June 23 and other future presentation opportunities
- DNR via Russ and Drew will work on a news release, possibly with EPA, on the public information meeting June 23; will probably go out two weeks before meeting
- DNR and other groups will post information on the final report recommendations on their web site once the report is complete

## **I. Public Informational Meeting**

- Russ Rasmussen: EPA would like to have a public information meeting; we're looking at June 23 in Luxemborg, 6-8 p.m.
- Andrew Savagian: Is this EPA or DNR led?
- Russ R.: Not sure who's lead just yet; could be co-led; still talking with EPA; also Tom Davenport has retired and Dean Winn is taking his place so I'll need to talk to him and get him up to speed
- Sarah Geers: Do we have an idea yet on the format?
- Russ R.: We don't have an agenda yet, but this won't be a formal public hearing; we'll have a presentation, using the current draft power point we're working on, and then maybe we'll take questions from the audience
- Jodi Parins: When does NRB meet?
- Andrew S.: June 21-22 in Richland Center; we would need to public notice and/or news release earl June at the latest
- Sarah G.: Make sense to have some presentation of the final report and recommendations; would help answer questions that DNR could give regarding priorities and what recommendations they will move to implement. It would also be good to have some opportunity for public comment.
- Russ: This is more of a public information meeting than a formal public hearing
- MaryAnne Lowndes: We could do something similar to the Manure Irrigation Work Group, where they did webinars or something similar.

- Sara G.: It is really important to make sure people know what they are going to provide comment on, including if they want to comment on how best to implement these recommendations
- Jodi P.: The important thing is that, when we set it up the expectation that we are unveiling the report, we have to be very careful in the words we choose; whether there's a formal public comment aspect and that there's feedback
- Sarah G.: We need to think about what makes sense, but if we are asking folks about next steps, i.e. implementation; not sure citizens want to weigh in on the report but citizens want to share their stories.
- Jodi P.: What about if the meeting went beyond 6-8 p.m.?
- Andrew S.: It sounds like we all agree on the importance of having the June 23 meeting, I'm also hearing that we think we need an additional time/venue/process for citizens to talk beyond this forum
- Russ R.: Also, with the closing of the groups/report, we'll start up a new "Alternative Practices" work group that will continue on. We also still need to continue some of the work from Andrew Craig's BMP/Sensitive Areas Work Group, and it would be good to have the communications work group morph into more of an implementation group.

**Group agreed Russ will talk to EPA about the need for citizens have a venue for providing additional input beyond this public informational meeting.**

## **II. Final Report**

- Andrew S.: Do we need an executive summary?
- Jodi P.: Tough to do, because what do you include but exclude?
- Tom Bauman: I'm fine without an executive summary, but maybe we need a lead in to explain a bit about the list of recommendations
- MaryAnne L.: We should do that to be consistent
- Andrew Craig: We should also note that the BMP/Sensitive Areas Work Group's recommendations are voluntary; we also need some maps in there.
- Sarah G: Could we have detailed information on the studies in the area relocated to the appendices?
- Jodi P.: Should we put Davina's and Kevin's conclusion in their as well?
- Russ R.: This is still preliminary data, but the data seems to suggest that this is not an absolute guarantee
- Jodi P.: Need to be consistent on how we say consensus is in the front and other ideas that did not reach consensus; also, the BMP/Sensitive Area did not even discuss certain recommendations, for several reasons, and we need to make sure that's captured here
- Andrew C.: I can re-organize that section re: additional items that were not forwarded as recommendations.
- Andrew S.: Next steps: make changes, show the group the document again, if we get agreement move it to layout; hopefully be done by early June.

**Group agreed Drew will delete the executive summary; include maps and photos; work with Andrew Craig to fix the BMP/Sensitive areas section in the appendix and add similar text in Chapter 3.**

### **III. Final Report Rollout**

Group briefly discussed rollout of the final report and agreed on the following:

- **Davina and Russ will work with the other members to finalize a presentation that can be used at the county meeting June 21, the public informational meeting June 23 and other future presentation opportunities**
- **DNR via Russ and Drew will work on a news release, possibly with EPA, on the public information meeting June 23; will probably go out two weeks before meeting**
- **DNR and other groups will post information on the final report recommendations on their web site once the report is complete**

**Adjourn**