

YELLOW MEDICINE **ONE WATERSHED, ONE PLAN** ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE (TC)

MEETING MINUTES

December 15, 2015

Pizza Ranch, Marshall MN

Committee Members Present:

Tyler Knutson – Yellow Medicine SWCD, Michelle Overholser – LQP SWCD, and Dale Sterzinger – Lincoln SWCD.

Planning Work Group Members Present:

Jason Beckler and Mark Hiles-BWSR, Kerry Netzke-Area II.

Agency Members Present:

Mike Weckwerth-MPCA.

This meeting was called by Jason Beckler to run additional SAM scenarios to set realistic goals. The Technical Committee will brainstorm additional scenarios.

Recap of the December 9, 2015 PWG Meeting

Emily Javens from RESPEC presented results generated by SAM on four scenarios. These scenarios (A, B, C, and D) and results are summarized on the attached sheets. Overall, the results were not entirely surprising by showing that converting 100% of the cropland to grassland will not meet the overall 20% reduction goals. PWG recommended that this information be taken back to the technical staff who could revise and develop additional scenarios that may be more representative of the watershed and landscape.

Comments from Matt Drewitz – BWSR:

Drewitz was not surprised with overall reduction numbers – feels it moves the bar a little bit. Storage is not included in the SAM tool calculations making an incomplete picture. The Nutrient Management numbers are conservative; feels it could easily be bumped up to 25-30%. From MRAP, Conservation Tillage was applied to 30% of 75% of the land with over 3% of the slope. This is the first iteration of SAM and cannot be used as gospel but is a good estimate of measure. Technical expertise is to be challenged to set goals that aren't easily achievable, but realistic.

Lyon SWCD:

Beckler met with John Biren and Luke Olson regarding realistic goals in Lyon County. Beckler summarized this attached email with the TC.

BMP Adjustments (over the 10-year Plan period)

Starting with the recommendations from Lyon SWCD, the group revised BMP application as follows:

***Nutrient Management** – increase to 35%

Improved Manure Setback and Training – increase to 1%

***Cover Crops** – increase to 20% *Strip Till practices work well with cover crops.*

***Conservation Tillage** – increase to 10%

***Buffers** – 100% on open watercourses (assume 50

WSCBs, Flow thru Basins – 5%

Crop Rotation (small grains) – bump from 2% to 3%

***Controlled Drainage** – 1%

***Alternative Tile Intakes** – increase to 2%

Wood Chip Bioreactor – leave at 1%

***Restored Wetlands (4:1 uplands)**—increase to 2%

Saturated Buffers – *do not model*

Grassed Waterways – *do not model*

Contour Strip Cropping – *do not model*

***Conservation Cover** – increase to 2%

Culvert Design-Extended Retention/Dry Dams – increase to 2%

Side Inlet Control to Ditch – *do not model*

Two-Stage Ditch – *do not model*

Rotational Grazing – *do not model*

Livestock Exclusion – *do not model*

NEW: Floodwater Retention/Wet Dams – Area II will estimate the plausible acre-feet of storage and acres of watershed.

***BMPs used for TC Scenario 1**

Overholser ran this scenario with the following annual reductions for Watershed 101:

Total Phosphorus 24.7%, Discharge 0.8%, Total Nitrogen 11.5, and Sediment 7.7%

TC Scenario 1 with Mild Climate Change

Total Phosphorus 24.2%, Discharge 1.6%, Total Nitrogen 10.4%, Sediment 3%

Overholser will forward an explanation of the scenario and results to Netzke and Javens. Netzke will forward to the rest of the committee present. (This document is attached).

The meeting was adjourned at 1:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerry Netzke, Executive Director - Area II Minnesota River Basin Projects, Inc.