

HINKSON CREEK WATERSHED RESTORATION PROJECT
BOONE COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER, COMMISSION CHAMBERS
801 E. WALNUT, COLUMBIA, MISSOURI
(573) 886-4330

Minutes

4:00 P.M.

Tuesday, August 4, 2009

Present:

Ben Londeree
Anne Peery
John Schultz
Jeanine Pagan
Nicki Brown

Ken Midkiff
Tom Wellman
Todd Houts
Mariel Stephenson

Samuel McKee
John Holmes
Bill Florea
Georganne Bowman

The meeting was called to order at approximately 4:00 p.m.

Minutes from the June 30, 2009 meeting were approved.

DISCUSSION OF PLAN GOALS

The homework from the last meeting was to look at chapter 1 and see whether or not you would change the goals.

Mr. Londeree believes the goals in chapter 1 were very general and not very easily measured, I don't know how you would know whether you achieved the goals except for the one on removal from the 303d list.

The goal would be to establish a TMDL that would address the problem. If it doesn't then we need to take another look. When a TMDL is written the stream is removed from the 303d list. This does not mean there is no longer a problem, it just is in a different category. If, after implementing the TMDL, the stream is still impaired the stream would be put back on the list because it did not meet the water quality standards.

Mr. Londeree stated it seems we need to develop a set of objectives that can be measured so we can see if progress is being made. I would think we would want to get more specific on our objectives. There is nothing wrong with the goals we have but we need to get in to something where we can measure the changes, this requires narrower measurable objectives.

Mr. Florea stated this is a non-technical group and urged the group not to go with technical measures; that is DNR's role in writing the TMDL. If your intent is to go further than what the TMDL requires it is more important to talk in terms of uses, how you want to be able to use the stream and let the governments that implement the plan pick the measurable objectives of how to get there. If you present government with a structured plan they may say they can't do it that way and toss your plan. If you say that you want to be able to swim in the stream that is something that we can work with and we need to establish standards that are suitable for that use and there may be a variety of ways and measures to get there.

That would probably address the whole body contact issue because there are standards for bacteria in the water. That doesn't address supporting aquatic life; Scott Hamilton frequently spoke about the flashiness of the stream and how it went up very quickly and then down very quickly and that in itself is a problem. When you get a lot of water of high volume it carries a heavy sediment load. I think in order to address that particular problem of flashiness we would need to have cubic feet per second after a rain as such and such would be desirable and a cubic feet per second after no rain would also be desirable. On the one hand you are correct on the whole body contact issue but I am not so sure you are correct on the full range of aquatic life issue. We do need to establish, in

the absence of statewide standards, we need to address those, we need to come up with our own set of standards, how much flashiness and then we need to look at ways that can be accomplished. Impervious surfaces would be one way as well as stream buffers. The goal would be to reduce the flashiness, the measurable objective would be so many cubic feet per second after a rainfall would be “x”. How we accomplish that goal would be to require certain techniques such as BMPs.

What Bill is calling for is the general picture, there have been three ideas floating around, one of them is swim-able waters, another is aquatic life, and the other is the flashiness of the stream. There are probably other ones the group may have and it is important that we think about what those issues are before we get lost in the details of measurable units or some other things. Often times we can go down these rabbit trails of getting lost in the details of measuring a particular thing when we haven’t really thought about what we want from the watershed of these larger scale topics and let those guide where we go with our details. Sometimes we jump to the details before we figure out what we are trying to do.

You establish an overall goal which would be to meet the full range of aquatic life, then you have the objectives to accomplish that and then we have the techniques to accomplish the objective. You start big and go small.

Mr. Londeree stated we should think in terms of quantifiable variables and how can we change them. Specifically how it would be addressed, the technical guys would have to determine that.

Bill stated he is not a committee member. My position is to give the committee guidance and if he sees the committee is going a way that may be problematic his job is to bring that up. If the committee chooses not to go that way that is fine, that is the committee’s choice. I will give my opinion and do what the committee wants him to do.

Bill passed out comments from absent members.

BREAKOUT GROUPS EXERCISE 1: What can be learned from the watershed’s history?

The voting members separated in to two groups for discussion.

REASSEMBLE FOR GROUPS TO REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE

The groups listed lessons learned.

The two lists will be compiled and sent to members so they can edit it.

BREAKOUT GROUPS EXERCISE 2: What is occurring in the watershed that needs immediate attention?

The voting members separated in to two groups for discussion.

REASSEMBLE FOR GROUPS TO REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE

The two lists will be compiled and sent to members so they can edit it.

BREAKOUT GROUPS EXERCISE 3: List elements of your vision for how the watershed should look in 2030.

REASSEMBLE FOR GROUPS TO REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE

There was not enough time left to complete exercise 3.

Bill Florea stated that the lists would go out to members over the internet and the group will go over them at the next meeting. Members can send emails to Mr. Florea about what they individually think exercise 3 might be. Mr. Florea will send out a reminder.



NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be August 25, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. in Room 220 of the Boone County Government Building. Bill said he would type all of this up and we will discuss Focus and Information Needs at the next meeting.