

**HINKSON CREEK COLLABORATIVE ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT  
RIPARIAN SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Meeting Minutes**

**March 12, 2019**

**10:00 am**

Boone County Government Center Conference Room 301

**Attending:** Ben Londeree, Lynne Hooper, Tom Wellman, John Mehuys, Mike Powell, Paul Mehrle, Ted Haeussler, Michele Woolbright, Nicki Fuemmeler, Bill Florea, Tony Hoover, Sandi Kreke

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Tom Wellman at 10 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda was approved.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING- February 12, 2019 minutes were approved.

4. AGENDA ITEMS

a. Sandi Kreke and Tony Hoover spoke about the USDA RCPP Program

- i. Still haven't got final version from Washington – will have webinar and invite us when they hear more
- ii. Boone Co Soil and Water Conservation Dist (BCSWCD) is ready and willing to help – they have a lot of experience in the watershed from the SALT grant several years ago
- iii. RCPP will be similar to EQIP – payments are different but qualified work is similar – lots of different practices qualify
  - EQIP has to compete statewide
  - An RCPP program gets set up in a locale and then producers only have to compete within that RCPP, which is a big deal
- iv. RCPP is cost share
  - Local partners bring cash or in-kind resources
  - NRCS brings cash or technical help
- v. Focused mainly on ag producers but might be able to help other property owners
- vi. Producer has to be registered under the Farm Services Administration
- vii. There will likely be a ranking sheet to help us tailor things to the watershed and prioritize projects

b. Questions and Comments from the Committee

- i. Can conservation easements be considered for funding? And/or could getting one be party of project prioritization?
  - Not sure at this point
  - Conservation easements might be funded by another program
- ii. Is there an acreage limit?
  - Not sure – they will check into that (there's no limit under EQIP)
- iii. Is money available divided up per year?
  - It used to be that way but there was some flexibility
- iv. Cost share can be variable because some producers can get things done cheaper than others – cover crops was used an example, some folks can do them at a lower cost/acre
- v. Would there be a monitoring requirement as part of a watershed approach

- Monitoring would be more of a selling point than a requirement – a proposal with monitoring would be more competitive
  - vi. Can RCPP fund a staff position for outreach
    - BCSWCD will be provide that function
    - Might be nice to have dedicated person encouraging folks
    - Funding for that would take away from projects – need to be careful about priorities
  - c. Lynne presented map showing ag producers in Hinkson Watershed
    - i. Based on 3ac or more of land in production based on Assessor's info
    - ii. Would be good to include recipients of old SALT grant recipient locations
      - Lynne to check w/ Kevin Monckton about getting that information
    - iii. Not all production that one might think of as agriculture are represented –llamas, for instance don't show up in Assessor's info
- 5. Announcements/Comments - None
- 6. Agenda Items for Next Meeting
  - a. RCPP – Hope to have a visit from NRCS staff