

Hinkson Creek
Collaborative Adaptive Management
Stakeholder Committee Meeting
January 31, 2013

ATTENDING: Commissioner Karen Miller, Diane Oerly, Don Stamper, Frank Gordon, Shawn Grindstaff, Jeanine Pagan, Joe Engeln, Jonathan Sessions, Paul Land, Gary Ward, Paul Mehrle, Hank Ottinger, Councilman Daryl Dudley, Ben Londeree

ABSENT: Nathan Odle, Jay Turner

The minutes of the December 13, 2013 meeting were approved.

At the beginning of the meeting, Shawn facilitated an opening discussion requested by a few stakeholders about the federal court decision regarding storm water as a surrogate. The question was how it might affect the CAM process and Hinkson Creek. An MDNR representative stated his understanding that the EPA Legal Team is evaluating the ruling and it is fairly early on EPA's end. This issue is taking place in Fairfax County, Virginia and pertains only to that area. They challenged EPA for using storm water as a surrogate. The Court found that since storm water was not a pollutant, EPA therefore had no right to use it in the TMDL. The consensus of the partners is that the decision really does not impact us at all as we have a five member agreement we are committed to together.

Collaborative Adaptive Management Deliberations:

• **Updates from Action and Science Teams – Forum, Habitat Assessment:**

Tom Wellman: Presented a formal request for the Forum Nature Area Level Spreader as the CAM 2nd project. Questions arose as to how this will be monitored? The soil moisture sensors where water gets spread over the ground and sensors in the control level area will be used for that purpose. This could be monitored for 5 or 10 years. If it is pushed out ten years we would have a better understanding of the evaporation effect and water usage. The Parks and Recreation Department has no problems with the project. Jason will get sensors in now to establish a baseline before the water spreads into it.

MOTION: Hank Ottinger moved that the CAM support the project as submitted with a five year monitoring requirement. Diane Oerly seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. www.helpthehinkson.org/CAMInformation.htm

- CAM 1st Project-Update on Habitat Assessment Baseline Study: Letters of commitment regarding the grant have been sent to Jason Hubbard from the partner organizations. At this time Jason has not received word on if the grant has been approved yet. MoRAP will do the GIS component as quickly as possible. This will be done to help the Science Team determine the scope needed for experiment design for the field work this summer. Dave

Diamond, Director is the contact person for MoRAP. Larry Hubbard reported the partners had worked out the funding sources.

Deliberations on Homework items, focus on low-hanging fruit-

<http://www.helpthehinkson.org/documents/HinksonCreekActionBrainstormingList2013updated.pdf>

The questions posed to the stakeholders present: Who could do this? Are there resources available? Will it take resources? Who will be champion? Evaluate now and in upcoming meetings.

- Diane Oerly spoke on Rainscaping and presented handouts follow link. <http://www.helpthehinkson.org/CAMInformation.htm>
- There is a Rainscaping project underway in several cities around St. Louis and they are currently involved in a rebate program funded by EPA and some local funding. This is giving the private citizens an incentive for holding water on their property instead of having the water rush off. The key ingredient of is to slow and hold as much as you can where it will do the most good rather than trying to get it out of your area. There is another one in Kansas City funded by the EPA but it has not been as successful as they would have hoped it would be. There is a lot of interest and effort going on right here regarding this. We can build on that energy and encourage the community rather than start from ground zero. Gary Ward said the Animal Resource Center at the University is putting in rain gardens to use in research.
- Education of Citizenry: The dominant paradigm is people like landscaped lawns. How do we motivate or incentivize people to change? The city has Mike Heimos, as the Stormwater Educator and the County is in the process of hiring a new person. At this point, Bill Florea is the contact person. Bill was asked to prepare a history of Hinkson projects. What we did with incentives through past efforts, were they effective? The projects included many things rain barrels, rain gardens, three different soil projects, tree island, etc. How do you get the Homeowners Associations involved? Is this something we want to pursue?
- Gary Ward will present the University of Missouri's Storm water Master Plan next month.

Science and Action Team: They are reviewing the 19 sites previously identified with problems to see what has changed and what we might pursue.

<http://www.helpthehinkson.org/documents/HCWRPREPORT-REVISED20091130.pdf> The goal is a replicable educational or action program that others might pursue.

We were reminded the goal behind all best management practices we pursue should be replicable actions that others can learn from, implement, and improve

over time. The group commented that these sorts of meetings are valuable in learning how much has happened and what we can collectively achieve ahead.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be March 7th, Room 301, at the Roger B. Wilson Boone County Government Center.