

Hinkson Creek

Collaborative Adaptive Management

Stakeholder Committee Meeting

July 29, 2015

Attending: Jim Loveless, Shawn Grindstaff, Joe Engeln, Jay Turner, Frank Gordon, Commissioner Karen Miller, Gary Ward, Hank Ottinger, Jeanine Pagan

Guests from the Action and Science Teams arrived to the room as well.

Having no quorum, Shawn announced it would be an informal gathering, and no business would be completed.

There are two major things today Shawn wanted to inform attendees about before everyone parted ways. The first thing is next week he will be representing to the entire EPA at the National Community Involvement Conference. Erin Keys, City of Columbia , Action Team representative, Karen Miller, Boone County Commission, Stakeholder Team representative and Shawn Grindstaff, EPA Facilitator will have a booth to present the CAM process during the ECO Café.

We want guidance on visuals, tag lines, bylines anything that comes to mind that will help showcase what is going on here in Columbia and the watershed nationwide concepts about what is being accomplished in the Hinkson. The CAM process initially started with a lawsuit resulting in a five- party agreement with EPA, MDNR, University of MO, Boone County and City of Columbia. We have spent our efforts on studies, research to determine the baseline, and habitat assessments, all components to establish improvements are being made. The MS4 partners are also doing many other things to improve the water quality as a course of business that doesn't necessarily come before the Stakeholder committee. However, we have started to document those things in report form to share with the stakeholders. It is likely not as much would have been achieved without this process as a reminder of our responsibility to the Hinkson. The Science Team and the efforts of DNR with their monitoring will prove that and we are improving water quality at a cost that we can afford in the community. The best management practices we are monitoring can be replicated around in all watersheds.

Before disbanding, there was a request to hear from the Science and Action Team attendees while everybody is here so that we are prepared and up to date when the group reconvenes.

Action Team:

It has been requested by the Interim Region VII Director Mark Hague from EPA and the MDNR Director Sara Parker Pauley to set a time when they can walk the creek. We would like to combine it with our next meeting of this group at a luncheon to see what their perspectives are following the tour. It is an opportunity for the staff to work with EPA and DNR building those relationships which will pay dividends

down the road. If you have suggested areas you want to be included on the tour, contact Erin Keys or Nicole Fuemmeler.

Obviously, the Level Spreader will be one stop since it was an action item by this body and continues to be monitored by Dr. Enos Inniss.

Science Team:

It was announced that Dr. Jason Hubbard is leaving the University having accepted a position at the University of West Virginia. Dr. Enos Inniss will be replacing him at the University in regard to the Hinkson studies. Dr. Inniss introduced himself and gave the committee an overview of his background and qualifications. A question was asked if the program would continue the water sampling sites on Hinkson Creek. Gary Ward affirmed the program will continue. Jason will remain involved with Hinkson, essentially working with two Universities.

Members of the Committee asked if Jason would be invited to the next meeting and report out if possible and for us to thank him for his services.

The Action Team mentioned that at their request, the Science team was looking at sedimentation history and teasing out the invertebrate data from the four different types of data on hand. An example is the backwater from the Missouri which acts differently than other parts of the Hinkson. Relatedly, it was pointed out that some streams seem to have systematically more spores in the spring than in the fall, and we need to know what that means. Shawn commented that a fundamental assumption of CAM is that things are changing all the time; in other words, we are acknowledging there are unknowns, but we will work together to get there. The discussion will be added to the agenda at the next Stakeholder Committee meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.