

**Murray County Local Water Management Plan Meeting  
Minutes December 14, 2017**

The Murray County Local Water Management Plan Task Force held a meeting on Thursday, December 14, 2017, at 9:00 am in the Courts Meeting Room, Murray County Courthouse, Slayton, MN.

**Members Present:** Melissa Runck, John Busman, Lori Gunnink, Annette Fiedler, Jon Hoyme, Justin Hoffmann, Duane Spartz, Larry Byers, Glenn Kluis, Bob Koehler, Jay Takle, Gerald Magnus, James Jens, Jon Bloemendaal, David Thiner, Paul Posthuma, Shelly Lewis, Jean Christoffels, and Sarah Soderholm  
**Others Present:** Doug Goodrich, BWSR

Sarah called the meeting to order and had everyone introduce themselves.

**Agenda #1 Approval of Minutes**

- a. 01-18-17 Local Water Management Plan Task Force
- b. 01-31-17 Local Water Management Plan Task Force
- c. 02-13-17 Local Water Management Plan Task Force

**MSP: John Busman, Duane Spartz to approve the minutes as written.**

**Agenda # 2017 Budget Update**

The Task Force reviewed the 2017 Budget with explanations on each line item provided as to what they are and the reasons for the amounts if different than budgeted. There were 21 well seal contracts in 2017, with two of them received in 2016 after 2017 funds were received. Total cost was \$15,635 with a cost share of \$7,767.50; paid to date \$3,717.50 and left to be paid \$4,050. The balance remaining for well seal cost share is \$1,232.50.

All 2016 funds were expended so there was no carryover into 2017; after all expenses are paid in 2017, there should be a carryover of around \$4,100 for use in 2018.

Jon noted that half of the perimeter(pit) tiles have been sampled each year for many years; the reason for the lower cost this year was due to it being a dryer year and there wasn't anything to sample in the tiles.

Duane commented the well sealing is down about 10 wells; typically seal about 25-30 and this year there were only 19 wells sealed. One reason may be there were less property transfers.

**MSP: Dave Thiner Duane Spartz to accept the 2017 Budget Report as presented.**

**Agenda #3 Approve Proposed 2018 Budget**

All 2018 funds have been received and the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) dollars have already been transferred to the Murray Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD).

Since the tiles were dry in 2017 and if 2018 is a wet year, does the budget need to be raised for the pit tile testing, and should any of the dry tiles in 2017 be tested in 2018 if it is a wet year. Jon pointed out that there are some tiles that are dry every year and are not sampled, which is the goal. Some of the newer barns are on the schedule to be viewed simply because there haven't been enough years where the tiles were dry; it is Sarah's job to determine when the newer barns need to be eliminated from the list.

There was a Beaver Creek Watershed Retention Project being looked at, however, it was determined that project would need to go through the County as it is part of a County Ditch System.

Other water quality projects may be coming in 2018 that could be partially funded through a FY2018 Capacity Grant. The Task Force may want to simply have the funds be available for any water quality project and not be specific to a watershed. The Consensus was to change Beaver Creek Watershed Projects to Water Quality Projects.

Currently, the only known wellhead protection plan being worked on is for Red Rock Rural Water. As an incentive for those smaller communities to work on their wellhead protection plans, it was suggested to put the estimated remaining \$2,000 under the line item called Wellhead Protection Plans; not to specifically target a city.

**MSP:** Jay Takle, Lori Gunnink to accept the 2018 Proposed Budget with the changes mentioned.

#### **Agenda #4 Murray County Water Planning Updates**

##### **a. Missouri River 1W1P**

Sarah gave an update on the Missouri River 1W1P process; top issues have been prioritized and they have started drafting measurable goals and actions. The overall goal is to recharge the groundwater with clean water. Commissioner Magnus and John Busman are also participating in the plan process.

##### **b. Redwood and Cottonwood WRAPS**

Wenck and Associates have been hired to assist in writing the WRAPS for both Redwood and Cottonwood watersheds. Monitoring update was given in November, along with an update from 2017 and proposed 2018 sampling. Plans include conducting sediment cores next summer, 2 per watershed; and hosting three public meetings per watershed to inform residents information on the WRAPS process and the sampling.

##### **c. Des Moines River WRAPS**

Sarah was unable to provide an update on this process since they have not had a meeting since she started working for the County; their next meeting is January 3, 2018.

##### **d. 2018 Preliminary MPCA Impaired Waters List**

A list of Murray County waters included on the preliminary MPCA 2018 Impaired Waters List was distributed to the Task Force. Sarah noted that 1<sup>st</sup> Fulda was delisted this year, which is a very good accomplishment. However, there were many other streams and reaches identified as being impaired and are proposed to be added. An emerging contaminant concern is an insecticide linked to aphid spraying.

**e. FY2018 Capacity Grant**

The Murray SWCD has additional funding available through a Capacity Grant in the amount of \$14,400, that the County must match, which they did on September 19, 2017, where the county funding would come funds set aside by the County Board for water quality projects. Working with the County, Shelly noted they have begun searching for projects; there are a couple potential ones that would need to apply and be approved by both this Task Force, as well as the SWCD. Technical Service would come from the SWCD and the total grant available would be \$28,800, that could be used to fund one or divided amongst multiple projects.

Potential projects mentioned are the Slayton Golf Course, Rita Lear's property, and a Slayton Township road.

A draft of an ad that could be run in the local newspapers was passed around for the Task Force to review. The process for the grant would be for applicants to apply to the SWCD, which would then be reviewed by the Task Force and the SWCD, who would both vote on which project(s) to fund. It was suggested that the grant be used to benefit a group of residents rather than one individual landowner. The Task Force would like an ad placed in the newspaper to promote the grant.

**Agenda #5 Next Meeting/Adjourn**

No date was set for the next meeting.

**MSP: Duane Spartz, Melissa Runck to adjourn.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jean M. Christoffels  
Secretary, Murray County Environmental Services