

Drainage Work Group Meeting Notes

September 13, 2018

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust Building, St. Paul, MN

Attendance

Tom Loveall, BWSR Brd.; Matt Jetjen, Wright Co.; Chris Otterness, HEI; Craig Austinson, MADI, Blue Earth Co.; Ruth Simpson, MAT; Julie Ekman, DNR; Allen Wold, BDSWD; Darrel Gerber, MCEA; Hannah Matthews, IWL; Warren Formo, MAWRC; Tim Dritz, MAWD; Emily Javens, MAWD; LeAnn Buck, MASWCD; Jerome Deal, RRWMB; Greg Holmvik, RRWMB; Dan Wilkens, SHRWD; Jim Stark, LWC; Elizabeth Henley, Smith Partners; Gloria Johnson, MnDOT; Al Kean, BWSR

Handouts prior to or during the meeting

- 1) Meeting logistics and agenda for 9-13-18
- 2) Meeting notes for 8-9-18
- 3) DWG - RSDO Recommendations - Brief History 8-15-18
- 4) DWG - Charter - Draft 9-6-18
- 5) Reestablishment of Drainage System Records - DNR Concerns 8-3-18

Introductions and agenda overview

All in attendance introduced themselves. Al K. provided extra copies and an overview of the agenda.

Approval of 8-9-18 meeting notes

Extra copies of the notes were distributed. Corrections or additions were invited. Emily Javens noted that she was in attendance phone. Al K. will revise the meeting notes accordingly before posting on the BWSR Drainage webpage.

Share information about recent and upcoming drainage related events

- *Minnesota Viewers Association*, Training Seminar, including Runoff and Sediment Delivery Option presentation and discussion, and *Minnesota Association of Drainage Inspectors*, Seminar, including DWG update; and Joint Meeting; 8-16-18, Alexandria, MN
- *UMN Southwest Research and Outreach Center*, Drainage Water Management Demonstration, 8-16-18, Lamberton, MN
- *Red River Basin Commission*, Tour & Meeting, 9/5-6/18, Moorhead, MN and vicinity, including stream/ditch restoration, controlled subsurface drainage, saturated buffer
- *Big Iron Farm Show*, 9/10-12/18, West Fargo, ND, including cover crop demonstration

Brief history of DWG initiation and development of the RSDO recommendations

Based on discussions at the 8-9-18 DWG meeting, Al K. revised a bit and used the 8-15-18 final version as part of an RSDO presentation to the MN Viewers Association on 8-16-18, along with Chuck Fritz, IWI, and Zach Herrmann, HEI, who were involved in developing the RSDO prototype GIS method. Al provided the final version to the DWG.

DWG Charter

The draft charter was revised prior to this DWG meeting, based on discussions at the 8-9-18 DWG meeting, including the addition of guiding principles and other minor revisions for clarity. Full consensus of the DWG is the primary work process and remains the preferred goal for strength of recommendations to the Legislature, Governor, and stakeholder organizations. The draft option for majority recommendations and a minority report was further discussed, including the guiding principles and case-by-case DWG decision for when the option would be used. MCEA has concerns about being marginalized in a minority, if this option is available and used. The general DWG expectation is that this option should be used reluctantly, with very few members in the minority. Much discussion and

frustration about how to move forward. Al will follow up with MCEA about their concerns and further consider revisions of the draft charter.

DWG Fact Sheet

Update of this document is on hold until other topics are resolved and/or in conjunction with DWG process clarification.

Next steps for ADSABS and RSDO recommendations

It was agreed that Al Kean will call the DWG Communications Committee together to work on plain language communications for these recommendations, in parallel with continuing to work on a DWG charter and process, due to time constraints before the annual meetings of stakeholder associations and the next legislative session. It is not clear if or how recommendations would advance to the legislature, but providing additional information about these topics to stakeholder groups and legislators is needed. Discussed with Allen Wold about him preparing a minority report, potentially based on the DWG document titled "Information Regarding Allen Wold, BdSWD, Concerns about DWG ADSABS and RSDO Recommendations", dated 8-4-18. That document outlines Allen's concerns and provides corresponding information and rationale for the DWG recommendations. Al Kean, DWG Coordinator, could provide facts clarification assistance. There was also discussion about if or how there would be any response to a minority report, based on the experience of DWG members in attendance regarding situations involving a minority report. It was generally concluded that a minority report is an independent document and any response thereto is also an independent document.

Reestablishment of drainage system records

A drainage engineer's perspective for Lac Qui Parle CD-24 records reestablishment was on the agenda, but was tabled to the October DWG meeting, due to the extended discussion about the draft DWG charter. Both the engineer's perspective and DNR perspective will be on the agenda for the October meeting.

Next DWG meeting

Thursday, October 11, 2018, Minnesota Farmers Union building, St. Paul.