

MINUTES
WALCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 2008
PORTAGE COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX BUILDING
CONFERENCE ROOM 3

TC Members Present: Bob Micheel, Dan O'Connell, Matt Hanewall, Paul Sebo, Doug Denk, Paul Fredrick, Corey Schuelke, Paul Klose

Call Meeting to Order

Bob opened the meeting at 9:45 a.m.

Review and Approve Minutes of the March 19, 2008 WALCE TC Meeting

Consensus to approve minutes as presented.

Old Business and/or New Topics to Add to the Agenda

Toolkit, nonmetallic mining, PIC

2008 WALCE Fall TC - Update

Patrick Gatterman will get in touch with his sister, who runs a logging company, and will get back to the TC as soon as possible. Plans should be finalized by the next TC meeting.

Transect Survey Training Update– Paul S.

Paul S. reported the training sessions were well attended, with 58 people attending from 38 counties. Two additional counties plan to complete the training. Some glitches are being worked through, but all is going well.

Stormwater/Erosion Control Training - Dan

Dan explained who contacted him and why. Mary Jo Webster has done a number of training sessions on the side. There was discussion on the role the TC wants to have in facilitating the training. Mary Jo would provide instruction if there are 20 or more people. Jeremy Balousek (Erosion Control Engineer, Dane County) may be another individual to provide training. There were questions whether the training involves only single family sites, or stormwater, NR 151, and NR 216 sites. The TC feels the training is best offered at the WALCE Conference.

SOC Report – Kevin Hogan

Kevin was not in attendance.

WALCE Website Update - Dan

Dan reviewed where Tom Sweeney is in the process with the entire website and the message board. There were questions about the circle of friends – WALCE and NRCS or UW-Extension. Tom has the following questions: What level of administration? Time commitment? It was decided it is best to keep it simple, get it started, see how it goes, and update in the future.

Wildlife Subcommittee Recruitment - Bob

Tim Seidl, Sawyer County, is interested. Motion by Paul S., second by Paul F. to recommend Seidl to the Wildlife Subcommittee at the July 16 WALCE Board meeting for approval. Motion carried.

EQIP Funding Mandated Projects – Bob

Doug questioned whether EQIP funding can be used for Notice of Discharge (NOD), and the answer is no. EQIP, as well as Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) funds can be used for practices to meet performance standards.

Manure Management Safety Review Committee (Tour) - Corey

EQIP will put money aside to retrofit tanks. Discussion took place on the definition of “drive in tank”. There was also discussion on how to retrofit. There are two options. Testing has been done on air quality. The results are questionable.

This topic will be great training at WALCE. NRCS may have liability issues. If retrofitting is not done, it is the landowner's problem and NRCS has no legal concerns. Corey said they are looking for individuals to review the report

and the options. Names of interested and qualified people should be sent to him. Paul S. says it is bullsh*t that our review matters.

Other Topics

Toolkit – The option to have WALCE come up with their own version of Toolkit was discussed, since NRCS is not letting counties share their computers with Toolkit without meeting certain requirements. Can someone write the program, just like the Transect Survey, so every county is consistent? We need to do conservation planning since NRCS doesn't have time. There were questions regarding where the money will come from, who will apply, and how. LaCrosse County had their I.T. department write their program. Another possibility is to hire someone to write the program, as several counties have done. The suggestion was made to contact some of those counties and get feedback.

Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation Plans – Who is butting heads with the DOT and DNR on these plans and the final as built? How is it being handled when getting involved?

PIC – The PIC asked if the TC is interested in a joint meeting in Hancock to discuss ideas on the WALCE Conference. The consensus was yes. Dan will see if there is a small meeting room available for a couple of hours so the TC can break off.

There was discussion on the email from Lincoln County that was sent to all employees.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on August 27 in Hancock, jointly with the PIC. The TC meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Dan O'Connell