

## Groundwater Quality Initiative Workgroup Meeting Monday December 18, 2017 @ 10:30 am Land Conservation Department Conference Room 440 N US Hwy 14 Janesville WI

## **MINUTES**

Members Present: Nick Baker, Rich Bostwick, Colin Byrnes, Chris Murphy, Pat Mullooly, Dave Rebout, Rick Richard, Al Sweeney, Tom Sweeney, and Rick Wietersen.

Members Excused: Sandy Kraft, Wes Davis

**Others Present:** Stephanie Aegerter, County Board Member; Eric Cooley, Co-Director UW Discovery Farms.

- 1. Call Meeting to Order: Vice Chair Sweeney called the meeting to order at 10:39 am.
- 2. **Approval of Agenda**: David Rebout moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Rich Bostwick. **Motion Carried.**
- 3. **Approval of Minutes from the November 29, 2017 Meeting**: Rich Bostwick moved to approve the minutes from the November 29, 2017 meeting, seconded by Al Sweeney. **Motion Carried.**
- 4. **Discussions with Eric Cooley, Co-Director for UW Discovery Farms**: Al Sweeney introduced Eric Cooley. Mr. Cooley gave a brief background to the Discovery Farm program. The system is currently farmer led with a system approach as it relates to surface water. Mr. Cooley continued stating that a nitrogen use efficiency effort is under way in Wisconsin. Also Mr. Cooley stated that Discovery Farms are not experts in Groundwater Quality efforts, however, the data collected is basically the same.
- 5. Discussion on the contracting UW Discovery Farms to assist with the Groundwater Nitrate Priority Areas Implementation Phase: Al Sweeney asked Mr. Cooley if Discovery Farms (DF) would be able to provide assistance to this project for all data collection from farmers. Mr. Cooley stated he is interested but would have to check with the DF Board of Directors prior to a formal commitment, but did state it was perfect timing because the Board of Directors were in the process of developing their project lists. Al Sweeney stated that nitrogen use efficiency needs to be part of this study. Al Sweeney continued stating that UWEX staff would be available on a limited basis to assist with the background information gathering stage of the project.

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Al Sweeney asked Mr. Cooley if payment for services regarding this project was in order. Mr. Cooley would get back to use after a format service agreement has been developed. Tom Sweeney and Rick Wieterson will try to complete this task by the end of February 2018.

- 6. Status of Priority Area Well Information and Potential Contract with UW Geologic and Natural History Survey for the Establishment of Capture Zones for the Priority Area Wells: Rick Wieterson stated he has not received an answer from UW Geologic and Natural History Survey regarding the mapping of the capture zones for the three pilot areas. Rick did state he was in contact with USGS Hydrogeologists regarding this project, and has yet to receive any information back from them. Chris Murphy stated if the aforesaid organizations are not available, contact should be made to Peter McGinley at UW Stevens Point as he did a lot of modelling for groundwater in Adam County. Updates will be made as soon as they are available.
- 7. Communications: None
- 8. **Next Meeting Date, Time, and Location:** The next meeting was set for January 22, 2018 Board of Health Meeting Room.
- 9. **Adjourn:** Rich Bostwick moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 am, seconded by Pat Mullooly. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully Submitted

Tom Sweeney

Minutes are not official until adopted by the Groundwater Quality Initiative Workgroup g:/soil/office/groundwater/workgroup/12182017MI