

Minutes / Meeting Summary

Date: 10-19-15

Time: 1:30 pm

Location: Kirksville, MO

Missouri Department of Conversation Regional Office

Type: Our Missouri Waters, North Fork Salt River Watershed Initial Public Meeting

The meeting was opened at approximately 1:35 pm.

Attendees totaled 39.

Robin Simpson, Executive Director of the Mark Twain Regional Council of Governments, provided the welcome and opening remarks. Robin explained that this was a collaborative effort between the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, the Mark Twain Regional Council of Governments and the Northeast Missouri Regional Planning Commission. Representative Nate Walker was recognized.

Alan Winders, Planner with the Mark Twain Regional Council of Governments, explained that this effort was not an effort to introduce or promote additional regulations. Further, that the Healthy Watershed Planning effort was about collaboration, cooperation and partnership.

All in attendance were asked to stand, give their name and their organization.

Three index cards were distributed to each person in attendance with instruction to write down any word, phrase or sentence that comes to mind when they think of the North Fork Salt River or the North Fork Salt River Watershed. The cards were collected at the end of the meeting.

Mary Culler, Environmental Specialist, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, made a presentation covering basic information about the North Fork Salt River Watershed. Additionally, Mary explained the elements to be included in the Healthy Watershed Plan and stressed the need for input and partnerships.

Bob Broz, State Water Quality Specialist, University of Missouri Extension, presented information about watersheds in general, and the planning process.

Alan Winders opened the floor for comments and questions, specifically asking if attendees were willing to share what they had written on the index cards. Several comments followed and are highlighted here.

- Atrazine is a concern at Mark Twain Lake
- Erosion has been cut through local efforts
- Controlling storm water runoff is important for erosion and nutrients in stream
- Slow the flow, spread it out and redirect the flow
- Why is the Salt River called the Salt River?
- It seems that the CCWWC is concerned about atrazine and sediment.
- Uncontrolled application of herbicide and insecticide in the cities is a bigger problem than is recognized.
- Have the pollutants in the watershed been identified? Bob Broz responded that a TMDL has been done for Black Creek. There was a question about what is a TMDL and Bob Broz provided an explanation. Mary Culler added that there was a TMDL for Bear Creek related to aquatic life impairment.
- Interest in an organizational chart about how the agencies work together and who does what, what practices are supported, how to access, etc.
- Sediment has changed the river bottom, fishing holes diminished.
- Attendee would not drink from the river anymore.
- Are there limits on the fish you can consume? Department of Health issues advisories. The Missouri Department of Conservation answered that it is the statewide advisory.
- The Truman State University should be utilized to a greater extent for monitoring, etc.

- Truman State has done some projects on campus.
- There are many positive things that have been done in the watershed.
- Interest expressed in touring CCWWC treatment plant.

Alan Winders and Mary Culler distributed a survey and request it be completed. Alan explained that a watershed committee would be formed and that if attendees were interested, they should indicate such on the survey. Additionally, it was pointed out that there likely be 4 or 5 more meetings and the next one was likely November 17th with the time and place to be determined.

Jennifer Hoggatt, State Coordinator for the Our Missouri Waters Program, explained briefly the importance of feedback during this process and to enable the program to work for the people of the watershed.

Mary explained that there were several documents available for people to take with them including the State of Our Waters brochure for the North Fork Salt River Watershed, a map of the watershed, two fliers about the journey of drinking water and the watershed.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:00 pm.