

**West Fork Des Moines River Watershed
Total Maximum Daily Load Implementation Project
Semi-Annual Meeting
Tuesday, June 17, 2014 – 10:00 am**

1. Welcome and Introductions

Kiel Tschumperlin, Heron Lake Watershed District (HLWD) opened the meeting at 10:10 am. In attendance were Al Langseth and Kathy Henderschiedt, Nobles County; Jake Grages, Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD); Brian Nyborg, Department of Natural Resources; Jon Bloemendaal and Chris Hansen, Murray County; Becky Alexander, Cottonwood County; Rich Perrine, Martin SWCD; Mark Hiles, Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR); Adam Ossefoort, Pipestone Conservation and Zoning; Katherine Pekarek-Scott, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA); and Kiel Tschumperlin and Jan Voit, HLWD.

2. West Fork Des Moines River (WFDMR) Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Implementation Project PowerPoint Presentation

Kiel Tschumperlin, WFDMR Watershed Coordinator, gave a PowerPoint presentation that provided a project update since the last Semi-Annual Meeting, grant background, the role of partners, watershed information, progress to date on the inspection process, what to expect in the future, and sought input on how to allocate excess grant funds.

As of June 1, 2014, 279 feedlots have been inspected. This leaves a total of 313 feedlots remaining. The breakdown for the 279 inspected feedlots is as follows: Nobles County – 78 sites, Cottonwood County – 32 sites, Jackson County 70 sites, and Murray County – 99 sites. Of the 279 feedlots inspected 175 are open lots, 62 are total confinements or no discharge open lots, and 42 sites that are deactivated, no lots remaining, or sites with less than 10 animal units (AU) and not in shoreland.

The highest index achieved on a MinnFARM in the watershed is 100. The second highest index is 91. Both of these sites exhibit little to no treatment before feedlot runoff enters a waterway or water of the state. The lowest index recorded is zero. All total confinements are zero. Open lots have also scored zero predominantly because of the number of animal units (AUs) on site or their proximity to surface water. The average index across all feedlots with a MinnFARM is 11.8. This is up from the last meeting (December 9, 2013) when the average MinnFARM index was 9.5.

The feedlot inspection process will continue to happen throughout the remainder of the grant. Feedlots will be prioritized based MinnFARM index and landowner cooperation. This will be used to apply for grants in the future. Non-compliant feedlots will be pursued to implement the necessary fixes to bring their operation into compliance.

Jan Voit is in the process of amending the work plan. It appears there may be \$19,000 remaining that would be available for other activities.

Suggested efforts included paying for manure testing; providing Southwest Prairie Technical Service Area \$1,000 per completed feedlot design; targeted mailing with information about manure application, manure management plans, and manure testing; and feedlot fixes.

It was determined that the mailing should be done. The information that needs to be included should be provided so the budget can be updated to include copying and postage. Kiel Tschumperlin should put together a list of feedlots that are high priority and would have willing landowners. The county feedlot officers will meet with him to choose the location.

3. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

Jan Voit
District Administrator