

10-20-2008

**LSSC Joint Meeting with cities
City of Independence**

Present:

John Barten (TRPD), Harold Burrows (Loretto), Jerry Wise (Loretto), Randy Lehr (Water Resource Mgr TRPD), Fred Bills (Rockford), Brenda Daniels (Council, Loretto & Pioneer Sarah Creek), Jim Kujawa, Elizabeth Wier (Council, Medina), Barb Peichel (MPCA), Jerry Horazuk (Loretto), Marvin Johnson (Mayor, Ind.), Sylvia Walsh (Council, Greenfield), Jerry Hertaus (Greenfield), Carol Beasecker (Rockford), Marcey Westrick (BWSR – Clean Water Specialist), Mike Peterson (Ind.)

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, 12-3-2008 at Medina City Offices — 6:30 PM

Elizabeth Weir made a motion to accept 8-18-08 meeting minutes, Sylvia Walsh 2nd.

John Barten is going to give an overview to the Greenfield City Council on 10-29-2008 at 7:00 PM at the Greenfield city offices, 7738 Commerce Circle. Purpose is to stress how serious the phosphorous loading issue into Lake Sarah is; to provide the most current information to date on the sources of phosphorous; to present the various options the city has to reduce its share of the phosphorous loading; to make recommendations on which options are the most cost effective and practical.

The consensus of those attending was that the cities in the watershed have not given enough thought to the loading issue; and that they were still seeking more information on what the problem is and what role the cities will have to play in resolving the problem. As a result, it was agreed that a major effort will be made to contact each city and set up an informational meeting prior to the next LSSC meeting on 12-3-08 (similar to what Greenfield is doing on 10-29-08). John Barten and Randy Lehr will work on putting these meetings together. Randy encouraged representatives from LSSC to attend these meetings as it would strengthen his case and the urgency.

Comments throughout the meeting, not necessarily in order presented, include:

Sylvia Walsh reaffirmed that the loading problem is a city-wide issue, not just an issue for residents of Lake Sarah. She urged the other cities to hold the same type of informational meeting with TRPD as Greenfield is doing on 10-29-08. She stressed the “Red Level” importance of the issue, and that a 10-minute window at a city council meeting is not enough time to cover the issue.

Elizabeth Weir felt that the BMP of buffer swales would meet with the least resistance in Medina. She asked about Grants. **Jim Kujawa** replied that grants are available that

cover up to 75% of the costs. Some sources for grants include: USDA, Natural Resources.

Mike Peterson felt that the major sources of phosphorous loading from each city were clearly identified on charts John Barten handed out at the 8-18-2008 Meeting. He felt that going after these sources should be the primary focus. Soil sampling and selective application of fertilizer are a means to achieve phosphorous reductions.

Mario Crespo asked if specific parcels that are contributing to the loading problem could be identified on a map, as this would make it easier to achieve reductions.

Carol Beasecker asked about forming a sub committee for each city.

Fred Bills emphasized stressing to the cities that they need to address how they are going to implement practices that will achieve the targeted reductions.

Barb Peichel was hoping to have the online link to Lake Sarah's TMDL page active in the next few days.

Jerry Hertaus suggested a 2-step plan and discussed how difficult compliance will be for Greenfield as the city has no money.

Harold Burrows will try and contact Gunther, the Mayor of Corcoran.