Yahara WINS IGA Group Meeting Summary
June 22, 2016 Meeting

The meeting agenda and the PowerPoint slides for this meeting are attached.

David Taylor called the meeting to order and asked attendees to introduce themselves to the group.

Taylor gave an update on the current Yahara WINs budget, noting that it is in good shape. The budget has a present surplus, but based on previous years, some larger expenses start to be disbursed about midway through the year, such as Yahara Pride grant payment and encumbered funds.

Todd Stuntebeck presented on water quality monitoring procedures and data related to the WINs project. Annual (water year) phosphorus loads to Lake Mendota were measured as follows:
- 2013: 77,000 lbs.
- 2014: 63,000 lbs.
- 2015: 25,000 lbs.
- 2016 YTD: ~26,000 lbs.

The relatively lower loads in 2015 and 2016 are not necessarily due to on-the-ground practices, but rather are more likely tied to the timing and nature of precipitation events. In 2015, there were no large precipitation events and precipitation events were spaced out, translating into less runoff. In 2016, a very wet fall and early winter led to some fall runoff events. Stuntebeck estimated that Water Year 2016 (through September 30, 2016) will end around 30-40,000 pounds of phosphorus. Regarding how many years of data is needed to reliably identify trends, Stuntebeck indicated that a minimum of 10 years was needed, and preferably a longer time period.

Stuntebeck’s presentation also compared urban and rural phosphorus loading using USGS monitoring data from the Spring Harbor station. The data from this station is “spikier” due to the higher amount of impervious surface in the area. There have been 1200 pounds of phosphorus measured at this station from last June to this May. Monitoring data from this initial year of the Spring Harbor station indicated a similar phosphorus load per urban area in the Spring Harbor watershed compared to rural areas.

Kyle Minks gave an update on Dane County LWRD activities, aligning with the County’s RCPP reporting that is required two times a year. Dane County LWRD has received 6 EQIP applications totaling $90,000 for practices including barnyard improvements, nutrient management plans, and cover crops, to be implemented this and next year. Two harvestable buffer contracts have been finalized, representing 7.3 acres over 10 year agreements. The county is trying to get more information out to producers about low-disturbance manure injection.

Minks also briefly discussed Dane County efforts related to addressing legacy sediment. The county is analyzing data from its study of legacy sediment and is planning on removal of sediment from Dorn Creek, possibly this fall. Minks also discussed the Door Creek 9 Key Element Plan. The County has
started monitoring (water quality and biological) to establish a baseline for the plan. Other 9 element plan activities include planning for practice implementation and inventorying resource concerns in the project area.

Other points from questions from the group:
- Minks confirmed that according to harvestable buffer design specifications, harvestable buffers can reduce 330 pounds of phosphorus per year for 15 years.
- Additional 9-element plans may arise depending on how the Door Creek plan plays out and whether it is work investing additional time. The County has already identified other high-priority areas in the watershed based on phosphorus loading.
- The County estimated a total reduction across the watershed to 2015 of 6500-6800 pounds since the beginning of the pilot project, not counting reductions this year.

Emily Jones from MMSD gave a brief update on the status of the final report for the Yahara WINS pilot project, which at the time was in progress. This report was released on June 30, 2016.

Taylor discussed several budget related items:

1. It was recommended that $10,000 originally allocated for LDMI and $25,000 allocated for cover crops/no-till to be reallocated to extending the length of harvestable buffer agreements ($35,000 total). Early efforts have shown promise and interest in this program among producers. The group supported this recommendation.

2. Taylor reported that six applications related to the phosphorus grant program were received, totaling $79,500. Taylor indicated that $60,000 had been allocated for this grant program, but recommended funding all projects as funds were available in the budget from the budget surplus. The group supported this recommendation. A question was raised about how unit costs (i.e. the cost per pound of phosphorus reduced) was calculated-the unit cost is the cost WINS pays but may not be reflective of the true unit cost. It was agreed that if a grant program is maintained in the full scale project, more discussion will be needed in terms of how information related to unit costs is presented and how decisions regarding grant awards are made.

3. Taylor discussed the 2016 Yahara WINS grant agreement with Yahara Pride. This grant was awarded previously, but Taylor shared that the contract language had been modified based on input from legal counsel. Taylor also indicated that language in future agreements would be more extensive.

4. Taylor led a discussion on the short term legal services agreement (LSA) and related funding. Taylor recommended a LSA length of one year, with an option to extend. The one year length would provide continuity in terms of providing legal services to address some challenging upcoming decisions, including the service agreement with Dane County and the development of contracts/templates for services and fund disbursement in the full-scale project. The group supported this recommendation. Since the one year period spans two budget years, only a portion of the funds to support the LSA will need to come from the 2016 budget. The group also supported increasing the amount of funds in 2016 for legal services.

5. Taylor discussed a process for authorizing and making WINS expenditures. The recommended approach is to develop a simple payment authorization form that is signed by two executive committee members- Dave Taylor (President) and Jeff Rau (Treasurer). The group
supported this approach.

Taylor provided a brief Yahara Pride update, indicating that the Pride group will be hosting an Ag Innovation Day on August 16th. Taylor encouraged folks to attend this event as it provides an opportunity to see first-hand some of the things that our agricultural partners are doing.

In other business, future meeting times were discussed. It was agreed that shifting the start time to 1:30 PM would be helpful. It was mentioned that the 2017 Soil & Water Conservation Conference will take place in Madison and that there could be opportunities for Yahara WINS to have a presence at the conference (e.g. presentations, field trips, etc.). These opportunities will be explored.

Meeting adjourned.
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that there will be a meeting of the Yahara Watershed Improvement Network Group (Yahara WINS Group) at 1:00 p.m., on Wednesday, June 22, 2016 at the Lussier Family Heritage Center, 3101 Lake Farm Road, Madison WI 53711. The Executive Committee will also meet in the same location immediately following the Yahara WINS Group meeting. Agendas for both meetings are below and each group may take action on any agenda item listed.

Date: June 17, 2016

David Taylor
Executive Committee President

Any person who has a qualifying disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act that requires the meeting or materials at the meeting to be in an accessible location or format must contact the Director at 608-222-1201, 1610 Moorland Road, Madison, Wisconsin, at least twenty-four hours prior to the commencement of the meeting so that any necessary arrangements can be made to accommodate each request.

Yahara WINS Group Meeting Agenda

1. Opening
   a. Call to Order
   b. Welcome guests and visitors
2. Review and Acceptance of May 10, 2016 Meeting Summary
3. USGS Update on Water Quality Monitoring
4. Dane County Land and Water Resources Department Update
5. Pilot Project Final Report
6. Yahara WINS Financial Status and Budget
7. Reallocation of Budgeted Funds to Support Phosphorus Reduction Practices
8. Phosphorus Grant Program Project Awards
9. Yahara Pride 2016 Grant Contract
10. Legal Services Agreement and Related Funding Allocation
11. Process for Authorizing and Making WINS Expenditures
12. Yahara Pride Update and August 16th Ag Innovation Day
13. Other Business
14. Adjourn
Yahara WINS Meeting
June 22, 2016

How do we describe Yahara WINS?

- Collaborative effort to improve water quality throughout the Yahara watershed
- We are all in this together and all have a role to play
- Focus is on reducing phosphorus and sediment loads
- At the lowest cost to the watershed as a whole
- Will involve a mix of rural and urban water quality improvement projects
- Success will take time

Meeting Agenda
Budget Update

- Checking account balance (as of May 31, 2016): $578,058.35
- Detailed listing of expenditures provided via email
- We are in good shape financially

USGS Update on Water Quality Monitoring

Todd Stuntebeck-USGS

Water-Quality Monitoring in the Yahara River Watershed

Todd Stuntebeck
USGS - Wisconsin Water Science Center
Collaboration – matching dollars

- CARPC
- Dane County
- DNR
- Madison, Middleton, other municipalities
- MMSD
- Sand County Foundation

USGS streamflow- and stage-monitoring locations

USGS water-quality monitoring locations

- Water-quality samples
- Continuous flow record

- Daily flow, concentration, and loads

http://waterdata.usgs.gov/lnw/sf

8/5/2016
Dane County Land and Water Resources
Department Update

Kyle Minks
Dane County Land and Water Resources Department

YAHARA WINs ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT
STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKGROUP MEETING
JUNE 22ND 2016
Dane County Land & Water Resources Department
Kyle Minks
Land and Water Resources Scientist

RCPP REPORTING
(OCTOBER 2015 TO APRIL 2016)

- 6 EQIP applications
  - Barnyard system, waterways, cover crops, and NWP!

- Harvestable buffers
  - 7.3 acres
  - 10 year agreements

- Low disturbance manure injection cost-share program

- Community manure processing and storage pilot

- Legacy sediment removal

- P reductions
  - 279 pounds of P reduced
  - Reach 64 - 184 pounds
  - Reach 67 - 84 pounds
DOOR CREEK IMPLEMENTATION

- Resubmitted 9 Key element plan
- Commenced implementation
  - Water sampling for baseline condition
  - Water quality
  - Biology
  - Practice implementation
  - Continue inventory of resource concerns
  - Planning of conservation practices
  - Communication activities

ADDITIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Harvestable buffer agreements
  - 24 acres
  - 5 & 15 year agreements
  - 336 pounds of P
- Developing a Dane County adaptive management service agreement
- Implemented conservation practices
- Final pilot project report - Drafted
- Hiring of two new LIE’S to evaluate NWP’s
Pilot Project Final Report Update

Emily Jones-MMSD

Reallocation of Budgeted Funds to Support P reduction Practices

- $10 K carryover from 2015 for LDM!
- $25 K from 2016 for cover crop/no-till demonstration
- $35 K for extending length of harvestable buffer agreements

Phosphorus Reduction Grant Program Awards

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<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Complanted in 2016</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
<th>$K Reduced</th>
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<tr>
<td>DeKalb County</td>
<td>Precision Farm Management Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wayne County</td>
<td>Bitterroot Creek Restoration Project</td>
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<td>5,000</td>
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<td>Hamilton County</td>
<td>Protect Our Water Network</td>
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<td>7,000</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td>City of Milan</td>
<td>Stormwater Management Project</td>
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<td>2,000</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Narragansett</td>
<td>Bitterroot Creek Restoration Project</td>
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<td>15,000</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Warren</td>
<td>Enhance Our Water</td>
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<td>10,000</td>
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<td>City of Weymouth</td>
<td>Improve Water Quality</td>
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<td>5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Westport</td>
<td>Water Quality Protection</td>
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Projects Funded at $60K Level

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<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Project Name/Topic</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Share of Total</th>
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<td>Dane County</td>
<td>On-farm Storage</td>
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<td>20.1%</td>
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<td>Lehigh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Village of DeForest</td>
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<td>VCS</td>
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<td>Lehigh</td>
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Yahara Pride Farms

- A farmer-led, non-for-profit organization working to improve soil and water.

- Supports research, analysis and monitoring that will generate the data needed to make the best conservation management decisions on our farms.

Yahara Pride Farms Grant

- Prior grants awarded in 2013, 2014 and 2015

- Cost sharing for P reduction practices
  - Cover crops
  - Strip tillage
  - Low disturbance nutrient injection
  - Others

- 50% is requested from WINS awarded in 2016
Legal Services Agreement

- Approved using Paul Kent and Stafford Rosenbaum LLP for short term
- Decisions
  - Length of agreement
  - Allocation of funds
  - Execution of service agreement

Process for Authorizing and Making WINS Expenditures

- Restricted account
- Dual signatures
- Authorization form and electronic transmittal
- Other

Other Agenda Items

- Yahara Pride Ag Innovation Day (August 16th)
- Other business
  - Meeting times-what works best?