

**NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN STORMWATER COALITION**  
**Minutes**  
**March 15, 2018**

**Members:** Dustin Bonack (C-Merrill), Rod Akey (C-Merrill), Tom Turchi (C-Marshfield), Michael Wodalski (V-Weston), Tim Vergara (V-Rothschild), Sean Gehin (C-Wausau), Jeff Pritchard (Marathon County), Mark Thuot (C-Schofield), Kevin Lang (Marathon Co Hwy), Rob Molski (C-Stevens Point), *and via teleconference: Joe Eichsteadt (C-Wisconsin Rapids).*

**Absent/Excused:** Christopher Johnson (V-Kronenwetter), Scott Turner (T-Rib Mountain), Becky Frisch (Marathon County), Kevin Breit (C-Mosinee), and Tom Pinion (C-Baraboo).

**Others:** Fred Heider (NCWRPC), Josh Accola (AECOM), Josh Huber (Becher-Hoppe), Diane Thoune (Clark Dietz), *and via teleconference: Rick Eilertson (AECOM), and Jon Lindert (Strand).*

1. Call to Order.

The agenda being distributed to each community for posting and to local media, Pritchard called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. in the Large Conference Room 210 River Drive, Wausau, WI.

2. Approve the Minutes of the February 1, 2018 Meeting.

**Action: Moved/Seconded by Wodalski/Turchi to approved the minutes of the February 1, 2018 meeting. Motion carried.**

3. Chairperson's Report.

- No report.

4. Budget Report.

**Discussion:** Heider reported a current balance of **\$32,075.53, at the start of 2018.**

- No outstanding liabilities.
- Annual Member Contribution invoices for \$2,000 per municipality went out this week.

Available Balance = \$32,075.53

**Approved by general consent to accept the budget report as presented.**

5. Discuss Wisconsin River TMDL webinar and possibly create comments on the initial draft TMDL plan.

**Discussion:** Coalition members discussed various ideas related to how the TMDL was being released and various topics about TMDL parts.

**Moved/Seconded by Akey/Vergara to approve up to \$1,000.00 to have Strand suggest topics of concern within the Wisconsin River TMDL that the Coalition should have reviewed without recreating the wheel if other groups have already provided review topics. Some topics suggested by Coalition members are if the Coalition should weigh-in on if Existing TP Criterion are used in the TMDL or if Site Specific TP Criterion should be used (keeping in mind that Baraboo and Merrill are both Coalition members and who it may affect them differently); with a second topic being if Reserve Capacity and Margin of Safety are reasonable and equable among all 4 groups affected by the TMDL. Motion passed.**

Coalition would like Pat Oldenburg and/or Kevin Kirsch, both from DNR, to make a presentation in person or via teleconference to the Coalition about the Wisconsin River TMDL; specifically talking about: Reserve Capacity, and Margin of Safety built into the Wisconsin River TMDL.

One overall question to answer regarding Reserve Capacity is if capacity would be increased if a city expanded – so 10 acres of agriculture are taken out of production and a city expands onto that land and

now houses and roads are constructed there. Under that scenario would that take away from Reserve Capacity or add to it. Or would a city be able to claim credit for the TP taken out of the system by expanding the city?

A second specific question to ask is whether the Reserve Capacity and Margin of Safety are equitable among all 4 groups (MS4, WWTP, Industrial, & Agriculture).

A third part is to have DNR explain their process of proposing to submit both the Existing TP Criterion for the TMDL and the Site Specific TP Criterion to EPA.

Coalition would also like to know what the League of Municipalities' Local Government Stormwater Group is doing since the release of the Wisconsin River TMDL.

6. Discuss how the Coalition could bring a rural partner to the table.

Discussion: Coalition members discussed various ideas, and thought that existing County Conservationists would be the best people to bring to the table. That would only happen when the TMDL is approved, and MS4s and WWTPs are ready to update their individual 5-year DNR permits (which could be as early as 2019 or 2020), so MS4s and WWTPs could potentially build into their permits Adaptive Management, Multi-discharger Phosphorus Variance, or Water Quality Trading options for complying with TP discharged.

7. Announcements

Discussion:

- Various announcements were made.

8. Next Meeting Date & Agenda

- To be determined based upon when Strand gets back to the Coalition with topics to discuss.

9. Adjournment.

**Motioned/seconded by Akey/Vergara to adjourn the meeting at 11:40 a.m. Motion carried.**

Submitted by: Fred Heider  
North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission