**Agriculture Water Quality Authority**

**Thursday, August 22, 2019**

**Kentucky State Fair**

**Saddle & Sirloin Conf. Room**

**Louisville, KY**

Inattendance: Mr. Larry Thomas, Chair and Kentucky Farm Bureau; Mr. Joseph Sisk, Vice Chair, Member-at-Large; Ms. Paulette Akers, Director, Division of Conservation; Mr. Allan Bryant, Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts; Dr. Amanda Gumbert, University of Kentucky College of Agriculture; Mr. Keith Rogers, Kentucky Department of Agriculture; Mr. James Wright, Director, Division of Forestry; Ms. Sonya Keith, Assistant State Conservationist, USDA-NRCS; Mr. Mark Burnett, Farmer, Member-at-Large; Mr. Todd Clark, Farmer, Member-at-Large; Mr. Pete Goodmann, Director, Division of Water.

Also in attendance: Ms. Johnna McHugh, Assistant Director, Division of Conservation; Mr. Joe Cain, Kentucky Farm Bureau; Mr. Jack Stickney, KRWA; Mr. John Pitcock, Kentucky Department of Agriculture; Mr. Timothy Mayer, Staff Attorney; Ms. Crystal Renfro, Executive Director, KACD; Mr. James Roe, Division of Conservation; Mr. Josiah Frey, Division of Water; Mr. John Webb, Branch Manager, Division of Water; Ms. Susan Park, Agricultural Advisor, EPA Region 4; Mr. Adam Andrews, Program Director, Kentucky Corn Growers Association; Mr. Brandon Howard, Division of Forestry; Mr. Steve Coleman, Kentucky Farm Bureau, Water Management Working Group; Mr. David Chinn, Monty’s Plant Food; and Mr. Jeff Gravitt, Division of Conservation.

**Meeting Called to Order** – at 1:06 PM by Mr. Larry Thomas.

**Roll call of Authority members** – Quorum was met.

Mr. Larry Thomas introduced Ms. Susan Park, the Agricultural Advisor for EPA Region 4 to the Authority members.

**Introduction of guests** – Introductions were made.

**Approval of previous meeting minutes –** The June 06, 2019 minutes were brought before the board. Mr. Joseph Sisk made a motion to approve the minutes with one correction and Mr. Allan Bryant seconded motion. **Motion carried.**

**Old Business** – Ms. Paulette Akers discussed Farmstead BMP #7 Land and Water Use Planning Map. BMP #7 was tabled at last meeting. The discussion points are as follows:

* Should a map be a BMP practice?
* How should a map be incorporated if not a BMP requirement?
* Authority Members agree that a map would be an agreeable addition.
* How to inform farmers of this addition?
  + Subcommittee
* Outreach and Education to discuss addition of map.

A motion to approve that the Outreach and Education Subcommittee take up the task of map inclusion was made by Mr. Keith Rogers and was seconded by Mr. Allan Bryant. **Motion carried**.

**New Business** –

* Division of Water Nutrient Trends Study – Mr. Pete Goodmann gave a presentation on a study conducted by the Division of Water on the Nutrient Loads and Yields in Kentucky (2005-2017). Mr. Pete Goodmann discussed Kentucky’s role in the Hypoxia Task Force and the use of this information help prioritize areas for implementation. The study is based on water samples collected at the pour point of HUC 8 watersheds at least every two months during the study time period. The study provides information on the rolling 5-year averages for the sample locations and also looks at the land use in the watersheds. Generally, increasing agriculture land use in a watershed increases the yield of nitrogen, while phosphorus is not as correlated. The presentation will be sent out to the Authority members after the meeting.
* Subcommittee Reports –
  + KASMC – Not attended.
  + Farmstead - Not attended.
* Pesticides, Fertilizers and other Agriculture Chemicals – Mr. John Pitcock stated that there was nothing new to report and things are moving along well. Mr. Pete Goodmann asked if a new pesticide for Hemp was introduced, would a new BMP need to be created to cover the new product? Mr. John Pitcock stated the current BMPs for pesticides would cover any new pesticides introduced.
* Livestock and Poultry – Mr. Keith Rogers discussed the August 12th meeting with the Authority:
* Paulette Akers discussed the need to update the BMPs prior to the update of the workbook or the development of a new online tool. Keith Rogers mentioned that the Ag Development Board has also discussed adding a requirement that AWQA plans be completed before landowners can request funds, shifting from a bonus point scenario.
* Each BMP was reviewed and changes suggested. Amended versions of the BMPs will be submitted for review before the November AWQA meeting. Individuals have until August 30th to submit recommended changes. Changes will be sent out to the group by September 9th and comments should be received back by September 30th.
* Maps discussion – Steve Higgins brought up the importance of having a map to do conservation planning. Keith Rogers discussed the app that KDA is developing for help producers that will allow them to map their farm online. Adam Jones mentioned the FSA website that allows individuals to map their farm.
  + Three members provided response by email, but were unable to attend –
    - * + Todd Clark recommended additional Best Management Practices for pastured pork and poultry
        + Tony Pescatore commented that he supported BMP #17 as it is currently written.
        + Tammy Barnes requested the addition of a best management practice requiring animal nutrition consultation when feeding distillers grain and recommended a crop best management practice for manure and litter application.
* Crops – Mr. Adam Andrews informed the Authority that the committee will be meeting soon and there has been some difficulty in meeting due to most of the committee members being grain farmers and it is a busy time of year.
* Silviculture – No report given.
* Education and Outreach – Mr. Todd Clark informed the Authority that an update will be given at the next AWQA meeting in November.
* Quarterly update of AWQA related violations – Ms. Paulette Akers reported on Notices of Violation and letters of Warning:
* A total of 13 Violations was recorded.

**Updates from members** –

* Mr. Pete Goodmann gave an update on HABs and the current dry conditions/advisories across the state. Mr. Pete Goodmann informed the Authority of current water map apps that are available for downloading.

**Next Meeting** – November 14th, 2019 at 9:30 AM. Located at the 300 Sower Building in Frankfort Kentucky.

**Adjourn.**