

MEETING NOTES

Agriculture Water Quality Authority

November 18, 2021 9:30 AM

Zoom Video Conference

Meeting ID: 836 4605 1552

Passcode: AWQA

In attendance: Mr. Larry Thomas, Chair, Kentucky Farm Bureau; Mr. Joseph Sisk, Vice Chair, Farmer-at-Large; Mr. Chuck Taylor, Kentucky Geologic Survey; Mr. Ron Brunty, Environmental Groups; Dr. Amanda Gumbert, UK College of Agriculture; Ms. Angela Billings, Department of Public Health; and Mr. Randy McCallon, Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts.

Also in attendance: Ms. Paulette Akers, Division of Conservation; Mr. Brandon Howard, Division of Forestry; Ms. Johnna McHugh, Division of Conservation; Mr. Gordon Slone, Department for Natural Resources; Mr. Brian Lacefield, Kentucky Office of Agriculture Policy; Mr. Josiah Frey, Division of Water; Mr. John Webb, Division of Water; Mr. Abe Nielson, Division of Forestry; Ms. Kathleen Saunier, OLS, Energy and Environment Cabinet; Mr. Jim Roe, Division of Conservation; Mr. Jarod Jones, Division of Water; Mr. Pete Cinotto, United States Geological Survey; Ms. Renee Carrico, Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation; Ms. Sarah Gaddis, Division of Water; Ms. Rhonda Lamb, Jackson Purchase RC&D; Mr. Jim Hoyland, Red7e; and Mr. Jeff Gravitt, Division of Conservation.

Meeting Start Time – 9:31 AM by Mr. Larry Thomas.

Roll call of Authority members – Quorum was not met.

Introduction of guests – Introductions were made.

Swearing in of new members – Quorum was not met. Delayed until next AWQA meeting.

Approval of previous meeting minutes from April 8, 2021 – Quorum was not met. Delayed until next AWQA meeting.

Old Business – Nothing to report.

New Business –

- **Marketing the new AWQ Planning Tool with Red7e** – Ms. Paulette Akers stated that funds were received from the EPA to develop a new online Ag Water Quality Plan tool. These funds allowed the hiring of an agency to help get the word out that a new water quality planning tool was available.

Because the funds came from the EPA and through the Division of Water, the hiring had to go through the state contracting procedure to do this. Three different companies were submitted and Red7e was hired.

Ms. Paulette Akers turned the floor over to Mr. Jim Hoyland from Red7e Agency. Mr. Jim Hoyland stated the following with the Authority:

- Red7e has been around since the 70s
- Red7e is known for their creative abilities and are a full service agency
- Red7e has contracts with the state for the past five years now
 - Department of Agriculture, Health and Human Services and Transportation
- Types of services that Red7e will provide the Authority –
 - Media recommendation and strategy
 - Video, audio streaming, display ads, tradeshow banners, and an array of messaging platforms that can be used
 - Put your message together with graphics that will promote the program
- Meeting format discussion – The Authority discussed what meeting options were available to them for the upcoming 2022 year. The Authority decided to include a hybrid meeting (virtual / in person) as an option for any in-person meeting in the upcoming 2022 year excluding meetings held outside traditional office settings.
- Meeting schedule for 2022 –
 - February 10th
 - May 5th – Field Trip (all day event)
 - August 25th – State Fair
 - November 3rd

Mr. Larry Thomas, serving as Chair of the Authority has approved the above meeting dates for the upcoming 2022 year.

- Strategic Plan - The Authority will receive feedback from a committee meeting to work on any additions or revisions at the February 2022.

Ms. Paulette Akers stated that at the September Soil and Water Conservation Commission meeting, the Commission nominated Mr. Todd Clark for the position of farmer-at-large with the AWQA. The EEC Secretary's office requires a total of three nominees before any approval. The Commission decided to recommend Mr. Fred Sipes and Mr. Jack Stickney along with Mr. Todd Clark as the three nominees for the position of farmer-at-large with the AWQA.

Subcommittee Reports

- **KASMC** - Mr. Pete Cinotto discussed the following with the Authority –
 - KASMC had a virtual meeting on November 16th
 - HIVIS Dashboard.
 - Mr. Dana Kolpin discussed agricultural streams.
 - Mr. Josiah Frey discussed the AG water quality planning tool.
 - Mr. Edward Dobrowolski discussed the Great Lake Restoration Initiative and the monitoring of the basins in Indiana with edge-of-field monitoring.
 - Update on super gages.
 - USGS possibly returning to the office in December.

- **Farmstead** – Dr. Steve Higgins – Not attended

- **Pesticides Fertilizers and other Agriculture Chemicals** – Mr. John Pitcock – Not attended.

- **Livestock and Poultry** – Mr. Keith Rogers – Not attended.

- **Crops** – Mr. Adam Andrews – Not attended.

- **Silviculture** – Mr. Brandon Howard stated that the previous Silviculture committee meeting was canceled due to Covid.

- **Streams and Other Waters** – Ms. Sarah Gaddis discussed the following with the Authority –
 - Nominations for the AWQA
 - Mr. Reed Cripps, Mr. Charles Taylor, Mr. Randy McCallon, Mr. John Webb, and Ms. Melanie Arnold.
 - ❖ Mr. Larry Thomas, serving as Chair of the Authority approved the above nominations for the AWQA.
 - Different meeting formats for the Streams and Other Waters Committee
 - Zoom or GoToMeeting
 - Flooding and how it has affected farmers.
 - Farm Pond BMPs.

- **Education and Outreach** - Mr. Todd Clark – Not attended.

Quarterly update of AWQA related violations - Ms. Paulette Akers stated that since April of this year there have been a total of 18 violations. A total of 5 dealing with beef, 8 dealing with dairy, 3 dealing with distiller grain dumping issues and two farmers received multiple violations. Mr. Jim Roe has been working with the Division of Water to close multiple lagoons on a dairy in Fleming County. One has been closed this week

Ms. Paulette Akers discussed the Ag. Water Quality Tool having more than 700 in total applications submitted online and 100 to 200 completed in paper form.

Dr. Amanda Gumbert discussed the importance of the paper copy application.

Updates from members –

Mr. Larry Thomas discussed needed changes to the April 8th meeting minutes. Mr. Larry Thomas and Dr. Amanda Gumbert will email Ms. Paulette Akers and Mr. Jeff Gravitt with suggested changes. Mr. Larry Thomas asked if there were any agency updates

Dr. Amanda Gumbert inquired if DCA, the Division of Compliance Assistance, continues work on distiller grains issues. Ms. Paulette Akers stated that the cabinet is still working on the distiller's grain issues and that the DCA has been merged with the former Division of Enforcement. It is known now as the Division of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance (DECA). Dr. Amanda Gumbert asked if DECA could be invited to present at the February meeting."

Next Meeting – February 10th, 2022

Meeting End Time – 10:48 am