

Agriculture Water Quality Authority Meeting
Frankfort, Kentucky
August 21, 2014
62nd Meeting
1:00 PM

Members present: Division of Conservation Director Kim Richardson, Chair; Kevin Jefferies, member at large; Paulette Akers, representing Director Peter Goodman, Kentucky Division of Water (DOW); State Conservationist Karen Woodrich, NRCS; Warren Beeler, Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA); Amanda Gumbert, UK-DOC; Larry Thomas, Kentucky Farm Bureau (KFB); Angela Billings, Cabinet for Health and Family Services, and David Rowlett, Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts. Quorum was met.

Others in attendance, David Gilland, FSA; David Wayne, KDA; Travis Hale, KDA; David Chinn, Monty's Plant Food, Co.; Adam Andrews, Ky. Corn Growers; Laura Knoth, Ky. Corn Growers; Dan Miller, KBN; Becky Thompson, KBN/KCA; Dave Maples, KCA; Angie Crain, USGS; Teri Atkins, KDDC; Meredith Scales, KDDC; Steve Dams, KCA; and Johnna McHugh, Division of Conservation.

Meeting held during the Kentucky State Fair.

Meeting called to order at 1:07 p.m. by Chair Kimberly Richardson. Ms. Richardson thanked everyone for their attendance and noted that this was the 62nd meeting of the Agriculture Water Quality Authority.

Chair Richardson presented the minutes of the June 5, 2014, meeting for approval. Ms. Amanda Gumbert noted a correction under the Livestock Working Group report in that the last sentence should be struck. Paulette Akers noted a correction under the Nutrient Reduction Strategy Update in that the last three words of the first sentence should read nutrient reduction strategy. Motion made by Mr. Kevin Jefferies to accept minutes with corrections. Motion seconded by Mr. Larry Thomas.

Motion carried.

Update on University of Kentucky's response to HABs

Ms. Amanda Gumbert reported on the progress of guidance regarding harmful algal blooms (HABs). Michelle Arnold, a veterinarian with UK, took the lead on the project, drafting a news release that was distributed through the UK network. The Division of Water provided pictures to be distributed with that release. Ms. Gumbert did radio spots throughout the state, and the Cattleman's Association ran information about HABs in the Cow Country News.

Little River Watershed Findings

Angela Craine of USGS reported on the Multiple Source Tracking system in the Little River Watershed in Christian County. She explained the process of attempting to identify the sources of pathogens, nitrogen and sediment through water sampling throughout the watershed. This source tracking will help the various stakeholders in the watershed to better propose remediation plans. She explained the different testing methods for each source and showed the main source for each contaminant in the different areas of the watershed. The findings are preliminary, and USGS will continue testing samples to fine-tune the sources of contamination.

Update on Work Groups

Forestry BMP

No report

Water Quality & Data-KY Ag. Science & Monitoring

Pete Cinotto of USGS reported that there was recently a write-up of KASMC in the Rural Water Association's magazine. Mr. Cinotto added more details about the executive meeting he mentioned at the last Authority meeting. It is the 3rd annual executive level meeting, and it will be held on December 9. They are working on getting new equipment to get better information and more data points.

Livestock

No report

Education and Outreach Committee

No report

Pesticides

The Department of Agriculture should have their part of the BMP revisions completed within the next few weeks. Ms. Amanda Gumbert moved that the Pesticides Committee membership be revisited so that an organized membership list can be created. Additionally, her motion included that the Department of Agriculture's designee should be the chair of this committee. Mr. Kevin Jeffries seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

Ms. Karen Woodrich reminded the Authority and guests how important conservation compliance is in water quality.

Mr. David Gilland of the Farm Service Agency reported that the state employees have been receiving training on new programs and changes to existing programs. Sign-up on new programs through the 2014 Farm Bill have begun.

Mr. Larry Thomas asked the group about the recent water quality issues in Toledo, Ohio and if they are a concern in Kentucky. Ms. Akers reported that many water intakes in Kentucky have the option of getting water from a deeper position and treating water differently if algal

blooms became a problem to the drinking water supply. The Department of Environmental Protection will be distributing a FAQ due to these issues. Ms. Woodrich also noted that NRCS is providing additional funding to the Toledo area.

Ms. Woodrich reported on the Regional Conservation Partnership Program preproposal deadline. Kentucky did well in getting proposals approved. It should be known in late October or early November what kinds of additional funding will be available for these projects.

The next Authority meeting to be held November 20th at 9:30 a.m. at a location to be determined.

A motion was made by Mr. Larry Thomas to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Ms. Gumbert. **Motion carried.**