



TTK Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 12th, 2017

6:30 – 8:00 p.m. EST

Hoosier Energy Environmental Education Center

Attendees: Josh Brosmer, IDEM, Trey Clark, WLRM and Stakeholder, Bruce Marheine, WLRM, Charles Haney, Hoosier Energy, John "Jack" Gettinger, Stakeholder, Brad Smith, The Nature Conservancy, Laura Demarest, WCIWA Watershed Coordinator

Introduction

Refreshments provided courtesy of Hoosier Energy.

- **Brief Updates/Project Summaries:**

- **TTK Cost-Share Program** – Funding for the 2nd installment of TTK implementation continues in Turman Creek watershed until April 2019. An estimated ~\$80,000 is ear-marked for projects yet to be constructed. Fall cover crop season bills are still being processed but it is estimated that over 2,000 were planted in the watershed, despite unfavorable weather conditions during planting windows.
- **Clean Water Indiana Grant** – Final payments for CWI cover crops are being processed at this time. An application submitted this fall for additional funding was not selected.
- **LARE Grant** – Two LARE Watershed Land Treatment grants are ongoing. All funding has been obligated (\$60,000 total) – projects are awaiting engineering, construction, and/or potential permits. It was suggested that next time LARE funding is applied for, we should ask for a higher total as the last two applications have requested over \$70,000 and been awarded \$30,000 instead, which is obligated very quickly to only a few landowners doing big projects.
- **Additional Grant News: TNC + Caterpillar** – Details for the cost-share program were finalized 10/27 and word was circulated widely. However, before names/fields/etc. could be submitted, all of the TNC-CAT funding (\$100,000) was utilized elsewhere in the Wabash River Valley – in less than one week! A very impressive show of interest in the BMP, though unfortunately Sullivan County did not receive any funds (names are still on the wait list). The grant consists of a 1 year contract, wherein the Sullivan SWCD will receive \$5,000 for admin assistance; this funding can be put towards unfunded cover crops and used as potential match for 319.

Planning Ahead 2018

- **Spring Field Day options-** Some ideas were discussed, including a cover crop field walk, a grazing/pasture tour, and a water quality/fishing field day that may attract more interest from the wider public.
- **Upcoming grant application(s)** – per discussion at the July Advisory Committee meeting, it has been decided (pending Sullivan SWCD Board approval/comments) to apply for an additional round of TTK Implementation funding. The 319 application will be compiled and submitted at the end of summer 2018. Letters of Support from partners will be sought this spring and summer.
- **Additional remarks/comments** – Brad Smith (The Nature Conservancy) mentioned that there may be potential for funding from other private sources in the future (The Walton Foundation, for example) and that he will provide relevant information as he learns more.

Next Meeting Date TBD

Prepared and submitted by: L. Demarest