



# Plummer Creek Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017  
7:00 – 8:30 p.m. EST

Greene County Soil and Water Conservation District

**Attendees:** Josh Brosmer - IDEM, Casey Kennett, Greene SWCD, Erin Raper, Stakeholder, Dale Johnson, Stakeholder, Randy Koenig, Greene SWCD Board, Rita Sharr, Greene SWCD Board and Stakeholder, Beth Brinson, Greene SWCD, Charles Britton, Stakeholder, Tammy Swihart, NRCS, Steve Crowe, Greene SWCD Board, David Britton, Stakeholder, Reece Booher, Greene SWCD Board, Laura Demarest – PCWP Coordinator

## Introduction

Refreshments were provided (courtesy of Greene Co. SWCD) and introductions were made. Advisory Committee meeting was held directly following the Greene Co. SWCD Board meeting; some discussion from previous meeting continued.

### Brief Status Updates

- **Overview of Plummer Creek 319 Implementation Grant** – The history and current status of the Plummer Creek Watershed Project was briefly summarized for new attendees. To reiterate, the current Plummer Creek 319 grant amounts to \$279,979 with a match commitment of \$186,655 for a total project value of \$466,634. Funding specifically allocated for cost-share implementation equals \$140,000. This grant will be administrated from May 2016-April 2019 by the Greene County SWCD.
- **Cost-Share Guidelines** – The Plummer Creek Cost Share Guidelines have been approved and the program is gaining momentum. Cost-share funding can be utilized for BMPs in critical areas throughout the watershed. Currently, there are several producers with projects signed up for cost-share. Some projects are currently in being engineering by NRCS and will be slated for construction as early as this spring or summer. Funding is also available for non-constructed practices such as precision agriculture upgrades, cover crops, and pasture improvement.
- **QAPP for Water Monitoring – Draft Phase** – Water monitoring cannot begin until the Quality Assurance Project Plan is completed. The QAPP is currently being drafted, with monitoring slated to begin in the spring or summer. Priority has been given to the Cost-Share Program sign-up.

## PCWP in 2017

The Plummer Creek 319 Implementation project requires a certain number of field days and outreach tasks to be completed.

### Upcoming Events:

- **Summer Field Day (July-Aug)** - Discussion occurred on the possibility of having a summer field day at the Tulip Trestle; several attendees are also members of this group and expressed interest, though had concerns about insurance and access to the stream. They would like a pollinator focus, however to count for 319 field days, there would have to be a water quality theme. It was suggested that a volunteer macroinvertebrate monitoring station could be taught to interested participants. The Tulip Trestle group already hosts a number of community events, including a 5k run, Santa Train, and this past year's Bicentennial festivities.
- **Fall Field Day Options** – Even though it's far in the future, some ideas were pitched, including a potential community canoe trip modeled after the one recently held on the Wabash for the TTK319 project. Meeting attendees suggested that the only public canoe ramps would be in Worthington and Elnora, making the trip somewhat long for casual community members. It would be necessary to obtain private property access to shorten the length of the overall trip. Smaller tributaries (Plummer Creek, etc.) contain many logjam obstacles and would not be ideal. More research is needed.
- **Organize PCWP Beautification group** - Another component of the 319 grant is to organize two litter or stream clean-up days in the community. The previous 319 Planning grant had a youth group who participated in field days and monitoring (W.E.T. team), though current 319 requirements encourage education of adult audiences over youth. Some discussion on various community groups who may be interested: Girl Scouts, FFA, Christian Fellowship Club at Bloomfield School. For a large clean-up, heavy equipment cannot count towards match and considerations for insurance may need to be considered if working in a dangerous area. Earth Day is upcoming and a roadside litter clean-up is being planned.

## Next Quarterly Meeting Date

TBD

Meetings are held at the Greene County Soil and Water Conservation District in Bloomfield, IN.

*Prepared and submitted by: L. Demarest*