

Integrated Management Plan Stakeholders Meeting

Twin Platte Natural Resources District

November 20, 2006

Stakeholders present: Phil Armstrong, Don Colvin, Lisa Dominisse, Jim Hawks, Marion Kroeker, Tina Kurtz, Frank Kwapnioski, Jim Meisner, Dudley Oltmans, Roric Paulman, Dennis Schilz, Jerry Steinke, Mike Svoboda, Steve Van Boening, Joe Wahlgren T.J. Walker, Jerry Weaver, Robert Wiseman.

Stakeholders absent (excused): Burdette Cooley, Jim Goeke, Steve Krajewski, Robert Petersen, Page Peterson, Doug Teaford, Mike Wheeler.

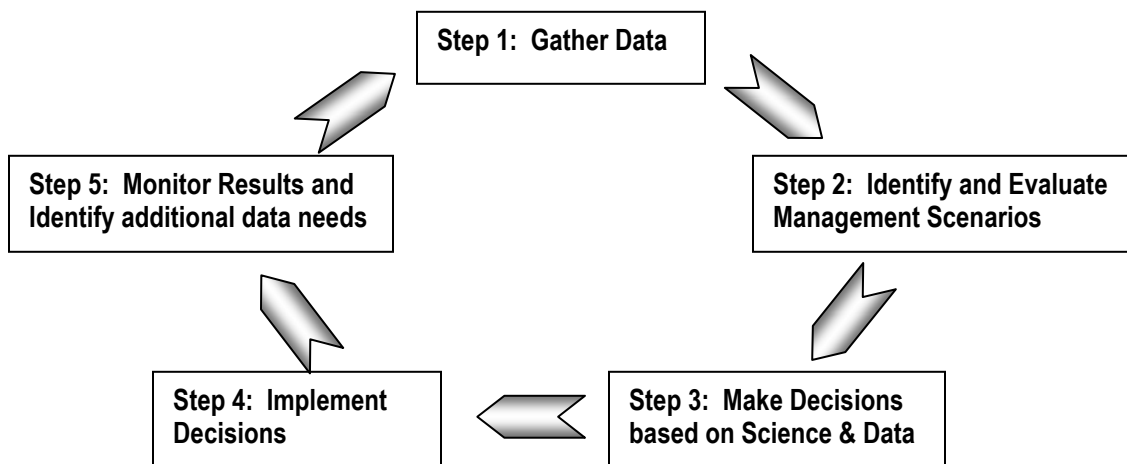
Stakeholders absent (unexcused): Kenneth Schilz.

Resource People: Kent Miller, Ann Dimmitt

The Stakeholders Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. CDT.

Announcements

Following the October meeting, one of the Stakeholders shared a conceptual approach to the planning implementation process with the Facilitator. It provides a framework for organizing the thinking and recommendations that this Stakeholder group will be making in the coming months. The Facilitator shared this idea with the group for possible consideration and use in our district planning process:



IMP Tools

At the October meeting, the group discussed the following tool:

Develop studies and do research to identify and quantify the components of the District's water budget. A summary of the discussion was included in the October meeting notes. Stakeholders were asked if they had anything else to add to that discussion before moving on to the next tool.

One Stakeholder asked that the term "budget" be clarified. There are balanced budgets and deficit spending budgets and those that build in some level of operating reserve. When applying this term to water is it our intention to "balance" the water budget meaning that each year there is a zero sum gain/loss? Do we want to "bank" some water?

The responses to these questions by other Stakeholders included these comments:

- A water budget includes two components: The first is an inventory of water coming into the district and an accounting of how it is currently being used. The second is the use of this information for planning and management as you decide how to allocate water to meet district goals.
- In a budgeting process you establish what revenues you have and how you will expend these funds. Similarly a water budget establishes what water is available and then determines how it will be used. Over appropriated areas are equivalent to a deficit budget, fully appropriated areas equate to a balanced budget. Under appropriated water would be like a surplus budget.

IMP Tools (continued)

GOALS STATEMENT: Manage water resources in the TPNRD in a manner to balance water use and water supply, optimizing economic, social and environmental benefits, for the near and long term.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Provide for educational programs related to integrated management for the District.
2. Protect existing users, local economy, environmental health, and recreational uses to the extent possible.
3. Allow for water banking, transfers, and pooling.
4. Explore new sources of water.
5. Coordinate with the basin-wide plan.
6. Equitable distribution of mitigation responsibilities.
7. Reach and maintain fully appropriated status of the total water supply in the District.
8. Manage total water supply in the district to achieve sustainability of supply and use while allowing for growth and changes in use.

Using the process developed at the October meeting, Stakeholders addressed the second tool:

Tool 2: Develop a schedule of updating information

How would using this tool help achieve overall goals statement?

- Continually monitoring data and information
- Help educate and update constituents
- Existing data is relatively young and constantly changing to make the models more specific

What specific objective(s) does this tool support?

- There was general agreement that this could be helpful in achieving nearly all of the objectives and especially Objectives #3, #6, #7, #8

Expand on what this tool means. Specifically:

WHO?

- NRD – Well Drilling; DNR and USGS – Stream flows; CNPPID and NPPD – monitoring wells and canals; plus the University, other models and other sources that may develop over time.

WHAT?

- Define the frequency of updates

WHEN?

- It was pointed out that the statute calls for annual progress reports along with a more comprehensive evaluation at the end of 10 years.

WHY?

- To determine success in achieving objectives

HOW?

- Using methods employed by information gathering entities above

There was some discussion as to whether this second tool was even needed since statute lays out some guidelines for updating information. Tina suggested it was a good idea for the group to clarify what expectations we have as far as scheduled updates are concerned.

The group moved on to the third tool:

Tool 3: Encourage efficient use of water to maximize benefits to the ecology and economy of the area

Before the discussion went very far there were questions as to whether we should be addressing efficiency or water consumption. Since the wording of this tool may be in contention the Facilitator suggested that these issues be resolved before further discussions about the specifics of a tool like this.

The discussion shifted to the process this group was using to identify and agree upon tools to recommend. Since there appeared to be dissatisfaction with the approach being used, the Facilitator suggested an alternative. She proposed that each Stakeholder consider tools they would support for each of our stated objectives or if they prefer, they could identify tools that could be used in each of the five steps of the planning implementation concept presented at the beginning of the meeting. Either approach would allow the group to direct discussion into a more organized framework to insure that the tools recommended clearly support our goals statement and objectives. To facilitate this, participants were asked to complete one or both of the enclosed worksheets prior to the next meeting.

Other Meeting Notices

T.J. Walker invited interested parties to attend the West Central Nebraska Weed Management Area meeting which will address ways to attack invasive species like Russian Olives, Cedars and Phragmites. The meeting is open to the public and will be held at the Airport Inn at 10:00 a.m. on November 28.

Tina Kurtz announced that the next Over appropriated Basin meeting will be held in North Platte at the Quality Inn on December 7 from 10:00a.m to 3:00p.m.

Future Meetings

All meeting times are from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. CDT. Future meetings:

7:00 p.m	December 18 -- Holiday inn
7:00 p.m	January 29 – Quality Inn
<u>7:30 p.m</u>	February 26 – Quality Inn
7:00 p.m	March 19 – Quality Inn
7:00 p.m	April 16 – Quality Inn
<u>7:30 p.m.</u>	May 21 – Holiday Inn
7:00 p.m	June 18 – Holiday Inn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:25 p.m. CDT.