



## Hinkston Creek Watershed Stakeholder Meeting Minutes

November 8, 2019, 10 AM-12 PM

I. Introductions/Attendees:

Barry Toning(LRWW), George Bruening (LRWW), Micki Sosby (Bourbon Co Planning and Zoning), Pat McCarty (Cattlemen's Association), Earl Pfanstiel (Resident/ Cattlemen's), Kristi Morris (WEDCO), Valerie Tipton (Bourbon Co Conservation District), Scott Wells (Bourbon Co Fiscal Court) , Buddy Wilson (Montgomery Co Health Department), Edward Robert (The Post Clinic), Mahtaab Bagherzadeh (KDOW), Madeline Pruszenski (KDOW), Rick Fletcher (Mt. Sterling Water and Sewer), Curtis Rosser (NRCS), Brian Rauf (Friends of Stoner Creek), Larry George (LRWW), Erica Brierly (Nicholas Co Conservation District), Amy Sohner (BGGs), and Lindsie Nicholas (BGGs)

II. Watershed Assessment Plan Development and Implementation (Barry Toning)

- a. Hinkston Creek watershed impairment overview (bacteria, sedimentation, riparian buffer/habitat loss, excess nitrogen)
- b. Watershed is 70% pasture land; pasture management a large target for state cost-share improvements
- c. 2008-2014 water quality monitoring, watershed plan development, education and outreach, and state cost-share project implementation
- d. Top 5 management practices – Manage pasture grass cover, control livestock creek access, stabilize channels with vegetation, control erosion and sediment runoff, and clean up polluted pavement runoff
- e. 'Thank a Farmer' billboard campaign a success to gaining public awareness
- f. A few "Entering Hinkston Creek Watershed" signs remain if they are needed
- g. 149 acres of pasture renovation, 55,530 ft of livestock exclusion fencing installed, 30,670 ft of waterlines, 39 livestock water tanks, 37 heavy use area protection, 1,325 ft of bank stabilization, 3 spring/pond cleanouts for water, 7 stream crossings, 1 creek-side dump cleanup, and 5 septic system repairs

III. Conservation District State Cost-Share Projects in Bourbon County (Valerie Tipton)

- a. 2014-2016 state cost-share funding
- b. Incl. livestock exclusion fencing (high tensile and woven wire), alternative water sources, rocked stream crossings, cross fencing, heavy use areas for gateways and feed pads
- c. Feed pads require KY Nutrient Management Plan as of 2019
- d. State cost-share requires farm number from Farm Service Agency and an updated KY Agriculture Water Quality Plan
- e. Education and awareness is key

- IV. Septic and Riparian Buffer Watershed Improvement Projects (Lindsie Nicholas)
  - a. 2017-2019 319(h) funding to implement portions of the Hinkston Creek Watershed Assessment and Management Plan
  - b. Includes practices to reduce human and livestock fecal inputs and address high bacteria and nutrient levels, increase riparian buffer widths, and increase knowledge of water quality issues for local citizens, officials, and students
  - c. Septic Care workshops and cost-share grants; Free septic tank pumpouts and riser installation and 80/20 cost-share grants for septic system repairs
  - d. 36 of 47 pumpouts completed in Hinkston Creek watershed
  - e. 28 completed septic repairs and installations in straight pipe conditions
  - f. Saving your Streambanks workshops and 80/20 cost-share reimbursement style grants
  - g. One riparian buffer project installed at Millersburg Community Park in partnership with BCA and the City of Millersburg
  - h. Community outreach at local events and K-12 education efforts; partnership with Friends of Stoner Creek poster contest in Bourbon Co
  - i. Watershed stakeholder meetings
  - j. 2020-2021 project extension approved by KDOW
  
- V. Conservation District State Cost-Share Projects in Nicholas County (Erica Brierty)
  - a. 2015-2018 State cost-share projects, 15 approved applications incl. livestock fencing, animal feeding pads, stream crossings, and forage improvements
  - b. 2019-2021 State cost-share projects, 6 approved applications to-date incl. livestock exclusion fencing, animal feed pads, watering facilities, heavy use areas/ gateways, forage improvements, and pasture renovation
  - c. 3 addition projects to be completed by 2021
  
- VI. Current Water Quality Data (Licking River Watershed Watch-LRWW)
  - a. Discussed 2019 sampling results from May 11, July 13, September 14
  - b. Four active sampling sites in Hinkston Creek watershed, more samplers always needed
  
- VII. Open Discussion
  - a. Scott Wells discussed stream access locations along Hinkston and will keep the group updated as plans come along to increase public access
  - b. Valerie Tipton discussed the rise in hemp growers and the need for a possible compliance program with potential erosion issues that have surfaced
  
- VIII. Questionnaire Summary Attached
  
- IX. Next Stakeholder Meeting – Spring/ TBD