

NONPOINT SOURCE TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES

Floyd Matthew Training Center, Foss Building

Pierre, South Dakota

December 10, 2019

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jay Gilbertson, East Dakota Water Development District. See attached "sign-in-sheet" for a list of those in attendance.

INTRODUCTIONS/REMARKS: Chairman Gilbertson asked for those in attendance to introduce themselves and state the organization they represent.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion was made by Dana Loseke, SC/FBSR, to approve the agenda. Seconded by Todd Kays, 1st District. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Dana Loseke, SC/FBSR, to approve the minutes of December 10, 2018 meeting. Seconded by Judge Jessop, SD Grasslands Coalition. Motion carried.

REVIEW OF AVAILABLE FUNDS: Barry McLaury with DENR provided an overview of available funds. Discussion followed.

**Tim Reich: Belle Fourche River Watershed Partnership
Belle Fourche River Watershed Implementation Project - Segment 9 (Amendment)**

Total Cost: \$3,466,500

319 Grant Request: \$829,000

The Belle Fourche River Watershed Partnership is the project sponsor for this two-year project. This is the ninth Segment that addresses seven TMDLs. Activities planned for this segment would continue implementing BMPs that reduce E. coli and TSS pollutants. These BMPs include: (1) installing irrigation sprinkler systems, (2) implementing grazing management systems, (3) installing riparian/bank stability improvements, (4) implementing improved cropping systems, (5) improving and/or relocating livestock feeding areas. The Segment 9 Amendment proposes additional funds to increase BMP installment in the watershed.

**Barry Berg: Big Sioux River Watershed Implementation Project - Segment 4
Minnehaha County Conservation District**

Total Cost: \$14,258,375

319 Grant Request: \$950,000

The Big Sioux River Watershed Project is a multiyear TMDL implementation strategy that will be completed in multiple segments. The project will restore and/or maintain the water quality of the Big Sioux River and its tributaries to meet the designated beneficial uses. The Lower Big Sioux River, Central Big Sioux River and the North-Central Big Sioux River/Oakwood Lakes Watershed Assessments identified various segments of the Big Sioux River and certain tributaries between Estelline, South Dakota and Sioux City, Iowa as failing to meet designated uses due to impairments from TSS, dissolved oxygen and/or bacteria. The current project (Segment 4) is focused on further reducing loadings from soil erosion, animal feeding operations, damaged riparian areas, and expanding ongoing project activities. It also extends water quality monitoring through 2025.

Rachel McDaniel: E. coli in Stream Sediments as a Potential Source to the Water Column – Segment 2

Sponsor: South Dakota State University

Total Cost: \$498,352

319 Grant Request: \$298,942

This project will use detailed spatial sampling during the beginning, middle, and end of the recreation season to quantify sediment sources of E. coli from streams with varying levels of anthropogenic influences. Sediment and site characteristics will be evaluated to compare with E. coli concentrations. The potential load from sediment sources will be estimated from streams with varying levels of anthropogenic influences. This will provide foundational understanding of sediments as a source of E. coli that can be utilized in TMDL development. The detailed spatial monitoring that will be completed by this study will inform sampling design given different site characteristics.

Cindy Zenk: Soil Health Improvement and Planning Project – Segment 2

Sponsor: South Dakota Soil Health Coalition

Total Cost: \$512,500

319 Grant Request: \$285,300

The goal of this two-year project is to improve water quality through planning and implementation of soil health agricultural best management practices (BMPs) and outreach to producers in selected 303(d) listed waterbodies in South Dakota. Implementing and promoting best management practices in the watershed that reduce sediment loading and prevent bacterial contamination working to attain total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) developed for the rivers, tributaries, and lakes and meet the designated beneficial uses. Outreach will include planning and holding workshops and field demonstration tours to educate and inform producers of ways to manage land to reduce runoff and improve nutrient cycling which will ultimately improve water quality. The project will also provide information and education to local landowners and the general public to provide a better understanding of water quality and its relationship to soil health benefits.

Rocky Knippling: South Central Watershed Implementation Project - Segment 1 (Amendment)

Sponsor: James River Water Development District

Total Cost: \$21,505,542

319 Grant Request: \$800,000

This proposal is the first segment of a locally planned multi-year (10-15 year) effort to implement best management practices (BMPs) in the Lewis and Clark Lake watershed, Lake Andes, Geddes, Academy and Platte Lake watersheds, impaired stretches of the Lower James River tributaries, and impaired reaches in the Vermillion watershed. This effort is aimed at restoring water quality to meet designated beneficial uses and address TMDLs established, and to be established, for waterbodies in these watersheds.

Anne Lewis: South Dakota Nonpoint Source I&E Project – Segment 6

Sponsor: South Dakota Discovery Center

Total Cost: \$513,125

319 Grant Request: \$300,000

The 2020 South Dakota Nonpoint Source Information and Education Project is designed to continue providing South Dakota's citizens information and education opportunities about nonpoint source pollution to in order to gain their support for and participation in nonpoint source pollution prevention and reduction practices. This three-year project will focus on outreach to South Dakota's adults using a combination of traditional and innovative methods, support local and regional activities through a competitive Mini-grants Program, and increase teacher, student and adult awareness of and proficiency in watersheds and watershed protection.

Recommendations for Funding: Kris Dozark-DENR presented the DENR Staff funding recommendations to the Task Force.

2020 Section 319 Nonpoint Source Project Summaries

Belle Fourche River Watershed Implementation Project - Segment 9 (Amendment)

Sponsor: Belle Fourche River Watershed Partnership

Total Cost: \$3,466,500

319 Grant Request: \$829,000

The Belle Fourche River Watershed Partnership is the project sponsor for this two-year project. This is the ninth Segment that addresses seven TMDLs. Activities planned for this segment would continue implementing BMPs that reduce *E. coli* and TSS pollutants. These BMPs include: (1) installing irrigation sprinkler systems, (2) implementing grazing management systems, (3) installing riparian/bank stability improvements, (4) implementing improved cropping systems, (5) improving and/or relocating livestock feeding areas. The Segment 9 Amendment proposes additional funds to increase BMP installment in the watershed.

DENR Staff Recommendation: \$200,000 of Section 319 funds.

Staff recommendation is based on limited Section 319 funds available and leftover funds in the project budget from previous Section 319 grant awards. Staff also recommends future project segments be three-years in length. The sponsor should submit future applications for 319 funds

and continue to work with other potential funding partners to help make up the shortfall in Section 319 funds awarded.

Big Sioux River Watershed Implementation Project - Segment 4
Sponsor: Minnehaha County Conservation District

Total Cost: \$14,258,375

319 Grant Request: \$950,000

The Big Sioux River Watershed Project is a multiyear TMDL implementation strategy that will be completed in multiple segments. The project will restore and/or maintain the water quality of the Big Sioux River and its tributaries to meet the designated beneficial uses. The Lower Big Sioux River, Central Big Sioux River and the North-Central Big Sioux River/Oakwood Lakes Watershed Assessments identified various segments of the Big Sioux River and certain tributaries between Estelline, South Dakota and Sioux City, Iowa as failing to meet designated uses due to impairments from TSS, dissolved oxygen and/or bacteria. The current project (Segment 4) is focused on further reducing loadings from soil erosion, animal feeding operations, damaged riparian areas, and expanding ongoing project activities. It also extends water quality monitoring through 2025.

DENR Staff Recommendation: \$605,000 of Section 319 funds.

Staff recommendation is based on limited Section 319 funds available. Since this Segment is the beginning of a new proposed five-year project, staff recommends funding this project substantially. The sponsor should submit future applications for 319 funds and continue to work with other potential funding partners to help make up the shortfall in Section 319 funds awarded.

***E. coli* in Stream Sediments as a Potential Source to the Water Column – Segment 2**
Sponsor: South Dakota State University

Total Cost: \$498,352

319 Grant Request: \$298,942

This project will use detailed spatial sampling during the beginning, middle, and end of the recreation season to quantify sediment sources of *E. coli* from streams with varying levels of anthropogenic influences. Sediment and site characteristics will be evaluated to compare with *E. coli* concentrations. The potential load from sediment sources will be estimated from streams with varying levels of anthropogenic influences. This will provide foundational understanding of sediments as a source of *E. coli* that can be utilized in TMDL development. The detailed spatial monitoring that will be completed by this study will inform sampling design given different site characteristics.

DENR Recommendation: \$295,000 of Section 319 funds.

*Staff recommendation is based on limited Section 319 funds available. With *E. coli* being the primary cause of impairment for immersion and limited contact recreation, this project will help answer some questions about *E. coli* storage in stream sediments as a pollutant source. The information gained from this project will help with TMDL development and implementation strategies for *E. coli* related impairments.*

Soil Health Improvement and Planning Project – Segment 2
Sponsor: South Dakota Soil Health Coalition

Total Cost: \$512,500

319 Grant Request: \$285,300

The goal of this two-year project is to improve water quality through planning and implementation of soil health agricultural best management practices (BMPs) and outreach to producers in selected 303(d) listed waterbodies in South Dakota. Implementing and promoting best management practices in the watershed that reduce sediment loading and prevent bacterial contamination working to attain total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) developed for the rivers, tributaries, and lakes and meet the designated beneficial uses. Outreach will include planning and holding workshops and field demonstration tours to educate and inform producers of ways to manage land to reduce runoff and improve nutrient cycling which will ultimately improve water quality. The project will also provide information and education to local landowners and the general public to provide a better understanding of water quality and its relationship to soil health benefits.

DENR Staff Recommendation: \$230,000 (\$130,000 of Section 319 funds and \$100,000 WQ Grant).

Staff recommendation: The project sponsor followed DENR's staff recommendations from last year and removed Section 319 funding from their proposed I&E objectives and focused on planning and installation of BMPs. Staff recommendations for this project are geared toward improving water quality when using Section 319 funds for BMPs. Therefore, removing Section 319 funds from Objective 1, Product 1: Crop Rotation, Product 4: Cropland Grazing, Product 5: Soil Health Bundle, and Product 7: Pollinator Planting are recommended. Staff also recommends not using 319 funds to pay for the SDSU Extension Outreach Coordinator (\$12,000) and in turn, use Section 319 funds to pay for the SDSHC portion of coordinator's travel, salary and audit (\$10,200). Communication between and with other 319 projects is an important aspect of the success of this project, as stated in the Proposal under Objective 4, Task 1 on page 10. Staff wants to stress the importance of this Task to help implement on-the-ground soil health practices.

**South Central Watershed Implementation Project - Segment 1 (Amendment)
Sponsor: James River Water Development District**

Total Cost: \$21,505,542

319 Grant Request: \$800,000

This proposal is the first segment of a locally planned multi-year (10-15 year) effort to implement best management practices (BMPs) in the Lewis and Clark Lake watershed, Lake Andes, Geddes, Academy and Platte Lake watersheds, impaired stretches of the Lower James River tributaries, and impaired reaches in the Vermillion watershed. This effort is aimed at restoring water quality to meet designated beneficial uses and address TMDLs established, and to be established, for waterbodies in these watersheds.

DENR Recommendation: \$400,000 of Section 319 funds.

Staff recommendation is based on limited Section 319 funds available and leftover funds in the project budget from previous Section 319 grant awards. The sponsor should submit future applications for 319 funds and continue to work with other potential funding partners to help make up the shortfall in Section 319 funds awarded.

South Dakota Nonpoint Source I&E Project – Segment 6

Sponsor: South Dakota Discovery Center

Total Cost: \$513,125

319 Grant Request: \$300,000

The 2020 South Dakota Nonpoint Source Information and Education Project is designed to continue providing South Dakota's citizens information and education opportunities about nonpoint source pollution in order to gain their support for and participation in nonpoint source pollution prevention and reduction practices. This three-year project will focus on outreach to South Dakota's adults using a combination of traditional and innovative methods, support local and regional activities through a competitive Mini-grants Program, and increase teacher, student and adult awareness of and proficiency in watersheds and watershed protection.

DENR Staff Recommendation: \$300,000 (\$200,000 of Section 319 funds and \$100,000 WQ Grant).

Staff recommendation is to provide full funding.

TASK FORCE DETERMINATIONS: Motion made by Jim Ristau, SD Corn to accept the DENR staff recommendations and submit the recommendations to the Board of Water & Natural Resources. Seconded by Judge Jessop, SD Grasslands Coalition. Motion carried.

Other Items:

Kris Dozark, DENR-2019 Revision of the NPS Management Plan-

The 2019-2024 NPS Management plan needs to be updated every 5 years and needs to be sent in to EPA by the end of the year (2019). Changes and revisions were made. Kris asked for comments from the Board Members. He will send this to all board members and nonmembers and their comments/suggestions will have to be back to him by December 21, 2019.

DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: It was suggested to have another meeting outside of Pierre in the Spring of 2020.

The next meeting will be December 8, 2020.

Meeting adjourned at 1:40 PM.

The meeting was digitally recorded, and audio is available on the DENR website at: <http://denr.sd.gov/boards/schedule.aspx>.

Jay Gilbertson, Chairman