

**Assiniboine Watersheds
Integrated Watershed Management Plan**

**Watershed Planning Advisory Team Meeting
December 11, 2006
Miniota, Manitoba**

Attendance: 57 WPAT members, technical and non-technical

Notes:

1. WPAT Structure

Discussion re: presentations by technical members to the whole WPAT included a request that technical members be notified of when they are speaking and the specific topic announced prior to their scheduled dates.

The reason for technical presentations was to ensure that knowledge related to identified issues is communicated to the larger WPAT.

A WPAT member suggested that technical presentations be taped for later review and/or for WPAT members who missed a meeting. Information will be available within the SoW Report.

Another suggestion was that technical members, specifically those located in Winnipeg, be made available for speaker phone conferences rather than being required to actually attend WPAT meetings.

The idea of locally sourced information being presented in conjunction with technical presentations was brought forth by several attending WPAT members. Further to that, a comment was made from a technical member that watershed residents will want to hear what is important to them, presentation content that goes beyond the typical no.s/acre information provided from technical members.

In response to this idea, the WPAT was requested to contact their local CD managers regarding information that they feel would be valuable to include for presentations.

Another comment regarding WPAT structure was that we not be bound by the proposed deadlines and schedule, but rather that flexibility be the guiding principle, according to process and WPAT needs.

The group chose Option 2 as the WPAT structure of choice for now, with one WPAT receiving the technical presentations, with possibility of separating into four separate WPATS later.

2. Future Meetings

Date for the next WPAT meeting is:
January 22, 2006
Shoal Lake
Community Hall
1:00- 4:00

A Watershed Plan Vision and Mission should be created by the WPAT at the next meeting. Facilitated workshop suggested

A technical member suggested that a technical WPAT meeting occur in early January prior to the 22nd to clarify technical knowledge requirements and discuss information already requested.

Another technical member reiterated earlier comments that a weakness of previous processes was the lack of local knowledge contributing to the watershed information.

A non-technical member requested that the meeting agenda be distributed prior to the next WPAT meeting.

3. Communication

A non-technical member suggested that more communication methods in distributing information about the process the better as a means of ensuring that a higher percentage of the watershed population is exposed to the process.

Public service announcements, website and e-newsletters were noted methods.

4. State of the Watershed Report

The new deadline for technical information is now January 5, 2007.

A suggestion was made that University and other studies of watershed resources should be useful as background data/information.

5. Source Water Protection Plan

Source Water information (GIS format) be available for incorporation into technical submissions. Sheldon replied with an offer to create a source water map.

Suggestion to take a proactive and holistic approach i.e including areas of rec and tourism, woodlot, biodiesel, etc. A suggestion was made that WPAT can invite more local community economic development groups to participate.

6. Questions

WPAT meeting cancellations due to weather was brought up. The suggested and accepted solution was that a public service announcement and email would be distributed by 9:00 a.m. In addition, WPAT members were encouraged to contact their local CD office the morning of to confirm.

A glossary sheet describing the acronyms associated with the process will be made available for distribution next week in response to a request from a WPAT member that full form be used as acronyms can be confusing.

A web page dedicated to the process was discussed with approximately half of the WPAT members indicating such a site would be useful.

Link on the UARCD webpage www.uarcd.com

ACTION ITEMS

1. Ryan will distribute the presentation to those WPAT members who provided their email.
2. Tape technical presentations at WPAT meetings.
3. Incorporate local knowledge and/or perspectives into WPAT meetings.
4. Schedule a technical WPAT meeting prior to January 22.
5. Distribute agendas to all WPAT members prior to meeting.
6. Prepare a Source Water map for the four watersheds.
7. Prepare an acronym definition sheet.