

Dry Creek Watershed Planning Team Meeting – January 7, 2009
1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Meeting Participants: April Haight, Steve Reid, Bob Wells, Tessa Edelen, Samuel Williams, Karen Mynhier, Darrin Eldridge, Daniel Suit, and Dave Harmon.

This meeting was held to specifically address the possibility of BMP implementation with the cooperation of DOT. Several members of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet were invited to this end. The meeting began with a discussion and map review. We then all visited the proposed site. The following notes are from that discussion:

- April Haight opened the meeting with an explanation of the Star 5 Grant and its application to the Dry Creek Watershed project. She explained the parameters of the grant and noted that the application deadline is February 16, 2009.
- It was pointed out that DOT does not own all the land at the proposed site, but that the MSU Plant Board owns the strip immediately adjacent to the creek.
- DOT said the minimum requirements for a project like this would be site distance and clear zone and recovery area. The area in question lies between the creek bed and the highway, adjacent to an intersection and bridge. Therefore, safety is very important. Any vegetation planted would need to meet certain height requirements (so that one might see over the vegetation).
- Bob pointed out that a flood plain permit will most likely be needed.
- April and Steve both discussed the issue of soil type and site fill. It is not currently known what the soil condition is or fill depth. Samples will need to be taken.
- There is a gas line in the area, but no water or sewer.
- The issue of 404 and 401 permits was discussed. April offered that the project may be exempt from a 404 permit due to the small size of the project.
- Several DOT members discussed that the project is essentially a landscape project. If the project changes the contour of the site, however, then an encroachment permit would be necessary.
- Darrin made clear that for DOT to be involved, they would need to be free from all types of liability.
- Dave said that in their experience, restoration projects often fail due to various factors. Also, that it could be very expensive.
- April pointed out that we will hopefully be working with Tom Biebighauser, a wetlands expert.
- Darrin said he could give us his cross sections that we would need to mark them for any grading.
- Steve asked if there are any monuments in the area. Darrin said that there probably are, he can give us the contractor info to be sure.
- DOT summed up their position by saying that they are not at this time committing to anything, but they agreed to consider the project and would need the following from the Dry

Creek Team: a proposal of the project, assurance of absolutely no liability, cross sections, and all permits necessary.

- April said ok and the Dry Creek Team would need the following from DOT: a letter stating DOT's intent to work with us on this project. This is needed as part of the grant requirements, and therefore is needed as soon as possible.
- Sam pointed out that one of the grant requirements is an environmental education component and that there is a local school group that has wetland experience. Community and school groups and possibly MSU students could help with any maintenance and public education.

The group then visited the site in question. There was some discussion on site about specifics of grading and distance off the highway.

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