Kewaunee Groundwater - Compliance Workgroup
Final Agenda & Meeting Notes
Tuesday, September 29, 2015, 12pm – 3pm
Luxemburg Fairgrounds Expo Center
625 Third Street, Luxemburg, WI 54217

Bold items from agenda – *notes are in italics*

Attendance - Workgroup members present: Russ Rasmussen, Kyle Burton, Bill Phelps, Mary Ann Lowndes, Sarah Walling, Mark Jenks, Davina Bonness, Judy Polczinski, Marty Nessman, Heidi Schmitt-Marquez, Lee Luft, Sarah Geers, Jodi Parins (for Mick Sagrillo), Cheryl Burdett, Paul Cornette and Casey Jones

Agenda Item

Convene Meeting, Welcome and Introductions, Agenda Repair – Casey Jones
Team Member Additions Discussion – *not specifically discussed but Dean Hoegger of Clean Water Action Council added per Rasmussen*

Compliance Overviews by Agencies (continued):

Department of Agriculture, Trade, Consumer Protection (DATCP) – Mark Jenks/Sara Walling

- *Jenks discussed multiple programs that DATCP oversees including: conservation engineering practitioner certification; state lab certification (manure and soil testing); livestock siting program; quality assurance review of nutrient management plans; manure management advisory system; funding distribution to county land conservation departments; ATCP 50 & 51; farmland preservation; grant funding; policy teams, etc.*
- *DATCP does not certify crop consultants. That is done by the professional organizations like the American Society of Agronomy or the National Alliance of Independent Crop Consultants. ATCP 50.48 defines what is means to be a "qualified nutrient management planner." People who hold certification as a CCA, or professional agronomist, certified soil scientist, or a certified professional crop consultant are considered "presumptively qualified."*
- *DATCP does a lot of outreach and education in the Nutrient Management and Water Quality Sections but there is a lot of regulation and licensing that happens in other bureaus and sections. Most of the department probably has some type of regulatory or licensing program to administer.*
- *DATCP provides services to educate, regulate and protect our land and water resources.*

DNR – Bill Phelps

- *Phelps discussed groundwater standards in Wisconsin Statute 160 and Wisconsin Administrate Rule 140. Wisconsin has numeric standards for groundwater but only enforceable through other regulations that reference standards.*

Team Goals Discussion:

- **Inform – Outreach Needs (General Public and Regulated Entities)** – *outreach methods not specifically discussed.*
  - **Septic systems**
  - **Private wells**
  - **Farm production sites**
    - **CAFO**
    - **Non-CAFO**
  - **Farm land application sites (manure/commercial fertilizer)**
    - **CAFO**
    - **Non-CAFO**

- **Non-farm land application sites**
  - **Industrial**
  - **Municipal**
  - **Septage**

- **Oversee - Monitor compliance (Where Improvement are Needed / Where to Focus Efforts With Limited Resources)**
  - **Septic systems**
    - *County zoning is doing well with inventorying systems and ensuring non-compliant systems are brought up to standards.*
    - *Some concerns about whether existing standards (mound systems) are suitable or protective of groundwater.*
    - *Septic system compliance is important due to the close proximity of the waste treatment systems to private drinking water wells.*
  - **Private wells**
    - *Nessman stated that the DNR has the ability to have a private well owner with a non-compliant well to properly abandon or bring the well up to standards; currently complaint driven.*
    - *Walling asked if private wells were geo-located so that locations could be put on NMP spreading restriction maps (wells only geo-located since 2004 according to Nessman).*
  - **Farm production sites**
    - **CAFO**
      - *Inspected a minimum of once every 5 years.*
    - **Non-CAFO**
      - *County indicated about 85% of farm production sites have been inspected in county as part of farmland preservation program.*
  - **Farm land application sites (manure/commercial fertilizer)**
    - **CAFO**
      - *Citizens think DNR should do more manure hauling audits to ensure compliance with NMP.*
      - *Parins asked if DNR can train others to monitor spreading activities. Jones stated this is difficult due to complexity of the regulations but if manure is running off the field application sites or discharging from a tile outlet, the DNR should be notified and/or spills hotline called.*
    - **Non-CAFO**
      - *Authority is limited, must have NMP if taking certain tax credits or cost-share.*
  - **Non-farm land application sites** – *Schmitt stated inspections for below are complaint-based; compliance primarily monitored by annual reporting.*
    - **Industrial**
    - **Municipal**
    - **Septage**

Public comments/questions

Better review and better quality of NMPs are necessary.
Government agencies are not helping those who need safe drinking water.
DNR should take soil and manure samples to check for accuracy.
Kewaunee County residents should work together on solutions and not point all the blame on large farms.

Adjourn – *3:15pm*