

**Minnesota State Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Notes**  
**October 25, 2018**  
**NRCS State Office**  
**Waite Park, MN**  
**9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

Attendees:

Troy Daniell, NRCS  
Ryan Galbreath, NRCS  
Rhonda Osterman, NRCS  
Steven Cole, NRCS  
Brad Redlin, MDA  
Fawad Shah, MCIA  
Peter Ripka, MN Farmers Union  
Dave Jones, NRCS  
Jason Selvog, Stearns SWCD  
Warren Formo, MAWRC  
Nathan Hylla, Stearns SWCD  
Rob Sip, Red River Watershed Mgt Board  
Steven Cole, NRCS

Lanette Dietrich, NRCS  
Paul Sweeney, ESE  
Jennifer Sweeney, NRCS  
Jessica Weis, NRCS  
Bill Fitzgerald, MDA  
Andrea Horsman, NRCS  
Angela Hanson, FSA  
Mark Dietrich, MDA  
John Corrigan, NRCS  
Aaron Meyer, MN RWA  
Erin Meier, GLBW  
John Beckwith, MN RCD  
Riley Maanum, MN Farm Bureau

**Opening Remarks and State Conservationist Report: Troy Daniell, State Conservationist, NRCS**  
Troy introduced himself to the MN STAC.

**FY 19 State Technical Committee – Ryan Galbreath, NRCS**

Ryan gave a presentation on the Standard Operating Procedures with the committee, updating new members.

**Update on Ecosystem Services Exchange Project – Paul Sweeney, ESE**

ESE and MN NRCS entered into an agreement in response to the RFP issued by MN NRCS in early 2018 for technical assistance and outreach. The competitive award is for a 3-year project to provide technical assistance on reducing nutrient loads leaving tile drainage systems in MN. This agreement includes completing site reviews on fields, site IDs or field evaluations and then plans for drainage water management and designs for saturated buffers and bioreactors. This technical assistance is provided directly to the producer with NRCS approval. Ten training sessions are also included in the agreement for NRCS and partner staffs. Two of the training sessions have been completed and 4 additional planned. There have been 11 site reviews completed, 11 site IDs completed for saturated buffer sites and 3 site IDs completed on bioreactor sites. Design work on several of the projects has or will begin soon. Another component of the agreement is to increase participation by underserved or female producers in at least 5 counties through a outreach effort by NRCS and ESE. The focus is to increase technical assistance and outreach without adding workload or burden to the local field office staffs.

### **Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP) – Brad Redlin, MDA**

Brad gave a powerpoint presentation on the MAWQCP through the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA). He highlighted the program and successes to date.

### **Farm Service Update on CRP – Angela Hanson, FSA**

Angela Hanson gave a very brief update on CRP. At this time CRP activity is limited.

### **Financial Assistance Programs – Keith Kloubec, NRCS**

Keith discussed cost cap update from subcommittee meeting on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

He also discussed EQIP common practices 2012-2018 and trends.

CSP region discussion - If CSP continues the MSTC was in agreement to move to a one region for CSP agland and one region for NIPF vs the current five regions and three regions.

Local workgroup 2018 summaries - by state and area provided with discussion on changes to the 2019 LWG process.

### **Easement Programs Update – Lanette Dietrich, NRCS**

Lanette gave a presentation on program updates (Compatible Use Authorizations and maintenance activities occurring on easements)

- Geographical Area Rate Cap 2019
- Practice and Cost Listing for ACEP Payment 2019
- Discussion concerning ACEP WRE offers and ratio of upland to wetland waiver

### **Minnesota State Technical Advisory Committee Agenda Items – Ryan Galbreath, NRCS**

There were no requests for agenda items at this time. Requests for agenda items can be sent to Ryan or Rhonda at any time.

Presentation handouts for this meeting were provided by email and/or are posted on the web site:

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/mn/home/>

Next meeting is scheduled for January 24, 2019.

Adjourned