

Standards Oversight Council
Meeting Minutes
April 23, 2003
DATCP Headquarters, Room 172 Madison

Present: Perry Lindquist, Gail Lisse, Pat Murphy, Bruce Webendorfer, Ed Odgers,
Mike Murray, Russ Rasmussen, Paul Daigle, Ken Genskow, Rebecca
Baumann
Absent: Robin Shepard

A few modifications to clarify points in the March 12 minutes were made. The action register was reviewed.

- 590: The team will be reformed this fall after the agronomy research is completed. The DNR will be reviewing and updating regulations and permits for CAFO's. New changes to the rule might contain technical criteria not included in the 590 standard.
- 643A Shoreland: The old team was solicited for feedback but no response yet. This standard can be evaluated during the need survey.
- Reimbursing team members: The past SOC decision was confirmed. It was agreed this information should be presented to work teams as part of the orientation process.
- Policy Manual: Mike began to compile SOC decisions into one document. There may be a need to create separate documents for some material.
 - **AR: SOC** Gather information about the SOC Coordinator position to review at the next meeting.
- DOT Update: The Bureau of Environment had a new administrator appointed and is in the process of being reorganized. The Erosion Control Stormwater Committee activities may be reduced because of budget concerns.
 - Gil Layton, DOT, plans on starting a hydraulically applied products team to update the DOT specs. SOC will maintain contact and keep up to date on developments.
- Blue Book channel erosion tool: Contact was made with Gary Bubenzer and Anita Thompson (UW Ag Engineering). Both showed interest in helping but on a limited basis. There is a possibility of receiving free help or paying for a student to work on this project. Perry is drafting a project description.
 - There is some uncertainty on behalf of the DNR as to the effectiveness of the charts. DNR will determine if the charts are acceptable based on what assumptions are used during their creation.
 - **AR: Perry, Bruce, Mike** review ideas on the design tool with Kevin Kirsch and start work on this project.
- It was determined the SOC Coordinator no longer is required to keep a paper copy of the FOTG since the NRCS has switched to the electronic format.
- County dues request: The county dues request was sent. It was decided that the request should be sent in March. A reminder letter should also be sent.

SOC Updates

The idea of a SOC newsletter and/or other means of publicizing SOC activities were discussed. Quarterly or biannual updates would be sufficient. SOC updates should be given at area meetings, the DATCP engineering newsletter and the Thursday Note. SOC reports could also be sent to existing publications for relevant user groups such as the Builders Association and Alliance of Cities. Branching into existing publications may be the easiest way to reach contacts for urban standards.

Parking Lot: Publicize SOC in trade journals/newsletters.

Work Teams

Stormwater Infiltration Team

- The stormwater team will be sending the site evaluation and infiltration basin drafts for initial review. The site evaluation standard differs from traditional technical standards, however the team felt it was important to separate this information into a separate standard because failure of infiltration devices typically stem from bad placement.

Sheet / Rill Team

- The Mulching and Vegetative Buffer standards have gone through the initial review and are ready for the broad review.
- DOT is providing the team with CAD drawings. Four standards will be sent for review once the drawings arrive.

Channel / Sediment Team

- Three standards will be sent for review once drawings are inserted.

Waste Storage Facility 313 Team

- The team may need to review composting.

Milking Center Waste Team

- The first meeting was held and the SOC orientation given. Gail Lisse volunteered to be the team leader.
- Guelph University and other Canadian research should be reviewed.

SOC Meetings

The frequency of SOC meetings was determined. Quarterly full day meetings will be held. Between quarter meetings hour long conference calls will be scheduled and used as necessary. Other meetings may be called if the need arises.

- Conference call dates scheduled, 9-10:00 (NRCS to reserve facilities):
 - May 29, Aug. 28, Sept. 25, Nov. 20
- Full day meetings at DATCP HQ, 9-3:00:
 - July 8, Oct. 23, January date to be scheduled.

Work Plan Survey

A separate letter shall be made for the custodians and the general users (field staff). The survey will be sent to agency heads, they will distribute internally. The council agreed the survey must be easy to complete. An advanced letter of intent should be sent.

- The cover letter should include: a brief summary of SOC, importance and goal of the survey, encourage comments why particular standards need to be

revised or created, emphasize differences between technical standard/cost sharing issues, ask if guidance is needed to use a standard.

- The list of standards should contain easy to check boxes. While comments are preferred, receiving checkmarks as the only feedback will be helpful.
- Filtering companion document and cost sharing information from standards needs to be clear.

AR: Mike/Ken draft the survey letter

Companion Documents

Bruce presented the history and status of UWEX companion document projects. Work teams need to put more focus on companion documents. The standard and companion document should be drafted consecutively. This process should be formalized.

AR: Bruce write language for TSPH concerning identifying and creating companion documents.

- Nina and Bruce have been working on the buffer companion documents. Nina has also been in contact with the DNR teams to determine their needs.
- The 590 Phosphorous index booklet is almost complete
- The rain garden document is ready to be started however there is hesitation on doing so until the standards is drafted.

Agency Reports

DNR

- In 2008 a rule will be imposed for nutrient applications to urban areas over 5 acres (i.e. parks, golf courses.) DNR would like to start an urban nutrient management standard team so that the standards are completed by 2006. The DATCP agricultural chemical group should be contacted to participate.
- The joint RUSLE 2 meeting went well. A summary will be sent from the NRCS. A need for training about farming to T and cost sharing is arising.

DATCP

- Staff reductions may hamper their ability to participate on SOC activities.
- **Parking Lot:** Addressing odor issues in technical standards.
 - Not all odor issues are science based and this may challenge future work teams. It is expected odor and air quality issues will need to be addressed in the future.

WALCE

- The president is leaving for a new position, and the committee and area structure is being reorganized.

NRCS

- The EQIP rules will be finalized in May. NRCS is trying to incorporate technology issues with agricultural systems better.

Action Register

SOC Gather information about the SOC Coordinator position to review at the next meeting.

Perry, Bruce, Mike review ideas on the design tool with Kevin Kirsch and start work on this project.

AR: Mike/Ken draft the survey letter.

Bruce write language for TSPH concerning identifying and creating companion documents.

Parking Lot

Parking Lot: Publicize SOC in trade journals/newsletters.

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