



Meeting Minutes February 24, 2023 – 10:00 AM

Attendees:

See attached sign-in sheet.

The meeting began at 10:03 am.

1. Introductions

- Lori Laster (Papio NRD) facilitated introductions.

2. Proposed Stream Setback Policy Update

- Lori Laster gave an update on the progress that has been made regarding the proposed updates to the stream setback policy. The Papio NRD has met with USACE to discuss permitting timeline issues mentioned during stakeholder outreach in 2021. The Papio NRD will work with a consultant to prepare a permitting template for the 5 grade control structures identified through the work FHU has done on the policy update. The use of the permitting template will be key in making sure the permitting process is consistent and can be easily reviewed by USACE.
- Jim Theiler (Omaha) noted NDEE is still moving forward with assumption of the permitting program from the USACE. We will need to coordinate with NDEE as well as the USACE.
- Eric Williams (Papio NRD) stated that funding availability for corrective action is more difficult than it has been in the past. Urban drainageway program (NRD) is not taking applications this year due to several large, multi-year projects that have already been approved. Ability to provide corrective action after erosive issues have occurred is becoming more challenging and the anticipation is that trend will continue. This highlights the need for prevention over correction. Proactive approach will be less costly and more effective.
- Jim Theiler stated that we need to make sure that a solution is supported by developers or it would be difficult to get a new policy approved by City councils. Eric mentioned that the NRD can help to provide support when working with councils to help convey the need of the updates.
- Derek Miller (Omaha) mentioned that having the right stakeholders could help. One example was an SID that had stream issues and asked to not be annexed before they were able to make the needed repairs. They would be able to complete the repairs before Omaha would be able to prioritize and budget for the project.
- Eric mentioned that the NRD has a new Stream Crossing Grade Control cost share program to help pay for grade control before it's a problem.
- Jim Theiler mentioned that funding for additional requirements is also an issue. Looking into some sort of grant program to help may make the proposed setback update more palatable for developers.



- The next steps are to continue to work on permitting issues and begin some early stakeholder coordination. The timeline would be to have a policy change ready for the adoption of the 2024 interlocal agreement.
3. 2024 Implementation Plan, Watershed Management Plan, and Interlocal Agreement
 - Lori Laster explained that the NRD has requested proposals for updating the watershed management plan and preparing an implementation plan for the 2024-2029 time frame. HDR had completed the watershed management plan in 2009 and the subsequent updates in 2014 and 2019. Proposals are due by March 1
 - As the administering agent, the Papio NRD board will ultimately decide which firm is awarded the contract. However, feedback from Partners is welcome. Proposals will be shared with Partners. Comments should be provided to Lori by April 5. Partners are also welcome to attend the interviews on April 6 at 4 pm.
 4. Other Items of Interest
 - The Annual Report for MS4 permits is due April 1. Lori is working on the template and has all the required data from Omaha. Alex Evans (Papillion) and Pat Dowse (La Vista) mentioned that NDEE found some areas the small MS4 communities should improve and requested a meeting be held to discuss these issues so that the Partners can work together to solve them. Lori will send out a Doodle poll to find a time for a meeting hosted at Papio NRD>
 5. Next Meeting Date
 - The next meeting is scheduled for March 30, 2023 at 10 am.
 7. Adjourn
 - The meeting adjourned at 10:46 am. An agenda and the emailed handouts are available upon request.

Please contact Lori Laster at 444-6222 regarding any questions or comments concerning these meeting minutes.

SIGN-IN SHEET



**Partnership Meeting
February 24, 2023– 10:00 AM– Board Room
Natural Resources Center, 8901 S 154th Street, Omaha, NE**

	NAME & EMPLOYER	MAILING ADDRESS STREET - CITY/ZIP	TELEPHONE & EMAIL ADDRESS
	Kris Faris City of Gretna	204 N. McKenna Gretna, NE 68028	kris@cityofgretna.com
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	<i>Derek Miller City of Omaha</i>		
	<i>Jim Theller City of Omaha</i>		
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PARTNERS

Bellevue Boys Town Gretna La Vista Omaha Papillion Ralston Sarpy County Papio-Missouri River NRD

SIGN-IN SHEET



**Partnership Meeting
February 24, 2023– 10:00 AM– Board Room
Natural Resources Center, 8901 S 154th Street, Omaha, NE**

	NAME & EMPLOYER	MAILING ADDRESS STREET - CITY/ZIP	TELEPHONE & EMAIL ADDRESS
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✓	Jim Kee Omaha Public Works	5600 S. 10 th St. Omaha, NE 68107	(402) 444-3915 James.jee@cityofomaha.org
✓	Selma Kessler City of Omaha	1819 Farnam Omaha, NE	Selma.kessler@cityofomaha.org 402-444-3915 X1123
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	Michael Kleffner City of Papillion	122 E. Third St. Papillion, NE 68046	(402) 657-1600 mkleffner@papillion.org
ALE	Alex Evans City of Papillion	9909 Portal Rd. Papillion, NE	aevans@papillion.org
	Derek Goff City of Papillion	9909 Portal Rd. Papillion, NE	dgoff@papillion.org
✓	Pat Dowse City of La Vista	8116 Park View Blvd. La Vista, NE 68128	(402) 331-8927 pdowse@cityoflavista.org
	Chris Solberg City of La Vista	8116 Park View Blvd. La Vista, NE 68128	(402) 331-4343 csolberg@cityoflavista.org
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✓	GARY O'CONNOR City of Ralston	8220 Serum Ave. Ralston, NE 68127	(402) 331-4118 jchancellor@cityofralston.com
✓	Kristine Stokes Papillion		Kristine@cityofpapillion.org

PARTNERS

Bellevue Boys Town Gretna La Vista Omaha Papillion Ralston Sarpy County Papio-Missouri River NRD



Meeting Minutes March 30, 2023 – 10:00 AM

Attendees:

See attached sign-in sheet.

The meeting began at 10:00 am.

1. Introductions

- Lori Laster (Papio NRD) facilitated introductions.

2. 2024 Implementation Plan, Watershed Management Plan, and Interlocal Agreement

- Lori Laster stated that 2 proposals were received for the plan update project. HDR with Embris Group and Houston Engineering with RDG. Interviews will be held on April 6, 2023 at 4 pm at Papio NRD office. Partnership members are welcome to attend and/or provide feedback on proposals to Lori.

3. MS4 Discussion Follow Up

- Lori Laster explained several communities met on March 17, 2023 to discuss comments received from NDEE regarding the program reviews of La Vista and Papillion. Other communities will receive the same reviews this year.
- From that discussion, Lori has started to create a digital document library that would be accessible to all partners. They would be able to upload any data they have for the whole group to use.
- The Small MS4 permit for the Papio watershed is being drafted by NDEE right now. Communities will have the opportunity to review the draft permit prior to the public comment period. The Partnership will need to work on updating the Stormwater Management Plan to address the comments from NDEE. Some items to address:
 - How could we collect demographic information from people who attend outreach events? NDEE would like to know the number of people in each community who are receiving materials. A few ideas are putting a QR code on materials to a survey where people could add a city or zip code or offering an email newsletter where we could track the number of subscribers each year.
 - Enforcement policies and procedures also need to be addressed.
- Lori will attempt to schedule a meeting with NDEE to discuss some of the issues and the new permit.

4. Other Items of Interest



- FHU will be presenting an overview of the stream stability studies they have completed at the April meeting. HDR will begin working on grade control 404 permit templates and guidance soon.

5. Next Meeting Date

- The next meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2023 at 10 am.

7. Adjourn

- The meeting adjourned at 10:37 am. An agenda and the emailed handouts are available upon request.

Please contact Lori Laster at 444-6222 regarding any questions or comments concerning these meeting minutes.

SIGN-IN SHEET



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 March 30, 2023– 10:00 AM– Board Room
 Natural Resources Center, 8901 S 154th Street, Omaha, NE**

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	Eric Williams P-MRNRD	8901 S. 154 th Street Omaha, NE 68138	(402) 444-6222 ewilliams@papionrd.org
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Yes	Jim Kee Omaha Public Works	5600 S. 10 th St. Omaha, NE 68107	(402) 444-3915 James.jee@cityofomaha.org
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PARTNERS

Bellevue Boys Town Gretna La Vista Omaha Papillion Ralston Sarpy County Papio-Missouri River NRD

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✓	JASON KUBICEK SARPY COUNTY	"	"
	KEVIN BALENTINE SARPY COUNTY	"	402-964-2430 kbalentine@sarpy.gov
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PARTNERS

Bellevue Boys Town Gretna La Vista Omaha Papillion Ralston Sarpy County Papio-Missouri River NRD



Meeting Minutes April 27, 2023 – 10:00 AM

Attendees:

See attached sign-in sheet.

The meeting began at 10:02 am.

1. Introductions

- Lori Laster (Papio NRD) facilitated introductions.

2. Stream Degradation Study Final Presentation - FHU

- Dave Lampe with FHU summarized the work completed to help support the updates to the stream setback policy. Based on historical data of stream degradation, a stable slope was developed. Then the difference between the existing condition of the stream bed was compared to the stable slope to determine future potential degradation. The policy then recommended that the setbacks be calculated on the projected slope. Grade control could be constructed to help lessen the setback requirement.
- Additional analysis was completed to determine the lateral migration of streams based on the same data set used for the degradation analysis. This showed that streams widened up to 10 feet from 2004 to 2016 in areas with minimal development. As development moves in to this area, even larger increases could be expected.
- FHU's data will be summarized and used during the plan and policy update effort over the next year.

3. 2024 Implementation Plan, Watershed Management Plan, and Interlocal Agreement

- Lori Laster stated that the Papio NRD Board of Directors chose Houston Engineering for the plan update project. Papio NRD staff will work to negotiate a contract for approval at the May 11, 2023 Board Meeting.
- The Partnership will be required to vote to approve the contract at the May 25, 2023 meeting as the funds for this study come from the Partnership Fund.

4. Next Meeting Date

- The next meeting is scheduled for May 25, 2023 at 10 am.

7. Adjourn

- The meeting adjourned at 10:29 am. An agenda and the emailed handouts are available upon request.



Please contact Lori Laster at 444-6222 regarding any questions or comments concerning these meeting minutes.

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**Partnership Meeting
 April 27, 2023– 10:00 AM– Board Room
 Natural Resources Center, 8901 S 154th Street, Omaha, NE**

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PARTNERS

Bellevue Boys Town Gretna La Vista Omaha Papillion Ralston Sarpy County Papio-Missouri River NRD

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**Partnership Meeting
 April 27, 2023– 10:00 AM– Board Room
 Natural Resources Center, 8901 S 154th Street, Omaha, NE**

Claudia Delgado

	NAME & EMPLOYER	MAILING ADDRESS STREET - CITY/ZIP	TELEPHONE & EMAIL ADDRESS
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	<i>Mike Sotak</i>		
	<i>Aaron Hirsh</i>		
	<i>Dan Fricke</i>		
	<i>Dave Lampe</i>		

PARTNERS

Bellevue Boys Town Gretna La Vista Omaha Papillion Ralston Sarpy County Papio-Missouri River NRD



Meeting Minutes May 25, 2023 – 10:00 AM

Attendees:

See attached sign-in sheet.

The meeting began at 10:01 am.

1. Introductions

- Lori Laster (Papio NRD) facilitated introductions.

2. VOTE – Contract with Houston Engineering/RDG for the Management Plan Update

- Lori Laster reviewed the scope and fee for the contract with Houston/RDG for the next 5-year plan update. The Partnership Fund summary was provided to demonstrate that the Partnership Fund can cover the proposed fee of \$269,958.
- Alex Evans (Papillion) made a motion to approve the contract. Pat Dowse (La Vista) seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken.
 - Bellevue – Matt Knight – Yes
 - Boys Town – absent
 - Gretna – Kristine Stokes – Yes
 - La Vista – Pat Dowse – Yes
 - Omaha – Jim Kee – Yes
 - Papillion – Alex Evans – Yes
 - Ralston – absent
 - Sarpy County – Jason Kubicek – Yes
 - Papio NRD – Lori Laster - Yes

3. 2024 Implementation Plan, Watershed Management Plan, and Interlocal Agreement

- Lori Laster introduced the planning team members from Houston/RDG. Sara Mechtenberg, Mike Sotak, Amy Hasse, and Molly Hanson discussed the roles they will plan in the plan update process.
- Alex Evans asked what website updates were planned. Lori Laster explained that all Partnership information is now just a PDF link on the website. Throughout the planning process the information on the website will be reorganized with the two audiences of the general public and designers/developers in mind. New information will also be formatted to be visually available on the site.
- Jim Kee stated that stream setback policy updates are very important and we may need to look at some ways to help with the costs of grade control moving forward.



- Pat Dowse agreed with Jim and stated that it would be helpful to La Vista to have some way to help offset the capital funding burden for stream infrastructure.

4. Other Items of Interest

- Pat Dowse mentioned that NDEE has been performing Construction Site Stormwater Inspections. Jim Kee said that Omaha has also had sites inspected. With the current drought conditions, the big compliance issue for this construction season will be dust control and making sure that cover vegetation is adequately watered.
- Selma Kessler mentioned that Omaha will be updating the Omaha Regional Stormwater Design Manual to include the precipitation data from NOAA Atlas 14. No other design criteria will be updated at this time.
- Alex Evans asked about the status of the new flood maps. Lori Laster stated that appeals submitted in January are still being reviewed by FEMA. We anticipate having a Letter of Final Determination from FEMA in the fall of 2023. Once that letter is issued, the maps will become effective 6 months from the date of the letter. All communities will be required to update their ordinances during the 6-month period to adopt the maps.

5. Next Meeting Date

- The next regular meeting is scheduled for June 22, 2023. However, this meeting is the day after the June Southern Sarpy Watersheds Partnership Stakeholder Meeting so will be rescheduled to June 29, 2023 at 10 am.

6. Adjourn

- The meeting adjourned at 10:28 am. An agenda and the emailed handouts are available upon request.

Please contact Lori Laster at 444-6222 regarding any questions or comments concerning these meeting minutes.

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GD	Garrett Delgado City of La Vista	9900 Portal Rd. La Vista, NE 68128	gdelgado@cityoflavista.org
	Zach Hejzender Sarpy County		zhejzender@sarpy.gov
	Chris Anderson City of Omaha		christopher.anderson@cityofomaha.org

PARTNERS

Bellevue Boys Town Gretna La Vista Omaha Papillion Ralston Sarpy County Papio-Missouri River NRD

SIGN-IN SHEET



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	Eric Williams P-MRNRD	8901 S. 154 th Street Omaha, NE 68138	(402) 444-6222 ewilliams@papionrd.org
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PARTNERS

Bellevue Boys Town Gretna La Vista Omaha Papillion Ralston Sarpy County Papio-Missouri River NRD



Meeting Minutes June 29, 2023 – 10:00 AM

Attendees:

See attached sign-in sheet.

The meeting began at 10:04 am.

1. Introductions

- Lori Laster (Papio NRD) facilitated introductions.

2. Watershed Management Plan Progress

- Lori Laster gave an overview presentation of the history of the watershed management plan, what has been accomplished to date, and the remaining projects.

3. Outreach and Engagement for the Plan Update - RDG

- Molly Hanson presented the draft communications plan.
- Molly then facilitated discussion of what the focus of the outreach should be from the perspective of Partnership members.
 - One key focus will be the update of the stream setback policy, especially with respect to housing affordability. We will need to engage with the development community early on to make sure they are aware of the issues and can be involved in the solution.
 - We also need to proactively engage council/board members who are going to be asked to approve the updated plan/policies.
 - Being able to demonstrate the benefits of projects and policies is helpful when discussing the plan with other stakeholders.
 - The PCWP currently has a website that is underutilized. Updates to the website could be helpful for multiple audiences.
 - A PCWP Fact Sheet would be useful when first approaching groups, especially elected officials and other municipal staff that aren't involved in day-to-day work of the Partnership.

4. Plan Update Schedule

- Lori Laster stated that the goal is to have the plan update substantially completed by April 1 so that it can be adopted with the new interlocal agreement.



5. Next Meeting Date

- The next regular meeting is scheduled for July 27, 2023.

6. Adjourn

- The meeting adjourned at 10:28 am. An agenda and the emailed handouts are available upon request.

Please contact Lori Laster at 444-6222 regarding any questions or comments concerning these meeting minutes.



Meeting Minutes

July 27, 2023

Attendees: See attached sign in sheet

The meeting began at 10:01 am.

1. Introductions
 - a. Lori Laster (Papiio NRD) facilitated introductions.
2. Watershed Management Plan Update
 - a. Stakeholder Outreach
 - i. Molly Hanson (RDG) facilitated an exercise to determine the most important stakeholders to engage with early in the planning process. Stakeholder interviews are being scheduled for August and September. At the next Partnership meeting there will be some discussion of the key themes and concerns of various stakeholder groups.
 - ii. Developers, department directors, and elected officials were determined to be the groups to engage early.
 - b. Other updates: Houston continues to compile data necessary for updating the financial models for the plan. At this time there is nothing to report for the Partnership.
3. Website Updates
 - a. Lori Laster stated that part of the plan update is to overhaul the Partnership website (<https://papiopartnership.org/>) to make it a useful tool for both public outreach and Partner jurisdictions. The current website content hasn't been updated in quite some time.
 - b. The group discussed what the main focus areas should be. Residents of the watershed/general public and developers/contractors were the two groups that could benefit from the website.
 - c. Educational content for the general public could include things like a survey or other engagement tool so that we could know the locations of the people that are accessing the content. Part of the approved stormwater management plan for the PCWP is education and outreach. However, it's unclear if educational efforts are reaching people who live in the areas so it's important to at least know what jurisdictions are being reached.
 - d. Other content could include a guide to applying for a grading permit and what is required to obtain a permit. Many times staff at Partner jurisdictions



are required to walk people through the process step-by-step. A centralized resource would be helpful.

4. World O! Water Outreach Strategy
 - a. During NDEE reviews of the implementation of the approved stormwater management plan, it was noted that it is difficult to know if people attending outreach/education events lived within the jurisdiction of the PCWP communities. These public events draw people from many metro-area communities so it is unclear how much education is done within each jurisdiction.
 - b. The City of Omaha has created a survey that people will be able to take on their smart phone. This survey will then be tied to a map so that the approximate address of people who attend and participate can be shown for annual reporting.
 - c. Heaven Davis brought flyers for the event so that each community can advertise the event that will take place on September 9, 2023.
5. Other Items of Interest
 - a. The small MS4 permit is currently expired. Lori Laster will contact Patrick Ducey at NDEE to determine what the next steps will be in permit renewal.
 - b. The Partnership logo has been updated. These updates will be incorporated into the updates to the website and other outreach materials moving forward.
6. Next Meeting Date
 - a. The next regular meeting is scheduled August 24, 2023.
7. Adjourn
 - a. The meeting adjourned at 10:50 am.



Meeting Minutes
September 28, 2023

Attendees: See attached sign in sheet

The meeting began at 10:00 am.

1. Introductions
 - a. Lori Laster (Papio NRD) facilitated introductions.
2. Watershed Management Plan Update
 - a. Listening Session Reports
 - i. Molly Hanson (RDG) joined the meeting via Zoom to present the key themes and messages from the listening sessions held with Community Staff, Developers, SID Attorneys, and Development Consulting Firms.
 - ii. Affordable housing is a concern with updating any zoning regulations, especially those that could limit developable area.
 - iii. Permitting through the US Army Corps of engineers is also a major concern if stream stabilization projects are necessary.
 - iv. There is a lot of interest in finding additional funding sources for stream stabilization projects. There is no stormwater utility in Nebraska and watershed fees currently go to flood control projects.
 - v. Some people also expressed that data has not been made available to show that the current policies aren't working.
 - vi. Amanda Grint (NRD) stated that the NRD has a backlog of projects requesting funding for stream stability projects and we need to make sure that we're not creating new problems with future development. There have been a lot of studies and maps created to show that. The data needs to be compiled and presented in a new way.
 - vii. A consideration brought forward during the listening sessions was the concept of holistic park planning that could incorporate stream setback areas as recreational features. This would require a different approach to park fees and park planning but there is some support for exploring this option.
 - b. Planning Process Update
 - i. Sara Mechtenberg (Houston Engineering) gave a brief update on the progress of the financial forecasting element of the plan. The



previous plans used data provided by MAPA for population and land use projections. MAPA has not updated this since the 2019 plan was completed. Houston is working on updating the starting point with the current land use and Census data. Then the MAPA data will be used to project development in future years for the estimated watershed fees that would be collected. Then the actual project costs and funding sources for projects in progress will be used to update the financial model.

3. Grade Control Permitting Update
 - a. Lori Laster shared that HDR/Embris has completed the first draft of the permitting templates for grade control structures. They have been shared with USACE and NDEE for review and comments. Once we have updated the templates to include their comments, the draft will be shared with the Partnership and with the members of the Technical Advisory Group. Based on this feedback, the templates will then be finalized and made available for use.
4. Website Updates
 - a. Lori Laster stated that a new site map for the Partnership website (<https://papiopartnership.org/>) has been developed. The two main audiences for the website are the general public and developers/designers.
 - b. The NRD and Houston will work to begin making the changes. This new site map will incorporate the existing content on the website but also include work that has been completed in the watershed, updates on projects in progress, and what work is planned in the future.
5. Small MS4 Permit Updates
 - a. Lori Laster reached out to Patrick Ducey with NDEE to discuss the Papio Watershed small MS4 permit. Patrick stated that the permit is currently on administrative extension and that a draft permit is in process. This will likely be available in early 2024. Lori will request that Patrick attend a future meeting to provide a more detailed update.
6. Other Items of Interest
 - a. No other items of interest were noted.
7. Next Meeting Date
 - a. The next regular meeting is scheduled October 26, 2023.
8. Adjourn
 - a. The meeting adjourned at 11:07 am.



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Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2023

Attendees: See attached sign in sheet

The meeting began at 9:05 am.

1. Introductions
 - a. Lori Laster (Papio NRD) facilitated introductions.
2. Foundations of the PCWP
 - a. Lori Laster reviewed the mission statement of the Papio Partnership and why the Partnership was formed.
 - b. The NRD role in the Papio Partnership was also discussed. The NRD acts as the administering agent and is responsible for organizing meetings, holding and disbursing funds, and executing contracts as directed by the Partnership.
 - c. Outside of this, the NRD also has programs to provide assistance and cost-share for projects for communities within the District. These programs address some of the same issues that potential policy updates are trying to prevent.
 - d. Eric Williams discussed that the urban cost share programs, especially those that assist with stream issues, have more requests than the NRD can fund. Long-term, preventing issues is better as we cannot guarantee that these funds will always be available to meet the needs of the communities.
3. Listening Session Follow Up Discussion
 - a. One of the key themes from the Listening Sessions was that there is a lack of data to show that the current policy isn't sufficient. Lori explained that there have been multiple studies completed in the Papio Watershed and that data has been presented multiple times. However, the data is technical and may not be easily understood by people without a technical background.
 - b. The 2021 stream setback policy recommendation was a result of a request by the City of Gretna and Sarpy County to look at ways to prevent public repair costs when developments are constructed too close to poor-condition streams. However, this recommendation was met with opposition from the development stakeholders.
 - c. Since the policy was proposed, the NRD has continued to work to solve some of the issues mentioned in opposition of the policy. The biggest issue



was the potential time delays for obtaining 404 permits from USACE. The NRD has been working with HDR to prepare standard permitting documents for in-stream grade control.

- d. Another suggestion from the listening sessions was to have a more graduated setback calculation based on drainage area. The communities in attendance agreed that this approach would be difficult to implement and enforce and would prefer a standard setback for all areas.
 - e. The discussion turned to trail connectivity and green space corridors as amenities and how setback areas could be used to meet this use as well. The Southern Sarpy Watershed Partnership has a draft policy that would allow passive recreation features to be built within the outer 30 feet of the setback area. This would include things like trails and playgrounds that don't require significant ground disturbance and would have a low damage potential.
 - f. Lisa Smith (Omaha) stated that this could be tied into the climate action plans being developed by the City of Omaha, MAPA, and the State of Nebraska.
 - g. The group in attendance agreed that removing the consideration of the future degradation in determining the setback area is acceptable for the new policy. However, the group would like the right to determine if additional measures are required when the stream conditions are already poor.
 - h. Lori will develop some statements that could be included in future policy updates and send to the Partners to review. A working group with a cross section of stakeholders will meet in November to discuss the proposed policy changes before reaching out to a larger stakeholder group.
4. Update PCWP Member Dues
 - a. Member dues have been calculated based on population and area within the ETJ of each jurisdiction. At this time there is no proposal to adjust the total amount of funds collected each year, but the area and population numbers will be updated so the dues may shift for individual partners.
 5. Other Items of Interest
 - a. Patrick Ducey from Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy will attend the next regular meeting to discuss the status of MS4 permits.
 6. Next Meeting Date
 - a. The next regular meeting is scheduled October 26, 2023.
 7. Adjourn
 - a. The meeting adjourned at 10:08 am.



Meeting Minutes
October 26, 2023

Attendees: See attached sign in sheet

The meeting began at 10:03 am.

1. Introductions
 - a. Lori Laster (Papio NRD) facilitated introductions.
2. MS4 Permit Discussion
 - a. Patrick Ducey with Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy attended the meeting to discuss the status of stormwater permits and to provide NDEE staffing updates.
 - b. There are currently four new permit writers. All of them have stormwater experience, but are new to NDEE. There is also a new compliance section supervisor and Douglas County inspector.
 - c. NDEE anticipates a new MS4 general permit by July 1, 2024. There haven't been any substantial changes in regulations for MS4 permits so the new permit should be substantially the same as the current permit.
3. Watershed Plan Update
 - a. Sara Mechtenberg presented the first draft of the population/land use projection analysis.
 - b. GIS and Census data show that population growth and housing units are further along than the projections from the 2019 update. The starting numbers will be adjusted, however projection data from MAPA hasn't been updated since 2018 so growth rates will be assumed to be the same.
 - c. Partnership project costs have also been updated to reflect current land prices and inflation seen in recent construction projects.
 - d. These numbers will be refined and then presented at the November meeting to discuss what projects could be included in the 2024-2029 implementation plan.
4. October 19 Subcommittee Recap & Discussion
 - a. Lori Laster shared that the Subcommittee meeting on October 19 was well attended by Partner members and there was a lot of constructive discussion regarding potential policy updates for the next interlocal agreement.
 - b. A working group with representatives from member communities, developers, and designers will meet on November 15 to discuss potential



policy updates. Based on feedback during that meeting, the new policy language will be developed and presented at the November 30 Partnership meeting. There will also be stakeholder outreach to a larger audience in December (date to be determined).

5. Other Items of Interest
 - a. No other items of interest were noted.
6. Next Meeting Date
 - a. The next regular meeting is scheduled November 30, 2023.
7. Adjourn
 - a. The meeting adjourned at 10:45 am.



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Meeting Minutes
November 30, 2023

Attendees: See attached sign in sheet

The meeting began at 10:04 am.

1. Introductions
 - a. Lori Laster (Papio NRD) facilitated introductions.
2. Watershed Plan Update
 - a. Sara Mechtenberg presented the initial financial scenarios for completing the structural projects in the Watershed Management Plan.
 - b. HEI has looked at three funding scenarios. The first one is using only the projected revenues from Watershed Fees and NRD general fund contributions. The second and third incorporate a \$20 million bond issue by the NRD at interest rates of 4.5% and 3%. Also incorporated in each scenario is the contribution from the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for Dam Site 19 and Dam Site 10. For a bond issue to be helpful in completing projects, interest rates need to be favorable.
 - c. Before financial scenarios can be finalized the priority of the remaining sites needs to be determined. Six regional detention sites are remaining. Dam Sites 7 and 12 have preliminary designs and heavy development pressure. It makes sense that these would be the next reservoirs to be constructed. The NRD has been able to purchase some of the land for both projects.
 - d. Dam Site 19 is also a priority due to approaching development. However, the timeline for this project is uncertain as the design will be completed by USACE,
 - e. Another scenario that will be analyzed is a loan through the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA). The NRD and HEI are still researching the requirements of the program and how it could be used to help complete the remaining detention basins.
3. Working Group Meeting Recap & Discussion
 - a. Lori Laster shared that a Working Group meeting on November 15 was well attended and there was a lot of constructive discussion regarding potential policy updates for the next interlocal agreement.
 - b. The working group consisted of both Partners and representatives of companies who are involved in land development.



- c. The idea to enforce a 3:1+50-foot setback on all watercourses without looking at future degradation was presented to the group. This policy is already in place in the Southern Sarpy County area. The new policy would also allow some overlap of utility easements and passive recreation features in the outer 30 feet of the setback.
 - d. Members of the working group stated that this policy was better than the policy proposed in 2021. Other comments included having a map available to see the areas where the new policy would apply and providing information about the number and costs of stream repairs.
 - e. The working group also suggested having discussions with Metro Omaha Builders Association and the Nebraska Chapter of American Council of Engineering Companies.
 - f. The NRD will be working with the Partners and HEI/RDG to put together more information for outreach prior to the next meeting.
4. Other Items of Interest
 - a. No other items of interest were noted.
5. Next Meeting Date
 - a. The next regular meeting is scheduled January 25, 2024.
6. Adjourn
 - a. The meeting adjourned at 11:09 am.



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