

Meeting Summary

Red Lake River Corridor Enhancement Project

Thursday June 15, 2006 – 7 pm

Thief River Falls City Hall

East Grand Forks	. Velma Oakland (Rep.)	.C.J. Fernandez, (CALA, U of M)
. Tom Stennes (Rep)	. Nancy Haglund (Alt., Sec.)	Other community members
. Mike Pokrzywinski (Alt)	Polk County	. Sharon Bring (Marshall)
Fisher	. Bill Montague (Rep.)	. Wayne Goeken
. Mike Marschall (Rep)	. Jerry Jacobson (Alt.)	. Don Jensen (Pen)
. Bonnie Nygren (Alt.)	Pennington County	. Don Osborne (CRK)
Crookston	. Robert Carlson (Rep)	. Robert Quade (CRK)
. Keith Mykleseth (Rep, Chair)	. Charles Naplin	. Arlo Rude (TRF)
. Scott Kleven (Alt.)	Red Lake Watershed District	. Dale Skyberg (EGF)
Red Lake Falls	. Corey Hanson	. Eugene Mattson (PC)
. Allen Ducharme (Rep.)	Loren Sanderson (Alt.)	. Dale Stainbrook (CRK)
. Gail Healy (Alt) (Vice chair)	Advisors	. Gerhard Ross (CRK)
St. Hilaire	. Delores Adkins (PT RC&D)	. John Loegering, (UMC)
. Larry Kruse (Rep.)	. Dave Bergman (MOT)	. Bernie Lieder, Representative
. Diane Johnson (Alt.)	. Mary Broten (DNR)	. LeeRoy Oose (RLWD)
Thief River Falls	. Helen Cozzetto (DNR)	. Orvill Knott (RLWD)
. Glen Kajewski (Rep)	. Linda Kingery (NWP)	. Masian Simmons, KROX
. Mike Moore (Alt.)	. Chad Konickson (DNR)	. Dale Knowteck, Crookston
Red Lake Nation	. Karen Mueller (PTRC&D, Tres.)	. Bernie Leider, State Rep.
. Jay Huseby (Rep.)	. John Schmidt (PTRC&D)	. Aaron Parrish, Crookston
. David Price (Alt.)	. Troy Schroeder (NWRDC)	
Red Lake County	. John Winter (DNR)	

- 1) Call to Order - Introductions – Announcements
Gail Healy called the meeting to order
- 2) Approval Minutes from May meeting?
- 3) Introducing new partners:
Shawn Balstad, Pembina Trail RC&D was not able to attend
Chuck Fritz, International Water Institute
- 4) Presentation / Discussion about Watershed Watch. NWMF has awarded a grant to the IWI to develop a model Watershed Watch in the Red Lake River Corridor.

Chuck Fritz provided an overview of the International Water Institute. The IWI was created after the 1997 flood, one of 14 initiatives developed by the International Flood Mitigation Initiative. The IWI has two centers – one focused on applied research and one focused on watershed education. The RiverWatch program is supported by the Watershed Education Center.

RiverWatch is a program linked closely to high schools. Over 25 schools in Minnesota and 5 in North Dakota have active programs. Recently, the IWI received a grant from NW Minnesota Foundation to develop a pilot scale “Watershed Watch”

What are some do-able projects that IWI can help? The following list is a compilation of some possible ideas:

1. Promotional video – created by the RiverWatch students at Crookston High School – part of the NSF project that links technology and science to the RiverWatch program. What is the purpose of the video? What is the message? How does this need to be used? We have some video – from Venture North. Ron Sheara did a promotion of the Glacial Ridge.
2. Festivals – canoe and kayak race, ‘take a kid fishing’ Shawnn Balstad has expressed an interest in investing staff time to create a list of festivals and events that include river connection.
3. Several existing access points had erosion this spring – others are in need of ‘tender loving care’.
 - Red Lake Falls point access
 - Red Lake Falls trail
 - 75 crossing west of Crookston
 - South of Thief River Falls (acquisition)
4. What resources can we find?
 - State bonding bill – does it make sense to work with DNR? Are our senators and representatives really strong supporters in this project?
 - Federal appropriation – is Colin Peterson interested in carrying this project?
 - Foundation funds
 - Agency funding grants - DNR programs available in Minnesota, EPA grant proposals in
 - Clean Water Legacy program
5. Awareness and visibility
 - Adopt a river
 - 40th Anniversary Celebrations
 - Riverland Tourism Association – next meeting is in August. The Association is not doing its collective guide because each of the communities has its own guide. Mike Moore attended the Winnipeg RV show.
 - River of Dreams program – launch the canoes

6. Before the end of July if possible - Hold a meeting of the RiverWatch teachers and teams in each community, develop partnership with DNR, River Watch, Riverland, NW RSDP,

Try to avoid a Tuesday.

Mary Broten, John Steward, Chuck Fritz, Joe Cornyea, Wayne Goeken, Corey Hanson, Shawnn Bahlstad, Linda Kingery, Jessica Hanson, Keith Mykleseth, Gail Healy, Mike Moore, RLRC board members Riverland members,

Objective of this meeting is to identify the resources available to this project – how to coordinate or are we leaving it up to each community individually.

What needs to happen – where do we go from here? What is the marketing plan. Consider staffing options.

7. Need to leverage the local investments that are being made. The communities are making the investment, but state sources are not matching up.

Provide a copy of the packet that was sent to legislators
Ruth - to provide information to Gail about canoes.

- 5) Financial report - University and Foundation budgets are closed out; commitment to Riverland Association has not been paid,
- 6) What's happening in your community?

Red Lake Falls – adding campground spaces and trail.
Huot is applying for FEMA funds

- 7) Celebrations – 2007 – 40 year anniversary of the Red Lake River Canoe and Boating trail designation

July 26 to 30 – Red Lake Falls Celebration –
Chataqua at the end of august
Canoe and Kayak race at Oxcart days – third weekend in August?

Otter Tail Power Co will remove the dam east of Crookston.

- 8) Next Meeting -
The big meeting second half of July
Next meeting of the board on August 10th in Fisher.