

Mill Creek Watershed Partnership Stakeholder Meeting

Bleiblerville Fire Hall

Minutes

26 June 2018

Total Attendance: 22

Introduction

- Jake Mowrer, interim watershed coordinator, opened the meeting by thanking everyone for attending and encouraged attendees to introduce themselves to the group by name and affiliation to the watershed.
- Dr. Mowrer introduced himself, as well as District Technician Faith Chase, and the Water Programs intern Makayla Faldyn.
- Following introductions, the meeting's agenda was reviewed.

Agenda Topics

- Mill Creek Partnership Logo Vote
 - A quorum was not met with steering committee members, so a vote could not be held to choose a partnership logo.
 - Each logo was presented to remind stakeholders the logo options.
 - It was suggested to look into the possibility of an online vote via email to reach a quorum on the logo.
- Water Quality Monitoring Update and Report
 - Dr. Mowrer reviewed the status updates and parameters agreed with H-GAC.
 - Each of the 8 water testing sites were reviewed; as well as the chemical parameter details.
 - Water quality results were distributed to each attendee with key points highlighted for review as a group.
 - There was a broad range of *E. Coli* values throughout the watershed and members were invited to share their thoughts on how this could have occurred.
 - Factors such as a rainfall events could potentially skew data
 - These results were from one water quality testing event and are not representative of an average over time.
- Water Quality Management Plans for Mill Creek, Faith Chase
 - Provided clarification on the difference between a Watershed Protection Plan (WPP) and Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP)
 - WPP provides a broad overview of steps to improve the watershed as a whole.
 - WQMP is a personalized plan for the landowner to implement improvements on their land.
 - Both a WPP and WQMP are voluntary.
 - Update on WQMPs
 - Developed versus. Implemented—examples of what cost shares are used for, and description of grants available.

- Future of WQMPs and how a landowner can work with Faith to develop their own plan.
- Mill Creek Stream Team, Gideon-Lincecum Master Naturalist, Linda Nations
 - Stream Team is a citizen science project to monitor water quality data.
 - Shared updates on monitoring events and how to become involved.

Upcoming Calendar

- Stakeholders discussed having an educational topic presented at the fall quarterly meeting, particularly a feral hog program.
- The next meeting will be in September or October.
- Approved sample containers were provided for the upcoming TWON event.
- Texas Well Owners' Network (TWON) event on July 26th, 2018 from 1-5pm at the Bellville Volunteer Fire Department, 511 W. Main Street. This program is free to attend and will provide education for private well owners on groundwater resources, septic system maintenance, well maintenance, water quality, and water treatment. Approved sample containers may be brought to have the water screened for nitrate-nitrogen, total dissolved solids (TDS), and *E. Coli*. The cost to have a sample screened is \$10 and this can be brought to the meeting. More information on this event can be found on the Mill Creek website.