

# SALT FORK RIVER WATERSHED IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

A sub-committee of the Champaign County Soil and Water Conservation District  
2110 Park Court, Suite C  
Champaign, IL 61821 (217) 352-3536 ext. 3

**Minutes from the Implementation Committee Meeting of September 5, 2013 – 3:30 PM**  
Champaign Public Library, Robinson Pavilion Room, 200 W. Green St., Champaign, IL 61820

## Present:

Al Wolfe – Salt Fork River Partners Ansel Anderson – Isaak Walton League Eleanor Blackmon – City of Champaign / CCSWCD Director John McMahon – Salt Fork River Partners Clark Bullard – Prairie Rivers Network John Lyons – City of Urbana Tom Berns – BernsClancy Assoc.	Jim Hoyt – Grand Prairie Friends Tim Bachman – Urbana-Champaign Sanitary District Rick Manner – Urbana-Champaign Sanitary District Mark David – University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Suzanne Smith – Lloyde Esry – Drainage District Commissioner
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## **Eleanor Blackmon called the committee meeting to order at 3:30 pm.**

The committee was asked to add Forest Preserve Questions to the info sharing.

## **Minutes from June 6th, 2013 were approved to be placed on file.**

### Homer Lake / Educator / Habitat Sub-committee:

- A. The St. Joseph Educational Center is moving ahead with fund raising. The committee is looking at selling granite pavers to help raise the \$150,000 needed to complete the parking area.
- B. The MS4 group is holding a Green Infrastructure Conference September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at the iHotel. The event is free and all are welcome.

### The Nutrient Management sub-committee gave an update on:

- A. Salt Fork Point/Non-Point Nutrient Assessment Project Grant  
No report on the grant.
- B. USDA Salt Fork Grant wrap up Field Day on August 20th.
  - i. Mark David passed out the summary of the project.  
A field day was held on August the 20<sup>th</sup> to let the public know what has been found in the study. The field day had poor attendance by farmers.  
They are still looking for monitoring sites, currently only 8 sites are being monitored.
  - ii. Recruitment of cooperators has been a real challenge in the Salt Fork Area. Not too many want someone else working with them even if they are willing to pay a little.  
Timing of cover crop application will be a problem this year.

### Water Quality Monitoring Sub-committee:

- A. Water Quality Monitoring in the Salt Fork following the drought year.
  - a. The monitoring is showing a big loss of N after the drought. Clark B. felt that agriculture will follow something like the miles per gallon in the future when they take a look at nutrient application.
  - b. The Committee felt like it needed to hear Jean Payne about fertilizer issues.
- B. Mural Project
  - a. Jonathon reported on the storm drain mural project that is under way. This is where artist paint up eye catching pieces around a storm inlet to try and educate people about Stormwater runoff and where it goes.
- C. Coal mine review
  - a. At this time the coal mine is not looking at taking water out of the Salt Fork
  - b. The mine is pushing to start by 2014

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- c. Homer is supplying the mine with potable water.
- d. Georgetown is supplying the mine with the coal wash water, where this water will be discharged is not clear yet.
- D. Tuscola Project Cronus
  - a. Cronus still waiting to make announcement. The UCSD has been working on the Environmental aspects of the effect of reduced effluent in to the Salt Fork.

## Channel Dynamics and Wildlife Habitat Sub-committee:

- A. Rain Garden between Kesler Hall & Crystal Lake.
  - a. This is a large process and will take some time to work out with all the groups.

## Information Sharing:

- A. Storm Water Fee for Champaign & Urbana
  - a. The Storm Water Fee bills have gone out in Champaign
  - b. Urbana's Storm Water Fee bills will go out soon
- B. Prairie Rivers Rain Garden Ramble coming up soon contact Stacy James.
- C. Forest Preserve Questions
  - a. After looking over the questions it was decided that the committee should send in individual responses
- D. Grand Prairie Friends Annual Meeting September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at Anita Purves Nature Center
- E. Sanitary District is holding an Open House September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm