**Regional Stormwater Education Program Steering Committee**

**Meeting Notes**

Introduction

The meeting began shortly after 2 pm. Dean Pierce welcomed those participating and facilitated the discussion. He noted the possibility of restarting meeting using alternative link if, after 40 minutes, the current link expires.

Agenda/adjustments to agenda

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

Minutes for September 29 meeting

The draft minutes for the September 29 meeting were deemed acceptable as written.

Annual Report

Dea Devlin provided a description of the different sections of the draft annual report, which follows the format used in prior years. Participants briefly commented on the sections relating to Minimum Control Measures (MCM) 1 and 2. Dean commented that the program website will mostly focus on maintenance going forward due to its recent overhaul in 2020. Although impacts of the Covid pandemic continued to be felt, several activities were carried out successfully. Dea also mentioned other more recent activities not covered by the report, including planning events for the next year.

Monday, February 28, 2022

2:00-3:00pm

The Meeting was conducted via Zoom and recorded. A copy of the recording is available from NRPC staff.

Attendees: Chip Sawyer, City of St. Albans; Emmalee Cherrington, Town of St. Albans; Dean Pierce, NRCP; Kent Henderson, FNLC; Dea Devlin, NRPC; Alison Spasyk, FNLC.

Draft Budget for 2022

Dean Pierce provided an overview of the draft budget, which had been emailed to meeting participants the prior Friday. He explained the total budget is for the same amount and scope as prior years ($10,000; scope was distributed in separate document) although costs within different categories have shifted. He noted that in 2021, the RSEP sponsors discussed a proposed budget in May and did not approve it until September. He does not want to force a decision on the budget without providing adequate time for review but does feel the process should be completed earlier than in 2021.

One difference in the budget is in the way it accounts for hours worked by ECO AmeriCorps service members. Previously, many of the service hours were not reflected in the budget. An attempt has been made to do so in the draft budget. He also noted that the draft budget proposes a line item to provide financial assistance for the operation of the Lake Lessons program, which needs financial support. Kent Henderson cited an example of uncovered costs relating to bus transportation for a Lake Lessons program.

In response to a question from Chip Sawyer, Dean indicated the budget was prepared for the calendar year. Chip noted if the period covered by the budget has already begun then action on the proposal should be advanced. And in the future, the budget should be presented for approval before the start of the year. Dean agreed and said that would be the case.

Overall, RSEP sponsors expressed support for the draft budget and agreed to take action at the next meeting.

Webinars/Workshops Updates update

Dea Devlin and Alison Spasyk updated the group on the two successful webinars held over the last couple of months. Thirty or more people from across the state and beyond participated in each of the sessions, which focused on BMPs for people interested in improving stormwater quality in their areas. Each session featured two expert speakers. These webinars were uploaded and posted to the FCS website. At present, no additional webinars are being planned. Attention will instead turn to planning outdoor activities and events.

Date for next meeting

The group briefly discussed how often meetings would be held. It was agreed that to facilitate adoption of the budget the next meeting should be scheduled for some time in May. It will likely be a hybrid meeting, and Dean Pierce will solicit input on a date. There were no other comments. The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:40 Pm.