

## **Notes from Teleconference**

October 17, 2007

### Participants:

Bob Ball, Glenn Davis, Odie Swanegan, Michelle Gross, Steve Watson, David Guethle, Pat Turman, Karen Scanlon

### Agenda:

- Review last conference call
- Review Goals, Objectives and Action Items
- Discuss our next steps to keep this project moving forward

### Discussion:

Bob Ball discussed project with Dr. John Lory and Dr. Peter Scharf at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Both are knowledgeable about the hypoxia issue in the Gulf and both expressed willingness to assist in our effort.

Steve Watson asked about current data on nutrient runoff from the Delta to the Mississippi River. Bob Ball mentioned investigating this and, to date, not finding any specific data to share. He noted, though that the National Academy of Sciences issued a report on Oct. 16 on the health of the Mississippi River.

No comments on the Goals, Objectives and Action items.

Good discussion about the proposed next steps. The group agreed that the immediate next step is to organize a meeting for a small group (10-12 people) of innovative producers in the St. Francis watershed. The time frame for the meeting will be Jan-Feb 2008, avoiding conflict with existing meetings. No location has been identified.

During the meeting, we will:

- Discuss our project, it's purpose and our invitation for them to participate and be leaders in the community for this nutrient management effort
- Present to these producers the goals/objectives/actions; get their feedback and make revisions as necessary
- Present two possible options for next steps:
  - Option A – one ½-day workshop in Dunklin County, with multiple demonstrations, and one ½-day workshop in Stoddard County, with multiple demonstrations
  - Option B – three 2- or 3-hour workshops spread throughout the year (winter, after planting, fall) and held in different geographic areas of the watershed.
- Get feedback from producers on above options; ask producers for new ideas; discuss all possibilities; get consensus on what actions to take
- Get commitment from individuals to participate

A suggestion was made to provide a packet of materials to producers before the meeting to inform them about the project and its purpose.

Another suggestion was made to incorporate specific questions about nutrient management into Jan/Feb meeting.

Actions Needed:

- Karen will send to Pat a link to CTIC's online survey of conservation practices
- Pat will send to Karen a list of meetings and dates in Jan/Feb (dates to avoid for our meeting)
- Pat, Steve and others will look into possible meeting locations for the Jan/Feb event and provide information to Karen
- Karen will draft and distribute an agenda for the Jan/Feb meeting
- Karen will draft and distribute a list of materials to provide to producers prior to the meeting
- Bob will talk with Steve and Betty of the Missouri Environmental Resources Coalition about our project and get their advice about how to present the hypoxia issue to the St Francis Watershed
- Karen will consult with EPA and other contacts to identify data/information about the issue to provide to the watershed

Thank you!