



**Kewaunee County Groundwater Task Force
Dec 2, 2015 Meeting Minutes**

1. Meeting was called to order by Chairman Luft at 1:02 PM, Wednesday, Dec 2.
2. Roll Call those in attendance: Lee Luft, Aerica Bjurstrom, Cindy Kinnard, Nick Cochart, Dick Swanson, Tom Kleiman and Ron Heuer. Excused were: John Pagel and Davina Boness
3. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Tom Kleiman with a second by Cindy Kinnard, the motion carried unanimously.
4. A motion was made to approve the minutes from the November 4 meeting was made by Dick Swanson with a second by Ron Heuer, the motion carried unanimously.
5. Chairman Luft called for a report from those in attendance for a review of the latest DNR Committee meetings;

Short Term Solutions – Heuer and Kinnard confirmed that at the last meeting of November 14th Kyle Burton worked with the committee to review and confirm the final list of recommendations coming from that group. Those recommendations are expected to be confirmed at the next meeting which will be at 8:30 AM on December 16th at the Luxemburg facility.

Best Management Practices – Davina Boness is the only member of the Task Force that attends the BMP meetings. As she was not in attendance, there was no report on BMP.

Compliance – Lee Luft reported a massive list of recommendations had been put together by the Compliance group. As a result of the many recommendations, their committee had to prioritize the issues in order to make it workable. The result was the creation of shorter-term and longer-term recommendations to improve monitoring and compliance of DNR requirements.

Shorter-Term Solutions - An example of a shorter-term recommendation is to make certain that all necessary maps that depict sensitive areas, (such as direct conduits to groundwater or intermittent streams), and all necessary written information required for safe manure spreading are present in the equipment being used for manure application.

Longer-term Solutions – Examples of longer-term recommendations will likely include increased DNR staffing for better monitoring and enforcement of land use and land application as well as filling the vacant Kewaunee County Warden position as soon as possible.

Communication and Alternative Technology Committees – have not yet been established.

6. **Citizen Access to Clean Water Initiative:** Nick Cochart reported on the clean water access initiative that the Algoma School System is putting in place. It is anticipated that sometime, mid-December, the provider, Stonehouse will be ready with their system that would allow for

those requiring clean water to have access either with a pin number or a key swipe card to obtain free water dispensed in either 1 or 3 gallon containers. The cost of the plastic containers will be absorbed by the school district or through donations from civic groups.

7. Cindy Kinnard reported on the latest development of the Groundwater Task Force website pages that have been added to the Public Health website. This website can be accessed by going to the www.kewauneeco.org, then clicking on the "Groundwater Task Force" tab on the left panel of the home page.

8. A review of the first two press releases was completed by the committee members, a few changes were made to the original copy. A motion was made to release these documents with the approved changes by Nick Cochart with a second by Tom Kleiman, the motion carried unanimously. Lee Luft has now made all the suggested changes and has released these two news releases to Aerica Bjurstrom for future inclusion in the UW Extension publication "The Foghorn" and for placement on the Kewaunee County Groundwater website. In addition, both news releases have been made available to the Kewaunee County Star News. News release #2 regarding help for homeowners who have an unsafe well has now been published in the Kewaunee County Star News.

9. **Citizen Input:** Citizen input was provided by Mr. Iwen, Mr. Utesch, and Mr. Sagrillo.

Mr. Iwen suggested contacting "Meals on Wheels" to see if they could help deliver clean water to those who need it when delivering daily meals. Mr. Iwen will check to see if Meals on Wheels actually delivers to rural areas where the need for clean water would be the greatest due to private well contamination.

Mr. Utesch suggested that the Task Force confirm that a well is considered contaminated after three attempts to "shock" the well with chlorine treatments versus just one attempt to "shock" the well.

Mr. Sagrillo read a press release regarding new legislation being introduced in the Wisconsin State Legislature to help protect the public's drinking water from contamination.

10. In Other Matters to Discuss, Ron Heuer reported Kewaunee County had received a \$50,000 grant from the Wisconsin State Energy Office. This grant will allow Kewaunee County to investigate the feasibility of establishing a "hub and spoke" system of anaerobic digesters for processing liquid manure in the county. It is envisioned the results of installing these processing systems in a "hub and spoke" pattern across the county would produce energy for local farming operations with excess energy to go back on the grid. Also by processing millions of gallons of liquid manure, which removes excess water, thousands of truckloads of liquid manure would not be travelling our roads and applied to fields. This would significantly reduce the risk of contaminating both ground and surface water.

The Task Force also received a handout from Lee Luft regarding the newly proposed legislation mentioned by Mr. Sagrillo for the State Legislature. This legislation cites a "public health crisis" related to unsafe private wells/drinking water.

11. Next Meeting Date: the next meeting of the Kewaunee County Groundwater Task Force will be on Wednesday January 6th at 1:00 PM. at the Kewaunee County Administration Building.
12. A motion to adjourn was made by Tom Kleiman at 2:03PM with a second by Dick Swanson, the motion carried.