

**REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, ZUMBRO WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP: DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2009**

Lisa Eadens, Watershed Outreach Coordinator

Activities November 13 – December 10, 2009

**1. Watershed Education and Outreach**

- Media:
  - Distributed Press Release about me as the new Watershed Outreach Coordinator to local media – Media coverage that I’m aware of includes the Dodge County Independent and the Rochester Post Bulletin
  - Media story on our November 12<sup>th</sup> meeting and video presentation covered by the Zumbrota News Record
- Newsletters: Am planning to start these up again on a quarterly basis beginning in January
- Website: Jennifer has been updating with immediate information until I’m able to obtain the program necessary to edit the website on the ZWP laptop

**2. Grant, Donor and Membership Fundraising**

- Current Grants:
  - McKnight Foundation grant of \$20,000 with the remaining \$10,000 as a grant match. We still have a long way to go to reach this match.
  - MPCA Surface Water Assessment Grant (SWAG) has been contracted to the Wabasha County SWCD, which is running the monitoring and will do the reporting for the grant for 2009. There is discussion with Wabasha County SWCD for ZWP to complete the monitoring and reporting for 2010.

Name of Grant	Purpose	Objectives	Funding Source	Award Status	Date of Notification	Amount of Award	Grant Period
McKnight Foundation	Operational	1. Continue operations for the ZWP 2. Membership drive/outreach education	McKnight Foundation	Awarded	2/2009	\$30,000 (\$20K upfront)	5/2009-4/2010
2009 Surface Water Assessment Grant – Nitrogen and Bacteria Monigoring of the Zumbro River Watershed	Monitor data for state water quality assessments	1. Monitor nitrate-N and E. coli bacteria in class 2A cold-water streams 2. Monitor nitrate-N and E. coli bacteria in 3 class 2B streams 3. Enter data into STORET	MPCA	Awarded	1/14/2009	\$25,250	4/2009-6/2011
Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Council – “Lower Mississippi River Habitat Restoration Partnership”	Restore floodplains of SE MN, including the Lower Zumbro	1. Acquisition of fee title or permanent conservation easements 2. Island reconstruction 3. Water level drawdowns	LSOHC	In Review	12/2009	\$5,528K	FY2011
Minnesota Waters Conservation Partnership Grant	Realize Raingardens Rocheter: Shoreland Raingarden Project	1. Expand the Realize Raingardens Rochester program by doubling the number of cost share recipients and targeting the raingardens funded through this grant in shoreland areas.	MN Waters	Submitted	12/11/2009	\$5,000	2/2010-9/2010

Minnesota Waters Conservation Partnership Grant	Zumbro River Riparian Landowner Outreach and Forum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Create a database of rural shoreland owners within the watershed</li> <li>2. Provide an information mailing, which will include an invitation to attend a landowners forum</li> <li>3. Conduct the forum, which will provide a "one-stop" connection to staff from resource agencies and conservation organizations</li> <li>4. Develop a list of property owners that are interested in conservation programs or get them in the queue for the 2010 Clean Water Fund grant program.</li> </ol>	MN Waters	Submitted	12/11/2009	\$5,000	2/2010-9/2010
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○ Grant Ideas:

- Coordinated monitoring network. This could include an online map with information on where projects and monitoring are occurring throughout the watershed.
  - "Virtual" River Trip to show the interconnectedness of the watershed and where we are today. It could be composed of video and still shots that highlight good and bad practices and provide general information about the watershed. This could be used online, distributed on DVDs, etc.
  - Small Community Stormwater Management. Use the NEMO model, which focuses on teaching decision-makers. We could also write some money in for an engineer to do a feasibility study for each city.
  - Work with the City of Rochester to assess and inventory tributaries of the South Fork of the Zumbro to determine future priority areas.
  
- Memberships: See the chart below for the fundraising progress report. On Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup> we mailed a year-end appeal to 425 members, former members and prospects.

	2009 Goal	2009 Actual	% of Goal
Overall	\$12,750.00	\$3,696.60	29%
# Paid Citizen Board Members	13	7	54%
Board Member Donations	\$750.00	\$625.00	83%
Total # of Memberships	187 members	62 members	33%
Membership Donations	\$10,000	\$2,990.00	30%
Benefit Events	\$2,000.00	\$81.60 (FFFF)	4%

### 3. Coordination with Technical Partners and Grant Funding Agencies

- PAC meetings: Not held this month – will be held on a quarterly basis with the next meeting scheduled for January
- Interagency meetings:
  - November 23<sup>rd</sup>: Attended the Pine Island Flood Control Task Force Meeting
  - November 25<sup>th</sup>: Met with Judy Bratz with the Rochester Chamber of Commerce
  - December 2<sup>nd</sup>: Attended the Rochester Chamber of Commerce New Member Lunch
  - December 3<sup>rd</sup>: Attended the new Ways and Means Group meeting to identify projects that need funding and grant opportunities that need projects (participants included Linda Dahl, Barb Huberty, Megan Kratz-McGuire, Jan Blevins, Jeff Broberg, Nicole Lehman)
  - December 4<sup>th</sup>: Met with Greg Munson about the CMSC

### 4. Other information

- Committee meetings
  - Membership/Fundraising Committee: November 19
  - Forum Committee: November 24
  - Forum Committee: December 8