



## **BIG SIOUX RIVER PROJECT | Steering Committee Meeting Minutes** 2:00pm-4:00pm, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Location:** **City of Sioux Falls Environmental Center, 1017 E. Chambers St., Sioux Falls, SD 57104.**

**Time and Date:** 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm, September 19<sup>th</sup> 2024.

**Attendees:** Barry Berg, Gordon Heber, Troy Lambert, Jose Alvarez, Jay Gilbertson, Darrell DeBoer, Roger Albertson, Steve McFarland, Tami Jansma, Neil Broughton, Travis Entenman, Dean Jaycox, Jeremy Schelhaas, Josh Peterson, Tyson Cerkowniak, Emily Oyos.

1. **Call to order Minnehaha Conservation District Project Sponsor** (Gordon Heber called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm).
2. **Introductions.**
3. **Approve Agenda.** (motion by Darrell DeBoer, seconded by Jay Gilbertson).
4. **Approval of December 13<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes.** (motion Jay Gilbertson, second Dean Jaycox).
5. **Big Sioux River Project Segment 4 recap (Barry Berg).**
  - Ag. Waste Systems: goal 6 systems, Completed 4 plus 1 closure with SRAM program.
  - Riparian Restoration Protection SRAM: goal 898 acres, completed 717 acres 18.9 miles.
  - Riparian Restoration Protection RAM: goal 250 acres, completed 147 acres 6.3 miles.
  - Cropland BMPs Cover Crops: goal 7,373 acres, completed 1,097 acres.
  - Grazing Systems/Alternative Water Facilities: goals 20 facilities, completed 13, fence 52,800 feet, completed 4,248 feet.
  - Urban BMPs: goal 4 urban mitigation systems, completed 3 Storm Water Wetlands and 1 vegetative filter (City of Sioux Falls).
  - Information & Education Outreach: goal 50 meetings and events, website maintenance, completed 82 meetings and events, several website upgrades and continued support.
  - Water Quality Monitoring: goal 1,000 samples, completed 1,025 samples.



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- Josh Peterson added that the City of Sioux Falls would be moving the summit to April and probably be held in Brookings at SDSU. They are working with Vernon Brown to plan for it.
- Jay Gilbertson mentioned that they were ramping up to have the School of Mines sample PFAS at 11 sites along the Big Sioux River from Brookings to HWY 42 bridge in Sioux Falls.

### **6. City of Sioux Falls Bioreactor Presentation and Tour (Chris Schmit).**

- Chris gave a presentation on the Bioreactor that was installed in cooperation between the City and SDSU on a city drainage located off of Sycamore Ave. between 61<sup>st</sup> and 63<sup>rd</sup> Street. The bioreactor was designed with the idea that it would remove E. coli and Phosphate from the water. The filter was built in two 20' sections with two 6' spacings between them. The media was 6" deep, comprised of 70% steel slag and 30% steel chips. The the design was supposed to have a 3.85-minute detention time for water to complete the journey through the media.
- Bioreactor was constructed in the spring of 2024 with the first sample taken June 14<sup>th</sup>, the second sample taken June 16<sup>th</sup> and 3 additional samples through August.
- Results were shown to remove 27 – 41% of E. coli and 25 – 54% of phosphate concentrations during the month of June. Results were thought to be influenced by above average rainfall at that time. Overall removal for the 5 runs was 44.2 % for E. coli and 53.8% for Phosphate.
- There has been talk of a future site at the Sioux Falls Zoo on the oxbow on the west side.

### **7. Other Business.**

### **8. Adjourn.** (Gordon Heber adjourned the meeting at 2:55 pm)