



Standards Oversight Council (SOC)

Developing effective technical standards that protect Wisconsin's natural resources

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COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

Tuesday, November 8, 2022 || 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

WDNR Central Office (GEF2), 101 S. Webster Street, Room 313, Madison, WI AND Online

1:00 Welcome

Meeting Attendees (in person)

WI Land+Water (staff) – Kate Brunner, Matt Krueger
DNR – Bernie Michaud
WI Land+Water (counties) - Amy Piaget
DATCP – Bart Chapman

Meeting Attendees (remotely)

DNR – Shannon Haydin
NRCS – Kyle Wedel (for Steve Becker)

Absences: Hans Hallanger, Christine Krall, Chad Cook, Eric Hurley, Steve Becker

Guests: Sara Walling (Alliance for Great Lakes)

Review previous meeting notes and action items

A draft of the 8/9/22 Meeting Notes was emailed around to the Council representatives for review.

Update on an open action Item: **Kate** contacted Travis Buckley of DATCP for input on funding opportunities related to composting. Kate also talked to both Bernie Michaud and Matt Woodrow since they were involved (along with Scott Mueller) with a similar composting project for a SOC-funded research project that was never pursued a couple years ago. At that time, they determined that existing documents were thorough and a new standard or guidance doc for composting was not needed so they didn't pursue the research opportunity at that time. Agencies still don't see need to update at this time and technical details like scope of the work and what work product we are looking for would need to be agency-led with the usage for the research understood. No further action to be taken related to composting literature/research.

No questions or edits to the draft notes were raised via email or in this meeting. Kate will post the notes as final on the SOC website.

Standard updates – See details on attached Staff Report; supplemental information below. Work load for standards still high but work has started slowing down.

- **DNR standards**
 - **1011/1012 Dry Storm Water Basins/ Enhanced Dry Treatment System (Full)** – Team meetings continue. Team leaders have started writing.
 - **1056 Perimeter Sediment Control and Slope Interruption (Modified)** – Completing responses to comments, nearing publication. DNR published this standard today. Kate sent out email blast and sent responses to comments to all 8 reviewers.
 - **1072 Horizontal Directional Drilling (Full)** – Completed responses to broad review comments, reviewers emailed. Standard published Oct. 2022. Training planned via webinar and at conferences.

DATCP	WDNR	NRCS	UW Div. of Extension	County LCDs	WI Land+Water	WisDOT
Bart Chapman (Chair)	Shannon Haydin Bernard Michaud	Steve Becker Eric Hurley	Chad Cook	Amy Piaget (Vice Chair)	Matt Krueger (Treasurer)	Hans Hallanger Christine Krall

Team work is over. Kate plans to send thank you cards to the team members. Gift cards are not advisable so she will keep it to a card. A trinket like a button would be acceptable if available. Team exit survey not well responded but mostly positive. A couple negative comments were related to our unfortunate combination of events on this standard that made it take longer than expected (Covid, change in team leader, shift in sideboards). Team is participating in training.

- **1013 Enhanced Phosphorus Recovery (Full)** – Application to team open now through 11/30. Meetings expected to start in January. Council discussed some ideas for people/sectors to encourage to apply: Icardo Roa (a former Dane Co. employee), Milwaukee Co LCD, SW management groups like NEWSC, MMSD (Mke)
- Also working on Minor Process edits to **1062 Ditch Check** and **1002 Site Evaluation for Infiltration**. Ditch Check published today, announcement out next week so spaced out from 1056 announcement. Infiltration will be coming soon.
- **NRCS standards**
 - **CPS 328 Conservation Crop Rotation (Full)** – Team meetings continue. Team completing drafts of standard and implementation requirements. Could have standard and IR out for Initial Review by selected experts before Thanksgiving. Public review would follow early next year. Kate will add Sara Walling to email list for announcement for broad review.
 - **CPS 380 Windbreak-Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation (Full)** – Initial Review completed in September, team addressing comments. Team also working on guidance document. This standard was announced for public review yesterday, accepting comments through Nov. 30.
 - **Heavy use protection and waste/milk house group (Modified, no team)** – Awaiting final approval for publication in the FOTG. Expected to be published with FOTG notice next Monday.
- **Training** – SOC promoted SITCOM trainings that involved technical standards. Related to stream and shoreline work and HDD.

1:45 **ATCP 50 Updates** – Review current status of revisions to ATCP 50.

Bart provides an update on DATCP's updated of ATCP 50. Goal is to make ATCP 50 forward thinking since this is the opportunity for change. They do need to make a case for why new additions apply. Some key points:

- Statute says DATCP needs to specify a process for the development of standards and they are adding language to use the SOC process. They are also adding an alternate option in the event SOC disappears. Used the DNR language as a starting point.
- Will add 2 new sections: Stream restoration and Hydrologic restoration. These will reference the numerous existing NRCS standards. Bart is writing the language for these sections of ATCP 50 and working with WI Wetlands as part of a DATCP grant from EPA.
- Adding language for N and P treatment systems—maybe as a secondary practice to an existing section.
- First DATCP meeting with stakeholders to review the draft is in early December.

SOC Technical Standards Process Handbook – Review WI Land+Water legal review and steps to publication.

WI Land+Water was going through legal review of documents and SOC Handbook was included. Matt reviews the lawyer's suggestions:

- The focus was on roles and responsibilities, emphasizing the Custodian ultimately manages implementation and publication of the standard but SOC manages the process for creation and update.
- Clarity the role of the Council reps providing input on standards and the SOC Program Manager.
- Kate will circulate this draft with all edits. Provide any comments by Dec. 1 and she will publish it then.

Matt conducted Kate's performance review last month. He solicited input from team leaders and council reps. Review was very favorable and input emphasized her positive communication and facilitation skills.

2:15 **Break**

Financials & Budget – Review 2022 budget with year-to-date expenses. See the budget summary on last page of the staff report.

The Q3 actual expenses were closer to what was budgeted, though still expect to be underbudget at our current trajectory. We also have underspending from previous 2 years that will impact NRCS contract. As with previous quarter, we still anticipate around \$13,000 to spend before the end of this year.

Research! There were lots of ideas brought forward at the last Council meeting and I spent some time pursuing a few to see if there was a need at a Custodian agency for research related to a tech standard.

- As an action item from the last meeting, Kate talked to Travis about composting research. Discussed earlier in this meeting.
- Biochar
 - Email from Mike Stanek: They will soon be considering the new national 336 standard Soil Carbon Amendment, making changes to it and we will need technical guidance. A lit review would help NRCS understand some technical details and he has spoken with Rebecca Larson, UW Biological Systems Engineering to see about her support or to direct us towards someone else.
 - Bernie also identified Joe Sanford at UW Platteville who is doing research on biochar for nitrate removal. Kate shared this with Mike Stanek and Eric Hurley since if Rebecca Larson doesn't have a strong candidate, perhaps Joe will.
- Money needs to be spent by the end of 2022 so there is some urgency. Kate will nudge Eric with phone call.

2023 Preparation – future standard work, Technical Standards Assessment, 2023 meeting dates, open discussion

Full and Modified Process Standards to Expect in 2023

- DNR Tech Standard 1013 Enhanced Phosphorus Removal (Minser) – Application period open 10/31 to 11/30/22
- NRCS CPS 635 Vegetated Treatment Area (Wedel) – They got a list from national on what's coming. VTA was one they got comments in from internal WI office review (possibly DNR and DATCP too). They'd like to get moving on this. Steve Becker will be the team leader. Full Process on this. **Kate** will reach out to Steve to work through timing and next steps. DATCP will have interest in this as well. Justin White may be a good fit on this but I'll make sure to engage Bart on the application process.
- NRCS is a bit behind in national revisions and adaptation for WI. They had a lot that went through right before Scott Mueller retired so were able to have a gap. Other standards may follow.
- Mike Stanek mentioned to Kate they will possibly be adopting Soil Carbon Amendment.

Technical Standards Assessment:

- This is survey typically done in summer of odd-numbered years.
- Includes preliminary list of standards that might be edited to solicit user input. Custodians will send to Kate in spring, though don't need actual list until June or July.
- Custodians will think about any topics you want specific input? Could be a specific standard topic (like gypsum was 2 years ago) or to help focus a possible future standard.
- Kate will send out 2021 survey questions in advance of next council meeting as a starting point.
- We could ask a question on the survey about innovation that would support/amend a tech standard. This would be a way to get input on spending for research or lit reviews if we have extra budget in coming year or two.

Other Topics to Consider in 2023?

- "Mini-grant" ideas as a more routine offering. If council representatives identify anything as the ideas come up, keep in mind and bring it to the council. Council could open a grant application process, though Kate will need to check out the existing contracts.

2023 Meeting dates

- Afternoons are preferred.
- Council agrees to stick with 2nd Tuesdays of 2nd month. That would be February 14, May 9, August 8, November 14.

Meeting Closure – review action items, next meeting agenda items.

Action Items from this meeting:

- **Kate** will nudge Eric Hurley with phone call to find out next steps for SOC funding of lit review or research for biochar.
- **Kate** will send council revised draft handbook for review. **Council** should provide comments by Dec. 1, at which time Kate will publish revised handbook.
- **Kate** will reach out to Steve Becker to work through timing and next steps to start Full Process for CPS 635 VTA.
- 2023 council meeting dates: February 14, May 9, August 8, November 14. **Kate** will send calendar invitations.
- **Kate** and **Bart** will prepare agenda for the Feb. 14 meeting and circulate it a week before.
- **Kate** will post final notes from August 2022 meeting on SOC website.
- **Kate** will draft notes from today's meeting and circulate to the **Council members** for review.

4:00 End (Meeting concludes at 2:45)

Supplemental Meeting Materials: Q3 Staff Report with 2022 Budget Update

Staff Report for 3rd Quarter 2022

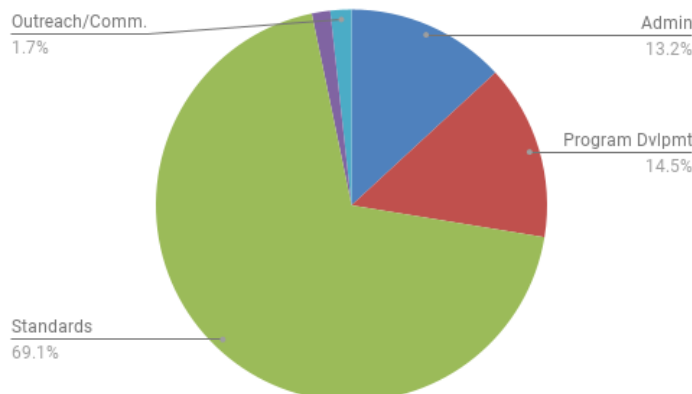
Activities of SOC Program Manager Kate Brunner

Standards

Conducted preparation, facilitation at meetings, and follow-up tasks related to the following standards:

- **DNR 1011/1012 High Performance Dry Storm Water Basins ("Dry Pond"):** Full Process, new standard. Monthly team meetings continued to discuss specifics regarding the key issues for the standard.
- **DNR 1056 Perimeter Sediment Control and Slope Interruption:** Modified Process, no team. Assisted DNR with clarifying responses to Broad Review comments and formatted revised draft for approval. Prepared draft announcement.
- **DNR 1072 Horizontal Directional Drilling:** Full Process, new standard. Facilitated team in researching and refining responses to comments and text revisions. Prepared draft announcement in anticipation of publication. Prepared HDD team exit evaluation.
- **NRCS CPS 328 Conservation Crop Rotation:** Full process. Facilitated monthly team meetings to discuss key issues and refine standard text. Project is nearing Initial Review.
- **NRCS CPS 380 Windbreak -Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation:** Full process. Facilitated monthly team meetings and prepared standard for Initial Review. Coordinated with selected reviewers and facilitated the Initial Review (Sept. 7 to 30, 2022).
- **NRCS Heavy use protection and waste/milkhouse standards group:** Modified process, no team. The NRCS national office added CPS 627 Wastewater Treatment, Milk House. CPS 629 Waste Treatment is being eliminated with the content moved to CPS 561 Heavy Use Area Protection; CPS 627 Wastewater Treatment, Milk House; CPS 632 Waste Separation Facility; and CPS 634 Waste Transfer. Sent responses to each of the Broad Reviewers, prepared for publication and announcement.

3rd Qtr - SOC Program Manager Labor Summary



SOC Program Development

- Coordinated and attended quarterly SOC meeting of Council Representatives on 8/9/22;
- Acted as a liaison between agencies, county land conservation departments, and other partners regarding technical standard issues through the WI Land+Water Technical Committee meeting (including collaboration with the Professional Improvement Committee to plan the 2023 conference);
- Meeting with WI Land+Water lawyer regarding improvements to the SOC Handbook;
- Researched ideas for SOC project funding;

- Solicited team leaders for input and completed self-evaluation for SOC Program Manager performance evaluation.

Outreach

- Prepared SOC slides included in the WI Land+Water Exec. Director presentation to WTCAC board meeting on 8/11/22;
- Prepared SOC update for the WI Land+Water summer newsletter;
- Worked with Bayfield County LCD for Fall technical tour coordination;
- Updated SOC website content on homepage news items and team webpages;
- Published SOC announcements with LCDs, LCCs, and SOC stakeholders – publication of standards, public comment periods, creation of teams, and standard-related training; and
- Maintained SOC listservs for standard-related announcements, added new members and corrected/updated information for inactive email addresses.

Training & Conferences (Professional Development)

- Attended DEI training Critical Thinking for Leaders by Alonzo Kelly with WI Land+Water staff on 7/13/22.

Administration

- Tracked expenditures against 2022 budget;
- Completed 3rd Quarter expense reports and time sheets;
- Completed 2nd Quarter reports for funders;
- Provided support information and pursued DNR contract; and
- Participated in WI Land+Water staff meetings.

2022 Budget Update

SOC 2022 Budget and YTD Actual Expenses	Q1-Q3 2022 Actual	2022 Budget	Percent Spent
60000 · Audit	\$ 750	\$ 750	100.0%
62000 · Business Licensing & Insurance	\$ 648	\$ 600	108.0%
63000 · Rent	\$ 5,833	\$ 10,000	58.3%
Total 64000 · Professional Services	\$ 3,781	\$ 3,337	113.3%
Total 65000 · Office Expenses	\$ 3,264	\$ 6,200	52.6%
Total 66000 · Payroll Expenses	\$ 73,330	\$ 101,290	72.4%
67000 · Prof. Development (L+W Staff)	\$ 188	\$ 1,800	10.4%
74000 · SOC Team Meetings	\$ 1,297	\$ 7,000	18.5%
Total 80000 · Conference	\$ 5,916	\$ 5,416	109.2%
86000 · Training Program Events (excl. confe	\$ -	\$ 1,500	0.0%
90000 · Networking (Partner Events)	\$ -	\$ 770	0.0%
Total 95000 · Outreach	\$ 1,279	\$ 2,300	55.6%
Total Expense	\$ 96,287	\$ 140,963	68.3%