# Food, Land and Water Project Groundwater Quantity Workgroup

# Draft Agenda for November 10, 2016 Meeting Hotel Mead – Wisconsin Rapids

#### 8:30 AM: Continental Breakfast and Conversation

### 9:00 AM: Plenary Session With Other Workgroups (Jim VandenBrook)

- Welcome
- Progress Report
- Today's Plan and Next Steps

### 9:30 AM: Getting Started (Facilitator and Co-Chairs)

- Welcome
- Introduce New Members
- Attendance Check
- Approve Minutes of August 23 Meeting
- Facilitator and Co-Chair Comments (reflections on last meeting, hopes for this meeting)
- Plan for this Meeting

### 10:00 AM: Background Information (Expert Presentations)

- Central Sands Water Use Trends and Impacts (Expert Panel: Ken Bradbury, and James Drought). 40-minute combined presentation plus 20-minute Q&A.
- Groundwater Management
  - WI Groundwater Law and Regulatory Program (Carl Sinderbrand) 20 minutes
  - o Groundwater management in surrounding states. 15 minutes
  - o 10 minute Q&A.

### 11:45 AM: LUNCH and informal conversation (with other workgroups)

### 12:45 PM: Workgroup (Afternoon Session)

- Continue to address questions from workgroup charter (attached). *Key task for this meeting is to identify "bottom-line" groundwater quantity goals.*
- What progress can our Workgroup report to the Steering Committee at its next meeting?
- What can our Workgroup reasonably hope to achieve over the course of this project (2 more meetings)? What should be our primary focus?

#### 3:00 PM: ADJOURN

*NOTE:* Breaks may be scheduled at the discretion of the Workgroup

## **Questions from 1st Workgroup Meeting**

- What are the current groundwater quantity issues of concerns in central WI (group)?
- What is the current regulatory scheme (Expert presentation)?
- Who has "rights" relative to groundwater in Wisconsin? How is that determined (Expert presentation)?
- What are the long-term trends and projections for wells, groundwater levels, surface water levels (Hydrogeology experts and group)?
- How do farmers and others use and conserve groundwater (Farm and municipal expert presentation)?
- Is the situation getting better or worse? How do we know (Hydrogeology experts and group)?
- What are key current and projected uses of groundwater in the Central Sands?
  What is their relative magnitude and growth? (Hydrogeology experts and group)
- Are all water use needs equal? Who decides priority needs and how (group)?
- What are our long-range "bottom-line" water quantity goals (group)?
- What are the potential allocation systems and will they get us to our "bottom-line" goals (group)?
- What are the measures of success (group)?
- To what extent is this a state issue vs. a regional issue (group)?

## **Questions from Workgroup Charter**

- What are the current groundwater quantity issues of concern in Wisconsin, particularly in the "Central Sands"?
- Is the situation getting better or worse? Why?
- What are our "bottom-line" expectations for the fair and efficient allocation of shared groundwater resources?
- Currently, how are decisions made and by whom regarding new GW withdrawals in Wisconsin (decided from place to place, from region to region, from county to county)?
- Does the current high-capacity well permitting system achieve a fair and efficient allocation? Why or why not?
- Is there an alternative system that might achieve a fair and efficient allocation?
  - Will the system accommodate new uses or changing conditions?
  - Are there market mechanisms that could encourage conservation and efficient resource allocation?
  - o How would the system be implemented?
- How will we know if our resource allocation system is successful? What are the signs of success?
- Where do we go from here?