



Nebraska Wellhead Protection Network

Groundwater Education Legislative Breakfast
Tuesday January 10th, 2017 8:00-9:30 am
State Capital Building, Lincoln, Nebraska

Present:

Jane Griffin – The Groundwater Foundation (TGF), Lee Orton – Nebraska Well Drillers Association, Ryan Chapman – Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ), Tim Freed – Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, Robert Swanson – US Geological Survey, Mat Habrock – Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA), Ken Halvorsen – Nebraska Rural Water Association, Steve Mossman – Mattson Ricketts Law Firm, Jim Macy – NDEQ, Carla McCullough – NDEQ, Craig Romary – NDA, Joe Francis – NDEQ, Mark Brohman – Nebraska Environmental Trust, Sam Radford – NDEQ, Shelley Schneider – NDEQ, Becky Schuerman – Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (NDHHS), Howard Isaacs – NDHHS, Pam Sorrell – League of Women Voters (LWVO), Dean Edson – Nebraska Association of Resource Districts, Jim Bunstock – NDEQ, Steve Wolf – JEO, Janece Mollhoff – LWVO, Jennifer Wemhoff – TGF, Sara Brock – TGF, Dave Miesbach – NDEQ, Lindsay Phillips – NDEQ

Senator John McCollister – District 20, Mitchell Clark – Staff District 48, Senator Robert Hilkemann – District 4, Senator Roy Baker – District 30, Senator Rick Kolowski – District 31, Mary Torell – Staff District 31, Senator Curt Friesen – District 34, Senator Carol Blood – District 3, Senator Steve Erdman – District 47, Senator Dan Quick – District 35, Senator Steve Halloran – District 33, Joey Adlz – Staff District 26, Brandon Bayer – Staff District 15, Oliver Vandervoot – Staff District 3, Senator Dan Hughes – District 44, Senator Joni Albrecht – District 17, Senator Bruce Bostelman – District 17, Senator Tom Briese – District 41, Senator Lydia Brasch – District 16, Bethel Adams – Staff District 6, Senator John Stinner – District 48, Senator Mike McDonnell – District 5, Senator Suzanne Geist – District 25, Senator John Lowe – District 37, Senator Tom Brewer – District 43, Speaker Jim Sheer – District 19, Senator Dan Watermeier – District 1, Senator Mike Groene – District 42, Senator Sue Crawford – District 45

Meeting Summary:

Nebraska Wellhead Protection Network Groundwater Education Legislative Breakfast took place at the State Capitol on Tuesday, January 10th from 8:00 am to 9:30 am. The meeting was an opportunity for senators and their staff to learn about and discuss the Wellhead Protection Network and groundwater

issues in Nebraska. Refreshments and pastries were provided by Nebraska Association of Resource Districts. At 8:30 Dean Edson, Executive Director of Nebraska Association of Resource Districts, gave a brief talk. The primary focus of his talk was the issues Nebraskans face as a result of high nitrate levels from past farming practices. Edson also commented on the progress in farming communities that has been made due to the effective governance and collaborative approaches taken by agencies and organizations across the state. He concluded by acknowledging the efforts in the Bazile Groundwater Management Area and the EPA's recognition of Nebraska being the first state to have groundwater management plans. In addition, space was reserved from Tuesday, January 3 – Tuesday, January 10 in the first floor Rotunda for Network members to set up displays. These displays featured informational maps and graphics to educate those visiting or working in the Capitol and can be seen in the attachments below.