

Meeting Minutes

North Raccoon River Watershed Management Coalition Annual Meeting

Friday, January 26, 2018 at 1:30 pm

The annual meeting of the NRRWMC was called to order at 1:30 pm by chair Mark Hanson. Roll call was completed with 21 current board members in attendance and 4 proxy votes.

This gives a quorum needed to approve minutes but not the 2/3 majority required to approve new members. Several new members are present at today's meeting representing Guthrie County, city of Des Moines, Palo Alto county, and Guthrie County SWCD.

Minutes from the October and December 2017 meetings were approved following a motion by Dean Schettler of Carroll County, seconded by Chuck Wenthold of Greene County.

Dan Gilles, [Iowa Flood Center](#), presented a hydrologic assessment update. Calibration of the model used for the North Raccoon is taking a while due to the terrain. The ground is relatively flat and many prairie potholes within the Des Moines lobe do not have a drainage outlet. Plan is to have the assessment complete by April. Best management practices are modeled by GIS analysts who have manually digitized practices within the watershed. This allows them to build a map on different scales starting at a square mile level and aggregating them to a HUC-12 watershed level.

Documented BMPs are used within the Agricultural Conservation Planning Framework tool. The ACPF tool uses this data to prescribe practices onto the landscape that fit NRCS standards. More on the ACPF tool can be found online at [this link](#).

Presentation by Jim Marwedel, Hazard Mitigation Planner at Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management covering FEMA grant opportunities. FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) provides opportunities to develop projects that aim to reducing risk to individuals and property due to natural hazards. FEMA HMA programs include the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Pre-Disaster Mitigation, and Flood Mitigation Program. These programs could be a source of funding for projects for the parts of the North Raccoon watershed that are outside the targeted areas of the HUD grant in Buena Vista and Pocahontas counties. The watershed plan that will be written could be used to leverage RFPs for these programs. A county does not need to be a disaster to qualify for funding. Interested parties can contact Jim for more information (jim.marwedel@iowa.gov).

Melissa Miller gave an overview of the statewide WMAs of Iowa board, a statewide umbrella and soon to be non-profit organization. Van Meter moved and city of Fonda seconded that the North Raccoon River WMA join the WMAs of Iowa board. Dale Arends of Buena Vista county was nominated to be our representative, city of Fonda moved, Carroll County seconded. Motion carries by voice vote.

Overview of breakout groups for small group discussion was led by Mark Hanson, chair from Dallas county.

Public comment:

Mike Delaney, Raccoon River Watershed Association (RRWA) – A great total maximum daily load (TMDL) assessment was done by AGREN and another group for the Raccoon River Watershed Association. All are welcome to attend the RRWA conference in Perry in March 2-3 on regenerative agriculture. See <https://www.northraccoon.org/> for more information.

Chuck Wenthold, Greene County & Melissa Miller – Iowa Water Center is hosting the Iowa Water Conference on March 21-22 at Iowa State University (iowawaterconference.org). Table sponsorships are available for \$200.

Move to adjourn Katie Rock, Polk county SWCD, seconded by Fred Long, Greene county SWCD.