

Middle Cedar Watershed Management Authority

Board of Directors Meeting

November 21, 2019 3:00-5:00pm

Hartman Reserve Nature Center

(657 Reserve Drive, Cedar Falls, IA 50613)

Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: Fred Abels (Grundy SWCD), Dave Neil (La Porte City), Kathy Bierman (City of Cedar Rapids alternate), Dean McKenna (Tama SWCD), Cara Matteson (City of Cedar Rapids), Tracy Seeman (Benton County), Jim Lindaman (Butler SWCD), Barbara Smith (Grundy County), Chris Schwartz (Black Hawk County), Jake Hovey (City of Hudson), Dan Gates (City of Hudson alternate), Rob Werner (City of Gilbertville), Mark Pingenot (Benton SWCD), Don Shonka (Buchanan County), Wayne Castle (City of Waterloo), Steve Jordan (City of Waterloo), Sherman Lundy (Black Hawk SCWD), Dick Sloan (Buchanan SWCD), David Sturch (City of Cedar Falls), Les Beck (Linn County), Nathan Wrage (Tama County), Mike Keninger (Franklin SWCD).

Others Present: Adam Rodenberg (MCWMA), Jessica Turba (Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management), Valerie Decker (U of I CEA), Terry Basol (ISU Extension), Ashley Kittle (Tallgrass Prairie Center), Jennifer Fencil (ECICOG), Marybeth Stevenson (Iowa DNR).

Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order & Introductions

- Meeting called to order at 3:03pm. Introductions of MCWMA Board Members present and public in attendance.

II. Minutes of Previous Meeting – February 28, 2019.

- *Sherman Lundy motioned to approve meeting minutes from MCWMA Board of Directors meeting on February 28, 2019. Jim Lindaman 2nd motion. Motion carried.*

III. Partner Updates

- a. Iowa DNR – Importance of WMA (Marybeth Stevenson)
- Marybeth gave a power point presentation outlining the background of Watershed Management Authorities and their importance.
- Board Members were asked to think of 2 to 3 goals over the next 5 years: flooding, water quality, source water protection, and soil health were named.
 - o Sherman Lundy commented the Iowa Watershed Approach is only focused in Buchanan, Benton, and Tama Counties and work needs to expand to the entire Middle Cedar Watershed.

IV. Middle Cedar Watershed Plan (Jennifer Fencil)

- a. Funding Formula Discussion

- Jennifer Fencil introduced herself and her role as administrative lead for the Iowa Watershed Approach project.
- Fencil gave a power point presentation on various funding formula options that could be used based off her experience with the Indian Creek WMA (Linn County).
 - o Fencil provided options for a low, medium, and high funding options. Low option included a budget for a part time administrative role for \$45,000. Medium option included a budget for a technical assistance contract employee and part time administrative role for \$106,750. High option included a budget for a full time coordinator for \$120,000.
- Discussion held on various funding options presented:
 - o Chris Schwartz favors a full-time coordinator
 - o Dave Sturch: asked if 1 coordinator enough?
 - o Les Beck: Keep at least 1 staff
 - o Cara Matteson: makes sense to pursue a coordinator position with possible additional support and to use Indian Creek as an example moving forward.
 - o Mark Pingnot: in favor of full-time coordinator and technical assistance option. Need to congregate all work from each entity and share with the group.
 - o Wayne Castle: asked what the goals of the position would be on a 5, 10, 15 year basis? What are the outcomes and deliverables for these positions? Need to develop a work plan.
- Motion by Chris Schwartz to develop funding formula for full-time coordinator and admin position. 2nd by Les Beck. Motion passed.

V. Watershed Projects

- a. Iowa Watershed Approach (Adam Rodenberg)
 - Rodenberg gave update on Iowa Watershed Approach project and distributed a handout.
- b. North Iowa Agronomy Partners (Jason Gomes)
 - Gomes explained the technical assistance project and gave an update on outreach work completed by North Iowa Agronomy Partners, including a field day coming up. Fencil offered to send the quarterly reports, which captures the work done to date for the Board members to review.

VI. Other Business

- a. IAWA – RCPP Grant Opportunity (Adam Rodenberg)
 - Rodenberg gave power point presentation on behalf of Jim Jordahl at the Iowa Ag Water Alliance in regards to a potential RCPP Grant in the Middle Cedar Watershed.

VII. Public Comment

VIII. Next Meeting

- Next meeting will be January 16, 2020 from 3-5 pm at Hartman Reserve Nature Center.

IX. Adjourn

- Meeting adjourned at 4:53pm