**Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, March 7, 2023, 6:30 pm**

**West Branch Old Town Hall, 113 N. 1st Street, West Branch**

**Board Members present:** Jon Bell (Cedar County), Kasey Hutchinson (Johnson County), Kurt Kirchner (Muscatine County), Ross Paustian (Scott County), Travis Spevacek (Johnson County SWCD), Laura Krouse (Linn County SWCD), Holly Howard (Louisa County SWCD), Travis Glynn (Muscatine County SWCD), Richard Golinghorst (Scott County SWCD), Amy Foster (Atalissa), Mary Beth Stevenson (Cedar Rapids), Roger McLaughlin (West Branch)

**Others Present:** Jodi Freet (Cedar County EMA), Thomas Fawcett (Heartland Co-op), Mike Lodge (farmer), Shaun Yoder (Advanced Tiling & Trenching), Michael Salino-Hugg (Progress Muscatine), Justin Schrader (Cedar Rapids), David Scott (Muscatine), Jennifer Fencl (ECICOG)

1. Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Chairperson Jon Bell at 6:39 pm
2. Roll Call
3. Approve Minutes from November 9, 2022, Board Meeting
   * Motion by Stevenson, second Foster. All Ayes. Motion carried.
4. Treasurer’s Report by Fencl
   * Financial Statement w/ receivable & expenditure balances. Remaining DNR grant match $4,834.
   * Discussed paying the $30 per check writing fee to Johnson County in FY24. Motion to approve paying the check fee to Johnson County by Golinghorst, seconded by Kirchner. All Ayes. Motion carried.
   * Discussed FY24 invoices and the breakdown of ARPA funding. The $100,000 each from Cedar and Muscatine counties was intended to cover the contributions for all those counties for 3 years.
   * Motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report and request page numbers in the future by Stevenson, seconded by Howard. All Ayes. Motion carried.
5. Approve Letter of Support for City of Durant’s stormwater wetland project. Motion to approve the letter of support by Foster, second by Howard. All Ayes. Motion carried.
6. Introduce new Indian Creek Soil Health Coordinator – Alyssa Guritz held soil health event with 31 attendees learning about the Haney Test for Organic Matter. Planning WFAN Women Caring for the Land event April 18th at Prairiewoods in Hiawatha.
7. Lower Cedar Conservation Outreach – Faucett, Heartland CO-OP, presented an update to the project.
8. Outreach
   * Fencl discussed the “Big Show” radio remote request. The consensus was to consider this outreach method next year when projects are completed and partner with Polk Co and Cedar Rapids to promote each program to a statewide audience.
   * Fencl reported that she and Emery have visited most of the Board of Supervisors and SWCD Commissioners to promote the watershed plan and the Lower Cedar Conservation project. Emery requested Lower Cedar branded folders for his outreach efforts.
   * Fencl discussed the DNR County Creek grant opportunity and there is interest.
9. Member Updates & Announcements – none mentioned
10. Next Meeting: May 9, 2023 @ 6:30 PM (Location TBD)
11. Meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm. Motion by Golinghorst, second by Foster. All Ayes. Motion carried.