



**Lower Cedar Watershed Management Authority
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at 6:30 pm
Cedar County Courthouse
(large meeting room on lower level)
400 Cedar Street
Tipton, IA 52772**

Board Members present: Jon Bell (Cedar County), Bill Waldie (Johnson County), James Drahos (City of Bertram), Rich Golinghorst (Scott SWCD), Brinson Kinzer (Scott County), Mike Tertinger (Linn County), Travis Glynn (Muscatine SWCD), Jason Foster (Atalissa), Bruce Frana (Linn SWCD), John Kostichek (City of Walcott), Jody Bailey (Johnson Co. SWCD), Roger Laughlin (City of West Branch), Alan Weets (Cedar Co. SWCD), Jeff Sorensen (Muscatine County), James Hora (city of Nichols), Nick Nissen (City of Mt. Vernon), Mary Beth Stevenson (City of Cedar Rapids).

Others Present: Sue Hall (press), Tara Cullison (Bi-State Regional), Jodi Freet (Cedar County EMA), Hannah Howard (TNC), and Jennifer Fencil (ECICOG), and Linsey Reimers- (Mayor of Nichols)

Meeting Agenda

1. Call to order and introductions
 - a. Meeting called to order by Chairperson Jon Bell at 6:31 pm
2. Treasurer report
 - a. Confirm financial commitments with entities for Fiscal Year 2021
 - b. Invoice requests with amounts need to be made
 - i. West Branch planning on \$1000
 - c. Please let Bill know as finalize budgets.
 - d. Shoot for late June to send out invoices for next fiscal year.
3. Approve minutes from November 2019 Board meeting – (Action) Motion by Rich Golinghorst, second by Brinson Kinzer. Motion carried.
4. Watershed Coordinator update
 - a. TNC agreement with NRCS for Iowa Partners for Conservation grant in process
 - b. Estimated timeline for coordinator hired: May 1st , 1.5 years funding left

- c. Johnson County SWCD gave an update about possibly housing the new watershed Coordinator position.
 - d. Please share with your contacts that this position will be posting soon.
5. DNR Watershed Planning Grant update
- a. Action item: Authorize WMA Board Chair to execute contract with DNR
 - i. Bill Waldie motioned and Jeff Sorenson seconded. Motion carried.
 - b. Moving forward with the DNR planning grant: April 1st start date with a contract in place.
 - c. Upcoming Grant Tasks:
 - i. Develop and publish planning services Request For Proposals
 - ii. RFP subcommittee- Mary Beth, Mike, Bill
 - iii. Selection Committee: Mary Beth, Amy Foster, Jon Bell, Mike Tertinger, Eric Furnas, & Jodi Freet
 - d. Start RFP process before contract begins
 - i. Get RFP posted ASAP: March 1st publish date and mid-March pre-bid meeting
 - ii. Board members share RFP posting once published
6. WMA Funding Discussion
- a. Introduce funding formula concepts: pass the hat, direct contributions, per capita, grant funding
 - i. Discuss target budget amount
 - ii. Start with \$100,000 as target
 - iii. Fee scale- based off of populations
 - iv. The hook-Work together to focus our dollars on what should we spend. Work together to solve the problems. Base it off of fair considerations.
 - v. Take formula handout and explain and discuss with your entity and bring back results of discussion to May meeting.
 - b. Example funding formulas (Indian Creek WMA, Middle Cedar WMA)
 - 1. ask the policy makers of each of your entities
 - 2. Determine ending budget-partner with organization for admin assistance as needed or a full time watershed coordinator
 - 3. Your shares- at risk, weight variables
 - 4. WMA board members adopt a formula and then take back to each entity to fund.
 - ii. Indian Creek- weighted on 50,000 budget. 6 members. Linn SWCD paid Alburnett's unpaid portion.
 - 1. Got Administrative services
 - 2. SWCD acres in a county to represent stake
 - iii. Middle Cedar-
 - iv. Iowa Ag Water Alliance- provide funds to invest in technical assistance, reimbursement for technical provider-contractors
7. Other business
- a. WMAs of Iowa update
 - b. Member updates, announcements, and events
 - i. Linn County SWCD Soil Health workshop Feb. 26 RSVP for free lunch
 - ii. Cover Crop Conference- Friday March 6, 8:30 to 3. Free lunch with RSVP

iii. Pollinators Feb. 21st rural and urban habitat 10-2 Muscatine County ISU extension office

8. Public Input

9. Next Meeting –May 12, Tuesday @ 6:30 Cedar County Courthouse

10. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm. Motion by Kinzer, Seconded by Golvinghorst. Motion carried.

Lower Cedar WMA – Eligible Members

Counties & SWCDs	Cities
Cedar	Alburnett
Johnson	Atalissa
Jones	Bennett
Linn	Bertram
Louisa	Cedar Rapids
Muscatine	Conesville
Scott	Durant
	Fredonia
	Hiawatha
	Lisbon
	Lone Tree
	Marion
	Martelle
	Mechanicsville
	Mount Vernon
	Nichols
	Robins
	Springville
	Stanwood
	Stockton
	Tipton
	Walcott
	West Branch
	West Liberty
	Wilton