

Lower Cedar Watershed Management Authority Board of Directors Meeting

To: Cities, Counties, Soil & Water Conservation Districts, and other stakeholders in the Lower Cedar Watershed

From: Lower Cedar Watershed Management Authority

Date: May 13th, 2025

Subject: Lower Cedar Watershed Management Authority Meeting on May 13th, 2025

BACKGROUND: In 2010, Iowa lawmakers passed legislation authorizing the creation of Watershed Management Authorities (Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 466B Subchapter II). A Watershed Management Authority (WMA) is a mechanism for cities, counties, Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) and stakeholders to cooperatively engage in planning and management at the watershed scale. A WMA was formed for the Lower Cedar Watershed including parts of Cedar, Johnson, Jones, Linn, Louisa, Muscatine, and Scott Counties.

A WMA is formed by a Chapter 28E Agreement by two or more eligible political subdivisions within the watershed. A board of directors governs the WMA, which may undertake the following activities:

- Assess and reduce flood risk:
- Assess and improve water quality;
- Monitor federal flood risk planning and activities;
- Educate residents of the watershed regarding flood risks and water quality; and
- Allocate moneys made available to the Authority for purposes of water quality and flood mitigation.

A WMA does not have taxing authority and it may not acquire property through eminent domain.

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE: The quarterly meeting of the Lower Cedar Watershed Management Authority board of directors has been scheduled for <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>May 13</u>, <u>2025</u>, <u>6:30 pm</u>, <u>at the Cedar County EMA office</u>, <u>1410 Cedar St</u>, <u>Tipton</u>, <u>Iowa</u>. Cities, Counties, SWCDs and other watershed stakeholders are encouraged to attend and learn how they can collaborate with this important organization.

MEETING AGENDA: The complete meeting agenda follows, in addition to the full list of invited cities, counties, and SWCDs. <u>Please post the agenda in a public location and share the invitation widely with staff, elected officials, and other interested stakeholders.</u>

Lower Cedar Watershed Management Authority Board of Directors Meeting

May 13, 2025 Board Meeting 6:30 pm Cedar County EMA, 1410 Cedar St, Tipton, IA 52772 Zoom Link

Meeting Agenda

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Introductions
- 3. Approval of Minutes from February 11, 2025, April 15, 2025, Meetings Action Item
- 4. Treasurers Report
 - a. Financial Statement
- 5. Service Agreement Update Alyssa Comer, ECICOG
- 6. Letters of Support
 - a. BlueGAP National Geographic Freshwater Storytelling Grant
 - b. Iowa Flood Center Congressional Community Project Funding
- 7. Lower Cedar Conservation Outreach Update- Emery Davis, Heartland Co-op
 - a. Heartland Contract Extension- Action Item
- 8. Linn County Soil Health Partnership Update Marissa Cartwright, Linn County
- 9. Other Local Project Updates
- 10. Other Business
 - a. Funding opportunities
 - Current funding availability and changes
 - b. Outreach
 - c. Member updates, announcements, events
 - Trailblazers Academy- Women's Prescribed Fire Workship, June 3-5, 2025
- 11. Next Meeting August 12th, 2025, location TBD
- 12. Adjournment

Please post this meeting notice and agenda in a public location

Cultivating a shared responsibility to sustain a healthy watershed now and into the future.