



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 9th, 2024

Subject: Lower Cedar Watershed Management Authority Meeting on May 14, 2024

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 **Tuesday, May 14, 2024, 6:30 pm, at the Cedar County EMA office, 1410 Cedar St, Tipton, Iowa.** 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. Please post the agenda in a public location and share the invitation widely with staff, elected officials, and other interested stakeholders.

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

**Lower Cedar Watershed Management Authority
Board of Directors Meeting**

**May 14, 2024
Board Meeting 6:30 pm
Cedar County EMA
1410 Cedar St, Tipton, IA 52772**

Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions
3. Approval of Minutes from February 13, 2024, Board Meeting – Action Item
4. Treasurers Report
 - a. Financial Statement
5. ECICOG Staffing Update
6. Letter of Support for City of Durant/Scott County Creek Signage Grant Application – Action Item
7. Letter of Support for IIHR Iowa Drought Information System – Action Item
8. WMAs of Iowa Legislative Update – Mary Beth Stevenson
9. Lower Cedar Conservation Outreach Update – Emery Davis, Heartland Co-op
10. Iowa Flood Center Hydro-station Expansion & Hydrologic Modeling Update – Kate Giannini & Dan Gilles
11. The Nature Conservancy Lower Cedar Update – Carissa Shoemaker
12. Indian Creek Soil Health Partnership Update – Marissa Cartwright, Linn SWCD
13. Other Local Project Updates
14. Outreach
15. Other Business
 - a. Funding opportunities –
 - b. Member updates, announcements, events
 - The Nature Conservancy in Iowa events:
 - Virtual Fence Field Day, August 20th, 2024
 - Neighbors of Nature, September 17th, 2024
 - Land of the Swamp White Oak biodiversity tour, September 21st, 2024
 - Prescribed Fire Workshop for Landowners, February 13th, 2025

16. Next Meeting – August 13, 2024 @ 6:30 PM location TBD (possibly West Branch, with stream project site visit)

17. Adjournment

Please post this meeting notice and agenda in a public location