

**STATE SOIL CONSERVATION & WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE**  
**Monthly Meeting, August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021, 10:00 A.M**  
**Wallace Building or Conference Call**

**Minutes for August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

SSCWQC Members in Person

Colleen Miller

SSCWQC Member Called In

Steve Hofmann, Dennis Carlson, Matt Bormann, John Tuthill, Dale Farnham

DSCWQ Staff

Vince Sitzmann, Jake Hansen, Susan Kozak, Kate Bussanmas, Lori Lewis

Partners Present

John Whitaker (CDI), Catherine Delong (ISU), Jon Hubbert (NRCS), Steve Hopkins (DNR), Lee Bjerke (ENG)

Other Called In

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m.

**2021-46** Carlson moved to approve the agenda; Farnham seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**2021-47** Hofmann moved to approve the July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 meeting minutes; Farnham seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Bureau Chief Reports (Reports on file)

Field Services – Bussanmas

Bussanmas highlighted the following topics in Myers report;

- 37 SWCDs were approved for 780 hr contract technician positions
- 2 SWCDs were awarded technical assistance through NACD

Mines and Minerals – Sitzmann

Sitzmann highlighted the following topics in his report;

- Construction on the emergency lead mine subsidence in Dubuque is likely to start this fall
- We will be receiving the National Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Award for the DeRonde Reclamation project. The award is given by OSMRE Department annually to the best reclamation project as voted NAAMLPL. The award will be presented in September.

Water Resources - Hansen

Hansen highlighted the following topics in his report;

- Next WRCC meeting will be held on September 23<sup>rd</sup> and the next WPAC working session will be held October 19<sup>th</sup>
- Celebration for the 100<sup>th</sup> CREP wetland will be on the afternoon or Thursday September 2<sup>nd</sup>

Director's Report - Kozak

Kozak highlighted the following items in her report;

- Debbra Wearmouth, CA located in Jasper County was nominated for July's employee of the month
- Mines and Minerals hosted a very successful Landowner Field Day with Senator Ernst
- As of June 30<sup>th</sup> there have officially been 8 bioreactors and 25 saturated buffers installed

Partner Reports (Reports on file)

Conservation Districts of Iowa - Whitaker

Whitaker highlighted the following topics in his report;

- CDI was awarded a 2 year grant from the Walton Family Foundation to expand S.T.A.R statewide
- Annual Conference will be held August 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>

Engineers – Bjerke (Verbal Report Only)

- Bjerke introduced himself and had a chance to meet the committee
- Currently work with the flood center of IA and the county Engineers

#### Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Hopkins

Hopkins highlighted the following topics in his report;

- Matt Dvorak is now the DNR Source Water Coordinator
- A celebration was held in honor of the life of former DNR Director Paul Johnson
- Jerah Sheets will be the new supervisor filling in the vacancy left by Allen Bonini

#### Iowa State Extension – Delong

Delong highlighted the following topics in her report;

- A new report was released called “How to Grow and Sell Carbon Credits in US Ag”
- A Webinar on Carbon Market will be offered on Aug. 11<sup>th</sup>

#### Leopold Center – Farnham

No Report

#### Natural Resources Conservation Service – Hubbert

Hubbert highlighted the following items in his report;

- Budget for FY2021 continues to be very tight
- The new program EQIP-CIC will be pushed back to next year
- Mask mandates have been reinstated for staff and visitors inside federal facilities and some counties

#### Business

- SSCWQC Research and Demonstration Grant Updates – Kozak
  - Kozak shared that the new grants are in the process of going through accounting for final approval and signatures and should be finalized in the near future

#### Subcommittee Reports

- DO Subcommittee report:
  - 5 year plan review: Bremer, Butler, Johnson, Woodbury – Subcommittee meeting was tabled due to lack of quorum

#### SWCD Vacancies / Appointments

- Vacancies
  - Howard – Recommendation to appoint Charles Malek to fill the unexpired term of Mike Lewis
  - Ringgold – Recommendation to appoint Vickie Jeanes to fill the unexpired term of Bill Daughton

**2021-48** Carlson moved to approve the appointments listed above. Tuthill seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

#### SSCWQC Member Reports

- Bormann- Still need more rain recently spoke with a reporter explaining the difference in soils and water retention.
- Carlson- PFI is having an onsite workshop Friday on cover crops. The pollinator CRP is in bloom with all the prairie flowers.
- Farnham- Seeing some spraying activity. The area is still pretty dry, however we have recently seen some large hail fall.
- Hofmann- Things are looking really good with a recent 3 inches of rain. We are seeing a lot of spraying happening.
- Tuthill- Clinton County got about 2 inches of rain that was much needed. Everything in the area is looking good.
- Miller- Things are looking good even with the lack of rain. Ash trees are looking like they are taking a hit.

Miller adjourned the meeting at 10:53 a.m.