

**STATE SOIL CONSERVATION & WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE**  
**Monthly Meeting, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022, 10:00 A.M**  
**Teams Video Call Meeting**

**Minutes for April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

SSCWQC Members Called In/Present

Steve Hoffman, Matt Bormann, Dale Farnham, John Tuthill, Dennis Carlson, Patti Ruff, Paula Ellis

DSCWQ Staff

Susan Kozak, Will Myers, Jake Hansen, Vince Sitzmann, Nicky McEuen

Partners Present

John Whitaker (CDI), Catherine Delong (ISU), Scott Cagle (NRCS), Steve Hopkins (DNR)

Other Called In/Present

Joe Hayes (CDI), Tim Palmer (CDI)

Hofmann called the meeting to order at 10:19 a.m.

**2022-13** Farnham moved to approve the agenda; Tuthill seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**2022-14** Tuthill moved to approve the March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022, meeting minutes; Farnham seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Bureau Chief Reports (Reports on file)

Field Services –Myers

Myers highlighted the following topics in his report;

- Lori Lewis announced her retirement after 30 years of service. Her position will be posted and will be open until April 6<sup>th</sup>
- Derek Namanny was hired to fill the Program Planner 2 position
- IDALS Financial Specialist will be transitioning back to onsite visits with commissioners and staff

Mines and Minerals – Sitzmann

Sitzmann highlighted the following topic in his report;

- OSMRE completed their annual oversight meeting for the AML program
- Tasha Cline was hired to fill the Environmental Specialist position
- Contracts should be executed for 8 new projects in April

Water Resources - Hansen

Hansen highlighted the following topics in his report;

- The next WRCC meeting will be in early June
- Currently 10 projects under construction
- Tanner Puls was hired as an Environmental Specialist Senior, starting April 1<sup>st</sup>

Director's Report - Kozak

Kozak provided a verbal report to the committee

Partner Reports (Reports on file)

Conservation Districts of Iowa - Whitaker

Whitaker highlighted the following topics in his report;

- Eight in person Spring Regionals were held in March, attendance was lower than normal
- Envirothon will be held May 2<sup>nd</sup> at Jester Park
- There are currently two open positions, a Private Wetland Specialist and a SW IA Planning Coordinator

Engineers – Bjerke

No report

Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Hopkins

Hopkins highlighted the following topics in his report;

- EPA approved the FFY2021 Annual Progress Report. The approval allows DNR to apply for EPA 319 grants
- Community ponds across Iowa were filled with trout in late March
- There will be an open house on April 18<sup>th</sup> to discuss the history of Wolf Hollow Wildlife Area and the proposed forest wildlife stewardship plan

### Iowa State Extension – DeLong

DeLong highlighted the following topics in her report;

- The Master Conservationist Program is offering 15 learning opportunities starting this Spring
- Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll showed that farmers support natural resources and outdoor recreation fund
- There will be 2 field days held in April

### Leopold Center – Vacant

No Report

### Natural Resources Conservation Service – Cagle

Cagle highlighted the following items in his report;

- USDA will be offering two new funding opportunities for Climate-Smart Commodities
- USDA is offering technical and financial assistance to help farmers and livestock as a Tornado Recovery effort
- RCCP, EQIP, and CSP second round batching dates will be April 8<sup>th</sup>
- All 2018 CSP contracts will expire Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022

### Business

- Tim Palmer-NACD Update
- SSCWQC Research and Demonstration Grant Updates – Gubbels
  - McEuen shared that the SSCWQC Grant application will be posted on April 1<sup>st</sup> and will close on May 20<sup>th</sup>
- Joint Meeting Discussion
  - The committee discussed holding a joint meeting with CDI at the Summer Tour in Clear Lake

### Subcommittee Reports

- DO Subcommittee report:
  - The DO Subcommittee meeting reviewed the below 5-year applications. With minor changes the subcommittee recommended all plans for approval
    - Allamakee
    - Appanoose
    - Cherokee
    - Delaware
    - Floyd
    - Howard
    - Jones
    - Louisa
    - Madison
    - Marion
    - Marshall
    - Shelby
    - Tama
    - Wright

**2022-15** Ellis moved to approve the above listed 5-year plans. Farnham seconded. Motion carried unanimously

### SWCD Vacancies/Appointments

- Vacancies
  - Marion – Recommendation to appoint Michael Moats to fill the unexpired term of Frank Schumacher
  - Palo Alto – Recommendation to appoint Brandon Fehr to fill the unexpired term of Joel Horsley
  - Wayne – Recommendation to appoint Jason Gradeless to fill the unexpired term of Gene Gibbs

**2022-16** Farnham moved to approve the appointments listed above. Bormann seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

### SSCWQC Member Reports

- Ellis- Judged a local science fair as well as in a state fair in Ames. No field work yet
- Farnham- A little fertilizer is going on. Weather has been very windy
- Tuthill- Not great weather, attended a very good Cover Crop Field Day hosted by NRCS
- Carlson- Planting will start next week. Cover Crops are turning green. Attended local SWCD meeting (Franklin Cty)
- Hoffman- Working on keeping calves healthy. Fertilizer has gone on but it is still very muddy
- Bormann- It's been very cold and wet. Cover crop plants are starting to green up
- Ruff- Fields are still very wet, as a result there hasn't been any field work don't yet

Hofmann adjourned the meeting at 11:21 a.m.