

AGENDA
Watershed Planning Advisory Council Meeting
Wednesday, June 4th, 2020, 10:00-12:00
Virtual, via Zoom

Present: John Whitaker (Soil and Water Conservation Districts of Iowa), Steve Roe (Iowa Conservation Alliance), John Torbert (Iowa Drainage District Association), Rick Robinson (Iowa Farm Bureau), Fred Long (Iowa Conservation Alliance), Mike Kuntz (League of Cities), Greg Sindt (Iowa Water Pollution Control Association), Mark Land (Iowa Floodplain and Stormwater Management), Ben Gleason (Iowa Corn), Adam Schneider (IDNR), Jake Hansen (IDALS), Greg Huff (Iowa Rural Water Association), Laura Sarcone (Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities), Alicia Vasto (Iowa Environmental Council)

Absent: Iowa Rivers Revival, Growing Green Communities, Iowa Association of Business and Industry, Iowa Soybean Association, Agribusiness Association of Iowa, Iowa Pork Producers, Senator Dan Zumbach, Senator Joe Bolkcom, Representative Charles Isehart, Representative John Wills

Other: Hanna Bates (Iowa Water Center), Deb Kozel (LSA), Allen Bonini (IDNR), Aaron Schroeder (Iowa Rural Water Association)

- Welcome and introductions
 - Meeting called to order at 10:03AM by John Whitaker
- Selection of Chair and Vice Chair
 - Nomination for Chair: John Whitaker
 - John Torbert nominated John Whitaker
 - Greg Huff second
 - Vote: all in favor
 - Oppose: none
 - Motion carries
 - Vice Chair nominations: Mike Kuntz
 - Rick Robinson nominated Mike Kuntz
 - John Torbert second
 - Vote: all in favor
 - Oppose: none
 - Motion carries
- Discuss topics for next meeting and 2020 Recommendations
 - Whitaker asked Bates to give an overview of Iowa Water Center's facilitation work for committee activities and outline continued involvement with the committee in the upcoming year. Bates noted that the Iowa Water Center participates as a facilitator to the group as well as a provider of administrative support by writing the meeting minutes, reaching out to speakers for the working session, and arranging working group activities.
 - Suggestion: presentations from IDALS, DNR, ISU regarding the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy and the increase use of 512 funding that begins in July 1. Topics to address include how the funding is going to be invested.
 - Suggestion: Presentation on the flooding situation in Southwest Iowa. Topics covering how the Army Corp of Engineers is dealing with issues and what their

vision is for Missouri River management. Other topics could include watershed planning impacts on flooding, including the Iowa Watershed Approach planning and practices to mitigate flooding.

- Suggestion: Presentation regarding boots on the groundwork from watershed coordinators across Iowa. Topics include what is and is not working, recommendations for how to make their job more efficient, as well as how to manage work when a watershed covers multiple jurisdictions.
- Suggestion: Presentation by the Iowa NRCS regarding how federal and state programs can get a greater return on investments for improving water quality and preventing flooding. This could be a panel presentation with IDNR, IDALS, and NRCS.
- Suggestion: Presentations covering source water protection through a watershed framework/scale
- Whitaker notes that he will reach out to ex officio members with proposed topics to receive their comment.
- Whitaker and Bates discuss that the upcoming Fall planning meeting will be a one-day presentation that may be conducted within a virtual setting. Whitaker notes that an online format may have security issues and so the committee should be wary about suspicious messages and hyperlinks.
- Announcements by WPAC members
 - Cedar Rapids hired Mary Beth Stevenson for source water protection coordinator for the city
- Public Comment Period
 - None
- Adjourn by 12:00 Noon
 - Adjourned at 10:30AM

Minutes by Hanna Bates, Iowa Water Center.