

## **Watershed Planning Advisory Council (WPAC) Meeting Minutes April 20, 2016**

The WPAC held its quarterly meeting at 9:00 am on April 20, 2016, at the Urbandale Public Library, with Co-Chairs Ann Robinson, Iowa Environmental Council, and Ben Gleason, Iowa Corn Growers Association, presiding. Other organizational designees present at the meeting: Shawn Richmond, Agribusiness Association of Iowa; Clare Lindahl, Conservation Districts of Iowa; Tim Whipple, Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities; Steve Roe, Iowa Conservation Alliance; Jake Hansen, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship; John Torbert, Iowa Drainage District Association; Rick Robinson, Iowa Farm Bureau Federation; Mark Land, Iowa Floodplain & Stormwater Management Association; Dustin Miller, Iowa League of Cities; Tyler Bettin, Iowa Pork Producers Association; Robin Fortney, Iowa Rivers Revival; Todd Sutphin, Iowa Soybean Association; for a total of 13 voting members.

Ex-officio members present: None.

Other attendees: Vanessa Fixmer-Oraiz, HDK Engineering; Linda Kinman, Iowa Association of Water Agencies; Michael Schueller, State Hygienic Lab-University of Iowa; Bob Bernard, Trout Unlimited

The meeting began with a welcome and introductions. Meeting materials were passed out and a member roster was circulated for updates. Draft minutes from the last meeting were shared electronically with no changes submitted. The agenda was reviewed. Ann Robinson added "Quorum" under "Review WPAC procedures", and Ben Gleason suggested delaying the selection of chair until arrival of Clare Lindahl.

### Review WPAC procedures

Ann Robinson mentioned there were questions at the last meeting regarding the need to clarify WPAC procedures and opened up discussion regarding the adoption of Robert's Rules of Order. Motion was made and seconded to adopt Robert's Rules of Order. Discussion ensued about the pros and cons of these rules and also co-chairs versus chair/vice-chair. Motion was withdrawn. Motion was made and seconded to adopt Robert's Rules of Order granting latitude to the presiding officer of the meeting to conduct the meeting in general accordance with these procedures. Discussion continued about rules for legislative committees. Motion passed.

The next discussion involved co-chairs or chair/vice-chair. The statute says each year members shall elect a chair. Motion was made and seconded to vote on a chair and vice-chair separately by members. Discussion was had about the role of the vice-chair. Motion passed.

Next, a quorum to conduct business was discussed. Nothing is written to require such a quorum. Motion was made and seconded that a quorum constitutes a majority of the voting members, currently this would be 11. Clarification was asked if the quorum pertained to a vote or to conduct business. The group clarified that this motion pertains to the number of members required to be present to make official decisions or take a vote on recommendations. (Procedure for a recommendation to be approved requires 75 % of voting members in attendance, as already established by WPAC in June 2015). Motion passed. Ann Robinson suggested voting procedures can be considered again in the future if this needs to be revisited.

### Select Chair(s)

Motion was made and seconded for Clare Lindahl representing CDI to be chair. Motion passed and she accepted. Motion was made and seconded for the Iowa Environmental Council's representative to be

vice-chair. Motion passed. Lindahl took over as presiding officer of the meeting and thanked the past co-chairs for their service.

### Work Group Reports and Recommendations

#### Work Group #1: Create Economic Incentives

Rick Robinson reported for the work group, with work continuing on three general areas in 2016:

- Request information from IDALS-DSCWQ and DNR to assess existing conservation programs and determine if needs are being met and if new innovative programs and projects should be developed.
- Invite experts to help the WPAC identify, understand and compile public and private sector incentive opportunities for conservation and agricultural technologies in order to determine recommendations that promote private sector engagement, nongovernment incentives and agricultural technology development.
- Invite experts to outline the opportunities for urban and rural collaboration, and the status of current efforts. Robinson said the intent is to have the presentations to the workgroup and invite others to attend, rather than at the full WPAC meeting.

#### Work Group #2: Improve Water Quality and Optimize Costs

The work group did not meet and has nothing to report.

#### Work Group #3: Develop Reliable Protocols and Procedures for Pollution Control Quantification

Robin Fortney, with IRR, reported that the work group met April 8 with IDALS and DNR to discuss current monitoring efforts. A lot of work has been done and, according to their report, Iowa has one third of the real time sensors in the US. The group is refining a recommendation for a water quality monitoring assessment and is writing a white paper to respond to issues with the recommendation.

Discussion ensued about the four WPAC areas not addressed by these work groups. The topic was suggested for the next meeting agenda.

#### Other Business

There was no old business to discuss. For new business, the website, meeting notifications, and repository were discussed. With rotating chairs, IDALS may be best suited to be the repository. Jake Hansen suggested adding this to the next meeting agenda and also a status report on the HUD-sponsored watershed projects.

#### Announcements

Jake Hansen reported that the next WRCC meeting will be May 12 at 1:30 pm at Polk County Extension. Steve Roe is working on a Watershed Management Authority for the North Raccoon. The HUD watershed project calls for this.

#### Public Comment Period

Linda Kinman would like work group minutes and public events to be posted to the website.

Clare Lindahl suggested the following items for the next meeting agenda:

- Light Robert's Rules of Order
- Repository, open meetings law, meeting notifications
- Four other priorities from the statute
- Website updates

- Presentation (HUD project?)

A doodle poll will be sent to find a date and time for July.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.

*Submitted by Ben Gleason, April 29, 2016*