

Water Resources Coordinating Council

Friday, September 11, 2015
9:00-11:30AM

Iowa State Capitol, Room 103

AGENDA

Welcome & Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 AM by Northey. A list of attendees from member agencies and the public is attached. 16 agency representatives and 16 other persons were in attendance.

The meeting began with a moment of silence in observation of September 11 and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

WRCC Member Agency Updates (All)

Adam Schneiders- Iowa DNR- Distributed point source update and discussed permits and feasibility studies completed. Also provided update on Nitrate sensors. DNR has 8 in place and is coordinating with IIHR to not duplicate monitoring sites.

Chris Jones- IIHR- There are 26 real-time monitoring sites this year. 15 more to be deployed next year (nitrate sensors). Some for load calculations, others to assess WQI projects. Key additions at Redfield and West Nishnabotna. Also looking to add a couple of groundwater monitoring sites to look at nitrate in Karst systems. Sensors are looking at treated effluent and are used with grab sampling to get whole picture.

Question from audience about monitoring in WQI products. What scale is monitoring being done? Response is that sensors are being deployed in Audubon, Story, and Wright counties in projects at point where projects enter larger streams. Point is to establish baselines in those projects. Question about looking at paired watersheds with those. Answer is that there is a lot of interest in the Nishnabotna (E and W) in pairing.

Ken Brink- IDOT- Flood modeling/planning pilot was completed in March. Will aid in project planning/maintenance. Also wrapping up project with Flood Center on study completed this year. Finally, looking at funding opportunities in systems planning through Transportation Alternatives Program that can address stormwater improvements. Looking at water quality components in TAP projects.

Tim Whipple- IEDA- Sales tax revenues for flood improvements passed in 2014. IEDA is working with other departments to fix conflicts with that program and other tax programs.

John Benson- IHSEMD- One Presidential Disaster declaration this summer impacting 19 counties. Agency is working with others on HUD Disaster Resiliency application. Tom Oswald updated WRCC on progress with Phase 2 application. \$1B available, Iowa is applying for \$100-\$120 million for mitigation and watershed-based work. Partnership includes DNR, IDALS, IEDA, Iowa Flood Center, HSEMD, and others. Question about where funding will go. Some for planning, some for flood prevention/control structures. Adding funding for sensors and MesoNet. Money also going for housing and to look at social vulnerability associated with flooding. Phase 2 application is due in October.

Maureen Clayton- UNI- No report.

John Whitaker- FSA- CRP 30th Anniversary tour is coming up. Will look at a CREP site and a depression site, as well as a CP-39 site. Heavy interest in targeted, continuous enrollment. Watching activity in wetland work. Question on total acres in Iowa. Currently about 1.4 million acres total. Peak was 2.2 million acres. 22 million acres General CRP in 2016.

Stu Schmitz- IDPH- Working with DNR to monitor algal blooms and microcystin. Draft report distributed. November presentation on larger 5-6 year trends. Monitoring occurs at state parks and a couple of reservoirs. Question from Osterberg to clarify elevated levels versus reports from health care providers. Unsure if there are any reports on animal illness.

Jon Nania- USGS- Streamflow conditions updated. New streamflow gauges have been installed. StreamStats website has been updated. Interactive- looks at all streams regardless of whether or not there is a stream. New nitrate sensors in Redfield and Randolph going in- numbers will be available on USGS website. Question on annual costs and equipment costs for sensors. About \$20K upfront and about \$12k per year to operate.

Ken Podrzik- NWS- Strong El Nino- means a little warmer and wetter than normal in the winter.

John Lawrence- ISU- Measures coordinator position will be posted next week and filled this fall. Outputs will be more frequent than annual reporting. Reviewing proposals for public/private in-field program. ISU, CDI, and Iowa Corn are distributing nitrate test strips for farmers to track their own levels. Also working to standardize measures regionally.

Karen Fluornoy- EPA Region 7- Water Quality Credit trading workshop in Lincoln next week. IDALS will be represented along with IA League of Cities. Will report back in November. Question on WOTUS from Northey. What is current status? Updates are

David Osterberg- University of Iowa- No report

Jake Hansen- IDALS- Water Quality Initiative

1,800 applications covering 187,000 acres (CC, NT/ST, Inhibitor -170k acres cover crops in this program alone)

- \$3.5 Million obligated
- Farmers in each of the 100 SWCD participated.
- Follow-up survey was done last year and will be repeated to get producer feedback.
- Participants include 980 1st time users and more than 830 past users (cover crops).

RCPP Summary:

- IDALS is leading 2 RCPP applications, both invited for full proposals, due November 10th
- Current RCPP underway- 1st Batching Date was completed in July. Strong interest from producers- next batching will be this fall.

Final numbers for FY2015 are in. \$9.8 million in State cost-share was completed, leveraging more than \$12.4 million in landowner contributions. This represents an all-time record in terms of conservation implementation.

Question on next generation RFAs and on surveys on cover crops. Response is that surveys are being done and information on cost share rates is included. Follow-up question on survey work and who is participating/ following up. 80% response rate in first survey- 90% said they were willing to participate again.

Question from Rick Robinson back to EPA on WOTUS regarding additional streams protected. Fluornoy responded that EPA is working to address concerns and to continue to work through general and regional permits and impacts on those where applicable.

Iowa Nutrient Research Center Update- Dr. John Lawrence, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach
Lawrence gave a presentation updating the Committee on INRC. The presentation is included with the meeting notes and will be posted on the website.

Question- What will findings from projects mean for NRS? Answer is that confidence intervals and coefficients in nutrient reductions will be better refined. Also we hope to add practices to the strategy and better pinpoint barriers to adoption. Is the center evaluating demonstration projects? Response is that IDALS is evaluating projects and other partners are doing so as well. Question as to whether IDALS can apply to INRC for measurement funds to evaluate the projects more rigorously (Bolkcom).

2015 Iowa Water Conference Water Resources Priorities Report- Melissa Miller, Iowa Water Center
Melissa Miller with the Iowa Water Center presented a water resources priorities report developed at the 2015 Iowa Water Conference, along with a general overview of the Iowa Water Center. A copy of her presentation is posted to the WRCC website. Question on participation- about ¼ of attendees participated (75 or so). Question about outreach on statewide outreach on NRS.

NRCS DamWatch Overview- Lee White and Allen Gehring, USDA-NRCS

Lee White gave a demonstration of the NRCS DamWatch program. This program utilizes weather radar precipitation estimates, seismic activity, and spillway flow monitors where installed to assess vulnerability of NRCS-supported dam structures. NRCS will provide information to relevant users about how to subscribe- currently the site is not completely available to the public.

WPAC Update

Ben Gleason provided an update for the WPAC, which will meet later today. Continuing to work on report

No requests for public comment were received.

The next meeting will be held on November 20th 2015 at 9:00 am, same location as today. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.

20 Ad. Final

| | WRCC Representative | Position | Organization |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 1 Bill Northey | Secretary (WRCC Chair) | Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 Terry Branstad Julie Vande Hoef | Governor Designee | Governor's Office Governor's Office |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 3 Chuck Gipp Bruce Trautman A. Johnson Bill Ehm | Director Designee Designee | Iowa Department of Natural Resources Iowa Department of Natural Resources Iowa Department of Natural Resources |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 4 Jim Gillespie Jake Hansen | Director Designee | IDALS - Division of Soil Conservation IDALS - Division of Soil Conservation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 Gerd Clabaugh Kenneth Sharp Stu Schmitz | Director Designee Designee | IA Department of Public Health IA Department of Public Health IA Department of Public Health |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 6 Mark Schouten John Benson | Administrator Designee | Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 7 Wendy Wintersteen John Lawrence | Dean Designee | College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, ISU College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, ISU |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 8 Susan Curry David Osterberg | Dean Designee | College of Public Health, University of Iowa College of Public Health, University of Iowa |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 9 John Fritsch Maureen Clayton | Dean Designee | College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences, UNI College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences, UNI |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 10 Paul Trombino III Ken Brink | Director Designee | Iowa Department of Transportation Iowa Department of Transportation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 11 Debi Durham Tim Whipple | Director Designee | Iowa Economic Development Authority Iowa Economic Development Authority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 12 Dave Jamison Lori Beary | Executive Director Designee | Iowa Finance Authority Iowa Finance Authority |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 13 Alec Scranton Larry Weber Chris Jones | Dean Designee | College of Engineering, University of Iowa College of Engineering, University of Iowa |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 14 Kevin Richards Jan Nania | Director | USGS, Iowa Water Science Center |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 15 Richard Ellsmore Marty Adkins Allen Gehring | Acting State Conservationist Designee | USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 16 John Whitaker | State Executive Director | USDA, Farm Services Agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 17 Bill Menner Kate Sand | State Director Designee | USDA, Rural Development USDA, Rural Development |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 18 Mark Hague Karen Flournoy Damon Frizzell | Acting Regional Administrator Designee Designee | EPA-Region 7 EPA-Region 7 EPA-Region 7 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 19 Colonel Craig Baumgartner Diane Karnish Angela Freyermuth | Rock Island District Commander Designee Designee | US Army Corps of Engineers Rock Island District US Army Corps of Engineers Rock Island District US Army Corps of Engineers Rock Island District |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Ken Pudronik | Designee | National Weather Service |

WRCC Public Attendance Sign-In Sheet

(Public comments will be accepted at specified time on agenda)

| | Name | Affiliation | Have Comments (Y/N) |
|----|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | Heidi Woerber | U.S. Fish and Wildlife Serv. | N |
| 2 | Jim Jordahl | Iowa Agriculture Water Alliance | N |
| 3 | John Aarson | HSEM | N |
| 4 | Tom Oswald | HSEM | |
| 5 | Tyler Betha | Iowa Park | N |
| 6 | Liz Hobart | GROWMARK | N |
| 7 | Nate Perry | GROWMARK | N |
| 8 | Sean McMatton | IAWA | N |
| 9 | Ken Podrasik | National Weather Service | N |
| 10 | Jennifer Terry | Ia Environment Council | N |
| 11 | Jon Nania | US Geological Survey | N |
| 12 | Maryellen Clayton | UNI | N |
| 13 | Ben Gleason | Iowa Corn | N |
| 14 | Sherman Lundy | State Soil Conservation Committee | |
| 15 | Susan Heathcote | Town Environmental Council | N |
| 16 | Joe O. Ikem | | |
| 17 | Allen Bell | NRCS | Presenting |
| 18 | Lee C. White | NRCS | " |
| 19 | Robin Fortney | Iowa Rivers Revival | N |
| 20 | John Lawrence | ISU | |
| 21 | Karen Flournoy | EPA | N |
| 22 | Melissa Miller | Iowa Water Center | presenting |
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Point Source Nutrient Reduction Strategy Report

WRCC – September 2015

Permits Issued

| # | Facility/Location | Issued Date | Status |
|----|--|-------------|---|
| 1 | Dairiconcepts, L.P. - Allerton | 9/1/2013 | Feasibility study received, under review |
| 2 | City of Grinnell | 9/1/2013 | |
| 3 | Rembrandt Enterprises - Thompson | 9/1/2013 | Feasibility study received, under review |
| 4 | City of West Liberty | 9/1/2013 | Feasibility study received, under review |
| 5 | City of Dubuque | 10/1/2013 | |
| 6 | City of Harlan | 10/1/2013 | |
| 7 | Tyson Foods - Perry | 11/1/2013 | Submitted a Feasibility Study with their Facility Plan to DNR in November 2014 for the installation of phosphorus removal |
| 8 | City of Atlantic | 12/1/2013 | |
| 9 | City of Eldridge (South Slope facility) | 12/1/2013 | Amended permit to include construction of nutrient removal |
| 10 | Manindra Milling Corporation - Hamburg | 12/1/2013 | |
| 11 | Oakland Foods LLC – Oakland | 12/1/2013 | |
| 12 | City of Grundy Center | 2/1/2014 | |
| 13 | City of Mount Pleasant (Main facility) | 2/1/2014 | Amended permit to include construction of nutrient removal |
| 14 | City of New Hampton | 4/1/2014 | |
| 15 | City of Boone | 5/1/2014 | |
| 16 | City of Cedar Falls | 5/1/2014 | |
| 17 | City of Iowa City | 5/1/2014 | Currently conducting total nitrogen removal |
| 18 | City of Red Oak | 5/1/2014 | |
| 19 | City of West Burlington | 5/1/2014 | |
| 20 | City of Winterset | 5/1/2014 | |
| 21 | Walter Scott, Jr. Energy Center - Council Bluffs | 5/14/2014 | |
| 22 | Swiss Valley Farms - Luana | 6/1/2014 | |
| 23 | Climax Molybdenum Company - Fort Madison | 7/1/2014 | |

| # | Facility/Location | Issued Date | Status |
|----|------------------------------------|-------------|---|
| 24 | City of Davenport | 8/1/2014 | |
| 25 | City of Waukeee | 8/1/2014 | Scheduled to connect to the Des Moines WRA by January 1, 2019 |
| 26 | City of Charles City | 9/1/2014 | |
| 27 | City of Cherokee | 9/1/2014 | |
| 28 | City of Eldora | 9/1/2014 | |
| 29 | John Deere Dubuque Works | 9/1/2014 | |
| 30 | City of Adel | 10/1/2014 | |
| 31 | City of Greenfield | 10/1/2014 | |
| 32 | City of Newton | 10/1/2014 | |
| 33 | City of Eagle Grove | 11/1/2014 | |
| 34 | Iowa Fertilizer Company – Wever | 11/1/2014 | |
| 35 | City of Anamosa | 12/1/2014 | |
| 36 | City of Oelwein | 12/1/2014 | |
| 37 | City of Council Bluffs | 1/1/2015 | |
| 38 | City of Forest City | 1/1/2015 | |
| 39 | Iowa Premium Beef – Tama | 1/1/2015 | |
| 40 | City of Muscatine | 1/1/2015 | |
| 41 | Tyson Fresh Meats - Storm Lake | 1/1/2015 | |
| 42 | City of Waverly | 1/1/2015 | |
| 43 | City of Vinton | 2/1/2015 | |
| 44 | City of Fort Dodge | 3/1/2015 | |
| 45 | City of Iowa Falls | 3/1/2015 | |
| 46 | City of Maquoketa | 3/1/2015 | |
| 47 | City of Mount Vernon | 3/1/2015 | |
| 48 | City of Estherville | 4/1/2015 | |
| 49 | City of Independence | 4/1/2015 | |
| 50 | City of Sioux City | 4/1/2015 | |
| 51 | IP&L Burlington Generating Station | 5/1/2015 | |
| 52 | Lime Springs Beef - Lime Springs | 5/1/2015 | |
| 53 | City of Montezuma | 5/1/2015 | |
| 54 | City of Coralville | 6/1/2015 | |

| # | Facility/Location | Issued Date | Status |
|----|---------------------------------------|-------------|--------|
| 55 | City of Emmetsburg | 6/1/2015 | |
| 56 | Associated Milk Producers – Arlington | 7/1/2015 | |
| 57 | City of Creston | 7/1/2015 | |
| 58 | City of Knoxville | 7/1/2015 | |
| 59 | Pinnacle Foods Group – Fort Madison | 7/1/2015 | |
| 60 | City of Humboldt | 8/1/2015 | |
| 61 | Iowa Great Lakes Sanitary District | 8/1/2015 | |
| 62 | City of Sioux Center | 8/1/2015 | |
| 63 | CF Industries Nitrogen – Port Neal | 9/1/2015 | |

*Bolded facilities mean these are newly issued permits since the last report to the WRCC.

Draft Permits on Public Notice

| # | Facility/Location | Noticed Date | Status |
|---|-----------------------------|--------------|--------|
| 1 | City of Britt | 7/21/2015 | |
| 2 | City of Jefferson | 7/6/2015 | |
| 3 | Des Moines Metropolitan WRF | 8/26/2015 | |
| 4 | City of Sheldon | 7/25/2015 | |

*Bolded facilities mean these are newly noticed permit renewals since the last report to the WRCC.

Updates/Closed

| # | Facility/Location | Date | Status |
|---|--|----------------|---|
| 1 | City of Ankeny | January 2014 | Sewer connected to Des Moines WRA. NPDES permit closed on 1/6/2014. |
| 2 | City of Bloomfield | March 2015 | Facility was rerated and is no longer a Major facility as of 3/30/2015. Facility removed from Strategy list. |
| 3 | Sioux Preme Packing Company - Sioux City | May 2015 | Signed consent decree with Attorney General. They were issued an operation permit for land application only on 5/1/2015 and the facility has been removed from the Strategy list. |
| 4 | Kalona Cheese (formerly Twin Counties Dairy) | September 2015 | The facility has elected to operate under a total retention operation permit while they decide to either proceed with a land application permit or an NPDES permit. |

If there any questions on this report or suggestions for improvements, please contact Adam Schnieders at 515.725.8403 or adam.schnieders@dnr.iowa.gov.

2015 - Suspected Cases of Microcystin (Harmful Algal Bloom) Poisoning

| Date | Location | Symptoms |
|---------------------------|-------------------|---|
| Sunday, June 28, 2015 | Green Valley Lake | Runny nose, diarrhea |
| Friday, July 03, 2015 | North Twin Lake | Severe abdominal pain, diarrhea |
| Friday, July 03, 2015 | Black Hawk Lake | Blisters on chest, rear, and leg; headache, nausea |
| Friday, July 03, 2015 | Peterson Pits | Shortness of breath, allergic reaction |
| Saturday, August 01, 2015 | Pine Lake | Trouble breathing, dizziness, tired, abdominal pain |
| Saturday, August 01, 2015 | Pine Lake | Trouble breathing, dizziness, tired, abdominal pain |
| Saturday, August 15, 2015 | Lake Wapello | Headache, rash on face and torso and vomiting |
| Saturday, August 15, 2015 | Rathbun Reservoir | Nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, headache, weasling, confusion |

2015 - Elevated Microcystin Levels at Iowa Lakes

| Date (Week Of) | Location |
|----------------|--|
| 6/1/2015 | Lake Darling |
| 6/8/2015 | Big Creek |
| 6/15/2015 | Black Hawk Lake, Pine Lake |
| 6/22/2015 | Red Haw Lake |
| 6/29/2015 | Black Hawk Lake, Geode Lake, Green Valley Lake, Lake of Three Fires, Union Grove Lake |
| 7/6/2015 | Black Hawk Lake, Pine Lake, North Twin Lake |
| 7/20/2015 | Green Valley Lake, Pine Lake, Saylorville Reservoir |
| 7/27/2015 | Green Valley Lake, Black Hawk Lake |
| 8/3/2015 | Green Valley Lake, Black Hawk Lake, Lake Wapello, Springbrook Park Lake, Saylorville Reservoir |
| 8/10/2015 | Green Valley Lake, Black Hawk Lake, Rathbun Reservoir, Saylorville Reservoir |
| 8/17/2015 | Green Valley Lake, Black Hawk Lake |
| 8/24/2015 | Green Valley Lake |
| 8/31/2015 | Lake Wapello, Big Spirit Lake, Pleasant Creek Lake, Lake of Three Fires, Green Valley Lake, Lake Darling |

WRCC

Friday, September 11, 2015 @ 9AM

Iowa State Capitol, Room 203

Follow up to November 2014 visit from the Bridge Team – Discussed a pilot study conducted in two Iowa river basins - the Cedar River Basin and the South Skunk River Basin - to evaluate strengths and weaknesses of technology to produce scenarios of future flood conditions.

Iowa's Bridge and Highway Climate Change and Extreme Weather Vulnerability Assessment Pilot

- Goal – To develop the necessary building blocks of an interactive and proactive planning process for maintenance, repair, and replacement of Iowa's primary highway structures.

Sponsors - Iowa DOT and FHWA

- Principal Investigators
 - Gene Takle, Director, Climate Science Program, ISU
 - Chris Anderson – Assistant Director, Climate Science Program, ISU
- Contributor
 - Ricardo Mantilla – Assistant Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering, UofI
 - Iowa Flood Center

Published in March 2015

- 6 – Key Findings
- 8 – Project Successes and Accomplishments
- 4 – Planned and Anticipated Next Steps

Follow up to June 2015 conversation from DOT – Discussed looking into funding opportunities at the DOT for water quality related projects.

DOT Office of Systems Planning Grant Team

- Manages a number of grants, one of which is the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).
 - Stormwater projects are eligible – no projects yet with that primary focus.
 - Some project elements (Dubuque trailhead and sidewalk project):
 - Permeable pavement
 - Nutrient separating baffle box
 - Eligibility Criteria - Any environmental mitigation activity, including pollution prevention and pollution abatement activities and mitigation to:
 - Address stormwater management, control, and water pollution prevention or abatement related to highway construction or due to highway runoff.
- OSP allowed green/permeable elements on regular projects based on engineering judgment.
- I have a couple more rocks to turn over.