

Water Resources Coordinating Council

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

Meeting Notes

Call to Order and Virtual Meeting Logistics

The meeting was called to order at 1:32 PM. Virtual meeting logistics were briefly discussed. There were a total of 22 participants in the meeting.

WRCC Agency Updates (All)

IEDA (Geerts)- In October there were 9 CDBG Water/Sewer awards made for water and sanitary sewer projects. Awards totaled \$3.3 million with \$7.7 million in match. Next round of applications is due January 1, 2023. Currently launching CDBG disaster recovery programs to provide housing and infrastructure relief for recent federal disaster declarations. Also working to continue 2019 disaster recovery housing projects in southwest Iowa.

DOT (Solberg)- Limited update. Marc Solberg is new WRCC representative. DOT has completed new interstate bridges in Quad Cities and are now working to demolish old bridges. Also continuing to work on flood resiliency projects along Interstate 29 in southwest Iowa, including work to connect roads with levee improvements in Hamburg area.

USGS (Nania)- Streamflows are significantly lower than normal statewide along the Des Moines River, with closer to normal flows on border rivers. 2 PFAS studies are ongoing across the state, including a study in conjunction with University of Iowa and Iowa DNR. Studies will be published very soon. Also asking hunters to submit deer waste in order to analyze potential presence of PFAS in deer tissue.

ISU Extension (Helmert)- Scheduling ICM meetings over the winter. INREC studies will be discussed here as well as during crop advantage meetings. Iowa Learning Farms webinars and virtual field days are also ongoing and can be scheduled.

USACE (Brown)- Work ongoing on Walker wetland at Rathbun in partnership with DNR and IDALS among other agencies. Also working on some shoreline stabilization. Rathbun is about half a foot lower than normal. Not alarming yet but worth mention.

DNR (McDaniel)- Introduced Katie Greenstein as new water quality monitoring supervisor, who replaced the late Roger Bruner. First round of loan forgiveness projects under SRF is underway. Working to help buy down projects in disadvantaged communities. Also working on PFAS and lead service line projects, working to identify projects impacted by PFAS. 11 facilities identified so far looking at reduction projects. EPA will release draft MCL for PFAS later this Winter.

IDALS (Kozak)- Update is attached to meeting notes.

Abandoned Mine Land Program Overview

Vince Sitzmann, IDALS Mines and Minerals Bureau Chief, gave a presentation on the Abandoned Mine Land reclamation program hosted within IDALS. A copy of the presentation can be found on the WRCC website.

WPAC Annual Report

John Whitaker, Conservation Districts of Iowa and WPAC Chairperson, presented the annual report of the Watershed Planning Advisory Council. The report will also be presented to the Legislature. A copy of the annual report is posted on the WPAC website.

Public Comments (Please contain comment length to 3 minutes per person)

Luke Hoffmann, Iowa Rivers Revival, addressed the Council and introduced himself as the new executive director of Iowa Rivers Revival. IRR is working with DNR on toolbox training to work with practitioners and contractors on river restoration practice training.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 PM. The next meeting will be scheduled for late February or early March and will be held in a hybrid format with in-person attendance available at the Wallace Building.

	WRCC Representative	Position	Organization
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1 Mike Naig	Secretary (WRCC Chair)	Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 Kim Reynolds <i>Nate Ristow</i>	Governor <i>Designee</i>	Governor's Office Governor's Office
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3 Kayla Lyon <i>Adam Schneiders (Lori McDaniel)</i>	Director <i>Designee</i>	Iowa Department of Natural Resources Iowa Department of Natural Resources
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4 Susan Kozak <i>Jake Hansen</i>	Director <i>Designee</i>	IDALS - Division of Soil Conservation & Water Quality IDALS - Division of Soil Conservation & Water Quality
<input type="checkbox"/>	5 Kelly Garcia <i>Kenneth Sharp</i>	Director <i>Designee</i>	IA Department of Public Health IA Department of Public Health
<input type="checkbox"/>	6 John Benson <i>Larry Giofreddi (Jim Marwedel)</i>	Acting Director <i>Designee</i>	Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	7 Dan Robison <i>Jamie Benning (Matt Helmers)</i>	Dean <i>Designee</i>	College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, ISU College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, ISU
<input type="checkbox"/>	8 Edith Parker <i>Tom Peters</i>	Dean <i>Designee</i>	College of Public Health, University of Iowa College of Public Health, University of Iowa
<input type="checkbox"/>	9 John Fritsch <i>Maureen Clayton</i>	Dean <i>Designee</i>	College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences, UNI College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences, UNI
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	10 Scott Marler <i>Marc Solberg</i>	Director <i>Designee</i>	Iowa Department of Transportation Iowa Department of Transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	11 Debi Durham <i>Jeff Geerts</i>	Director <i>Designee</i>	Iowa Economic Development Authority Iowa Economic Development Authority
<input type="checkbox"/>	12 Debi Durham <i>Tony Toigo</i>	Executive Director <i>Designee</i>	Iowa Finance Authority Iowa Finance Authority
<input type="checkbox"/>	13 Alec Scranton <i>Larry Weber (Kate Gianinni)</i>	Dean <i>Designee</i>	College of Engineering, University of Iowa College of Engineering, University of Iowa
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	14 Jon Nania <i>Paul Rydlund</i>	Director <i>Designee</i>	USGS, Iowa-Illinois Water Science Center USGS, Iowa-Illinois Water Science Center
<input type="checkbox"/>	15 Jon Hubbert <i>Scott Cagle</i>	State Conservationist <i>Designee</i>	USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service
<input type="checkbox"/>	16 Matt Russell	State Executive Director	USDA, Farm Service Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	17 Theresa Greenfield <i>Kate Sand</i>	State Director <i>Designee</i>	USDA, Rural Development USDA, Rural Development
<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Meg McCollister <i>Edward Chu (Doug Jones)</i>	Regional Administrator <i>Designee</i>	EPA-Region 7 EPA-Region 7
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	19 Colonel Jesse Curry <i>Jason Smith</i> <i>Philip Brown</i>	Rock Island District Commander <i>Designee</i> <i>Designee</i>	US Army Corps of Engineers Rock Island District US Army Corps of Engineers Rock Island District US Army Corps of Engineers
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Jeff Zogg</i>	<i>Designee</i>	National Weather Service