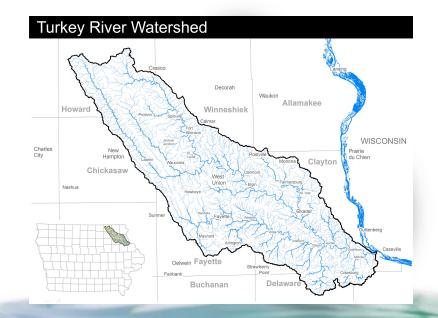
## Turkey River Watershed Management Authority

Gary Bowden Chairman Clayton County Board of Supervisors



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#### **Turkey River Watershed**



#### HF 2459 Watershed Legislation April 7, 2010

Provisions added to the Iowa Code 466B, the Surface Water Protection and Flood Mitigation Act

- 1. (State) Watershed Planning Advisory Committee
- 2. Watershed Management Authorities
- 3. Watershed Demonstration Pilot Projects (through the Iowa Flood Center)

According to the Rebuild Iowa Office Wallace State Office Building

#### What is a Watershed Management Authority?

- A *formal* partnership between local, special-purpose unit of government.
- Works to solve and prevent waterrelated problems.
- Boundaries are defined by the watershed rather than political subdivision.



#### Why Create a Watershed Management Authority?

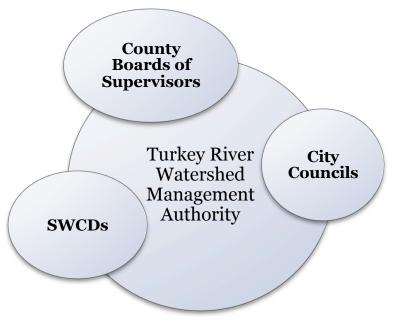
- Water management problems are greater than one community or city can handle.
- Local citizens, county boards or cities request them.
- They allow for uniform, effective actions or controls, to correct and prevent problems.



#### Why Create a TRW Management Authority?

- State & federal money available for work in WMAs.
- Iowa Legislature passed legislation to encourage the formation of WMAs.
- Iowa Economic Development Authority selected
  6 watersheds, including the Turkey River
  Watershed as pilots for Iowa WMA
  development.

- Iowa Watershed Management Authorities MUST...
  - *Invite all* cities, counties and SWCDs to participate.
  - Be created pursuant to a chapter *28e agreement* between a minimum of two
    political subdivisions from the same
    watershed.
  - Be governed by a *Board of Directors* made up of appointed representatives of
    the participating political subdivisions.



# Watershed Management Authorities *MAY*...

- Assess flood risk.
- Assess water quality.
- Assess options for reducing flood risk and improving water quality.
- Monitor federal flood risk and improving water quality.
- Educate residents of the watershed area regarding water quality and flood risks.



#### Watershed Management Authorities **MAY**...

- Allocate moneys made available to the authority for water quality and flood mitigation.
- Make and enter into contracts and agreements.
- Coordinate activities with DNR, IDALS, the COG, public drinking water utilities and SWCDs.



- Watershed Management Authorities...
  - Entities can be involved in more than one WMA.
  - *Cannot* acquire property by eminent domain.
  - Political subdivisions *are not required* to participate.



- The Authority must be governed by a Board of Directors
  - $_{\circ}~$  Members of the board will be divided among the political subdivisions.
  - Each Board Director must be appointed by their respective political subdivisions (*elected* legislative body).
  - One representative from each participating political subdivision *unless* the 28e agreement provides an alternative composition method.
  - Board shall adopt bylaws, elect a chairperson, vice chairperson and appoint a secretary.

#### Turkey River Watershed Management Authority

- Initiated by Clayton County Board of Supervisors on behalf of the Turkey River Watershed.
- Complements ongoing efforts of the Turkey River Watershed Alliance.
- No upfront cost to join the Authority.
- Once TRWMA is formed it can apply to the Iowa Economic Development Authority for funding to develop a TRWMA Plan.
- Once the TRWMA has a Plan they can apply to the Iowa Economic Development Authority for funding to implement that plan.
- Future costs will be determined by the TRWMA Board.

Your Timeline for Development of the TRWMA

> Boards/Councils Review Draft 28e

May

Boards/Councils Discuss TRWMA Appoint Rep April Boards/Councils Approve Final 28e and 28e is filed

June

## **Upcoming Meetings**

# April 26, 1–3 pm

May 31, 1–3 pm

## Looking Ahead

- Inform your Boards and be ready to make a decision regarding participation.
- Appoint a Representative.
- Meetings will be the last Thursday of the month.
- Be prepared to review the 28e with your Boards in May and sign it in June.



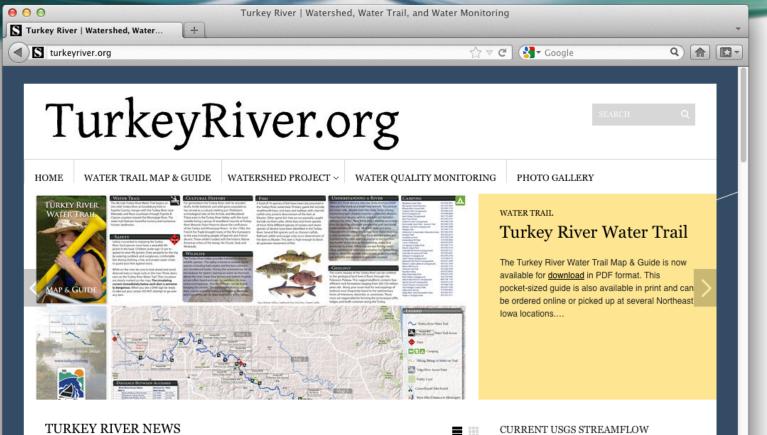
#### Turkey River Watershed Alliance

- Formed in 2010.
- An *informal collaborative* of nearly twenty private and public organizations including four SWCDs, four counties, Iowa DNR and Iowa NRCS.
- Initiated by Northeast Iowa RC&D with a grant from the McKnight Foundation.
- **Goal**: to conduct research and gather information that will allow the SWCDs to secure grants and funding to implement sub-watershed projects that will improve water quality and reduce flooding in the Turkey River Watershed.



#### Turkey River Watershed Alliance

- *Monitor 49 sites* in the watershed monthly.
- Conduct GIS and hydrologic analysis of the TRW.
- Partner with entities from outside the watershed to complete events and promote conservation education in the watershed.
- Will continue to work as partners in and with the TRWMA either as members or as technical support.
- They have more information available at <u>www.turkeyriver.org</u>.



EVENTS / ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN THE WATERSHED

#### Turkey River Watershed Management Authority Formational Meeting – March 29th

bu BRAD on Mar 23, 2012

Thursday March 29th, 2012 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Postville YMCA Community Room (Directions) The Turkey River Watershed was one of six watersheds in the state selected to establish a Turkey River Watershed Management Authority! This is a great honor and a useful tool; it also draws statewide attention to our watershed. A Turkey ...

#### CURRENT USGS STREAMFLOW

Site Name	Streamflow ft <sup>3</sup> /sec
Turkey River at Spillville, IA	58
Turkey River near Eldorado,	<u>A</u> 210
Turkey River at Elkader, IA	344
Turkey River at Garber, IA	1,110
Volga River at Littleport, IA	298

#### RECENT POSTS

Turkey River Watershed Management Authority Formational Meeting - March 29th

Mar 23, 2012

#### Input on Board Structure

- Is there an optimum size for the TRWMA Board?
- How do we allow participation for all without compromising functionality? Is a rotation needed? Do you form with authority to change the make-up of the Board? Do you meet with all annually and have an executive committee?
- How does the Board interact with and get input from the "Boots-on-the-Ground," partners, researchers?
- Should the TRWMA have a Technical Advisory Committee?
- How often should the Board meet?
- Length of Board terms?

## Looking Ahead

- Inform your Boards in April and be ready to make a decision regarding participation.
- Appoint a Representative.
- Meetings will be the last Thursday of the month.
- Be prepared to review and comment on the Draft 28e with your Boards in May and sign on in June.

