

TURKEY RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1:00 pm Thursday, September 29th, 2016

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

The regular meeting of the Turkey River Watershed Management Authority Board of Directors was called to order at 1:15 pm on September 29th, 2016 at the YMCA in Postville, Iowa.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gerry Ommen, Clayton County SWCD
Jennifer Cowsert, City of Elkader
Rhonda Dales, City of Elgin
Dwayne Hauber, Winneshiek SWCD
Dustin Schott, City of Arlington
Rick Holthaus, Chickasaw County

Bill Bennett, Fayette County SWCD
Ron McCartney, Clayton County
Dwayne Hauber, Winneshiek SWCD
Jim Reicks, Chickasaw SWCD
Kristin Klingman, City of Volga
Jan McGovern, Howard County

Rod Marlatt, Fayette County
Eric Boehm, City of Wadena
Jack Knight, Allamakee SWCD
Corey Meyer, City of Calmar
Marlene Klemp, City of Waucoma

*Phone

***APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

****MOVED BY BENNETT, SECONDED BY MEYER, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
TO APPROVE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.**

***APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JUNE 30TH, 2016**

****MOVED BY OMMEN, SECONDED BY COWSERT, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:
TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM JUNE 30TH, 2016 AS PRESENTED.**

***OLD BUSINESS**

- Grant Updates – Ross Evelsizer from Northeast Iowa RC&D updated the Board on two grants that are in progress.
 - AgSolver Profit Zone Manager Project – Northeast Iowa RC&D and the Iowa Soybean Association are working with producers to improve return of investment and conservation with producers in the TRW. The project is still adding producers to participate in the project. Interested producers can contact Ross Evelsizer at RC&D.
 - NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant – Evelsizer presented posters developed through the NRCS CIG grant. The posters highlight different conservation practices being practiced in the TRW by producers through photographs gathered by RC&D and a professional photographer. The posters have been distributed to local Co-Ops as an education tool.
- Summary of Accomplishments – Evelsizer presented a summary of accomplishments by the TRW since its inception in 2012. Most of this period was spent in the planning phase of the project, culminating in the Watershed Resiliency Plan in 2016. It is now the responsibility of the members and partners of the TRWMA to implement the plan.

***NEW BUSINESS**

- Flood Damage Reports – Winneshiek County reported \$1.3 million, Fayette County reported \$30,000, Chickasaw County reported \$200,000, Howard County reported \$300,000, and Clayton County reported \$50,000 in damages to county road infrastructure. Each of these counties had damages to public and private infrastructure as well. The Turkey River set a new record for flood height at the USGS gauge located in Spillville.
- Otter Creek Final Report – Antonio Arenas presented the results for the Iowa Watersheds Project Phase II report for Otter Creek. The Iowa Flood Center used two different models to simulate rainfall on the Otter Creek Watershed and the hydrologic response to rainfall with and without flood reduction structures. Overall, 29 structures are being constructed in the Otter Creek Watershed to reduce discharge. Arenas reported that each structure has a discharge reduction of between 35 and 90 percent immediately downstream of the structure. Many of the detention structures were positioned lower in the Otter Creek Watershed and Arenas reported that additional structures in the uppermost portions of the watershed (west of West Union) could have a significant impact on further reducing discharge.
- Next Steps Discussion – TRWMA Board Chair Rod Marlatt emphasized the need for continued cooperation between TRWMA partners to implement the Watershed Resiliency Plan and posed the question of how to keep partners engaged. Jan McGovern (Howard County) recommended reconvening committees that were developed as part of the planning process to continue meeting and sharing ideas and coordinate implementation efforts.

***ADJOURNMENT AT 2:30 PM**

****MOVED BY KNIGHT, SECONDED BY BENNETT, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:
TO ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING AT 2:30 PM**

*******The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday February 23rd, 2017, at 1:00 PM at the Postville YMCA*******