

TURKEY RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1:00 pm Thursday, June 27th, 2019

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

The regular meeting of the Turkey River Watershed Management Authority Board of Directors was called to order at 1:00 pm on June 27th, 2019 at Northeast Iowa RC&D in Postville, Iowa.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bill Bennett, Fayette County SWCD
Eric Boehm, City of Wadena
Jerry Stevens, Howard County
Ray Peterson, Clayton County

Rod Marlatt, Fayette County
Ron Hills, City of Elgin
Jason Byrne, City of Lawler
Gerry Ommen, City of Elkader

Jon Biederman, City of Fayette
John Beard, Winneshiek County
Jason Byrne, Chickasaw County
Gerry Ommen, Clayton SWCD

*Phone

***APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

***APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 28TH, 2019**

****MOVED BY BOEHM, SECONDED BY PETERSON, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:
TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM MARCH 28TH, 2019 AS PRESENTED.**

***OLD BUSINESS**

- TRW Watershed Coordinator – Rod Marlatt reminded the board that each TRWMA entity was asked to contribute \$250 with a goal of raising \$6,000 for coordination in 2019. Many contributions have already been received with many other entities indicating they had included the donation in the 2019 budget cycle. RC&D will invoice entities that approved the donation but need an invoice for accounting purposes.
- County On-Road Policy Update – Rod Marlatt briefly reminded the board to continue to utilize on-road detention projects as a way to reduce flooding problems in the TRW. Winneshiek County Supervisor John Beard reported that the Winneshiek County Engineer is utilizing on-road structures in areas of the Upper Iowa Watershed as part of the Iowa Watershed Approach project.

***NEW BUSINESS**

- Statewide WMA Meeting 5/4/2019 – Rod Marlatt and Ross Evelsizer (RC&D) updated the board on the Statewide WMA meeting held on May 4th. They heard updates from other WMAs and WMA coordinators from around the state. There are currently 26 watershed management authorities formed in the State of Iowa. Other topics of discussion included representatives from the state watershed panel, discussion of board leadership/education, and a presentation about rural/urban partnerships from Adam Kiel of the Iowa Soybean Association.
- EWP-FPE – Rod Marlatt reported to the board that because of the massive floods impacting the state during the late winter/early spring, particularly the Missouri River, that the Emergency Wetland Program – Floodplain Easement is likely to be available to landowners in the near future. The program pays landowners to set aside property directly adjacent to rivers that is prone to flooding.
- Multi-Cropping Iowa and ties to the TRW – Ross Evelsizer, RC&D talked briefly about the multi-cropping Iowa project with the board. RC&D is working on a project to study the ecologic and economic benefits of multi-cropping. A dozen producers grew trial plots of relay-crops with a small grain and soybeans in 2019. Luther College students helped with soil sampling to measure soil health conditions. Economic field data is being tracked by RC&D to understand the potential of multi-cropping and increased economic potential. Evelsizer showed the board that recent modelling by the Iowa Flood Center shows that increases in soil health can have a drastic impact on runoff during heavy rainfall events. Because the TRW has approximately a half of a million acres of agricultural land, particularly in the upper part of the watershed, the flood reduction and water quality benefit potential is significant.

***ADJOURNMENT AT 2:00 PM**

****MOVED BY OMMEN, SECONDED BY BOEHM, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:
TO ADJUORN REGULAR MEETING AT 2:00PM**

*******The next meeting (including the annual meeting) is scheduled for Thursday September 26th, 2019, at 1:00 PM at the Northeast Iowa RC&D. *******