

TURKEY RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1:00 pm Thursday, February 2nd, 2023

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

The regular and annual meeting of the Turkey River Watershed Management Authority Board of Directors was called to order at 1:00 pm on February 2nd, 2023 at Northeast Iowa RC&D.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rod Marlatt, Fayette County
Paul Hoeger, City of Maynard
Jack Knight, Allamakee SWCD
Mark Vick, Winneshiek County

*Jennifer Cowser, City of Elkader
Jon Biederman, City of Fayette
Jon Biederman, City of West Union
Eric Boehm, City of Wadena

Eric Palas, Clayton SWCD
Bill Bennett, Fayette SWCD
Matt Frana, Winneshiek SWCD
Steve Lueken, Delaware SWCD

*Virtual

***APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

****MOVED BY HOEGER, SECONDED BY VICK, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
TO APPROVE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.**

***APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 8TH, 2022**

****MOVED BY KNIGHT, SECONDED BY BENNETT, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:
TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 8TH, 2022 AS PRESENTED.**

***REGULAR BUSINESS**

- County On-Road Policy Update – Rod Marlatt discussed the need for counties to continue to push to get on-road structures installed in the watershed. Ross Evelsizer updated the board that the IDNR and Iowa Flood Center are working on an analysis of the economic impact of on-road structures and mapping out potential locations. Dataset of on-road structures has not been published yet but will be available soon.
- Midwest River Expeditions – Ross Evelsizer – Ross Evelsizer informed updated the board that watershed boundary signs for the TRW are installed in six locations around the watershed. Evelsizer also reported there are now 8 total signs installed.
- OVPR Project – Kate Giannini, Iowa Flood Center – Kate reported progress in the OVPR project which is coordinated with they RC&D. The grant activities are outlined as follows:
 - The TRWMA received a \$5,000 honoraria for the grant and discussed ways to use the honoraria for outreach. Additional signage was discussed along with an educational cartoon.
****MOVED BY KNIGHT, SECONDED BY BENNETT, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: TO USE THE HONORARIA FUNDS OF \$5,000 FOR CREATION OF A WATERSHED EDUCATION CARTOON.**
 - Workshops for landowners and residents are scheduled for March 14th in West Union, March 22nd in Elkader, and April 3rd in Cresco. The meetings will be open house for people to come learn more about the WMA and provide feedback and stories for how they value the watershed and how they've been impacted by flooding.
 - Landowner survey – RC&D is preparing to send a survey to 1,500 TRW residents and landowners. The survey will ask about flood impacts, watershed knowledge, water quality concerns, and general demographics. Recipients will be able to fill out the survey online or return the paper copy.
 - Flood stories – A forum is now in place to collect watershed stories from residents and board members. The goal of the stories is to learn how people use the TRW and how flooding or other impacts have changed the watershed.
- TRWMA Coordinator Update – Ross Evelsizer updated the board on various activities of the coordinator over the past few months. A letter requesting voluntary donations for the WMA board was sent out in January. Funds received allow RC&D to coordinate the TRWMA activities, facilitate meetings, and apply for grant funding. Evelsizer reported a Iowa DNR signage grant received in 2022 is in progress. The grant will pay for 8 additional watershed boundary signs to be installed along county roads in Fayette County. Installation is expected in early spring.

***ADJOURNMENT AT 2:15 PM**

****MOVED BY VICK, SECONDED BY HOEGER, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:
TO ADJUORN REGULAR MEETING AT 2:15PM**