

TURKEY RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS
11:00 am Thursday, August 15th, 2024
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

The regular of the Turkey River Watershed Management Authority Board of Directors was called to order at 1:00 PM on August 15th, 2023 at Northeast Iowa RC&D.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rod Marlatt, Fayette County	Jennifer Cowsert, City of Elkader	Gerry Ommen, Clayton SWCD
Jon Biederman, City of Fayette	Jon Biederman, City of West Union	Dave Tilkes, Chickasaw County
Ray Peterson, Clayton County	Dean Eastman, Howard County	Jack Knight, Allamakee SWCD
Kristin Klingman, City of Volga	Jon Lubke, Winneshiek SWCD	Mark Vick, Winneshiek County

*Virtual

***APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

****MOVED BY PETERSON, SECONDED BY KIGHT, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
TO APPROVE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.**

***APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 14TH, 2024**

****MOVED BY COWSERT, SECONDED BY PETERSON, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:
TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 14TH, 2024 AS PRESENTED.**

REGULAR BUSINESS

- State On-Road Structure Analysis – Antonio Arenas, Assistant Professor – Iowa State University, discussed a research project involving the Iowa DOT, ISU, and Iowa Flood Center. The study identified potential on road structures for the entire state and analyzed associated runoff reductions at the watershed scale and for each structure in some cases. The information is available at: <https://hydroinformatics.uiowa.edu/lab/idot-ors/> The continued development of on road structures assists counties and WMAs to work toward a distributed network of storage in watersheds to help mitigate flood impacts.
- Spillville Farmer to Farmer Grant – Matt Frana with Winneshiek SWCD, updated the board regarding the Iowa DNR’s Underserved Farmers and Farmer Communities program received by RC&D. The grant will help the community of Spillville investigate their source water quality and well integrity, as well as implement water quality projects in the Wonder Creek Watershed. RC&D holds the grant in partnership with the Winneshiek SWCD. Frana reported that the Iowa Geologic Survey is currently working on a well analysis to determine the source water capture area and potential influencing factors for the community’s drinking water. There are also several conservation practices in the works. The project is offering 50% up to \$5,000 for septic projects in the Wonder Creek Watershed which feeds to Wonder Creek and eventually the Turkey River.
- RCPP- 2024 Applications – Ross Eversizer discussed a funding opportunity through USDA called the Regional Conservation Partnership Program. The program allows applications for up to \$25M for conservation oriented projects. Eversizer reported that Northeast Iowa RC&D is assisting with 2 applications for the upcoming cycle, one through RC&D in partnership with the Iowa Flood Center and a second application through NICC.
- WMA Coordinator Funding – Rod Marlatt discussed the continued need for coordinator funding and there was a discussion regarding raising the contributions to match other surrounding watersheds. No action was taken.
- TRWMA Coordinator Update
 - American Flood Coalition Visit – Rod Marlatt and Ross Eversizer recapped a visit with representative with the American Flood Coalition (AFC). This group is interested in the projects completed in the Turkey River Watershed and surrounding area in regards to

flood mitigation. They work with state and national legislators to develop strategies and funding for sustainable flood mitigation practices across the US.

- Water Loop –Evelsizer reported an upcoming podcast/video feature of the multi-cropping Iowa Project by the Water Loop Podcast. The release date is early 2025 and will feature video and interviews from the area.
- WMA Legislative Day/ Iowa Flood Center Breakfast – Evelsizer recapped two visits to the capitol in Des Moines to meet with law makers and discuss support for WMAs and the Iowa Flood Center.
- Schedule next meeting – **THE NEXT WMA MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 3rd AT 1PM AT THE NORTHEAST IOWA RC&D OFFICE IN POSTVILLE.**

***ADJOURNMENT AT 2:00 PM**

****MOVED BY PETERSON, SECONDED BY BIEDERMAN, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:
TO ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING AT 2:00PM**