

WALNUT CREEK WATERSHED



Walnut Creek Watershed Management Authority Board Meeting

8:00 - 9:30, June 23

West Des Moines City Hall

MINUTES

WMA Members Present:

John Schultz, Dallas County Soil & Water Conservation District
Jane Clark, Polk County Soil & Water Conservation District
Jennifer Welch, Polk County Soil & Water Conservation District
Bob Rice, Polk County
Rich Leopold, Polk County Conservation
Susan Judkins, City of Clive
Doug Ollendike, City of Clive
John Grade, City of Grimes
David Wilwerding, City of Johnston
David Russell, City of Urbandale
Dave McKay, City of Urbandale
Brad Deets, City of Waukee
Tom Hadden, City of West Des Moines
Ben McAlister, City of West Des Moines
Darren Fife, City of Windsor Heights

Others Present:

Kyle Ament, DNR
Clifford Leonard
Ryan Peterson, RDG
Greg Pierce, RDG
Pat Boddy, RDG
Mark Land, Synder and Associates
Dan Pritchard, City of Des Moines
Scott Hutchens, City of Des Moines
Sean McMahon, Iowa Ag Water Alliance

MPO Staff Present:

Todd Ashby, Executive Director
Teva Dawson, Senior Transportation Planner

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:02.
2. All present introduced themselves.
3. The agenda was approved.
4. Tom provided an update regarding the MPO and Polk Soil and Water Conservation District's proposal to support the individual WMAs as well as developing a council of WMAs for the region. This coordination support will help with basic on-going needs of each of the WMAs for meeting facilitation, planning, implementation and assessment.
5. Emerging themes that resulted from the facilitated discussion with stakeholders and the open house:
 - See attached powerpoint.

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- Feedback included: flood mitigation higher priority when post flooding event; opportunities to connect cities regionally through implementation projects; connect more with recreational opportunities; and corridors important including wildlife corridors
 - Themes from the ag focus group include: farmers want to do more for water quality; have concerns about most cost effective strategies; they are willing and interested but unsure of what to do; had not seen nutrient reduction strategies; want to be engaged with the development of the science/assessment; they want to be able to trust the source of the data; want to work more closely with urban stakeholders including more tours; concerned about Water Works lawsuit; and absentee landlords will be a challenge.
 - Also want to see the discussion of the I-WILL and other state funding strategies integrated into the document; WMAs need to advocate for funding on a state level; a rep from the Iowa Ag Water Alliance spoke about the Regional Conservation Partnership Program as potential funding sources
6. Goals and strategic direction based on emerging themes
- See attached powerpoint.
 - Feedback included flood mitigation as an important theme, several members had different ways to interpret this theme into a goal
 - Modeling pollutants of concern
7. Framework for modeling used to develop the action plan
- See attached powerpoint.
 - Consultants want to pick three subwatersheds to focus efforts for enhancements. Those three will be the only ones modeled.
 - Members wanted more time to review potential watersheds.