

WALNUT CREEK WATERSHED



Walnut Creek Watershed Management Authority Board Meeting

2:00 - 4:00 June 20, 2016 Windsor Heights Community Center

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
Angela Connolly, Polk County
Doug Ollendike, City of Clive
Susan Judkins, City of Clive
Dan Pritchard, City of Des Moines
Scott Hutchins, City of Des Moines
Steen Soupier, City of Grimes
David Wilwerding, City of Johnston
Andy Kass, City of Waukee
Rachel Conrad, City of Clive

Others Present:

Kyle Ament, Iowa DNR
Bethany Wilcoxon, Capital Crossroads
Clifford Leonard
Carol Miller, Polk County Farm Bureau
Jennifer Terry, Des Moines Water Works

Consultants Present

Greg Pierce, RDG
Mark Land, Snyder and Associates

MPO Staff Present:

Teva Dawson, Senior Planner

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:01.
2. Introductions were made.
3. The agenda was approved.
4. The minutes were approved.
5. Public Comment: there was no public comment
6. North Raccoon WMA (DNR):
Staff from the DNR talked about the formation of the North Raccoon River WMA. It is a HUC 8 and the Walnut Creek WMA is a subwatershed within that large watershed (see map below). The state has received federal funding to conduct watershed improvements. The DNR hopes the Walnut Creek WMA will support the DNR in its efforts to conduct outreach to upstream communities. This work will begin in July with informational meetings across the state beginning in the fall. It was recommended by a member of the group that part of this process should delineate for legislators what they can do to pass legislation to support watershed improvement work. IT was also asked if the Raccoon River master plan can support this work as well. The Walnut Creek WMA will continue to get updates from the DNR regarding this effort.
7. Executive Committee Make-up

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The departure of Tom Hadden creates a vacancy on the Executive Committee. Anyone with an interest in serving on the committee should let Susan Judkins know.

8. Council of WMA

The next meeting of the Council of WMAs is on July 14. Let Teva know if there is anything you

9. Update: Watershed Coordinator Position

Polk County staff indicated that they passed a resolution to approve the funding pending the contributions from the major communities are secure. Polk County Soil and Water Conservation District will begin staffing the WMAs when they receive this funding. This agreement is good for one year. This position will support all three regional WMAs in implementing their plans.

10. Vote: Approval of the Watershed Plan:

RDG reviewed some of the updates that were made to the plan since the last meeting – mainly the addition of more projects. They received a lot of good feedback from the member governments. They noted that projects recommended on private property do not commit the cities to the project. A question was raised as to their changes with the Floodplain Policy. It now reads that all communities should seek the 3' rule. RDG indicated this change was made to create consistency across the region. The WMA officially and unanimously endorsed the plan. See list below for those that officially represented each government jurisdiction in the vote.

11. Next Steps with the Watershed Plan

The Polk County Soil and Water Conservation District will support the WMA in implementation of the plan. RDG will see if they can help provide presentations to jurisdictions that bring the final plan to the elected officials. MPO will help house the data should communities need to access it in the future. The MPO will also issue a press release celebrating the adoption/completion of the plan. It is encouraged that each community take this back to their boards and councils for official endorsement. RDG will be following up with a one page summary of the plan and the high-level priorities.

12. Next meeting: TBD

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Official Representative for the June 20, 2016 Board Meeting

Des Moines	Scott Hutchinson
Dallas Center	
Dallas County SWCD	John Schaefer
Clive	Susan Juddins
Grimes	LeAnn
Johnston	Debra
Polk County	Angela
Polk County SWCD	Grace Clark
Polk CCB	Frank
Urbandale	
Waukee	Andy
West Des Moines	
Windsor Heights	