

Meeting Minutes
North Raccoon River Watershed Management Coalition Annual Meeting
Friday, April 9, 2021 at 10:00 am

The quarterly meeting of the NRRWMC was called to order at 10:06 am by chair Keri Navratil, city of Storm Lake. Roll call was completed with 18 members present via teleconference and proxy votes which does not represent a quorum (21 members needed for quorum). The acronym NRR in these minutes stands for the North Raccoon River watershed.

Election of Officers & Approval of Previous Minutes – Keri Navratil, Chair

On hold due to lack of quorum

Financial & Project Updates – Cara Elbert, NWIPDC and Kevin Griggs, WHKS-EOR Design Team

CARA, NWIPDC:

- Q1 2021 = \$43,837 spent, running total \$1,238,475 which is over 50%, which means we will be taking part in a public hearing

KEVIN & TYLER, EOR:

- Design is complete, environmental and floodplain reviews done on 4 projects
- Bid package is ready with one hold up due to an easement issue with a family trust
- 4 projects will be offered on one contract
- Lack of a watershed coordinator has meant little landowner outreach in the last few months
- Aiming for projects to be done between August 1 and September 1

By law changes – Keri Navratil, Chair

- Keri has reached out to member entities who signed the 28E agreement who have never attended a meeting to no avail. She asked for members and attendees who are interested in helping with outreach. Volunteers:
 - o Sean McMahon, Iowa Ag Water Alliance (IAWA)
 - o Alan Wedemeyer, Calhoun SWCD
 - o Mark Hanson, Dallas county
 - o Hillary Reed, city of Laurens
- The group discussed the process for members to withdraw. What may be needed to meet quorum is a change to the by-laws, but voting rights of membership is set by the 28E agreement itself. A by-laws subcommittee formed to explore legal requirements and draft language for the outreach committee. Volunteers:
 - o Neil Hamilton, Dallas SWCD
 - o Allen Bonini
 - o Kyle Ament, Iowa DNR
 - o Dean Schettler, Carroll county
 - o Sean McMahon, Iowa Ag Water Alliance

Watershed Coordinator Funding committee update – Keri Navratil, Chair

- The recently formed committee met to explore new grant opportunities for projects. One barrier is the coalition would need to identify who may be interested in acting as a grant recipient, sponsor or fiscal agent. Any member entity or 501c3 can act in this role. Buena Vista county held

this role for the IWA funds, and is not interested in serving in this role in the future. Possible volunteers:

- o Northwest Iowa Planning & Development Commission (NWIPDC)
- o Dallas SWCD
- o IAWA

Planning committee update – Keri Navratil, Chair

- It would help to have a list of priority projects by county to help identify future funding project opportunities. Members are (from October 2020 meeting):
 - o Sean McMahon, Iowa Ag Water Alliance
 - o Kyle Ament, Iowa DNR
 - o Kevin Griggs, Boone county
 - o Mark Hanson, Dallas county
 - o Jim Marwedel, Iowa HSEM
 - o Katie Rock, Polk SWCD
 - o Cara Elbert, NWIPDC
 - o Michael Fritch, Heartland Co-op
 - o Clarence Siepker, Pocahontas county

Public Comment

- Our chair proposed the following dates for our next meetings: July 9, 2021, October 8, 2021 and January 14, 2022. Members voiced that July 9th is not an ideal time, and the group prefers to meet on June 25, 2021.
- The group would like to meet as soon as the outreach committee has heard from stale member entities if they would rather withdraw.
- Members would like to be able to meet in person as soon as possible, possibly June. We can continue to offer a virtual option, preferably through Zoom as it is the most user-friendly platform we have tried. Switching teleconference platforms has been a barrier for folks.
- Boone county supervisors and Boone SWCD have not found a replacement member for Kevin Griggs, who stepped aside due to a conflict of interest with EOR.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 am.

Next meeting will be Friday, June 25, 2021 at 10 am.

Members present:

Name	Location	Entity
Susan Judkins	Clive	City
Jonathan Gano	Des Moines	City
Hillary Reed	Laurens	City
Kris Kavanaugh	Lohrville	City
Jack Butler	Perry	City
Keri Navratil	Storm Lake	City
David Sadler	West Des Moines	City
Paul Merten	Buena Vista	County
Carl Legore	Calhoun	County

Dean Schettler	Carroll	County
Mark Hanson	Dallas	County
Don Etler	Palo Alto	County
Clarence Siepker	Pocahontas	County
Bob Rice	Polk	County
Alan Wedemeyer	Calhoun	SWCD
Fred Long	Greene	SWCD
Neil Hamilton	Dallas	SWCD
Eric Wessels	Dallas	SWCD
Katie Rock	Polk	SWCD
Doug Ollendike	Clive	City