

**ANNUAL REPORT  
UPPER CEDAR WATERSHED MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY  
MAY 29, 2013**

As outlined in Iowa Code Chapter 466B, Subchapter II, a Watershed Management Authority is formed when two or more political subdivisions (defined as cities, counties and soil and water conservation districts) within a Hydrologic Unit Code 8 (HUC 8) watershed form an intergovernmental agreement under Iowa Code Chapter 28E to focus on activities that may include

1. Assess the flood risks in the watershed.
2. Assess the water quality in the watershed.
3. Assess options for reducing flood risk and improving water quality in the watershed.
4. Monitor federal flood risk planning and activities.
5. Educate residents of the watershed area regarding water quality and flood risks.
6. Allocate moneys made available to the Authority for purposes of water quality and flood mitigation.
7. Make and enter into contracts and agreements and execute all instruments necessary or incidental to the performance of the duties of the Authority. A Watershed Management Authority shall not acquire property by eminent domain.

A map included at the end of this report shows the Iowa portion of the HUC 8 watershed and the smaller HUC 12 watersheds comprising the Upper Cedar Watershed.

**28E Agreement Signed by 23 Entities and Filed July 2, 2012**

Floyd County received funding from Phase I of the Watershed Management Authority Grant Program sponsored by the Iowa Economic Development Authority to facilitate establishment of a Watershed Management Authority. Through a procurement process, MSA Professional Services was retained to assist, primarily represented by Susan Judkins. Informational meetings were held from February through June 2012. The Upper Cedar Watershed Management Improvement Authority (UCWMIA) was formed as a Watershed Management Authority when a 28E Agreement signed by 23 entities (including cities, counties, and soil and water conservation districts) was filed with the Iowa Secretary of State on July 2, 2012. All participating entities are located within the Iowa portion of the Upper Cedar Watershed, a Hydrologic Unit Code 8 (HUC 8) watershed. As required by law, all 31 eligible entities were invited to participate, including:

- Black Hawk County and the city of Janesville (also in Bremer County)
- Bremer County and the cities of: Denver, Janesville (also in Black Hawk

County), Plainfield, Waverly

- Butler County (no incorporated cities in the watershed)
- Chickasaw County and the cities of: Bassett, Nashua
- Floyd County and the cities of: Charles City, Colwell, Floyd
- Mitchell County and the cities of: Carpenter, Mitchell, Orchard, Osage, St.

Ansgar, Stacyville

- Worth County and the cities of: Grafton, Northwood
- Black Hawk County Soil and Water Conservation District
- Bremer County Soil and Water Conservation District
- Butler County Soil and Water Conservation District
- Chickasaw County Soil and Water Conservation District
- Floyd County Soil and Water Conservation District
- Mitchell County Soil and Water Conservation District
- Worth County Soil and Water Conservation District

23 entities agreed to participate and named representatives and alternates to the board of directors.

### **UCWMIA Officially Organized on August 7, 2012**

The organizational board meeting was held on August 7, 2012. Bylaws were adopted, and officers were elected including Mark Kuhn (Floyd County) chair; Sherm Lundy (Black Hawk County SWCD) vice chair; Charlie Newman (City of Floyd) treasurer; Karen Damjanovic (alternate, Mitchell County SWCD) secretary, which according to the bylaws does not require board membership; and at-large directors Jim Erb (City of Charles City), Tom Heidenwirth (Butler County) and Erik Butler (Worth County SWCD). Following is a list of all 23 entities represented on the inaugural board, and the staggered terms which were drawn by lot:

#### **Upper Cedar Watershed Management Improvement Authority Board of Directors**

1. Black Hawk County - John Miller, 316 E 5th Street, Waterloo, IA 50703, [jmiller@co.black-hawk.ia.us](mailto:jmiller@co.black-hawk.ia.us) , 319-833-3074 (term expires May 2015)
2. Bremer County - Kip Ladage, [kladage@co.bremer.ia.us](mailto:kladage@co.bremer.ia.us), 319-352-0133, 111 4<sup>th</sup> St NE, Waverly, Iowa 50677 (term expires May 2015)
3. Butler County – Tom Heidenwirth, [thjtski@netscape.net](mailto:thjtski@netscape.net) 708 N Bluff St, Greene, IA 50636, 641-816-4221 (term expires May 2016)
4. Chickasaw County - Tim Zoll, [timzoll1169@gmail.com](mailto:timzoll1169@gmail.com), 641-228-0124; alternate is Rick Holthaus, [Rick.holthaus@yahoo.com](mailto:Rick.holthaus@yahoo.com), 641-330-9045 (term expires 5/13)
5. Floyd County – Mark Kuhn, [mkuhn@floydcoia.org](mailto:mkuhn@floydcoia.org), 641-330-4910 (term expires 5/13)
6. Worth County – Ken Abrams, [kennyabr@wctatel.net](mailto:kennyabr@wctatel.net), 641-390-1224, 984 Hwy. 105, Northwood, IA 50459 (term expires 5/15)

7. Charles City – Mayor James Erb, [mayor@cityofcharlescity.org](mailto:mayor@cityofcharlescity.org); alternate Tom Brownlow, [tom@cityofcharlescity.org](mailto:tom@cityofcharlescity.org), 641-257-6300, 106 Milwaukee Mall, Charles City, IA 50616 (term expires 5/14)
8. Colwell – Mayor Deb Johnson, [deb.johnson@fbfs.com](mailto:deb.johnson@fbfs.com) (term expires May 2014)
9. Denver - Joel Wikner, 110 E. Hoover Street, Denver, Iowa 50622 319-415-2228 (cell)319-984-5737 (home) (term expires 5/13)
10. Floyd – Charlie Newman, [cnewman@1stsecuritybank.com](mailto:cnewman@1stsecuritybank.com). (term expires 5/14)
11. Nashua – Roger Gigler, 641-420-3445 (term expires 5/16)
12. Northwood – Roger Rustad, is 641-324-1343, 97 13th Street South, Northwood, Iowa 50459 (term expires 5/13)
13. Plainfield - Mayor Tom Geise, 638 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Plainfield 50666, [tgeise@carisls.com](mailto:tgeise@carisls.com), 641-220-5576. (Alternate Doug Berger) (term expires 5/14)
14. St. Ansgar – Gerald Beaver, [bbgbsta@omnitel.com](mailto:bbgbsta@omnitel.com), 641-420-5957, 611 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, St. Ansgar, IA 50472 (term expires 5/16)
15. Stacyville – Amanda Skjeie, [amanda.skjeie@wellsfargo.com](mailto:amanda.skjeie@wellsfargo.com) (term expires 5/13)
16. Waverly – Stephen Main, [Stephen.main@wartburg.edu](mailto:Stephen.main@wartburg.edu) – 506 10<sup>th</sup> Ave NW, Waverly, IA 50677, 319-830-4496 (cell) 319-352-1629 (home) (term expires 5/14)
17. Black Hawk County SWCD - Sherman Lundy, [sherml@bmcaggregates.com](mailto:sherml@bmcaggregates.com) – 1103 Ellen St, Cedar Falls, IA 50613, 319-759-5803 (term expires 5/16)
18. Bremer County SWCD – Ron Lenth, [rlenth@iastate.edu](mailto:rlenth@iastate.edu), 720 7<sup>th</sup> Ave SW, Tripoli, IA 50676, 319-240-0156 (term expires 5/15) Alternates Kip Ladage, [kladage@co.bremer.ia.us](mailto:kladage@co.bremer.ia.us), 319-352-0133, 111 4<sup>th</sup> St NE, Waverly, Iowa 50677 and Chris Triplitt, [chris.triplitt@uni.edu](mailto:chris.triplitt@uni.edu).
19. Butler County SWCD – Rick Juchems, [rick.juchems@butler-bremer.com](mailto:rick.juchems@butler-bremer.com), 319-240-9190 (term expires 5/13)
20. Chickasaw County SWCD - Randy Miller, 1855 Cheyenne Avenue, Ionia, Iowa 50645, 641-394-3789 (no email address available) (term expires 5/16)
21. Floyd County SWCD – Dennis Carney, [dacarney@omnitel.com](mailto:dacarney@omnitel.com) (term expires 5/14)
22. Mitchell County SWCD - Eric Jellum, 1669 325<sup>th</sup> St, Osage, IA 50461 – 641-732-5140 H, 641-220-4233 C [jellumfm@osage.net](mailto:jellumfm@osage.net) (Alternate Karen Damjanovic, 2929 320<sup>th</sup> St, Orchard, IA 50460 – 641-982-4939 H, 641-220-0109 C) (term expires 5/15)
23. Worth County SWCD – Erik Butler, [erik.butler@ia.nacdnet.net](mailto:erik.butler@ia.nacdnet.net), 641-324-1819, Worth County SWCD, 1004 10<sup>th</sup> Street South Suite B, Northwood, IA 50459 (term expires 5/15)

### **Grants Awarded for Watershed Planning and Pilot Flood Mitigation Projects**

The bylaws were revised at the next meeting, 9/11/12, at which time the board approved an application Watershed Management Authority Phase II grant funding from the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) to support preparation of a watershed plan for the Upper Cedar Watershed. The area had already been selected for assessment as a potential location for implementation of pilot flood mitigation projects by the University of Iowa's Iowa Flood Center, and the watershed plan would

complement that assessment and assist in prioritization of future watershed projects. Although the UCWMIA was not selected as one of the first three watersheds to receive the Phase II planning funds, the group was notified of IEDA's intent to seek authority from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development to reallocate disaster funds to support planning in the UCWMIA. Notice came in May of 2013 that HUD approval was received and work began on a contract between IEDA and Floyd County for allocation of approximately \$175,000 for this work, to be done by MSA Professional Services and the Iowa Soybean Association with administrative assistance from Susan Judkins of KJWW Engineering Consultants.

At its meeting on March 12, 2013, the UCWMIA board received news from the Iowa Flood Center that its assessment have resulted in selection of the Upper Cedar Watershed as one of three watersheds where pilot flood mitigation projects will be implemented. The board met again on April 3, 2013 to determine the best process to prioritize a HUC 12 watershed for project implementation. Three excellent proposals were submitted by the deadline of May 14, 2013 for Beaver Creek in Floyd and Chickasaw Counties, Rock Creek in Mitchell and Floyd Counties, and HUC 07080211203 Village of Plainfield-Cedar River, and presentations were made to executive committee members and other interested parties on May 15, 2013. The executive committee will make a recommendation and final prioritization will occur following the annual meeting on May 29, 2013.

### **Participants Grow to 25 in May 2013 with Revised 28E Agreement**

At a regular meeting of the UCWMIA board on 4/3/13, the board learned of the interest of the City of Osage and Mitchell County of joining the 28E Agreement. The revised agreement was submitted to all 23 original participants and the two new jurisdictions, with all entities approving the revision. So, as of this annual report, the UCWMIA includes 25 participants.

### **A Successful First Year**

By any measure, significant progress has been made during the first year of the UCWMIA. Flooding that is occurring throughout the Upper Cedar Watershed during the Spring of 2013, following a drought year in 2012, is a reminder of the importance of our effort to assess and implement options for reducing flood risk and improving water quality in the watershed.

Mark Kuhn, Chair  
Upper Cedar Watershed Management Improvement Authority

# IOWA PORTION OF UPPER CEDAR WATERSHED (HUC 8) WITH HUC 12 WATERSHEDS SHOWN

