



Minutes - Quarterly meeting of the Upper Cedar Watershed Management Authority June 20, 2018

The quarterly meeting of the UCWMIA was called to order by Chair Main at 6:40pm. Motion by Lundy seconded by Lehmann to approve the agenda. Carried. Motion by Lundy, seconded by Abrams to approve the minutes of the March meeting. Carried.

Discussion was held on recent flooding, rain events, erosion and river turbidity. Several examples of extreme events were reported in the watershed. Dan Lehmann reported on several meetings between Plainfield officials and representative of many agencies including DOT, DNR, IFC, and local SWCDs. They are all working on possible funding sources in the future, to address flooding issues in and near the city of Plainfield.

Dan Gilles who is a water resources engineer with the Iowa Flood Center, presented his findings concerning some of the causes of the 2016 flooding that occurred in Plainfield. His illustrations showed six separate catchments on the west side of highway 218 drain under the highway. The flooding in Plainfield first came from the west side of town and later from the Cedar River on the east side of town. Mr. Gilles has found some 1987 documentation by the corps of engineers that expressed concern about possible high water tables and basement flooding in Plainfield.

Mr. Gilles has developed an extensive computer animation on the 2016 flooding in Plainfield and how it progressed. He has also modeled in several solutions, including increasing the size of culverts, ditches and storm sewers and then running the animation to show results. The group thought the applications of this sort of technology would be very helpful to cities and agencies.

Steve Main reported briefly on the activities of the statewide WMA group and the need for an improved funding stream. He also reported that the next meeting of the Cedar River Coalition group would be on Sept. 6, 2018 in Cedar Falls.

Changes to the board of directors list were mentioned. The board was reminded to have their organizations make sure that terms are current and to have an alternate board member appointed, if at all possible. Also Main reminded everyone to continue making additions of any new watershed projects to our tracking spreadsheet. This will help in public information and future decisions.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48pm. Next meeting set for September 19, 2018 at 6:00pm at the Charles City Library. Carney was to explore the possibility of a brief tour of the Charles City RCPP project area.

Dennis Carney
Secretary