



UCWMIA Unapproved Minutes for March 6, 2019

The quarterly meeting of the Upper Cedar Watershed Management Improvement Authority was held on March 6, 2019 at 5:00pm in the Charles City Public Library. The meeting was called to order at 5:03pm by Vice Chair Kip Ladage. There were sixteen representatives and guests present.

Motion by Ken Abrahms seconded by Doug Moehle to approve the agenda as sent. Carried. Motion by Jim Erb seconded by Doug Moehle to approve the minutes of the December meeting as sent. Carried.

Ladage updated the group concerning progress on the flooding issues in Plainfield. On July 20th bids will be let to install a drainage ditch east of the Avenue of the Saints on the west side of Plainfield to direct flood waters. To accomplish this a pipeline needs to be relocated. He stated there would be a Water Quality Initiative grant applied for to cover some of this work.

Ladage also shared with the group a new tool from the Iowa Flood Center that illustrated progressive flood inundation around and in the City of Plainfield. It was a dramatic way of showing where floodwaters build up and how they eventually reach the Cedar River. He stated that there was a huge amount of data that went in to this simulation and this was a another brand new way to illustrate how flooding in a community occurs and ultimately how it might be slowed.

Lundy mentioned that there was some an Iowa Senate bill introduced that would reduce funding for the State Revolving Fund where much of our water quality money comes from. He urged members to speak up to their representatives against this measure. In addition, Lundy expressed concern that WMA funding was not specifically mentioned in either SF 512 or IWILL.

Mary Beth Stevenson reported that an application was made for an Iowa Partners for Conservation (IPC) grant that would provide funding for a coordinator in the Floyd County SWCD office. This person would assist in connecting landowners with cost share made available through Charles City, as part of Sponsored Project funds available through a State Revolving Loan secured to pay for a major wastewater treatment plant upgrade. She also reported that the next Cedar River Coalition meeting will tentatively be November 8, 2019 in Blackhawk County.

Carney, who serves as VP for the Conservation Districts of Iowa (CDI) reviewed some of the meetings that he has attended where WMA funding issues were discussed and how conservation districts, WMAs and CDI could better work together.

Following some discussion on local projects, Erb suggested that a notice be sent out to UCWMIA members three weeks prior to our June meeting reminding everyone to bring ideas for new projects or reports on existing ones so we may add them to our database. Carney stated he would send this out.

Stevenson mentioned there was FEMA money available for flood hazard mitigation that the WMAs could be involved in. There is a push to develop multijurisdictional hazard mitigation plans. She suggested Jessica Turba as a possible speaker for a future meeting to discuss this. She also said that a statewide WMA meeting would be held on May 3, 2019 in Newton.

Ladage stated that in June the UCWMIA will be holding its quarterly and annual meetings and will need to elect one of the SWCD representatives to serve as Vice President and the group will need to elect a new secretary. Our next meeting will be held on June 5, 2019 at the Charles City Library at 5:00pm.

Dennis Carney
Secretary