



English River Watershed Management Authority Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2014
6:30 PM
Montezuma Public Library
500 East Main Street

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Ryan Schlabaugh called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

2. Introductions

Board Members in attendance: Ryan Schlabaugh (Chair – City of Kalona), Jack Seward, Jr. (Vice Chair – County of Washington), Mike Phillips (Poweshiek SWCD), Steve Berger, Nick Pacha (City of Wellman), Kate Giannini (Washington SWCD),

Member Representatives in Attendance: Delores Sedlacek (Johnson SWCD), Rick Graves (Alternate - City of Grinnell),

Others in attendance: Jody Bailey (Secretary/Watershed Coordinator), Angela Winburn, Larry Wilson, Donna Winburn, Greg Townley, Jim Urban, Mary Beth Stevenson, Dr. Allen Bradley, Adam Kiel, Randy Pitman, Jennifer Terry

3. Approval of minutes (Discussion/Action)

M/S to approve the August 21st meeting minutes by Seward/ Phillips. All ayes. Motion passed.

4. Watershed Improvement Planning – Project Partner Updates

Watershed improvement project partners provided presentations on their research supported by the Comprehensive Watershed Planning grant the ERWMA received in fall of 2013. Mary Beth Stevenson provided an update on state-level resources and updates regarding Watershed Management Authorities in the state of Iowa. Discussions followed each presentation.

- a. Jody Bailey, English River Watershed Coordinator
- b. Mary Beth Stevenson, Iowa-Cedar Basin Coordinator – Iowa Dept. Natural Resources

- c. Adam Kiel, State Water Resources Coordinator - Iowa Soybean Association
- d. Allen Bradley, Professor and Faculty Research Engineer - Iowa Flood Center

5. Election (Discussion / Action)

- a. Board Vacancy –Treasurer (Term 2014 – 2016)

The English River WMA needs a Treasurer to fill outgoing Kelley Putman’s seat. A discussion was held about filling the position, but no Member Representatives in attendance expressed interest in serving as Treasurer at this time.

This matter was tabled until further notice.

- b. Term expiring – Jan Anderson

Jan Anderson’s (City of Grinnell) initial 1-year term as a Board member expired 11/21/2014. Anderson stated at the August 21st Quarterly Meeting that he was interested in serving another term on the Board. Anderson was unable to attend the annual meeting, but the City of Grinnell’s alternate, Rick Graves was present.

M/S to re-elect Jan Anderson to the Board of Directors by Pacha/Giannini. All ayes. Motion passed.

6. Quarterly Board meetings 2015 (Discussion)

Bailey informed the Board that Quarterly meetings for 2015 have been scheduled for the following dates. Locations will be determined at a later date, but will rotate between Montezuma, Williamsburg, Wellman, and Sigourney. Phillips asked that the start time for the May 21st meeting be moved back an hour due to farming activities.

Members in attendance agreed to move the start time of the May 21st, 2015 meeting to 7:30 PM.

- a. February 19th, 6:30 PM
- b. May 21st, 7:30 PM
- c. August 20th, 6:30 PM
- d. Nov 19th, 6:30 PM

7. English River WMA “Year in Review” (Discussion)

Bailey provided a handout and led a short discussion of outlining progress made on watershed improvement planning goals, and an overview of the organization’s activities, highlights, and challenges in 2014.

8. Update on recent grant proposals (Discussion)

Schlabaugh updated Members on two recent grant proposals supported by the English River Watershed and the Cities of Kalona, Wellman, and Riverside. The proposal

submitted for watershed planning dollars to complete an urban watershed assessment for the 3 communities was not successful. However, the City of Kalona did submit a successful proposal for a small urban stream stabilization project. The ERWMA will continue to keep the Board in the loop of future grant opportunities and outcomes.

9. Financial Report (Discussion)

Schlabaugh provided the current financial statement for the ERWMA, including grant expenditures and reimbursements.

As of August 21, 2014, the ERWMA has spent \$49,495 of Comprehensive Watershed Planning Grant funds, and received reimbursements for \$40,315. Expenses incurred were for work performed by the Watershed Coordinator (\$36,315) and the Iowa Soybean Association (\$13,180). The remaining balance (of \$150,000 total grant) is \$100,500.

10. Announcements

Giannini provided an update on the Washington County SWCD's application for Riverboat Foundation mini-grant funds to support a creek signage project in Washington County. The proposal was not successful this time around, but Giannini said she planned to try again in the future.

11. Adjournment

M/S to adjourn the meeting by Pacha/Giannini. All ayes. Motion passed.

Chairperson

Date

Minutes taken by J. Bailey