



ENGLISH RIVER  
WATERSHED

# English River Watershed Management Authority Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2020 6:30 PM  
Williamsburg Public Library  
300 West State St

## Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 by the Chair, Ryan Schlabaugh.

## Introductions

The following were in attendance:

Board Members: Ryan Schlabaugh, Chair (City of Kalona); Merle Doty (Poweshiek County Board of Supervisors); Ted Oswald (Iowa County SWCD); Kasey Hutchinson (Johnson County Planning, Development & Sustainability); Mark Kennett (Poweshiek SWCD); Mike Phillips (Poweshiek SWCD); Abe Miller, Vice Chair (Washington County Board of Supervisors); Mick Berg (Keokuk County Board of Supervisors);

Staff: Jody Bailey, Project Coordinator

Project Partners: Robyn Williams (University of Iowa); Colleen Kinney (Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division); Hilary Pierce (ISU Extension & Outreach); Valerie Decker (University of Iowa Center for Evaluation and Assessment); Dr. Allen Bradley (University of Iowa & Iowa Flood Center); Kate Timmerman (Iowa County NRCS); Steve Hopkins (Iowa Department of Natural Resources)

Presenters: Chris Kahle, Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Citizens: David and Denise Leubka,

## Additions to/Approval of Agenda (Action)

Bailey added an update regarding the evolving Iowa County Secondary Roads project.

M/S by Kennett/Phillips to add the item on the agenda. Motion passed.

## Approval of Meeting Minutes (Discussion/Action)

- November 21, 2019

M/S by Phillips/Miller to approve the meeting minutes from November 21, 2019. Motion passed.

## Guest Speaker: Chris Kahle, IDNR Floodplain Mapping Project

Chris presented on the IDNR Floodplain Mapping program and the latest efforts to help communities across Iowa identify mitigation opportunities.

## National Disaster Resiliency – Iowa Watershed Approach Updates

Bailey provided updates on the Iowa Watershed Project. To date, 62 applications for technical assistance have been received, 547 individual structures have been designed, and current construction estimates sit at approximately \$3.8 million. There have been two bundles of projects sent out to bid and construction has begun on both bundle. There are two more bundles of projects anticipated to be let out to bid in 2020, one in March or April of 2020, and the second before the end of Summer 2020.

- Iowa County Secondary Roads Project – (Craig Just)

Bailey introduced an emerging project with Iowa County Secondary Roads. The project is funded by Iowa Watershed Approach planning funds and will identify infrastructure in the IWA project areas of the ERW repeatedly impacted by flooding, and engineer improvement projects to address the issues. The project is a partnership between the Iowa County Engineer, Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division, Iowa Flood Center, East Central Iowa Council of Governments, and the ERWMA.

- 2019 Stream Monitoring Handouts

Bailey provided handouts summarizing water quality monitoring data for the 2019 sampling year.

## IWA Budget Update

- December 31, 2019 update

	Budget	Expended	Balance
Administration	\$105,560.00	\$80,908.00	\$24,652.00
Design & Construction	\$4,145,394.00	\$735,501.00	\$3,409,893.00
Model/Sensors	\$757,596.00	\$411,620.00	\$345,976.00
Watershed Coordinator	\$375,000.00	\$209,963.00	\$165,037.00
Watershed Planning	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,483,550.00</b>	<b>\$1,537,992.00</b>	<b>\$3,945,558.00</b>

- Budget Increase Request

Bailey updated the Board on the status of the budget increase request. A meeting will be held next month with IEDA to learn if the request will be granted or not.

## Organizational

- WMAs of Iowa – Admin exploration with Center for Rural Affairs

Bailey updated the Board that the Center for Rural Affairs has offered to takeover the administrative functions of the evolving Watersheds Management Authorities of Iowa organization. This offer is being weighed by the WMA organizations across Iowa. Bailey welcomed feedback from the Board on the subject.

## Announcements/Events

- 2020 ERW Board Meetings  
May 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:30 PM at EVHC (*Note late start time*)  
August 20<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM (*Will be at alternate location due to EVHC being unavailable*)  
November 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM at EVHC
- Iowa Water Conference, April 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> in Ames
- Izaak Walton League of America's Save Our Streams Training with Iowa County Conservation and the ERWMA – More volunteers needed!

## Adjournment

M/S by Berg/Phillips. The meeting was adjourned at 7:41.

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Chairperson

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Date

Notes taken by J. Bailey