



ENGLISH RIVER
WATERSHED

English River Watershed Management Authority Meeting Minutes

February 25, 2021

9:00 AM

Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/99238422367?pwd=c3RCeEhEUUtadE5Rak5LOEw4bmFvdz09>

Meeting ID: 992 3842 2367

Passcode: 561032

Mobile: 1 (312) 626 6799

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 AM by the Chair, Ryan Schlabaugh.

2. Introductions

The following individuals were in attendance:

Board Members: Ryan Schlabaugh, Chair (City of Kalona); Jack Seward, Vice Chair – Washington County; Steve Berger, City of Wellman; Mick Berg, At Large (Keokuk County); Kasey Hutchinson, At Large – Johnson County; Ted Oswald – Iowa County SWCD; Mike Phillips, At Large – Poweshiek SWCD;

Staff: Jody Bailey, ERWMA Project Coordinator

Project Partners: Jeff Geerts, Iowa Economic Development Authority; Jim Marwedel, State Hazard Mitigation Planner; Kyle Ament, Iowa Department of Natural Resources; Kate Giannini, Iowa Flood Center; Hilary Pierce, ISU Extension; Huan Liu, University of Iowa Center for Evaluation and Assessment; Hacer Karamese, University of Iowa Center for Evaluation and Assessment

Other: Nick McGrath, Trees Forever

3. Additions to/Approval of Agenda (Action)

There were no additions to the agenda.

M/S by Oswald and Seward to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes (Discussion/Action)

- 12/30/2020

M/S by Phillips and Oswald to approve the December 2020 meeting minutes. Motion passed.

5. Nick McGrath – Community Disaster Recovery Coordinator (Iowa DNR & Trees Forever)

Nick McGrath, from a new joint IDNR and Trees Forever initiative, introduced himself and the program to replace tree cover following the August 2020 Derecho event.

6. Organizational

- Board Vacancy – At large term, through November 2022

Bailey updated the board that due to the untimely passing of Mark Kennett, there is a vacancy of the board's executive committee. Member organizations that have an interest in having their WMA representative serve in this capacity should contact Jody before mid-April.

7. National Disaster Resiliency – Iowa Watershed Approach Updates

Bailey provided updates on the NDR-IWA project. To date, 497 total structures have been fully designed. Structures include 17 ponds, 6 buffer strips, 378 WASCObS, 29 waterways, 16 storm water detention basins, 15 terraces, 14 wetlands, 12 grade stabilization structures, and 10 prairie plantings. The total construction estimates are \$4.2 million. Bid bundles 1-3 have been bidlet, and a 4th bid bundle is forthcoming this spring. A 5th and final bid bundle may happen this summer, depending on success of applications for FEMA funding to supplement around \$800k in shovel-ready projects we do not have enough IWA funds to construct.

A. IWA Budget Update

Bailey provided an update on the English River WMA's Iowa Watershed Project budget, through December 31, 2020.

B. Announcements/Events

- 2021 ERW Board Meetings
May 20th – virtual – time TBD
August 19th – virtual – time TBD
November 18th – format and time TBD

The Iowa Water Conference will be held virtually this year, April 6- 8. Registration can be found at regcytes.extension.iastate.edu/iwc2021/register.

C. Adjournment

M/S by Berg and Oswald to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 AM.