

Des Moines River One Watershed One Plan Policy Committee Meeting

Thursday, March 17, 2022

Members Present: David Thiner, Murray County Commissioner; Phil Nasby, Jackson County Commissioner; Mark Bartosh, HLWD; Paul Nelson, Jackson SWCD Supervisor; Norman Holman, Cottonwood County Commissioner; Tom Mueller, Cottonwood SWCD Supervisor; Linda Meschke, Martin SWCD Supervisor; Steve Prairie, Lyon SWCD Supervisor; Rick Nelson, Nobles SWCD Supervisor; Rick Anderson, Lyon County Commissioner; Richard Koons, Martin County Commissioner

Others Present: Dan Bartosh, Jackson SWCD; Rachel Olm, HEI; Chris Otterness, HEI; Karen Clayton Ebert, MCIT; Jake Gross, Cottonwood SWCD; Dave Bucklin, Cottonwood SWCD; Kay Gross, Cottonwood County; Craig Christensen, Murray SWCD; John Biren, Lyon County; Sarah Soderholm, Murray County; Ashley Brenke, Martin SWCD; John Shea, Nobles SWCD; Mark Koster, Nobles County; Mark Hiles, BWSR; Doug Goodrich, BWSR; Scott Ralston, USFWS; Tom Kresko, MNDNR; Dominic Jones, Red Rock Rural Water; Sandy Kalfs, Citizen; Lloyd Kalfs, Citizen; Marcia Wee, Citizen

Meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m.

Motion was made by Norman Holman to approve the minutes from the policy meetings held on October 21, 2021 and December 30, 2021. Linda Meschke seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Budget

Dan Bartosh reviewed the budget with the group and discussed how the invoices have been settled. So far, nine invoices have been reviewed and approved for payment. A spreadsheet was provided as a visual aid to show how each invoice associates to the appropriate budget category. So far, the actual budget aligns with the proposed budget that was laid out in the contract.

Implementation Structure

Karen from MCIT gave a presentation outlining different implementation structures for bringing together several entities for one purpose. The structures presented were Memorandum of Agreement, Joint Power Entity, and Joint Power Collaborations. Members of the Policy committee asked clarifying questions and requested examples of each type for review.

A motion was made by Linda Meschke and seconded by Richard Koons to pursue the establishment of a Joint Power Entity. The motion passed unanimously.

Measurable Goals

Rachel from HEI gave a brief overview of the progress that has been made thus far in the planning process. The measurable goals for the comprehensive plan were introduced to the group, and it was explained that each goal includes a definition, short-term and long-term goals, and a priority map. These goals include Groundwater Recharge, Unused Wells and Septic Systems, Nitrogen Loading, Upland Wind and Water Erosion, Phosphorus Loading, Storage and Altered Hydrology, Soil Heath, Streambank and Channel Erosion & Enhanced Buffers, Livestock Access to Streams, Urban and Developed Areas, Lake Shoreline Habitat, Drainage Management, Wetlands, and Wildlife Habitat. This is an informational section, and no action was necessary.

Action Tables and Implementation Programs

Rachel distributed physical copies of action tables and explained that they help demonstrate what the implementation process will look like. This was also the groups opportunity to voice any concerns and/or document any suggestions for changes.

Next Policy Meeting

The next policy meeting will be tentatively scheduled for April 21st at 9:00 a.m.

Being no further business, a motion was made by Richard Koons and second by Tom Mueller to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 12:28 p.m.

Submitted respectfully,

Tom Muller

Secretary