

Des Moines River One Watershed One Plan Policy Committee Meeting

Thursday October 21, 2021

Members Present: David Thiner, Murray County Commissioner; Phil Nasby, Jackson County Commissioner; Mark Bartosh, HLWD; Karen Hurd, Murray SWCD; Katherine Pekerak-Scott, MPCA; Dan Bartosh, Jackson SWCD; Andy Geiger, Jackson County; Paul Nelson, Jackson SWCD Supervisor; Kay Gross, Cottonwood County; Tom Appel, Cottonwood County Commissioner; Rachel Olm, HEI; Jake Gross, Cottonwood SWCD; Craig Christensen, Murray SWCD; Rick Anderson, Lyon County Commissioner; John Shea, Nobles SWCD; Linda Meschke, Martin SWCD Supervisor; Steve Prairie, Lyon SWCD Supervisor; John Biren, Lyon County; Sarah Soderholm, Murray County; Tom Kresko, MNDNR; Paul Langseth, Nobles SWCD Supervisor; Daryl Tasler, Cottonwood SWCD Supervisor

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Motion was made by Dave Thiner to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Tom Appel seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Land and Water Resources Narrative Review

Linda Meschke requested that groundwater issues be included in the introduction and history section. Rick Anderson requested that the symbol for “approximate” be deleted and spelled out instead. Motion was made by Paul Langseth to approve these revisions. Phil Nasby seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Prioritizing Issues

The group reviewed all “priority A” issues. The group whether low crop diversity is a realistic issue to address. Members of the steering committee explained that cover crops were the focal point of increasing crop diversity. Group decided that the term “cover crops” needs to be included in the statement. There were no revisions or additions to issues in the priority B or C groups. A motion was made by Justin Ahlers to approve the revisions and additions to the issues. Karen Hurd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Prioritizing Resources

HEI introduced the prioritization process to the policy committee and presented several maps showing preliminary prioritization areas within the watershed. Rachel went on to explain that some of the maps will change significantly as more data is analyzed. The committee was asked to review the maps and bring any questions or concerns for discussion to the next meeting.

Budget

Dan Bartosh presented the Des Moines 1 Watershed 1 Plan budget as of 10/21/2021. The final budget outlined in HEI's contract is \$169,614.00. There have been four invoices submitted for payment from HEI since July totaling \$46,984.19 leaving a remaining budget of \$122,629.81.

With there being no further business, Justin Ahlers made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Tom Appel. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

Submitted respectfully,

Tom Muller

Secretary