



**MUD, CAMP, & SPRING CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING**

**CITY OF ALTOONA, IOWA
CITY HALL
407 EIGHTH STREET SE, ALTOONA, IOWA**

**January 10th, 2018
1:30 PM**

Attendees:

WMA Voting Members:

*Madeline Sturms – City of Pleasant Hill
Jennifer Welch – Polk SWCD
Karen Oppelt – City of Altoona
Vern Willey – City of Altoona
Robert Rice – Polk County
Chris Widmer – City of Pleasant Hill
Ross Grooters – City of Pleasant Hill*

Others:

*Amanda Brown – Polk SWCD
John Swanson – Polk SWCD
Mark Land – Snyder & Associates
Tyler Stubbs – Iowa DNR
Kyle Riley – HR Green
Doug Sheeley – PCCB
Allison Riley - MPO
Jim Utter – City of Altoona
Jennifer Koska – Metro Waste Authority*

1. Welcome/Introductions – *Madeline Sturms, Chair 1:31pm*
2. Approval of Agenda
Statewide WMA meeting information was added after the original agenda was emailed out.
 - a. *Vern Willey 1st, Bob Rice 2nd*
 - b. *Agenda approved as amended*
3. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes
 - a. *October 11th, 2017 meeting minutes up for approval.*
 - b. *Bob Rice 1st, Vern Willey 2nd*
 - c. *Minutes approved*

4. Executive Committee Elections

*The current (2017) executive committee officers are as follows:
Chair: Madeline Sturms – Pleasant Hill
Vice Chair: Robert Rice – Polk County
Treasurer: Wayne Patterson – Mitchellville
Secretary: Kyle Riley – Polk SWCD
Past Chair: Vern Willey – City of Altoona*

All current officers were finishing their first year, so they were eligible to serve another. Kyle Riley informed the group that he is no longer a commissioner for Polk SWCD. Jennifer Welch told the group that Polk SWCD commissioner Chip Mathis had been selected to replace Riley as primary representative. All other members that were present were willing to continue to serve in their rolls. Vern Willey made a motion to keep the current slate of officers the same, but changing Polk SWCD's primary representative to Chip Mathis. Bob seconded this motion; motion passed.

2018 Executive Committee is as follows:

Chair: Madeline Sturms

Vice Chair: Robert Rice

Treasurer: Wayne Patterson

Secretary: Chip Mathis

Past Chair: Vern Willey

5. Polk SWCD Update

a. WMA Survey Results

John Swanson overviewed results from the WMA survey that was send out to members. He stated that there was a total of 32 responses across the metro. Swanson said that protecting priority natural resource areas, stream restoration, and education of elected officials/residents were mentioned as high priority. Better engagement of jurisdictions, setting goals for 2018, and work sessions were also mentioned from members in the survey. Bob Rice suggested that Polk SWCD reach out to jurisdictions who are not regularly attending WMA meetings in order to get them information and encourage them to attend.

b. Comprehensive Plan Review Meeting Update

Swanson informed the group that Polk SWCD met with several jurisdictions to review their current comprehensive plans. Protecting natural resources was outlined in all plans and was a topic of importance to those jurisdictions in attendance. This will be a topic that is explored in more detail in 2018

Swanson said that two Urban WQI applications were submitted within the Mud/Camp/Spring watersheds. Bondurant submitted an application to restore Mud Creek to its original channel and create a two staged ditch. Metro Waste Authority also submitted one that included a wetland on their property along Camp Creek. Selection of projects that were funded would occur in the next few weeks.

Allison Riley informed the group that MPO, along with other partners, are working on putting together a Green Infrastructure Conference in 2018. She also stated that the Water Trails plan is still moving forward and that North and Middle River WMAs are not formed.

6. Work Session – 2018 Action Items

Swanson said that the Polk SWCD had created a sheet with action items for 2018 from the management plan based on survey results (see attached). The plan moving forward would be to have each jurisdiction report out quarterly on how they are working towards

accomplishing the tasks listed on the table. The rows within the table that are white are the jurisdictions responsibility while the grayed-out columns will be a focus of Polk SWCD. It is expected that members take this table back to their jurisdiction and discuss with other staff/departments. Each task listed within the table was discussed with the group at large.

7. Statewide WMA Meeting

February 21st, 2018

9:45 am – 4:00 pm

Otter Creek Lake and Park, Toledo, IA

Everyone is invited to attend. Formal invite will be sent out when available.

8. Other comments/discussion

Swanson said the Army Corps of Engineers is continuing its work to complete Hydraulic and Hydrologic models for the Spring Creek watershed. All field survey work was completed in November and the WMA is preparing its first submittal for cost match for local watershed planning efforts. A conference call is planned for 2:00 on 1/24 from the Polk County Public Works office.

Rice said that Polk County has begun installing stream crossing signs on county roads. He also mentioned that Governor Reynolds has listed water quality as a top priority for this legislative session.

9. Next meeting; April 11th, 2018

Altoona City Hall

10. Adjourn

Vern Willey 1st, Robert Rice 2nd, 3:00pm

Mud/Camp/Spring WMA 2018 Action Plan

Goal/Task	Milestone	Desired Outcome	2018 Goal	Responsible Entity	Progress Report
Goal 1: Work to Develop Consistent Policy					
Objective 2: Utilize Comprehensive Plans as a Tool					
Task 3: Meet with city and county planning staff for comp. plan review	Existing comprehensive plan summary from the region	Assess needs and opportunities	Host 1 meeting	Polk SWCD	
Objective 3: Encourage Development Which Protects the Watershed					
Task 2: Promote construction of regional detention basins	300 ac-ft.	Complete local or regional detention following the unified sizing criteria	40 ac-ft.	WMA/Jurisdictions	
Task 3: Develop and promote consistent standards for development	100% adoption	Stream buffer ordinance	Complete ordinance in Altoona, Bondurant, Mitchellville, Runnells	WMA/Jurisdictions	
Task 4: Prairie Pothole Preservation during development	50 ac-ft.	Preserve during development or restore within agricultural fields	4 ac-ft.	WMA/Jurisdictions	
Task 5: Adopt unified sizing criteria	100% adoption	Unified standard adopted across watershed	TBD	WMA/Jurisdictions	
Objective 4: Adopt Unified Philosophy Targeted Towards Development					
Task 2: Develop an incentive program for installing/retrofitting for green street	6,000 linear feet street managed with pavers, biocells, etc.	Find opportunities within each community	400 linear feet	WMA/Jurisdictions	
Objective 5: Develop "Checklist" for use when approving Developments					
Task 1: Create and implement a smart growth checklist	Smart Growth Checklist	Develop a checklist that benefits communities and promotes watershed goals	Approve a checklist via input from communities	WMA/Jurisdictions	
Goal 2: Increase community support and awareness					
Objective 1: Generate Opportunities for Citizen Participation and Support					
Task 1: Develop a website and engage schools	Website	Inform watershed residents of the WMA, its plan, and ways they can contribute	Complete website and link to all jurisdictional websites, share through community	WMA/Jurisdictions	
Task 2: Launch and maintain a stream cleanup	Stream Cleanup Program	Community engagement	Each jurisdiction has one section of stream adopted through MWA or hosts cleanup	WMA/Jurisdictions	
Objective 2: Evelop and Promote Educational Programs					
Task 1A: Education	Elected Official Work Sessions	Update on WMA activities	attend 1 board/work session	Polk SWCD	
Task 1B: Education	Agricultural Field Day	Increase adoption of agricultural conservation practices	Host 1 meeting	Polk SWCD	
Task 1I: Education	Informational Meetings	Inform watershed residents of the WMA, its plan, and ways they can contribute	Host 3 meetings	WMA/Jurisdictions	
Task 1Q: Education	Tours	Host tours to highlight implementation activities	Host one metro wide WMA tour and MCS tour in conjunction with WMA meeting	Polk SWCD	
Task 1R: Education	Watershed Updates	Share WMA information with member jurisdictions	Provide quarterly "take home sheet" following WMA meeting and bi-annual watershed update	Polk SWCD	
Objective 4: Support Programs that Encourage Conservation Practices					
Task 1C: Grants	Identify grants that align with the WMA goals and objectives	Obtain grant funding to support the implementation of the plan	Apply for applicable grants	Polk SWCD	
Task 2A: Cover Crops	4,000 acres (10% of ag watershed)	Reduction in sediment transport, up to 31% N reduction, up to 31% reduction in P on fields	1,000 acres	Polk SWCD	
Task 2B: Grassed Waterways	10 linear miles	Reduction in sediment transport, up to 43% N reduction, up to 58% reduction in P on treated fields	1 mile	Polk SWCD	
Task 2C: Stream Buffers	10 stream miles (steep side slope + 50 ft. on each side)	Protect, restore, purchase, or enhance stream buffer	1 mile	WMA/Jurisdictions	

Mud/Camp/Spring WMA 2018 Action Plan

Goal/Task	Milestone	Desired Outcome	2018 Goal	Responsible Entity	Progress Report
Task 2E: No tillage	Increase no-till by 200 acres	Reduction in sediment transport, up to 90% reduction in P compared to chisel plow	20 acres	Polk SWCD	
Task 2F: Edge of Field/Tile Treatments	Install bioreactors, saturated buffers, etc. at 100 outlets	Reduction in sediment transport, up to 52% N reduction, up to 85% reduction in P on treated fields	8 outlets	Polk SWCD	
Objective 3: Promote Thoughtful Consideration of Landuse Planning					
Task 3: Natural Resources Overlay District	Natural Resources Overlay District for Planning Purposes	Ensure consistent implementation throughout the region	Create sub-committee to prioritize and identify resources	Polk SWCD	
Objective 5: Utilize Recreational Opportunities to Promote Conservation and Greenway Preservation/Adoption					
Task 1: Improve understanding of recreational opportunities	Educate Watershed Residents	Improve recreational opportunities	Evaluate results of the Water Trails Plan	WMA/Jurisdictions	
Task 2: Main Channel Greenway	Reserve the 500 year floodplain, purchase easement, or dedication	Stream stability, reduce streambank erosion, flood loss mitigation, habitat restoration	Protect 20 acres of 500 year floodplain	WMA/Jurisdictions	
Task 3: Tributary Greenway Network	Reserve the 500 year floodplain, purchase easement, or dedication	Stream stability, reduce streambank erosion, flood loss mitigation, habitat restoration	Map floodplain on large tributaries up to 1 sq. mi. of drainage area	WMA/Jurisdictions	
Goal 4: Identify and address soil and water issues					
Objective 1: Establish Monitoring Program					
Task 2: Identify water monitoring sampling locations and protocols	Operational monitoring program	Total suspended solids, nitrate-nitrite, total phosphorous, DO, chloride, pH, temperature	Continue supporting monitoring network, assess for additional opportunities	WMA/Jurisdictions	
Objective 2: Develop Water quality Improvement Strategies					
Task 5: Wetland Mitigation Bank	Establish wetland banking sites utilizing coordination with other regional WMAs	Reduce sediment transport, bacteria, up to 52% reduction in N, up to 85% reduction in P for the portion of watershed upstream of wetland site	Outreach to 2 possible landowners	Polk SWCD	
Task 6: native Prairie Planting	Establish or require 100 acres of native planting	Integrate prairie plantings to reduce runoff and manage pollutants	2 acres	WMA/Jurisdictions	
Task 7: Streambank Restoration	Restore/stabilize priority main & tributary stream channels	Reduction of sediment loading by 0.25 ton/year/ft of channel	2 miles	WMA/Jurisdictions	
Objective 3: Develop Water Quality and Quantity Models					
Task 1: Develop and store base water quantity and quality models	Complete water quantity and quality models	Five year water quality and water quantity model updates for all three watersheds	Complete initial H&H model for Spring Creek	WMA/Jurisdictions	
Additional 2018 Action Items					
Task 1: WMA Activity Documentation	Create a WMA progress document that will be used to track implementation and activities	Better tracking of activities and accomplishments from across the watersheds	Create document and update quarterly	Polk SWCD	
Task 2: Implement SWMM Practices	Increased adoption of urban conservation practices	Communities track implementation, gain a better understanding of practice uses, and promote education	Incorporate 1 urban project in each jurisdiction	WMA/Jurisdictions	



Mud, Camp, & Spring Creek Watershed Management Authority 2018 Action Plan

Planning and Policy

- Create a WMA progress document that is updated quarterly
- Release an internal RFP for jurisdictions to submit projects for WMA funding
- Meet with each jurisdiction to discuss action plan implementation
- Create a natural resource overlay district
 - o Create a sub-committee to prioritize and identify resources
- Implement a stream buffer ordinance across all jurisdictions

Education and Outreach

- Provide quarterly take-home sheet following WMA meetings
- Publish bi-annual watershed update/press release
- Meet with jurisdictional elected officials annually to provide updates
- Host local Green Infrastructure Conference in collaboration with ISWEP
- Annual WMA Tour (metro wide) and annual MCS tour in conjunction with meeting
- Complete MCS website and link to every jurisdiction website
- Each jurisdiction has a section of stream adopted through MWA adopt a stream program, hosts a cleanup event, or has a trash bash site
- Host an agricultural field day

Practice Implementation

- Complete regional/local detention following the unified sizing criteria (40 ac. Ft.)
- Preserve or restore prairie potholes (4 ac. Ft.)
- Install/retrofit green street infrastructure (400 linear ft.)
- Protect, restore, purchase, or enhance stream buffers (1 mile)
- Implement Prairie Plantings (4 acres)
- Streambank stabilization (2 miles)
 - o Provide prioritized GIS information by jurisdiction
- Plant 1,000 acres to cover crops
- Install 8 edge of field nutrient reducing practices
- Incorporate 1 urban project in each jurisdiction

Questions

- What policy action items would you like to see worked on in 2018 by MPO/PSWCD?
- Would the WMA like to prioritize the stream buffer ordinance in 2018?
- Would jurisdictions use a smart growth checklist to be utilized for development?
- Are there any additional conservation practices you would like to set goals for?
 - o ex. Wetlands, bioretention cells