**Middle Cedar Watershed Management Authority**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

Thursday, April 21, 2022, 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Virtual meeting with in-person option at ECICOG office

**Meeting Notes (due to no quorum)**

**Board Members Present:**  Fred Abels (Grundy SWCD), Wayne Castle (Waterloo), Al Schafbuch (Tama SWCD), Tracy Seeman (Benton County), Don Shonka (Buchanan County), Sherman Lundy (Black Hawk SWCD), Maria Perez (Cedar Falls), Mary Beth Stevenson (Cedar Rapids), Chris Ward (Vinton), Stephen Mayne (Tama County), Chris Even (Jesup), Chris Schwartz (Black Hawk County), Stephanie Lientz (Linn County).

**Others Present:** Jennifer Fencl (ECICOG), Valerie Decker (UI-CEA), Josh Balk (IDNR), Cara Matteson (Cedar Rapids), Jeff Geerts (IEDA), Pat Conrad (EOR), Nick Fratzke (INRCOG), Kate Giannini (Iowa Flood Center).

1. **Call to Order & Roll Call**

There was not a quorum for the Middle Cedar WMA Board meeting April 21. It was the recommendation of the Board to proceed with agenda items and ask for electronic votes after the meeting.

1. **Minutes of Previous Meetings – April 21, 2022 – no action**
2. **Administrative Services Contract**

The Board asked ECICOG for a more detailed administrative services proposal to include financial related activities such as sending invoices, holding and tracking funds, and paying expenditures. The Board further asked to move forward with that proposal once the language is added.

Motion by Stevenson, second by Schwartz to direct ECICOG to provide a more detailed proposal for administrative services and approve by electronic vote.

1. **Watershed Project Update**
2. **Edge of Field Clean Water Partnership**

Working through existing coordinators in the Middle Cedar. The project offers a streamlined process to build Edge of Field practices.

1. **North Iowa Agronomy Partners**

North Iowa Agronomy Partners requested a time extension amendment to the technical assistance contract to increase adoption of conservation practices in the Middle Cedar watershed. There is $51,699 left and a three-month extension (ending June 20, 2022) will allow time to finish the project. There are two motions related to this item.

1. Motion by Stevenson, second by Lundy to approve the time only extension to the North Iowa Agronomy Partners contract.
2. Motion by Stevenson, second by Fred A to review the project after June 30th and ask Iowa Ag Water Alliance about setting up a farmer recognition program with the remaining funds.
3. **Iowa Watershed Approach Update**
* Jennifer Fencl provided an update. The IWA projects are completed. The overall budget contracted to Benton County has gone over and work to shift funding within the IWA grant is underway. The IWA Celebration Event will be in the Middle Cedar with a tour of projects in the afternoon.
1. **Middle Cedar Watershed Plan**

With the remaining planning funds in the Iowa Watershed Approach grant, EOR was asked to assist with outreach to cities and counties in the watershed about the plan and how it can benefit them. The deliverables will be summaries specific to each city and county like a user’s guide. The other deliverable will be two plan outreach events to summarize the plan and how it can support future work and access funding sources.

Motion by Lundy, second by Schwartz to approve the proposal by EOR for watershed plan outreach.

1. **Other Business**
* Sherm Lundy requested that the WMA by-laws be reviewed and amended to address the difficulty of getting a quorum at a meeting to conduct business.
1. **Public Comment**
* June 14th is the IWA Celebration & tour of projects at Kacena Farms near Vinton
* Project signs are going up at several practice sites
* The Flood Center pursuing a NOAA grant partnering with USACE
* Fred Abel announced a Field Day at his farm June 11th to see a roller crimper on cover crops
1. **Next Meeting**
* The next MCWMA Board of Directors meeting will be held on June 16th from 3:00-4:30 pm. Location TBD.
1. **Adjourn**
* Meeting adjourned at 4:25 pm