Middle Cedar Watershed Management Authority Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, April 20, 2023, 3:00 pm - 4:15 pm Virtual meeting with in-person option at ECICOG office (700 16^{th} St NE, Cedar Rapids)

Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: Wayne Castle (Waterloo), Al Schafbuch (Tama SWCD), Tracy Seeman (Benton County), Josh Balk (Black Hawk SWCD), John Kurtz (Buchanan County), Mary Beth Stevenson (Cedar Rapids), Dan Bangasser (Grundy Center), Chris Even (Jesup), Steph Lientz (Linn County), Bruce Frana (Linn SWCD)

Others Present: Jennifer Fencl (ECICOG), Justin Schroeder (Cedar Rapids), Evan Brehm (Iowa Soybean Association), Miranda Haes (DNR), Nathan Young (Iowa Flood Center)

I. Call to Order & Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 3:09 by Chairperson Stevenson.

II. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes from February 1, 2023 – Motion by Schafbuch, second by Castle to approve. Motion carried.

III. FY23 Budget Update

Fencl provided a budget summary to track contributions and expenses. Will send FY24 invoices in June.

IV. Iowa Watershed Approach (IWA) Hydrology Model Results

Nathan Young presented the final modeling results for the IWA project. The full report is available in the April 2023 Board Packet Folder.

V. IDALS Partnership to Expand Conservation Agronomist Network

IDALS is partnering with IAWA to extend 3 existing positions and add 2 positions.

VI. Iowa Underserved Farmer to Farmer Grant Program

Fencl presented a preliminary idea to apply to this program. Discussion followed.

VII. Watershed Project Updates

a. WQI/319 Projects

Evan with the Iowa Soybean Association provided a map of conservation projects.

b. Middle Cedar RCPP

Stevenson reported that there will be a Field Day on May 16th to kick off the project.

c. Cedar Rapids Clean Water Project

Stevenson reported that the first batch of 33 projects (bioreactors and saturated buffers) in Linn County is ready to bid. IDALS will provide 100% cost share with a \$1,000 incentive for each project.

VIII. Next Meeting

The next MCWMA Board of Directors meeting is planned for July 20th from 3:00-4:00 pm. That meeting was pushed back until August 22, 2023.

IX. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 4:05 pm