

Headwaters of the South Skunk River, Watershed Management Authority

April 20, 2023, 10:00 AM

Roland Community Center – 208 N Main St., Roland, IA

Also available via Zoom

Attendees:

Voting Members - Linda Murken (Story County), Nathan Hovick (City of Roland), Rick Young and Brian Lammers (Hamilton County), Erik Christian (City of Story City), Alisha Bower (SWCD – via Zoom) and Tim Gartin (City of Ames – via Zoom).

Non-voting – Catherine DeLong (ISU Extension), Kimberly Grandinetti and Laura Johnston (Story County Environmental Health), Marianne Harrelson, Sara Carmichael, and Mike Cox (Story County Conservation), Dustin Albrecht (City of Ames), Kyle Riley (Houston Engineering), and Kyle Ament (Iowa Department of Natural Resources – via Zoom).

1. Meeting is available for public viewing via Zoom.
2. **Call To Order** – by Murken at 10:06 AM
3. **Roll Call** – Introductions of all in attendance and via Zoom
4. **Approval Of Agenda** – MOTION by Hovick, SECOND by Christian. MCU.
5. **Approval Of Minutes** – February 16, 2023 – MOTION by Hovick, SECOND by Christian. MCU.
6. **Old Business** – None.
- 7I. **New Business – Election Of Officers** – Murken volunteered to serve as Chair – MOTION by Young, SECOND by Christian. MOTION for nominations to cease by Hovick, SECOND by Christian. MCU. Hovick volunteered to serve as Vice-Chair – MOTION by Christian, SECOND by Young. MOTION for nominations to cease by Christian, SECOND by Young. MCU.
- 7II. **Action Plan And Goals** – Hovick handed out copies of the goals (page 125) and the action plan table (pages 185-190) from the plan document. Discussion between members determined that goals one and three are currently being implemented and will continue to build on throughout the plan. Goal number two will come later after more action items are implemented and data can be measured. There were also discussions about getting an alternate for the jurisdictions that have not been attending the HW WMA meetings. Members will meet with other “partner organizations” to have them attend and present at a WMA meeting, and for those organizations to see what the WMA is trying to accomplish in hopes that they can help us reach more landowners and farmers.

Carmichael mentioned that IDALS has some new funding for cover crops. When farmers enroll in this program, they will receive \$25/acre for the first year and \$25/acre for any following year(s) that they are involved in the program. There is no cap on the number of eligible acres, and they do not limit the number of years. Megan with IDALS will be conducting a lot of education and outreach to specific landowners in the five HUC 12 areas in Story and Jasper County’s. Nothing is planned in Hamilton County at this time.

- 7III. **Hamilton County Edge Of Field** – A possible Edge of Field agreement like the one Story County has implemented, may be able to be created for Hamilton County by the same contributors as the one in place with Story County. The funding that Story County contributes could possibly be covered by IDALS.

Hamilton County Conservation would like to see if some land that they own would be eligible to install a saturated buffer on and be a demonstration site. Carmichael will coordinate arrangements with Lammers and others to conduct a survey to determine eligibility.

- 7IV. Grant Opportunity** – IDALS has a Water Quality Initiative for Nutrient Reduction Strategy Demonstration Projects that the WMA could apply for. The grant deadline is May 26th. After some discussion, it was decided that the WMA would not apply for the grant at this time.
- 8. Other Reports** - None
- 9. Public Comments** - None
- 10. Next Meeting** – June 29, 2023, at 10:00 AM at the Roland Community Center.
- 11. Adjournment** – at 11:49 AM.