

Headwaters of the South Skunk River, Watershed Management Authority
April 19, 2021, 9:30 AM

Attendees:

Voting Members - Linda Murken (Story County), Lynn Knutson (Hamilton County Soil & Water), Nathan Hovick (City of Roland), Erik Christian (City of Story City) and Amber Corrieri (City of Ames)

Non-voting - Kyle Ament (Iowa Department of Natural Resources), Cody Smith (Center for Rural Affairs), Rick Young (Hamilton County), Margaret Jaynes (Story County Environmental Health), Mike Cox (Story County Conservation), Leanne Harter (Story County) and Marianne Harrelson (Story County Conservation)

1. Meeting will be held via Zoom, consistent with Iowa Code Section 24.4, 2b, Due to COVID-19 and the need to socially distance to slow the spread of the virus.
2. **Call to Order** - by Murken at 9:32 AM
3. **Roll Call**
4. **Approval of Agenda** - MOTION by Hovick, SECOND by Knutson. MCU.
5. **Approval of Minutes** – February 19, 2021 – MOTION by Corrieri, SECOND by Christian. MCU.
6. **Update On Process For Revising The 28E Agreement Establishing Headwaters Of The South Skunk River Watershed Management Authority** – Leanne Harter provided some information regarding the amendment to the 28E Agreement. Once the City of Jewell has determined if they will join, she will get original signature pages from all of the new entities, the next step is to adopt amendment number one by the original signatories to the 28E. She will send those documents out to the original entities for them to sign and return to her with original signatures and notaries. After she receives those back, she will record it with the Story County Recorder's office, then file it with the Secretary of State and send copies to all of the parties of the 28E Agreement.
7. **Discussion and Consideration Of Technical Team's Recommendation On Proposals For An Assessment Of The Headwaters Of The South Skunk River Watershed.** Mike Cox thanked the members of the Technical Team for their work. They reviewed five proposals, scored them, and meet with two firms for presentations. A summary of the results from the five proposals were included on the agenda. The top two firms, JEO and EOR, gave an hour-long presentation to the Technical Team. Through that process, the Technical Team came to a unanimous decision to recommend JEO to the board. The biggest thing that set JEO apart was their stakeholder engagement and expertise with the agricultural community. The Team felt we have a firm that understands and interacts equally well with both urban and rural communities. Other members of the Technical Team spoke in support of selecting JEO. Murken commented that one of the JEO members has drainage district and animal feeding operation coordination experience and we need someone to help us and have credibility in those areas. She also asked how JEO will build on the work that EOR has done in the past. Cox indicated that JEO made reference to utilizing the ACPF that had already been developed through the EOR project. Cox mentioned that JEO also has experience with flood mitigation work with several area cities. MOTION to accept JEO's proposal by Hovick, SECOND by Corrieri. MCU.
8. **Next Steps**
 - I. **Finalizing The Contract For The Watershed Assessment** – Murken asked if Story County would be signing the contract. Cox indicated that since the WMA is not a fiscal entity, Story County would contract as the fiscal agent on behalf of the WMA. The Story County Board of Supervisors will take action on approving the contract with JEO for the WMA. A draft agreement was included with the agenda and is still being finalized.

MOTION for the WMA board to recommend Story County Board of Supervisors contract with JEO for assessment of the watershed by Corrieri, SECOND by Christian. MCU.

9. **Next Meeting** – Murken and Christian will determine a date and location for the next meeting and let everyone know. Cox will try to arrange a kick-off meeting with JEO at the same time.
10. **Public Comments**
11. **Any Other Business**
12. **Adjournment** – at 10:12 AM. MOTION by Knutson, SECOND by Christian. MCU.