

# FINAL

Watershed Assessment Group Minutes

Administration Building Public Meeting Room and Zoom

Date: October 3, 2022

Recording:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/gqlsUbnOv4NypUeBMijgZPT\\_bLI5fcSj2AFwZQsQOp0Wz4hzLfwa31FFQM\\_6E.BJ6O0qFjl7p8B5ty](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/gqlsUbnOv4NypUeBMijgZPT_bLI5fcSj2AFwZQsQOp0Wz4hzLfwa31FFQM_6E.BJ6O0qFjl7p8B5ty)

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Committee members present: Mike Cox, Leanne Harter, Sara Carmichael, Scott Wall, Linda Murken, Amelia Schoeneman, Matt Boeck, Melissa Spencer, Kimberly Grandinetti

Others present: Laura Johnston (Environmental Specialist), Daunte Thompson (Planning and Development Intern)

Carmichael called the meeting to order at 2:02PM.

## **I. Approval of Agenda**

Motion to Approve – Grandinetti moved, Murken seconded. Approved

## **II. Review Meeting Notes from prior meeting – June 30, 2022**

Motion to Approve – Schoeneman moved, Grandinetti seconded. Approved

## **III. Old Business**

### **a. Headwaters WMA 28E Agreement**

- Harter explained that Ellsworth (city) and Hardin (county) no longer want to join. Waiting on Story County and City of Ames attorneys to approve the agreement can move forward without the above entities and not have everyone sign the agreement again.
- Once approved, Harter will submit to IDNR.
- Murken discussed the Headwaters plan which will be finalized end of 2022. Open houses for the plan will happen November 10 (11am-1pm in Story City and 5-7pm in Jewell). Group will be sent copies of plan to provide feedback before final plan is set.

## **IV. New Business**

### **a. WAWG Members**

- Carmichael opened up discussion on involvement with WAWG and making sure everyone involved is engaged. Brought up the idea of bringing “Learning Moments” back and group discussed ideas:
  - o Adam Janke (ISU) to discuss farm best management practices
  - o Drainage Districts
  - o IDALS Drainage District Study
  - o PFAS (City of Ames)
- Carmichael and Schoeneman brought up the idea of adding Facilities to the WAWG membership. Joby, Facilities Management Director, expressed interest in joining the group. Carmichael will bring it forward to BOS for approval.

### **b. August – Water Quality Month**

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## **c. October – Watershed Awareness Month**

- Carmichael gave updates on both proclamations. In August, Conservation did multiple social media post including a video on the E. coli beach monitoring program at Hickory. Also, completed a bioassessment of Grant Creek at Jennett Heritage Area. For October, Conservation had an outreach booth at Ames EcoFair (Oct 1) and will be assisting with a Fall Snapshot (Oct 18) and stream clean-up in Nevada (Oct 20).

## **V. Staff Updates and Assignments**

- Wall: The Grant 5 Drainage District clean-out is currently happening. Carmichael talked with Boulton-Menk to confirm we can move forward with installing edge of field on a property in the district.
- Schoeneman: Natural Resource Ordinance is completed. Conservation Board gave great feedback back in July. Will be doing outreach to farmers and will send over 1,200 mailings. Once outreach is completed, updates will be made from any recommendations and it will move to BOS for approval in November/December. Interns are working on pipeline setback ordinance and manure spills in Story County. There have been approximately 460 spills since 2006.
- Cox:
  - a. Dotson wetland trustee's meeting: Asked when that will be scheduled for since IDALS has frozen funding until we get movement. Wall will schedule something with all six trustees (Boone and Story County) later in October/early November.
  - b. Wicks Oxbow restoration: Will need districts (DD Howard #102) approval to do any work on restoring the oxbows and/or dissolving the district. Will meet with Story City since they are a landowner (owns the street right away) and based on their interest, we may/may not move forward with project.
  - c. Hickory Grove Septic project: Rural Water is not interested in being involved so more discussions on connecting to Colo will happen to keep project moving forward.
  - d. Hannum Mill Dam Mitigation: Issues with certain landowner so will be rechanneling the stream. Spencer asked about USGS monitoring station and whether that will be impacted. Will need to do follow-up on that sensor.
- Grandinetti: discussed the voluntary septic pumping ordinance and how to get more people to participate. Approximately 175 pump outs have been completed since the ordinance. Will do a mailing letting people know and possibly offering an incentive. Received a grant from state to provide money to those that cannot afford to pump their system.
- Carmichael: updated group on Water Quality Monitoring program. Environmental Health will be taking over monitoring of three Maxwell sites. Helped Hamilton County start a monitoring program where two volunteers will monitor four sites in the county. Gave an update on the Edge of Field program.

## **VII. Other Items Not on the Agenda - none**

## **VI. Next Meeting Time and Date**

- Carmichael will look at calendars and confirm next meeting time for later this year.

## **IX. Adjournment – adjourned at 3:15PM motion by Schoeneman, Second by Wall**