

**MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 4, 2011 TELECONFERENCE MEETING  
OF THE  
WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT REVIEW BOARD  
ST. AMBROSE UNIVERSITY, DAVENPORT, IOWA**

**Appointed Members in Attendance**

Mark Rosenbury, Chairperson, Agribusiness Association of Iowa  
Robert Ballou, Iowa Soybean Association  
Jolee Belzung, Iowa Association of Water Agencies  
Jim Gillespie, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (10:49 phoned in)  
Tom Hadden, Iowa Environmental Council  
Steve Hopkins, Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Lisa Walters, Iowa Rural Water Association  
Jane Weber, Conservation Districts of Iowa

**Appointed Members in Absent**

Larry Alliger, Iowa Farm Bureau  
Dennis Black, State Senator  
David Johnson, State Senator  
Debra Karwal, Iowa Pork Producers  
Jarad Klein, State Representative  
Roger Thomas, State Representative  
Kerry Van Zante, Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards

**Staff and Guests**

Mary J. Baker, IDALS, Division of Soil Conservation  
Jerry Neppel, IDALS, Division of Soil Conservation

Sarah Asberry, IDALS, Division of Soil Conservation  
Mark Kennett, Commissioner, Poweshiek SWCD  
Clare Kerofsky, Scott SWCD  
Paul Loete, MSA Professional Services  
James Martin, IDALS, Division of Soil Conservation  
Brian Stineman, Natural Resources Manager, City of Davenport

**Call to Order**

The meeting of the Watershed Improvement Review Board (WIRB) was called to order at 10:03 a.m. on Friday, November 4, 2011, by Chairperson Rosenbury.

**Approval of Agenda**

Add 9028-014 Tributary B to Amendment Requests and Project Progress Reports and Funding Request Forms.

**Motion 2011-71** *Chairperson Rosenbury called to adopt the amended agenda. Moved by Weber and seconded by Ballou to approve the amended agenda, and the motion was unanimously approved.*

**Approve the Minutes From the September 9, 2011 Meeting**

**Motion 2011-72** *Moved by Belzung and seconded by Hopkins to approve the September 9, 2011 meeting minutes, and the motion was unanimously approved.*

**Amendment Requests**

**Project**

9011-008 Walnut Creek

**Discussion**

The applicant requests to transfer funds between practices and add a new funding line item for salary. Other funding sources are not available for salary. Kennett called in to represent the project. Are there obligated practices waiting to be installed? There is a property inside the watershed that was held in a trust and is now available. There are practices we want to complete and we are short on budget for salary. What are the ramifications if we reject his amendment? The project will be closed down. The new project completion date is December 2012.

**Motion 2011-73** *Moved by Belzung and seconded by Ballou to approve the amendment request, and the motion was unanimously approved.*

8008-004 Rathbun Lake Watershed

The applicant requests to transfer funds. There are more terraces than in the original application and more phosphorus being removed because of the increased terrace footages. But the amount of phosphorus reduced per foot of terrace is the same. A watershed assessment was completed and proposed grade stabilization structures were identified as necessary, are very effective, and provide high environmental benefits. Some grade stabilization structures take up crop ground. The transfer in funding is \$20,000 but there is no change in the total budget.

**Motion 2011-74** *Moved by Belzung and seconded by Hopkins to approve the amendment request, and the motion was unanimously approved.*

8009-005 Storm Lake Watershed

The applicant has begun construction, but they had to stop due to site conditions. The decision for the Board is to determine whether this is one practice that has begun or is this project with several components that can be finished individually without impacting other components.

**Motion 2011-75** *Moved by Weber and seconded by Hopkins to approve the amendment request, and the motion was unanimously approved.*

**Project**

**Discussion**

9029-015 Otter Creek

The applicant requests to transfer funds from one practice to another practice. The partners requested to fund a certain item and the applicant is requesting the WIRB to fund a greater portion of another item. The environmental benefits will not change.

At the request of the Board, Loete reviewed the applicant's letter and provide comments. The biocells percentages changed from 12% to 17% while the permeable pavement is lower by 1% at 26%. The environmental benefits have not changed. The unit cost for the project has gone up.

**Motion 2011-76** *Moved by Belzung and seconded by Walters to approve the amendment request, and the motion was unanimously approved.*

1008-003 White Oak Lake

The applicant requests a time extension due to permitting delays.

**Motion 2011-77** *Moved by Weber and seconded by Hopkins to approve the amendment request, and the motion was unanimously approved.*

1010-005 Bloody Run Watershed

The applicant requests to transfer of funds. The project is finished. The final expenses were different than estimated.

**Motion 2011-78** *Moved by Hadden and seconded by Weber to approve the amendment request, and the motion was unanimously approved.*

9028-014 Tributary B

The applicant requests a time extension from ~~November~~ 31 to December 15.  
*October*

**Motion 2011-79** *Moved by Ballou and seconded by Weber to approve the amendment request, and the motion was approved. Belzung abstained from voting.*

**Project Progress Reports and Funding Request Forms**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Requested Funding</b>	<b>Approved Funding</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
7031-011 Brushy Creek	\$15,416	\$15,416	<b>Motion 2011-80</b> <i>Moved by Weber and seconded by Belzung approve the report and funding request. The motion was unanimously approved.</i>
8008-004 Rathbun Lake	\$30,260	\$30,260	The applicant is requesting money so activities can be completed. Will they be able to complete row crop to grassland conversion? The agreement ends January 31, 2012. Historically speaking, this area had a difficult time getting landowners to agree to convert cropland to grassland conversion.
9018-011 Rathbun Lake	\$39,180	\$39,180	
1004-002 Rathbun Lake	\$10,000	\$10,000	There has not been much activity.  <b>Motion 2011-81</b> <i>Moved by Hadden and seconded by Belzung to approve the progress reports and funding requests for 8008-004, 9018-011 and 1004-002. The motion was unanimously approved.</i>
9028-014 Tributary B			The applicant submitted an updated progress report.

**Final Project Reports**

No final project reports were received.

**Budget – Strategy to Move Forward**

A copy of the budget request letter sent to the Governor was sent to the Board prior to the meeting. Rosenbury suggested a strategy for disseminating the budget information is for each Board Member to request their lobbyist for support and lobbying to legislative committees.

Rosenbury requested that Neppel identify legislative committees and legislators that the Board should present no later than January 15, 2011. One group identified is Conservation Districts of Iowa and Conservation Partnership Day scheduled on January 25, 2012. Hopkins will ask DNR Deputy Director Gipp for guidance on how the WIRB should interact with Legislators. Walters suggested the WIRB get involved with Water Day at the Capitol and also suggested sponsoring a Legislative Breakfast.

**Administrative Update**

Neppel informed the Board he is sending out the grant agreement and additional data on projects requested by the Board. The newly funded project applicants have accepted the amounts tentatively awarded at the last meeting.

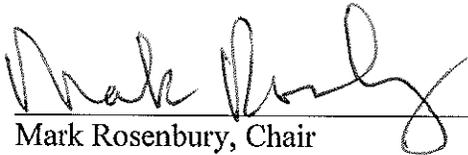
**Future Meetings**

December 2, 2011, 8:30 am teleconference

January 26, 2012, Ankeny Public Services Building

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:52 a.m. Brian Stineman, Natural Resources Manager, City of Davenport, gave a presentation on the newly-funded Duck Creek WIRB project sponsored by the City of Davenport. Paul Loete provided an update on the St. Ambrose project and the group toured the project site.



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Mark Rosenbury, Chair  
Watershed Improvement Review Board