

**MINUTES OF THE MARCH 14, 2012 MEETING
OF THE
WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT REVIEW BOARD**

Appointed Members in Attendance

Mark Rosenbury, Chairperson, Agribusiness Association of Iowa
Robert Ballou, Iowa Soybean Association
Jolee Belzung, Iowa Association of Water Agencies
Steve Hopkins, Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Debra Karwal, Iowa Pork Producers
Jane Weber, Conservation Districts of Iowa
Kerry Van Zante, Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards

Appointed Members in Absent

Larry Alliger, Iowa Farm Bureau
Dennis Black, State Senator
Jim Gillespie, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
Tom Hadden, Iowa Environmental Council
David Johnson, State Senator
Jarad Klein, State Representative
Roger Thomas, State Representative
Lisa Walters, Iowa Rural Water Association

Staff and Guests

Mary J. Baker, IDALS, Division of Soil Conservation
Jerry Neppel, IDALS, Division of Soil Conservation
Jon Bell, President, Limestone Bluffs RC&D
Larry Nagel, East Central Intergovernmental Association
Nicole Turpin, East Central Intergovernmental Association

Call to Order

The meeting of the Watershed Improvement Review Board (WIRB) was called to order at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 14, 2012, by Chairperson Rosenbury.

Approval of Agenda

8021-012 Sands Timber – add to Project Progress Reports.
9014-010 Lytle Creek, Amendment Requests, relocated to an earlier opening on the agenda to allow guests to speak on behalf of the project.
8005-002 Silver Lake – delete from Final Project Reports.

Motion 2012-109 *Chairperson Rosenbury called to adopt the amended agenda. Moved by Hopkins and seconded by Weber to approve the amended agenda, and the motion was unanimously approved.*

Approve the Minutes From the January 26, 2012 Meeting

Neppel identified one date change to the year of the meeting date.

Motion 2012-110 *Moved by Weber and seconded by Belzung to approve the amended meeting minutes, and the motion was unanimously approved.*

Treasurers Report

Motion 2012-111 *Moved by Ballou and seconded by Hopkins to approve the treasurers report, and the motion was unanimously approved.*

**Watershed Improvement Fund
Iowa Infrastructure Account (D81)
Revenue & Expenses -- Fiscal Year 2012 as of February 29, 2012**

<u>Revenue Collected:</u>			
Intra State Transfers		\$	-
Watershed Improvement Fund Refunds		\$	58,180.77
7013-004 Rathbun Lake Watershed	\$	4,299.52	
6004-003 Big Sioux River	\$	53,881.25	
Interest			
June Interest	\$	1,962.19	
July Interest		1,327.21	
August Interest		2,395.59	
September Interest		2,123.99	
October Interest		1,872.56	
November Interest		1,651.16	
December Interest		871.73	
January Interest		1,394.89	
February Interest			
March Interest			
April Interest			
May Interest			
Total Interest			13,699.32
Total Revenue Collected from July 1, 2011 through February 29, 2012			71,880.09

<u>Expenditures:</u>			
Intra State Transfers (Administrative Support in SFY 2010 originates from a different fund)			
WIRB Per Diem and Expenses		1,842.91	
Funding Requests Approved by Board: (8-12-11, 9-9-11, 11-4-11, 1-26-12)		2,391,685.50	
Total Expenditures from July 1, 2011 through February 29, 2012			2,393,528.41
Revenue minus Expenditures			\$ (2,321,648.32)
Fund Balance forward from FY 2011			\$ 6,831,286.71
Fund Balance as of February 29, 2012			\$ 4,509,638.39

Allocations and Interest available less funds set aside for existing projects

Revenues			
Appropriations			
State Fiscal Years 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010		\$25,000,000.00	
SFY 2012	\$	-	
Interest Accrued			
State Fiscal Years 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011		\$1,300,572.17	
SFY2012 (to 2-29-2012)	SFY 2012	\$13,699.32	
Total Revenue Collected through February 29, 2012			\$26,314,271.49
Expenses and Funds Set Aside			
Intra State Transfers (IDALS)			0
State Fiscal Years 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010		\$250,000.00	
WIRB Per Diem and expenses SFY 2009, 2010 and 2011		\$4,846.73	
WIRB Per Diem and expenses (paid by Treasurer)	SFY 2012	1,842.91	
Subtotal		\$256,889.64	
Funds Set Aside For Approved Projects			
State Fiscal Years 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010		\$25,047,903.42	
9/9/2011	SFY2012	\$1,506,390.00	
Subtotal		\$26,554,293.42	
Total Expenses or Obligations			\$26,810,983.06
Funds Available as of February 29, 2012			(\$496,711.57)

**Watershed Improvement Fund
Revenue Bonds Capitals II Fund (DT4)
Revenue & Expenses
Fiscal Year 2012 as of February 29, 2012**

Revenue Collected:

Appropriations	SFY12	\$	-
Watershed Improvement Fund Refunds		\$	-
			-
Total Revenue Collected from July 1, 2011 through February 29, 2012			

Expenditures:

Funding Requests Approved by Board			
8/12/2011	SFY12		656,039.00
11/4/2011	SFY12		10,000.00
1/26/2012	SFY12		155,810.00
Total Expenditures from July 1, 2011 through February 29, 2012			821,849.00
Revenue minus Expenditures			\$ (821,849.00)
Fund balance forward from SFY2011			\$ 1,777,729.00
Fund Balance as of February 29, 2012 (Treasurers Office)			\$ 955,880.00

Appropriations	SFY11	\$	2,000,000.00
Total Funds Available			\$ 2,000,000.00
Expenses and Funds Set Aside			
Funds Set Aside For Approved Projects (7-23-2010 and 11-5-2010)	SFY11	\$	2,000,000.00
Total Expenses or Obligations			\$ 2,000,000.00
Funds Available as of February 29, 2012			0.00

Project Progress Reports

Project		Discussion
9008-005 Hewitt Creek	See Funding Request Forms.	
8021-012 Sands Timber	No action required.	

Funding Request Forms

Project	Requested Amount	Funded Amount	Discussion
9008-005 Hewitt Creek	\$27,500.00	\$27,500.00	Motion 2012-112 <i>Moved by Hopkins and seconded by Belzung to approve the funding request and the project report, and the motion was unanimously approved.</i>
1109-003 Coe Creek	\$110,625.00	\$110,625.00	The applicant has secured a purchase agreement for the land. Motion 2012-113 <i>Moved by Belzung and seconded by Hopkins to approve the funding request, and the motion was unanimously approved.</i>
1112-004 Price Creek	\$12,500.00	\$12,500.00	This is a newly funded project. The Plan of Work meets WIRB requirements. Motion 2012-114 <i>Moved by Weber and seconded by Hopkins to approve the funding request, and the motion was unanimously approved.</i>

Amendment Requests

Project	Discussion
9012-009 Little River Lake	The applicant requests the transfer of funds by decreasing the water quality monitoring, info/education, salary/benefits, grade stabilization structures and silt basins and increasing the funds for terraces, water and sediment control basin and improved grazing management line items. The budget amount of \$423,900 will not change and the applicant anticipates completing the project on schedule. The Board requested Neppel to follow-up with the applicant to determine whether training is needed to calculate sediment delivery and reporting environmental benefits. Motion 2012-115 <i>Moved by Belzung and seconded by Hopkins to approve the amendment request, and the motion was unanimously approved.</i>
9014-010 Lytle Creek	The applicant requests to extend the agreement deadline. Terry Nagel, Jan Bell and Nicole Turpin were on the teleconference on behalf of the applicant. Nagel informed the Board they received funding from USDA, land negotiations are complete, and they are waiting to close. USDA is in the process of approving the plans. Nagel anticipates bidding the project in April and construction should be complete in one year. The Board requested Nagel to submit an updated Plan of Work with new timelines. Motion 2012-116 <i>Moved by Weber and seconded by Hopkins to approve the amendment request, and the motion was unanimously approved.</i>

Final Project Reports

Project

Discussion

7031-011

Brushy Creek

No watershed improvement association was developed in this area. The applicant wants to organize a local stakeholders group that will continue the water quality monitoring efforts after this project is finished.

Motion 2012-117 *Moved by Hopkins and seconded by Weber to approve the final project report, and the motion was unanimously approved.*

8004-001

Summit Lake

There is a funding request for this project.

Motion 2012-118 *Moved by Belzung and seconded by Ballou to approve the final project report, and the motion was unanimously approved.*

8012-008

Lake Morris

The applicant had a budget of \$462,375 and \$333,973 was spent for the project. There are a few minor mathematical errors in the final report. The one main emphasis of this project is the results from use of the SolarBee[®] equipment. The Board questioned whether the use of the SolarBee[®] equipment affected pH and turbidity greatly. Neppel did not see much improvement according to the water quality data.

Motion 2012-119 *Moved by Hopkins and seconded by Belzung to approve the final project report, and the motion was unanimously approved.*

8018-010

Walnut Creek

Neppel was disappointed with the quality of the report. There are errors on ledger and he did not have an opportunity to visit with the project coordinator to fix errors. There is a statement in the report regarding work being completed and not reported. The Board directed Neppel to work with the project coordinator to correct errors in the final report and ledger. Rosenbury will review the revised final report and ledger and sign the funding request after the report is corrected.

Motion 2012-120 *Moved by Weber and seconded by Van Zante to approve the final project report, subject to submission of a corrected final project report, and the motion was unanimously approved.*

1010-005

Bloody Run Creek

Neppel thought they could do a better job presenting environmental benefits. There is approximately \$34,575 to be paid to the applicant. The Board directed Neppel to work with the project coordinator to correct errors in the final report and submit it to Rosenbury for review and signature.

Motion 2012-121 *Moved by Belzung and seconded by Weber to approve the final project report, subject to submission of a corrected final project report, and the motion was unanimously approved.*

Election of Officers

Belzung nominated Ballou for the position of Chairperson.

Motion 2012-122 *Moved by Weber and seconded by Hopkins to approve Ballou as Chairperson, and the motion was unanimously approved.*

Weber volunteered for the position of Vice Chairperson.

Motion 2012-123 *Moved by Ballou and seconded by Hopkins to approve Weber as Vice Chairperson, and the motion was unanimously approved.*

Administrative Update

Soil Nutrient Balance Study – Neppel attended a technical review meeting on February 28, 2012. The project is progressing well.

WIRB member appointments – An email was sent to members whose term are ending. A replacement for Agribusiness Association of Iowa has been identified; Iowa Environmental Council representative, Hadden, is stepping down and a replacement has been identified; Soil and Water Conservation Districts of Iowa representative, Weber, and Iowa Farm Bureau representative, Alliger, have submitted for reappointment; and Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards representative, Van Zante, is stepping down and the Association has to identify her replacement.

Funding of WIRB – 2012-2013 (state fiscal year) DNR fines (\$300,000) will be credited to the WIRB fund. Rosenbury encouraged Board members to request their groups lobby the legislature for more funding. The Board needs to decide how the funds will be used if this is the only source of funding received by WIRB in 2012-2013.

April 20 teleconference and tour of northeast Iowa projects. Jerry sent an email to the Board to solicit ideas for projects to visit. The tour begins on April 19, departing Des Moines at 4:00 p.m., visit the activity and practices at the UNI Campus in Waterloo, and spend the night in West Union. Agenda for April 20 is holding the teleconference at 8:30 a.m., visit the urban and rural projects in West Union. Relay interest in visiting other projects to Neppel for completion of the agenda.

Neppel – Attending annual project meetings the rest of month.

EPA 319 funding – There is an effort to have available EPA 319 funds spent by September 30. There are some projects utilizing both WIRB and EPA 319 funds. The Board agreed to use the available EPA 319 funds before the WIRB funds.

Hopkins thanked Rosenbury for his efforts as Chairperson of the WIRB Board.

Future Meetings

April 20, 2012, 8:30 am teleconference and tour of projects in northeast Iowa.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 a.m.



Mark Rosenbury, Chair
Watershed Improvement Review Board