

MINUTES OF THE MAY 13, 2011 TELECONFERENCE MEETING*
OF THE
WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT REVIEW BOARD

Appointed Members in Attendance

Mark Rosenbury, Chairperson, Agribusiness Association of Iowa
Larry Alliger, Iowa Farm Bureau
Robert Ballou, Iowa Soybean Association
Jolee Belzung, Iowa Association of Water Agencies
Betty De Boef, State Representative
Jim Gillespie, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
Tom Hadden, Iowa Environmental Council
Steve Hopkins, Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Keri Van Zante, Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards (8:44 a.m.)
Jane Weber, Conservation Districts of Iowa

Appointed Members Absent

Dennis Black, State Senator
David Johnson, State Senator
Debra Karwal, Iowa Pork Producers
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

Call to Order

The meeting of the Watershed Improvement Review Board (WIRB) was called to order at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, May 13, 2011, by Chairperson Rosenbury.

Approval of Agenda

Motion 2011-25 Chairperson Rosenbury called to adopt the agenda. Moved by Hadden and seconded by Belzung to approve the agenda, and the motion was unanimously approved.

WIRB Appointments

The new WIRB appointments are Roger Thomas, State Representative, who replaces Dolores Mertz, and Larry Alliger, Iowa Farm Bureau, who replaces Vicki Allen.

Gillespie, Hopkins and Karwal were reappointed to the WIRB Board as of May 1, 2011.

It was noted to add Hopkins as a WIRB board member on the website.

Treasurer's Report

An error in recording of refunds was noted. The accounting error counted refunds twice. The current available balance is \$643,162.29 for the Iowa Infrastructure Account D81.

**Watershed Improvement Fund
Iowa Infrastructure Account (D81)
Revenue & Expenses -- Fiscal Year 2011 as of April 30, 2011**

<u>Revenue Collected:</u>			
Intra State Transfers		\$	-
Watershed Improvement Fund Refunds		\$	150,512.53
6001-001 Norfolk Creek	\$		64,255.85
6009--004 Price Creek	\$		16,154.80
6012-006 Lime Creek	\$		27,301.00
6014-007 Coldwater-Palmer	\$		21,386.00
6025-012 Rathbun Lake	\$		21,382.88
7032-012 Lake MacBride	\$		32.00
Interest			
June Interest	\$		8,894.28
July Interest			3,059.07
August Interest			4,804.02
September Interest			5,668.92
October Interest			7,611.61
November Interest			739.32
December Interest			2,825.66
January Interest			1,968.93
February Interest			809.42
March Interest			1,165.62
April Interest			
May Interest			
Total Interest			<u>37,546.85</u>
Total Revenue Collected from July 1, 2010 through April 30, 2011			188,059.38
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
Intra State Transfers (Administrative Support in SFY 2010 originates from a different fund)			-
WIRB Per Diem and Expenses			2,276.17
Funding Requests Approved by Board:			<u>3,133,828.12</u>
Total Expenditures from July 1, 2010 through April 30, 2011			<u>3,136,104.29</u>
Revenue minus Expenditures		\$	(2,948,044.91)
Fund Balance forward from FY 2010		\$	9,902,400.13
Fund Balance as of April 30, 2011		\$	<u>6,954,355.22</u>
<u>Allocations and interest available less funds set aside for existing projects</u>			
Revenues			
Appropriations			
State Fiscal Years 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010		\$25,000,000.00	
Watershed Improvement Fund refunds**			
SFY2008, 2009, 2010			\$0.00
SFY 2011	\$		-
Interest Accrued			
State Fiscal Years 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010		\$1,260,926.18	
SFY2010 (to 4-30-11)	SFY 2011		\$37,546.85
Total Revenue Collected through April 30, 2011			\$26,298,473.03
Expenses and Funds Set Aside			
Intra State Transfers (IDALS)			
State Fiscal Years 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010		\$250,000.00	
Intra State Transfers (IDALS)	SFY2011		
WIRB Per Diem and expenses SFY 2009 and 2010		\$2,570.56	
WIRB Per Diem and expenses	SFY 2011		2,276.17
Subtotal			<u>\$254,846.73</u>
Funds Set Aside For Approved Projects**			
State Fiscal Years 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010		\$25,400,464.01	
SFY2011			
Subtotal		<u>\$25,400,464.01</u>	
Total Expenses or Obligations			<u>\$25,655,310.74</u>
Funds Available as of April 30, 2011			<u>\$643,162.29</u>

** Refunds returned to the Watershed Improvement Fund when a funded project is closed are deducted from the *Funds set aside for approved projects. In prior reports, these refunds were added as income to the account.

Watershed Protection Fund Revenue Bonds Capitals II Fund (DT4) Revenue & Expenses Fiscal Year 2011 as of April 30, 2011			
Revenue Collected:			
Appropriations	SFY11		\$ 2,000,000.00
Watershed Improvement Fund Refunds			\$ -
Total Revenue Collected from July 1, 2010 through April 30, 2011			2,000,000.00
Expenditures:			
Funding Requests Approved by Board (1-28-11)	SFY11	222,271.00	
Total Expenditures from July 1, 2010 through April 30, 2011			222,271.00
Revenue minus Expenditures			\$ 1,777,729.00
Fund Balance forward from FY 2010			\$ -
Fund Balance as of April 30, 2011 (FY2011)			\$ 1,777,729.00

Appropriations	SFY11	\$ 2,000,000.00	
Watershed Improvement Fund refunds		\$ -	
Total Funds Available			\$ 2,000,000.00
Expenses and Funds Set Aside			
Funds Set Aside For Approved Projects (11-5-2010 selections)	SFY11	\$ 2,000,000.00	
Total Expenses or Obligations			\$ 2,000,000.00
Funds Available as of April 30, 2011			0.00

Motion 2011-26 Moved by Gillespie and seconded by Weber to accept the Treasurer's Report and the motion was unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes from the March 11, 2011 Board Meeting

An error was noted on project funding request 7043-017 North Fork Maquoketa River Headwaters, page 6, line 4: "...the applicant would not pay for obligations..." should be corrected to read "...that the WIRB would not pay for obligations..."

Motion 2011-27 Chairperson Rosenbury called for a motion to approve the March 11, 2011 meeting minutes as amended. Moved by Gillespie and seconded by Hopkins and the motion was unanimously approved.

WIRB Funding Appropriation Report Update

De Boef called staff at the Capitol for information. She was able to reach Jim Friedrich, Senate Republican Caucus staff, who stated there is no WIRB funding appropriation in the Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources budget, but the budget has not been approved. De Boef stated the Senate Committee could include it later.

Project Closeout Without Final Reports

Neppel summarized the two projects and provided background information as to why these two projects did not have an approved final report. Project 6017-009 Saylor Creek was completed with the overall cost of the project of \$3,234,619. The estimate of the total project cost in the application was \$3,866,200. Project 6024-011 Joint Drainage District No. 93 & 100 was completed for a total cost of \$742,607.59. The estimate of the total project cost in the application was \$741,000 plus an amendment of \$99,636 for a total estimated cost of \$840,636.

6017-009 Saylor Creek

Motion 2011-28 Chairperson Rosenbury called for a motion to request Heartland RC&D provide a cost study by line item of the project budget. Moved by Hadden and seconded by Alliger and the motion was approved. Belzung abstained from voting.

6024-011 Joint Drainage District No. 93 & 100

Motion 2011-29 Chairperson Rosenbury called for a motion to consider the project closed, not have further contact with the applicant on the subject, and deem the final report unacceptable. Moved by Weber and seconded by Ballou and the motion was unanimously approved.

7039-014 Miners Creek - Allow Practices to be Completed Beyond Three Year Agreement Period

The City of Guttenberg requested to allow them to finish one grade stabilization practice that was in progress.

Motion 2011-30 Moved by Weber and seconded by Hopkins to allow the grade stabilization to be completed by May 27, 2011, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Funding Requests

<u>Project</u>	<u>Funding Requested</u>	<u>Amount Funded</u>	<u>Discussion</u>
8021-012 Sands Timber Watershed	\$122,625	\$122,625	This is the Applicant's second funding request for this funding request period. The previous funding request was approved for salary and benefits (\$35,062). The applicant is asking for funds to complete practices this summer. Motion 2011-31 Moved by Weber and seconded by Belzung to approve the funding request, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Amendment Requests

<u>Project</u>	<u>Discussion</u>
8012-008 Lake Morris	<p>The Applicant requests to move funds from contractual administrative to grade stabilization structures and water and sediment control basins to allow construction of an additional water and sediment control basin. Contractual administration was no longer needed because NRCS has agreed to design all structures. There will be 75% cost share allowed for these practices.</p> <p><i>Motion 2011-32 Moved by Ballou and seconded by Hopkins to amend budget line items as requested, and the motion was unanimously approved.</i></p>
8024-014 Duck Creek	<p>The Applicant requests an extension on the completion date. The extension will allow the applicant to do a substantial amount of seeding this spring and to capture the expenses incurred for the maintenance of the seeding.</p> <p><i>Motion 2011-33 Moved by Belzung and seconded by Hadden to allow the December 31, 2011 completion date, and the motion was approved. Weber abstained from voting.</i></p>

Final Project Reports

<u>Project</u>	<u>Discussion</u>
8025-015 Rensen Source Water Protection Project	<p>The WIRB approved the final report at the March 11, 2011 meeting, subject to applicant providing a graphic of ground water sampling at the site. The applicant provided the requested information and included it in the final report. The applicant has been paid.</p> <p>No formal action is required.</p>

Request for Applications (RFA) Discussion

There is no information regarding appropriations for either the WIRB or the Watershed Improvement Fund. There is an available balance per the Treasurer's Report and several completed projects need to be invoiced so money can be returned. Nine projects will be completed by the end of June 2011. Approximately \$460,000 to \$500,000 in unspent grant funds are expected to be returned. This money may be subject to the \$500,000 grant limit during the next RFA.

Motion 2011-34 Chairperson Rosenbury called for a motion to proceed with an RFA using the available funds shown on the April 30, 2011 Treasurer's Report, any additional refunded grant money, and any new appropriation. Moved by Gillespie and seconded by Hopkins and the motion was unanimously approved.

Chairperson Rosenbury appointed a subcommittee to review and modify the RFA documents. The subcommittee members are: Ballou, Belzung, Gillespie and Hopkins.

Project Annual Reviews (Attendance and Reports)

Neppel attended the Sands Timber Project (8021-012) Annual Review in Taylor County. It appears the funds for the large structure amended to be funded by the WIRB, was originally intended to be funded by an EPA 319 grant. The applicant needs to keep the WIRB updated of all changes from the original application. The project is moving along well.

Hadden asked whether any Board members have information on the USDA-EQIP Program being cut. No one has information on the subject but Gillespie thought it is proposed in part of the new farm bill.

Administrative Update

- Hopkins asked the WIRB to invite Iowa DNR staff to present on new techniques in streambank remediation. The WIRB concurred and the presentation is tentatively scheduled on August 12, 2011. Nate Hoogeveen and Jason Palmer are the suggested speakers.
- State Soil Conservation Commission (SSCC) – The WIRB members are invited to the SSCC summer tour, June 13 and 14, 2011, in a central Iowa location. Registration is due June 1, 2011.

Motion 2011-35 *Moved by Alliger and seconded by Belzung to allow reimbursement of expenses and registration fee to attend the tour, and the motion was unanimously approved.*

- **IJOBS Funding** – Neppel informed the Board that funding recipients are required to submit an electronic report each quarter. Neppel has received 9 of 10 projects (missing Indian Creek Watershed, Fairfield, Iowa).
- **Final Project Reports** – Nine projects are expected to end by June 30. Two to three projects may finish ahead of schedule. Final reports will be forthcoming.

WIRB Officer Elections for 2011-2012

Motion 2011-36 *Moved by De Boef and seconded by Gillespie to approve the nomination of Mark Rosenbury as Chairperson and Ballou for Vice-Chair, and the motion was unanimously approved.*

Future Meetings

Mid June teleconference to approve RFA docs
August 12, 2011, 10:00 a.m., Ankeny Public Services
September 9, 2011, 10:00 a.m., Ankeny Public Services

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.



Mark Rosenbury, Chair
Watershed Improvement Review Board

*There was a malfunction with the digital recorder; therefore, there is no recording of this meeting.