

Water Resources Coordinating Council

Agenda

Friday, December 17, 2010

2:00 p.m.

Iowa State Capitol – Room G19

Call to Order, Governor's Office

Approve July 2010 Minutes

Approve December 2010 Agenda

Topics of Discussion:

Watershed Planning Advisory Council Report – Tom Hadden/Roger Wolf

Update on CDBG Funding for Watershed Planning and Projects – Larry Weber/Bill Ehm

2009 Floodplain Task Force Legislative Recommendations – RIO

Iowa Cedar Basin Planning Update – Bill Ehm/Chuck Spitzack (COE – Bill will contact as to availability)

Adjourn



Water Resources Coordinating Council

Update on Recommendations From WRCC Pursuant to HF756

December 17, 2010

Susan Judkins, Rebuild Iowa Office Intergovernmental Affairs Director

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Floodplain Management Recommendations

- 2009 Iowa legislation, HF 756, required the state's Water Resources Coordinating Council (WRCC) to submit policy and funding recommendations that promote
 - "a watershed management approach to reduce the adverse impact of future flooding on this state's residents, businesses, communities, and soil and water quality."

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Work Groups Focused on Legislation Requirements

- #1: Flood Plain Management and Regulation, chaired by Chuck Corell, DNR
- #2: Lowland Focus, Wetland protection, restoration and construction; and conservation easements and other land management, chaired by Marty Adkins, NRCS
- #3: Upland Focus, Perennial ground cover and other agricultural conservation practices; and permanent or temporary water retention structures, chaired by Tom Oswald, HSEMD
- #4: Stormwater, Promulgation and implementation of statewide stormwater management standards; and pervious pavement, bioswales, and other urban conservation practices, chaired by Jessica Montana, IDED

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WRCC Subcommittee for Floodplain Recommendations

- University of Iowa -- IIHR- Hydrosience & Engineering, Iowa Flood Center: Larry Weber
- Iowa State University -- Leopold Center: Jerry DeWitt, alternate Jeri Neal
- University of Northern Iowa -- Center for Energy and Environmental Education: Kamyar Enshayan
- Homeland Security: Tom Oswald, alternate Steve Zimmerman
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: Jerry Skalak
- IDOT: Scott Marler, alternate Dave Claman
- NRCS: Rich Sims, alternate Marty Adkins
- IDNR: Bill Ehm, alternate Sharon Tahtinen
- IDALS: Chuck Gipp
- IDED: Jessica Montana RIO: Ken Tow, alternate Susan Judkins
- USGS: Rob Middlemis-Brown, alternate Kaylene Carney

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16 Policy Recommendations Submitted 11/15/10

- .2% flood should be the regulated flood plain instead of the 1% flood
- State should prohibit reconstruction of substantially damaged structures in floodway and limit reconstruction to no more than 3 vertical feet of fill; other elevation means may be allowed
- Areas on the landward side of a flood control levee recognized by FEMA as protecting against the .2% flood should be recognized as NOT being subject to regulations for .2% flood plain
- New Class I Critical Facilities should be located outside the .2% flood plain whenever practical, and designed and located as to maintain function during a .2% flood whenever practical
- Enhance and implement minimum statewide stormwater laws and regulations
- Amend NPDES permits to require soil quality restoration after one or more acre of land is disturbed from construction

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16 Policy Recommendations

- Focus public investments in levees in build-up areas
- Provide interagency assessment and planning to support infrastructure/easement/land purchase investment decisions in flood plain areas
- Integrate multi-purpose wetlands into watersheds
- Conduct a hydrological tiling study
- Fund planning, implementation and monitoring of a pilot HUC-12 urban/rural watershed demonstration
- Support formation of a local chapter of the Association of State Flood Plain Managers in Iowa
- Inform the general public about flood plains, flood risks and basic flood plain management principles
- Include flood plain or alluvial soils information on RE disclosures
- Reassess criteria for conservation practices due to precipitation changes
- Implement a statewide watershed marketing campaign

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RIO has submitted the following policy for drafting – but that doesn't mean the bill will be filed

State: WRCC Recommendations Could be Considered Again:

1. Establishment of storm water best practices.
2. Enhancement of flood safety for critical facilities (health and safety).
3. Requiring a hydrological tiling study.
4. Reducing soil compaction in new developments of 1+ acres by requiring soil quality restoration that mitigates soil compaction and replaces topsoil after construction is complete.

For the First Time:

1. Appropriations

Federal: USDA Program Changes

1. Recognize recovery costs and encourage mitigation activities

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1. \$500,000 to for a tiling study by the Iowa Flood Center and Iowa State University.
2. \$6 million to the DNR for a grant program to provide \$200,000 each to 30 levee systems needing certification.
3. \$3 million annually to the DNR for local and regional watershed-based flood plain management planning.
4. \$4.2 million for dedicated technical positions at IDALS/DSC or ISU Extension Service or Iowa Flood Center for research and project implementation for watershed level planning effort that leads to an effective locally-led implementation project typically ranges from 10,000 – 30,000 acres in size.
5. \$50 Million annually to leverage local and federal funds for flood damage risk mitigation projects. Provide authority to the DNR and IDALS for the purchase of easements in upland areas that are part of planned flood risk reduction projects. (CONTINUED NEXT SLIDE)

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RIO has submitted the following appropriations for drafting – but that doesn't mean the bill will be filed

6. \$10 million (increase of \$5 million from current \$5 million funding level) to enhance existing stormwater funding to the Watershed Improvement Review Board.
7. Increase support to the State Revolving Fund to one-fourth of total funds, or a 75% federal/25% state share (currently funded on an 80% federal/20% state basis with the federal share received from EPA funds dependent on federal appropriations and the state share contributed by state bond funds).
8. Continue annual funding established in 2009 via HF822 for:
 - The Iowa Flood Center: \$1.3 million
 - The Iowa Department of Natural Resources: \$2 million for flood plain management section

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2011 Bill Draft Requests

Requests In Process

LSB# Bill#(s)	Working Title
1219 DP	Records Retention Preparedness
1189 DP	Disaster Aid Local Government Assistance
1233 DP	Disaster Recovery Fund
1239 DP	Local Emergency Management Funding
1234 DP	Flood Disclosures Insurance and Real Estate Documents
1235 DP	Floodplain Management Appropriations
1236 DP	Floodplain Management Policy
1228 DP	Business Disaster Recovery Programs
1345 DP	Smart Planning, Land Use
1240 XD	Rebuild Iowa Office Transition Plan
1229 DP	Community Floodplain Regulatory Incentive Program

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Iowa Watershed Planning and Funding

HUD Announcement \$84 Million in Disaster Funding

- Iowa received largest award
- Recognizes Iowa's leadership in disaster recovery
- Focus on planning
- Recommending **\$10 Million** for Watershed Initiatives
- Based on five WRCC recommendations passed in 2010

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Iowa Watershed Planning and Funding

- \$8.8 Million to **Iowa Flood Center** for Watershed Demonstration Pilot Projects outlined in SF 2459
- In conjunction with DNR, IDALS, NRCS and the Water Resources Coordinating Council, plan, implement and monitor pilot projects for urban and rural areas in a 12-digit hydrologic unit code (HUC-12) subwatershed that:
 - Maximize soil water holding capacity from precipitation
 - Minimize severe scour erosion and sand deposition from floods
 - Manage runoff under saturated soil moisture conditions
 - Reduce structural and nonstructural flood damage

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Iowa Watershed Planning and Funding

- \$800,000 to **Iowa Department of Natural Resources** for coordination of Watershed Management Authority organization
 - o Utilizes 28E agreements already in Code
 - o Can work within a hydrologic unit code (HUC) 8 watershed
 - o Watershed Management Authorities are formed to:
 - Assess and reduce flood risk
 - Assess and improve water quality
 - Monitor federal flood risk planning and activities
 - Educate residents about flood risks and water quality
 - Allocate funds available to the Authority for water quality and flood mitigation

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Iowa Watershed Planning and Funding

- \$400,000 to **Iowa Department of Natural Resources** for flood risk education outlined in HF 2531
 - o Marketing campaign to educate Iowans about the need to take personal responsibility for the quality and quantity of water in their local watersheds
 - o Develop educational materials and programs in consultation with floodplain experts to educate the general public about flood plains, flood risks and basic flood plain management principles
 - o Support formation of a chapter of the Association of State Flood Plain Managers in Iowa to provide a vehicle for local floodplain managers planners to pursue professional educational opportunities
 - Iowa Floodplain and Stormwater Management Association

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Past Calls for Floodplain Action

The Floods of 1993: Iowa Flood Disaster Report

"Iowa could benefit from an expanded, comprehensive, and fully integrated floodplain management program....The State of Iowa should review the floodplain management responsibility within the state and revise necessary laws to create a viable, effective program with adequate resources."

Interagency Floodplain Management Review Committee

Gerald E. Galloway, A Watershed Year, p. 233: "In 1994, the IFMRC proposed widely accepted, solid, science-based proactive measures to reduce, across the nation, future flood losses and the trauma they bring. Yet, because memories of floods fade rapidly and dealing with many of these recommendations would have brought political push-back, few of the measures were adopted."

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Questions and Answers



Cedar Falls 2008

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