

**FOURMILE CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
APRIL MEETING MINUTES**

**CITY OF ANKENY
PUBLIC SERVICES BUILDING
220 W 1ST STREET, ANKENY, IOWA 50023**

**April 27th, 2017
4:00 PM**

Attendees:

Board Members:

*Skip Moore – City of Des Moines
Karen Oppelt – City of Altoona
Ben Champ – City of Pleasant Hill
Dan Pritchard – City of Des Moines
Amy Bryant – City of Ankeny
Vern Wiley – City of Altoona
Rich Leopold - PCCB
Cindy Valin – Polk SWCD*

Others:

*Adam Fendrick - PCCB
Tyler Stubbs - DNR
Teva Dawson – Des Moines MPO
Kyle Riley – HR Green/Polk SWCD
Johnathan Swanson – Polk SWCD
Amanda Brown – Polk SWCD
Jim Utter – City of Altoona
Pam Mollenhauer – Iowa Hygienic Lab
Hanna Bates – ISU
Mark Land – Snyder and Associates
Clifford Leonard
Cameron Stufflebeam – PCEMA
Jennifer Welch – Polk SWCD*

1. **Welcome – Ben Champ, Chair**
The meeting was called to order at 4:02pm by Ben Champ
2. **Approval of the Agenda**
*Motion moved by Vern Wiley, Second by Cindy Valin
Agenda approved*
3. **Approval of January 26th, 2017 Meeting Minutes**
*Motion moved by Cindy Valin, Second by Vern Wiley
Agenda approved*
4. **Implementation Update**
John Swanson presented to the group some options for a watershed wide monitoring plan. (See attached) John elaborated on a few of the options a little more. He said option one would expand upon Polk County Conservation Board's (PCCB) water monitoring effort they already have in place. This would involve city staff going out every two weeks at the same time and using IOWATER sample kits to test the water. PCCB would provide the testing materials and training. John said that the group would essentially be filling in the gaps in the areas where PCCB is not currently monitoring. He said the data would then be published in a yearly report by PCCB. Rich Leopold from PCCB gave an overview of the monitoring report from this year. The "short version" of the yearly report was handed out to the group. The longer version can be found at

leadingyououtdoors.com. John then mentioned that there will be a free IOWATER training on June 7th. See attached flyer for more information

Option 2 would involve a jurisdiction essentially hiring the State Hygienic Lab to take samples at certain sites during the year. The lab would then publish a yearly report for the jurisdiction. The city of Johnston currently does this and using the information to determine effectiveness of their practices they are installing.

Option 3 is the most expensive option and would require installing real time stream monitors. We would pay the Iowa Flood Center to be in charge of these and house the data. John said if we could find funding to pay for these, it would be the best option because it would get us real time data. It could also bring in interest from universities and others who may be looking to do research.

John's suggestion is to fill in the gaps using option 1 and use the State Hygienic Lab (option 2) in specialty situations. He is going to be meeting with PCCB Board to determine where these gaps are and then he will meet with the jurisdictions where these gaps are located. He will continue to look for supplemental funds for option 3.

Jim Utter suggested that measuring E.coli concentrations could be beneficial. John stated that the Polk SWCD is going to be looking into monitoring e.coli themselves in the near future. John also mentioned that the Iowa Flood Center has said that they will be updating the flood inundation maps for Fourmile creek.

Amanda Brown showed the group a map of potential project locations within the rural areas of the watershed (see attached). These practices are mainly water retention structures that would work to help decrease flooding downstream. She also mentioned the implementation of two saturated buffers this fall. She will have more information as the time gets closer.

5. Council of the WMA Update

Teva Dawson stated that the next Council of the WMAs meeting will be held on May 8th at 2:00pm at the MPO office downtown. At these meeting they will be discussing legislative topics, statewide WMA formation and stormwater policies. The Iowa Association of Public Health will be present to discuss how public health and water quality are tied together. Please let Teva know of any other topics you would like to see on upcoming Council of the WMA agendas.

In regards to stormwater polices; there will be a session to discuss these polices and how to move forward on June 1st at 10:30am at the MPO building. More information will be available as the date gets closer. Anyone within the jurisdictions that deals with stormwater topics/issues is welcome to attend.

Teva also updated the group on the current status of the Water Trails plan. They are now in the feasibility stage where they are working with engineers to do ground truths and estimates. She wants jurisdictions to let her know if there are other locations for recreational opportunities along Fourmile Creek that are not in the plan that could potentially be added.

6. Lower Fourmile Greenway Master Plan Update

Mark Land gave an overview of the Greenway Master Plan and how we got to where we are now. He said that currently the steering committee is working towards determining what amenities should be located within the greenway and who will maintain the area. He said there will likely be a public meeting in late summer to gain input. He also said that some elements of the plan are already being implemented even though the plan itself is not completed. The example he used is the stormwater wetland that will be built later this year near the Gay Lea Wilson Trail. Joh Swanson also said that Polk SWCD will be looking to do some oxbow restorations in the greenway in the near future. Mark said that currently the greenway plan ends near Berwick, but the plan is to eventually extend the greenway all the way up the watershed.

Skip Moore asked what the plan was for streambank stabilization within the greenway. Mark stated that the priority areas are spelled out in the plan utilizing data collected by the Polk SWCD.

Vern Wiley mentioned the Fourmile stream stabilization work that WRA is doing North of Broadway and how there is currently a temporary parking lot located where they are doing work. He stated that if this parking lot could be left and maintained it would be a good permanent access for the trail and creek located nearby. This could also tie into the Water Trails plan. Jennifer Welch said she will look into this.

7. Other Discussions/Public Comment

Jennifer Welch mentioned a training on the unified sizing criteria for designing water quality practices from the Iowa Storm Water Management Manual that will be held on May 31st. The meeting will be put on by ISWEP and held at the Clive Aquatic Center. More information will be sent out to the group when available.

8. Next Meeting – July 27th 2017, 4:00pm; Ankeny Public Services Building

9. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn the meeting was placed by Vern Wiley and seconded by Amy Bryant. Meeting was adjourned at 4:44pm.