

Clear Creek Watershed Coalition
Board of Directors – Quarterly Meeting
2:30 pm, April 15, 2020
Teleconference – Due to COVID-19

Board Members by phone: Coralville – **John Lundell**; Iowa County – **John Gahring**; North Liberty – **Tracey Mulcahey**; Johnson County – **Kasey Hutchinson**; Iowa City – **Ben Clark**; Tiffin – **Al Havens**; Johnson County SWCD – **Jody Bailey**; Iowa Co. SWCD – **Stewart Maas**.

Others by phone: Reuben Vyn – UI CEA; Colleen Kinney – HSEMD; Kate Gianinni – Iowa Flood Center/IIHR; John Rathbun – CCWC Watershed Coordinator; Jennifer Fencel – ECICOG; Amy Foster – City of Coralville; Jamie Benning & Hilary Pierce – ISU Extension & Outreach; Hanna Bates – Iowa Water Center; Jeff Geerts – Iowa Economic Development Authority.

Call to order and introductions: Chairperson Lundell called the meeting to order at 2:32 pm.

Administrative:

- **Approval of agenda:** Motion by Gahring; second by Maas to approve the agenda. Motion carried.
- **Approval of January 15, 2020 minutes:** Motion by Gahring; second by Havens to adopt the January 15, 2020 minutes. Motion carried.

Clear Creek Watershed Planning Process Update:

- Fencel provided online access to the draft Clear Creek Watershed Plan. The next step is to get comments from the technical team and other stakeholders including the Board. After a more final version is completed a public open house will be scheduled and a comment period established. The final step will be to come back to the Board for adoption of the Plan and then meet with each member policy makers to request adoption.
- Fencel gave an overview of variables the board might want to consider for a financial contribution formula such as population, total area, flood hazard area (within 100-year flood plain), and value of land and structures within the 100-year flood plain. The Board discussed the current economic climate and unsure future. They also expressed a desire to define a workplan for the funding before determining the budget.

Practice Implementation Process:

- Rathbun reviewed the first bid packet containing three divisions in the bid which were opened March 20. Two of the nine contractors were low bidders (1 from Keokuk County, 1 from Iowa County). The bid total came in about \$38k lower than what was estimated. Contracts are in process.
- Rathbun reviewed the practices in “INV #4” that are going to the Tier II environmental review, showed approximate location and gave a brief overview of each practice.
- **INV #4:** Motion to approve by Gahring, second by Maas. Motion carried.
- Rathbun discussed the request for reallocating funds through the Iowa Economic Development Authority. Most of the WMAs have greater interest than they do funding. Redistributed mainly to the City of Dubuque. Jeff Geerts with IEDA said the project deadline has been extended to Dec. 31, 2021.
- Rathbun provided to the Board a written update of activities since last meeting including financial status, to date Clear Creek balance is about \$2.6 million. After construction with Bid Package 1 & 2 combined, Clear Creek should be at about \$1.9 million. See report at the end of this document for details.

Announcements & Events:

- Big Splash & International Flood Conference, Aug. 13-19th, Iowa City
- 75th Soil and Water Conversation Society (SWCS) International Annual Conference, July 26-29, Des Moines
- Iowa League of Cities 2020 Annual Conference, Sept. 16-18, Coralville
- Blue Water Festival, Aug. 8, Okoboji

Next CCWC Board meeting:

CCWC quarterly Board meeting schedule is third the Wednesday in Jan, Apr, July, & Oct at 5:00 pm.

- July 15, 2020 at Coralville City Hall

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 3:25 pm

Clear Creek Watershed Project Coordinator Report, for April 15th, 2020
 Clear Creek Watershed Coalition

Since our last Board meeting:

- Projects:
 - First Bid Package was advertised, and bids opened on March 20th. There were nine contractors that submitted bids, two contractors were low bidders. One from Iowa County, one from Keokuk County. Bids were approximately \$40,000 lower than estimated.
 - Tree cutting was completed on four sites, on March 30th & 31st. To allow for larger construction window.
 - Second bid package is in the works and the third will be ready later this spring or summer, after the Tier II has been completed.
- Outreach:
 - Cedar Rapids Gazette Article, Sunday, March 22nd. Click [HERE](#) to read on Gazette website.
 - Working on possible Field day with the Tallgrass Prairie Center.
 - Working on Cover Crop Field day with Cover Crop Champion money through Conservation Districts of Iowa.
 - Iowa Watershed Award – Circle of Excellence, announcement on April 22nd.
 - Working on next newsletter.
- Administrative:
 - Reallocation of Funds results: The City of Dubuque will receive any money not obligated. Most of the watersheds have more interest than funding.
 - Working with Jennifer Fencil (ECICOG) on portions of the Watershed Management Plan.
 - Financials to date:

	Grant Share	Engineering as of Apr. 7th	Archaeology as of Apr. 7th	Construction	Cost Share (add)	Balance
Actual	\$2,980,781.00	\$402,819.37	\$38,714.00	\$0.00	\$36,283.10	\$2,575,530.73
Actual	Bid Package #1		Bid	\$362,733.50	\$36,283.10	\$2,212,797.23
Projected	Bid Package #2		Estimated	\$303,641.50	\$28,012.15	\$1,937,167.88

Ahead: Continue bidding and construction, possible field days, newsletter.

End of Coordinator report.