

UPPER WAPSIPINICON WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

The Upper Wapsipinicon River Watershed Management Authority (UWRWMA) held a meeting on Wednesday, November 19, 2014 in the Buchanan County Courthouse Assembly Room, Independence, Iowa. Members present: Buchanan County, Chickasaw County, Fayette County, Howard County, City of Elma, City of Independence, City of New Hampton, Buchanan and Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Lora Friest from RC & D and nine additional communities were present.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ralph Kremer at 1:30 p.m.

Buchanan County Auditor, Cindy Gosse presented a list of new members since the original 28E agreement was filed.

Lora Friest from RC & D presented information on the planning grant. Two watershed management authorities received funding but the UWRWMA did not. The RC & D Board has approved funding for an associate to assist with the formation and future grant applications for the UWRWMA.

Members of the Soil and Water Conservation Districts reported on the past and current projects in the UWRWMA. Many of the districts are working on projects in other water districts; including water monitoring, obtaining permanent easements for grass and wildlife areas, camping areas (lake), trout stream protection and bio-reactor installation.

Lora Friest presented examples of projects in other districts and expressed that communities need to partner with soil and water conservation districts for future projects. RC & D will be establishing a website to post information including meeting notices and minutes.

Goals:

- Public awareness, education is important
- Water quality or water quantity assessment
- Website
- Invite Pheasants Forever
- Outreach to potential members
- Achievable projects identified
- Signage for entering the watershed

It was discussed that community colleges/universities may be able to assist with the water monitoring/testing.

The soil and water conservation districts will set protocol for testing and present the information at the next meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 19, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. in the Buchanan County courthouse assembly room.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Gosse
Acting Secretary