Iowa Nutrient Research Center Advisory Council

September 27, 2013
South Prairie Room, Gateway Hotel and Conference Center
2100 Green Hills Drive, Ames, Iowa

3:00 pm – Wendy Wintersteen called the meeting to order.
Introductions of Advisory Council members
Greg Brenneman, Agricultural Engineering Field Specialist, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach; James Gillespie, Director, Division of Soil Conservation, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship; Bill Northey, Iowa Secretary of Agriculture [substituting for Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship Water Quality Coordinator not yet hired]; Daryl Smith, Director, Tallgrass Prairie Center, and Professor of Biology, University of Northern Iowa; Marsha Ternus, Director of the Harkin Institute at Drake [substituting for Keith Summerville, Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, and Associate Professor of Environmental Science, Drake University]; Bruce Trautman, Deputy Director, Iowa Department of Natural Resources; Larry Weber, Director, Iowa Institute of Hydraulic Research (IIHR) – Hydroscience and Engineering, Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Edwin Green Chair in Hydraulics, University of Iowa; Wendy Wintersteen, Dean, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Iowa State University.

Citizens attending the meeting also introduced included: Craig Hill, Iowa Farm Bureau, West Des Moines; Stefan Gailans, Ames; Mark Rasmussen, ISU; Rich Degner, Ankeny; Matt Deppe, Winterset; Kendall Lamkey, ISU; Bill Freeland, House Democratic Caucus Staff; Ralph Rosenberg, IA Environmental Council; Allison Robertson, ISU; Bill Crumpton, ISU; Antonio Mallarino, ISU; Ben Gleason, Johnston; Don Petersen, Iowa Farm Bureau; Roger Wolf, Ankeny; Rodney Williamson, Johnston; Jessica Bloomberg, Iowa State Dairy Assoc., Ankeny; Chris Freland, Midwest Dairy Association, State Center; Doug Schnoebelen, Univ of IA, Iowa City; Tom Isenhart, ISU; Arne Hallam, ISU; John Tyndall, ISU; Matt Helmers, ISU; J. Gordon Arbuckle, Jr. , ISU; and Linda Kinman, Des Moines.

Wendy Wintersteen reviewed the legislative purpose of the Iowa Nutrient Research Center:

> "The purpose of the center shall be to pursue a science-based approach to nutrient management research that may include but is not limited to evaluating the performance of current and emerging nutrient management practices, and using an adaptive management framework for providing recommendations for the implementation of nutrient management practices and the development of new nutrient management practices. "

And also noted that a majority shall not include any member who has a conflict of interest and a statement by a member of a conflict of interest shall be conclusive for this purpose.

Discussion and decision on work plan proposals

John Lawrence reviewed the process for proposals to be submitted.

Larry Weber provided an overview on the University of Iowa work plan:
Iowa Institute of Hydraulic Research (IIHR) - Hydroscience and Engineering– Investigators: Schnoebelen, Weber, Ward

- Quantify benefits of BMPs, land management practices and associated hydrology on nutrient loading to water resources using hydrodynamic modeling tools

- Quantify benefits of BMPs, land management practices and associated hydrology on sediment and phosphorus loading to water resources using hydrodynamic modeling tools
- Explore optimal placement of BMPs and land management practices for reduction of nitrogen, sediment and phosphorus loading to water resources
- Develop database of available nutrient data sets in Iowa to be used in support of scientific understanding and nutrient management
- Measurement of field data parameters in support of modeling

John Lawrence provided an overview of the University of Northern Iowa proposal:

- Distribution, transport, and biogeochemical transformations of agriculturally derived nitrogen and phosphorus in Cedar River watershed – Investigator: Iqbal

John Lawrence provided the overview Iowa State University proposals:

- Investigating causes of corn yield decreases following cereal rye winter cover crop – Investigators: Kaspar, Moorman, Robertson, Lenssen
- Establishing pragmatically dynamic program for extending water quality BMP financial information: Farmer tools for Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy – Investigator: Tyndall
- Social-economic research work plan – Investigators: Kling, Wright Morton, Arbuckle, Ingels
- Phosphorus transport in Iowa streams: Importance of stream bed and bank erosion – Investigators: Isenhart, Kovar, Schilling, Schultz, Thompson, Tomer
- Establishment and monitoring of saturated buffers within high– priority HUC– 12 watersheds – Investigators: Jaynes, Isenhart
- Nonpoint source nitrogen and phosphorous loads at implementation scale: Direct agricultural nutrient loads to surface waters in relation to land use and mgt. – Investigators: Crumpton, Helmers, Schilling, Tomer, Mallarino
- Impacts of cover crops on phosphorus and nitrogen loss with surface runoff – Investigators: Mallarino, Cruse, Helmers, Sawyer, Jaynes
- Bioreactor Research & Assessment of Woodchip Tile Denitrification Bioreactors: Optimal Design/ Performance and Experimental Bioreactor Installation and Study – Investigators: Soupir, Wolf

Members made positive comments about the complementary set and mix of proposals from the three universities. There may be some funds available through the Center to have a conference to share the information gained from the proposals and provide communications for the Center.

John Lawrence stated that quarterly budget and progress reports will be requested from the investigators.

Comments from the citizens attending the meeting:

Linda Kinman asked that the proposals should address the changing attitudes of the agricultural community towards nutrient management issues. J. Arbuckle responded that the Social-economic research work plan approved today will specifically look at those issues.

Bruce Trautman moved to adjourn the meeting, Greg Brenneman moved to 2nd the motion, and all members voted yes to adjourn the meeting.