

## **Iowa Whitewater Coalition Board Meeting Minutes**

June 15, 2010, convened at 5:39 pm

NAI Ruhl & Ruhl, West Des Moines

**Members present:** Lyle Danielson, Julie Mankel, Debbie Neustadt. Ann Cannon and Peter Komendowski participated via teleconference.

**Previous meeting's minutes:** Approved minutes of meeting on May 18, 2010

**Treasurer's Report:** Julie reported that the River Run Garbage Grab (R2G2) received funding from Wells Fargo and Meredith Corp in the last month. Other income was received for a new membership and other member contributions. Julie will forward financial reports to board members.

**Clean Rivers Team:** No doubt about it – the situation with the Gulf Oil Spill is bad. There are many needs, but British Petroleum is obligated to pay all clean up costs. The board chose not to take any action at this time. However Ann will look for a suitable group in Louisiana that may merit our measured support.

**Iowa's Water and Land Legacy:** The board passed a motion to endorse Iowa's Water and Land Legacy, a broad, Iowa-based coalition working to pass a constitutional amendment to establish the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund on Nov 2, 2010. If passed, the Trust Fund would provide a much needed permanent and constitutionally protected funding source for conserving and enhancing water quality and natural habitat throughout the state. The trust fund will provide a consistent and accountable revenue source to improve water quality and natural areas in Iowa, aide conservation of agricultural soils and restore wetlands to protect against future flooding. This initiative is the largest clean water/conservation initiative in the country this year and promises great benefits for lake restoration/preservation, conservation, and clean water.

### **Miscellaneous Business:**

- The Board declined to accept responsibility for an invoice related to an unsolicited and unapproved advertisement.
- Discussion regarding board member communications. Ex-officio members will remain on the board listserv distribution list unless the individual requests to be removed from the list. This plan may be changed by the board at any time in the future.
- There was a lengthy discussion about building a strategy going forward regarding low head dam safety and raising community awareness about the dangers. Frustration was expressed with the Governor and the 2010 Iowa Legislature zeroing appropriations for the State's Low Head Dam Public Hazard Program. Community outreach is seen as being crucial in reviving dam safety efforts. It was suggested that the previous IWC Strategic Plan and subsequent 18-month update

could serve as the springboard for the next steps. Debbie volunteered to organize a meeting in August to move effort forward.

**Next meeting:** Tuesday, September 21, 2010, 5:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Lyle Danielson.