

**Minutes**  
**Hazard Mitigation/ River Use Commission**  
**Waverly Civic Center**  
**7:00 pm, July 16, 2013**

**Attendance**

Commissioners: Schloemer-Present Turnball –Absent Jacks – Present Nielsen –Absent Engel –Absent Schroeder –Present Neuendorf –Present	Staff: C.E. Cherry –Absent C.A. Jones –Present  Liaison: C.C. Lieb –Present Mayor Brunkhorst –Absent	Guests: Steve Main Kip Ladage Dave Frerking Marv Ott Chuck Kromer Joan Bagelman
--	--	---

**Approve Agenda**

Motioned- Neuendorf, seconded- Jacks

**Approve Minutes:**

Motioned- Schroeder, seconded- Neuendorf

**Questions/ Comments**

- Guests wanted to discuss the proposed “No Wake Zone.” Notes can be found there. Dave Frerking came to talk about the river levels during the high water event at the end of May. He had compared data from that event to data from 2008. He shared his findings with the group. He lives in SE Waverly so most of his focus was on that area and the impact the dam had on water levels. It was noted it is hard to compare this year to anything previous because flows were so low last year and they have been high most of this year. The event in May was the 9<sup>th</sup> largest flood event in 100 years for Waverly, close to a 50 year flood event. The FEMA map and the Flood Insurance Rate Map do have some differences in flood levels based on the area.

**Unfinished Business**

- **“No Wake Zone”** – The group talked about the idea of a “no wake” zone on the Cedar River north of Three Rivers Park. Ott, Kromer, and Bagelman live along this stretch of the river. Schloemer visited residences last week and looked at riverbanks and practices residents were using to protect them from erosion. Many concerns come from vessels running the river at excessive speeds and creating a wake that erodes the river bank. The other concern is the safety of people on the water when boats and jet skis are going at high speed. Many people are on the river in canoes and kayaks and cannot move quickly out of a motorboat’s path. There are also a lot of people who stop at the large sandbar and swim. Fishermen also frequent that stretch and do not appreciate the faster speeds. Bagelman also questioned a curfew on the river because of the noise late at night when people party on the sandbar. One question about the “no wake” zone is enforcement. Who would enforce the regulation? City, county, DNR? If the no wake zone is not able to be enforced will it actually be followed? The group thought maybe a “caution, high traffic area” sign may be an option rather than enforcing a “no wake” zone. Schloemer said he would talk to the ski club and other land owners about the idea, erosion of riverbanks, and safety while on the water. Schloemer is also going to talk to Chief Pursell at the police department and the DNR about enforcement. The group agreed that safety is a key issue and education could make a big difference. The possibility of a newspaper piece about river safety was brought up.

**New Business –None**

## Tabled Items –None

### Project Status Report

- **Water Trail and Signage** – Jacks updated the group on the water trail. The Steering Committee met in May to finalize details for the July 13<sup>th</sup> event with Dr. Jim Pease. Pease gave a program at the Civic Center on July 13<sup>th</sup>. There were 36 people that attended. He spoke about river wildlife and plant life. He also talked about his experiences with paddling. After the presentation, 25 people joined Pease on a two hour paddle of the Cedar River. The group put in at Three Rivers Park and paddled north viewing river life before paddling back. The event was free to all and the DNR paid for Pease and the canoes/kayaks needed. The next meeting has not been set.
- **Dry Run Creek Improvements** – Jones talked about funding for the project and mentioned one option was to get funds from sales tax. FEMA has asked for information about the dry run improvements to use in map revision because it contributes directly to the Cedar River.
- **AmVets Riverbank Restoration Project** – Pictures of the restoration were provided. The project is done. Limestone chunks were placed after the slope down to the river was changed. Native perennials were planted. The construction held up very well with the high water in May which provides hope this was a good change.
- **Cedar River LOMR** – The letter of map revision has been submitted. We are now in the 30 month window. Public communication is being done. Mapping and river modeling will look at the 100 and 500 year flood plain areas now with the new dam and intent to improve the dry run creek.

### Subcommittees

- **River Use** – No additional information
- **Planning and Zoning** – No report
- **Soil and Water Conservation District** – No report
- **Community Action Plan** – No report

### Group Discussion

- Fall River Clean Up - the group decided to let Water Trail Steering Committee work on arranging a river clean-up.
- Hazard Mitigation Plan - Waverly needs to update their plan by 2015. Revisions can be made and the city can join the county plan.
- Revisions to Dam Permit - Erosion is not considered a factor in the dam permit. Even with higher seasonal flow, the river level has actually been lower than in years past because of the new dam. A document was provided to the group.
- NGVD29 vs NAVD 88 - a document was provided to the commission. These are the guidelines FEMA uses for mapping. They are more accurate to determine where flood insurance is needed and height projection.
- Cedar River Fun day - Ladage talked about the poker run in Frederika and wondered if Waverly could sponsor some sort of family day on the river to promote safe, fun river use.

**Adjournment:** Motioned – Neuendorf, seconded – Schroeder