

Iowa Whitewater Coalition
Board Meeting Minutes -- May 22, 2008

Board Members Present: Ann Cannon, Lyle Danielson, Julie Mankel
Members Absent: Scott Bandstra, Dave Kraemer, Peter Komendowski, Debbie Neustadt
Other Attendees: Nate Hoogeveen, John Wenck

While waiting to start the meeting, Lyle displayed a user manual that will be included with the dam models to be distributed. John was pleased with the performance of the new model at the Paddling Iowa adult continuing education program. Lyle noted that additional changes are needed to keep the pump from cavitating on bubbles in the return water.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. It was noted that a quorum was not present. The group discussed the situation and decided to continue and finalize business with electronic voting via email.

Lyle moved and Julie seconded to approve minutes of the board meeting April 17th, 2008. Ann, Julie and Lyle voted Aye. E-votes: Dave, Debbie, Peter and Scott voted Aye. Motioned was approved.

John Wenck presented a brief legislative update. Appropriations for the state-wide water trail plan amounted to \$250,000. The DNR will receive one million dollars for low head dam safety improvement projects. Another 52 million dollars over the next 5 years will be invested in the RECAT program for about a 30% match on water trails and dam projects. John added that the abandoned cars bill passed in the Senate, but failed in the House due to language issues. John expects that bill will be reworked for the 2009 Legislature.

John presented a request for financial support of the 2008 River Run Garbage Grab. This year the cleanup effort will double the miles impacted and will include the area downstream from the confluence of the Des Moines and Raccoon River. Event organizers hope to double participants to 400 and engage the downtown Des Moines business community and City of Pleasant Hill. In the effort to bring people together, three acts provide entertainment in the evening after the cleanup at the Simon Estes Amphitheatre. John went on to note that recycling does not cover cleanup disposal expenses.

Group discussion includes concern about the size and on-going nature of the request, especially when IWC fund raising efforts have fallen off. With so many tasks and other responsibilities, Lyle has not been able to draft a budget for 2008. Wells Fargo committed \$2,500 to the \$10,000 budget. CIP is providing \$500 and will be considering special fund raising efforts.

Lyle moved and Julie seconded to support the 2008 River Run Garbage Grab with a grant of \$500. Ann, Julie and Lyle voted Aye. E-votes: Dave, Debbie, Peter and Scott voted Aye. Motioned was approved.

Treasurer's Report: Julie noted that there was little financial activity during the last month. IWC received a \$100 contribution from Wright Water Engineers, Inc. Michael Sharp helped complete our IRS obligations by filing a Form 990-EZ (for organizations with income less than \$25,000). RRGG 2008 fund already has \$1,250 in deposits.

Membership Committee update postponed until the next meeting.

Lyle informed the group that he and Piper Wall discussed expectations for instruction fee income and instructor fees while traveling to Mason City and the Winnebago River for the "Kayak Eddy Skills and Surfing" clinic on April 20, 2008. Piper was expecting 2/3 of the fees to be given to her and the other 1/3 to be retained by IWC for its programs. Those funds would pay instructor and safety boater travel expenses and duplication costs of student video analysis. The IWC third still needs to be directed. Group discussion followed and included appreciation of having Piper as a resource. Piper is ACA certified and paid all of her expenses while attaining the certification. It was noted that if IWC fails to meet her expectations, that we would probably not have Piper's help in the future.

Lyle moved and Julie seconded to establish a policy that divides paddling instruction fee income with the instructor getting two thirds of the receipts. Ann, Julie and Lyle voted Aye. E-votes: Debbie, Peter and Scott voted Aye; Dave voted Nay. Motioned was approved.

Dave submitted the following comment with his e-vote: "I would fully support paying Piper according to this understanding for this event. But without the benefit of discussion I am reluctant to establish a policy." Lyle understands the premise of Dave's position and welcomes additional discussion and action at a subsequent board meeting.

Ann had general questions about environmental issues associated with dam removal. Nate offered to forward DNR information. Lyle would also forward information that he had accumulated.

Lyle noted that the 2007 Annual Report is due and not yet started. He also pointed out that the 18-month extension on the Reconnecting the Rivers Strategic Plan has expired and results need to be reported. The group concurred and agreed that IWC should continue with the goals as outlined. Ann received copies of the 2006 Annual Report, 2005 Strategic Plan and the Plan Update. Lyle will publish the plan documents to the IWC web site.

The next board meeting will be held June 19th, 2008, 6:30 pm. Julie will arrange a meeting location.

Respectfully submitted by Lyle Danielson.