

(Amy Kahler, Des Moines Water Works, 2201 George Flagg Parkway, Des Moines, IA 50321, 515-283-8760)

**Meeting**  
**CENTRAL IOWA REGIONAL DRINKING WATER COMMISSION**  
**Executive Committee**  
**Des Moines Water Works Board Room**  
**July 11, 2013**  
**3:00 p.m.**

**Present:** E.J. Giovannetti, Amy Kahler, John McCune, Jim McKenna, Louise Moon, Bill Stowe, Bart Weller

**Update on Nitrate Concentrations in Source Waters**

Bill Stowe and Amy Kahler reviewed recent nitrate trends on the Des Moines and Raccoon Rivers, DMWW's primary sources for water. DMWW has not pulled water from either river for approximately two months due to record-setting nitrate concentrations and has been running their nitrate removal facility since early May at an approximate cost of \$7,000 per day in order to meet the EPA's Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 10 mg/L for nitrate. Although nitrate levels in the two rivers continue to be well above the EPA's MCL, Amy reported the latest data shows nitrate trends are beginning to inch downward. DMWW staff began taking water from the Des Moines River again on July 6, 2013 in order to accommodate increased irrigation demand. Due to DMWW's nitrate removal facility operating at maximum capacity, Amy reported DMWW issued a press release the morning of the Executive meeting requesting reduced irrigation demand throughout the metro area to assist DMWW in maintaining a public water supply that does not violate safe drinking water standards. A nitrate update will be given at the quarterly CIRDWC meeting on July 23.

**Governance Planning**

The Executive Committee discussed how to proceed with discussions related to regional governance. The group began identifying "key principles" that should drive ongoing governance discussions. These draft principles will be presented and discussed as a larger group at the July 23<sup>rd</sup> CIRDWC meeting.

It was noted that CIRDWC passed the following resolution at their meeting July 26, 2011, related to regional governance:

*Be it resolved that the Central Iowa Regional Drinking Water Commission (CIRDWC) requests a mutual evaluation to be conducted by CIRDWC, the Des Moines Water Works Board of Trustees and the Des Moines City Council to assess the benefits of creating a metro water authority in Des Moines.*

A letter was sent to both the Des Moines City Council and Des Moines Water Works Board of Trustees requesting a discussion with both entities to carry out an evaluation for everyone's mutual benefit. Further discussions did not occur at that time.

**July Meeting Agenda**

The Committee discussed possible agenda items and finalized the July agenda.

**Open**

None

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.