

Central Iowa Regional Water

Regionalization Discussions in Full Swing



Workshop Sessions

Since the spring of 2017, leaders from the three independent water boards in the Des Moines Metro – Des Moines Water Works, Urbandale Water, and West Des Moines Water Works – have been involved in discussions to explore the opportunity for regionalized water production for Central Iowa. The meetings started with the discussion among the three water boards and quickly expanded to include leaders of the various cities in the Central Iowa region.

In September, the group engaged an independent facilitator, and formal discussions have taken place through the fall. Through facilitation, the group has been seeking resolution on identified issues. Each participant has entered in these by-monthly meetings with an open mind and a desire to find the best solution to how Central Iowa will manage water production now and into the future.

To date, the Central Iowa regional water workgroup has held five public meetings and five workshop sessions where participants have invested numerous hours discussing subjects involving regionalizing water production in Central Iowa.

General Consensus on the need for a Regional Water Authority

There is a consensus among the parties for the need for a regional water authority in Central Iowa. Community leaders and water providers in the region have reviewed a long-range plan for Central Iowa with the growth trends being projected for in the coming decades, making it imperative for all communities to responsibly manage water production. The best way we can continue to serve Central Iowa's access to safe, affordable, and abundant drinking water is to work collaboratively within the region and realize the economies of scale from drinking water production.

Central Iowa Regional Water



Workshops Continued

Guiding Principles

A set of guiding principles have been established to direct the conversation however all issues are being discussed with the question of asset transfer being one of the more complex issues for the group to tackle. Another idea offered by the group has been to explore the expansion of the existing Des Moines Water Works Board. This will be discussed at a future workshop to determine if this option is viable.

The goal of the group is to make this a win-win for all communities and to eliminate the need for individual communities to build their own water treatment plants without consideration for the needs of the greater community. This regional effort has been difficult in the past, but the group is determined to evaluate all options and continues to seek input from the citizens and members of the various boards and city governments within the Central Iowa area for the best option for the region.

Valuation and Representation Becoming Important Issues

It has become important to consider the implications and feasibility of transferring water production assets to the Regional Water Authority and how these assets would be valued. Asset transfer does not follow the guiding principles, but the group decided this is an important item to discuss based on prior consensus on the obligation and right to serve.

Community Input

We encourage anyone interested in the topic to attend a workshop or the public meetings. We also have made information from the meetings available on various websites, and can be accessed through one of the links below:

<http://www.dmww.com/about-us/board-of-trustees/central-iowa-regional-water/>

<http://www.cirdwc.com/regionalization-1.html>

What's Coming Up!

Upcoming Workshops and Meetings

December 4, 2017, 11:00 AM

Central Iowa Regional Water Workshop 6
Des Moines Water Works

Workshop
6

December 6, 2017, 7:30 AM

Central Iowa Regional Water Public Meeting
Urbandale City Hall

Public
Meeting

December 6, 2017, 4:00 PM

Central Iowa Regional Water Workshop 7
Des Moines Water Works

Workshop
7

December 14, 2017, 4:00 PM

Central Iowa Regional Water Workshop 8
Des Moines Water Works

Workshop
8

December 15, 2017, 7:30 AM

Central Iowa Regional Water Public Meeting
Urbandale City Hall

Public
Meeting

Where We've Been

A list of previous workshops

October 10, 2017, 4:30 PM

Central Iowa Regional Water Workshop 1

Des Moines Water Works

- Obligation for the Regional Entity to Serve
- Right to Serve (Exclusivity)

Workshop
1

October 23, 2017, 4:00 PM

Central Iowa Regional Water Workshop 2

Des Moines Water Works

- Capitalization of regional entity, 28E/28F
- Accounting for Regional Water Production Costs

Workshop
2

October 26, 2017, 4:00 PM

Central Iowa Regional Water Workshop 3

Des Moines Water Works

- Operational Authority of Regional Entity
- Planning & Specification Authority of Regional Entity

Workshop
3

November 14, 2017, 4:00 PM

Central Iowa Regional Water Workshop 4

Des Moines Water Works

- Valuation Concepts

Workshop
4

November 16, 2017, 4:00 PM

Central Iowa Regional Water Workshop 5

Des Moines Water Works

- Valuation Concepts Continued

Workshop
5