



PRAIRIE *of Iowa* RIVERS



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

About Prairie Rivers of Iowa



As a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization, *Prairie Rivers of Iowa* plays a unique role in Iowa. As one of the only not-for-profit organizations focusing on conserving our natural and cultural resources, we bring unique expertise to creatively address some of Iowa's most challenging needs.



- » *Prairie Rivers of Iowa* is a federally-authorized not-for-profit organization dedicated to creating a better environment for the citizens of Iowa.
- » We provide educational services for Iowans that create awareness and understanding, which leads to better conservation of our natural and historical resources.
- » Our organization builds partnerships with and utilizes local experts; this empowers people to understand, create and support a healthy, natural environment.
- » Iowans profit from our organization because we improve the local economy, create a strong sense of community, as well as invest resources back into the state of Iowa.



OUR CORE VALUES

ADVOCATE

We support ecological and natural resource integrity by advancing sustainable stewardship practices.

PARTNER

We engage and empower people and organizations with a diversity of skills and expertise to accomplish together more than we can do separately.

EDUCATE

We foster the environment by learning, and educating Iowans to activate and engage in cultivating an environment of conservation.

ASSESSMENT

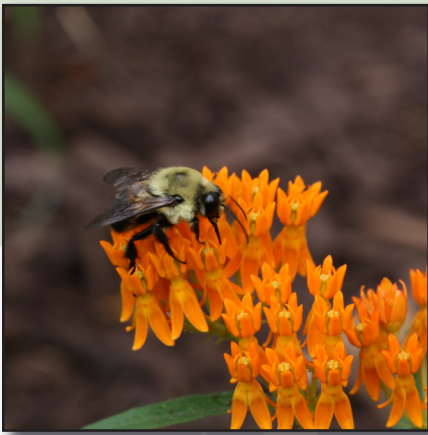
We support a consistency of actions and methods through ongoing assessment of our programs.

TRANSPARENCY

Approaching opportunities and challenges with unbiased, candid and open communication.

We respect and elevate the integrity of the natural, historical, and cultural resources in Iowa and advocate sustainability for present and future generations.

Executive Director's Letter



Greetings,

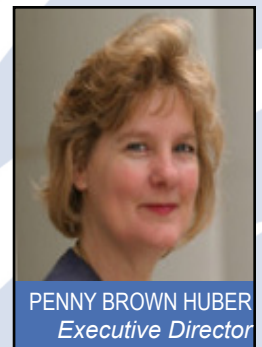
It was a relief to see 2020 end and, while there still may be some bumpy roads ahead, we hope to be returning to semi-normal yet in 2021.

In 2020, the staff worked hard to build on ideas we started while at the same time trying to think forward about how we can contribute to educating the public about our work in supporting and conserving our natural and cultural resources. It required us to think out of our boxes, rethink some of our messaging and how we communicate through our website and social media outlets. The intentional direction has already led to more robust connections and conversations with more people who care about the issues around natural and cultural resources in Iowa.

Over the next year I see our organization continuing to broaden our appeal to people across Iowa and the U.S. To really focus on launching new five-year plans that can help establish deeper partnerships, more complex research and identifying innovative solutions to some of our difficult problems. We are certain much work will need to be done and our staff and Board of Directors are up to the challenges.

Thank you,

Executive Director



PENNY BROWN HUBER
Executive Director

FINANCIAL REPORT



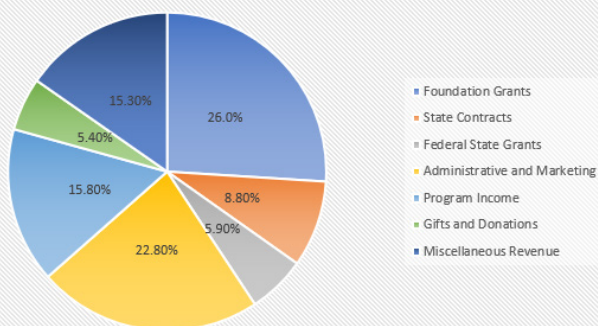
INCOME

	<u>Amount</u>
Foundation Grants	\$35,000
State Contracts	\$104,747
Federal & State Grants	\$23,469
Administrative & Marketing	\$91,633
Program Income	\$63,583
Gifts & Donations	\$21,573
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$61,283
Total	\$401,288

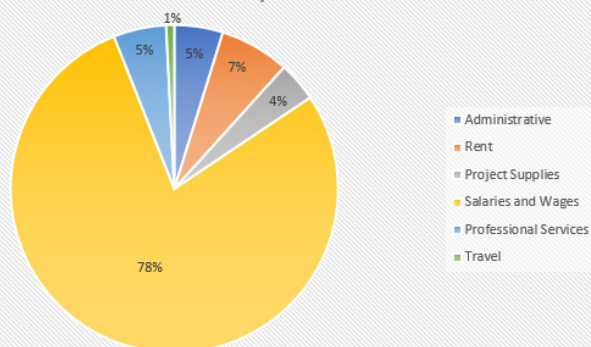
EXPENSES

	<u>Amount</u>
Administrative	\$16,330
Rent	\$23,424
Project Supplies	\$13,139
Salaries and Wages	\$265,734
Professional Services	\$17,541
Travel	\$2,650
Total	\$338,818

2020 Income



2020 Expenses



OUR DONORS, PARTNERS, AND COLLABORATORS



SUPPORTING OUR ANNUAL EFFORTS

- » David Andrews
- » Bob & Joyce Ausberger
- » Daniel & Julie Beougher
- » Gail Boliver
- » Nan Bonfils & Don Adams
- » Tara Bounds
- » Penny Brown & Gary Huber
- » Marlin Clemens
- » Rick Dietz
- » GM & David Fredel
- » Van Gaulke
- » Brian Godwin
- » William Gutowski
- » Sue Halverson
- » Mark Harris
- » Jerry Hatfield
- » Sue Haug
- » Paul Hellenschmidt
- » Thomas Huber
- » Dale Ites
- » Kathy John
- » Linda Johnson
- » Mike Kellner
- » Erv & Janet Klaas
- » Joe Lally
- » Donald & Dorthy Lewis
- » Tonia McCarley
- » Nancy Molder
- » Jane Montgomery
- » Ginevera Moore
- » Brad Murty
- » Jeffery & Angela Oppedahl
- » Rod Patterson
- » Mark Peters
- » Robert Peterson
- » Mary Peterson
- » Marlin Pruisman
- » Jeff & Nancy Pudenz
- » Jim & Donna Richardson
- » Reed Riskedahl
- » Dan Rosa
- » Carman Rosburg
- » James Roth
- » Mike Sellberg
- » Jan Sherwood
- » Jaye Stefani
- » Nathan Thraikill
- » Wes & Alice Vander Martin

- » Michelle Ward
- » Dorothy Wendt

PARTNERING ORGANIZATIONS

- » Vision Bank
- » Friends of Ada Hayden Heritage Park
- » Availa Bank
- » Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture
- » Wilson Toyota
- » River Valley Credit Union
- » Technical Services Provider Network
- » Wheatsfield Coop
- » Alluvial Brewing
- » Union Pacific Railroad Community
- » Hummanities Iowa

LINCOLN HIGHWAY HERITAGE BYWAY

- » Allegra Marketing
- » American Legion, Belle Plaine
(Jennings-Bradshaw Post #39)
- » American Legion, Boone (Arthur Lantz Post #56)
- » American Legion, Carroll (Maurice Dunn Post #7)
- » American Legion, Clarence (Victory Post #286)
- » American Legion, Colo (Post #139)
- » American Legion, Denison (Post #8)
- » American Legion, Dow City (Post #444)
- » American Legion, Marshalltown (Francis Glick Post #36)
- » American Legion, Vail (Post #65)
- » Ames Noon Lions Club
- » Belle Plaine Area Museum
- » Belle Plaine Partners for Beautification
- » Benton County Community Foundation
- » Bickelhaupt Arboretum
- » Bloomsbury Farm
- » Bob and Joyce Ausberger
- » Boji Spirit Center
- » Boone County Conservation
- » Boone County Board of Supervisors
- » Carroll County Conservation
- » Center Grove Orchard
- » City of Boone
- » City of Grand Junction
- » City of Ogden
- » City of Montour
- » City of Nevada
- » City of Scranton
- » City of State Center

OUR DONORS, PARTNERS, AND COLLABORATORS



- » City of Tama
- » City of Woodbine
- » Clinton Convention and Visitor's Bureau
- » Council Bluffs Convention and Visitors Bureau
- » Crawford County Conservation Board
- » Deal's Orchard
- » Denison Chamber of Commerce
- » DeWitt Chamber and Development Company
- » Donna Reed Foundation
- » Ericson Public Library, Boone
- » Felix Adler Children's Discovery Center
- » Frickeville Antiques
- » Golden Hills RC&D
- » Greene County Board of Supervisors
- » Greene County Chamber of Commerce
- » Greene County Lincoln Highway Museum and Garden
- » Harrison County Historical Village and Welcome Center
- » Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum
- » Hunter Davis, Eagle Scout
- » Iowa Byways Coalition
- » Iowa Chapter of American Society of Civil Engineers
- » Iowa DOT, Kimball Olson – Aesthetic Bridge Designer
- » Iowa Lincoln Highway Association
- » Iowa Mississippi River Parkway Commission
- » Iowa State Fair
- » Iowa Tourism
- » Iowa Valley RC&D
- » Iowa Welcome Center, Davis City
- » Iowa Welcome Center, Wilton
- » Iowa Welcome Center, Underwood
- » JAX Outdoor Gear
- » John 315 Vineyard
- » Let's Play Bounce
- » Lincoln Café
- » Lincoln Highway Association
- » Lincoln Highway Bridge Park
- » Lincoln Highway Trading Company
- » Lincoln Valley Golf Course
- » Lincoln Winebar
- » Loess Hills Lavender Farm
- » Mahanay Bell Tower
- » Marshalltown Convention and Visitor's Bureau
- » Main Street- Clarence
- » Main Street- Woodbine
- » Main Street- Nevada
- » Military Vehicle Preservation Association
- » Nevada Betterment Committee
- » Nevada Lincoln Highway Days Committee
- » Niland's Café and Colo Motel
- » Parks to People
- » Pathfinders RC&D
- » Perfect Games
- » Preston's Station Historic District
- » Queen Anne Bed and Breakfast
- » Reiman Gardens
- » RVP~1875
- » Santa Maria Vineyard and Winery
- » Seven Oaks
- » Spinning Wheels
- » State Historic Preservation Office
- » Tama County Community Foundation
- » The Lucky Pig
- » The Sawmill Museum
- » Tiffany's Tipton Bakery
- » Top of Iowa Welcome Center
- » Travel Iowa
- » Union Pacific Railroad Museum
- » University of Iowa
- » Visit Mount Vernon-Lisbon
- » Wesley and Irene Mansfield Charitable Foundation
- » Westside Community Development Corporation
- » Whistle Stop Café
- » Wickiup Hill (Linn County Conservation)
- » Wild Rose Casino and Resort (Jefferson)
- » Youngville Highway History Association



OUR DONORS, PARTNERS, AND COLLABORATORS



WATERSHEDS AND WILDLIFE

- » Alliant Energy Foundation
- » Boone County Conservation Board
- » Boone County Soil and Water Conservation District
- » City of Ames
- » City of Gilbert
- » City of Stanhope
- » City of Nevada
- » City of Huxley
- » Hamilton County Conservation Board
- » Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District
- » Hamilton County Pheasants Forever
- » Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- » Iowa Agricultural Mitigation Inc.
- » Iowa Department of Natural Resources
- » Iowa Environmental Education Coalition
- » Iowa Learning Farms
- » Iowa Monarch Conservation Consortium
- » Iowa Native Plant Society
- » Iowa Pollinator Working Group
- » Iowa River Watershed Consortium
- » Iowa State University Extension and Outreach
- » Iowa State University – Translational Research Network (U-TuRN)
- » Izaak Walton League of America
- » Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture
- » National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- » National 4-H Council/4-H Ag Innovators Experience Presented by Bayer
- » Practical Farmers of Iowa
- » Prairie Moon Nursery
- » Prairie Nursery
- » Science-based Trials of Rowcrops Integrated with Prairie Strips (STRIPS)
- » Shooting Star Native Seeds
- » Squaw Creek Watershed Coalition
- » Iowa Creek (Squaw Creek) Watershed Management Authority
- » Stock Seed Farms
- » Story County Board of Supervisors
- » Story County Community Foundation
- » Story County Conservation Board
- » Story County Soil and Water Conservation District
- » US Water Alliance
- » Walmart
- » The Xerces Society



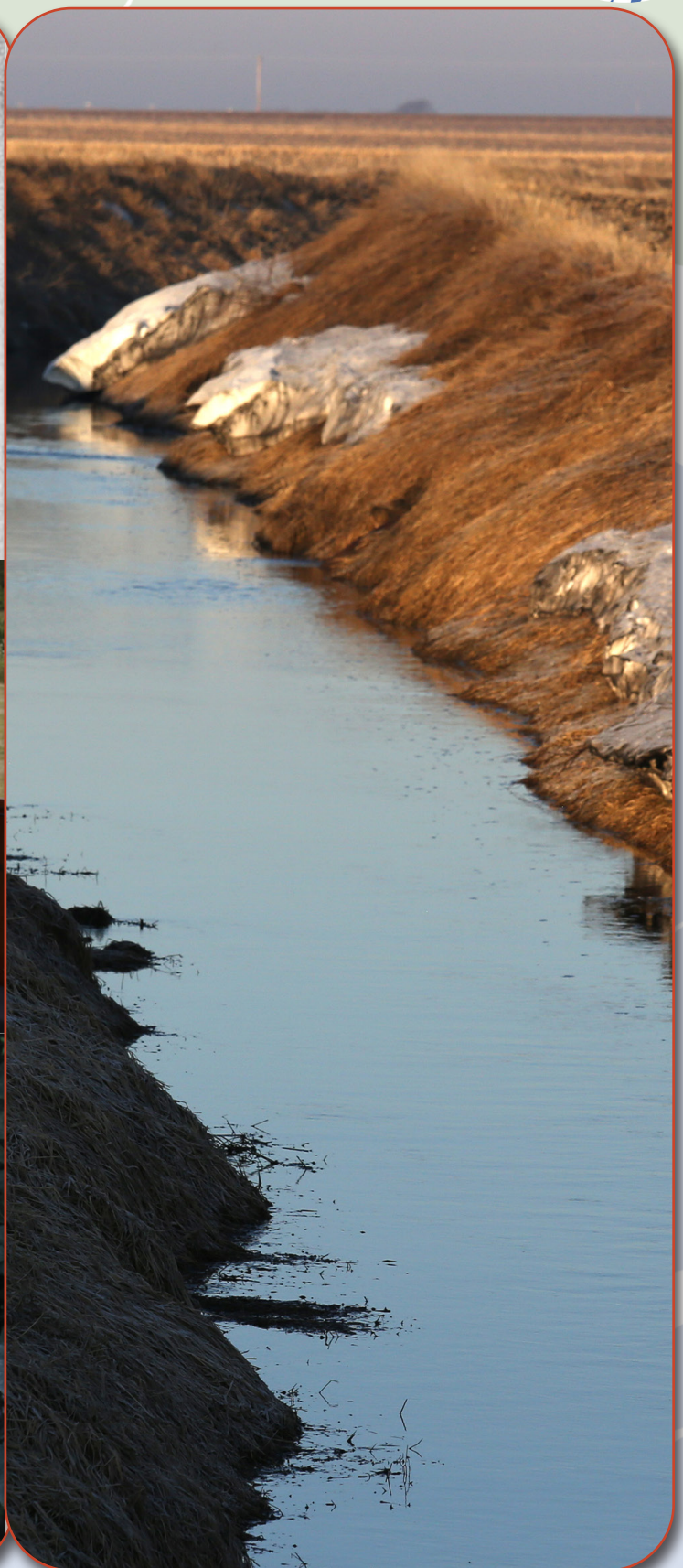
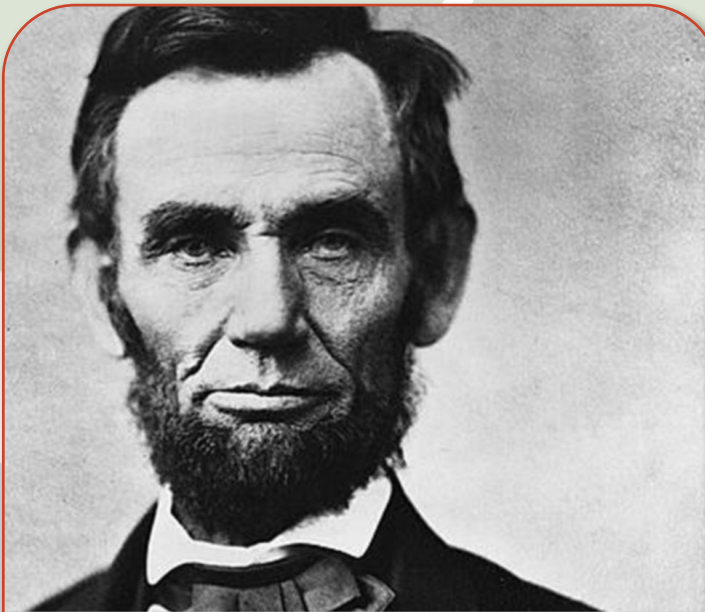
THANK YOU to all who donated in 2020. As a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization, we rely on support to maintain our needs. The generous contributions have helped *Prairie Rivers of Iowa* continue its mission to conserve natural and cultural resources and create a healthier environment and thriving communities.

We are honored you chose to partner with us in 2021!



PRAIRIE RIVERS
of Iowa

OUR PROGRAMS REPORT



LINCOLN HIGHWAY HERITAGE BYWAY



As Iowa's longest and most historic byway, the *Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway* traverses 460 miles across the state, covering 13 counties and 43 communities. *Prairie Rivers of Iowa* works side by side with communities to help preserve this iconic byways history and to tell the tale of the people and places of the Lincoln Highway.

Follow us on Facebook! @LincolnHighwayHeritageByway



JAN GAMMON
LHHB Coordinator

LINCOLN HIGHWAY HERITAGE BYWAY REPORT



ADVISORY BOARD

We reinvigorated the LHHB Advisory Board and now have 17 members. The meetings were adjusted to focus on Eastern counties in April (Clinton, Cedar, Linn, and Benton), Central Counties in November (Tama, Marshall, Story, and Greene), and Western Counties in September (Carroll, Crawford, Harrison, and Pottawattamie).

INTERVIEWS, PUBLICITY AND REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

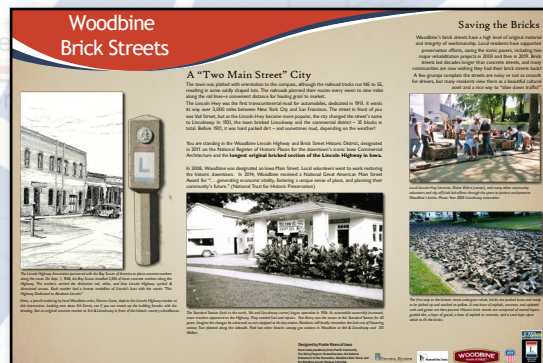
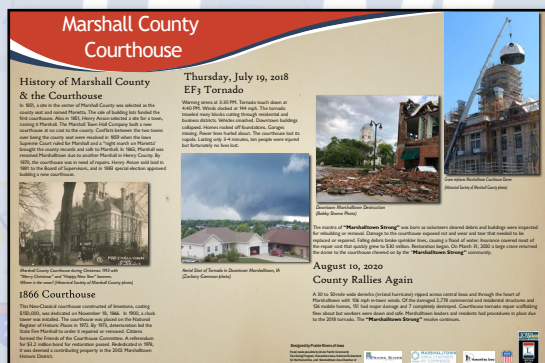
Just a few items of what we accomplished

The NY Times contacted us for information about electric car usage on the Lincoln Highway. A webinar about the History of the Lincoln Highway was given in December, 2020. We were interviewed by radio stations KROS in Clinton, KFJB in Marshalltown, and KHOI in Ames. We blogged and posted on social media many times. Our Facebook saw a spike on Oct 22, 2020 with a reach of 16,466 and 144 shares. The post that day was a “Throwback Thursday” using an old photo of a car stuck in mud between Ames and Nevada on the Lincoln Highway.



GRANTS/ FUNDING WE RECEIVED

- » Iowa Tourism Grant to redesign our Informational Guide.
- » Union Pacific Railroad Community Ties Giving Program funds for 10 interpretive panels
- » Humanities Iowa grant towards the 10 interpretive panels.
- » Marshalltown Chamber of Commerce Tourism Grant as a local match for their interpretive panel.
- » Denison Rotary Club funds as local match for their interpretive panel.
- » Burke Heritage Fund as local match for the Preston's Station Historic District interpretive panel.
- » Woodbine Main Street and Woodbine Lincoln Highway Committee funds for local match for their interpretive panel.



AWARDS

Received an Interpretation Award for the National Scenic Byway Foundation.

LINCOLN HIGHWAY HERITAGE BYWAY REPORT CONT.



CONFERENCES

Attended the Iowa Tourism Conference in early March, 2020 -- just before the pandemic.

IOWA LINCOLN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION

Continued to work with the Iowa Lincoln Highway Association, with their newsletter, website, and social media.

CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

Assist Communities

- » Nevada Betterment - Sold old street signs as a fundraiser.
- » Nevada Historical Society - Applied for their first ever Human Resources and Development Program grant with SHPO.
- » City of Tama - Partners with the City of Tama and the University of Iowa's Sustainable Communities program to create a Comprehensive Plan which was adopted by the City Council.
- » Tama Bridge - Continued the restoration project with the City of Tama, engineering firm, and SHPO.



Presentations

- » Denison Rotary Club
- » MPO/RPA (Metropolitan Planning Organizations and Regional Planning Associations)

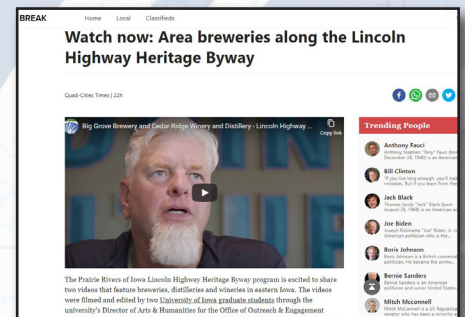
INTERPRETATION

- » Redesigned the Harrison County Historical Village and Welcome Center Lincoln Highway panel.
- » Completed the panels at Preston's Station Historic District and M and M Divide.
- » Assisted the Linn County Historic Preservation Commission with locating their files for redesign of damaged panels.



MARKETING

- » Submitted an 800 page application to the Federal Highway Administration for national byway status.
- » Created two 2-minute videos about Breweries, Distilleries, and Wineries in Eastern Iowa and an accompanying brochure.
- » Became a location on the Iowa Byways Passport Program and handed out travel information to tourists.



WATERSHEDS & WILDLIFE



The Watersheds and Wildlife Program aims to conserve our natural resources for future Iowans and build a more resilient ecosystem.

We are working with landowners to provide for Iowa's pollinators and wildlife by mapping and cataloging flyways and ecosystems, assisting with small to large landowner habitat design, providing conservation assistance, harvesting, and providing native seeds while conducting environmental outreach and education. Practices that benefit pollinators often have water quality benefits.

We are also continuing to support conservation projects in the South Skunk River and Iowa Creek watersheds. A key part of that is developing more robust approaches for water monitoring in lakes and streams that can better assess progress, support learning, and inform decision making.



DAN HAUG

Watershed Educator



DAVID STEIN

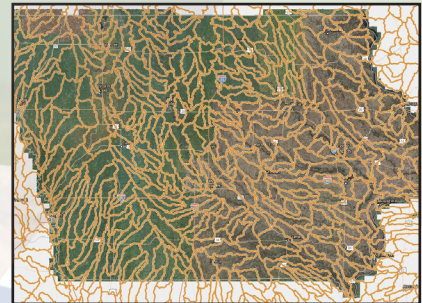
Watershed Coordinator

WATERSHEDS & WILDLIFE



CONSERVATION ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING

In 2020, as a continuation from last year, we were able to finalize the methods for mapping pollinator flyways in Central Iowa. We were able to select soil and biological variables that would be able to focus in on the most ideal lands for habitat creation, and row-crop retirement. These maps will be able to illustrate where conservation will best benefit wildlife and landowners to potential project partners. Using several databases for species conservation and citizen science, a full list of endangered, threatened, and special concern species was developed for the State of Iowa that expanded the current Iowa DNR lists by several species. This list includes bumble bees, butterflies, birds, amphibians, reptiles, and mammals.



Several conservation plans were developed for landowners throughout Central Iowa in 2020. The City of Ames contacted us to develop a restoration plan for an 80-acre parcel located west of Moore Memorial Park. This area, which is currently planted into row-crop was analyzed for soil qualities and information about original land cover. The city was provided a full map of where restored ecosystems would be located, restoration guidelines, and plant lists for quickly establishing flowers that would benefit threatened and endangered pollinator species.



A landowner in Marshall County contacted us to develop a pollinator habitat restoration plan on his family farm. We were able to locate a 7-acre stretch of occasionally flooded land that was mapped, and provided a wet-tolerant pollinator seed mix. An absentee landowner was interested in installing pollinator habitat along a stream on her family's farm in Story County, and contacted us for guidance and recommendations. We were able to map her property and provide a list of several prairie restoration options including retiring her less productive farmland, restoring a wet prairie, and installing a riparian buffer.



Despite the pandemic, we were able to conduct six land visits for landowners interested in conservation and habitat restoration. These land visits were focused on several issues including erosion, flooding, invasive species, and finding native plants for shady areas. Each land visit was followed up with a report that outlined what was discussed, financial assistance options, and the next steps that the landowner needed to take. Additionally, as a result of these land visits, three pollinator gardens were designed, and the plans were given to the landowners.

EDUCATION

Prairie Rivers of Iowa kicked off the year with education for the young and old. Dan Haug introduced 20 retirees to water quality issues and online resources for learning more at four classes he offered through the Osher Institute for Lifelong Learning. Dan then helped develop two hands-on activities for the 4-H Ag Innovators Experience, which trains high school students from Iowa and five other states to lead activities with their 4-H clubs, schools, and communities. This year's theme was focused on water quality and engineering; youth played the role of a watershed council, learning about and selecting engineered conservation practices including rain gardens, bioreactors, bioswales, and saturated buffers. Dan shared mapping tools and his experience with real life watershed groups at the state and national training sessions.



WATERSHEDS & WILDLIFE

CONT.



When the pandemic hit, it put a halt to in-person events. We partnered with Iowa Learning Farms to hold a virtual field day in May on riparian buffers, and held a virtual field day on pollinator habitats at three sites in December. A webinar about planting pollinator habitat was held in November. We made use of radio (our talks on water and pollinators aired on KHOI for Earth Day). City of Ames Media Productions helped us turn our video footage and script into two educational videos for Watershed Awareness Month. We posted 11 blog articles about conservation and water quality.

SEED BANK

The first year of the community native seed bank ended in April of 2020 and we were able to provide free native seeds to 55 landowners. These 55 landowners in turn restored and enhanced over 31 acres of pollinator and wildlife habitat. Additionally, the second year of the seed bank began in November of 2020. We received generous donations of native seeds totaling approximately 50 pounds of seeds from Shooting Star Native Seeds, Prairie Moon Nursery, Simply Native Nursery, and Minnesota Native Landscapes.



WATER MONITORING

Our big project this year was working with Story County, the City of Ames, and eight other organizations to develop a water monitoring plan for Story County; with Iowa DNR stepping back from volunteer monitoring, and local government stepping up to support both volunteers and engage with watershed initiatives, there was a need for coordination and direction. Penny facilitated monthly meetings and breakout sessions by the team to develop goals and strategies for a ten-year plan. Dan wrote 80 pages of supporting documentation to identify existing sources of data, guidelines for interpretation and recommendations for how to use both volunteers and lab testing to get a more comprehensive picture of water quality in the county over the next ten years.

With the help of the Ames Water & Pollution Control Department, we have been collecting monthly samples from 15 sites around the county—our testing revealed that *E. coli* contamination of streams is widespread and not limited to the Impaired Waters List. Story County launched a volunteer monitoring program in August. *Prairie Rivers of Iowa* organized a socially-distanced water monitoring event in May attended by 28 people, and another in October attended by 13 people. Dan learned the statistical programming language R, which allowed for more sophisticated data analysis.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Alliant Energy Foundation:

\$2,500 for pollinator gardens and informational signs.



ADMINISTRATIVE & MARKETING SERVICES

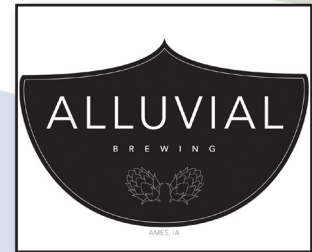


Here at *Prairie Rivers of Iowa*, we all work together to give back to the community that has helped us thrive since our launch in 2001. That's why we assist several different not-for-profits and small businesses with administrative and marketing services, such as payroll services, strategic planning facilitation, marketing, graphic design needs, and web support.

Organizations We've Worked With During 2019 – 2020

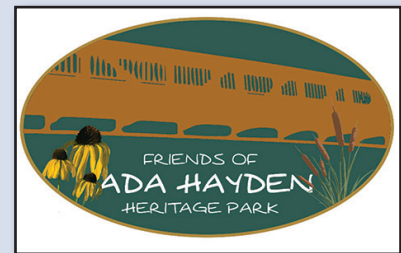
Fiscal Management and Payroll Services

- » Alluvial Brewing Company
- » Friends of Ames High Prairie
- » Iowa Agricultural Mitigation Inc.
- » Squaw Creek Watershed Coalition
- » Technical Service Provider Network



Strategic Planning Facilitation

- » Golden Hills Resource Conservation and Development
- » Iowa Association for Energy Efficiency



Event Coordination, Marketing and Graphic Design

- » Friends of Ada Hayden
- » Iowa Agricultural Mitigation Inc.
- » North American Prairie Conference
- » Technical Service Provider Network



If you are interested in partnering with us, we would love to connect with you to see what we can do to help you continue to grow.

2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Reed Riskedahl

President



Reed joined *Prairie Rivers of Iowa* in 2011 from Marshall County. He was elected President of the Board in 2018. Originally from rural southern Minnesota, Reed and his family have been lowans for 38 years, with 28 of those years based in Marshalltown.

Reed has a B.S. in business. He has had extensive volunteer involvement and leadership positions in and around Marshalltown, as well as work experience in retail, service, manufacturing, construction and real estate.

Reed is active in the Marshalltown Chamber of Commerce, where he serves as the government affairs chair person. He also serves as chair person of the Marshall County Extension Council and is a Master Gardener and a Master Conservationist.

Jan Sherwood

Secretary



Jan Sherwood has been Vice President at Shekar Engineering in Des Moines since 2003. Shekar Engineering is primarily a construction firm specializing in heavy construction.

He has a degree in civil engineering from Iowa State University and brings to the

Prairie Rivers of Iowa board his experience preparing client projects ranging from site development planning, residential subdivisions, road and railroad design and environmental consulting.

He has had the opportunity to have many work experiences at several places around the country as well as close to home in Ames, IA. He began at Trinity Engineering Company in Huxley as vice-president. During the 1990's, Jan was branch manager for the Ames-based environmental engineering firm Blattert and Associates. Later in the 1990's he owned Sherwood Engineering in Ames that focused on land development. He's also been a project manager in Savannah, GA and Galveston, TX working on municipal engineering projects for waste water treatment plant design, street & drainage improvements, elevated storage tank design and storm water permitting.

Mike Cox

Vice President



Michael Cox is the *Prairie Rivers of Iowa* board vice president. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in fisheries and wildlife biology from Iowa State University in 1992.

He's been in the conservation field for 26 years has worked in non-profit and public sectors in Vermont, Alaska, and Iowa where he currently serves as the director of Story County Conservation.

He grew up on a small farm in Iowa where his values for open space and environmental quality took root. Michael sees the role of environmental health as part and parcel with social and economic health and community betterment and values providing people with opportunities for outdoor recreation.

Jim Richardson

Treasurer



Jim Richardson is a grain farmer from Webster City and current *Prairie Rivers of Iowa* board treasurer after previously acting as president and secretary. He also serves as a member of the Iowa Agricultural Mitigation Inc. and Hamilton County Conservation board.

He holds a B.S. and an M.S. from Iowa State University in Ag Education and Professional Ag and brings to the board experience as an Air Force pilot, agricultural banker, sales manager and college professor.

Jim is married to his wife Donna Moore, has two grown sons, three granddaughters and a grandson.

Linda Murken

Board Member



Linda is a lifelong resident of Story County and still lives on her family's farm west of Gilbert with her husband, Jim Noland. She is the chair of the Story County Board of Supervisors, has served on the Story County Planning and

Zoning Commission, is past president of the League of Women Voters of Ames and Story County, was a founding president of the Gilbert/Franklin Township Fire and Rescue Agency and has volunteered and served on the board of ACCESS (local victim advocacy agency).

2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CONT.



Bob Ausberger

Board Member

Bob Ausberger grew up on a farm north of Jefferson and attended school there. He went on to teach 7th and 8th graders after graduating from the University of Iowa. After teaching for four years, he returned to Greene County to farm. Bob has always been

interested in soil and water conservation which led him to begin no-till farming in the late 1980's. His son David currently works the farm which is still 100% no-till along with other conservation practices including terraces, contours, cover crops, a mile of buffer strips along Buttrick Creek, tree planting along the creek, wetland establishment and using compost for soil health. David also works with the Iowa Soybean Association to monitor water leaving the farm. Bob and his wife Joyce also have a daughter, Susan Hawthorne, who is married to a Calhoun County farmer.

His interests include the Lincoln Highway and since 1990 has been actively educating the public of its importance. He helped form the Greene County Lincoln Highway Association, the Iowa Lincoln Highway Association and the national Lincoln Highway Association.



David Andrews

Board Member

David Andrews grew up on a diversified grain and livestock family farm operation near Melbourne, Iowa where he continues an active management role. He's done agricultural consulting work in Ukraine, Azerbaijan, and Tanzania and has managed large agricultural projects in Romania and the Philippines.

Most recently, he retired as executive director of the nonprofit Michael Fields Agricultural Institute whose focus is education, research, and policy initiatives to promote organic agriculture in East Troy, Wisconsin.

David and his wife and daughter have moved back close to the family farm in Ames, Iowa. He holds a Bachelor's and Master's of Science degrees from Iowa State University and is currently managing director of AgHound, LLC where he stays busy consulting with conventional and organic farmers.



Kelly Foss

Board Member

Kelly Foss has been the executive director of The Downtown Farmers' Market in Des Moines since 2000 and brings to the *Prairie Rivers of Iowa* Board her experience of advancing the market's development while giving encouragement and training to hundreds of local entrepreneurs, growers and artisans. She also serves on the Farmers Market Coalition Board of Directors and connects communities to the health, social and economic benefits of farmers markets and related causes sharing her knowledge by leading educational workshops, speaking at conferences and networking with advocates across the country.

Kelly lives in Des Moines with her family and in her spare time enjoys visiting farmers markets, cycling, yoga and Hawkeye football.



Erwin Klaas

Board Member

Erv Klaas lives in Ames, and is a founding member of *Prairie Rivers of Iowa* and has served on the board since its beginning. He is currently a member of the executive board of the Squaw Creek Watershed Coalition, member of Friends of Ada Haden Heritage Park, member of the Iowa Environmental Council, an Ames Climate Action Team member and serves on the advisory committee for the Sustainable Iowa Land Trust.

He retired in 1999 as a wildlife biologist with the Biological Resources Division of the U.S. Geological Survey after 30 years of federal service. He grew up on a bottomland farm along the Mississippi River in eastern Missouri and received his Bachelor of Science in wildlife conservation in 1956 from the University of Missouri, and in 1963 and 1970 respectively, earned a master's and doctorate in zoology from Kansas University.



Eric Nielsen

Board Member

Eric Nielsen is a resident of Hardin County and is active in local government as a city council-person for Steamboat Rock. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in forestry from Iowa State University and is a self-employed forester for Resource Services.

He brings to the *Prairie Rivers of Iowa* board his experience in planting, maintaining, marketing, assessing, and phytoremediation of native grass establishment, resource management and forest products.

Prairie Rivers of Iowa Staff



Penny Brown-Huber
Executive Director



David Stein
Watershed Coordinator



Jackson Donels
Marketing Assistant



Carman Rosburg
Office Manager



Jan Gammon
Lincoln Highway Heritage
Byway Coordinator



Mike Kellner
Public Relations &
Marketing Coordinator



Dan Haug
Watershed Educator



Daniel Huber
Technology Assistant

On behalf of us at *Prairie Rivers of Iowa*, we want to thank you for a fantastic 2020. Even with the pandemic, we still could reach people and help promote our environment and historical landmarks in this great state we all call home. Here's to 2021!
-PRI staff.



PRAIRIE *of Iowa* RIVERS



Prairie Rivers of Iowa



PrairieRiversIA



PrairieRiversOfIowa



PrairieRiversOfIowa

www.prrcd.org