ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMISSION MEETING — APRIL 2020

April Meeting. The Environmental Protection Commission met electronically on April 21, 2020. Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Director Kayla Lyon informed the Commission members that the majority of the DNR employees are working from home and any meetings held at the DNR offices, either at the Wallace Building in Des Moines or at any of the field offices, are by appointment only. Director Lyon also mentioned that all public events for April are canceled and all scheduled events for May are being evaluated.

Agenda Items Approved. The following items were approved:

- A contract with the University of Iowa State Hygienic Laboratory for beach monitoring to measure bacteria concentration levels. The contract is from May 1, 2020, to October 31, 2020, and funding is from the Environment First Fund and not to exceed $28,000.

- A contract with the University of Iowa State Hygienic Laboratory for the evaluation and restoration of shallow lakes. The contract is from April 22, 2020, to April 1, 2021. Funding cannot exceed $29,000, and funding sources include 25.0% from the Environment First Fund, 25.0% from the Lake Restoration Program, 25.0% from the Fisheries Bureau, and 25.0% from the Wildlife Bureau.

- A contract amendment with the City of Coralville for $50,000 for the time period of May 1, 2020, to May 15, 2021, with funding from a federal Section 319 grant. The amendment extends the time for Phase One of the Raising the Urban Soil Health IQ in the Lower Iowa River Watershed project. The project is a multimedia awareness and educational program to educate citizens about soil health and improved water quality in urban streams. The project sponsors community-based events to connect urban homeowners with soil health experts to learn about soil health principles and benefits. The contract amendment provides funding for the cities of Coralville, North Liberty, and Iowa City to offer cost share funds for demonstration projects that implement best management practices to restore soil quality and improve water quality.

- A Memorandum of Understanding with Iowa Department of Administrative Services not to exceed $40,000 with funding from a federal Section 319 grant for the installation of best management practices to prevent soil erosion at Terrace Hill. The practices will address stormwater management and erosion issues at various sites on the Terrace Hill grounds. Educational signage will be included to explain the project and provide information to visitors at Terrace Hill.

Next Meeting. The next meeting will be held on May 19, 2020, in Des Moines.

LSA Staff Contact: Deb Kozel (515.281.6767) deb.kozel@legis.iowa.gov