

Wetland Task Force Meeting Agenda - 9.3.2025

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM @ RI City Hall

Wetland Task Force Members and Key Roles

Attended meeting

- Ashley Harris - RI Mayor
- Miles Brainard - RI Community Economic Development
- Thomas Flaherty - Assistant to RI City Manager & Economic Development Director
- Todd Thompson - RI City Manager
- Sarah Hayden - RI Community Engagement Manager
- Randy Hurt - RI Second Ward Council Member
- Tanner Osing - Planning & Zoning
- Missy Gasiorowski - General contractor with Hodge construction with the development
- Hannah Alexander - NTI Representative
- Mike Thoms - Resident
- Nina Struss - River Health & Resiliency Organizer with Prairie Rivers Network
- Tim Pressly - Land owner
- Jon Duyvejonck - Retired Wildlife Biologist (USFWS), Sierra Club
- Kathy Wine - Executive Director at River Action
- Lorraine Foelske - IDNR/INPC

Timeline

- **Fall/Winter 2025:**
 - a. City information: historical, utility, boundary work, deeds/title work
 - b. Ecological information from other groups
 - c. City/Task Force proposal for what is desired for the L&WR in terms of public uses
- **Spring/Summer 2026:**
 - a. Proposal & Management plan writing process begins
 - b. Recommended ecological assessments
 - c. Potential Bio-Blitz/community involvement?
 - d. Finalize easement design
 - e. Finalize recreation/hunting plans
- **Fall/Winter 2026:**
 - a. Finalize Proposal and Management Plan
 - b. Obtain signatures on documents
- **January 2027:**
 - a. Present final proposal to the commissioners at the INPC meeting.
 - b. Once approved - sign installation and activation of management plan

Agenda

A. Updates on 8/6 Meeting Action Items:

- a. **City of Rock Island:**
 - i. Gather & share historic aerial imagery and other historical information
 - ii. Consolidate 24 parcels into two parcels (one to the west of 92 and one to the east)
 - iii. Start researching boundary survey vendors.
 - iv. Contact private landowners about plans
- b. **INPC: (Lorraine)**
 - i. Continue to research folks to conduct formal bird and herp surveys. Get cost estimates.
 - ii. Start researching boundary survey vendors.
 - iii. Get time estimate of doing a boundary survey through INPC and the state bid process
 - iv. Formal biological survey expert recommendations, costs and timeline

c. Task Force: (Nina)

- i. Gauge interest from [Bi-CAN](#) regarding a Bio-Blitz in this area for Spring/Summer 2026

B. Land & Water Reserve Process Updates - Lorraine

C. Clarification on City Council Involvement - Can we get clarity on what parts of the L&WR will need to be approved by City Council, if any?

- a. Concerns over specification of the term of the L&WR

D. Other Updates

- a. Augustana & Upper Mississippi River Center - Potential partnership for surveys (Nina/Lorraine)
 - i. Integrate surveys into student's course work in Spring 2026
 - ii. Capacity to survey for birds, wildlife, fish, plants, turtles, and perhaps bats
 - iii. Inviting two representatives from Augustana/UMRC to the October 15th Task Force meeting.
- b. Land acquisition(s) with Alan (Nina)
- c. Documentary (Nina)
- d. Field Trip? (Jon)

E. Next Steps

F. Next Meeting: September 17, 2025 (Note - Nina & Lorraine will not be in attendance at this meeting)