

# BIG WYACONDAH WATERSHED

Davis County, Iowa

## DEDICATION BROCHURE

September 10, 1976

2:00 PM at Site 26



Big Wyacondah Site 26 - Ankony Angus --SCS Photo

## BIG WYACONDAH WATERSHED

The Iowa portion of Big Wyacondah Watershed contains 36,275 acres and runs from northwest of Bloomfield in a southeasterly direction into Missouri.

Several organizational meetings among farmers of Big Wyacondah were held in 1956 and 1957. The watershed directors chosen were chosen at a June 5, 1956 meeting as follows: Walter Grim, chairman, Dale Dixon, vice-chairman, Teddy Dixon, secretary and Roy Bohi, Jack Finley and Harold Cruikshank - board members.

The major problems of this watershed are gully and sheet erosion damage to upland farms and floodwater damage to bottomland crops and pasture.

An application for watershed assistance under Public Law 566 was completed with sponsorship provided by Davis Co. Board of Supervisors and the Davis Co. Soil Conservation District.

Supervisors at this time were Emmert Howk, Lawrence Spurgeon and Glen Wilkinson. The district commissioners were Pearl Spilman, Dale Blackwell and Harold Baughman.

Other organizations who gave their support to the application with signatures were: Walter Grim, chairman of the watershed directors; Ford Leon, Mayor of Bloomfield; Waldo Fimmen, President of Davis Co. Ministerial Association; Bill Schlegel, President of Bloomfield Jr. Chamber of Commerce; Harold Rogers, President of Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce; Omer Whitacre, Commander of Reed-Whisler Post #78 American Legion; Jack Chamberlain, President of Davis Co. Fish and Game Club; Claude Dixon, President of Farm Bureau and John Schiebe, President of Lions Club.

This application was submitted to the State Soil Conservation Committee on March 6, 1957. The state committee approved the watershed for planning on April 29, 1957. Ken Wagner, Chairman of the State Committee, signed the approval. Othie R. McMurphy was Secretary for the Committee at this time.

The State Soil Conservation Committee and Soil Conservation Service personnel toured the watershed Oct. 3, 1957. The approval was given to develop the workplan on June 26, 1961 by D.A. Williams, Administrator of the Soil Conservation Service.

The workplan was approved by the local sponsors on April 25, 1962 and Congress funded the work on Sept. 28, 1962. Original cost estimate was \$1,088,292 with \$815,632 federal and \$272,600 as non-federal money.

Farmers met with local sponsors in January 1963 to discuss necessary easements and conservation practices required prior to the construction in the watershed. A total of 90 land easements were contributed by farmers in the watershed. The estimated value of these easements is \$24,120.00.

A total of 194 farms were located, all or partially within the watershed area, when the watershed was planned. At the present time there are 167 farms and of this number, 105 are new land owners since the planning map was prepared. Fifty-one of the original farm landowners have died since the workplan was prepared.

The Davis Co. Board of Supervisors and the Davis County Soil Conservation District Commissioners met March 25, 1963 and approval of the quarter-mill levy procedure was given for maintenance of the watershed structural work. A provision for maintenance was required before construction could begin.

To date, the quarter-mill funds have been used for repairing and reseeding of waterways at sites 27-H-6, 2 and 8 and structure site 21-1. Homer Rysdam did the repair work at a total cost of \$4675. plus \$45. paid to Elmer Weilbrenner to take out and replace fences in the area.

The first contract was let November 21, 1963 for structures on the farms of Aura Barnett, Dale Dixon and Frank Shively. The final contract was let September 11, 1975. Permanent pools of the 45 completed structures will be 281 acres. The total yardage moved in building the structures was 662,740 cubic yards.

This project was originally scheduled for completion in 1970. Fifty-nine structures, 16.2 acres structural waterways and 3.9 miles of channel work was planned.

## CONSTRUCTION PARTS OF BIG WYACONDAH WATERSHED (1963 - 1976)

| PART | CONTRACT DATE | CONTRACTOR                  | (ACRES WATER) SITES -LOCATION                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | AMOUNT OF CONTRACT | AMOUNT FOR SEEDING                     | SEEDING CONTRACTOR         | CONTRACTING OFFICER    | INSPECTOR       | GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE |
|------|---------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| 1    | 7-1-1965      | Jeffries Const. Co.         | On County Road -Site 27-H-6                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | \$10,745.88        | \$ 74.00                               | Richard McClurg            | Tom Nelson Co.Engineer | Roderic Howarth | Lyall Mitchell            |
| 2    | 7-1-1964      | R.McConnell<br>H. Burgher   | 27-H-1 (4.1 ac.) Frank Shively<br>27-H-3 (5.9) I. Pederson<br>27-H-4 (4.41) Dale Dixon<br>27-H-7 Co. Road Box Inlet                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 17,006.40          | 1836.80                                | Bruce Harryman             | Clay Barnett           | Roderic Howarth | Lyall Mitchell            |
| 3    | 8-11-1964     | J.C.Whisler                 | 27-K (6.2) Dean Grim<br>27-L (5.85) O. J. Scott<br>27-H-6 (waterway) Lee Shelton                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 17,125.89          | 1897.40                                | Bruce Harryman             | Sam Botts              | Roderic Howarth | Lyall Mitchell            |
| 4    | 8-27-1965     | F. H. Boyd<br>Albert Liles  | 41 (1.9) Loren Cossell<br>42 (5.66) Curt and Clair Rodgers<br>45 (10.0) Edward Burchette<br>47 (10.55) Albert Whisler                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 25,501.39          | 1506.53<br>107.62<br>(Overseeding)     | Carrol Ruby<br>F. H. Boyd  | Sam Botts              | Roderic Howarth | Lyall Mitchell            |
| 5    | 8-26-1966     | F. H. Boyd<br>Albert Liles  | 43 (6.09) Mildred Baker<br>44 (5.45) Daniel Beachy<br>27-P (4.85) Mildred Baker<br>35 (9.9) Clair Rodgers<br>38B (waterway) Wilson Hartman                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 32,088.62          | 655.20<br>851.00                       | F. H. Boyd<br>Carrol Rubey | Sam Botts              | Roderic Howarth | Lyall Mitchell            |
| 6    | 8-30-1966     | R.McConnell<br>H. Burgher   | 27-J (5.2) O.J. Scott<br>27-1 (11.4) Lee Shelton<br>32-1 (9.55) Dean Grim<br>32-3 (9.65) E. Inderski                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 33,761.97          | 1159.50                                | Carrol Rubey               | Sam Botts              | Roderic Howarth | Lyall Mitchell            |
| 7    | 10-6-1967     | Wendell Wilcox              | 17 (road structure) Ed Amstutz & Davis County                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 8,830.52           | 364.00                                 | Clay Barnett               | Sam Botts              | Roderic Howarth | Marion Clark              |
| 8    | 7-26-1967     | J.C.Whisler                 | 18-1 (6.38) Dale Blackwell<br>23 (8.75) Harvey Clover<br>24 (4.33) Ankony Angus                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 31,446.57          | 1134.57                                | Carroll Rubey              | Sam Botts              | Roderic Howarth | Marion Clark              |
| 9    | 8-30-1968     | Wendell Wilcox              | 2 (3.88) Dale Blumhagen<br>8 (3.16) Elmer Weillbrenner<br>14-1 (2.78) Cleo Rinkenberger<br>14-A (4.15) Donald Altheide<br>18-A (2.67) Kenneth Hull                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 37,097.62          | 2209.50                                | F.H. Boyd                  | Sam Botts              | Roderic Howarth | Marion Clark              |
| 10   | 10-31-1972    | J.C.Whisler<br>Howard Davis | 20 (4.48) Clinton Vannoy<br>26 (5.51) Ankony Angus<br>27-A-2 (3.58) Murl McClure<br>27-A-3 (5.78) Murl McClure<br>27-G-1 (2.48) Murl McClure<br>27-G-2 (4.18) Ankony Angus<br>27-F (3.1) Earl Speer<br>38-A (3.3) Dewey Harper                                                                                                                                                                                               | 71,165.24          | Seeding included with initial contract |                            | Sam Botts              | Roderic Howarth | Tom Brown                 |
| 12   | August 1976   | Russel Saxton               | 7 (11.9) Max Hecker & Irvin Westhoff<br>10 (3.1) Don Altheide & Mae Hougland<br>13 (6.4) Gerald Cleland & Ronald Shockley<br>16 (12.1) Dean Amstutz & David Haffner<br>21B-1 (6.4) Adrian Cameron<br>21-B (10.21) Adrian Cameron<br>21-C (8.8) Jack Moore & Bob Sullivan<br>28 (5.4) Harold Cruikshank<br>38-E (4.4) Jerry Garmon<br>38G-1 (2.38) Harry McCreedy<br>27-2 (12.5) Chester Gregory<br>27-H (12.3) Frank Shively | 40,428.49          | Included in initial contract           |                            | Robert Boatman         | Gene Becker     | Tom Brown                 |

Following construction, some repair was required on various sites to accomplish a good seeding. The cost for these repairs, done in 6 Purchase Orders amounted to \$1734.18.

693,212.

11,793

7704,005

Structures eliminated for lack of easements or not having needed land treatment were: 1-A, 14-B, 14-C, 14C-1, 21-1, 27A-1, 31-1, 31-B, 38-1 and 52. Also eliminated was the channel work planned (27-101) in the original workplan.

Sites 27-2 and 27-H were changed from floodwater retarding structures to grade stabilization structures after the channel work was dropped.

A partial list of the conservation practices that have been installed by the farmers in Big Wyacondah watershed are listed below:

| <u>Practice</u>            | <u>Amount</u>      |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Contouring                 | 8648 Acres         |
| Grass Waterways            | 517 Acres          |
| Ponds                      | 259 Number         |
| Erosion Control Structures | 100 Number         |
| Diversions                 | 102620 Lineal Feet |
| Terraces                   | 784994 Lineal Feet |
| Pasture Renovation         | 9125 Acres         |
| Tiling                     | 70533 Lineal Feet  |
| Surface Drainage Ditches   | 64003 Lineal Feet  |
| Land Adequately Treated    | 19268 Acres        |

DAVIS CO. SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

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ROBERT BOATMAN  
LIONEL HERTEEN  
PHILLIP MELVIN  
LA VERN WEILBRENNER

DAVIS COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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JIM BISH  
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The above sponsors wish to express our sincere appreciation to the farmers in the Big Wyacondah watershed, the Department of Soil Conservation, State Soil Conservation Committee, Soil Conservation Service, the local USDA Agencies and the many individuals who have given of their time and talents to see this watershed dream become a reality in our community.