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INFORMATIONAL ACTIVITIES

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To seek watershed plan funds

Representatives of four counties agreed Thursday afternoon to seek federal assistance for the entire Soap Creek Watershed.

Representatives from Davis, Appanoose, Monroe and Wapello Counties met in Bloomfield to discuss amending an application by

Appanoose County that was previously submitted for South Soap Creek.

The representatives agreed to amend the application and resubmit it to the State Soil Conservation Committee for consideration.

The group elected Charles Chickering of rural Bloomfield as temporary chairman of the watershed group and Mervin McDaniel of Monroe County as temporary secretary. Permanent officers will be elected later.

Information on the proposed watershed project will be compiled and the group will

meet again in Bloomfield on April 29 to sign the application.

After approval of the State Soil Conservation Committee, the Soap Creek Watershed proposal would go to the Soil Conservation Service's Watershed Survey Party for preliminary investigation. This investigation would probably be done within the next year and a half.

If the preliminary proposal meets the satisfaction of local residents concerned, a watershed work plan would then be compiled.

Funds for construction of various flood control and

conservation structures and practices are available from government under the Small Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act.

Previously, a Davis County watershed committee of farmer members was elected. This included Don Chickering, Harley Sloan, Victor McClure, Ray More, Charles Swaim, Jim Matheney and David Wiegand.

Soap Creek Watershed has a total of 162,000 acres with 66,000 acres in Davis County. Other acreages are Appanoose County, 40,000; Wapello County, 35,000; and Monroe County, 21,000.

