



News release

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CONTACT: Katie Johnson, Iowa Soybean Association kjohnson@iasoybeans.com

AGRICULTURE'S CLEAN WATER ALLIANCE ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

Ankeny, Iowa — Agriculture's Clean Water Alliance (ACWA), comprised of 11 ag retailers, elected officers at a board of directors meeting in March, their first meeting of the new fiscal year.

Brent Low of Ag Partners was elected president. Dan Dix, who served the last three years as ACWA president, moved to vice president. Mark Kriehauser of Helena Agri-Enterprises will serve as secretary-treasurer. Additionally, the board unanimously approved the re-hire of Harry Ahrenholtz as the ACWA chair, who has served the group in this capacity since its founding in 1999.

The group of ag retailers appoint representatives from their companies to serve on the board of directors for the non-profit organization. The group works together toward a common goal of improved water quality while maintaining profitability for their clients and residents, with priority in the Raccoon and Des Moines River watersheds.

"I'm convinced that collaboration will drive continued improvements in water quality," Low said. "I want to continue ACWA's focus of educating the public about the many ways the farming community, through new technologies, is driving the most efficient usage of crop nutrients."

ACWA supports the adoption of technologies to maximize nutrient use efficiency and help protect water quality. These technologies include nitrogen stabilizers, slow release fertilizers, incorporation or injection, soil nitrate testing and other tools that minimize loss of nitrogen to water sources.

Additionally, ACWA encourages farmers to implement conservation and edge-of-field practices to reduce nitrate flow from tile systems including bioreactors, constructed wetlands, conservation stream buffers and cover crops.

“As the ACWA organization looks toward its 20th anniversary, we can be pleased with our accomplishments,” said Roger Wolf, ACWA executive director. “But we cannot be satisfied either. There are many issues surrounding water quality in Iowa, and especially in Raccoon and Des Moines River Watersheds. We must continue to work together for clean water and drive ACWA members and their clients toward the same goals.”

For more information about ACWA, visit www.acwa-rrws.org/.

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Agriculture’s Clean Water Alliance (ACWA) is an association consisting of 11 ag retailers and six associate members that support farmer customers in the Des Moines and Raccoon River basins. The ACWA mission is to help agriculture identify and implement solutions that reduce nutrient loss to Iowa waters. From 2001–2016, ACWA members and sponsors have invested more than \$3.2 million in the Raccoon and Des Moines River watersheds, with over \$1.9 million directly for projects and programs supporting water quality monitoring, edge-of-field practice demonstration and evaluation, and targeted watershed implementation efforts on farms.